

World History

Topic 4

India

3,100 BCE-540 CE

NAME: _____

I. The Indus Valley Civilization

A. Indian Subcontinent

1. South Asia

- a. huge triangle sticking out into the Indian Ocean
- b. India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Nepal, and Bhutan

2. India

- a. India is the biggest country in the region
- b. called the Indian **subcontinent** – a large landmass that is set apart from the rest of the continent
- c. separated from the rest of Asia by the Himalaya and Hindu Kush mountain ranges to the north

3. river systems

a. Indus River

- 1.) flows across the northwest
- 2.) forms part of a **river system** – a main river and all other rivers and streams that dump into it

b. Saraswati River

- 1.) runs parallel
- 2.) 600 towns and villages along it

c. India's first civilization developed

- 1.) river flooded and left behind rich soil
- 2.) crops were plentiful and fed cities

d. Ganges River

- 1.) flows across the northern part
- 2.) became the center of civilization later

4. climate

a. tropical

b. **monsoons**

- 1.) season winds
- 2.) shaped life
- 3.) winter – blow from land to sea with little rainfall
- 4.) summer – blow from ocean to land bringing rain
- 5.) agriculture relied on summer monsoons

B. Indus Valley Civilization

1. people started farming in the hills

2. cities began developing on the plains

3. disappeared but why?

4. archaeologists

a. discovered ruins of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro

b. found more than a thousand other cities, towns, and villages

5. technology

a. well-planned and organized cities

b. thick walls around the cities

c. huge raised mounds of earth and brick for flooding

d. bathrooms and toilets and brick-lined sewage channels

- e. trash chutes and bins
- f. **achievements** – accomplishments that require effort or skill
- g. advanced in mathematics
- h. wide, straight streets in a grid pattern
- i. weights and measurements using multiples of ten (like metric units)

6. farming

- a. built irrigation channels and ditches
- b. watered wheat and barley fields
- c. stored their surplus in a **granary** – special building used to hold grain
- d. first to grow cotton for cloths
- e. raised cattle, sheep, goats, and chickens
- f. used oxen to pull carts
- g. carved wooden animals and painted pictures on pottery

7. trade

- a. had many resources
- b. made jewelry from precious stones
- c. sold cotton cloth and teak – a valuable wood
- e. used stone seals stamped on clay squares to identify goods
- f. traded in Mesopotamia with Sumerians

C. Mysteries Surrounding the Indus Valley Civilization

1. many artifacts and ruins found
2. government
 - a. very well-organized
 - b. strong central government but no statues or tombs (no kings)
 - c. each city had a huge **citadel**
 - 1.) fortified area
 - 2.) built on a raised platform of earth and brick for protection
 - 3.) maybe for government and/or ceremonies
3. religion
 - a. no temples but signs of Hinduism
 - b. statues of Hindu gods
 - c. carvings of people meditating or offering ‘Namaste’ greeting
4. writing – can’t read the symbols on stone seals and pottery
5. disappearance
 - a. began to abandon cities and declined rapidly
 - b. **evidence** – information used to prove something
 - c. many possible reasons
 - 1.) standing water in drains bred mosquitoes and spread disease
 - 2.) stripped forests led to no building or fuel
 - 3.) lack of forests caused floods
 - 4.) cattle overgrazed the land leading to small herds
 - 5.) salt built up in soil so little farming
 - 6.) major earthquake
 - 7.) climate change led to drought so they moved to the Ganges (most likely)

II. India's Vedic Age

A. Indo-Aryans

1. Theory 1 – nomadic warriors who crossed the mountains and used horse-drawn chariots and iron weapons to take over
2. Theory 2 – India's original inhabitants
3. Theory 3 – from Afghanistan and Central Asia and **migrated** – to move from one region to another in order to live there

