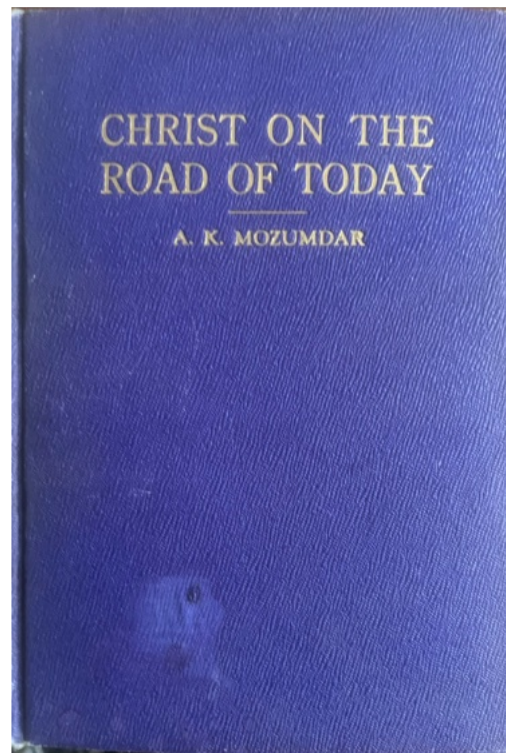
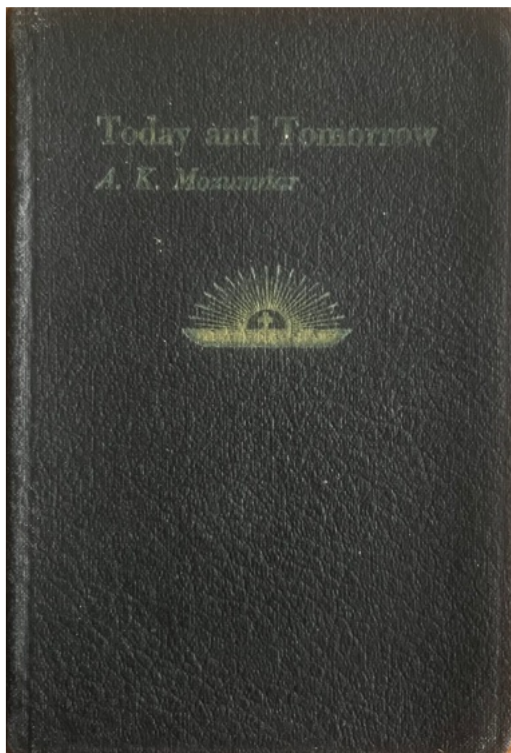


Peek-a-Book Rare Books & Ephemera  
Catalog 5  
Swamis, Sikhs, and Yoga  
Pico Banerjee, Proprietor



Mozumdar, A[khoy]. K[umar].

**Today and Tomorrow (Physio-metaphysics): An experimental textbook of the New Messianic World Message [with] Christ on the Road of Today.**

Privately published: [Hollywood]. 1945.

Messianic Publishing Company: Los Angeles. 1927.

Pictorial leather covers. 127 pp. 1 pg. ad of books by the author. Ownership inscription reading "David Stonehenge. 5, 16-1984. Jim Sonehenge" in ink at ffepp. Advertising page with stamp reading "Mozumdar's Ministry Today: Crown of Life Fellowship 38281 Mountain Home Dr. Lebanon, OR 97355," and inkstamp reading "Out of print." CONDITION: Very good, title at spine faded, title at upper cover faded, boards and text-block cockled.

Stretched purple canvas over boards. ii, 203 pp. 1 pg. advertising books by the author. Previous owner's label reading "L. Dambrosio, 3000 42 Stevens St. Oceanside N.Y, 11572" at front pastedown. CONDITION: Good, spine sunned, head and foot of spine bumped, some warping to upper cover, margins of endpapers toned.

*Two first edition "Christian yoga" texts by an early naturalized South Asian American citizen, from the beginning and end of his career.*

Akhoy Kumar Mozumdar (1864-1953) occupies an eminent place both in the history of Indians in the United States, and among the early yoga-spiritual gurus in the country. In San Francisco in 1913, after arguing that "as a high-caste Indian, he too was Caucasian" (Kumar), Mozumdar became among the first Indians to be granted citizenship by the US. As a lecturer, Mozumdar allegedly "healed people with the cosmic rays generated by a mere touch of his fingers," by delivering his "Universal Messianic Message," which "was cobbled together from his...readings of ancient texts. It...preached positive thinking and combined esoterica drawn from religious texts" (Kumar).

Like a handful of other early American yoga teachers, Mozumdar's brand of yoga was not overtly Hindu or otherwise Indic, but rather "he taught something he called

