



BHAVAN'S BOOK UNIVERSITY

**THE UPANISHADS  
AN ANTHOLOGY**

D. S. Sarma

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BHARATIYA VIDYA BHAVAN, BOMBAY

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**THE UPANISHADS**  
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By

**D. S. SHARMA**



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## PREFACE

This book was planned by me about twenty-five years ago as a parallel to my Student's edition of the Gita (1930), with an Introduction, text and translation and notes. I actually wrote down some of the Selections in the year 1936. But various things came in the way of my continuing the work—other duties, bereavements, illness, etc. At one time I even gave up the idea. However, a friend had all along been urging me to take up the work again and finish it before it was too late. So at long last I have carried out my old plan, though not half as satisfactorily as I once wished to do. But this was the best I could do under the circumstances.

While preparing my Ms. for the Press, I came across the following passage in *The Scriptures of Mankind* (New York, 1952) by C. S. Braden :

"One who has heard of the vast importance of the Upanishads and has read scattered excerpts of rare beauty and insight is likely to feel a sense of shock as he sits down to read through the whole collection of the twelve or thirteen Principal Upanishads. Some of it is crude, childish.....But if the reader persists he will come upon passages of deep insight, beauty of expression and profound understanding of the great problems of religion and human thought. One's first excursion into these basic philosophic texts would best be through some modern expurgated edition or anthology which has carefully weeded out the crudities, the repetitiousness and the contradictions that so much abound in the original."

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## THE AUTHOR

Born in 1883, Professor D. S. Sarma, scholar and educationist, had his education in the Madras Christian College, from which he graduated in 1904. Subsequently he took his M. A. degree in English Language and Literature in 1909. Starting life in Government service at the Kumbakonam College, he went over to the Presidency College, Madras, in 1913, where he remained on the English staff for twenty-two years. After a short spell of service as the Principal of the Government Arts College, Rajahmundry, he retired from Government service in 1938. After retirement he served as the Principal and Professor of English in two private colleges in Madras — Pachaiyappa's College and Vivekananda College. He retired from the latter in 1949.

He has a number of books on Hinduism to his credit. Notable among them are "The Tales and Teachings of Hinduism", "A Primer of Hinduism", "What is Hinduism?", "Hinduism through the Ages", and "The Hindu Standpoint". His English translation of the Gita has gone into seven editions and his "Lectures and Essays on the Gita" into four. Among his other books mention may be made of "Lalita Sahasranama", "The Prince of Ayodhya", "Gandhi Sutras", "The Father of the Nation", "Pearls of Wisdom", etc.