Uniter of Heaven and Earth

One of the most significant events in the history of Western civilization was the cosmological revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries. Among the most salient factors in this change, described by Alexandre Koyré as the ‘destruction of the cosmos’ inherited from ancient Greece, were Copernican heliocentrism and the substitution of a homogeneous universe for the hierarchical cosmos of the Platonic and Aristotelian tradition. Starting with a new approach to the issue of the presence of Islamic astronomical devices in Copernicus’ work and a thorough reappraisal of the cosmological views of Paracelsus, the book deals mainly with the abolition of cosmological dualism and the ways in which it affected the decline of astrology over the 17th century. Other related topics include planetary order and theories of world harmony, the cause of planetary motion in the Tychoic world system or the discussion on comets in Germany through the first presentation of a manuscript treatise by Michael Maestlin on the great comet of 1618.

Heaven on Earth

James Van Praagh teaches that death is not the end, nor is it something to be feared, and that there is indeed life after death. He believes that everyone has psychic awareness but only a few have the knowledge and self-awareness to develop it. In Heaven and Earth he describes a variety of proven practical techniques to expand one’s psychic awareness and intuition. He includes inspirational stories from those who have been touched by angels or visited by spirit guides. He explains how, with the help of spirits, we can learn to solve our problems with less strain, lead healthier lives and experience more contentment and creativity.

Religion in Japan

Drawing on a vast array of scholarship, this pioneering text illustrates how profoundly astronomical phenomena shaped ancient Chinese civilization.

Heaven and Earth in Early Han Thought

Drawing on a vast array of scholarship, this pioneering text illustrates how profoundly astronomical phenomena shaped ancient Chinese civilization.

Heaven on Earth

The Huainanzi has in recent years been recognized by scholars as one of the seminal works of Chinese thought at the beginning of the imperial era, a summary of the full flowering of early Taoist philosophy. This book presents a study of three key chapters of the Huainanzi, “The Treatise on the Patterns of Heaven,” “The Treatise on Topography,” and “The Treatise on the Seasonal Rules,” which collectively comprise the most comprehensive extant statement of cosmological thinking in the early Han period. Major presents, for the first time, full English translations of these treatises. He supplements the translations with detailed commentaries that clarify the sometimes arcane language of the text and presents a fascinating picture of the ancient Chinese view of how the world was formed and sustained, and of the role of humans in the cosmos.

To Live as Long as Heaven and Earth

The Huainanzi has in recent years been recognized by scholars as one of the seminal works of Chinese thought at the beginning of the imperial era, a summary of the full flowering of early Taoist philosophy. This book presents a study of three key chapters of the Huainanzi, “The Treatise on the Patterns of Heaven,” “The Treatise on Topography,” and “The Treatise on the Seasonal Rules,” which collectively comprise the most comprehensive extant statement of cosmological thinking in the early Han period. Major presents, for the first time, full English translations of these treatises. He supplements the translations with detailed commentaries that clarify the sometimes arcane language of the text and presents a fascinating picture of the ancient Chinese view of how the world was formed and sustained, and of the role of humans in the cosmos.

The Complete Concordance to Shakspeare
file: pdf heaven and earth in early han thought chapters three four and five of the huainanzi author john s major published on august 1993

From the high alpine lakes of Idaho and the mighty Madison River of Montana to lesser known creeks and ponds throughout the west, come join the author, Andrew Marshall Wayment, on a journey, which takes you from the halls of the author's law school to the cathedrals of the great outdoors. Along the way, you will read some good tips on fly fishing, but more importantly, you will learn some deeper spiritual truths that the author found along the way. Heaven on Earth is a compilation of true stories from the author's life with fly fishing as the theme, but used as a vehicle to share a greater message of faith, hope, joy, peace, and our Heavenly Father's love.