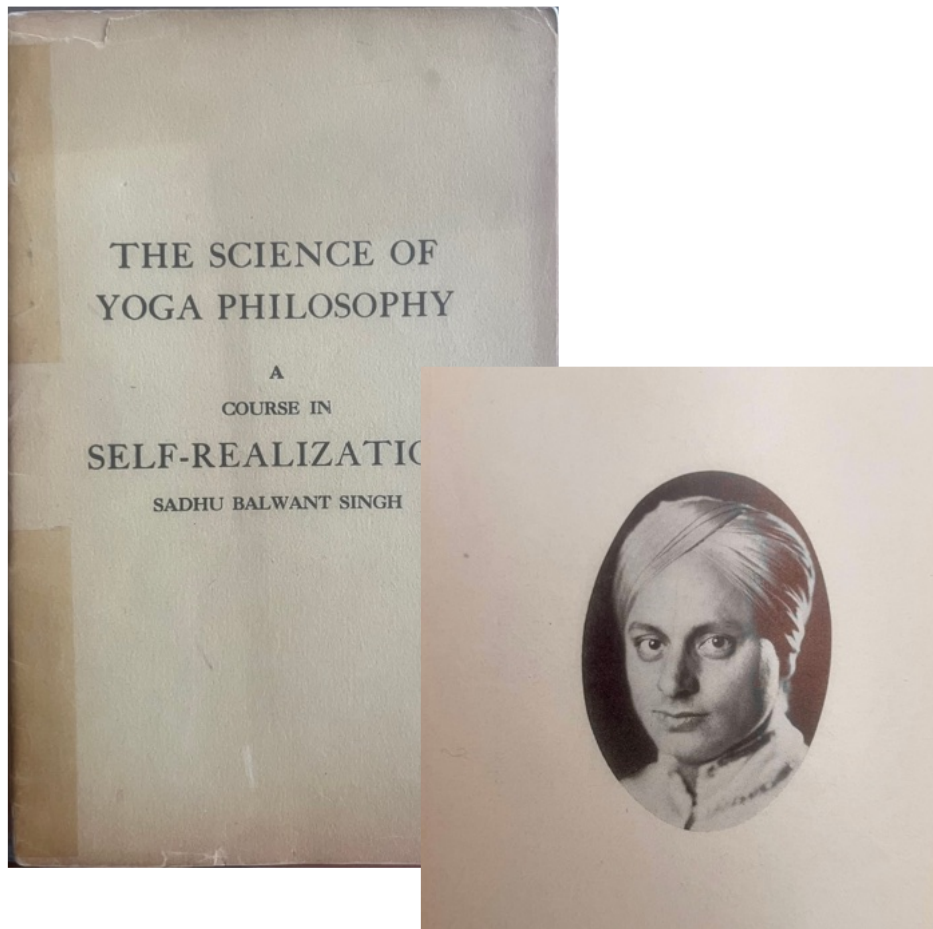
'Christian Yoga,' an unusual mix of mind control and lectures based on the Bible" that drew upon his knowledge of New Thought and his background in Theosophy. He was a prolific author, and in the early 1930s established the United Messianic Church "in the San Bernardino Mountains, east of Los Angeles...The impressive dome of the temple, putatively modelled on the Taj Mahal and visible for miles, impressed visitors and travellers alike" (Kumar).

OCLC records 3 copies of *Today and Tomorrow*, at the Graduate Theological Union Library (CA), BPL, and Washington State University.

OCLC records 11 copies of *Christ on the Road of Today*.

Sources Consulted: Kumar, Anu. "A spiritual guru's curious journey to becoming the first Indian filmmaker in the US" at ScrollIn online.

**Price for both: \$175.00**



Grewal, Sadhu Balwant Singh.

**Science of Yoga Philosophy: A Course in Self-Realization.**

Golden Temple Series: New York. circa 1939.

Staplebound tan wrappers. 39 pp., list of books by Grewal on verso of terminal leaf. Label reading "Balwant S. Grewal 11399 Sorrento Detrit 27, Michigan" affixed on top of place of publication at title and terminal leaf. CONDITION: Good, tape-repair to spine over staples, corners of wrappers with some chipping, chip to fore-edge of rear wrapper, minor chipping to margin of last leaf.

*The apparently unrecorded true second edition of a guidebook to Grewal's "science of Yoga Philosophy of Life and Mind."*

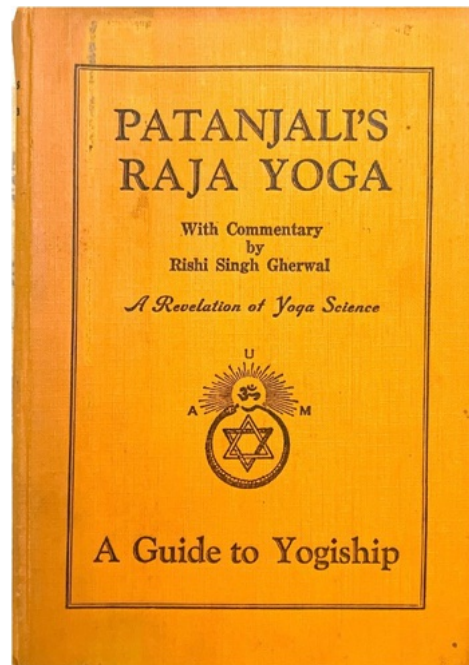
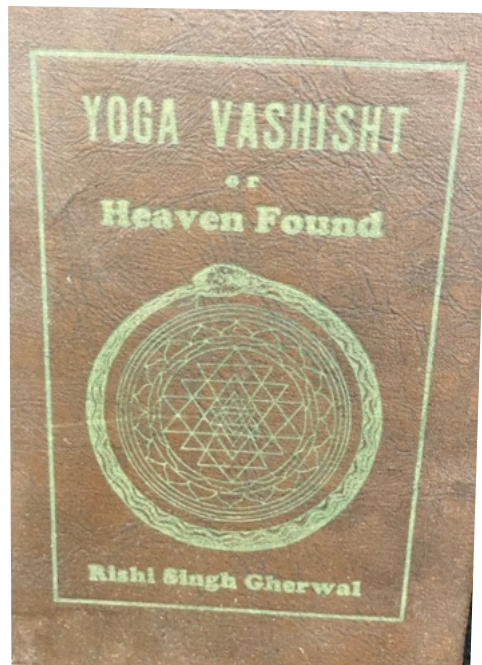
Grewal describes the difference between the first and the present edition thus: "the first edition of this work was more or less in the form of a lesson note book...due to the request of my beloved students I had to reprint these instructions...and...for the sake of more explanation...I have added a few pages on the Science of Yoga."

