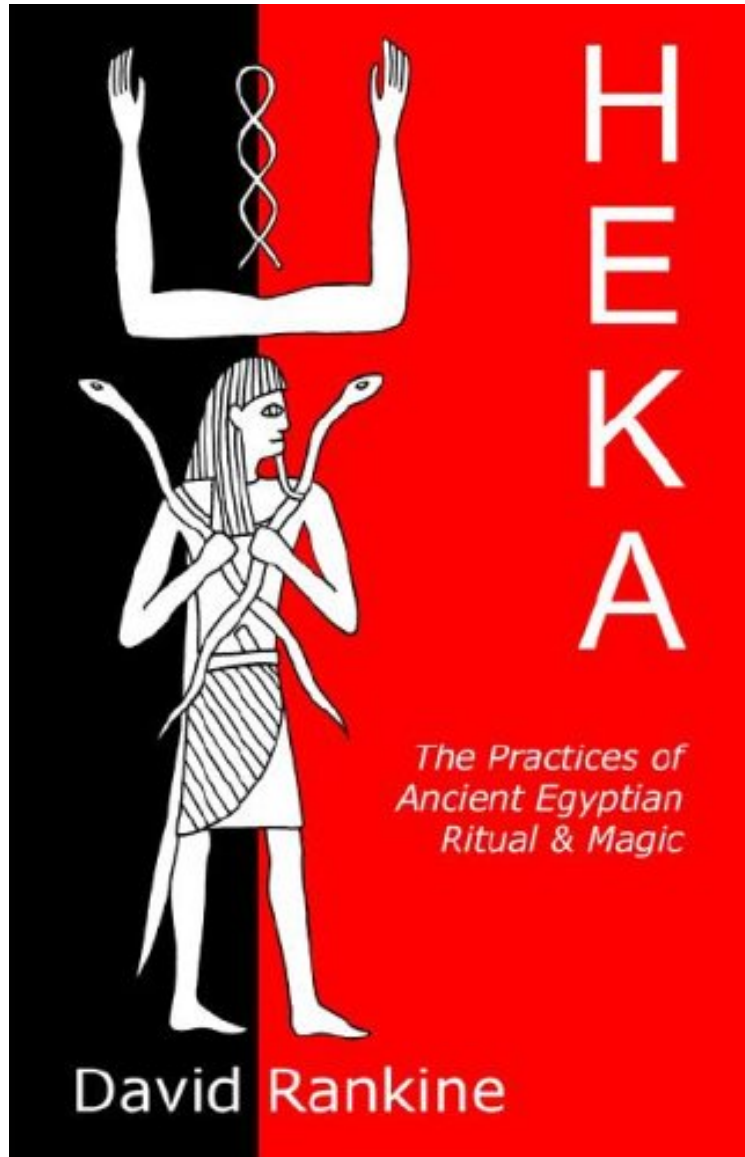


(Read free ebook) Heka: The Practices of Ancient Egyptian Ritual and Magic

Heka: The Practices of Ancient Egyptian Ritual and Magic

David Rankine

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David Rankine : Heka: The Practices of Ancient Egyptian Ritual and Magic before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Heka: The Practices of Ancient Egyptian Ritual and Magic:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Crudely Produced and SuperficialBy CustomerThe coverage of ancient Egyptian magic is superficial and the book itself is very cheaply produced. This might be a useful resource for a ceremonial magician but the actual information contained in it is minimal and much better sources are available elsewhere. The author doesn't go into a deeper understanding of the nature of heka (or the god Heka) or known

