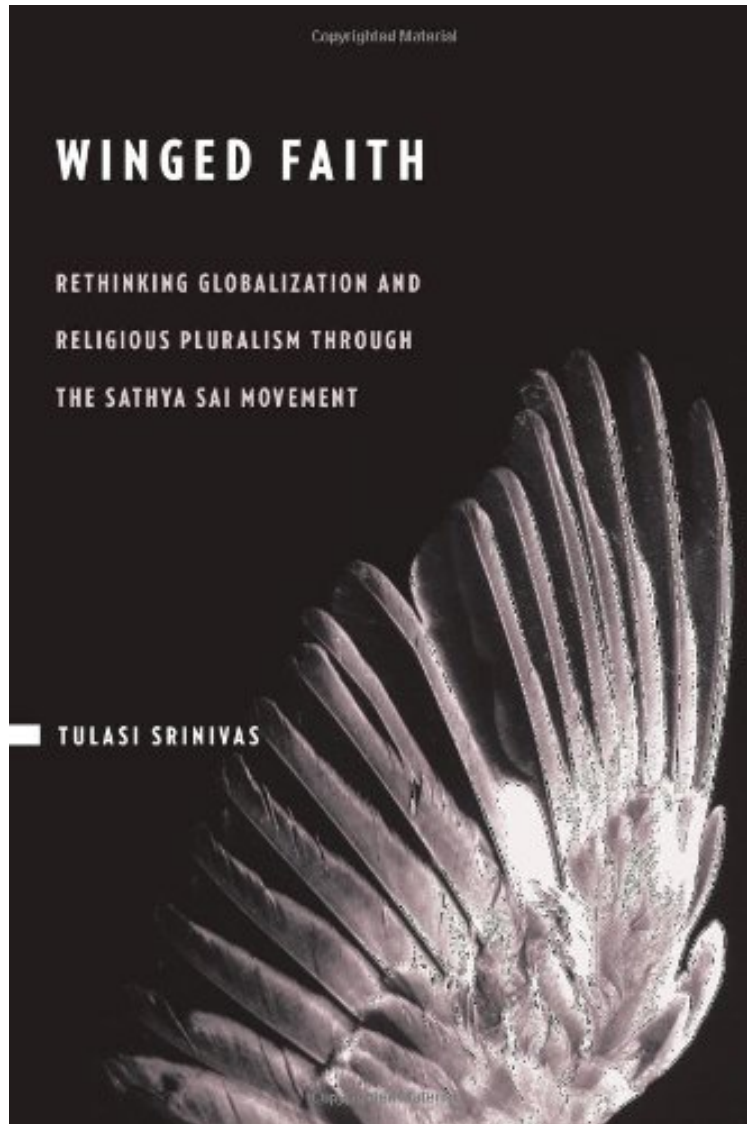


Winged Faith: Rethinking Globalization and Religious Pluralism through the Sathya Sai Movement

Tulasi Srinivas

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Tulasi Srinivas : Winged Faith: Rethinking Globalization and Religious Pluralism through the Sathya Sai Movement before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Winged Faith: Rethinking Globalization and Religious Pluralism through the Sathya Sai Movement:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent study of globalization and religionBy sweet revengeWinged Faith is a significant contribution to the understanding of globalization, transnationalism, and religion.

This very thorough study of the Satya Sai Baba movement examines proximity (spatial temporal) to sacred centers, religious objects materiality, secrecy control (of bodies information), sacred play work, identity, meaning-making, and much more. Extensive fieldwork provides depth and context, and informs Srinivas' skillful analysis. Of particular note is her questioning of the assumption that globalization generally moves from the West outward, which this study clearly demonstrates is not the case. Her focus on the "process-based understanding of cultural translation" and insights into the movements of people, ideas, contexts, and meanings are valuable for scholars, students, and anyone else interested in globalization, religion, anthropology, and the ways that people negotiate body, culture and meaning.

The Sathya Sai global civil religious movement incorporates Hindu and Muslim practices, Buddhist, Christian, and Zoroastrian influences, and "New Age"-style rituals and beliefs. Shri Sathya Sai Baba, its charismatic and controversial leader, attracts several million adherents from various national, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. In a dynamic account of the Sathya Sai movement's explosive growth, *Winged Faith* argues for a rethinking of globalization and the politics of identity in a religiously plural world. This study considers a new kind of cosmopolitanism located in an alternate understanding of difference and contestation. It considers how acts of "sacred spectating" and illusion, "moral stakeholding" and the problems of community are debated and experienced. A thrilling study of a transcultural and transurban phenomenon that questions narratives of self and being, circuits of sacred mobility, and the politics of affect, *Winged Faith* suggests new methods for discussing religion in a globalizing world and introduces readers to an easily critiqued yet not fully understood community.

A welcome addition to our catalog of religious movements and a timely reminder that circulation does not flow in only one direction and never will again. (Jack David Eller *Anthropology Database*) [An] informative and erudite book. (Alexandra Kent *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*) a rich and challenging text. (Hanna H. Kim *H-Asia*) *Winged Faith* is a readable and carefully documented account of an extraordinary modern religious figure, but its appeal is much wider. It is an important contribution to the literature on globalization and a valuable corrective to the pervasive view that globalization, especially cultural globalization, is simply westernization. (Bryan S. Turner *Society*) It is a book that should be widely read by scholars and people coming from a wide range of disciplines and perspectives. (Amit Chaturvedi *Contemporary South Asia*) Srinivas' impressive study argues for new visions of pluralism that hinge upon an engaged cosmopolitanism... One hopes Srinivas' impressive work will be read by scholars from numerous fields, as its reach is incredibly broad. (Jeffrey M. Brackets *Journal of Hindu Studies*) About the Author Tulasi Srinivas is assistant professor of anthropology at Emerson College, specializing in South Asia, with a focus on issues of globalization, religion, and identity.