

BRAHMINS:

VAISHYAS:

Famous members include:

Traders

Priests, scholars and teachers. Famous members include: Jawaharlal Nehru: First prime minister of independent India Rahul Dravid: captain of India's cricket team



KSHATRIYAS: Warriors and rulers

Famous members include:

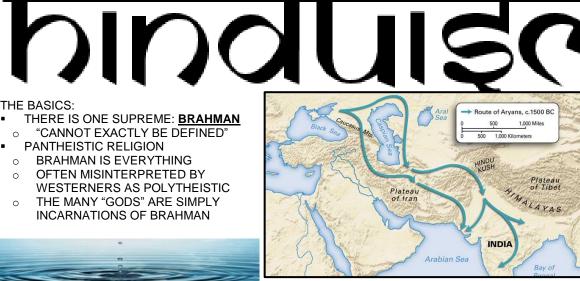
chief minister of the

Vasundhara Raje Scindia,

Indian state of Rajasthan

THE BASICS:

- THERE IS ONE SUPREME: BRAHMAN "CANNOT EXACTLY BE DEFINED" 0
- PANTHEISTIC RELIGION •
- **BRAHMAN IS EVERYTHING** 0
- OFTEN MISINTERPRETED BY 0 WESTERNERS AS POLYTHEISTIC
- THE MANY "GODS" ARE SIMPLY 0 INCARNATIONS OF BRAHMAN



HINDU CONCEPT WHERE THE THREE FUNCTIONS OF THE COSMOS (CREATION, MAINTENANCE, AND DESTRUCTION) ARE PERSONIFIED BY THE FORMS BELOW.

BRAHMA OFTEN DEPICTED WITH FOUR HEADS WHO ARE EACH RECITING ONE OF THE FOUR VEDAS, BRAHMA IS THE HINDU GOD (DEVA) OF CREATION. BRAHMA WAS FEATURED MORE HEAVILY IN THE VEDAS. *THIS IS NOT BRAHMAN!

trimurti

OFTEN DEPICTED WITH BLUE SKIN, VISHNU MAINTAINS ORDER & HARMONY IN THE UNIVERSE.

OFTEN DEPICTED WITH BLUE SKIN IN THE FORM . SHIVA IS THE DESTROYER OF WORLDS. VISHNU & SHIVA GAINED PROMINENCE LATER; THOUGH IN THE VEDAS, THEY MENTIONED PLAYED A MINOR ROLE TO BRAHMA.

FREEMAN-PEDIA

THE BASICS (PART II): **EVERYONE HAS AN**

- INDIVIDUAL ATMAN HINDU WORD FOR 0
- SOUL **BRAHMAN/ATMAN** \cap RELATIONSHIP OFTEN DESCRIBED AS A DROP INTO AN OCEAN
- KARMA ("ACTION") LAW THAT ALL 0
- ACTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES PERVADES NOT 0
- Lakshmi Mittal: chief executive, JUST THIS LIFE: BUT Arcelor Mittal steel company ALL LIFE Mohandas Gandhi: Independence leader, the "father of the nation" SAMSARA
- CONTINUOUS 0 CYCLE OF REINCARNATION GOAL: MOKSHA
- (LIBERATION)
- FREE US FROM THE 0 CYCLE OF SAMSARA

"I AM BECOME SHIVA. DESTROYER OF WORLDS." -BHAGAVAD-GITA

THIS QUOTE HAS BEEN OFTEN ATTRIBUTED TO J. ROBERT **OPPENHEIMER AS HE OBSERVED THE FIRST** SUCCESSFUL NUCLEAR **EXPLOSION. OPPENHEIMER** WAS THE SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR OF THE MANHATTAN PROJECT. HE SAID THIS VERSE "ENTERED HIS HEAD."

SUDRAS:

Manual workers and servants

ormerlu known as 'Untouchables,' Dalits perform unpleasant jobs like cleaning or leather tanning. With changes in India, some Dalits are now becomin entrepreneurs or getting jobs in high-tech. Famous members include:

DALITS:

KR Naravanan: Former President of India BR Ambedkar: Political leader and chief architect of the Indian Constitution

"This is the noble truth of the cessation of suffering: it is the remainderless fading away and cessation of that

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same craving, the giving up and relinquishing of it, freedom from it, nonreliance on it."

