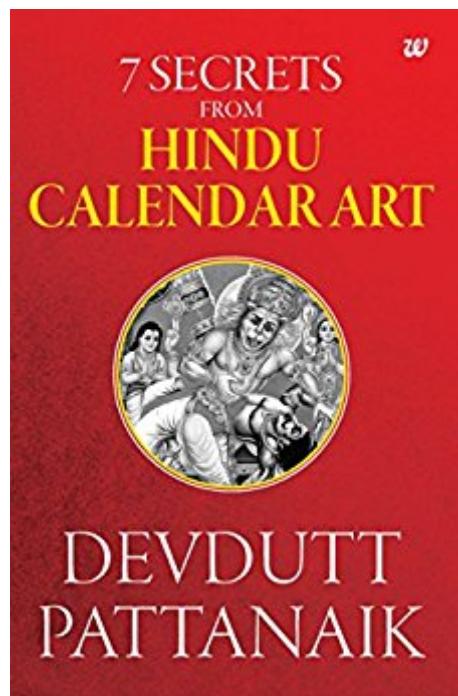


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# 7 Secrets From Hindu Calendar Art



## **Synopsis**

Hindu mythology abounds with fascinating gods, goddesses and characters whose visual representations "through calendar art" are equally colourful. Hindu calendar art may seem fantastic and kitsch, but it is in fact the most democratic expression of a mythic imagery that was once restricted to temple walls and palm leaf manuscripts. These portraits of the Hindu pantheon of gods and the stories that surround them can be found on the walls and puja rooms of almost every Hindu household in India. Rich in symbols, each image is a piece of an ancient metaphysical jigsaw puzzle. In this book, Dr Devdutt Pattanaik, India's renowned mythologist, decodes these symbols to reveal a wisdom that has nourished India for thousands of years.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I have read other books by the author on Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu and found this book having the same data in condensed form. There is nothing related to calendar art described in the book. Will advise the readers to avoid this book if you have read any of the above mentioned books by

the author else you will end up revising the same stuff.

very very interesting book - if you want to start with the complicated Hindu religion this book is a perfect one to start with-interesting chapters (what is God about, rebirth, detachment, etc.) it also explains all the attributes of every 'to know' Hindu god(dess) and a good book to learn the basics

The images shown in this book makes it very illustrative and easier to understand. The author might have put lot of effort in collecting all these images and is commendable.

Several good calendar-images are included in this book, but explanations/ interpretations of these are written as someone from "the west" would write.

Hindu mythology, imagery, and customs come alive in posters and calendars. This book does a tremendous job of explaining this sometimes seemingly gaudy art. This book is a tremendously rich source of Hindu calendar art. Every other page contains an illustration or a reproduction of Hindu art, while the facing page contains the narrative and explanation. Thus you have hundreds of reproductions and a ready reckoner of what that art means. Selections from the book: "Empathy is sorely lacking in modern times. Everything is judged. Everything is measured. All thoughts are expected to be legitimized through fact and evidence and mathematics and science. But many things in life cannot be explained with logic, least of all life, death, and God. What happens after death. Who knows? Different cultures have different answers. Each is a subjective truth. Each is, therefore, a myth, a story, a belief. [page 7]" "All plants grow and change over time but some more than others. At one extreme is the banyan tree. It has a long life, and, while it provides shade, it does not feed human beings. At the other extreme are grass and grain - they have very short lives and they provide no shade, but they provide food. The former represents the unchanging truth ... the latter represents the changing truth. In Hindu rituals related to childbirth and marriage, one finds a lot of importance being given to grain and grass and to the banyan tree. [page 69]"

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