Sadhu Balwant Singh Grewal (1899–1985) was a Sikh immigrant from Punjab who led a six-decade long career as a yoga teacher and naturopathic health advisor. He arrived in the United States in 1921 to go to college at the University of Utah, and by 1928 he would apply for a Masters in Engineering from the University of Michigan. Prior to emigrating from India, he was a follower of Gandhi's satyagraha ("soul-force") movement, and this remained an abiding topic of his lectureship throughout his decades-long career. Like other early Indian immigrants, due to the passage of the Third Decision in 1923 (which barred Indians from applying for citizenship and owning property), Singh began lecturing on occult topics sometime around 1928. His lectures and books were largely derived from those of his friend and mentor Bhagat Singh Thind, who had been lecturing in earnest since 1924. In the course of his career, Singh published "about eighteen different titles that included poetry, lessons, pamphlets, and monographs on diet...and what he called 'the science of yoga philosophy'" (Deslippe). Like Thind, Grewal's career was closely linked to the burgeoning interest in New Thought and "self-help," and he "frequently taught at centers of Unity, a New Thought church founded in 1889 by Charles and Myrtle Fillmore, from Arizona and Texas to Colorado and Washington, DC" (Deslippe).

A copy of what has been cataloged as the "second edition" has been recorded on OCLC by UCSB. However, the place of publication listed, Titusville, Florida, and the publication date provided, 1975, suggest that it is a later reprint of this edition.

Sources Consulted: Philip Deslippe, "Rishis and Rebels: The Punjabi Sikh Presence in Early American Yoga," UCSB, 2016.

**Price: \$150.00**



Gherwal, Rishi Singh.

**Yoga Vashisht: or Heaven Found [with] Patanjali's Raja Yoga: A Revelation of the Science of Yoga.**

[Gherwal]: Santa Barbara. 1930.

Rishi Singh Gherwal: Santa Barbara. 1935.

Blind-stamped leather covers. 189 pp. Illustration of "the symbolic chart of the six Chakras" at verso of terminal leaf of text. 2 pgs. of ads for books by the author (Kundalini: The Mother of the Universe and Great Masters of the Himalayas: Their Lives and Temple Teachings). CONDITION: Good, spine rubbed, front cover faded, dust spotting at top of text-block, toning at margins of endpapers,.

Blind-stamped orange cloth covers. vi, [1]–196 pp. Advertising sheet of books by the author tipped-in at terminal leaf. Ownership inscription reading "Arthur E. Hatch 1919 East 89th St. Cleveland Ohio" at fep. CONDITION: Fair, covers worn, fraying near title at upper cover, rear cover dampstained, hinges starting to crack, text-block cocked, text clean, binding and covers holding firm.

*Two first editions of Gherwal's translations of perennial works of Vedic philosophy, made and distributed for the benefit of his students.*

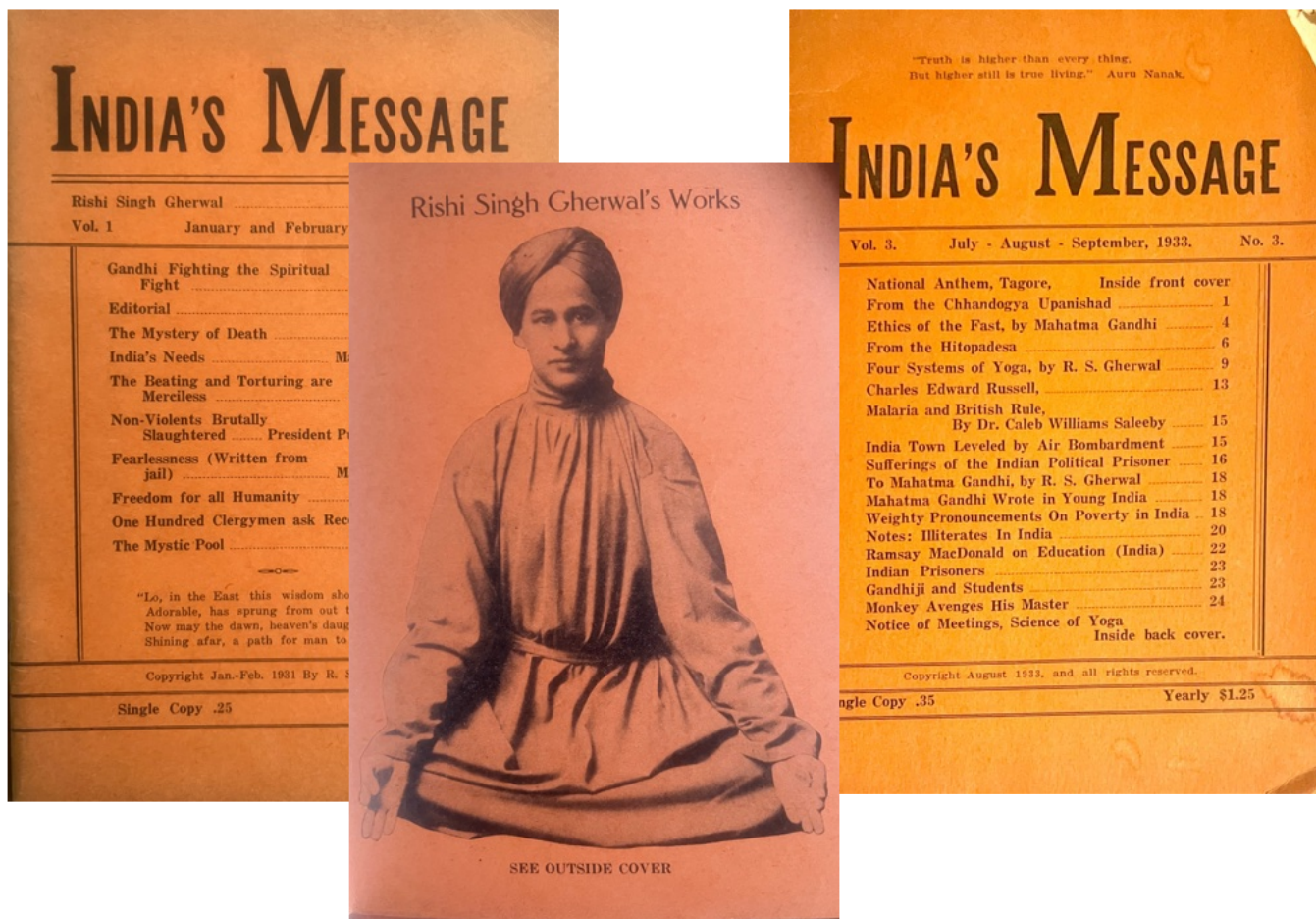
Rishi Singh Gherwal (1889–1964) was a politically inclined Punjabi Sikh yoga teacher who perhaps did more than any other to understand and promote yoga's South Asian origins. He came to the United States from England in 1923, first setting foot in New York. Unfortunately, his arrival coincided with the passage of the Third Decision, which prohibited him from citizenship and holding property. Hence by 1925, he began lecturing "in the Pacific Northwest and Midwest (including Utah, Montana, Missouri, Nebraska, and Texas) and offered yogic teachings that were framed alternately in terms of psychology, philosophy, and occultism." He initially taught as "Yogi Gherwal" until the end of 1928, when he adopted the prefix of "Rishi," meaning "great master," followed by his last name. Throughout his thirty-year career, Gherwal demonstrated a sustained interest "in yoga qua yoga, both in the modern postural forms that are recognized today and in its classical textual forms. His published works were filled with references to older texts such as the Yoga Vasistha, Patanjali's Yoga Sutra, the Prashna Upanishad, the Kundalini Upanishad, and the Hatha Yoga Pradipika" (Deslippe).

