

WORLD CULTURES

Learning Unit No. 4

India's Past

NAME _____

UNIT OUTCOMES: To develop a comprehensive understanding of the following four themes in Indian History.

1. Next to the Tigris-Euphrates-Nile valley countries, India has the longest history of any civilization in the world.
2. A constantly recurring and decisive element in India's 5000 years of history has been the intrusion of new forces from outside, their clash with those already there, and the slow process of resolving the disharmonies thus created.
3. The Indian Subcontinent has been the "breeding ground" of religions.
4. During the 5000 years of civilization in India prior to the arrival of the British, there were three great periods in which outstanding leadership resulted in a flourish of achievement. Each of these high-points had a religious basis.

CHRONOLOGY

2500-1500 (BC)	Aryan migration
563-483 (BC)	Life of Siddharta Gautama (Buddha)
323 (BC)	Alexander the Great on the subcontinent
273-232 (BC)	Rule of Asoka
320-535	Rule of the Gupta kings (India's Golden Age)
571-632	Life of Mohammed (Arabian Peninsula)
712	First Moslem invaders
1200-1760	Moslem Period
1498	Arrival of Vasco da Gama
1556-1605	Rule of Mughal emperor Akbar

KEY NAMES

Siddharta Gautama (Buddha)	Kalidasa
Alexander the Great	Shah Jahan
Asoka	Akbar
Mohammed	

KEY TERMS

Aryans	Mughal (Mogel, Mogul, etc.)
Harappans	Taj Mahal
Dravidians	Vedic Literature - <i>Ramayana, Mahabharata (Bhagavad Gita)</i>
Mohenjo-Daro	Sanskrit
Mauryan Empire	rāja
Gupta Empire	Sikhism
Jainism	

KEY TERMS: Hinduism

caste system (jati/varna)	Brahman
Brahmin	moksha
Kshatriya	burning ghats (Varanasi)
Vaishya	renunciation
Shudra	Brahma
untouchable (harijan)	Vishnu (Krishna, Rama, etc.)
dharma	Shiva
karma	reincarnation (samsara)
guru	atman
yoga (yogi)	ahimsa
sadhus	maya
puja	

KEY TERMS: Buddhism

Buddha	nirvana
Sutra	Four Noble Truths
Eight Fold Path	

KEY TERMS: Islam (Review)

Islam (Mohammedism)	Ramadan
Mohammed (Muhammad)	Ka'aba (Mecca)
Moslem (Muslim)	Hadj(i)
Koran (Qur'an)	Dome of the Rock
Imam	caliph
Five Pillars of Islam	jihad
muezzin	purdah
minaret	Sunnis
	Shi'ah (Shiite)

READINGS:

- _____ 1. pp. 9-12 (introduction to the book)
- _____ 2. pp. 139-144 (introduction to Indian history)
- _____ 3. pp. 73-85 (caste system)
- _____ 4. pp. 107-128 (overview of Hinduism)
- _____ 5. pp. 60-63, 68-72 (dharma)
- _____ 6. pp. _____
- _____ 7. pp. _____
- _____ 8. pp. _____
- _____ 9. pp. _____

