

# Buddhism

**Main Idea** A new religion, Buddhism, appealed to many people in India and other parts of Asia.

**Reading Focus** What do you think makes a person free and happy? Find out how the Buddha answered this important question as you read this section.

By 600 B.C., many Indians began to question Hindu ideas. The Brahmin priests seemed to care only about their temple ceremonies and not about the needs of the people. Ordinary Hindus wanted a simpler, more spiritual religion. Many would find what they needed in **Buddhism** (BOO•DIH•zuhm), a new religion founded by **Siddhartha Gautama** (sih•DAHR•tuh GOW•tuh•muh).

**Who Is the Buddha?** Prince Siddhartha Gautama was born around 563 B.C. in a small kingdom near the Himalaya. Today, this area is in southern **Nepal** (nuh•PAWL).

Siddhartha seemed to have it all. He was wealthy and handsome, happily married, and had a fine new son. Then one day he decided to explore the kingdom beyond the palace walls. As he traveled, he became very upset. He saw beggars, people who were ill, and people broken down by age with no home and nowhere to go. For the first time, he was truly aware of suffering.

Then and there, Siddhartha decided to seek an answer to this great riddle: Why did people suffer and how could their suffering be cured? He left his family and riches and began his search. At first he lived like a hermit, fasting and sleeping on the hard ground. Siddhartha nearly starved, but he still had no answer to his questions.

Then he decided to meditate for as long as it took to get the answer. Legend tells us that Siddhartha sat under a tree to meditate, and after 49 days, he finally understood. It was as if he had seen a great light.



▲ This shrine in northern India marks the location where it is believed the Buddha delivered his first sermon. **With what groups of Indians did the Buddha's message become popular?**

Siddhartha spent the rest of his life wandering the countryside and telling people what he had discovered. His lessons about life and the nature of suffering became known as Buddhism. To his followers, he became known as the Buddha, or "Enlightened One."

**What Is Buddhism?** To understand the Buddha's ideas, one first has to see the world as he did. Like many Hindu, Siddhartha did not think that the normal, everyday world was real. Trees, houses, animals, the sky, and the oceans were just illusions. So were poverty and sickness, pain and sorrow.

Siddhartha believed that the only way to find the truth about the world was to give up all desires. By giving up the desire for fame, the desire for money, and the desire for all worldly things, pain and sorrow would vanish.

If a person gave up all desires, he or she would reach **nirvana** (nihr•VAH•nuh). Nirvana is not a place but a state of wisdom. The word *nirvana* came from the Sanskrit word for blowing out a candle flame.

## Primary Source

### Morality in the Eightfold Path

This passage describes the way a person should act according to the Eightfold Path.

"He avoids the killing of living beings. . . . He avoids stealing, and abstains from [avoids] taking what is not given to him. Only what is given to him he takes, waiting till it is given; and he lives with a heart honest and pure. . . . He avoids lying. . . . He speaks the truth, is devoted to the truth, reliable, worthy of confidence, no deceiver of men."

—*The Word of the Buddha*,  
Nyanatiloka, trans.



▲ The Buddha

### DBQ Document-Based Question

According to the passage, what is the correct way to accept something?

The heart of the Buddha's teachings is contained in the Four Noble Truths. The Four Noble Truths are:

1. *Life is full of suffering.*
2. *People suffer because they desire worldly things and self-satisfaction.*
3. *The way to end suffering is to stop desiring things.*
4. *The only way to stop desiring things is to follow the Eightfold Path.*

The Buddha's fourth truth says people should follow eight steps to eliminate suffering. The Buddha's Eightfold Path was this:

1. *Know and understand the Four Noble Truths.*

2. *Give up worldly things and don't harm others.*
3. *Tell the truth, don't gossip, and don't speak badly of others.*
4. *Don't commit evil acts, like killing, stealing, or living an unclean life.*
5. *Do rewarding work.*
6. *Work for good and oppose evil.*
7. *Make sure your mind keeps your senses under control.*
8. *Practice meditation as a way of understanding reality.*

One reason the Buddha's ideas became popular was that he did not defend the caste system. A person's place in life depended on the person, he thought. The Buddha did believe in reincarnation, but with a difference. If people wanted to stop being reborn into new lives, the Buddha said, they would only have to follow his Eightfold Path.

