



# **The Wisdom of Ptah-Hotep: Spiritual Treasures from the Age of the Pyramids and the Oldest Book in the World**

*Christian Jacq*

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## **The Wisdom of Ptah-Hotep: Spiritual Treasures from the Age of the Pyramids and the Oldest Book in the World** Christian Jacq

Egyptologist, essayist and novelist, Christian Jacq is one of the most widely read authors in the world. Here, he presents a new vision of one of the pillars of Egyptian wisdom and the key to an era of rich spirituality which has much to offer. Ptah-Hotep was a philosopher and leading statesman in the Egypt of 2400 BC. Having reached the great age of 110 he decided to pass on his experience by setting down a collection of sayings, or 'wisdoms.' Miraculously preserved, his work has a real claim to be the oldest book in the world and offers not only wisdom but an exceptional insight into the life and philosophy of the ancient world. As second in command to the fifth-dynasty pharaoh Djedkare Isesi, Ptah-Hotep's work is crucial to our understanding of the golden age of the Ancient Empire (around 2640—2040 BC). Through this book we can see into the mind of the sage and share his most intimate reflections. Styled as advice from father to son or master to pupil, his words offer counsel on timeless topics such as the art of governing, the nature of true knowledge, and how to enjoy a harmonious life without violence.

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