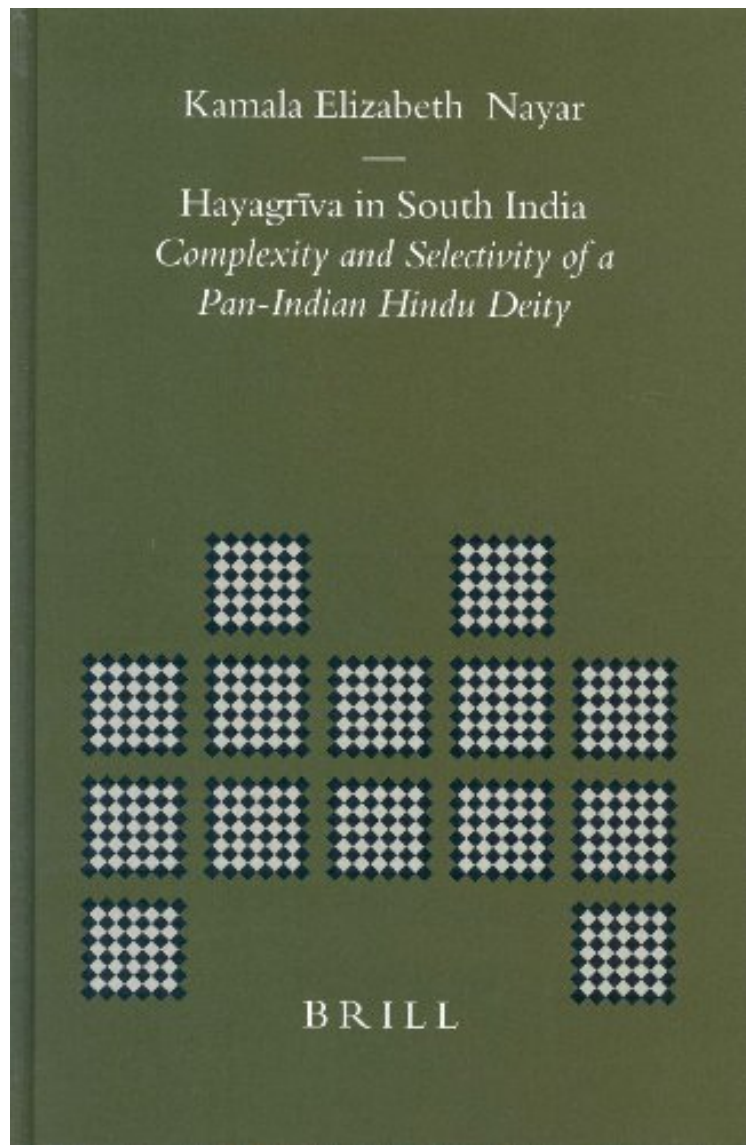


[E-BOOK] Hayagrva in South India: Complexity and Selectivity of a Pan-Indian Hindu Deity (Brill's Indological Library)

Hayagrva in South India: Complexity and Selectivity of a Pan-Indian Hindu Deity (Brill's Indological Library)

Kamala Elizabeth Nayar

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This book is about how mythology may be purposively adapted in the service of theology. It does so at the hand of Hayagrva, since the 14th century C.E. revered as a full form of the Supreme Lord Viu in the local rvaiava tradition of South India, but originally a relatively minor pan-Indian deity. Convincingly laying bare the complexity in respect of the pan-Indian images of Hayagrva, it makes clear that there is no single unilinear history of this deity. It subsequently reconstructs the 'rnivaiava History' of Hayagrva, and brings out the selectivity involved in borrowing materials from the pan-Indian and local levels. Amidst the incredible complexity encountered here, this study exposes, however, that the emblems and functions of different images show continuity, although a god's status may change according to the sect.

About the Author Kamala Elizabeth Nayar, Ph.D. (1999), in Asian Religions, McGill University, is a lecturer at Kwantlen University College, British Columbia. She has also branched out in South Asian Diaspora studies, with the Sikh Diaspora in Vancouver: Three Generations Amid Tradition, Modernity and Multiculturalism (2004).