Many people liked the Buddha's message, especially Untouchables and low-caste Indians. For the first time, these groups heard that they, too, could reach enlightenment.

**Buddhism in Southeast Asia** For more than 40 years, the Buddha preached his ideas. Disciples gathered around him, and after his death, they spread his message all over Asia.

As more and more people practiced Buddhism, disagreements arose about the Buddha's ideas. Finally, Buddhists split into two groups. The first was Theravada Buddhism. *Theravada* means "teachings of the elders." It sees the Buddha as a great teacher, not a god.

Buddhist teachers and merchants spread the ideas of Theravada to the south and east. It was adopted in Ceylon in the 200s B.C. Ceylon, an island located near the southern tip of India, is now called Sri Lanka. Theravada Buddhism also became popular in Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.



## THE BUDDHA

C. 563–483 B.C.

Siddhartha Gautama—the thinker and teacher who would later be called the Buddha—was born in what is now Nepal. According to legend, his mother had a dream shortly before his birth that was interpreted to mean that her son would become a great leader.

The Gautama family belonged to the warrior caste. Siddhartha's father, Suddhodana, ruled a group called the Shakyas. His mother, Maya, died shortly after his birth.

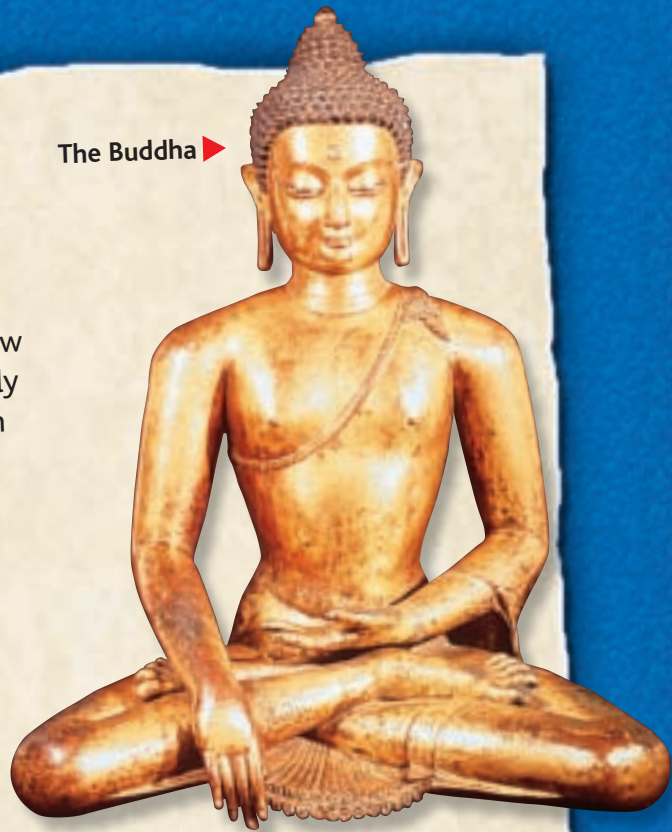
Siddhartha was very intelligent. According to legend, the young man knew 64 languages and mastered all his studies without needing

instruction. At age 29, Siddhartha realized that he wanted to search for truth, enlightenment, and a way to rise above suffering. He left his wife, Yasodhara, and son, Rahula, to study with priests.

At age 35, Siddhartha is said to have reached full enlightenment while sitting beneath a tree. The Buddha began traveling to teach others about his discoveries and about the nature of life and suffering.

◀ Sculpture of the Buddha sitting on a cobra

The Buddha ▶



**“Our life is shaped by our mind; we become what we think.”**

—The Buddha



### Then and Now

What types of present-day occupations often involve traveling to teach others?

## Mahayana Buddhism

The second kind of Buddhism is called Mahayana Buddhism. It teaches that the Buddha is a god who came to save people. Mahayana Buddhists believe that following the Eightfold Path is too hard for most people in this world. They believe that by worshiping the Buddha instead, people will go to a heaven after they die. There, they can follow the Eightfold Path and reach nirvana.

