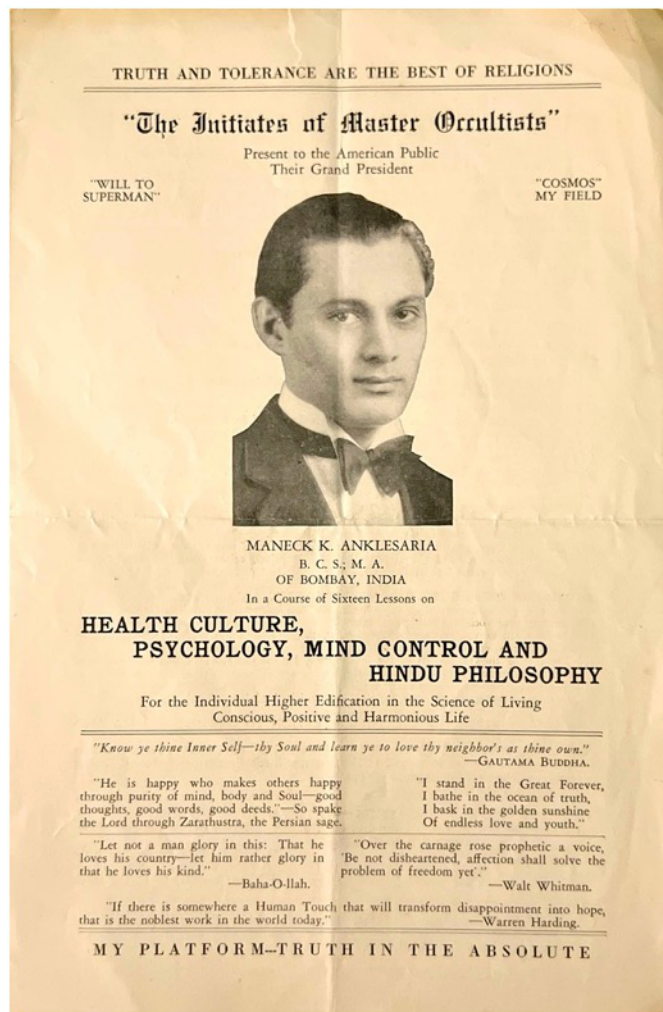


Peek-a-Book Rare Books & Ephemera  
Catalog 3  
A Christmas Handlist



Anklesaria, Maneck K.

**Maneck K. Anklesaria B. C. S. M. A. Of Bombay, India in a course of sixteen lessons on Health Culture, Psychology, Mind Control, and Hindu Philosophy.**

The Initiates of the Master Occultists: Dallas, Texas. May 1927.

Circular, 9" x 6". 4 pp. of text, one photographic illus. CONDITION: Good, short tear at top edge of both pgs., old folds, faint dampstaining to edges, corners creased.

*An apparently unrecorded circular promoting sixteen lectures given at the Raleigh Hotel, by a self-proclaimed secretary of Mahatma Gandhi who traveled the Swami circuit.*

This circular promotes Anklesaria as a messiah bringing "Higher Edification in the Science of Living Conscious, Positive and Harmonious Life" to the visitors of the Raleigh Hotel in Waco, Texas, and, to prove it, provides numerous quotations from Indian and Persian spiritual leaders—the Buddha, Zarathustra, and the Bahá'ulláh—as well as Walt Whitman and Warren Harding. Advertising "psycho-analysis, mental and physical adjustment...and the use of Dr. Maneck's personal choice of books on these subjects," the circular assures attendees that Anklesaria's teachings will teach them the "Eternal Truth for Every Day Life and Ever Increasing Prosperity and Happiness," and initiate them to the order "of the Master Occultists." Anklesaria's lectures evidently touched upon "Occultism and Metaphysics," "The Higher Uses of the Subconscious Mind," "The Colors, Elements and their relation to Our Body," "The Hindu Science of Rejuvenation," "The Sacred Science of Marriage and Regeneration," and other subjects related to spiritual and psychological health. He also voiced his opinions on "the Science of Living," "Finding your Vocation," "What to Eat and How to Cook Food for Different Glands," and breathing exercises.