The Generations of Heaven and Earth

In nineteenth-century Britain, a large number of prominent Anglican and Presbyterian Evangelicals rejected the idea that salvation meant "going to heaven when you die." Instead, they proposed that God would establish his kingdom on earth, renewing the creation and reanimating embodied humans to live in a world of science and progress. This book introduces the writings and activities of these women and men, among whom were counted the ardent social reformer Lord Shaftesbury, the highly-respected clergyman Edward Bickersteth, the popular author Charlotte Elizabeth Tonna, and the General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance, Thomas Rawson Birks. The book shows that the catalyst for such theological revisionism was the end-times doctrine known as "premillennialism." While commonly characterized as a gloomy and sectarian belief, the book argues that premillennialism in Victorian Britain was actually an optimistic and often liberalizing creed. It dissolved older Evangelical assumptions about the dissimilarities between time and eternity, body and soul, heaven and earth. The book demonstrates that, far from being eccentric pessimists, premillennialists were actually pioneers of trends in nineteenth-century Christian theology that stressed the importance of the incarnation, prioritized social justice, and even entertained the idea of universal salvation.

Heaven and Earth in the Middle Ages

Millenarians through the ages have looked forward to the apocalyptic moment that will radically transform society into heaven on Earth. Here, Landes offers a lucid and ground-breaking analysis of this widely misunderstood phenomenon.

The Generations of Heaven and Earth

Comprehensive, encyclopedic, and lucid, this book is a must for all practitioners of the healing arts who want to broaden their understanding. Readers interested in the role of herbs and foods in healing will also find much to learn here, as I have... A fine work...Annemarie Colbin, author of Food and Healing The promise and mystery of Chinese medicine has intrigued and fascinated Westerners ever since the Bamboo Curtain was lifted in the early 1970s. Now, in Between Heaven and Earth, two of the foremost American educators and healers in the Chinese medical profession demystify this centuries-old approach to health. Harriet Beinfeld and Efrem Korngold, pioneers in the practice of acupuncture and herbal medicine in the United States for over eighteen years, explain the philosophy behind Chinese medicine, how it works and what it can do. Combining Eastern traditions with Western sensibilities in a unique blend that is relevant today, Between Heaven and Earth addresses three vital areas of Chinese medicine: theory, therapy, and types/to present a comprehensive, yet understandable guide to this ancient system. Whether you are a patient with an aggravating complaint or a curious intellectual seeker, Between Heaven and Earth opens the door to a vast storehouse of knowledge that bridges the gap between mind and body, theory and practice, professional and self-care, East and West. [Groundbreaking... Here at last is a complete and readable guide to Chinese medicine.||San Francisco Chronicle

Unifying Heaven and Earth. Essays in the History of Early Modern Cosmology

In nineteenth-century Britain, a large number of prominent Anglican and Presbyterian Evangelicals rejected the idea that salvation meant "going to heaven when you die." Instead, they proposed that God would establish his kingdom on earth, renewing the creation and reanimating embodied humans to live in a world of science and progress. This book introduces the writings and activities of these women and men, among whom were counted the ardent social reformer Lord Shaftesbury, the highly-respected clergyman Edward Bickersteth, the popular author Charlotte Elizabeth Tonna, and the General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance, Thomas Rawson Birks. The book shows that the catalyst for such theological revisionism was the end-times doctrine known as "premillennialism." While commonly characterized as a gloomy and sectarian belief, the book argues that premillennialism in Victorian Britain was actually an optimistic and often liberalizing creed. It dissolved older Evangelical assumptions about the dissimilarities between time and eternity, body and soul, heaven and earth. The book demonstrates that, far from being eccentric pessimists, premillennialists were actually pioneers of trends in nineteenth-century Christian theology that stressed the importance of the incarnation, prioritized social justice, and even entertained the idea of universal salvation.

The Generations of Heaven and Earth

Millenarians through the ages have looked forward to the apocalyptic moment that will radically transform society into heaven on Earth. Here, Landes offers a lucid and ground-breaking analysis of this widely misunderstood phenomenon.

Heaven on Earth

Building on various scriptural and historical foundations, a look at the Marian doctrines provides a definitive guide through the mysterious and poetic passages to help readers gain a more profound understanding of their truthfulness and relevance to faith and the practice of religion in the modern world. 30,000 first printing.

