

HANDOUT FOR LECTURE 11: BUDDHISM - INDIA AND BEYOND

PEOPLE

Buddha (Siddhārtha Gautama) (ca. 563 BCE to 483 BCE,)

Confucius (551 BCE - 479 BCE)

Socrates (ca. 469 BCE - 399 BCE)

Ashoka (ca. 304-232 BC) {Mauryan Empire}

First Emperor (Qin Shi Huang)

Han Dynasty (206 BCE - 220 CE)

Kushan Empire (30 CE - 250 CE)

CONCEPTS

Stupa

Aobao

chaitya-grihas

Parikrama

Rock-Cut architecture

Toda Shrine House Dairy

Hellenism

Ta (called colloquially as 'pagoda')

PLACES

The Great Stupa of Sanchi (ca. 250 BCE)

Kanheri and Mahakali Caves

Buddhas of Bamiyan (ca. 500 CE)

Taklamakan Desert

Mu'Ta: China, 1056

BUDDHISM

- Unlike previous religions it was not just for elites, but potentially for anyone
 - It did not organize society by means of power or economy but by the concept of inner Enlightenment achieved through meditation
 - State Religion of the Mauryan Empire of Asoka 260 BCE to about 200 CE.
- Phased out by Hinduism

Theravada School of Buddhism

Mahayana School of Buddhism

Parikrama (Urdu: “the path surrounding something”):
Physical circumambulation

Parallels

Mental circumambulating

which involves generating devotion by thinking again and again of the qualities of the object one is circumambulating, of the quality of the Guru-Buddhas.

And parallels

Speech “circumambulation” which involves reciting mantras and praises to the Buddha over and over again.

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