OCLC records 6 copies of *Yoga Vashisht*, at Stanford, UCSB, Berkeley, Haverford, Midlands Technical College, and McMaster University in Canada.

OCLC records 9 copies of *Patanjali's Raja Yoga*, at Cal State University Chico, Berkeley, UCSB, Yale, the LOC, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Haverford, Norwich, and Oxford.

Sources Consulted: Philip Deslippe, "Rishis and Rebels: The Punjabi Sikh Presence in Early American Yoga," UCSB, 2016.

**Price for both books: \$150.00**



Gherwal, Rishi Singh.

**India's Message. Vol. 1. January and February 1931. No. 1 [with] India's Message. Vol. 3. July – August – September, 1933. No. 3.**

R.S. Gherwal: Santa Barbara. 1931.

Gherwal: Santa Barbara. 1933.

Staplebound orange wrappers. 32 pp. Photo-illustrated portrait of Gherwal printed at rear pastedown. **CONDITION:** Near-fine, some toning to extremities of wrappers, otherwise fine.

Staplebound orange wrappers. 24 pp. **CONDITION:** Good, spine toned and moderately worn, chip at upper right corner of front cover, some staining near lower right margin of front cover, chips at corners near fore-edge of rear wrapper.

*Two apparently unrecorded issues of an early American yoga journal, by a Punjabi Sikh historian of yoga.*

The first issue, first printing of Gherwal's magazine on the history of yoga, the importance of India to world culture, and news of India for immigrants in America. Gherwal says that he edited and published this issue while on extended lecture tours and writing two books, *Yoga Vashisht* and *Kundalini, the Mother of the Universe*. He intended for the magazine to be "published every two months," and said that with it, he "will bring the spiritual message to the American people; the message of India first given out through the Upanishads," and also "the message of India which Mahatma Gandhi is giving out."

Text for Vol. 3 No. 3 picks up where previous issue (vol. 3 no. 2) left off. Includes Tagore's "National Anthem," Gherwal's translations of the *Upanishads* and the *Hitopadesa*, text from authors in India (including Gandhi), and advertises the "Science of Yoga" classes offered in NYC, Chicago, Long Beach California, Los Angeles, and Santa Barbara that year.

For background on Gherwal, see item 3.

OCLC records copies of India's Message at NYPL, Stanford, and UCSB. However, the editions of the periodicals are unclear. Only volume 7 has been digitized by the South Asian American Digital Archive.

Price for both issues: \$175.00

**DR. THIND'S DYNAMIC AND VITALIC BREATHING AND NATURE CURES**

The simplest and the very best methods for rebuilding of the broken down bodies; bringing to natural condition your brain, nerves, bones, glands, muscles, and skin. Mechanism of Mind completely explained as how to control, curb and conquer it, and live in the radiant joy of the Soul Immortal.

**HINDU SCIENCE OF BREATHING**

Free lessons in breathing and classes in development of the Realization of the Kingdom of Heaven within will be conducted every day from 12:00 to 1:00, with the exception of Sundays. Come and be a Columbus to the whole new continents and worlds within you, opening new channels, not of trade, but of thought.

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- 1—Divine Wisdom, Vol. I.—\$2.25 postage extra
- 2—Divine Wisdom, Vol. II.—\$2.50 postage extra
- 3—The Bible of Humanity for Supreme Wisdom, in 16 books, Book I.—\$1.00 postage extra
- 4—Soul Celestial—The Darling of God, Book II.—\$1.00 postage extra
- 5—Wisdom and the Wheel, Book III.—\$5.00 postage extra
- 6—Breathing and Glands—\$1.00 postage extra (An M. S. by the author)

These books have been rightly called "Heralds of Happiness," "Gloom Dispellers," "Harbingers of Health and Holiness," "Demon Drivers," "Moral Monitors" and "Christ Creators."

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Author of "Divine Wisdom," Vol. I and II, and "The Bible of Humanity for Supreme Wisdom"  
Psychologist, Metaphysician and Divine of America, India

**"NO RELIGION HIGHER THAN TRUTH"**  
SIKH PHILOSOPHY, being the most modern and advanced teachings of the Sikh Saviours, who have eliminated the superstitious and fake practices of the old orthodox teachings of all religions, and shown the Naked Truth—the Essence of all; Harmonizing Science, Philosophy and Religion completely.

