Name: Date: Period: #:

# Lesson 9.1 – Early Civilizations

**Chapter 9: Outline Notes “Ancient India”**

**The Geography of India:**

* India and several other countries make up the of India.

o A subcontinent is a large that is smaller than a continent. The Indian subcontinent is part of the .

1. Mountains, Plains, and Rivers:
   1. To the north, India is separated from the rest of Asia by rugged mountain system. One of these mountains systems in the that has the tallest mountain in the world

.

* 1. Wide fertile plains lie at the foot of India’s extensive mountain ranges. The plains owe their rich soil to the three great rivers that flow through the region. These are the , Ganges, and

rivers.

* 1. The landforms in central and southern India are much different from the landforms in the north.
  2. Along the west and east coasts are lush . Further inland there are eroded mountains that left areas of rugged .
  3. Between the mountains is a dry highland known as the .
  4. Seasonal winds called have a large influence on India’s climate.
     + The summer rains bring farmers that they need for their .
     + People the arrival of the monsoon rains.
     + However, they sometimes cause that destroy crops and can even kill

and . If the rain comes too late, there may be a long dry period called a .

# The Indus Valley Civilization:

* India’s first civilization began in the valley around the River.
* The is called the cradle of ancient India and developed near a great system.

1. About 5,000 years ago, nomads settled in valleys on the shores of the river. The soil was rich there, and farmers grew large crops of , , and .
2. The Indus people prospered and built .
3. Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa:
   1. At their peak, both Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa had more than residents.
   2. Each city had dozens of , some paved with tan-colored . At the west end of each city stood a built on a brick platform and surrounded by strong, thick walls.
   3. The Indus Valley people used oven-baked bricks to build their homes. Most houses had

and some were several stories tall.

* 1. The civilization’s engineers and builders were highly . Large buildings stored grain, wells supplied and every house had at least one indoor .
  2. Wastewater flowed through pipes and houses also had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ connected to bins in the streets

1. What Was Life Like?
   1. Ruins show that cities’ royal palaces and temples may have been enclosed in a .
   2. This shows the importance of both and in the settlements.
   3. Most Indus Valley people resided in surrounding the cities. City residents were merchants, shopkeepers, and artisans.
   4. Indus Valley merchants traveled as far as to trade. They made and sold copper and tools, clay pottery, and cloth.

# Aryan Migrations and Settlements:

* Around 1900 B.C., the people of the Indus Valley began to their cities and villages due to severe drought that destroyed and caused people to .
* Earthquakes and killed many people and changed the course of the Indus River.
* Meanwhile, groups of people called the migrated to India and soon a new emerged.

1. The Indo-Europeans :
   1. The Aryans were not a race or ethnic group, many historians believe that the Aryan’s

was part of a large language family known as the Indo-Europeans. A language family is a group of

.

* 1. Indo-Europeans lived in but began to other places. Some moved west to Europe or south to Iran.
  2. The Aryans went to India and raised for meat, milk, and butter. They were expert horse

and as well as fierce warriors.

* 1. Overtime, the Aryans adopted a new way of life. They in one place and became .
  2. Eventually, the Aryans saw their herds as and banned the use of cattle as .
  3. The Aryans began to make iron tools to clear so they could farm the land and build

systems. Gradually, they turned the River Valley into productive .

* + - The Aryans lived in that were led by a . Rajas created their own small kingdoms that fought over cattle, treasure, and land.
  1. Like most nomads, early Aryans had no written . After settling in villages, they developed which gave people a way to record sales, trade, and land ownership. Eventually hymns, , poems, and were written in Sanskrit.
     + Later, they were recorded and collected into sacred texts known as .

# Ancient Indian Society:

* As Aryans settled into India, people set up towns along India’s River. As India’s economy grew, a system of social gradually developed.