Mahayana Buddhists also have special affection for the bodhisattvas (BOH•dih•SUHT•vuhz). Bodhisattvas are the enlightened people who postpone going to heaven. Instead, bodhisattvas have decided to stay on Earth to help others and do good deeds.



▲ A Tibetan monk today

Mahayana Buddhism spread northward into China and from there to Korea and Japan. A special kind of Mahayana Buddhism developed in central Asia in the country of **Tibet** (tuh•BEHT). There it mixed with Tibet's traditional religion and with Hinduism.

In Tibet, the Buddhist leaders, called lamas, also led the government. When religious leaders head a government, it is called a **theocracy** (thee•AH•kruh•see). The **Dalai Lama** (DAH•LY LAH•muh) was the lama who headed the government, and the Panchen Lama was the lama who led the religion. Both were considered reincarnations of the Buddha.

Today, many Buddhists live in countries like Thailand, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka, but few live in India where the Buddha first preached.

**Reading Check Identify** How could a Buddhist reach nirvana?

## Section 2 Review

**History** **online**

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### Reading Summary

#### Review the **Main Ideas**

- Hinduism is an old religion with many gods. Hindus believe in reincarnation and that a person's place in life is determined by his or her karma.
- In the 500s B.C., Siddhartha Gautama founded the religion of Buddhism in northern India. According to Buddhism, a person who follows the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path can achieve nirvana.

### What Did You Learn?

1. What are the Upanishads?
2. What is reincarnation?

#### Critical Thinking

3. **Compare and Contrast**

Draw a chart like the one below. Then add details to compare the two main branches of Buddhism.

Branches of Buddhism	
Theravada Buddhism	Mahayana Buddhism

4. **Describe** Explain the concept of karma.
5. **Explain** What is the importance of the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path?
6. **Analyze** How did the belief in reincarnation both strengthen the divisions in Indian society and provide hope for the lower classes?
7. **Expository Writing** Write a short essay describing Siddhartha Gautama's journey to enlightenment.



# Section

# 3

# India's First Empires

## Get Ready to Read!

### What's the Connection?

In the last section, you learned about Hinduism and Buddhism. Both religions developed when India was a land of small kingdoms. These rival kingdoms would be forced to unite, however, when foreigners invaded.

### Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- The Mauryan dynasty built India's first great empire. (page 210)
- The Gupta empire reunited much of northern India and became wealthy through trade. (page 213)
- The Mauryan and Gupta empires made important contributions in literature, mathematics, and science. (page 214)

### Locating Places

**Pataliputra**  
(PAH • tuh • lih • POO • truh)

### Meeting People

**Chandragupta Maurya** (CHUHN • druh • GUP • tuh MAH • oor • yuh)

**Asoka** (uh • SOH • kuh)

**Kalidasa** (KAH • lih • DAH • suh)

### Building Your Vocabulary

**dynasty** (DY • nuh • stee)

**stupa** (STOO • puh)

**pilgrim** (PIHL • gruhm)

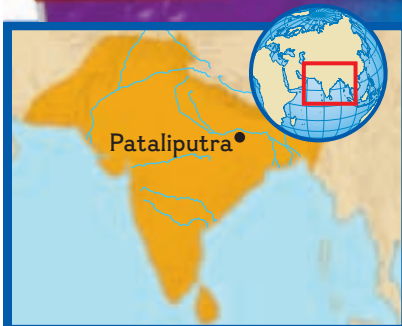
### Reading Strategy

**Categorizing Information** Complete a chart like the one below, identifying the important dates, capital city, and government of the Mauryan empire.

	Mauryan Empire
Dates	
Capital City	
Government	

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## When & Where?



350 B.C.

321 B.C.  
Chandragupta Maurya founds Mauryan dynasty

A.D. 1

232 B.C.  
Mauryan ruler Asoka dies

A.D. 350

A.D. 320  
Gupta empire begins

# The Mauryan Dynasty

**Main Idea** The Mauryan dynasty built India's first great empire.

**Reading Focus** Do you think political leaders should promote religion? How might religion help a king hold his country together? Read to learn why one Indian emperor decided to support Buddhism.