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## "Truth is Higher Than Everything, But Higher Still is True Living"—Guru Nanak

**APRIL 23, WEDNESDAY—2:30 P. M.:** The Kingdom of Heaven is within you.  
8:00 P. M.: Practical Realization of the Indescribable Light of the Soul within.

**APRIL 24, THURSDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Religion, the ultimate Value of human Endeavor.  
No evening lecture—no hall available.

**APRIL 25, FRIDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Dynamics of Thought. To think is to move in the Infinite.  
8:00 P. M.: Wisdom Conditions Happiness, how to be wise?

**APRIL 26, SATURDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Spiritualistic Activism, or Right Knowledges of Action.  
8:00 P. M.: Evolution—Man, neither the son of an ape nor created by special, separate decree of Deity.

**APRIL 27, SUNDAY—2:30 P. M.:** The Chant of the Immortals and the music of Spheres.  
8:00 P. M.: The highest technique of Concentration, Super-Concentration, Meditation and Realization.

**APRIL 28, MONDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Inspiration and how to be inspired!  
8:00 P. M.: Most scientific methods of Breathing for health of body and mind—storing prana (vital forces).

**APRIL 29, TUESDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Aids to divine Realization leading from Grace to Glory.  
8:00 P. M.: Positive cures for nervousness, and the restlessness of Mind. "Peace of All God's Gifts the best" and its attainment.

**APRIL 30, WEDNESDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Love dominates Creation, Duration, Resolution, and resurrection. How?  
8:00 P. M.: How to develop real and lasting personal Magnetism, an attractive and captivating Personality.

**MAY 1, THURSDAY—2:30 P. M.:** How to develop a dynamic will? Will trained to right attitude is heaven.  
8:00 P. M.: Karma and Re-incarnation. You have lived before you can recall!

**MAY 2, FRIDAY—2:30 P. M.:** How to banish forever fears, worries, uncertainties, indecisions and various other complexes.  
8:00 P. M.: Four Square Healing (demonstrated).

**MAY 3, SATURDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Finding comrade souls to feed you "Heavenly Manna."  
8:00 P. M.: Ye are the Light that lighteth every heart.

**MAY 4, SUNDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Changing negative emotional states into positive and constructive channels and making them pay.  
8:00 P. M.: Can we talk with the Dead and how? Where do we spend our time between one death and next Reincarnation.

**MAY 5, MONDAY—2:30 P. M.:** How to unite the Sub-Conscious and the Conscious minds to get practical results.  
8:00 P. M.: "Christ Consciousness"—multiplying "The loaves and fishes" and how it is done?

**MAY 6, TUESDAY—2:30 P. M.:** The real meaning of the World Teacher or second coming of Christ.  
8:00 P. M.: India's contribution to the civilization of the world and her future.

**MAY 7, WEDNESDAY—2:30 P. M.:** How to completely Psycho-analyze yourself, so that nothing exterior shall take command of you.  
8:00 P. M.: Resurrection of Christ and Christianity in the Twentieth Century and the Future of America.

**MAY 8, THURSDAY—2:30 P. M.:** "Watch, pray, hope and be silent."  
8:00 P. M.: "Eating the Bread of Life."

**MAY 9, FRIDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Man even in this Life can and is created to enjoy God.  
8:00 P. M.: "My Port Paternal in the Courts of Light."

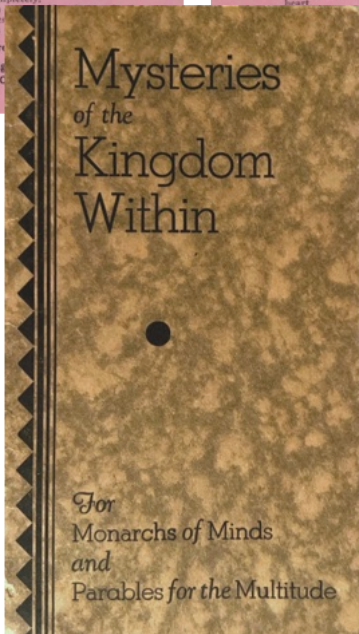
**MAY 10, SATURDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Sweet salve to the sores of souls.  
8:00 P. M.: Most exact occult methods for vibrating your glands for long life and happiness, and electrifying your five motors.

**MAY 11, SUNDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Three restrictions and four meditations.  
8:00 P. M.: Modern Masonry, Masters and the Path. Projection of astral body and its multiplication, and the science of breathing (a public demonstration).

**MAY 12, MONDAY—2:30 P. M.:** Choice of a vocation finding what you are best fitted for.  
8:00 P. M.: Transformation of Mind is the Transformation of Existence—How?

**MAY 13, TUESDAY—2:30 P. M.:** How to develop Devotion—the living Spirit of Love.  
8:00 P. M.: Contacting the Individual Spirit—Current thru "Surt-Shabd" and what it is.

Freely we give and freely we receive. This Work is Conducted in the Spirit of Christ. Truth Cannot Be Sold.  
The Science of Happiness, Health, Wealth and Whole-I-ness



Thind, Dr. Bhagat Singh.

**Sikh Saviours: Free Life-instilling Lectures Daily at 3:00 and 8:00 PM [with] Mysteries of the Kingdom Within: For Monarchs of Minds and Parables for the Multitude.**

[Thind]: PO. Box 2134, Salt Lake City, Utah. circa 1930.

Illustrated handbill, 9" x 4.25". 4 pgs. folded. 1 illus. at front. CONDITION: Very good, neat vertical and horizontal folds, slight crease at spine-edge of text

Pamphlet, 6" x 3.5". 9 pp. 1 pg. ad of "Unique Books" by Thind at terminal leaf. CONDITION: Good, wrappers minimally worn, signature (pgs. 5-8) detached.