Dr. Maneck Anklesaria (1899–1967), otherwise known as “Maneck of India,” was a member of the Parsi community in Bombay, and the son of a wealthy vintner. After graduating from Visva Bharati University in Santiniketan, Anklesaria came to the United States in 1918, evidently under Mohandas Gandhi’s direction, to serve as an ambassador of the Non-Cooperation Movement and further his education. Early during his time in America, Anklesaria attended the University of Dakota for his second undergraduate degree and by 1924, enrolled in Northwestern University’s graduate program in journalism. He would go on to deliver his first lecture in Madison, Wisconsin, on the relationship between Christianity and Zoroastrianism. Anklesaria quickly earned a reputation as a speaker who advocated for India’s independence, and his frequent citations of American culture as the model for the incipient nation. Beginning in 1925, newspapers started to refer to Anklesaria as a “lecturer on Oriental philosophy and the psychic and occult sciences of which he is a great student.” By 1927, he had lectured on occult, spiritual, and philosophical subjects in Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Waco, typically in Odd-Fellows Halls, Hotels, and Freemason’s lodges. He would go on to lecture across the United States for the rest of his life, but, rather than remain a lifelong occultist, it seems that after Anklesaria had advised the Indian National Congress in the mid-1930s, his lectures took on a decidedly political turn, advocating for non-violence and requesting America’s aid on behalf of India’s liberation.

As of December 2024, this circular is unrecorded in OCLC. The only institutional holding of anything related to Maneck is his master’s dissertation, “The Policy of the Open Door in China, 1899–1926,” at Northwestern University.

Sources Consulted: “The Lost Tapes of Maneck Anklesaria” at a Spiritual Happiness online; Philip Deslippe, “The Swami Circuit: Mapping the Terrain of Early American Yoga,” *Journal of Yoga Studies*, UCSB, 2018.

**Price:** \$450.00

**ACT NOW**

REMEMBER "NOW" READ THE OTHER WAY MEANS—HONOUR,  
RECOGNITION, SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS

Think, decide and register for the course. This is your opportunity to acquire Eternal Truth for Every Day Life and Ever Increasing Prosperity and Happiness.

Possess Harmony without discord; Freedom without Bond; Reality without Illusion; Satisfaction without Odds; Love without Longing; and Life everlasting without Death.

THE FULL COURSE includes psycho-analysis, mental and physical adjustment, treatment, the literature, charts, etc., and the use of Dr. Maneck's personal choice of books on these subjects. Through psycho-analysis you will discover your exact vocation, your good points, your defects, your harmonious colors, etc. When you register for this course you are assuring yourself of "A Trouble-Proof Life."

Those completing the course are entitled to membership in "The Initiates of Master Occultists."

Cheerfully fill out and deliver your registration blank and thereby:

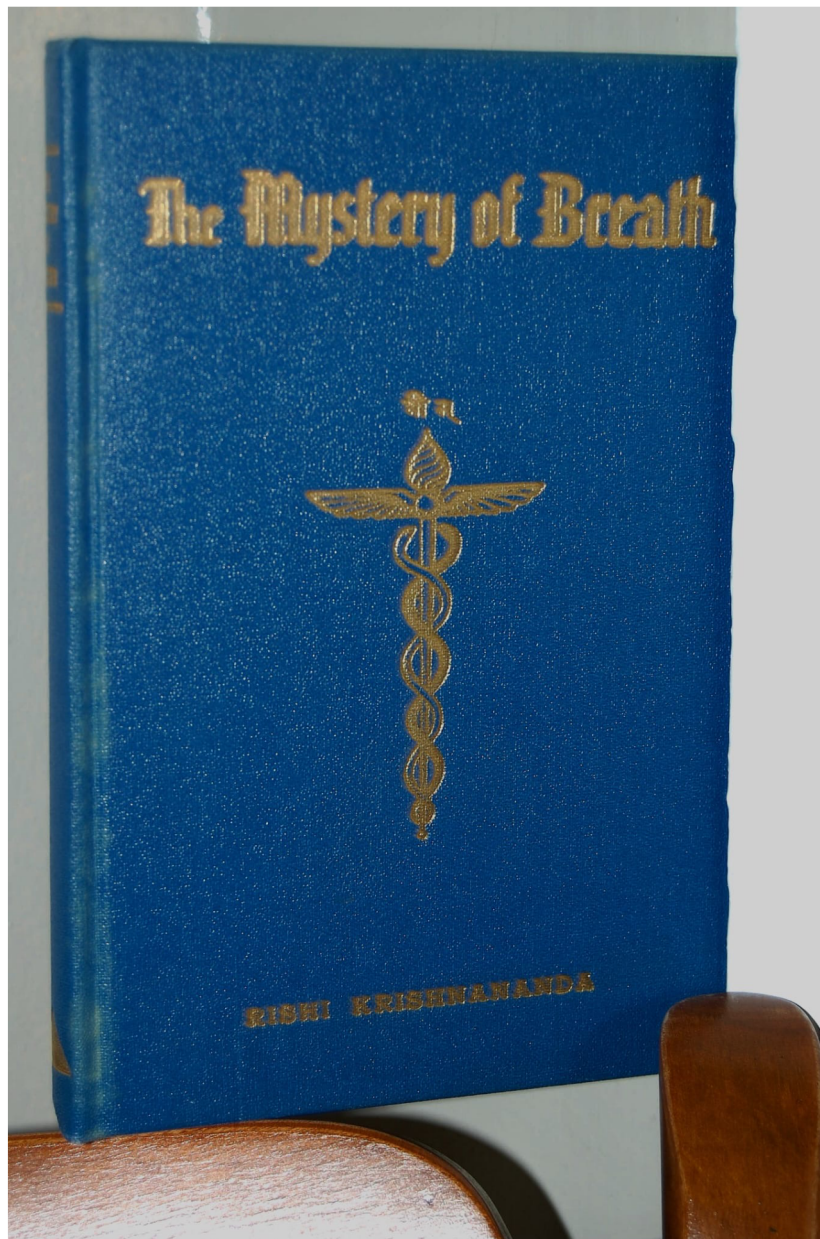
*"Be ye the maker of your fate  
Be ye the captain of your soul."*

Let Harmony, Peace and Light be brought unto all.—AUM.

Yours in the Conscious Living,

**THE INITIATES OF MASTER OCCULTISTS,**  
237 E. 6th St., Dallas, Texas, 1135 NW. 5th St., Miami, Fla.  
157 Savona Walk, Long Beach, Calif.  
2028 W. Pacific Avenue, Spokane, Wash.  
Permanent Address, P. O. Box 2037, Hollywood, Calif.

HAVE YOU READ THE CIRCULAR ON STUDENTS' TESTIMONIALS AND DR. MANECK'S HEALING ACHIEVEMENTS? POSITIVELY TAKE ONE AT THE DOOR.



Krishnananda, Rishi.

**The Mystery of Breath.**

The Para-vida Center: 204 West 80th Street, New York, N.Y. circa 1940.

Sm 8vo (7.75" x 5"). Gilt light-blue cloth. 94 pp., 2 pgs pub ads, original mail-order slip bound-in. Ownership inscription of "Christina Winge" in ink at upper right corner of title page. CONDITION: Very good, some sunning to spine, offsetting to endpapers, slightest tear to front pastedown near inner hinge.

*A well-preserved copy of a scarce hatha-yoga treatise, by an Indian yoga teacher based in Los Angeles.*

This book reports "the truth concerning the human body," that it is a "temple" which can be "trained to obey the orders of the mind," through "that important branch of Eastern philosophy known as 'Hatha Yoga.'" The book has a chapter on commonly used terminology in yogic texts ("Yoga Lore"); a chapter on the "vital force" of the breath ("Prana"); seven breathing techniques including "The Nerve Vitalizing Breath,"

and the “Grand Yogi Psychic Breath;” a section on what ailments breathing techniques can cure (“Charging the Body”); and two chapters on the human body. Throughout, Krishnananda promotes hatha yoga as a miraculous form of physical culture, which is capable of controlling the “Sympathetic Nervous System,” as demonstrated by “certain...Yogis in India who are able to render all the physical organs...subject to their will,” among other near-impossible deeds. Krishnananda’s phraseology regarding the mind and body is cast in predominantly Christian terms, making numerous references to verses from the New Testament, and only occasional mention of Indian spiritual texts such as the Bhagavad Gita and the Upanishads.