India's princes fought over their small kingdoms for centuries. Then two big invasions taught the Indians a lesson. First, the Persians invaded the Indus Valley in the

500s B.C. and made it part of the great Persian Empire. Then, as you have already read, Alexander the Great invaded India in 327 B.C.

Although Alexander's troops conquered northern India, he did not stay long. His soldiers were homesick and tired and threatened to rebel unless he turned back. The invasion did have one important effect, however. It led to the first great Indian empire.

**Who Built India's First Empire?** India's first empire was founded by **Chandragupta**

**Maurya** (CHUHN • druh • GUP • tuh MAH • oor • yuh). Chandragupta was an Indian prince who conquered a large area in the Ganges River valley soon after Alexander invaded western India. Alexander's invasion weakened many of India's kingdoms. After Alexander left, Chandragupta seized the opportunity to conquer and unite almost all of northern India.

He founded the Mauryan dynasty in 321 B.C. A **dynasty** (DY • nuh • stee) is a series of rulers from the same family. To run his empire, Chandragupta set up a well organized government. In such a government, rulers run everything from a capital city. To control everything from his capital, **Pataliputra** (PAH • tuh • lih • POO • truh), Chandragupta had to have a strong army. He also needed a good spy system to make sure no one was planning to rebel. Communications were also important, so he set up a postal system.



## Using Geography Skills

The Mauryan dynasty built the first great Indian empire.

1. Where was the Mauryan capital of Pataliputra located?
2. What part of India did the Mauryans not conquer?



The Buddha ▶

▲ This stupa from central India is one of the best-preserved shrines from the 200s B.C. **What other type of structure did Indians create to honor the Buddha?**

**Emperor Asoka's Reign** Chandragupta founded the Mauryan dynasty, but many historians think the empire's greatest king was **Asoka** (uh•SOH•kuh). Asoka ruled from about 273 B.C. to 232 B.C.

Asoka was an unusual ruler. Like many kings, he was a strong military leader, but he came to hate bloodshed. After one bloody fight, he walked over the battlefield. When he saw the dead and wounded, he was horrified and made a vow. He would dedicate his life to peace and follow the teachings of the Buddha.

Asoka was history's first great Buddhist king. He built hospitals for people and for animals, too. He built new roads so it was easier to trade and put shelters and shade trees along the roads where travelers could rest.

Asoka sent many Buddhist teachers throughout India and the rest of Asia. They carried the religion to new believers. In India, laborers carved the Buddha's teachings on stone pillars for people to read. Asoka also

had laborers build thousands of **stupas** (STOO•puhs). Stupas are Buddhist shrines that have the shape of a dome or mound. Although he was a Buddhist, Asoka allowed his Hindu subjects to practice their religion.

With a good road system and a strong ruler, the empire prospered. India became the center of a huge trade network that stretched to the Mediterranean Sea.

**The Fall of the Mauryan Empire** Asoka died in 232 B.C. Unfortunately, the kings who followed him were not very good leaders, and the empire grew weak.

These kings made bad decisions that turned the people against them. They forced merchants to pay heavy taxes and seized peasants' crops for themselves. Things were so bad that in 183 B.C., the last Mauryan ruler was killed by one of his own generals.

✔ **Reading Check Summarize** Why was Asoka an important ruler?



# Biography

## EMPEROR ASOKA

*Reigned c. 273–232 B.C.*

In the early years of his reign, Asoka was a powerful military ruler. He used his armies to conquer and unify almost all of India under one leader. After watching a very bloody battle that left many people dead, however, he decided to stop fighting and follow Buddhism.

Emperor Asoka vowed to relieve suffering wherever he found it. He discovered that Buddhism reflected his new beliefs, so he became a Buddhist.

Emperor Asoka had a strong, energetic personality. He began preaching the Buddhist ideas that people should be honest, truthful, and nonviolent. He preached that people should live with compassion toward all humans and animals. Asoka taught by example and tried to live his life with "little

sin and many good deeds." He ordered his government officials to adopt those virtues for their own lives.