Heaven on Earth

"This book marks a new milestone in the study of Chinese religious history. Only a scholar as intelligent and dedicated as Campany would dare tackle and so eloquently translate one of the most important and difficult works of early Chinese religious history."—Paul Katz, author of Images of the Immortal: The Cult of Lu Dongbin at the Palace of Eternal Joy "This is a pathbreaking work of lasting significance to the field of Chinese religious history. The scholarship is solid and current, drawing upon the best research from America, Europe, China, and Japan. The translation is accurate, clear, and elegant, based upon an innovative analysis of surviving sources."—Terry Kleeman, author of Great Perfection: Religion and Ethnicity in a Chinese Millennial Kingdom "A competent translation of Ge Hong's hagiographies, with close attention paid to sources and editions, would already have constituted a major contribution to the field of Taoist studies. But Campany provides as well a survey of religious practices in Ge Hong's writings and a reading of the hagiographies which enables us to see the social practices that lie behind them. Together, these two works-in-one constitute the best available portrait of religion and society in early fourth-century China."—John Lagerwey, author of Taoist Ritual in Chinese Society and History "Campany's annotated translation of Ge Hong's (283-343) classic, the first in English, admirably captures the book's rich evocation of the religious culture of Southern China in the fourth century. Ge Hong here offers a series of case studies of what he regarded as his historical and exemplary evidence for the existence of immortals. This translation of Traditions of Divine Transcendents conveys a lively and
multifaceted vision of the Taoist conception of physical immortality. The book's emphasis on practices related to the cult of the immortals and the hope for transcendence squarely places its subject in the religious life of traditional Chinese society.\"Franciscus Verellen, co-editor of The Taoist Canon: A Historical Guide

Hanging Between Heaven and Earth

The Reformation of the sixteenth century shattered the unity of medieval Christendom, and the resulting fissures spread to the corners of the earth. No scholar of the period has done more than Carlos M.N. Eire, however, to document how much these ruptures implicated otherworldly spheres as well. His deeply innovative publications helped shape new fields of study, intertwining social, intellectual, cultural, and religious history to reveal how, lived beliefs had real and profound implications for social and political life in early modern Europe. Reflecting these themes, the volume celebrates the intellectual legacy of Carlos Eire's scholarship, applying his distinctive combination of cultural and religious history to new areas and topics. In so doing it underlines the extent to which the relationship between the natural and the supernatural in the early modern world was dynamic, contentious, and always urgent. Organized around three sections - 'Connecting the Natural and the Supernatural', 'Bodies in Motion: Mind, Soul, and Death' and 'Living One's Faith' - the essays are bound together by the example of Eire's scholarship, ensuring a coherence of approach that makes the book crucial reading for scholars of the Reformation, Christianity and early modern cultural history.

Emanuel Swedenborg, Secret Agent on Earth and in Heaven

This book is important because it is: Unique. Heaven on Earth offers a critique of extremism that is human rights-based and entertaining – combining the comparative approach of Karen Armstrong and the immediacy of Ed Husain (The Islamist) with storytelling. Timely. At a time of veil bans, Qur'an burnings and English Defence League protests, Kadri voices a liberal view of Islamic history and shows Muslims working against repression. This book explains up-to-the-minute brutalities. Epic. Interviews, anecdotes, personal analysis and analysis are set against a narrative that sweeps from seventh-century Mecca to the war in Afghanistan. Civilisations are evoked via the vivid lives of caliphs, mystics, and travellers. Legal changes are described through the feuds, courtroom dramas, conquests and cataclysms that have left their mark on modern Islamic law. First-hand. On the road for five months, Kadri travelled through Iran just before the June 2009 election protests, and took part in a human rights conference there with ayatollahs and academics. Eye-opening. This book goes beyond the explosive headline issues (criminal justice, women, jihad, religious freedom) to reveal the stranger ones: genie exorcisms; the legal consequences of premature ejaculation; online fatwa advice; the sharia approach to Facebook and Qur'anic mobile phone ringtones, etc. Bold. Heaven on Earth primarily targets religious extremism, but also cuts anti-Muslim panic down to size.

Sad Earth, Sweet Heaven

This book is for anyone concerned with the meaning of our journey through Life. It is the story of a young man's encounters with a Teacher of Truth – the ever present, ever hidden Way that supports Humanity. It is a testimony of the hopes, doubts, fears, thirst for knowledge and growth of a contemporary Seeker, played out against the backdrop of a provincial Italian town. A young boy's sadness at his father's early death prompts the first, unformed questions and yearnings to understand the mystery of life A young man's faltering steps to encounter spirituality through Eastern disciplines A series of coincidences giving rise to extraordinary encounters with a Teacher of Truth hidden, yet visible, in but not of the world. It is a journey towards self-discovery and the Light that is in all of us, buried by our personalities and forgotten through our distractions and indifference. It is a journey towards the true Heart that, although almost forgotten, has never stopped calling. This book is testimony to the Teaching and to the Seeker's experiences as a disciple and friend of an extraordinary Teacher, Alfredo, who represents and upholds the profound Work of the Way.