*The Mystery of Breath* was one of four books, along with *Let There Be Light*, *Yoga Science of Eating*, and *Success Hints for the Busy Business Man*, which were published by Krishnananda in early 1941. All of these volumes were self-published, as newspapers indicate that Krishnananda himself had founded the Para-Vidya Center in early 1941. These books were likely published while the Center was still based in New York City, though evidently that was only for a short period, as the Center would be re-established in Los Angeles by November of 1941.

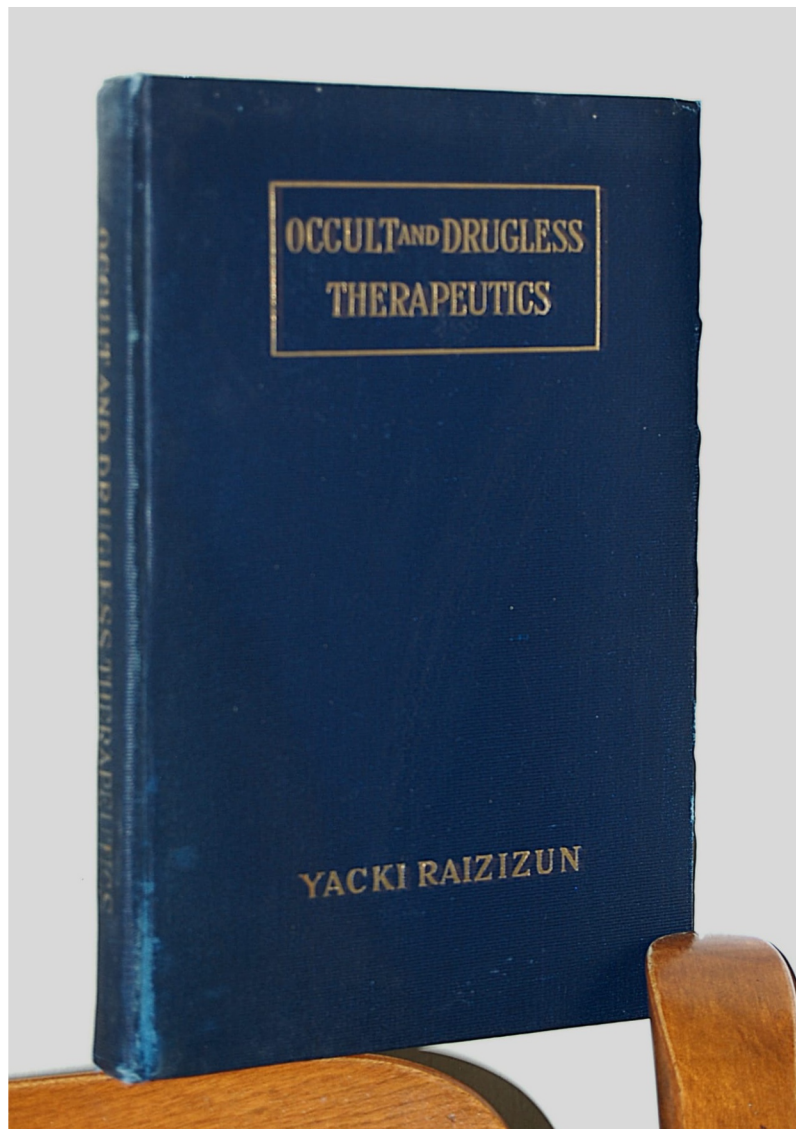
Rishi Krishnananda (1886–?) likely came to the United States prior to the Asian Exclusion Act of 1924 (also known as the Johnson-Reed Act), which severely restricted the entry of Indian immigrants to America. Newspapers record him first teaching at the Hotel Carter in Ohio in 1940, where he spoke on “The Truth About Mahatma Gandhi,” before he moved out West to a location at 330 South Scott Street in Los Angeles. There, he re-established the Para-Vidya Center, a “non-sectarian organization ‘which aims to expound the higher principles of all religions...and to disseminate...spiritual knowledge...to effect a more healthy, happy and successful life.’” He taught there between 1941 and 1942, speaking about “India’s Future,” “Advanced Steps in Meditation,” “What To Eat–Why–How,” “The Power of Concentration,” and other topics popular among physical culture and yoga enthusiasts. Curiously, Krishnananda also offered a regular “Morning Service” at the Center, where he spoke on Christian themes such as “Be Still and Know that I Am God,” “How Did Jesus Die,” and “The Mysteries of Revelation.”

