



# The Forge and the Crucible: The Origins and Structure of Alchemy

Mircea Eliade

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## The Forge and the Crucible: The Origins and Structure of **Alchemy**

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Primitive man's discovery of the ability to change matter from one state to another brought about a profound change in spiritual behavior. In The Forge and the Crucible, Mircea Eliade follows the ritualistic adventures of these ancient societies, adventures rooted in the people's awareness of an awesome new power.

The new edition of *The Forge and the Crucible* contains an updated appendix, in which Eliade lists works on Chinese alchemy published in the past few years. He also discusses the importance of alchemy in Newton's scientific evolution.



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