*Two ephemeral publications advertising the "life instilling lectures" and "inner circle classwork" of B.S. Thind, a Sikh-American soldier who became an early American yoga teacher in the wake of his eponymously named Supreme Court Decision.*

This apparently unrecorded handbill advertised three weeks of lectures given by Dr. Bhagat Singh Thind at the Native Sons Building, on 414 Mason Street, San Francisco. The flier presents "SIKH PHILOSOPHY" as "the most modern and advanced teachings of the Sikh Saviours, who have eliminated the superstitions and fakir practices of the old orthodox teachings of all religions." As a transmitter of the "Naked truth" à la his fellow saviors, Thind delivered his lectures as "voluntary offerings, with no specific charge," and requested "Ministers of Every Creed," among others, to attend. Boldly displayed above the pamphlet's interior panels is a quote attributed to Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh faith, which reads, "Truth is Higher than Everything, but Higher Still is True Living." The panels of the flier advertise the subjects of Thind's lectures, which spanned the gamut of occult topics, including "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you," "Evolution-Man, neither the son of an ape nor created by special, separate decree of Deity," and "Modern Masonry, Masters, and the Path. Projection of astral body and its multiplication, and the science of breathing," among other topics. The terminal panel promotes "Dr. Thind's dynamic and vitalic breathing and nature cures," which were "the simplest and the very best methods for rebuilding of the broken down bodies" taught by Thind.

We have dated the handbill based on newspaper accounts of Thind's lectures at the Native Sons building, and a brief consultation of the dates of publication for the books advertised at the last panel.

The accompanying apparently unrecorded essay (*Mysteries*) provides Thind's lesson on "Inner Circle Classwork" to his students and other interested parties. His classwork provided spiritual Seekers with the knowledge of their "Innermost" divinity, so that they could seek "unity" with it and thereby strengthen their minds and bodies. Not only does Thind provide a philosophical perspective, but he also suggests that his Seekers follow "the Science of Breath" and "The Science of Meditation," to "build a bridge between...Inner and Outer worlds." Through cultivating a harmonious relationship to our divine existence, Thind assures us that we will "ascend from Consciousness to Consciousness." Curiously, though the author did not leave the United States until the early 1960s, he signed his pamphlet (in print) as "Dr. Bhagat Singh Thind, Amritsar, India." It seems that this was part of a then-widespread marketing ploy undertaken by early American Yogis to appear as "legitimate" dispensers of Eastern wisdom.

Bhagat Singh Thind (1892-1967) was born in Punjab and immigrated to America in 1913. By 1914, he had enrolled in Berkeley and paid for his program by working in a lumber mill in Oregon. He joined the US Army and fought during the First World War, being honorably discharged in 1918. By 1920, he had petitioned the State of Oregon to become a naturalized citizen of the United States, but although the state accepted




his application, he was barred from the privilege by a naturalization examiner. Thind appealed this decision with the Supreme Court, who upheld the examiner's verdict on the basis that he was not "Caucasian enough." This became known as the Thind Decision (1923), and significantly restricted the livelihoods available to Indians in America until the end of the Second World War.

Thind's career began after completing his PhD at Berkeley, whence he traveled across the United States, lecturing on spirituality and mindfulness, with his lessons drawing from "Sikh philosophy...enriched...with references to the scriptures of several religions and the work of Emerson, Whitman, and Thoreau" ("Bhagat Singh Thind"). Thind was also known to be a member of the Ghadar Party, a coalition of Indians in North America who organized an armed revolution in India from overseas, which may have contributed to the Supreme Court's rejection of his citizenship application.


Sources Consulted: "Bhagat Singh Thind" at Roots in the Sand online; Philip Deslippe, "The Swami Circuit: Mapping the Terrain of Early American Yoga," Journal of Yoga Studies, UCSB, 2018.


**Price for both: \$750.00**

You are Cordially Invited to *The Big*  
**New-Age Rally**   
 at **Harmony Grove** ESCONDIDO CALIF  
**Sun. Sept. 1 1962 Mon. Sept. 2**

**FEATURING**  
 ★ **Dr. Thind**  
 DR. THIND is a master of the Divine Wisdom Teachings of the great Sikhs of India. He will give several talks at this NEW-AGE RALLY. Hear him speak on:  
 "THE QUICKENING TOUCH OF THE MASTER"  
 "IS THERE A SCIENCE OF HIGHER LOVE?"  
 "THE HIDDEN BRIDGE OF YOUR MIND!"

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 A beautiful Color Movie will be shown Sunday by guest lecturer Rev. Tadama Fukaya and his companions. "TENRIKYO" is a "Savage Religion" of JAPAN and has recently been established in America, Canada and South America. Numerous miraculous healings and other wonders have been attributed to it. Come and see WHY it has risen so in popularity.

  
 DR. BHAGAT SINGH THIND

**Plus** 

- Orfeo Angelucci -- "HOW TO ESCAPE THIS LIFE ALIVE"
- Michael X. Barton -- "HOW TO CONTROL YOUR NEXT REINCARNATION"
- Rev. Daniel Morales -- "PROPHETIC SIGNS OF A SOON-COMING GREAT EVENT"
- Dr. Robert Osborn, D.C. -- "HOW TO MAKE YOUR FUTURE BRIGHTER AND LIGHTER"
- Phyllis Frederick -- (Color Slide Pictures) "THE EVOLVING OF YOUR HIGHER CONSCIOUSNESS"

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**DIRECTIONS TO HARMONY GROVE:** From Los Angeles or Long Beach take Hwy 101 to Oceanside. From Oceanside take rte 78 east to Escondido Freeway. Follow Hwy to Nordahl Road. Turn right on Nordahl Rd to old Hwy 78, then right again for about 200 feet and turn left onto Country Club Rd. Follow signs leading to Harmony Grove. (2 miles) ... From San Diego, take Hwy 595 to 9th Avenue in Escondido, turn left and follow 9th Ave. to Harmony Grove Rd. Harmony Grove Telephone: Sherwood 5-7147

*Something new and different this time. You can't afford to miss it.*

Thind, Dr. Bhagat Singh.

