



Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature, Vol. 1: A - J

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The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature, originally published in 2005, is a landmark work in the burgeoning field of religion and nature. It covers a vast and interdisciplinary range of material, from thinkers to religious traditions and beyond, with clarity and style. Widely praised by reviewers and the recipient of two reference work awards since its publication (see www.religionandnature.com/ern), this new, more affordable version is a must-have book for anyone interested in the manifold and fascinating links between religion and nature, in all their many senses.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This is a remarkable Encyclopedia that explores our spiritual connections to nature in countless ways, and describes our ever more urgent efforts to create a more compassionate and environmentally sustainable world. It tackles the tough questions: will the emergent "greening" of religion, and our efforts to leave ever lighter ecological footprints in our daily lives, spread rapidly enough around the globe to halt our heedless destruction of nature and heal some of the scars we have inflicted, before it is too late? Many of the contributions reflect my conviction that there is, indeed, reason for hope. *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* is a scholarly and critical resource for anyone who cares about the future of planet Earth, and wonders how we might more effectively work together to save our beautiful world for future generations."

Jane Goodall Ph.D., DBE Founder - the Jane Goodall Institute & UN Messenger of Peace
www.janegoodall.org

"This massive undertaking documents the impressive groundswell of connection between environmentalism and religion, and lays clear the future possibilities. As one scientist after another has made clear, a habitable planet depends on this collaboration bearing fruit — so bravo for this essential document!"

Bill McKibben Visiting Scholar in Environmental Studies Middlebury College, and Author of *The End of Nature*

"This encyclopaedia will become the essential reference in the critical important dialogue between religious faiths and environmental concern. Quite impressive in scope—1,000 entries by over 500 authorities, both scholars and activists—it is especially commendable for bridging religious conviction to environmental ethics, science, and policy, across local, regional, and global levels."

Holmes Rolston, III, University Distinguished Professor and Professor of Philosophy, Colorado State University, USA

"The ambition, scope, and caliber of this set establish it immediately as a crucial resource for study in the field...it is certain to draw new readers in through its sheer usability and richness of content. Furthermore, its thoughtful design accommodates scholars with either a cursory interest in a particular subject or a more expansive one. In these and other ways, this work offers considerably more than meets the eye. Summing up: Highly recommended."

CHOICE

Choice Outstanding Academic Title

"It will no doubt remain an essential reference source on the subject for many years to come. Highly recommended for public, academic, and special libraries."

Library Journal (starred review)

"To say that this is an indispensable reference work is an understatement, Superbly edited and carefully crafted, the ERN is essential."

American Reference Books Annual

"If ever there was a reference work that belongs in the personal libraries of scholars of religion, this one is it...given the extraordinary richness of its diverse and often unanticipated entries, and the urgency of the ecological issues that many of them address, this collection of well-written and often engrossing essays should be kept readily at hand for frequent and sustained browsing. Taylor has established a website in conjunction with this project, www.religionandnature.com, which is intended to provide information about various events and organizations — including the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture, which was founded in September, 2006 — and to promote teaching and research in the area of religion and nature...We may hope that these resources will draw more social scientists into the field of religion and nature. Short of that, the encyclopaedia could by itself do much to extend their understanding of what religion and spirituality may be thought to be — yet another reason to keep these remarkable volumes close at hand."

David Wulff, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*

"...The ERN is intended to assess, analyse, characterise, and promote the major debates, events, figures, groups, theories, and traditions, concerned with religion and nature, enlightening the wider (academic) public to them, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and promoting further research...In this it succeeds. It is an intensive academic work, diverse and deep. Yet it is also eminently readable and very enlightening. Each article may stand on its own as a valuable essay, but taken together, the articles provide a comprehensive examination and introduction to the themes that will stand for years to come...the ERN is an outstanding piece of work, very ambitious, meticulously researched, hugely detailed, very comprehensive, and highly informative and important. It will make an outstanding and valuable tool for anyone interested or working in anthropology, philosophy or sociology of religion, religious or environmental studies. I thoroughly recommend it."

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"Every reader has his or her own interests and will find something of great value here. Student essays ought to be greatly improved not only by the wealth of data provided, but also by the different examples set in "how to write academically". More advanced scholarship will find not only a ready reference on myriad topics but also provocation of new thoughts, arguments and research. Great foundations are laid here for all kinds of scholarship. Religiously and environmentally motivated people will also find inspiration here for further thought and engagement."

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"This is, by any scholarly standards, a ground-breaking and awe-inspiring piece of work — a ecological *summa theologiae* for our times..."

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twentieth century... The Encyclopedia is an extremely helpful tool for beginners as it is quite accessible to undergraduates and the generally educated. With its specialized topics, broad scope, bibliographies on many topics, and special features it is useful for more advanced scholars as well. "

Anne Marie Dalton and Nancie Erhard, *Ecotheology*

"a breathtakingly valuable, truly multicultural reference work, indispensable for libraries, religious institutions, and environmental organizations."

Roger Gottlieb, *Tikkuun*

"*The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* is a significant contribution to a new field of study in religion and ecology. The impressive range of articles clearly reminds us of the importance of collaborative scholarship"

Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University

"*The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* is a major collection of the spiritual wisdom that has contributed to the study of the environment."

The Muslim World Book Review

Winner of The RUSA Best Reference Source.

"This work definitely invites browsing."

International Review of Biblical Literature

"To say that this is an indispensable reference work is an understatement. Taylor's *Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* (ERN) is an impressive two-volume collation of esoteric material dealing with the rich interpretation of religion and ecology. This expansive collection is akin to the perfect present; until you see it, you could never imagine how much you wanted it. This is an astonishingly useful reference book for multiple disciplines including religion, philosophy, history, interdisciplinary studies, and ecology...Superbly edited and carefully crafted, the ERN is essential." — Stephen J. Shaw, *American Reference Books Annual*, Vol. 40, 2009

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About the Author

Bron Taylor is President of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture, and editor of the *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*. Since his appointment as the Samuel S. Hill Ethics Professor at the University of Florida in 2002, he has helped develop the world's first graduate program focusing on Religion and Nature. His projects and research are featured at www.religionandnature.com and www.brontaylor.com.

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