B. Vedas

1. collections of hundreds, even thousands, of hymns
2. Rig-Veda, Sama-Veda, Yajur-Veda, and Atharva-Veda
3. priests memorized and sang or chanted at ceremonies
4. asked people to make offerings of barley, butter, or milk to gods
5. Sanskrit
 - a. vedas were passed down by chanting or singing in Sanskrit
 - b. distant relative of English
 - c. a language of sacred literature today
 - d. ancestry of many modern Indian languages like Hindi and Urdu
 - e. eventually put vedas in writing
6. Rig Veda
 - a. oldest and includes 10,000 hymns
 - b. key part of Hinduism
 - c. praise Gods and Goddesses of nature (sky, sun, fire, and earth)
7. Indo-Aryan life
 - a. herded
 - 1.) cattle, horses, sheep and goats
 - 2.) cattle provided food and clothing
 - 3.) measure wealth by the size of cattle herd
 - 4.) drank milk but eventually gave up dairy farming
 - b. agriculture
 - 1.) grew barley, wheat, and lentils
 - 2.) dug water channels from the Saraswati River
 - c. enjoyed life
 - 1.) loved music and dancing
 - 2.) held chariot races and gambled
 - 3.) questioned the meaning of life
8. growth
 - a. spread east across the Ganges Plain
 - b. carved farms and villages from the forests
 - c. divided into clans with a chief
 - d. formed republics
 - e. held assemblies
 - f. eventually had kings
 - g. people south spoke Tamil instead of Sanskrit

C. The Caste System

1. **caste** – fixed social class into which a person is born
 - a. influenced rules of behavior
 - 1.) where they lived
 - 2.) what they did for work
 - 3.) who they ate with
 - 4.) who they married
2. **varna** – grouping based on skill
 - a. Brahmins – priests and teachers
 - b. Ksathriyas – rulers and warriors

- c. Vaishyas – landowners, bankers, and merchants
 - d. Sudras – farmers, laborers, and servants
- 3. **jati** – grouping based on occupation (a family business for example)
- 4. the Untouchables (or Dalits) – did impure and low social status work
- 5. **status** – position in society
- 6. not from Hindu teachings but eventually accepted by most
- 7. development
 - a. based on occupation or family
 - b. children could move into a different caste
 - c. families could move to a different varna
 - d. became more rigid over time
 - e. could not move from caste to caste
 - f. limited individual freedom
 - g. people perfected skills
 - h. groups could follow their own beliefs
- 8. today
 - a. forbid caste discrimination
 - b. many don't identify with a caste
 - c. castes no longer determine jobs

III. Origins and Beliefs of Hinduism

A. Roots of Hinduism

1. one of oldest and third largest (1 billion followers)
2. began in India during the Vedic age
3. *Hindu* – what early Persians called the people of India
4. beliefs and practices
 - a. Vedas are the religious text
 - b. hymns to Gods and Goddesses
 - c. describe religious rituals like offerings
5. early Hinduism
 - a. based on **Brahman** – all-powerful principle that exists in everyone
 - b. elaborate rituals to worship deities (gods)
 - c. priests called Brahmins and sages (extremely wise spiritual teachers)

B. Classical Hinduism

1. started asking questions about life
2. **gurus**
 - a. thinkers and teachers
 - b. lived in forests to think and talk about religious ideas
3. the Upanishads
 - a. made connection between heavenly forces and people
 - b. became holy scripture
 - c. dealt with life and death, right and wrong, etc.
4. epic poems
 - a. long story of heroes told in verse
 - b. explained religious ideals and how to live
 - c. *Ramayana*
 - 1.) story of king Rama and his wife Sita
 - 2.) Sita is kidnapped by demon king Ravana
 - 3.) his niece demon Trijata protects Sita
 - 4.) his brother Lakshman and the monkey God Hanuman helps him rescue her
 - 5.) emphasizes dharma – righteous action
 - c. *Mahabharata*
 - 1.) possibly world's longest poem
 - 2.) 200,000 lines
 - 3.) two families at war to control a kingdom
 - 4.) deals with moral **issues** – problems or subjects to be discussed or decided
 - 5.) conflict between loyalty to family and duty
 - 6.) Bhagavad-Gita section – most important religious text and influenced Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela
 - 7.) deals with the nature of the soul and ways to live a good life (called yoga)

C. Hindu Beliefs

1. many different practices but share beliefs
2. Upanishads
 - a. believe there is one supreme cosmic consciousness, spiritual force, or God known as Brahman, the source of all things
 - 1.) all worshipped Gods are forms of Brahman
 - 2.) some worship Vishnu or Shiva, Shakti or Sarasvati, or Krishna
 - b. everyone is born with a soul, which is also a form of Brahman

D. Beliefs About Life

1. **reincarnation** – the rebirth of a soul in a new body

2. karma

- a. the effect of a person's actions in this and in previous lives
- b. determines how a person is reborn

