



THE RELIGION OF THE SIKHS

DOROTHY FIELD

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BY
DOROTHY FIELD

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Were I to make Saraswati³⁶ dictate for millions of ages; were I to write with the hand of Ganesh,³⁷

O Thou who holdest the destroying sword, I could not please Thee even a little without offering Thee homage.

Thou turnest men like me from blades of grass into mountains; than Thou there is none other cherisher of the poor.

O God, do Thou Thyself pardon mine errors; there is none who hath erred like me.

The houses of those who have served Thee are all seen filled with wealth.

In this Kal age and at all times there is great confidence in the powerful arm of the Sword,

Which in one moment destroyeth millions of demons like Sunibh and Nisumbh.³⁸

They who never sought shelter in the battlefield and who retreated not even two paces when blows were dealt around them,

The demons who could not be drowned in the sea, and who could not be burnt by fiery arrows,

On beholding thy flash, O Sword, cast aside shame and fled.

From the Wonderful Drama

He (Nānak) established religion in the Kal age,

And showed the way unto all holy men. ...

[The narrative continues:]

Nānak assumed the body of Angad,

³⁶ Goddess of eloquence and learning.

³⁷ The elephant-headed god of learning.

³⁸ Hindu names of demons.

