

of humanity such as the origin, nature and meaning of human existence and of human society, reasons and roots of suffering, source of evil in the world, and the question of one's survival, after the tragedy of death" (p. 295). Furthermore, the author points out that "all have come to recognize that though religion deals with the divine reality, it is very much a human phenomenon: the way human beings understand God and express that understanding in words, gestures, rituals, and traditions" (p. 295). Hence interreligious dialogue cannot be regarded as a luxury, but a duty in a world of religious pluralism.

The first section, *East is East: "Encounter in the East,"* contains seven articles mostly dealing with the encounter of Christianity and Western thought with Indian culture. In the section, *"West is West: Dialogue in the West,"* an attempt is made to depict the way the West has opened itself to the cultures alien to itself. The last section, *"East and West Meet: Beyond Ideologies?"* looks for new horizons where religions could find a new and better meeting point.

Since most of the contributors are University Professors and scholars actually involved in the interreligious dialogue, and not mere academicians their words carry special weight and conviction.