3. the four goals

a. dharma

- 1.) a person's duty or what is right
- 2.) influenced by age and position in life
- 3.) **ahimsa** – avoiding doing harm to any living thing, truthfulness, and moderation and self-control
- 4.) affects karma

b. striving for well-being and earning a livelihood with dignity

- 1.) make a good living
- 2.) raise a family
- 3.) start and run an honest business
- 4.) material things don't bring happiness

c. pleasure

- 1.) eating good food
- 2.) taking a hot bath
- 3.) don't seek JUST pleasure

d. moksha

- 1.) liberation from reincarnation
- 2.) the soul becomes one with or lives close to Brahman forever
- 3.) the purpose of life
- 4.) soul lives forever in a state of joy

4. four paths to Moksha

a. the way of knowledge

- 1.) a true understand of one's soul
- 2.) oneness with Brahman

b. the way of works

- 1.) carrying out religious rituals and duties
- 2.) duties within family
- 3.) offer prayers and food to Gods
- 4.) do good deeds without expecting rewards

c. the way of devotion

- 1.) the path of love
- 2.) **devote** – to set aside for a purpose
- 3.) worship Gods or Goddesses (human or nature)
- 4.) present offerings at a temple or travel to a sacred site
- 5.) try to move closer to God in their hearts

d. the way of meditation

- 1.) discipline the mind with spiritual practices like yoga
- 2.) mind turns away from desires and towards Brahman

E. Impact of Hinduism

1. spread

a. Indians shared values of devotion and followed dharma

b. flexible – people didn't have to change their beliefs

c. no regular religious services

- 1.) worship when and where convenient
- 2.) shrine – place of worship dedicated to an object or being

d. women

- 1.) God could be male or female
- 2.) could participate in ceremonies and become sages

e. spread to 150 countries

- f. Hindu festival on the Ganges River
 - 1.) the holiest site
 - 2.) millions of Indian bathe in the waters
 - 3) wash away bad karma and cure disease
- g. shaped the political system, ensuring religious freedom
- h. influenced art and literature
 - 1.) carvings of Gods and Goddesses
 - 2.) temples are centers of art, music and dance
- i. comic books and movies retell epic poems still today

IV. Origins and Beliefs of Buddhism

A. Wandering Teachers

1. taught philosophy
2. Siddhartha Gautama a.k.a. the Buddha founded Buddhism
3. Mahavira founded Jainism

B. Life of the Buddha

1. born as a prince in Nepal
2. his mother dreamed an elephant came down from heaven and told her he would be a holy man
3. his father wanted him to be a ruler
 - a. shielded him from bad things in life
 - b. hid the poor beggars and sick people from the streets
4. rode out on his own at age 29
 - a. saw an old, bent, toothless man leaning on a stick
 - b. saw a man shrunken by disease
 - c. saw a dead man
 - d. saw a homeless and poor but happy holy man
5. search for truth
 - a. cut his hair and traded clothes for a simple robe
 - b. set out to find the truth about life, suffering, and death
 - c. studied Hindu gurus
 - 1.) meditation techniques
 - 2.) teachings of Upanishads
 - 3.) joined a band of religious ascetics – deny themselves physical comfort to seek a spiritual goal
 - 4.) wore scratchy clothes and fasted – went without food
6. finding enlightenment
 - a. **meditate** – to calm or clear the mind, often by focusing on a single object
 - 1.) fig tree – Bodhi Tree or Tree of Knowledge
 - 2.) for 49 days and nights
 - 3.) understood birth, death, and rebirth
 - 4.) entered a life free from suffering
 - b. achieved **enlightenment** – a state of perfect wisdom
 - 1.) became the Buddha – “the Enlightened One”
 - 2.) freed himself from the “wheel of existence”
 - 3.) went back to teach others
 - c. traveled across India for 45 years
 - 1.) shared his message
 - 2.) gained many followers and students
 - 3.) trained teachers and religious leaders
 - e. died at the age of 80

C. Buddhist Beliefs

1. the Buddha understood why people suffer
2. accepted karma and the idea that a person’s actions have **consequences** – result of an action, effect
3. believed a “self” could be reborn in a new body but would cease to exist when enlightenment was achieved
4. didn’t believe in any god
5. didn’t accept varna roles and felt actions were more important than social roles
6. supported a moral and ethical society
7. Middle Way
 - a. had been a very rich prince and a very poor ascetic

- b. believed you could find enlightenment in the middle
- c. Four Noble Truths
 - 1.) life involves suffering (birth, sickness, old age, and death)
 - 2.) selfish desires cause suffering
 - 3.) can end suffering by giving up selfish desires
 - 4.) can overcome selfish desires by following the Eightfold Path