-Third Noble Truth: Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta, Buddha's first discourse after he achieved Nirvana

THE BASICS:

- BUDDHIST TEACHINGS STEM FROM HINDUISM
- FOUNDER: SIDDHARTHA GAUTAMA (560-480BCE)
- D MODERN DAY NEPAL
- KSHATRIYA PRINCE
- RAISED IN LUXURY, AFFLUENCE

FREEMAN-PEDIA

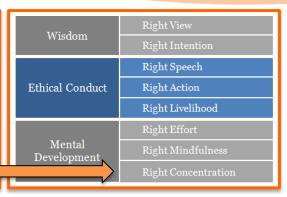
- © @29= WITNESSED SICKNESS, AGING, DEATH
- o DEDICATED REST OF LIFE TO CURING SUFFERING
- ABANDONED HOME; TRAVELED
- REACHED ENLIGHTENMENT UNDER BODHI TREE

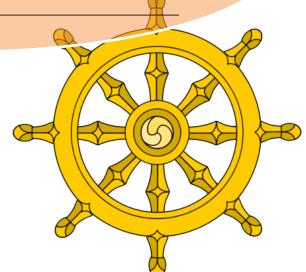
- KARMA, REINCARNATION, ETC.
- ONE CAN ACHIEVE NIRVANA ("BLOWN OUT [LIKE A CANDLE]") BY FOLLOWING THE 4 NOBLE TRUTHS • SEE BELOW
- ONE SHOULD AVOID THE EXTREMES OF LIFE
- FOLLOW THE MIDDLE PATH
- REJECTED THE CASTE SYSTEM
- SIMPLER THAN EXISTING HINDU BELIEFS

HINDUISM

BUDDHISM

Tour noble truths EVERYTHING IN LIFE IS SUFFERING SUFFERING COMES FROM DESIRE END DESIRE, END SUFFERING FOLLOW THE 8-FOLD PATH





BUDDHISM & HINDUISM

The practices and goals of Buddhism and Hinduism have similarities and differences. The more historical or beginning forms of Hinduism and the teachings of Buddha have pronounced differences. The historical Vedic religion, Buddhism, and Jainism all share a common cultural theme influenced by the north eastern areas of the Indian subcontinent.

The period between 5th and 9th century CE was the most brilliant epoch in the development of Indian philosophy as Hindu and Buddhist philosophies flourished side by side. Buddhism attained prominence in the Indian subcontinent, but was ultimately eclipsed in the 11th century CE at its point of origin by Hinduism and Islam. While Buddhism declined in India, Buddhism continued outside of India. Tibetan Buddhism is the predominant religion in the Himalayan region while Theravada Buddhism continues in Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia, and Mahayana Buddhism continues in India, East Asia and among the Chinese diaspora.

The Buddha adopted many of the terms already used in philosophical discussions of his era; however, many of these terms carry a different meaning in the Buddhist tradition. **KARMA** ("to do") is a word meaning *action*. It is commonly understood as a term to denote the entire cycle of cause and effect as described in the philosophies of a number of cosmologies, including those of Buddhism and Hinduism.

Karma is a central part of Buddhist teachings. In Buddha's teaching, karma is a direct result of a person's word, thought, and action in life. In pre-Buddhist Hinduism, karma has to do with whether the actions performed in rituals are done correctly or not. Therefore, there is little emphasis on moral conduct in its conception. In Buddhism, since a person's word, thought, and action form the basis for good and bad karma goes hand in hand with the development of meditation and wisdom. Buddhist teachings carry a different meaning from pre-Buddhist conception of karma.

DHARMA means *Natural Law, Reality or Duty.* The general concept of dharma forms a basis for philosophies, beliefs and practices originating in India. The four main ones are Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism, all of whom retain the centrality of dharma in their teachings. In these traditions, beings that live in harmony with dharma proceed more quickly toward, according to the tradition **MOKSHA**, or **NIRVANA**. Dharma can refer generally to religious duty, and also mean social order, right conduct, or simply virtue. The term "*Buddha*" too has appeared in Hindu scriptures before the birth of Gautama Buddha. In the *Vayu Purana*, sage Daksha calls Lord Shiva as Buddha.

