

☪ THE LIBRARIES OF ☪
MFA **H** *The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*
Hirsch Library Research Guide



Ganesh and Siddhi

Indian

India, Central Region, 10–11th century
Buff sandstone, 20 5/16 x 11 1/16 x 6 7/16 in. (51.6 x 28.1 x 16.3 cm)

Museum purchase funded by Milton D. Rosenau, Jr. and Dr. Ellen R. Gritz

Sandstone sculpture of the elephant headed deity, Ganesh, seated on his throne with his consort, Siddhi, balanced on his bent leg.

Online Resources:

[Hirsch Library Online Catalog](#)

[The Metropolitan Museum of Art Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History](#)

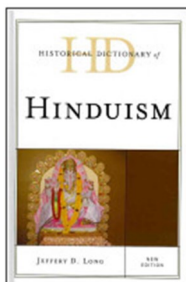
Articles: (full-text access available on-site; off-site access available through your school library or Houston Public Library)

[Barnouw, Victor. "The Changing Character of a Hindu Festival." *American Anthropologist* 56, no. 1 \(1954\): 74-86.](#)

[Krishan, Y. "The Origins of Ganesa." *Artibus Asiae* 43, no. 4 \(1981\): 285-301.](#)

[Michael, S. M. "The Origin of the Ganapati Cult." *Asian Folklore Studies* 42, no. 1 \(1983\): 91-116.](#)

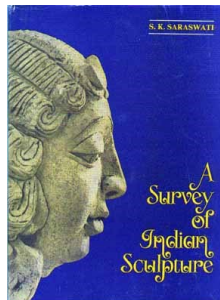
Print Resources:



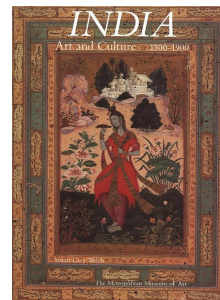
[Historical Dictionary of Hinduism](#)



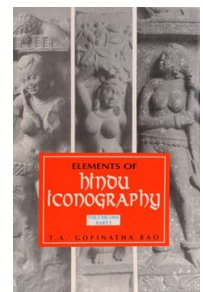
[Indian Art](#)



[A Survey of Indian Sculpture](#)



[India: Art and Culture, 1300-1900](#)



[Elements of Hindu Iconography](#)

Bibliography

General Surveys of Indian Art

- [Craven, Roy. *Indian Art : A Concise History*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1997. N 7301 .C7 1997 Ref.](#)
- [Gardner, Helen, Fred Kleiner, and Christin J. Mamiya. *Gardner's Art Through the Ages*. 12th ed. Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth, 2005. N 5300 .G25 2005 Ref.](#)
- [Honour, Hugh, and John Fleming. *The Visual Arts: A History*. 5th ed. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., Publishers, 1999. N 5300 .H68 1999](#)
- [Stokstad, Marilyn, and David A. Brinkley. *Art History*. 3rd ed. Upper Saddle River: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008. N 5300 .S923 2008 Ref.](#)

Hinduism

- [Banerjea, Jitendra N. *The Development of Hindu Iconography*. Calcutta: University of Calcutta, 1956. BL 1205 .B3 1956](#)
- [Bonnefoy, Yves. *Asian Mythologies*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993. BL 1005 .D5313 1993 Ref.](#)
- [Coomaraswamy, Ananda K. *Hinduism and Buddhism*. New York: Philosophical Library, 1943. BL 1201 .C6](#)
- [Dallapiccola, Anna L. *Dictionary of Hindu Lore and Legend*. New York: Thames & Hudson, 2004. BL 1105 .D35 2004 Ref.](#)
- [Maxwell, T. S. *The Gods of Asia: Image, Text, and Meaning*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1997. BL 1216.6 .A785 M38 1997](#)
- [Pal, Pratapaditya. *Hindu Religion and Iconology According to the Tantrasara*. Los Angeles: Vichitra Press, 1981. BK 1245 .T3 K7736 1981](#)

Ganesh

- [Pratapaditya, Pal. *Ganesh, the Benevolent*. Bombay: Marg Publications, 1995. BL 1225 .G34 P34 1995](#)
- [Thomas, Paul. *Epics, Myths and Legends of India: A Comprehensive Survey of the Sacred Lore of the Hindus, Buddhists and Jains*. Bombay: D.B. Taraporev Sons, n.d. BL 2001 .T36](#)

Symbolism

- [Chevalier, Jean, and Alain Gheerbrant. *A Dictionary of Symbols*. Oxford, Mass.: Blackwell, 1994. AZ 108 .C413 1994 Ref.](#)
- [Dallapiccola, Anna L. *Hindu Visions of the Sacred*. London: British Museum Press, 2004. N 8195 .A4 D35 2004](#)
- [Hall, James. *Illustrated Dictionary of Symbols in Eastern and Western Art*. New York: Icon Editions, 1994. N 7740 .H35 1994 Ref.](#)
- [Jansen, Eva Rudy. *The Book of Hindu Imagery: Gods, Manifestations and Their Meaning*. Diever: Binkey Kok, 1993. BL 1216 .J26 1993 Reserve](#)

India

- [Johnson, Gordon. *Cultural Atlas of India: India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh & Sri Lanka*. New York: Facts on File, 1996. DS 421 .J6 1996 Reserve](#)
- [Keay, John. *India: a History*. New York: Grove Press, 2000. DS 451 .K365 2000](#)

Indian Art and Sculpture

- [Blurton, T. Richard. *Hindu Art*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1993. N 8195 .A4 B58 1993](#)
- [Coomaraswamy, Ananda K., and Ratan Devi. *Introduction to Indian Art*. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, 1999. N 7301 .C583 1999](#)
- [Newman, Richard. *The Stone Sculpture of India: A Study of the Materials Used by Indian Sculptors from ca. 2nd Century B.C. to the 16th Century*. Cambridge, Mass.: Center for Conservation and Technical Studies, Harvard University Art Museums, 1984. NB 1002 .N4 1984](#)

This reference guide is just the tip of the iceberg on helpful resources in the library's holdings. Many of the suggested resources above have their own bibliographies. Each of these may lead you to another resource that would also be helpful in your research here in the museum or in another library. To find additional resources, use keywords such as "Hinduism" and "Ganesh" in the online catalog and in periodical indexes. Once you find a few relevant titles, pay attention to the subject headings to identify similar materials. Examples of useful subject headings are:

Hinduism
Art, Hinduism
Mythology, Indic
Sculpture--India
Art and religion

For guidelines about writing it may be helpful to look at Sylvan Barnet's *A Short Guide to Writing about Art*, which includes tips for looking, reading, and writing about art. Ask for it at the reference desk. At every stage of your work, please allow the library staff to help you. Contact us at 713-639-7325 or hirsch@mfah.org