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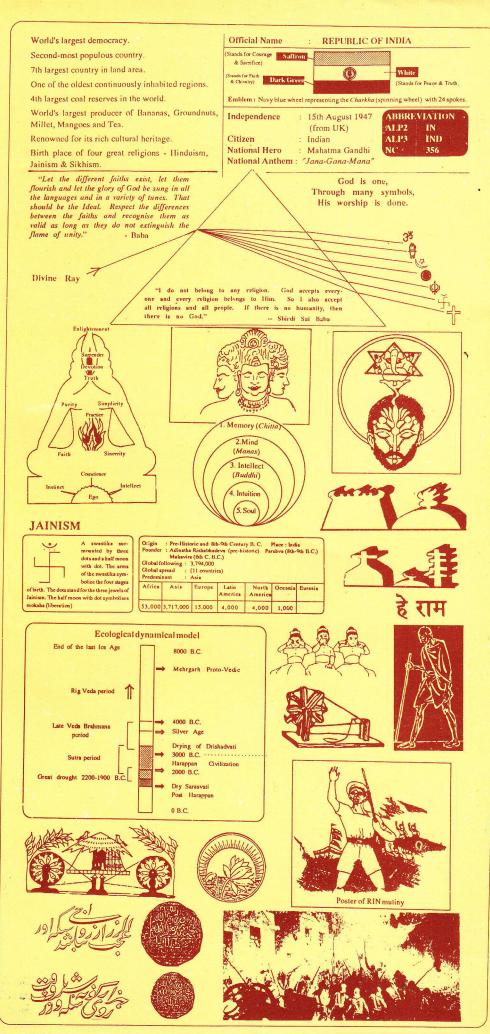
-Tagore

Dr. Karan Singh, India's genial giant, in his Foreword states :

"India has always been a major factor in the growth and development of human civilization, and as we move towards the global society, which, fuelled by science and technology, is inexorably assuming shape before our very eyes, India will surely again occupy a position of world importance.

Her multi-faceted and pluralistic culture can, in fact, be a valuable model for the wider diversity on Planet Earth. I am sure that this volume will be of keen interest to scholars and students, not only in India but throughout the world who wish to find within the covers of a single book a wealth of material regarding our land and people—ancient and yet ever-renewed, traditional and yet constantly changing, old and yet ever striving towards new beginnings. Quite clearly it is impossible even in many volumes to do justice to India in its multiple dimensions.

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