

# **Christopher Key Chapple**

**Doshi Professor of Indic and Comparative Theology, and Director, Master of Arts in Yoga Studies at Loyola Marymount University**

Los Angeles , CA, US

Bellarmino College of Liberal Arts

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## **Biography**

Dr. Christopher Key Chapple is the Doshi Professor of Indic and Comparative Theology and Director of the Master of Arts in Yoga Studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. His research interests focus on the renouncer religious traditions of India: Yoga, Jainism, and Buddhism. He has published several books on these topics with SUNY Press, including *Karma and Creativity* (1986), *Nonviolence to Animals, Earth, and Self in Asian Traditions* (1993), *Reconciling Yogas* (2003), and *Yoga and the Luminous: Patanjali's Spiritual Path to Freedom* (2008).

He has also edited and co-authored several books on religion and ecology, including *Ecological Prospects: Religious, Scientific, and Aesthetic Perspectives* (1994, SUNY), *Hinduism and Ecology* (2000, with Mary Evelyn Tucker, Harvard), *Jainism and Ecology* (2002, Harvard), *Yoga and Ecology* (2009, Deepak Heritage), and *In Praise of Mother Earth: The Prthivi Sukta of the Atharva Veda* (2011, with O.P. Dwivedi, winner, translation prize, Dharma Academy of North America). His most recent books are *Poet of Eternal Return* (2014) and *Sacred Thread* (with Beth Sternlieb and Cristina Anunes, 2015, both with Nalanda International / Sri Yogi). Two new edited volumes were published recently: *Yoga in Jainism* (Routledge) and *Mind, Morals and Make-Believe: Engaged Emancipation in the Moksopaya/Yogavasistha* (with Aridam Chakrabarti, SUNY). He also is editor of the journal *Worldviews: Global Religions, Culture, and Ecology* (Brill).

Chris serves as academic advisor for the International Summer School of Jain Studies and on the advisory boards for the Forum on Religion and Ecology (Yale), the Ahimsa Center (Pomona), and the Jaina Studies Centre (SOAS, U London). In 2002 he established the first of several certificate programs in the study of Yoga at LMU's Center for Religion and Spirituality and founded LMU's Master of Arts in Yoga Studies in the fall of 2013.

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Sanskrit Literature, Samkhya Philosophy , Yoga, Jainism, Buddhism

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## **Education**

**Fordham University**

Ph.D. History of Religions

**Fordham University**

M.A. Buddhism

**State University of New York**

B.A. Comparative Literature and Religious Studies

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