Emperor Asoka regularly visited people in the rural areas of his kingdom and found practical ways to improve their lives. He founded hospitals and supplied medicine. He ordered wells to be dug and trees to be planted along the roads. He also ordered his officials to keep him informed of the needs of the people in his empire.

◀ Carving from top of pillar created under Asoka



▼ Asoka



### Then and Now

Asoka closely linked religion and government. Do you think that the two should be combined or kept separate? Explain, providing examples to support your answer.



# The Gupta Empire

**Main Idea** The Gupta empire reunited much of northern India and became wealthy through trade.

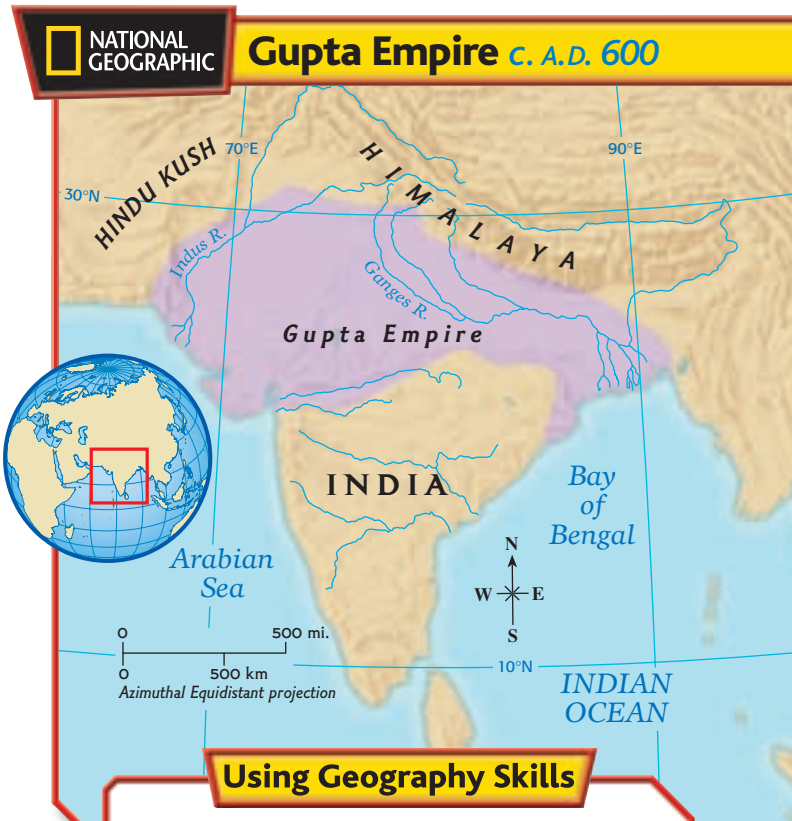
**Reading Focus** What types of products does the United States trade with other countries? Read to learn how the Gupta empire built its wealth on trade.

For 500 years, India was not united. Once again, small kingdoms fought with one another and made life miserable for their subjects. Then, in A.D. 320, one prince in the Ganges River valley grew more powerful than the others. Like an earlier ruler, his name was Chandragupta. This Chandragupta chose to rule from the old capital of the Mauryan empire—Pataliputra.

Chandragupta founded the Gupta dynasty. When he died, his son, Samudragupta, took over the throne and expanded the Gupta empire in northern India. Soon, the new kingdom dominated almost all of northern India. The Guptas ruled for about 200 years. Gupta rulers had one advantage over the earlier Mauryan kings. The empire was smaller and that made it easier to manage.

The Gupta empire grew wealthy from trade. Salt, cloth, and iron were common goods traded in India. Indian merchants also traded with China and with kingdoms in southeast Asia and the Mediterranean. The Gupta rulers controlled much of the trade and became very wealthy. They owned silver and gold mines and large estates.

Trade created jobs for people in India and made many people and cities prosperous. Cities grew up along the trade routes, and many people traveled. Some people, called **pilgrims** (PIHL • gruhms), often used the trade routes to travel to a religious shrine or site. Just as cities today make money from tourism, Indian cities that were famous for their temples became wealthy from visiting pilgrims.



## Using Geography Skills

The Guptas controlled much of northern India.