Krishnananda drops off the printed record after October of 1942. However, one newspaper from 1944 indicates that by then, the Para-Vidya Center was led by a woman, Darha Nivenanda, whose book had been published by Krishnananda around 1941. We speculate that “Krishnananda” disappeared from print because he was using an alias while teaching, and reverted to his ordinary identity when he chose to pursue a different career.

As of November 2024, OCLC records 13 known copies.

Sources Consulted: Philip Deslippe, “The Swami Circuit: Mapping the Terrain of Early American Yoga,” *Journal of Yoga Studies*, UCSB, 2018.

**Price:** \$150.00



Raizizun, Yacki.

**Occult and Drugless Therapeutics.**

Occult Research Society: Room 415–Chicago-Clark Building, 800 North Clark Street, Chicago, USA. 1924.

Sm 8vo (7.75" x 5"). Gilt dark-blue cloth. 134 pp. 3 pgs. of ads. **CONDITION:** Good, spine darkened with some loss to gilt near foot, some wear to extremities, fading to lower edge of back cover possibly from dampstain, text clean and clear.

*First edition of an apparently unrecorded work on drugless curatives to common illnesses and inconveniences, by a traveling Muslim Indian lecturer in the United States.*

Raizizun's book contains chapters on "Concentration Magnetism," "Conscious and Sub-conscious Mind," "Mental Therapeutics," "Scientific Fasting," "Meat and its Effects," "Healing by Dis-Incarnate Intelligences," and other esoteric topics related to healing and maintaining a body without drugs. Many of the cures offered are of a pseudo-scientific nature, with animal "magnetism" considered a solution to headaches, "self suggestion" recommended to overcome both fear ("the worst of all diseases") as well as menstrual pains, and fasting proposed as a cure for vomiting, fainting, and insomnia. Among the most helpful advice is the chapter on "Breathing," wherein Raizizun implores his readers to cease their "unnatural mouth breathing

habit” and instead undergo a series of “deep breathing” exercises, though they are told to proceed with these with caution as breathing “too strenuously...will cause internal bleeding.” Throughout, the author quotes Chicago newspaper articles, popular testimony (by Miss Buda Carroll Keller and others), and semi-notable medical authorities such as Dr. Frank J. Hartman (a Philadelphia-based “radium hound”), to validate his prescriptions.