Astrology and Cosmology in Early China

Before the invention of the telescope, people used nothing more than their naked eye to fathom what took place in the visible sky. How did four men in the 1500's, though of different nationality, age, religion, and class, collaborate to discover that the Earth revolved around the Sun? With this radical discovery that went against the Catholic Church, they created our contemporary world/land with it, the uneasy conditions of modern life. Heaven on Earth is an intimate examination of a scientific family/that of Nicolaus Copernicus, Tycho Brahe, Johannes Kepler, and Galileo Galilei. Fauber juxtaposes their work with insight into their personal lives and and political considerations, which in turn shaped their pursuit of knowledge. Uniquely, he shows how their intergenerational collaboration was actually what made the scientific revolution possible. Contrary to the competitive nature of research today, collaboration was key to early discoveries. These men related to one another via intellectual pursuit rather than blood, calling each other 'brothers', 'fathers', and 'sons.' Filled with rich characters and sweeping history, Heaven on Earth reveals how the connection between these pillars of intellectual history moved science forward and helped usher the world into modernity.

Heaven and Earth United

Heaven and Earth in Early Han Thought

This book is a sequel to Heaven and Earth in Ancient Greek Cosmology (Springer 2011). With the help of many pictures, the reader is introduced into the way of thinking of ancient believers in a flat earth. The first part offers new interpretations of several Presocratic cosmologists and a critical discussion of Aristotle's proofs that the earth is spherical. The second part explains and discusses the ancient Chinese system called gai tian. The last chapter shows that, inadvertently, ancient arguments and ideas return in the curious modern flat earth cosmologies.

When the Earth Was Flat

The Oxford Handbook on Early China brings 30 scholars together to cover early China from the Neolithic through Warring States periods (ca 5000-500BCE). The study is chronological and incorporates a multidisciplinary approach, covering topics
from archaeology, anthropology, art history, architecture, music, and metallurgy, to literature, religion, paleography, cosmology, religion, prehistory, and history.

The Lamb’s Supper

A discussion of European understanding of the physical world from the 9th century to the 15th, ranging from astronomy to zoology - and refuting the more recent notion that the world was thought flat.

Heaven on Earth

Alessandro Scafi's fascinating account looks at the perception of world geography and the place of paradise within that. Central to this discussion is the key debates, prevalent from the Renaissance, about faith and reason, theology and philosophy and paradise both as an internal and external reality.

Between Heaven and Earth

Für den mittelalterlichen Menschen waren das Bewusstsein und der Lebensalltag vom Glauben an das konkret vorgestellte Jenseits in einer Selbstverständlichkeit und Intensität geprägt, die für den modernen Menschen kaum noch nachvollziehbar ist. Wenngleich die Bildsprache vom 'Himmel' und die Rede vom 'Himmel auf Erden' heute gerade im außerreligiösen Kontext - als Buchtitel, im Schlager, in Redensarten und im Werbetext - verbreitet ist, wird in diesem thematisch geschlossenen Tagungsband in Einzelstudien der Frage nachgegangen, wie im Spätmittelalter und im Übergang zur frühen Neuzeit die Idealvorstellung vom 'Himmel' auf bestimmte Formen individueller Lebensführung, gesellschaftlicher Organisation und künstlerischer Gestaltung einwirkte. Konkret fasst wird dies etwa in Bereichen von Politik und Gesellschaft (Herrscher, Staat, Schulwesen, Theokratie), in religiöser Praxis (zweckbestimmte Armenfürsorge, Wallfahrt) und in bestimmten Kunstformen (Meistergesang, geistliches Lied, allegorische Dichtung). Der Band enthält sechs deutschsprachige und drei englische Beiträge. Für medieval man heaven was a concrete reality. Belief in the afterlife was self-evident and intense in a way that is difficult to imagine for modern man who knows heaven sooner from booktitles, songs, figures of speech or advertisements than from every-day experience. The contributions to this volume of proceedings, however, deal with the question how in the late-medieval and early-modern period the idealized image of heaven influenced life, society, and art. The various essays deal with the impact of this idealism on politics and society (ruler, state, education, theocracy), on religious practice (poor relief, pilgrimage), and on different art forms (Meistergesang, religious song, and allegorical poetry). The volume contains six German and three English contributions.

