



A Peep Into the Early History of India: From the Foundation of the Maurya Dynasty to the Downfall of the Imperial Gupta Dynasty, (322 B. C. Circa 500 A. C.) (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Ramkrishna Gopal Bhandarkar

Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from A Peep Into the Early History of India: From the Foundation of the Maurya Dynasty to the Downfall of the Imperial Gupta Dynasty, (322 B. C. Circa 500 A. C.) The essay begins with the rise of Buddhism. As Sir Ramkrishna points out, Buddhism is only a sect of Hinduism. Its tenets are not even novel. Its chief doctrine, viz. That it is karma which transmigrates, is, anticipated in the Upanishads. It did not, contrary to popular opinion, seek to undermine caste. But it did. Deny the authority of the Vedas and the efficacy of the Vedic sacrifices, and this was the real cause of the hatred of the Brahmins towards it. Buddhism, with its insistence on the ethical side of religion and its cosmopolitanism, had a salutary effect on Indian politics. It encouraged liberal intercourse with the outside world which Brahmanism discouraged. Under the various Buddhist dynasties, shipping flourished, ambassadors went and came to and from Syria and Egypt, and later, Rome. The Bodhisattva himself, according to the Jdtakas, was once born as the Son of a master-mariner...



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