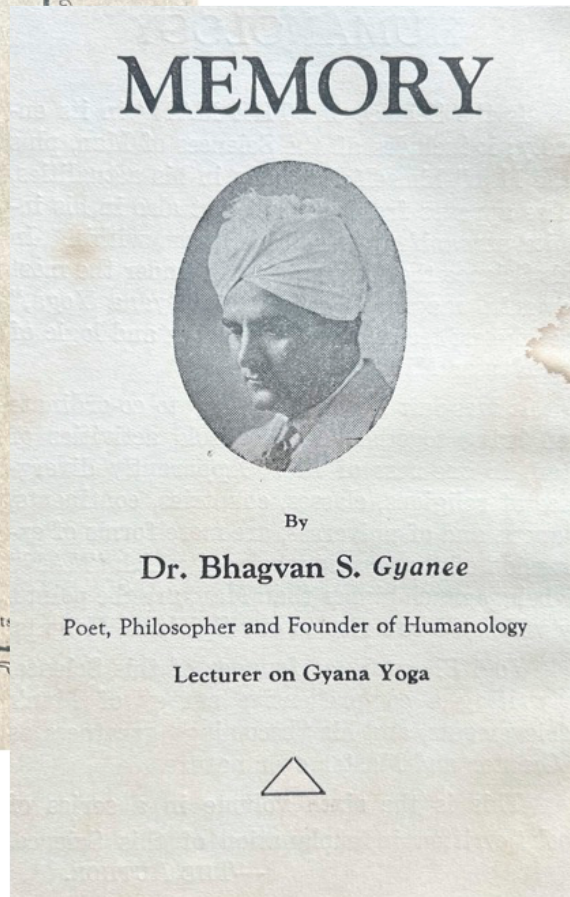
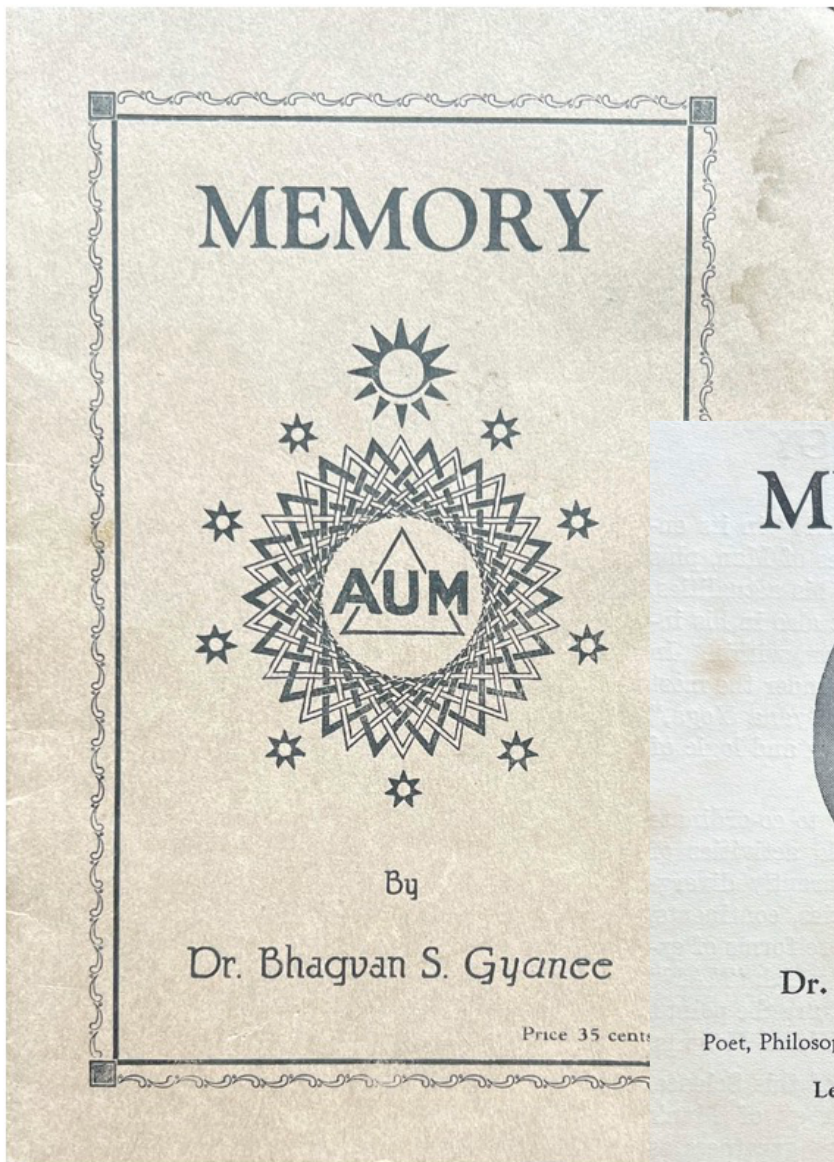
Yacki Raizizun (1893–1966) was an independent yoga teacher from South Asia who lectured throughout the United States between the two World Wars. His first appearance in newspapers dates to 1920 and indicates that he had obtained a doctorate, that he was married, and that he came from Chicago to attend a meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary of the First Society of Spiritualists in Joliet, Illinois. Newspapers from 1924 show that by that year, Raizizun claimed to be “president of the Occult Research Society of Chicago” and that he had established himself as a lecturer. He gave slightly over a hundred lectures on spiritual, psychological, and similar self-help topics until 1937 (in which year he lectured in New Mexico and Nebraska), before apparently falling off the “swami circuit.”