1. What river valleys were found within the borders of the Gupta empire?
2. How does the area of the Gupta empire compare to that of the Mauryan empire as shown on the map on page 210?

Asoka had converted to Buddhism, but the Guptas were Hindus like many of their subjects. They gave their full support to Hinduism and gave money to support Hindu scholars and Hindu shrines. The shrines they built to Hindu deities inspired Hindus. They often had brightly painted sculptures of images from the Upanishads and other sacred writings.

During the Gupta empire, art and science also began to develop. Earlier, you learned that Greece had a golden age of art and learning. India also had a golden age of art and learning during the Gupta empire.

**Reading Check Explain** How did the Gupta empire become wealthy?

## Indian Literature and Science

**Main Idea** The Mauryan and Gupta empires made important contributions in literature, mathematics, and science.

**Reading Focus** What do you think modern movies, books, and television reveal about our values? As you read, try to see if Indian poetry tells a story about values during the Gupta period.

Artists, builders, scientists, and writers produced many works while the Mauryan and Gupta kings ruled.

**India's Sacred Texts** The Vedas of India are an ancient collection of sacred verses, hymns, prayers and teachings. No one is certain how old they are because for a long time they were only recited, not written down. After Aryan people developed Sanskrit, then the Vedas could be recorded.

Later, other kinds of literature were also written down. Two sacred texts are very famous in India, and Indians today still love to read them. One is the *Mahabharata* (muh•HAH•BAH•ruh•tuh), and the other is the *Ramayana* (rah•mah•YAH•nah). Both of these sacred texts tell about brave warriors and their heroic deeds.

The *Mahabharata* is a long sacred text—about 88,000 verses. Historians think several different authors wrote it and that it was written down around 100 B.C. It describes a great war for control of an Indian kingdom about 1,000 years earlier.

The best-known section is the Bhagavad Gita (BAH•guh•VAHD GEE•tuh), or “Song of the Lord.” It is very important in Hindu writings. In it, the deity Krishna preaches a sermon before a battle. He tells his listeners how noble it is to do one’s duty even when it is difficult and painful.

### Primary Source

#### The Bhagavad Gita

In the Bhagavad Gita, Arjuna prepares to go into battle. He asks the deity Krishna questions about war and death. The following passage is part of Krishna’s answer.  
“Thou grievest where no grief should be! . . .

. . . . .  
All, that doth live, lives always! . . .

. . . . .  
The soul that with a strong and constant calm  
Takes sorrow and takes joy indifferently,  
Lives in the life undying!

—*Bhagavadgita*, Sir Edwin Arnold, trans.

#### DBQ Document-Based Question

What does Krishna believe about life after death?

▼ Painting titled *Krishna and Maidens*





The teachings in the *Mahabharata*, especially the Bhagavad Gita, contain many of the central beliefs in Hinduism. They provide important religious and moral lessons. For this reason, they have had a great impact on Hinduism and continue to influence Indian philosophy in modern times.

An important writer from the Gupta period is **Kalidasa** (KAH•lih•DAH•suh). He wrote plays, poems, love stories, and comedies. One popular poem, *The Cloud Messenger*, contains beautiful descriptions of northern India's mountains, forests, and rivers.

Another work is the *Panchatantra*. Similar to Aesop's fables, these tales include animal characters presenting lessons about life.

**Music, Art, and Architecture** Music played an important part in the religious and social lives of people in India. Many of the early sacred texts like the Bhagavad Gita were probably sung in group settings. At annual festivals people danced and sang. They also used music in plays. Musical instruments included tambourines, flutes, drums, and lutes.

Much of early Indian art was made of materials that have not survived. What exists today is mostly religious art made in stone. There are many sculptures of the Buddha, for example. These statues teach different Buddhist messages based on the figure's pose. Buddhist temples also included carvings of local scenes.

Hindu architecture typically had carvings of people in different poses that represented different aspects of eternity. Images of deities with many hands were created to show that the deities had many abilities.

**Indian Math and Science** Indian mathematicians, especially in the Gupta period, made important contributions. Aryabhata

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

## HISTORY MAKERS

### The Invention of Zero c. A.D. 500



▲ The middle dot is the first symbol for zero.

