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# Perception: An Essay on Classical Indian Theories of Knowledge

Bimal Krishna Matilal

Oxford University Press (1986)

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## Abstract

This book is a defence of a form of realism which stands closest to that upheld by the Nyāya-Vaid'sesika school in classical India. The author presents the Nyāya view and critically examines it against that of its traditional opponent, the Buddhist version of phenomenalism and idealism. His reconstruction of Nyāya arguments meets not only traditional Buddhist objections but also those of modern sense-data representationalists.

## Keywords

[Nyaya Philosophy](#), [Buddhist Philosophy](#), [Indic History](#) [Knowledge](#), [Theory of History](#)

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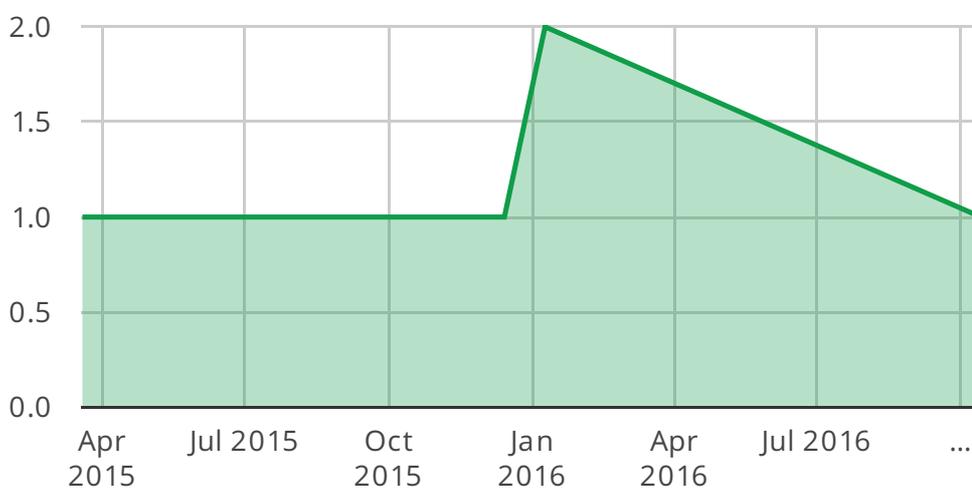
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Add new comment. Your name \*. In classical India, the Nyaya-Vaisesika school upheld a form of realism, best known as Naive or Direct Realism. Professor Matilal here presents the Nyaya view and critically examines it against the opposing Buddhist version of phenomenalism and idealism. The dispute between the Buddhist and Nyaya schools of thought lasted a little over twelve centuries; and although the author's approach is largely historical, it is informed by the belief that the issues raised by this dispute have a significant contribution to make to modern philosophical concerns.