A newspaper from Santa Fe in 1941 reported that in January of that year, Raizizun had married May Martinez Smith, a “member of one of the prominent Spanish families of Santa Fe and Taos,” who was a schoolteacher and writer-illustrator of children’s books. This article provides a highly distinguished background for Raizizun, claiming that prior to marrying Smith, he was “an internationally renowned lecturer and writer of metaphysical and philosophical works” and “a naturopathic doctor...specializing in arthritis and goiter...He has a vast knowledge...from having studied and practiced in many countries.” The report notes that Raizizun was born in Bombay, and that he had “traveled around the world...studying and lecturing” ever since he was 18. His father was apparently “a native of India, and his mother English and French from the Island of Corsica. At an early age he moved with his family to Sydney, Australia, where they made their home...He is a graduate of Amherst college in England, where he was later a teacher of philosophy for five years.” According to Raizizun’s obituary published in Texas, the Raizizuns continued to live in Santa Fe until 1953, when they moved to El Paso.

As of December 2024, OCLC records no institutional holdings.

Sources Consulted: Philip Deslippe, “The Swami Circuit: Mapping the Terrain of Early American Yoga,” *Journal of Yoga Studies*, UCSB, 2018; “Frank Hartman Papers” at Historical Medical Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia online.

**Price: \$250.00**



Gyanee, Dr. Bhagwan Singh.

**Memory.**

[Tacoma, Washington]. Circa 1933.

16vo (6.75" x 4.75"). Staplebound brown wrappers. 13 pp., [3]. Photo-portrait of Singh printed at title. **CONDITION:** Good, dampstain to edge of front wrapper affecting right margin of leaves throughout, red stain to right margin of title page, minimal wear to rear wrapper.

*An apparently unrecorded metaphysical treatise on the different functions of memory, by an erudite Sikh revolutionary-turned-yoga teacher.*

The "sixth volume" in Singh's "comprehensive survey" of the metaphysical science of Humanology, which "includes all the Sciences of Man, plus 'the Man' himself; not only in his actualities but also in his infinite unmanifest possibilities from within." Like the other volumes in this series, this is a treatise on "the...magnifying light of 'Gyana Yoga,' the highest technique of reasoning and logic of the Master Minds of India."



Here, Singh describes “the four aspects of memory. Racial memory or biological, conscious memory, reproductive and eliminative memory,” and how they together constitute conscious experience. The rear cover relates the other titles that had been published by Singh.

Bhagwan Singh “Gyaneer” (1884–1962) was a Sikh priest who became the president of the Ghadar party, a coalition of Indians in North America who attempted to organize an armed revolution in India from overseas. Prior to coming to the United States, while in India, Singh lived in a village in Punjab and went to a missionary school, Gurmat Vidyala, where he passed the five-year long “gyaneer” examination (qualifying him to the rank of priesthood) in under a year. After teaching several courses on logic and metaphysics at the school, he would study the Vedic scriptures under Har Bilas Sarda, an Indian nationalist and highly realized spiritual teacher. After delivering several anti-establishment speeches during the 1907 Punjab unrest, Singh became a known seditionist against the British Raj, and had to leave his wife and two young children while he fled abroad. He would go on to be deported from Canada for petitioning for the rights of South Asian workers while in the country, and then flee to Japan while on a ship in transit to India. After a failed attempt to procure arms and ammunition from the Germans, Singh would escape from Japan to end up in San Francisco by 1914. Upon his arrival, he was elected President of Ghadar Party to fill the role left by their recently fled leader, Lala Hardayal. Soon after, during the onset of the First World War, the party signed a declaration of war against the British and asserted that India was a sovereign nation. Narrowly avoiding arrest over the next two years, a mere day after the United States joined the war effort in 1917, Singh was found and arrested (along with the other leaders of the party) in a case that came to be known as “the Hindu-German Conspiracy Case.”

It is at this point that Singh embarked upon his career as a yoga teacher. Already fluent in English and familiar with the major texts of many world religions, upon obtaining his freedom in 1920, Singh took on the name Bhagwan Singh “Gyaneer” and began lecturing on “gyana yoga,” which involved meditating and using clear reasoning to understand the mind’s relationship to reality. Supplementing these highly erudite teachings, he also lectured on health-culture, creativity, and numerous other self-help related topics (closely adjacent to what was then-understood as yoga), and would often point to his physique, having been a wrestler while in Punjab, as a model. By 1930, he had dubbed his pedagogical doctrine “Humanology,” and founded the Humanology Society, as well as the American Institute of Culture, to maintain and promote his guidance. He would go on to lecture in nearly every state in the United States save for Maine, and established and oversaw several branches of the Institute.