1. What Were the Varna’s :
   1. The social classes of ancient India are called . People were considered members of the Varna into which they were born.
      * The most powerful were the and .
2. Brahmins – were the who performed religious ceremonies.
3. Kshatriyas – were who ran the government and army.
   * + The or commoners were usually farmers craftspeople and merchants.
     + The who were manual workers and servants who had few . Most Indians are in the Sudra Varna.
     + The four Varna were divided into thousands of smaller groups known as . Most jati were based on the type of work a person did – they had their own strict rules for , marriage, and .
   1. In such a system, people remain the same or social group for life. People’s castes determine the jobs they take and who they . The system helped the Aryans rule people who outnumbered them.
   2. At the lowest level of society were the . These people were not even part of the Varna system. They did work that Varna Indians would not do such as collecting , skinning and carrying bodies.
   3. In ancient India, the family was the of life. Grandparents, parents, and children lived together in an family. The oldest male in the family was in charge of the entire household.
      * Indian had more rights than women.
      * Males inherited property unless there were no sons, and men attend or became

.

* + - Women were educated at .
  1. In India’s leading families, boys had a , or teacher, until he attended school in the city.
  2. Young men from these families could only after finishing of education
  3. Parents marriages for children and even today, marriages are . In early India, boys and girls often married in their and people could not get

.

# Lesson 9.2 – Religions of Ancient India Origins of Hinduism:

* is one of the world’s oldest religions and the largest religion after Christianity and . Hinduism developed from the faith of the .
* The sacred writings called , teach the key ideas of Aryan religion.

1. What is Hinduism?
   1. A core belief of Hinduism is that there is one universal spirit called .
   2. The describe the search for Brahman, saying that every living thing has a that is a part of .
   3. Most ancient Indians could not understand the idea of Brahman. They believe in many different

that were more like people. Overtime, many Hindus came to think of all the deities as of Brahman, the one .

* 1. Hindus also believe in or rebirth of the soul. They believe that each must pass through many lives.
  2. According to karma, people’s status in life is not an . It is based on what they did in past lives.
  3. To earn a better existence in the next life, Hindus believe that they must follow , or personal duty. People’s duties are depending on their society.
  4. Indians accepted the Hindu idea that is sacred. as well as people are treated with and .
  5. The belief in also made Indians more accepting of the system. It was thought that if a person led a good life, they would be reborn into a .
  6. The ancient Hindus played musical instruments such as .

# Rise of Buddhism:

* During the 500s B.C., some Indians felt with the many ceremonies of the Hindu religion. They left their homes and looked for in the hills and forests. Many trained their minds to focus and think in positive ways – this training was called .
* A teacher, became known as the . He founded a new religion called Buddhism.

1. The Buddha:
   1. Today, is a major world religion. Siddhartha grew up as a in a small kingdom located in India. Then one day he left his palace to explore the life of ordinary in the kingdom.
   2. For the first time, he understood the world was filled with .
   3. He gave up everything and became a . His teaching became known as Buddhism.
2. What did the Buddha Teach? :
   1. The Buddha taught his followers the .
      * 1. Life is full of
      * 2. People suffer because they desire worldly things and want to satisfy themselves.
      * 3. The way to end suffering is to desiring things.
      * 4. The only way to stop desiring things is to follow the Path.
   2. When people were finally free from all earthly concerns, they would reach - a feeling of perfect peace and happiness.
   3. Buddhism spread because it welcomed people from walks of life. The Buddha placed little importance on the Varna system and explained that the success of life on people’s behavior now.
   4. Buddha believed in reincarnation but in a different way. He taught that people could end the of rebirth by following the Eightfold Path rather than their dharma.
3. Theravada Buddhism:
   1. Theravada means “ ”. Followers view Buddha as a great teacher not a . This is the major religion of the modern-day country of .
4. Mahayana Buddhism:
   1. Teaches that Buddha is a . They believe that the Path is too

for most people.

* 1. Mahayana Buddhism spread northward into China and from there to & . Buddhist leaders called led the government of Tibet.