- d. Eightfold Path
 - 1.) prepare the mind for spiritual growth
 - Right Belief
 - Right Purpose
 - 2.) take charge of one's behavior (morality)
 - Right Speech
 - Right Conduct
 - Right Livelihood (profession)
 - 3.) train to gain enlightenment
 - Right Effort
 - Right Mindfulness
 - Right Meditation

- e. **nirvana**
 - 1.) state of blissful peace without desire or suffering
 - 2.) free from reincarnation

8. spread

- a. memorized for hundreds of years and then written in scripture
- b. **monasteries** – religious communities

- 1.) lived there during the rainy season
- 2.) studied and meditated

- c. missionaries

- 1.) carried beliefs across India to Sri Lanka and through Asia

9. two branches (sects)

- a. **Theravada Buddhism** – focuses on the wisdom of the Buddha and his enlightenment and entry into nirvana
- b. **Mahayana Buddhism** – focuses on the Buddha's compassion and the fact he returned from nirvana to share his wisdom and compassion

10. legacy

- a. 400 million Buddhists (mostly in Asia)
- b. **widespread** – common, spread across a large area
- c. 2 million in the U.S.
- d. inspired beautiful art and architecture
- e. a source of wisdom for all

V. The Maurya Empire Begins

A. Chandragupta Unites India

1. by now, many kingdoms and chiefdoms covered India
2. Chandragupta Maurya overthrew the strongest, Magadha
 - a. born into Magadha's royal family and left with poor farmers
 - b. Brahmin Kautilya taught and advised him
 - c. raised an army
 - d. developed a **strategy** – a long-term plan for achieving a goal
 - e. planned to take control of the northwest from the Greeks and then attack Magadha
 - f. powerful weapons like the Indian bow (tall as a man)
 - g. attacked the borders and then moved in to take the capital
3. conquered other kingdoms
4. stretched from Bay of Bengal to Afghanistan (all of northern India)

B. Chandragupta's Rule

1. government
 - a. divided the kingdom into four regions
 - b. divided each region into smaller **provinces** – a region with its own government
 - c. set up a **bureaucracy** – system of offices that carries out government rules and regulations
 - d. appointed officials to carry out orders
 - e. controlled every village in his empire
2. tax system
 - a. tax workers collected 25% of crops from farmers
 - b. collected tax on goods
 - c. used to pay government workers and support a large army
3. connections to other regions
 - a. friendly with Greek kingdom to the west
 - b. sent troops west of the Indus River and clashed with Seleucus
 - c. treaty – Seleucus gave up territory for 500 elephants
 - d. neighbors sent envoys – messengers or representatives
 - e. sent on **missions** – journey with a purpose
4. subjects and spies
 - a. feared enemies
 - 1.) had servants taste his food for poison
 - 2.) slept in a different bed each night
 - b. trained female warriors to guard his palace
 - c. set up a huge spy network to watch his **subjects** – people under his rule
 - d. hired spies to watch those spies
 - e. reported back to him every day
 - f. his subjects had no right to privacy or freedom of speech
5. slavery
 - a. prisoners of war
 - b. could not pay debt
 - c. laws protected them from harsh treatment (uncommon)
6. Kautilya
 - a. continued to advise him
 - b. wrote a book called *Arthashastra* giving advice on how to be a good ruler
 - c. focused on his subjects' **welfare** – well-being, comfort, prosperity

VI. Asoka's Rule

A. From Chandragupta to Bindusara to Asoka

1. Chandragupta
 - a. became a Jain (Jainism)
 - b. aimed for enlightenment (Buddhism)
 - c. accepted the reality of the soul (Hinduism)
 - d. gave up being an emperor to enter a Jain monastery
2. Bindusara
 - a. had seven sons
 - b. didn't like Asoka
 - c. sent away to rule a faraway province
 - d. died
3. Asoka
 - a. four years of fighting, possibly killing his brothers
 - b. became the third Maurya emperor
 - c. strengthened his power for eight years
 - d. went to war against Kalinga (long and terrible)
 - e. won **eventually** – after a long time
 - 1.) lost thousands of soldiers
 - 2.) 150,000 captured and sent away
 - 3.) he hated the slaughter, death, and captive people