He was finally able to return to India in 1958. Though he would never see America again, Singh maintained an extensive correspondence with his students at the Institute, and invited them to see him in India, hoping that regardless of his presence, they would continue to grow in their practice.

As of December 2024, this item is unrecorded in OCLC.

Sources Consulted: Philip Deslippe, “Rishis and Rebels: The Punjabi Sikh Presence in Early American Yoga,” UCSB, 2016; “Bhagwan Singh Gyaneer” at The Sikh Encyclopedia online; “Biography of Bhai Bhagwan Singh Gyaneer” at South Asian American Digital Archive online.

**Price: \$200.00**

Sant Kirpal Singh Ji



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**TOUR 1972**

IT IS A MATTER OF SEEING, OF RISING ABOVE  
BODY CONSCIOUSNESS, OF EXPERIENCING FOR  
ONE'S OWN SELF.

Kirpal Singh Ji

Master KIRPAL SINGH of Delhi, India, will be speaking in New Haven  
on Thursday, October 12, at 2:00p.m., Battell Chapel, Yale University  
Elm and College St.s

Singh Ji, Sant Kirpal.

**World Tour 1972.**

[Kirpal Singh]. : [New Haven, Connecticut]. 1972.

Poster 13" x 18.5". CONDITION: Very good, short tears at margins, no losses to text or image.

*An evocative poster advertising the Sikh guru Sant Kirpal Singh's lecture at Yale University while on his third and last world tour.*

This poster shows Singh proudly standing before a camera, awaiting his photograph to be taken, while promoting his impromptu lecture at Yale's Battell Chapel. Below his

image is a quotation taken from his 1967 lecture, “Learn to Die so that You May Begin to Live,” which was delivered at the Sawan Ashram in Delhi, and attempted to dispel the two primordial falsehoods, namely that all being human consists of is being a body, and that all that exists in the world is material reality.

A newspaper report from the Hartford Courant notes that from 2 to 4 PM at Battell Chapel, Singh spoke on “the practical application of spirituality” and the value of education. Singh’s visit to Yale was a sudden arrangement spurred on by the University’s invitation of the guru to their chapel while on his third World Tour. Before embarking on this tour, Singh and his travel committee had published a schedule of his lecture dates in the US and Canada, and it was agreed that “there would be no changes...as it would involve too many difficulties” (“The Third World Tour”). According to an account written by a member of Singh’s touring group, his lecture at Yale on October 12 was the only exception made to this rule. It was arranged between Singh’s lectures in New York City and Boston, which allowed the guru to leave New York “by car at 11 a.m.” and arrive “at New Haven, Conn., at 1 p.m. There...[h]e spoke beautifully and powerfully on education, stressing the need for an aim in life and the importance and necessity of experiencing higher consciousness” (“The Third”).

Sant Kirpal Singh (1894–1974) was a significant Sikh guru of the twentieth century. He was born in the Punjab region of present-day Pakistan, and began his spiritual education under the tutelage of Baba Sawan Singh in 1924, which continued until 1948. By the end of his discipleship, Kirpal Singh’s master entrusted him to spread his teachings, leading Singh to establish the “Ruhani Satsang, a common platform for all persons believing in any faith or religion” (“Sant Kirpal Singh”). He would go on to give three world tours, first in 1955, then 1963, and finally 1972. While he lectured throughout Europe during his first and second World Tours, it was only on his third World Tour that Kirpal Singh Ji came to America. After this tour, he would go on to convene “the gigantic World Conference on Unity of Man in February 1974 which was attended by religious, social and political leaders from all over the world and was a major step towards His vision for a peaceful society” (“Sant Kirpal Singh”).

Sources Consulted: “The Third World Tour” at Ruhani Satsang online; “Sant Kirpal Singh” at Ruhani Satsang India online.

**Price: \$125.00**

## Inquiries

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