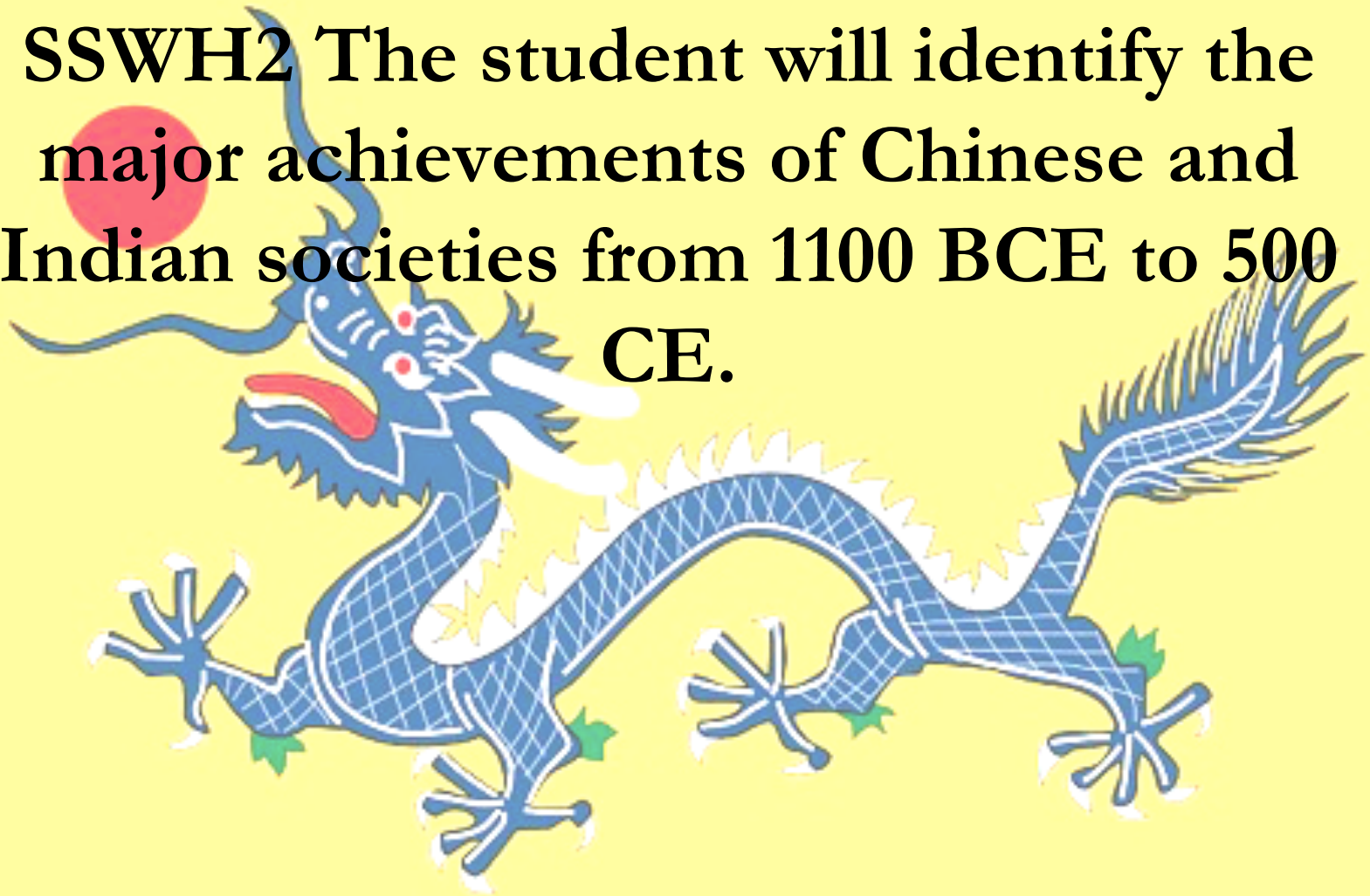


SSWH2 The student will identify the major achievements of Chinese and Indian societies from 1100 BCE to 500 CE.

