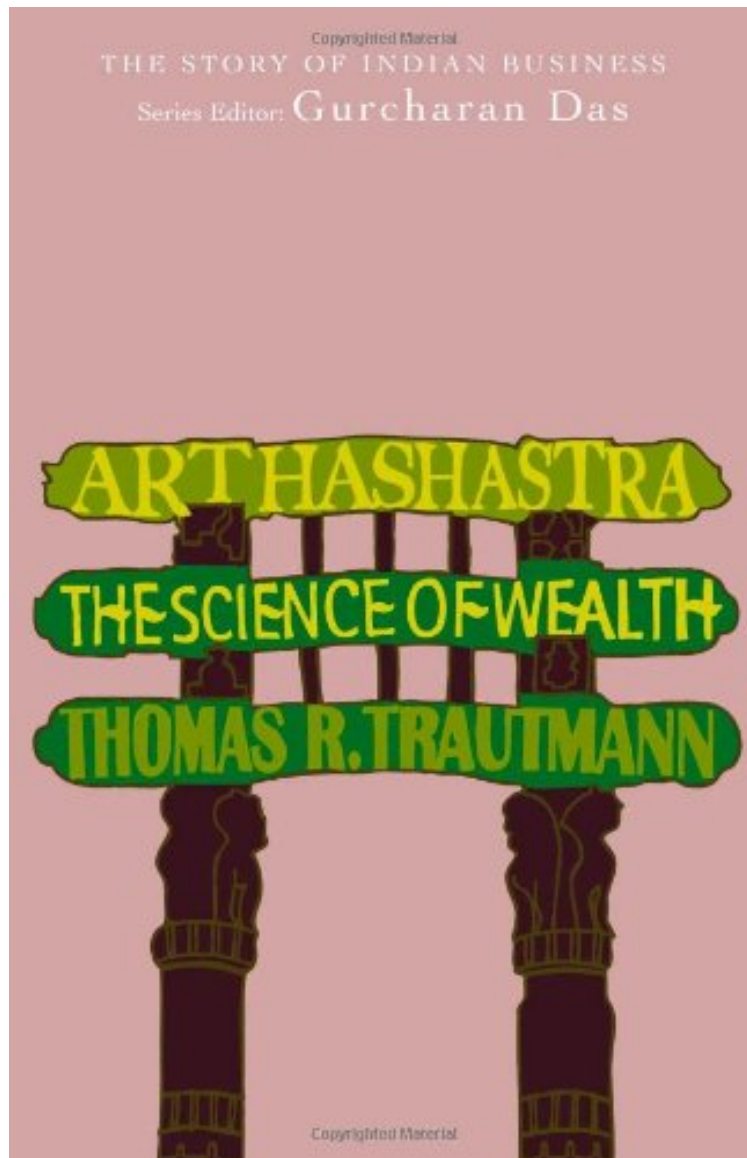


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Arthashastra: The Science of Wealth: The Story of Indian Business

T. Trautmann

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T. Trautmann : Arthashastra: The Science of Wealth: The Story of Indian Business before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Arthashastra: The Science of Wealth: The Story of Indian Business:

A fascinating window into the social and economic structures of the time, and into the intricacies of statecraft.

Ascribed to Kautilya (commonly identified as the prime minister of Chandragupta Maurya) and dating back more than 2,000 years, the Arthashastra is the world's first manual in political economy. It has a pre-eminence in Indian thought that is akin to that of Machiavelli's *The Prince* in Europe. Arthashastra (literally, 'the science of wealth') is a study of economic enterprise; specifically, Kautilya's treatise advises the king on the business of creating prosperity. Arthashastra also addresses the question: what makes a good leader? This book is intended to be an introduction to the economic philosophy of the Arthashastra. Its goal is to analyse the relevance of this classic text in its own time in a world in which kings were regulators of economic activities of their subjects, but also entrepreneurs themselves in the conviction that it has much to teach us that has value in our own age.

Trautmann's analysis and rendering of Arthashastra is a unique exercise --Business Standard
About the Author
Thomas R. Trautmann is the author of *Kautilya and the Arthashastra* (1971) and other books on ancient India, including *Aryans and British India* (1997), *The Aryan Debate* (2005), *Languages and Nations: The Dravidian Proof in Colonial Madras* (2006) and *India: Brief History of a Civilization* (2010). He is professor emeritus of history and anthropology at the University of Michigan. Gurcharan Das is a world-renowned author, commentator and public intellectual. His bestselling books include *India Unbound* and *The Difficulty of Being Good*.