A Linking of Heaven and Earth

As we see a shift of old forms that were once the foundations of our daily lives, parents—who must prepare the next generation to meet the changing world—have more questions today than ever before. Although our cultural values and family structures may change, it is the atmosphere in the home that continues to form the foundation of a child’s life. In Heaven on Earth, parent and educator Sharifa Oppenheimer reveals how parents can make the home environment warm, lively, loving, and consistent with their highest ideals. Heaven on Earth balances a theoretical understanding of child development with practical ideas, resources, and tips that can transform family life. Readers will learn how to create the regular life rhythms needed to establish a foundation for learning; how to design indoor play environments that allow children the broadest development of skills; and how to create outdoor play spaces that encourage vigorous movement and a wide sensory palette. Through art, storytelling, and the festival celebrations, this book is an invaluable guide to building a "family culture" based on the guiding principle of love—a culture that supports children and encourages the free development of each unique soul. Sharifa Oppenheimer offers a gift from the heart. Heaven on Earth is a practical, inspiring resource that brings the author’s understanding of young children into the heart of the home. "Sharifa Oppenheimer has given the world a great gift in the pages of this book. The important child-development information is exquisitely combined with the best 'How-to's' I have seen in any book for parents. Her book, is a ready guide that inspires joyful, enthusiastic children who learn easily and contribute to their families and society for a lifetime. I have delighted in every page and feel this is absolutely A must read for parents, grandparents, teachers, and perhaps everyone who will ever touch the life of a child. "—Carla Hannaford, Ph.D., biologist and international educational consultant to 32 countries and author of Smart Moves: Why Learning Is Not All in Your Head and Awakening the Child Heart, Handbook for Global Parenting "This delightful book will be a wonderful resource for parents. They will certainly appreciate its warm, friendly, personal, and reassuring tone. I would have loved such a book when I was a young mother! For those whose children already attend Waldorf early childhood, it provides a helpful resource for creating a bridge between home and kindergarten. For others, this lovely book offers wonderful glimpses into the wise and nurturing practices of Waldorf early childhood education. In a world where childhood is increasingly 'media’ed and 'adult’ed, this book offers much-needed support for the protection of childhood. "—Susan Howard, chairperson, Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America and coordinator, International Association for Steiner/Waldorf Early Childhood Education "Being a parent is a challenging assignment, but with the help of Sharifa Oppenheimer's book, Heaven on Earth, our work immediately becomes easier. This book is both heartfelt and practical. It offers sound parenting principles with down-to-earth examples of how to raise children with both insight and grace. "—Jack Petras, director, Nova Institute, and author, Navigating the Terrain of Childhood: A Guidebook for Meaningful Parenting and Heartfelt Discipline

Heaven and Earth in Ancient Greek Cosmology

Harmonies of Heaven and Earth

Presents information on Stitchins theories about the origins of mankind and the intervention of intelligence from beyond the Earth. He and the other contributors offer a scholarly approach to the ancient astronaut theory. Contains the complete transcript of the first Stitchins Studies Day, held in Denver, Colorado on Oct. 6, 1996. Following Stitchins detailed keynote address are six other prominent speakers whose work he has influenced. They include philosopher Neil Freer, UFO expert J. Antonio Huneus, clergyman Father Charles Moore, author V. Susan Ferguson, and two university professors, Madeleine Briskin and Marlene Evans. They agree that certain myths were actual events instead of figments of imaginations. Stitchins work comprises the early part of a new paradigm that is already beginning to shake the very foundations of religion, archaeology and our society in general.