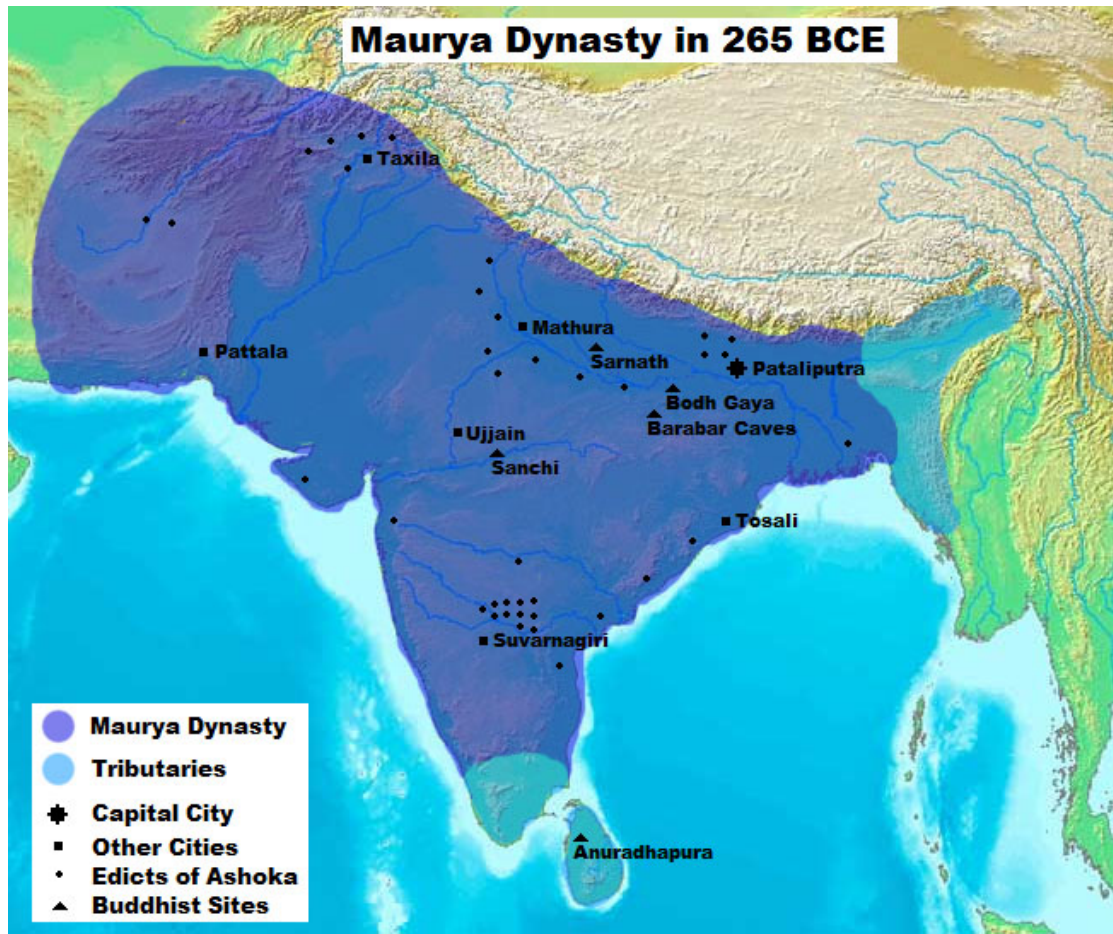


a. Describe the development of Indian civilization; include the rise and fall of the Maurya Empire, the “Golden Age” under Gupta, and the emperor Ashoka.

- The Maurya Empire began around 321 B.C.
- After years of fighting, the Empire united northern India for the first time
- To hold the empire together, strict rules of government were put in place, which included government spies and high taxes

Emperor Ashoka

- In 269 BC, Ashoka became the ruler of India and expanded its boundaries



Emperor Ashoka

- After at first expanding the empire through warfare, Ashoka began to rule by Buddhist teachings:
 - Toleration and non-violence
 - Subjects would be treated fairly
 - Religious toleration
 - Ashoka created a system of roads throughout India

Emperor Ashoka

- Ashoka's rule failed to hold the empire together
- Ashoka's Buddhist beliefs lasted long past his reign, and spread throughout the region



Gupta

- After Ashoka's death, India fell into 500 years of political turmoil
- The Gupta Empire rose up through military conquest and diplomacy
- During the Gupta Empire, arts, music, literature, and science grew in the cities

b. Explain the development and impact of Hinduism and Buddhism on India and subsequent diffusion of Buddhism.

- Hinduism:

- Polytheistic religion
- Reincarnation and karma
- Not traced to one founder
- Strengthened the caste system through karma

- Buddhism:

- Founded by Siddhartha (Buddha)
- Path to enlightenment
- Attempt to reach nirvana, or a release from suffering and worldly pain
- Rejected caste system



The Wheel of Dharma



The Wheel of Dharma symbolizes overcoming obstacles.

The circle symbolizes the completeness of the Dharma.

The spokes represent the eightfold path leading to enlightenment.

