

Vedantic Mysticism and Ralph Waldo Emerson: A Comparative Study of the Over-Soul and Brahman

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Abstract

This paper examines Ralph Waldo Emerson's engagement with Vedantic philosophy, especially the concepts of Brahman, Atman, and the Over-Soul. It argues that Emerson adapted ideas from the Bhagavad Gita and the Upanishads into American Transcendentalism while addressing the spiritual needs of nineteenth-century America. The study compares Emerson's essays, journals, and poem 'Brahma' with major Vedantic texts and discusses the continuing relevance of his thought.

Keywords

Ralph Waldo Emerson, Vedanta, Brahman, Over-Soul, Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, Transcendentalism, Mysticism.