

# Theopanism

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Theopanism (Greek: *Theos* = God, *pan* = all) was first used as a technical term by the [Jesuits](#) in elucidating [Hinduism](#). "[O]ne may distinguish [pantheism](#), which imagines the world as an absolute being ("everything is God"), from theopanism, which conceives of God as the true spiritual reality from which everything emanates: "God becomes everything", necessarily, incessantly, without beginning and without end. Theopanism is (with only a few other dualistic systems) the most common way in which Hindu philosophy conceives God and the world."<sup>[1]</sup>

Theopanism has also been more broadly stated as inclusive of any theological theory by which God is held equivalent to the Universe. As one author puts it: "In theopanism the meaning given the word God is of an entity that is not separate from the universe.

Theopanism includes among its major concepts [pantheism](#) and [panentheism](#)."<sup>[2]</sup> This broader statement would also include [Pandeism](#).<sup>↓</sup>

## References

1. <sup>^</sup> Civita Cattolica, 5, July, 1930, pp. 17-8, in [Antonio Gramsci](#), "The Prison Notebooks", p. 121.
  2. <sup>^</sup> Alvin Jay Reines, *Polydoxy: explorations in a philosophy of liberal religion*, 1987, page 77.
- [Why I Believe in God](#) by [John J. Lanier](#), *The Builder Magazine*, April 1927 - Volume XIII - Number 4