Myths and Legends of the World
Jack Wickersham, Editor in Chief

A wide perspective on cultures around the world

Classes in history, social studies, literature and drama are often our first encounter with mythical figures and legends of other cultures. Until now, most references focused on particular countries or regions — such as classical Greece, or themes, such as angels or nature myths — rather than encompassing mythologies from all parts of the world. Myths and Legends of the World covers North and South America, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Islands as well as the more familiar stories from Europe and the Middle East with comprehensive coverage of the deities, characters, objects, myths and legends students are most likely to find in their studies.

Whether researching a specific mythical figure, a given motif, an ethnic group or an unfamiliar term, users will find the encyclopedia is easily accessible. Illustrated in full color throughout with more than 200 drawings and photos, the set also offers sidebars and extensive backmatter, including genealogy trees that illustrate the relationships between deities, and a subject index that helps to identify similar themes across cultures.

Features:
• Full-color design throughout
• 500 A-to-Z articles written by scholars for a student audience
• More than 200 color illustrations
• Coverage of time periods and cultures from around the world
• Backmatter including genealogy trees
• Comprehensive bibliography directing readers to titles on specific themes and cultures
• Three indexes arranged by topic, culture and word
• Comparative chart of Greek and Roman deities

For a wide range of users:
• School students will use the encyclopedia to find information on characters; to explore myths from different cultures; to research customs and beliefs; to identify the roots of familiar figures such as Hercules or Rip van Winkle; or simply to satisfy their curiosity about stories that have been passed down through many generations
• College students will find information to support their studies in anthropology, religious studies, literature, drama, women's studies and more
• Public library users interested in world cultures, opera, obscure cults and religions, or information on different immigrant groups will quickly find answers to their questions

A sampling of articles from Myths and Legends of the World:

- Adam and Eve
- The Aeneid
- Ambrosia
- Anansi
- Anubis
- Ark of the Covenant
- Arthurian Legends
- Atlantis
- Banshee
- Beowulf
- Berserks
- Bhagavad-Gita
- Billy the Kid
- The Book of the Dead
- Camelot
- Cassandra
- El Cid
- Cuchulain
- Daedalus
- Dakanawaida
- Devi
- Dracula
- Dybbuk
- Echo
- Gaia (Gaia)
- Genies
- Griffins
- Heroes
- Hiawatha
- Huiztilopochtli
- Ishhtar
- Isis
- Jeezbel
- John Henry
- Kohiki
- Kokopelli
- Krishna
- Lotus Eaters
- Lucretia
- Lug (Lugh)
- The Mahabharata
- Manco Capac
- Medusa
- Metatron
- Mithras
- Mixcoatl
- Mujaji (Mujadjii)
- Mulungu
- Mwindo
- Nabu
- Nabi
- Nibelungen
- Nihongi
- Nu Wa (Nu Kua, Nu Gu)
- Nyame
- Nymphs
- Orion
- Phaedra
- Pecos Bill
- Pan Gu (P’an ku)
- Peida
- Pined Piper
- Popul Vuh
- Ptah
- Pyramus and Thisbe
- Quetzalcoatl
- Ra (Re)
- Reincarnation
- Rig-Veda
- Rip van Winkle
- Saty
- Sawtrri
- Sedna
- Sherd
- Shiva
- Spider Woman
- Tannhauser
- Teleginu
- Theseus
- Thousand and One Nights
- Thunderbird
- Tiki
- Tricksters
- Trolus and Cressida
- Troll
- Valhalla
- Varuna
- Vedas
- Virgil
- Vishnu
- Virun
- White Shell Woman
- Xian (Hsien)
- Xibalba (Maya Underworld)
- Yin and Yang
- And much more

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