New Age Rally at Harmony Grove featuring Dr. Thind.

New Age Rally: Escondido, California. 1962.

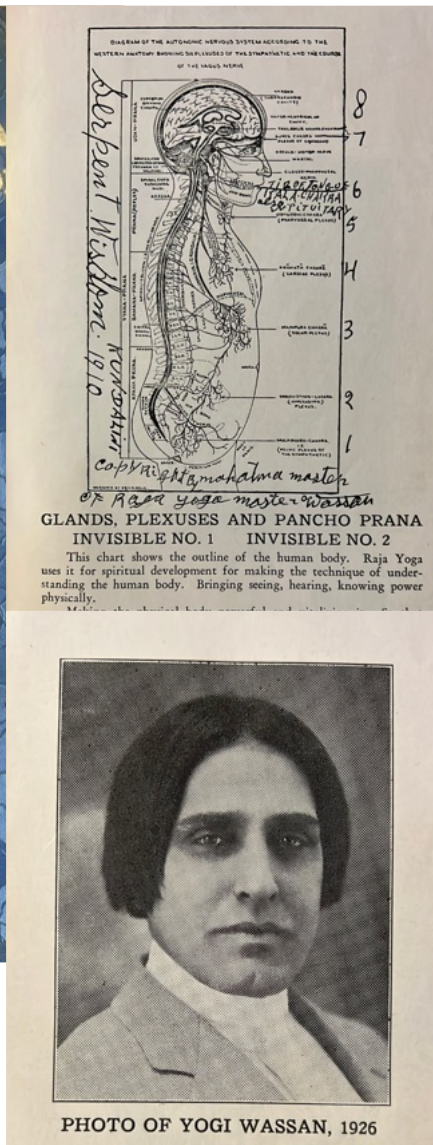
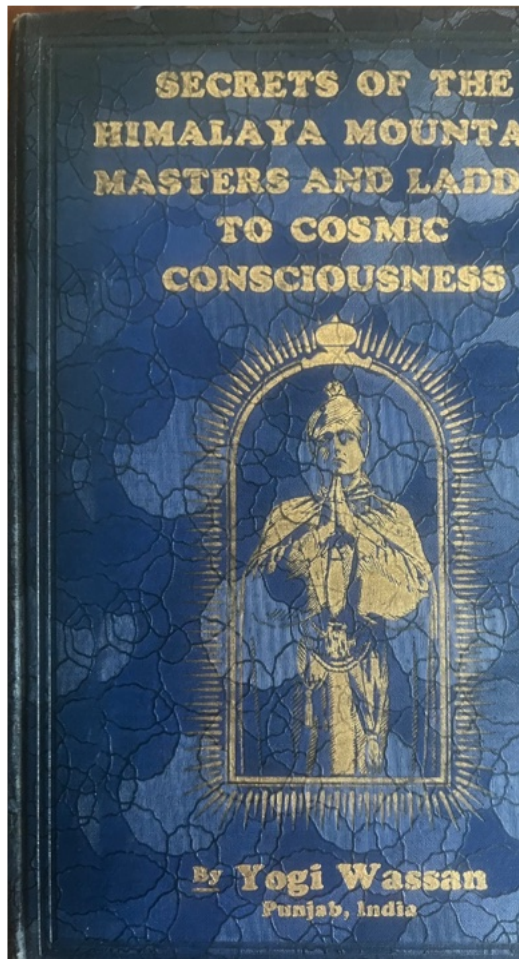
Broadside, 6" x 4". CONDITION: Very good, old folds and creasing to lower margin.

*An apparently unrecorded flier showing a wizened B. S. Thind, "master of the Divine Wisdom Teachings of the great Sikhs of India," headlining the talks on New Age spirituality and metaphysics at the Harmony Grove New Age Rally in September, 1962.*

Thind spoke on “The Quickening Touch of the Master,” “Is there a Science of Higher Love?,” and “The Hidden Draw-Bridge of your Mind.” Also at the event was the film “Tenrikyo” (about which the present flier is apparently the only recorded trace), which was a “beautiful Color Movie” about the eponymous “New-Age Religion of Japan” that was “recently...established in America, Canada, and South America. Numerous miraculous healings and other wonders have been attributed to it.” Facilitating the screening was Rev. Tadamasu Fukaya, Bishop of the Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters in America. In addition to those two exotic attractions, among the homegrown New-Age speakers were Orfeo Angelucci and the host Michael Barton, who were both highly vocal UFOlogists of the 1960s. Providing a semblance of respectability to the event, Dr. Robert Osborn, professor at Duke University and future civil rights activist, spoke on “How to Make Your Future Brighter and Lighter.” The public was invited to hear them all and be “lifted into ‘another world’” for the modest donation of “\$1.00 per day.”

For Thind’s background, see item 4.

**Price: \$250.00**



Yogi Wassan (pseud.); Wassan Singh.

## Secrets of the Himalaya Mountain Masters and Ladders to Cosmic Consciousness.

[C.B. Kimball: 1939 Champa St., Denver, Colorado]: 1927.

Lenticular embossed paper over boards. 24 unnumbered plates (with 13 illus.), 408 pp. Stamp of "C.B. Kimball 1939 Champa St., Denver, Colorado" at rear pastedown. Inscription reading "1/13/74 Masonic Temple, Holyoke, Massachusetts" in red ink at rear pastedown. CONDITION: Very good, loss to upper right corner of endpaper, spine slightly cocked, title at cover somewhat faded.