Heaven on Earth
New science has surprised many by showing, contrary to received wisdom, that a real Adam and Eve could have lived amongst other humans in historical times and yet be the ancestors of every living person, as traditional Christianity has always taught. This theory was first published in book form in 2019, but Jon Garvey, familiar with it from its early days, believes it helps confirm the Christian account of reality by giving it a solid foundation in science and history. In this book he argues that the long existence of other people before and alongside Adam was in all likelihood known to the Bible's original authors. This conclusion helps build a compelling biblical "big story" of a new kind of created order initially frustrated by Adam's failure, but finally accomplished in Christ. This "new creation" theme complements that of the "old creation" covered in his first book, God's Good Earth. The two together contribute to a unified, and fully orthodox, understanding of the overall message of the Bible.

Heaven on Earth

Christian theology and religious belief were crucially important to Anglo-Saxon society, and are manifest in the surviving textual, visual and material evidence. This is the first full-length study investigating how Christian theology and religious beliefs permeated society and underpinned social values in early medieval England. The influence of the early medieval Church as an institution is widely acknowledged, but Christian theology itself is generally considered to have been accessible only to a small educated elite. This book shows that theology had a much greater and more significant impact than has been recognised. An examination of theology in its social context, and how it was bound up with local authorities and powers, reveals a much more subtle interpretation of secular processes, and shows how theological debate affected the ways that religious and lay individuals lived and died. This was not a one-way flow, however: this book also examines how social and cultural practices and interests affected the development of theology in Anglo-Saxon England, and how popular belief interacted with literary and academic traditions. Through case-studies, this book explores how theological debate and discussion affected the personal perspectives of Christian Anglo-Saxons, including where possible those who could not read. In all of these, it is clear that theology was not detached from society or from the experiences of lay people, but formed an essential constituent part.

Anselm Kiefer

Recognising that almost every culture has entertained the idea that the stars and planets influence the Earth and its inhabitants, Heaven and Earth United explores the ways in which scientific instruments have been used for astrological purposes.

War in Heaven/Heaven on Earth

Drawing on unpublished diplomatic and Masonic archives, this study reveals the career of Emanuel Swedenborg as a secret intelligence agent for Louis XV and the pro-French, pro-Jacobite party of "Hats" in Sweden. Utilizing Kabbalistic meditation techniques, he sought political intelligence on earth and in heaven.

The Beginning of Heaven and Earth

From a universal religion the Tenchi constructs a system of beliefs entirely Japanese in spirit. Its earliest context was in all likelihood the encounter between a storyteller and a group of Kakure Kirishitan.

Mapping Paradise

A remarkable 1996 collection of essays exploring different aspects of religion in Japan by an international team of contributors. The range of subjects include chapters on new religions in post-war Japan, on beliefs about fox-possession in the Heian period and on the religious life of the first shogunate in the late twelfth century.

Heaven And Earth

A retrospective volume of Anselm Kiefer's work, this book addresses the artist's entire career through the lens of one compelling theme. From his earliest sculptures to his recent highly textured paintings, Anselm Kiefer has woven themes of heaven and earth into his work, exploring the polarities of these ideas while struggling to define the transcendent quality that places art squarely in between. Destruction and rebirth, glory and shame, sin and redemption all figure largely in Kiefer's often controversial depictions of Germany's physical and cultural landscape. This book of more than fifty reproductions includes Kiefer's first work, The Heavens, as well as numerous other rare early works and recent works being presented for the first time. It features an interview with the artist, which is accompanied by rich black-and-white photographs of his ongoing monumental installations on his property in Barjac, France.

