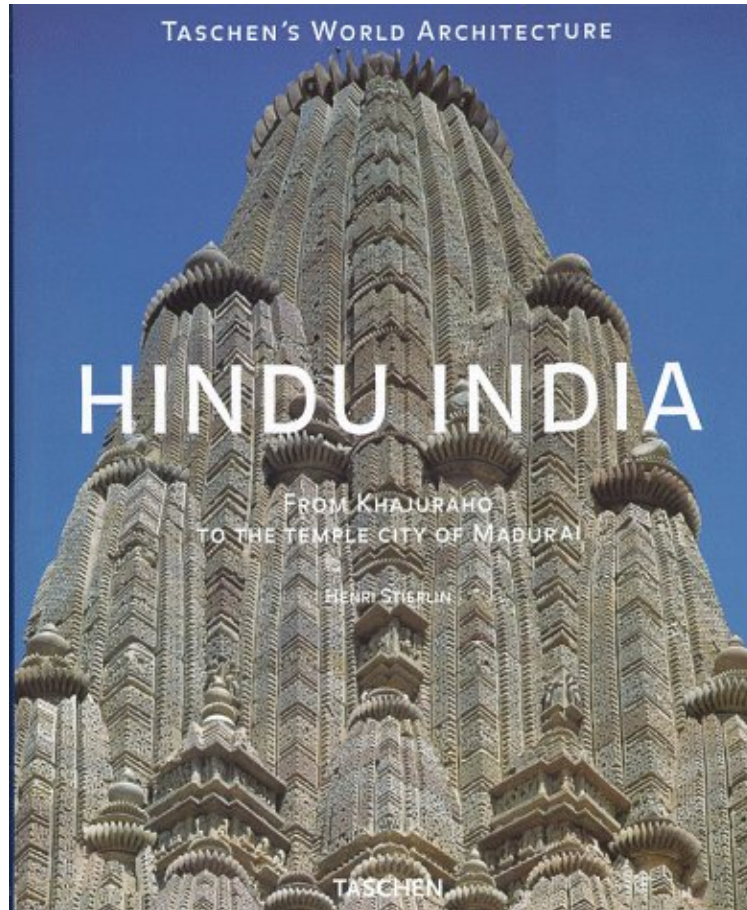


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Hindu India (Taschen's World Architecture)

Henri Stierlin

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Henri Stierlin : Hindu India (Taschen's World Architecture) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hindu India (Taschen's World Architecture):

There is nothing new under the sun... and then there are the temples of India. For many who have roamed the byways of the subcontinent, it is these myriad mind-expanding palaces of faith that fill the spirit and make the fare worthwhile. They are enough to give you religion. 3-D songs of praise to the fecund possibilities of both environment and human intention, they are as diverse as the landscapes of Asia and yet share a grace and delicacy of invention. Focusing on Jain as well as Hindu constructions, this exemplary volume takes us on a revelatory historical journey to trace both the traditions and developments in their design, from the wood and cave temples of the first few hundred years AD, through early experiments in stone to the three dominant architectural strands. Whether it be Nagara in the north, Vesara in the central highlands or the Dravda ""walled city"" complexes of the south, each style is fully presented and analysed in a series of detailed photographs, drawings, plans and excavations. Just as the temple sancta themselves

become more sacred the further in you penetrate, so this book offers greater rewards the longer you spend in its company.