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# The Self-Overcoming of Nihilism (Suny Series in Modern Japanese Philosophy)

*By Keiji Nishitani*



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"It will be mandatory reading for an understanding of both Nishitani's thought and the problem of nihilism. Scholars and other persons interested in nihilism, in Nietzsche, and/or in contemporary Buddhist or Japanese philosophy, will greatly profit from a study of this book." -- **John C. Maraldo**, Department of Philosophy, University of North Florida

"This is a fine translation of an important work in the corpus of Nishitani's early writings. The translation is timely both because of the Western interest in Nishitani as a preeminent contemporary Japanese philosopher and because of the continuing Western perplexity about the problems Nishitani addresses. Nishitani is one of the world's greatest living philosophers and even in this early work of his that brilliance shines through." -- **Thomas P. Kasulis**, Department of Philosophy, Northland College



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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

As a past reader of Nishitani in both the original Japanese and English translation, I find this manuscript to be the most accessible and clearly written of any book-length work I have read by him. It shows Nishitani as a vital and vigorous thinker, and serves as an introduction to his widely acclaimed *Religion and Nothingness*. The summaries of the relation to nihilism of Hegel, Schopenhauer, Kierkegaard, Feuerbach, and Stirner, a nearly forgotten figure in intellectual history, are all perspicacious. Even the chapters on Nietzsche, about whom volumes are written these days, provide new insights. The brief section on the problem of nihilism for Japan is unprecedented in the English literature, and the sketches on karma and historicity whet the appetite for the more extensive and difficult expositions in *Religion and Nothingness*.

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### **Language Notes**

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: Japanese

### **About the Author**

**Nishitani Keiji** was for many years Professor of Religious Philosophy at Kyoto University, and since his retirement has been Professor Emeritus at Otani Buddhist University in Kyoto. **Graham Parkes** is Associate

Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Hawaii at Manoa. He is the editor of *Heidegger and Asian Thought* and *Nietzsche and Asian Thought*. **Setsuko Aihara** teaches Japanese at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and is the author of *Reading Japanese: Strategies for Decoding Japanese Sentence Structure*.

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