Between Heaven and Earth

One of this century's most popular psychology scholars, Robert A. Johnson was among the first to present Carl Jung's rich but complex theories with simple elegance and grace, opening them to an entirely new and hungry audience. His masterful
works—including the best selling He, She, Inner Work, and Owning Your Own Shadow—are known and loved as much for their beautiful retellings of timeless myths and folktales as for their deep wisdom and profound insight. Balancing Heaven and Earth reveals, for the first time, Johnson's own fascinating and mystical life—from his near-death experience at the age of eleven to the lifelong soul journey that has informed his writing and taught him how to live a spiritual life in the endlessly challenging modern world. Full of compelling, humorous, and surprising stories of encounters with an assortment of "sages, saints, and sinners," it lays bare Johnson's own inner world and its dazzling landscape of powerful dreams, mystical visions, and synchronistic events. Beginning with a vivid retelling of the childhood accident that claimed the lower part of his right leg, Johnson describes the life-defining moment when he was transported by a mystical vision to a realm that exists just beyond ordinary consciousness—a realm he calls the "Golden World." With this experience, described as "both my curse and my blessing," Johnson is launched on a spiritual quest that leads him in search of Eastern wisdom, to encounters with such wise men as J. Krishnamurti and D.T. Suzuki, and finally to Carl Jung, who shows him his destiny revealed in a dream. Johnson's experiences lead him to a unique understanding and acceptance of the slender connecting threads at work in all our lives, guiding us and shaping who we are—"call it fate, destiny, or the hand of God." As much a personal guide as a memoir, Balancing Heaven and Earth teaches us to follow, as Johnson has, the subtle influences of dreams, visions, and even our deepest sufferings in order to live attuned to our spiritual selves. A pure delight for Johnson's many fans and a splendid example of his trademark blend of illustrative myth and psychological insight, this is a work of incomparable beauty and inspiration showcasing the wisdom of a lifetime.

Of Heaven and Earth

Some fourteen hundred years after the Prophet Muhammad first articulated God's law—the shari'a—its earthly interpreters are still arguing about what it means. Hard-liners reduce it to amputations, veiling, holy war, and stonings. Others say that it is humanity's only guarantee of a just society. And as colossal acts of terrorism made the word "shari'a" more controversial than ever during the past decade, the legal historian and human rights lawyer Sadakat Kadri realized that many people in the West harbored ideas about Islamic law that were hazy or simply wrong. Heaven on Earth describes his journey, through ancient texts and across modern borders, in search of the facts behind the myths. Kadri brings lucid analysis and enlivening wit to the turbulent story of Islam's foundation and expansion, showing how the Prophet Muhammad's teachings evolved gradually into concepts of justice. Traveling the Muslim world to see the shari'a's principles in action, he encounters a cacophony of legal claims. At the ancient Indian grave of his Sufi ancestor, unruly jinn are exorcised in the name of the shari'a. In Pakistan's madrasas, stern scholars ridicule his talk of human rights and demand explanations for NATO drone attacks in Afghanistan. In Iran, he hears that God is forgiving enough to subsidize sex-change operations—but requires the execution of Muslims who change religion. Yet the stories of compulsion and violence are only part of a picture that also emphasizes compassion and justice. Many of Islam's first judges refused even to rule on cases for fear that a mistake would damn them, and scholars from Delhi to Cairo maintain that governments have no business enforcing faith. The shari'a continues to shape explosive political events and the daily lives of more than a billion Muslims. Heaven on Earth is a brilliantly iconoclastic tour through one of humanity's great collective intellectual achievements—and an essential guide to one of the most disputed but least understood controversies of modern times.

Astrology and Cosmology in Early China

In Miletus, about 550 B.C., together with our world-picture cosmology was born. This book tells the story. In Part One the reader is introduced in the archaic world-picture of a flat earth with the cupola of the celestial vault onto which the celestial bodies are attached. One of the subjects treated in that context is the riddle of the tilted celestial axis. This part also contains an extensive chapter on archaic astronomical instruments. Part Two shows how Anaximander (610-547 B.C.) blew up this archaic world-picture and replaced it by a new one that is essentially still ours. He taught that the celestial bodies orbit at different distances and that the earth floats unsupported in space. This makes him the founding father of cosmology. Part Three discusses topics that completed the new picture described by Anaximander. Special attention is paid to the confrontation between Anaxagoras and Aristotle on the question whether the earth is flat or spherical, and on the battle between Aristotle and Heraclides Ponticus on the question whether the universe is finite or infinite.

Balancing Heaven and Earth

The apocalypse is a motif that lies behind many religious beliefs and practices. 'War in Heaven/Heaven on Earth' theorizes the apocalyptic as it has arisen in a variety of religious traditions, from Native American religion to Islam in Northern Nigeria and new terrorist movements. Millennial theory and history are explored from the perspective of social psychology, sociology and post-modern philosophy. The volume is unique in applying an analysis of millennial themes to a comparative study of religion.

Heaven on Earth

A clear and penetrating account of the basis of Hasidic mysticism. Includes translations of many texts never before available in English.