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**Stanley Wolpert**

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2009, PAPER, 281 PAGES, $34.95

Wolpert’s reflections on India -- its religion and philosophy, its art, culture and politics -- make for a literate, succinct primer. (Item IDA04)

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**What the Buddha Taught**

1994, PAPER, 151 PAGES, $16.00

A classic introduction to Buddhism by a respected monk and scholar from Sri Lanka. Provides translations from original texts with explanations for Western readers. A good foundation for anyone interested in understanding the foundations of Buddhism. (Item SEA41)

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**Insight Guide Sri Lanka**

2015, PAPER, 328 PAGES, $24.99

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ALSO RECOMMENDED

**Omkar Koul**

**Lonely Planet India Phrasebook**

2014, PAPER, 400 PAGES, $12.99

A handy, palm-sized guide to pronunciation, basic grammar and essential vocabulary for the traveler. (Item IDA538)

**Lonely Planet**

**Lonely Planet South India & Kerala**

2015, PAPER, 544 PAGES, $27.99

Featuring maps and a good overview of culture, history and nature as well as information on accommodations, excursions and sightseeing. (Item IDA188)

**Jonah Blank**

**Arrow of the Blue-Skinned God**

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**May You Be the Mother of a Hundred Sons**

1991, PAPER, 220 PAGES, $16.00

A wonderfully written and fascinating portrayal of Indian women from Bollywood stars to Indira Gandhi to prostitutes. It’s an insightful portrait of the country as seen through the eyes of its women. (Item IDA37)
**Mohandas K. Gandhi**

**Gandhi, An Autobiography**
1993, PAPER, 528 PAGES, $16.95
There is no substitute for reading Gandhi in his own simple, direct prose. A highly recommended glimpse into the personality and life of this remarkable figure. (Item IDA163)

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**Samanth Subramanian**

**This Divided Island, Life, Death and the Sri Lankan War**
2015, HARD COVER, 352 PAGES, $27.99
Through travels and conversations, New Delhi-based journalist Subramanian covers the 30-year history of the Tamil Tiger guerrillas, their struggle and how their civil war may be remembered. (Item SRL39)

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**Diana L. Eck**

**Darsan, Seeing the Divine Image in India**
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Tremendously useful for the traveler, this rigorous guide explains the significance and meaning of Hindu temples, festivals and ritual. Darsan, which translates as “seeing,” reveals religious expression in India. (Item IDA75)

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**Michael Ondaatje**

**Running in the Family**
1993, PAPER, 207 PAGES, $15.00
Award-winning author Ondaatje returns to his native Sri Lanka in this hypnotic travelogue. His lovingly traced family memoirs are interspersed with poetry and ruminations on the island's post-colonial history. (Item SRL04)

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**Katherine Boo**

**Behind the Beautiful Forevers**
2014, PAPER, 304 PAGES, $17.00
A Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist and writer at The New Yorker, Boo turns her four years among the people of a Mumbai slum into an absorbing tale of the clash of India, new and old, prosperous and disenfranchised. (Item IDA654)

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**Salman Rushdie (Editor), Elizabeth West (Editor)**

**Mirrorwork, 50 Years of Indian Writing 1947-1997**
1997, PAPER, 554 PAGES, $27.00
A selection of 20th-century Indian prose, both fiction and non-fiction, compiled by Salman Rushdie and featuring work by Jawaharlal Nehru, R.K. Narayan, Satyajit Ray, Amit Chaudhuri and Vikram Seth. Published in celebration of India's 50 years of independence. (Item IDA293)

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**Robinton Mistry**

**A Fine Balance**
1997, PAPER, 624 PAGES, $17.00
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