

 Get Print Book

The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions

By James R. Lewis



Download



Read Online

The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis

The shocking mass suicide of the Heaven's Gate cult alerted people worldwide to the dangers of cults, sects, and new religions. This extensive resource explains more than 1,000 diverse groups and movements ranging from the early days of alternative religiosity to sects practicing today. An ideal reference for researchers, scholars, students, and anyone interested in cults and similar groups.



[Download The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religion ...pdf](#)



[Read Online The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religi ...pdf](#)

The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions

By James R. Lewis


The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis

The shocking mass suicide of the Heaven's Gate cult alerted people worldwide to the dangers of cults, sects, and new religions. This extensive resource explains more than 1,000 diverse groups and movements ranging from the early days of alternative religiosity to sects practicing today. An ideal reference for researchers, scholars, students, and anyone interested in cults and similar groups.

The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #492885 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Prometheus Books
- Published on: 1998-07
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 1.80" h x 6.40" w x 9.56" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 600 pages

 [Download The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religion ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religi ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From Library Journal

One might not expect to find established groups such as the Amish and the Brethren Church included in a work on cults, sects, and new religions, but they are. After reading the introduction one will understand why. Lewis (religious studies, World Univ. of America) provides a good discussion of the terms sect and especially cult. Although sometimes taken negatively, these terms are not inherently so and definitely have no negative connotation here. Most of the nearly 1000 entries are brief—one to three paragraphs—and cover everything from Aum Shinrikyo and the Branch Davidians to the Nudist Christian Church of the Blessed Virgin Jesus. The longer entries of a page or two, often authored by scholars other than Lewis, are for groups that are controversial or have made the news recently. This handy ready-reference tool is up-to-date, and, since the entries were submitted to the various religious groups for correction, accurate. Recommended for all libraries. —John Moryl, Yeshiva Univ. Lib., New York

Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

The pages of this work contain information on approximately 1,000 religious groups, ranging from small churches with less than a hundred members (Chishti Order of America) to organizations such as the Assemblies of God that number in the millions. Most entries are relatively short. The more controversial religions, as well as religious groups that have had a high profile lately, receive more lengthy treatments. Also included are entries on broader religious movements such as the New Age and the Charismatic Movement. Some of the longer entries are signed, although no affiliations or credentials are supplied for the authors.

Lewis, chairman of the Department of Religious Studies at the World University of America, spends several paragraphs of the introduction discussing the connotations of the terms *cult*, *sect*, and *new religion*, explaining that they were used in his title because "they represent the most commonly used terms for non-mainstream religious groups." The introduction does not specifically address how the included groups were chosen and why others were left out, except that all are "non-mainstream." Emphasis is on the U.S., although some non-U.S. groups are included, such as Aum Shinrikyo and Wiccan Church of Canada. Starting with the *Aaronic Order*, an offshoot of the Mormon Church, and ending with *Zion's Order, Inc.* (also of Mormon derivation), the book covers a very broad range of organizations. Gnostic, Theosophist, Hindu, Moslem, Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Native American, New Age, and occult groups are profiled. Examples of entries include *channeling movement*, *Druids*, *Hare Krishna movement*, *Hasidism*, *Heaven's Gate*, *Salvation Army*, *Satanism*, *Seventh-Day Adventist Church*, and *Voodoo*.

Each article outlines the history of the group, its founders and leaders, its main teachings, and an approximate number of followers or congregations. The explanations are clearly written, interesting and understandable, without too much scholarly jargon. There are a number of pictures, most provided by the religious groups. There is a table of contents, but no cross-references or index; both would have been useful. There is nothing to direct the reader searching for Nation of Islam to *American Muslims* (which the entry claims is the current name), or to link names like Jim Jones and Herbert W. Armstrong to the entries for *People's Temple* and *Worldwide Church of God*. There is a 64-page bibliography of books, pamphlets, and periodicals. A few entries included Web addresses, but none are in the bibliography.

The similarly titled *Sects, "Cults" and Alternative Religions: A World Survey and Sourcebook* [RBB J1 97]

covers only 69 groups, but the entries are longer--16 pages for *Scientology* as opposed to two pages in Lewis. In many ways, the books complement each other. Because of interest in the subject, public and academic libraries will want Lewis' book, though smaller libraries may not have the budget or patronage to justify this particular expense.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Flynn:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive currently, people have to do something to make them survive, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice through surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a e-book your ability to survive increase then having chance to stay than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading a new book, we give you this specific The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions book as nice and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

Lillian Owensby:

Hey guys, do you would like to find a new book to read? May be the book with the headline The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions suitable to you? The book was written by famous writer in this era. Often the book untitled The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions is the one of several books that everyone read now. This specific book was inspired lots of people in the world. When you read this publication you will enter the new shape that you ever know just before. The author explained their plan in the simple way, consequently all of people can easily to know the core of this guide. This book will give you a wide range of information about this world now. To help you see the represented of the world with this book.

Louie Thompson:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with their friends and family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent the entire day to reading a e-book. The book The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can more very easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book possesses high quality.

Alicia Gentry:

In this period of time globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will

make a professional understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher in which print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended to your account is The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions this book consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. That book was represented how does the world has grown up. The language styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. Typically the writer made some investigation when he makes this book. This is why this book suited all of you.

Download and Read Online The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis #U6SZO5WHGMY

Read The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis for online ebook

The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis books to read online.

Online The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis ebook PDF download

The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis Doc

The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis Mobipocket

The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions By James R. Lewis EPub