B. Asoka Turns to Peace

1. turned from violence to Buddhism
2. ruled based on dharma (morals) instead of by force
3. three principles
 - a. ahimsa
 - 1.) belief that one should not hurt any living thing
 - 2.) gave up hunting and banned cruel treatment of animals
 - 3.) built hospitals for animals
 - b. **tolerance**
 - 1.) willingness to respect different beliefs and customs
 - 2.) respected Hinduism, Jainism, and other religions
 - c. well-being
 - 1.) a ruler must be careful to rule his people well
 - 2.) made many decisions to make his empire a better place to live
4. stone pillars
 - a. 40 feet high and 50 tons
 - b. some still stand today
 - c. carved messages
 - 1.) about well-being
 - 2.) apologized for war
 - 3.) explained new goals
 - 4.) encouraged respect for parents and generosity
 - 5.) encouraged respect for all religions
 - 6.) encouraged moral lives
5. Buddhism expands
 - a. built monasteries and shrines throughout India
 - b. built **stupas** – Buddhist commemorative burial mounds
 - c. sent missionaries to neighboring countries
 - d. the support of the Maurya empire encouraged other rulers to adopt it

C. Asoka's Legacy

1. ruled for 40 years
2. set up hospitals

3. dug wells
4. built roads
 - a. promoted trade within and outside of the empire
 - b. the Royal Road
 - 1.) 1,000 miles across northern India
 - 2.) lined with trees for shade
 - 3.) rest houses offered food and shelter
5. a peaceful India prospered without crime
6. after his death, rulers were weak, and the empire ended after 136 years

VII. The Gupta Empire

A. A New Empire in India

1. broke into many small kingdoms
2. invaded repeatedly from the north and west
3. traded with China, southeast Asia, and the Roman Empire
4. got new ideas from invaders and traders
5. advanced in art, literature, math, and science
6. Chandra Gupta I
 - a. named after Chandragupta
 - b. dreamed of building an empire
 - c. expanded from the Ganges Basin through alliances and conquests
7. Samudra Gupta
 - a. Chandra's son
 - b. continued conquering
8. Chandra Gupta II
 - a. Samudra's son
 - b. conquered until the Gupta Empire was at its biggest
 - c. tried to bring peace and prosperity
9. government
 - a. allowed governors to control provinces
 - b. village and city councils made decisions at the local level
 - 1.) leading families sent representatives
 - 2.) guilds (groups of merchants or craftsmen in the same line of work) sent representatives
 - c. people were still subjects but also experienced **citizenship** – a status with political right and obligations
 - d. a Buddhist monk from China described the people as numerous and happy
10. later, the empire faced invaders and parts broke away

B. Gupta Culture

1. religious – Guptas favored Hinduism but Buddhism was still important
2. literature
 - a. poet Kalidasa wrote plays and poetry in Sanskrit
 - b. fables
 - 1.) short story with a moral, or lesson, at the end
 - 2.) two frogs in a bucket of milk and one drowned while the other kept swimming until the milk turned to butter (never give up)
3. music and dance
 - a. based on Hindu literature
 - b. stringed instruments and drums
4. **drama**
 - a. plays or performances that tell stories
 - b. performers wore elaborate make-up and costumes
 - c. told stories through song and dance
5. chess
 - a. invented and moved along trade routes
6. architecture
 - a. showed great engineering skill
 - b. built temples and monasteries
 - c. stonecutters carved buildings from rock
 - d. architects built free-standing structures
 - e. then carved into rock cliffs
 - f. stone-cut shrines of Ellora – brilliant sculptures and paintings

C. Mathematics and Science

1. trade and invasion brought ideas from Greece and Persia

2. **decimal system**

- a. a counting system based on units of ten
- b. developed concept of zero as a **numeral** – a symbol used to represent a number
- c. made multiplication and division easier
- d. led to algebra

3. Aryabhata

- a. Indian astronomer and mathematician
- b. wrote a book on arithmetic, algebra, and trigonometry
- c. could then calculate the area of triangles and the volume of spheres
- d. astronomy
 - 1.) first to state that the Earth rotates, or spins, on its axis creating night and day
 - 2.) discovered that eclipses were caused by the motion of Earth and moon
 - 3.) discovered that the moon shines because it reflects sunlight

4. medicine

- a. system of medicine called Ayurveda
- b. described diseases and treatments
- c. explained how to make hundreds of medicines from plants, animals, and minerals

5. **metallurgy**

- a. the science that deals with extracting metal from ore and using it to create useful objects
- b. **extract** – remove, draw out
- c. Iron Pillar of Delhi
 - 1.) 23-foot-high column
 - 2.) single piece of iron
 - 3.) 1,500 years without rust