Gautama Buddha did not deny the existence nor forbid the worship of the popular gods, but such worship is not Buddhist and the gods are trapped in the same **samsaric cycle** as other beings but are in no way guides to religion, since they need instruction themselves. The focus of the **Noble Eightfold Path** is not about worshipping god, achieving heaven in the next life, nor is it about experiencing Brahma consciousness in this life or the next. The reason is that in all these realms and beings are subject to rebirth after some period of time. It is like going around in circles in the round of rebirth despite all the effort and striving. Therefore, the purpose of the holy life in the Buddha's path is about liberation from the cycle of rebirth and experience awakening in this very life (some might take longer, depending on the person). The Buddha himself realized awakening after about six years of practice

The Buddha repudiated the **CASTE** distinctions of the Brahmanical religion, and was as a result described as a corrupter and opposed to true dharma in some of the Puranas. In one sutta, the Buddha satirizes and debunks the brahminical claims regarding the divine nature of the caste system, and shows that it is nothing but a human convention.

Buddhism implicitly denied the validity of caste distinctions by offering ordination to all regardless of caste. While the caste system constitutes an assumed background to the stories told in Buddhist scriptures, the sutras do not attempt to justify or explain the system, and the caste system was not generally propagated along with the Buddhist teachings

The notion of ritual purity also provided a conceptual foundation for the caste system, by identifying occupations and duties associated with impure or taboo objects as being themselves impure. Regulations imposing such a system of ritual purity and taboos are absent from the Buddhist monastic code, and not generally regarded as being part of Buddhist teachings.

Since the Hindu scriptures are essentially silent on the issue of religious CONVERSION.

Buddhism spread throughout Asia via evangelism and **CONVERSION**. Buddhist scriptures depict such conversions in the form of lay followers declaring their support for the Buddha and his teachings, or via ordination as a Buddhist monk. Buddhist identity has been broadly defined as one who "*takes refuge*" in the Buddha, Dharma echoing a formula seen in Buddhist texts. In some communities, formal conversion rituals are observed. No specific ethnicity has typically been associated with Buddhism, and as it spread beyond its origin in India immigrant monastics were replaced with newly ordained members of the local ethnic or tribal group.

Various Hindu Indian scholars believed that Buddhism is a reformation of Hinduism. That the Buddha only wants to reform some of the malpractices within Hinduism, that is all. And they also assumed that he never wanted to create a new religion. In short, according to them Buddhism is correct Hinduism without any malpractice and evils. And that what is now called Hinduism is malpractice and distorted form of the Vedas.



FREEMAN-PEDIA USE PP. 44-47 TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

| | | | | | CASTE: TRANSLATION: |
|-----|-------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| | | | : SLATION: IPTION: | | DESCRIPTION: |
| | | | | CASTE: TRANSLATION: DESCRIPTION: | |
| | TE: NSLATION: CRIPTION: | | | | 4. J |
| | TE: NSLATION: CRIPTION: | | | | |
| ter | लइ to | ยงกา | | EXCERPT FRO DF MANU ON p. | |
| Vai | rna | | Who was Manu? | What have some scholars hypo was the reason behind the Va | thesized mas?? |
| व | tì | | BRAHMIN: KSHATRIYA: VAISYA: | F EACH VARNA's JOB: | What is "Twice-born"? |



DISUNITY AFTER HIS DEATH

(Eating/Sleeping)

सत्यमेव जयते

<u>CollegeBoard</u>



Greco-Buddhism is the name given to the **SYNCRETISM** (the combining of different (often contradictory) beliefs, often while melding practices of various schools of thought) of Hellenistic and Buddhist cultures sometime between the 4^{th} & 5^{th} Centuries BCE. This was most commonly seen around the Indian Subcontinent (from Afghanistan through India). It's influences eventually spread as far east as Japan (Japan developed a Hercules-god that defended the Buddha known as Nio).

It began with Alexander the Great's incursion into the India Subcontinent. It was carried on after Alexander by the Indo-Greek rulers during the Hellenistic Era. It had profound influence on the development of Buddhism (particularly Mahayana Buddhism).

GRECO-ROMAN



The latest of the three orders of Greco-Roman architecture, Corinthian columns derive their name from Corinth.

<u>GRECO-BUDDHISM</u>



Typical Buddhist relief on a wall in India. *Notice how he is prominently featured in the new Greco-Buddhist column.*





X A M

Atlas was a Greek Titan who held up the celestial spheres (although today he is often depicted holding up the earth).



Typical base of a statue of Buddha from India. Buddha is often seen sitting beneath the Bodhi tree.





Toga was the distinctive Roman garment worn over a tunic. It was made of wool and only worn by Roman (male) citizens.



There are no statue representations of Buddha pre-1st Century CE. Other statues show humans in loin cloths.



