

HINDUISM: TABLE 3
COMPARISON BETWEEN TRADITIONAL VEDIC FIRE SACRIFICE
AND INTERIORIZED SACRIFICE

	Vedic Fire Sacrifice	Interior Sacrifice
karma	ritual action	all action
ritual space	fire altar	one's own body
ritual time	time of performance	any/all time
sense of self	communal	ātman, individual
goal(s)	this-worldly goods, wealth	personal transformation, acquisition of power, liberation from world
role of fire	"mouth of the sacrifice" destroyer	<i>tapas</i> , transformative heat
quality/efficacy	contingent on the actual performance	always ideal
idea of brahman	efficacy of the sacrifice	underlying power and identity of all things