Early humans understood the idea of nothing, but they did not have a symbol to represent that idea. During the Gupta dynasty, Indian mathematicians invented the symbol "0" and connected it with the idea of nothing. The Indians' invention of zero had a great impact on the study of mathematics and science—then and now. Without the concept of zero, modern technology, such as computers, would not be possible.

(AHR•yuh•BUHT•uh) was the leading mathematician of the Gupta empire. He was one of the first scientists known to have used algebra. Indian mathematicians developed the idea of zero and a symbol to represent it. They also explained the concept of infinity—something without an end.

Gupta mathematicians created the symbols for the numbers 1 to 9 that we use today. These number symbols, or numerals, were adopted by Arab traders in the A.D. 700s. European traders borrowed them from the Arabs. Use of these numbers

spread through Europe in the A.D. 1200s, replacing Roman numerals. Today, this system of number symbols is known as the Hindu-Arabic numerical system.

Early Indians also invented mathematical algorithms. An algorithm (AHL • gohr • ih • thuhm) is a series of steps that solve a problem. If you follow the steps, you get the right answer. Computer programmers today often use algorithms to tell computers what to do.

Ancient Indians made important contributions in other scientific fields, especially astronomy. They followed and mapped movements of planets and stars. They understood that the Earth was round and revolved around the sun. They also seem to have understood gravity.

Particularly under the Gupta, Indian scientists made advances in metallurgy, or

metal technology. In addition to iron tools and weapons, they made steel tools. An iron pillar in Delhi, dating from around A.D. 400, was so well made that it has hardly rusted. The Gupta also made sophisticated gold coins and metal mirrors.

In the field of medicine, Gupta doctors were advanced for their time. They could set broken bones and perform operations. They also invented many medical tools.

An Indian doctor named Shushruta (shoosh • ROO • tah) carried out an early form of plastic surgery. He worked to restore damaged noses. Indian doctors used herbs in treating illnesses. They also believed it was important to remove the causes of a disease and not just cure the disease itself.

 **Reading Check Summarize** In what areas of science did ancient Indians make advances?

## Section 3 Review

**History online**

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### Reading Summary

#### Review the Main Ideas

- The Mauryan empire, under leaders such as Chandragupta Maurya and Asoka, united most of India for over a hundred years.
- The Gupta dynasty reunited northern India and grew wealthy from trade.
- During the Mauryan and Gupta empires, the arts and sciences flourished in India. Several great sacred texts, including the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*, came from this period.

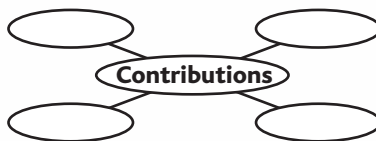
### What Did You Learn?

1. Describe trade during the Gupta empire.
2. What is the message of the Bhagavad Gita?

#### Critical Thinking

##### 3. Organizing Information

Draw a diagram to show the contributions of Indian mathematicians during the Mauryan and Gupta empires.



4. **Analyze** How were Asoka's Buddhist beliefs reflected in his accomplishments as king?

5. **Expository Writing** Which of the Indian emperors described in this section do you think was the greatest ruler? Write a short essay explaining your choice.

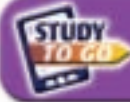
6. **Math Link** Why would the development of a number system be important in a civilization that depended on trade?

##### 7. Reading Vocabulary

Explain how you could use context to determine the meaning of the word *prospered* in this sentence.

"With a good road system and a strong ruler, the empire prospered."





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## Section 1 India's Early Civilizations

**Vocabulary**  
subcontinent  
monsoon  
Sanskrit  
raja  
caste  
guru

### Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- Climate and geography influenced the rise of India's first civilization. (page 195)
- New ideas and technology influenced the development of India. (page 198)
- The Aryans created a caste system that separated Indians into groups. (page 199)

## Section 2 Hinduism and Buddhism

**Vocabulary**  
Hinduism  
Brahman  
reincarnation  
dharma  
karma  
Buddhism  
nirvana  
theocracy

### Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- Hinduism grew out of the ancient beliefs of the Aryans. (page 203)
- A new religion, Buddhism, appealed to many people in India and other parts of Asia. (page 205)