The Noble Eightfold Path

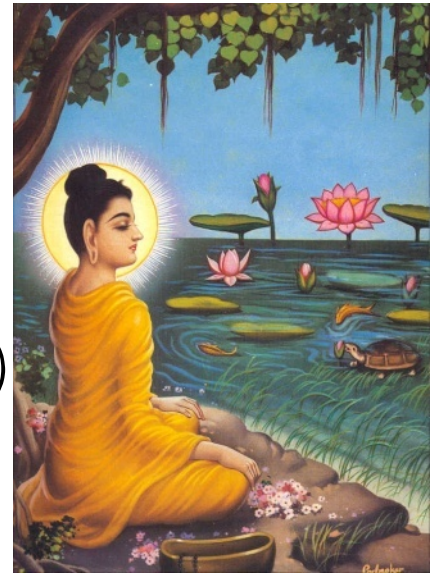
1. Right View
2. Right Thought
3. Right Speech
4. Right Behavior
5. Right Livelihood
6. Right Effort
7. Right Mindfulness
8. Right Meditation



How do these compare to the 10 commandments (page 79)

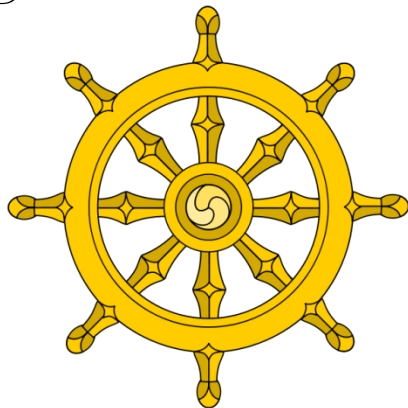
Buddhism

- Siddhartha Gautama (c 556–c 486 BCE)
 - Founder of Buddhism
 - Indian prince from a small north Indian state
 - Led a sheltered and privileged existence
 - Shocked by the existence of old age, sickness, and death
 - Left family and wealth
 - Began search for the causation and cessation of suffering





- Upon becoming the Enlightened One (the Buddha), formulated the Four Noble Truths
 - Life has suffering.
 - Selfish desire is the cause of suffering.
 - Suffering can end.
 - Follow the Noble Eightfold Path (eight actions to help eliminate suffering)
- Nirvana is the elimination of suffering
 - The identity is extinguished as greed, hatred, and delusion are extinguished too
 - Loving-kindness or compassion for all living things develops

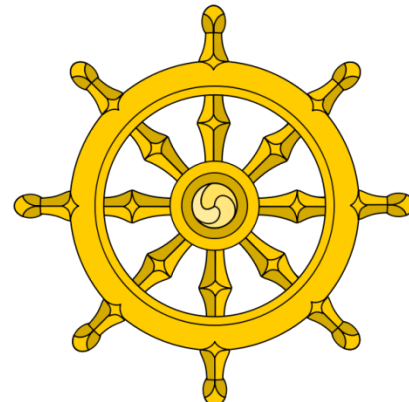


***There
is suffering.***

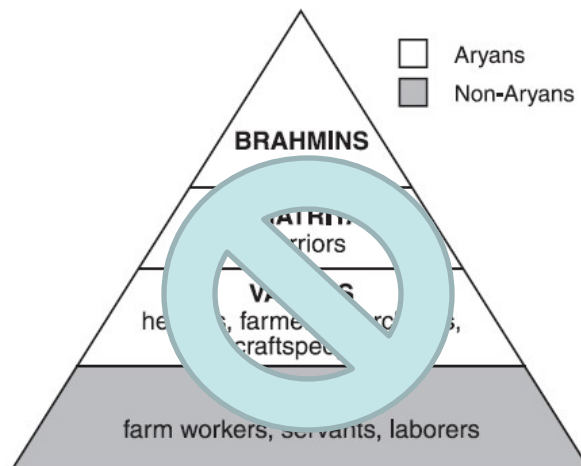
***Suffering has
an origin.***

***Suffering can
cease.***

***There is a path
out of suffering.***



- Many similarities to Hinduism
 - Karma, reincarnation, overcoming the incessant demands of the ego, meditation, release from samsara
- Differences too
 - Rejected religious authority of Brahmins, ridiculed rituals and sacrifices, not much interested in the creation of world or existence of God



Source: *Guide to the Essentials of World History*,
Prentice Hall, 1999 (adapted)



Hinduism and Buddhism in India

- Buddhism attracted many laborers and crafts people who were at the bottom of the caste system
- Though missionaries spread the Buddhist religion in India, it never took hold
- Trade with other countries and territories helped Buddhism spread else where (East Asia)
- Hinduism remained the main religion of India



c. Describe the development of Chinese civilization under the Zhou and Qin.