1. Buddhism Today:
   1. Few Buddhists live in India, however it is widely practiced in . There are an estimated

million Buddhists in the world today.

# Jainism:

* Today there are million followers of Jainism – most of them live in .

1. Who is Mahavira?:
   1. The current form of Jainism was developed by a religious leader named .
   2. He came from a family in northern India. After his parents died, he gave up his wealth and property – he owned and begged for his food.
   3. Many of Mahavira’s teachings were like those of the . The Jains practiced poverty.
2. What is *Ahimsa?*:
   1. Ahimsa means practicing toward all living things. Believing that all life is

. Mahavira’s followers tried to avoid harming any living .

* 1. This idea has long influenced India’s culture and politics.
  2. In the 1900s, the Indian leader Mohandas Gandhi wanted to free from Great Britain. He led a nonviolent struggle against British and eventually gained .
  3. Gandi’s method of nonviolence resistance influenced many others, including .

# Lesson 9.3 – The Mauryan Empire

**Origin of an Empire:**

* By the 500s B.C. India was into many small kingdoms. The Greeks, under the Great, entered India but turned back when his homesick troops threatened to .

1. India’s First Empire:
   1. After Alexander left India, an Indian military officer named built a strong army. He set out to conquer northern India and the region under his rule.
   2. Chandra Gupta was the first ruler of the dynasty. He set up a government in the capital city of the where he set up an efficient system.
   3. Chandra Gupta’s powerful army crushed any to his rule.
2. What did Ashoka Accomplish?:
   1. The Mauryan Empire reached the height of its glory under Chandra Gupta’s grandson .
   2. While he started his rule with fierce of conquest, he came to hate killing and decided to follow

teachings and became a man of .

* 1. Ashoka made laws that encouraged people to do deed, practice , and respect others.
  2. The first ruler to promote Buddhism, Ashola also had thousands of built throughout India. Although he was a devout Buddhist, Ashoka was of all beliefs and allowed

to practice their religion.

1. The End of the Mauryan Empire:
   1. After Ashoka died in 232 B.C., the Mauryan Empire . The new rulers made merchants pay and took land from the .
   2. The Indian people rebelled and the land of the Mauryan Empire into many small warring kingdoms.

# The Gupta Empire:

* In A.D. 320, the Gupta dynasty came to power in the Ganges River Valley. Chandra Gupta I, the first Gupta ruler, had the same as the first ruler of the Mauryan dynasty. He ruled for 10 years.
* Chandra Gupta I’s son, , expanded the Gupta Empire in northern . Under Samudra Gupta, India entered a age.
* Trade helped the Gupta Empire thrive. Salt, , and were common good traded in India. Gupta rulers from their control of much of the trade – they owned and mines and large estates.
* Cities arose along trade routes. used the routes to travel to .

# Culture in Ancient India:

1. The Literature of India:
   1. Along with Vedas, the literature of ancient India included epics, sacred texts that teach important

lessons.

* 1. The is the longest poem in any language with about verses. The epic describes a struggle for of an Indian kingdom.
  2. The epic tells the story of Rama and is about verses long.

1. The Arts and Architecture:
   1. Ancient Hindus believed that music was a from the gods. Many sacred texts were probably \_.
   2. The most important structures in early India were the rulers’ and the temples used for

. During Ashoka’s reign, many stone pillars carved with Buddhist messages were placed alongside .

1. Mathematics:
   1. Aryabata was one of the first scientists known to have used . The Indian’s invention of

affected the study of and .

* 1. Indian mathematicians explained the idea of - something without an end.
  2. Gupta mathematicians developed symbols for the numbers that we used today.

1. Advances in Science:
   1. Indian astronomers mapped the movements of and . They also proposed the theory that the Earth was and revolved around the .
2. Advances in Medicine:
   1. Indian doctors treated problems using tools such as the bow drill.
   2. Doctors during the Gupta era could set bones, sew wounds, and perform . Fixing damaged noses was an early type of surgery.