Ganesha ▶



## Section 3 India's First Empires

**Vocabulary**  
dynasty  
stupa  
pilgrim

### Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- The Mauryan dynasty built India's first great empire. (page 210)
- The Gupta empire reunited much of northern India and became wealthy through trade. (page 213)
- The Mauryan and Gupta empires made important contributions in literature, mathematics, and science. (page 214)

# Assessment and Activities

## Review Vocabulary

1. Write a paragraph about the basic beliefs of Hinduism using the following words.

reincarnation    karma    dharma

Write the vocabulary word that best completes each sentence. Then write a sentence for each term not chosen.

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| a. stupa        | e. pilgrim   |
| b. guru         | f. theocracy |
| c. <i>varna</i> | g. monsoon   |
| d. raja         | h. dynasty   |
2. Each Aryan tribe was led by a \_\_\_\_.
3. In a \_\_\_\_, government is led by religious leaders.
4. A \_\_\_\_ is a line of rulers who belong to the same family.
5. A \_\_\_\_ travels to religious places.

## Review Main Ideas

### Section 1 • India's Early Civilizations

6. What influenced the rise of India's early civilizations?
7. What was the purpose of the *varna* system?

### Section 2 • Hinduism and Buddhism

8. From what did Hinduism form?
9. Which religion appealed to people in India and other parts of Asia?

### Section 3 • India's First Empires

10. Which dynasty built India's first great empire?
11. Why was the Gupta empire important?

## Critical Thinking

12. **Compare** How do you think the Eightfold Path is similar to the Ten Commandments of Judaism?
13. **Analyze** How does the *Mahabharata* reflect the ideals of ancient India?
14. **Explain** How did the monsoons affect the development of India's first civilizations?
15. **Predict** What do you think might have happened if Asoka had approved of the slaughter on the battlefield during his wars of conquest?

Review

Reading Skill

Vocabulary

## Building Your Vocabulary

16. Read the following excerpt from page 205. Then explain how context clues can help you determine the meaning of the word *hermit*.

He left his family and riches and began his search. At first he lived like a hermit, fasting and sleeping on the hard ground. Siddhartha nearly starved, but he still had no answer to his questions.

To review this skill, see pages 192–193.



## Geography Skills

Study the map below and answer the following questions.

- Human/Environment Interaction** Why did Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro develop so near the Indus River?
- Place** The winter monsoon winds come from the northeast. What makes the winds from that monsoon cold?
- Location** Name at least two natural features that protected Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro from invaders.

## Using Technology

- Researching** Use the Internet and your local library to find information about the *varnas* and *jati* in India today. You may wish to investigate where the systems are still practiced and how they affect modern society. You may also wish to research attempts at reforming the system and how the system is affected by national law. Prepare a report to share with the class.

## Building Citizenship Skills

- Analyzing Information** Dharma is the Hindu idea of duty. Is it important for people in a society to do their duty? Make a list of duties Americans have today. Then write a paragraph explaining why those duties are important.

## Primary Source Analyze

Read the excerpt from the Buddha's Farewell Address. Then answer the questions.

"Hold fast to the truth as a lamp. Seek salvation alone in the truth. Do not look for assistance to anyone besides yourselves. . . .

Those who, either now or after I am dead, shall be lamps unto themselves . . . holding fast to the truth as their lamp, and seeking their salvation in the truth alone . . . it is they . . . who shall reach the very topmost height! But they must be anxious to learn."

—*The Teachings of Buddha*, The Buddha's Farewell Address, compiled by Paul Carus

## DBQ Document-Based Questions

- Why does the Buddha compare the truth to a lamp?
- What quality must people have if they want to reach the topmost height?



## Read to Write

- Persuasive Writing** In the *Mahabharata*, the deity Krishna advises Arjuna, "Get ready for battle without thought of . . . gain and loss, victory and defeat." Write a paragraph in which you agree or disagree with that advice.
- Using Your FOLDABLES** Use the information you recorded in your foldable to create a fill-in-the-blank quiz for a classmate. Write a paragraph about one of the sections, leaving blanks for your classmates to fill in. Also write an answer key.