- Zhou (1027-256 BC)
 - Established a feudalistic society
 - Built roads and canals
 - Coined money
 - Used cast iron
- Qin (241-202 BC)
 - Formed an autocracy
 - Standardized all of China (laws, measurements, currency)
 - Great Wall built



d. Explain the impact of Confucianism on Chinese culture; include the examination system, the Mandate of Heaven, the status of peasants, the status of merchants, and the patriarchal family, and explain diffusion to Southeast Asia, Japan, and Korea.



Confucius

- Confucius wanted to restore peace and harmony to China
- He developed 5 codes of relationships between, people, and people and the government
- Believed that education was important in helping people grow, and in the running of a government
- Confucianism is not a religion, but a way to live
- Strict social order and discipline was the key to a successful society

China

- Examination System:
 - Originally most government jobs were through appointment
 - The examination system required citizens to pass a test to earn a position in the government
 - In theory, it opened up government jobs to the masses



China

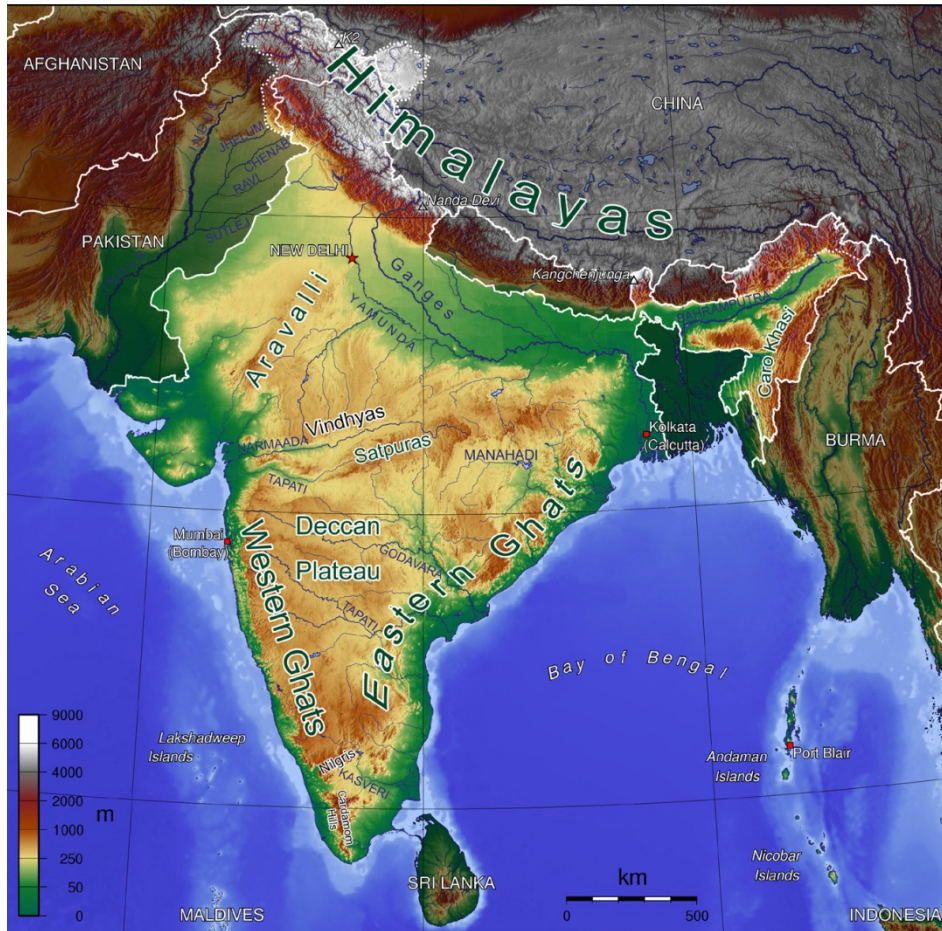
- Mandate of Heaven:
 - Royal authority came from heaven
 - Only wise and just rulers kept the Mandate and their throne
 - Foolish rulers lost the Mandate and their throne through natural disasters, upheaval, revolts, and invasions

China

- Peasants and Merchants:
 - Though more wealthy than peasants, merchants were lower on the strict social ladder
 - Merchants did not contribute to society and were only after their own personal gain
 - Peasants produced food, which society needed



e. Explain how the geography of the Indian Subcontinent contributed to the movement of people and ideas.



- Mountains in the North prevented much trade by land
- Southern India is surrounded by water, making the transfer of goods much easier