**Classical Civilizations in India and China**

1. Social Organization: Caste System
2. Four Castes – occupations and social roles
3. Brahmins – priests
4. Kshatriyas – warriors
5. vaishyas – merchants or artisans
6. shudras – peasants or surfs
7. Dalits – untouchables, those who cleaned the sewers or disposed of the dead
8. Evolution of Caste System – as new occupations developed, new subcasts formed
9. New Religions Emerge in India
10. Jainism (Mahavir Jain, b. 500s BCE)– based on Hindu text Upanishads, all creatures are part of a larger soul or Brahma; show mercy to all animals, do no harm; vegetarians, can’t even kill bugs;
11. Ahisma – doctrine of nonviolence that influenced Gandhi
12. Buddhism – Siddhartha Gautama, warrior, sets off on a live of self denial. He has an enlightenment, Buddha means the enlightened one
13. Four noble truths
14. all life involves suffering
15. all suffering is from desire for worldly goods and material things
16. end suffering by eliminating earthly desires
17. eliminate earthly desires by following Buddha’s 8 fold path (meditate, reflect, refrain from earthly pleasures)
18. Detachment from earthly pleasures leads to nirvana
19. Comparing Indian Spiritual Traditions
20. Jainism and Buddhism reject caste system (Hindu holds that caste determines karma)
21. Buddhism gained followers from lower castes due to its rejection of caste system and use of local dialects
22. Duty in Hinduism – oral poems communicated lessons of Hinduism w epic tales; birth death cycle ends when dharma is completed (Mahabharata and Ramayana)
23. Gender roles – females should be unselfish, devoted, subordinate
24. Mauryan Empire – spiritual and social organization most common, very little political unity, only Mauryan and Guptas
25. Mauryan dynasty, 4th cent BCE; Chandragupta Maurya centralized govt throughout most of subcontinent
26. Mauryan govt – each province had a capital w a prince who represented the emperor, and council of ministers; province divided into districts governed by ministers; army kept peace, spy network controlled unrest; heavy taxation
27. Ashoka Maurya – grandson of Chandragupta; called “the Great;” second thoughts about causing so much death, converts to Buddhism and ends violence; built monasteries and sends out missionaries
28. Ashoka the Greats achievements – effective governor; efficient tax collection; build roads, encouraged trade, ended slavery, Rock and Pillar Edicts carved in stone administrative policies; promoted peace
29. Decline of Mauryan Dynasty – 50 years after Ashoka’s death in 232 BC; gov’t and army declined
30. Trade in Goods and Ideas – silk from China, spices from Southeast Asia; Indian textiles traded w Romans; sea trade to Mediterranean and Egypt
31. Gupta Dynasty - late third cent BC, Golden Age for India; extensive trade w Europe via Silk Road
32. Governing the Empire – provinces w provincial kings or Gupta princes; all responsible to emperor in capital of Pataliputra
33. Scientific achievements in Math – improve health care, free hospitals, pioneered setting broken bones and skin grafts; first inoculations; numbers 0-9 used today as Arabic numbers
34. Gupta religion – Hindu in upper classes; many universities for study of govt, astronomy, math, art, painting; Buddhism and Hinduism
35. Spread of Buddhism – interaction w China via Silk Road spreads Buddhism to China
36. Decline of Gupta – economically successful, but unable to truly centralize such diverse groups; disunity in far flung areas and invasions by nomads end dynasty, as Huns take over
37. Three Great Philosophical Traditions
38. Confucius – philosopher b 551 bc, poor, traveled in China, gaining knowledge, Confucianism, text called Analects
39. Teachings of Confucius – respect social hierarchies and traditions; respect for family, elders, ancestors; Golden Rule; humility, virtue
40. Confucianism and family – most important social unit in Chinese society, not wealth or accomplishments; all live together, share duties; father is head, older means more respect; arranged marriages; filial piety is duty of family members to subordinate their needs to male head of family; women no rights or education
41. Daoism (Taoism) – Laozi founded, text Dao De Jing; seek happiness and wisdom by path of dao; renounce worldliness, seek harmony in nature; Yin (submissive side of humanity, female ) yang (aggressive side, male); goal is to keep two sides balanced
42. Legalism – human nature is bad, society needs strict laws and punishments for control; education not necessary, actually discouraged; collective responsibility for all members of community, turn in friends and family who break laws; legalism eventually dies off
43. Qin (chin)Dynasty of China – short and very brutal; Qin Shihuangdi (first emperor); very centralized; abolished local laws; burned books, burned scholars alive; dissenters executed or exiled or forced labor on great wall; those who died building wall were buried within the walls
44. Achievements of Qin – size of empire; peasants could own land; standardized Chinese script; standardized coinage, weights and measures; built canals and roads, helping trade; 7000 life-sized terra cotta soldiers buried w Qin
45. Upon Qin’s death, his son was killed by rebels who seized power
46. Han dynasty - Han Wudi expanded empire to Korea and Vietnam, and Central Asia
47. Central govt – expanded centralized Qin govt; introduced civil service exam; hire people based on test taking, rather than family connections; created national universities to help people pass test; well-trained and well respected bureaucracy; Pax Sinica – economy and population grew
48. Silk Road Trade – contact w Rome, contact w Buddhism; silk production increased in quantity and quality
49. Paper, calendar and farming – 100 CE paper invented and 365 day calendar; iron plow w yoke
50. Capital cities – Chang’an capital, walled city; eastern end of Silk Road; bureaucrats lived here
51. Disease, inequality and unrest – spread of disease on Silk Road, small pox, measles, bubonic plague, ¼ pop died; small landowners had to sell to large ones, increasing inequalities; land reforms led to unrest and revolts; Yellow Turban Rebellion – peasant revolts re land and famine