historical practices of magic in ancient Egypt. The one good role it could fulfill is as a compendium of knowledge about the subject but I think it's too shallow to be useful for that purpose. Most of the book is listings of things and their correspondences. That's interesting for planning workings but the style makes it look like he's copied things out of his notebook (I keep voluminous notes of a similar nature myself) without any further explanations or deeper understanding of the subject. Listings of the Neteru (gods) just give the name and a brief description with a listing of an amulet, animal, color, concept, and associated symbol. Each Neter is listed on a separate page with lots of whitespace at the bottom, most likely to pad out the slim volume. The information is brief but basically correct in most cases, with the prominent exception of qualities syncretized into Hathor and Isis in late times when they absorbed the qualities of many other goddesses. Two pages on 'composite deities' are downright annoying in their incompleteness and list Sekhmet-Bast-Ra as Mut-Sekhmet-Bast, which is baffling but probably based on visual confusion in the vignette of chapter clxiv of the Papyrus of Ani. Some of the listings are clearly based on other works. For example the color and number associations on pages 76 through 82 are obviously cribbed from Symbol Magic in Egyptian Art. The illustrations are laughable. Take a look at the cover image. That's as good as it gets. All-in-all I'd say this book might be worth a look if you're looking to work with the Neteru in ceremonial magick but doing research in the many other books available would be much more rewarding.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Visions Ancient Modern
By H. B. Baldwin
Since we only can guess at what their rituals were like most of the rituals in this book are created similar to those that the Ancient Greeks wrote about plus intuition and imagination. Considering that it is a good starter book. You have everything you might need to go it alone as there are not that many that can tell you if it is correct or not. I liked the calendar in the back and found that some of the listed ceremonies were on the same days as were recorded in Ancient times. It all depends on how into it you are and how connected to Egypt you are.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Book
By Nikki
Excellent book and I think it's an excellent buy but the shipping was misleading and the package looked like it had been stomped on.

The religious and magical practices of the ancient Egyptians have had a profound and lasting effect on the world. Egypt has been described as the "mother of magicians". To appreciate the Egyptian view of magic, we need to accept that to the Egyptians magic was not considered strange or eccentric, but was a part of daily life, to which everyone resorted. Magic blended seamlessly with religion and medicine, being seen as part of a holistic worldview. In this volume these magical and religious practices are explored, from both a historical and practical perspective. The practices are explored from an ancient Egyptian worldview, taking into consideration that the Egyptian culture spread over a period of more than 3000 years. The Egyptians saw the universe as being made of four worlds - the everyday world we live in, the underworld, the sky and the heavens. Subject covered in this book include: -What is Heka? - Ancient Egyptian Worldviews -The Gods and Goddesses of Magic -Symbolism - Colours Sacred Numbers -The Tools Used -Sacred Words Gestures -Statues Masks -Crystals Other Materials used in Heka -Incenses Perfumes -Food Wine used in Offerings at Feasts -The Ancient Egyptian Magical Calendar -Purification, Sacred Space Rituals

David Rankine is based in London (UK) and is a respected authority on spiritual magical practices. He is the author of many books, including Climbing the Tree of Life, Circle of Fire The Guises of the Morrigan. This book, HEKA - The Practices of Ancient Egyptian Magic, is the result of careful research practical work and is highly recommended to students wishing to pursue practical work within this system.

From the Publisher
There has long been an interest in the magick and spiritual practices of Ancient Egypt. Many books have been published on the subject - primarily focussing on the well-known Funeral Texts and only a few touching on the magic done by the living. This book draws together the different strands of Heka (the name of both the Egyptian God of Magic and the magic performed by and for the people)

From the Author
In presenting this material I have endeavoured to place it within the context of the ancient Egyptian worldview as far as I am able, albeit limited by the knowledge we have thousands of years later. The glory of ancient Egypt spanned a period of around three thousand years, so inevitably during this time practices evolved or fell into disuse, and foreign influences crept in. Obviously we are not in ancient Egypt any more, and the level to which you may choose to recreate the practices of heka within your own magic is your decision. I have included as much detail as possible about the various materials used by the ancient Egyptians, including food, crystals, metals, woods, incense materials, etc, so that you may work with the same materials if you wish to. Remember that the Egyptian magicians were rigorous in maintaining the discipline of good hygiene and timing! You may be puzzled at the absence of information on hieroglyphics in this book. However as this volume is focused on techniques and information, I leave it to the reader to pursue this topic in one of the already extant works that cover the field admirably, such as Sir Alan Gardiner's Egyptian Grammar or James Allens Middle Egyptian. I hope you enjoy finding out more about heka, and may you always uphold Maat in all that you do.

David Rankine
London December 2005

About the Author
David Rankine is the author of many books on ancient modern magical practices. These include Climbing the Tree of Life, Circle of Fire Becoming Magick. This volume, is the result of careful research practical work done since the 1980s when he was first introduced to Egyptian Magic.