*First deluxe edition of Yogi Wassan's occult tome, consisting of reproductions of Wassan's lecture notes, early recipes for Indian food, a tipped-in meditation plate, and much else besides, written and arranged by the most flamboyant early American yoga teacher*

Plates reproduce lessons, diagrams, and charts that Singh made prior to the book's publication. For instance, at the bottom of one plate illustrating the "Glands, Plexuses, and Pancho Prana," a printed statement reads "copyrighted 1920, by Yogi Wassan. All rights reserved." A similar statement appears at the bottom of most charts on these plates, suggesting that Wassan had been distributing his teachings as early as 1907, though based on our consultation of newspaper accounts, we believe that this was a marketing ploy since Singh began going by Yogi Wassan in 1921.

The book includes detailed recipes for making "Egg Kabab," "(Crispy Cake) Papad," "Charamiya (Hot cake)," Halva pudding," "Samosan Fritters," "Ladu (Sweet Balls)," "Malpuwa (Thin Sweet Cake)," "Jalebi (Sweet Dainty)," and much more. Wassan was known for his robust physique despite his vegetarianism thus the book does not include a single meat dish, substituting traditional Indian and American meat dishes with plant-proteins.

This book exists in multiple states. Our searches in OCLC indicate that some editions had 334 pages, while others had 408. A price list of Singh's books found on page 355 indicates that the edition with 408 pages also exists in two states: one for students and another for "non-students," the latter costing \$25, whereas the former cost \$5. We believe that our edition is the non-student version, which had the same text block as student copies, however with different, arguably better quality, covers (student copies seem to have had red cloth covers, with Wassan's image printed below the title at spine).

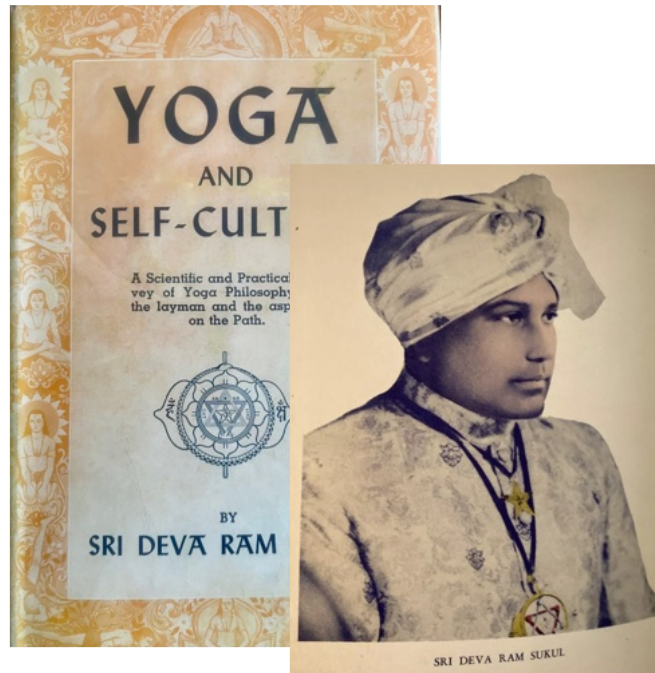
Yogi Wassan (1882–1942) was the stage and pen-name for Wassan Singh, who came to the United States from Punjab in 1906. Like Bhagat Singh Thind, Singh worked in lumber mills throughout Oregon until the 1920s. He embarked upon his career as a yoga teacher in 1922, when he published his first self-help guidebook, *The Secret Key to Health and Prana*. Soon after, when he "began teaching in Washington state as 'Yogi Wassan'" in 1923, he "received local acclaim...when he dramatically retrieved...a boy who...was at the bottom of a lake in Olympia. He continued to teach around the Pacific Northwest until 1925 when he taught down the West Coast...That same year Yogi Wassan acquired a ranch...near El Paso, and invited students to come...enjoy the dry climate while learning yoga" (Deslippe). He began lecturing nationally by 1927, and "repeatedly taught in cities like New York and Los Angeles, as well as through states such as Montana and Utah" (Deslippe). His lectures were part occult theory, part dietetics hucksterism, and a large part performance. For instance, in one late 1920s lecture, Singh went before an audience of three-hundred people wearing a "gold-colored turban with matching robe, and...began the class by chanting a long 'Oom'...and then launched into a brief concert on the flute before he began to lecture on the powers of breath-control and the solar plexus." By the end of the night, he displayed "a feat of strength in which men from the audience were invited up and

formed a line that pressed forward like a single-file football team against Yogi Wassan's midsection" (Deslippe). Unfortunately, Singh's career was cut short in 1942, when he was found dead in a hotel room in St. Louis because he refused to seek medical attention after getting in an automobile crash.

OCLC records are hard to decipher, however, we believe that there are 7 recorded copies, which are held by UCSB, Stanford, the University of Philosophical Research, Brigham Young, Utah Valley University, Norwich University, and Michigan State.

Sources Consulted: Philip Deslippe, "Rishis and Rebels: The Punjabi Sikh Presence in Early American Yoga," UCSB, 2016.

**Price: \$1750.00**



Sukul, Deva Ram.

**Yoga and Self Culture: Higher Laws of Spiritual Dynamics including Outline of Philosophy of the Vedas, Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, and the Six Systems of Hindu Philosophy.**

Yoga Institute of America: Box 209–Grand Central Annex, NY. 1947.

Gilt blue cloth in original dj. Frontis., 206 pp., 9 color plates. CONDITION: Near-fine, some wear to extremities of dj at spine panel and top extremities; offsetting to endpapers from dj.

*The deluxe second edition of Sukul's classic treatise on kundalini yoga and the nutrition of colors, in finer binding than other editions.*

Deva Ram Sukul (?–1965) was the founder of the Yoga Institute of America. He began teaching in the mid-1920s, and embarked on a lifelong career as a teacher and spiritual organizer. Much of his lectures and writings explored the intersections between diet and color and their effects upon the mind and body.

OCLC records 8 copies of this edition.

**Price: \$100.00**

## Inquiries

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