

Chapter 3 Study Guide

– People and Ideas on the Move

- The Hittite Empire
- Aryans Transform India
- Caste System
- Hinduism & Buddhism
- Phoenicians
- Judaism

Fill in the Blanks:

1. This group of Indo-European speakers, the _____, occupied Anatolia, also called _____.
2. The Hittite empire went on to dominate Southwest Asia for _____ years.
3. The Hittites excelled in the technology of _____.
4. The Hittite _____ proved to be a superb fighting machine.
5. Knowledge of _____ technology travelled widely with the Hittites – in both trade and conquests.
6. Name of Aryans' sacred literature - _____
7. Most important of Aryans' sacred literature is called the _____ which contains 1,028 hymns to Aryan gods.
8. Aryans were organized into four groups based on occupation. :
a. Priests b. _____ c. _____ d. _____
9. Name of first human being that reflects the Aryan Caste System: _____

The Aryan Caste System

The four major castes emerged from Purusha (the first human being)

shown to the right. Purusha is identified with:

- The creator god Brahma
- The Brahmins (priests) were his mouth
- The Kshatrias (rulers and warriors) were his arms
- The Vaishyas (landowners and traders) were his legs
- The Shudras (laborers and peasants) were his feet.

The Untouchables (the considered the most impure) lived outside the caste system.



THE CASTE SYSTEM

Caste is the system of social organization. Each person is born into a caste and expects to be reborn after death into a higher caste. Socially mobile Westerners may have difficulty understanding why a person would accept caste. Hindus, with their sense of security, occupation continuity, and guarantee of rebirth to a higher plane, wonder at Westerners' discontent and ambition. Restrictions on caste involve regulation on cooking and dining, marriage, occupation and social position. These help to maintain the mosaic that is India, but they foster stagnation. Read the following Bronze Age Vedic poem on the origin of the castes.

When the [the gods] divided the Man,
Into how many parts did they divide him?
What was his mouth, what were his arms,
What were his thighs and his feet called?
The brahman [priest] was his mouth,
Of his arms was made the warrior,
His thighs became the vaishya [farmer or merchant]
Of his feet the shudra [servant] was born.

This poem demonstrates two aspects of the Indian caste system. First, that it appears to be divinely ordered and is therefore acceptable; secondly, that all parts of the caste are integral parts of the man—Indian society.

Another group, the pariah or untouchables, were considered to be ritually unclean because they held occupations which were religiously improper, i.e., slaughtering animals, cutting hair, cleaning up streets and human excrement, etc. These persons were considered necessary to society, but outside the bounds of the caste system. All persons, however, would be reborn again and again and all would rise up through the levels of society and eventually become pure enough to enter paradise. The lower one was in the caste system, the less expected of them regarding behavior.

Directions: Fill in as many advantages and disadvantages of the caste system that you can think of.

Caste System

Advantages	Disadvantages

Buddhism:

The Four Noble Truths	
First Noble Truth	Life is filled with suffering and sorrow.
Second Noble Truth	The cause of all suffering is people's selfish desire for the temporary pleasures of this world.
Third Noble Truth	The way to end all suffering is to end all desires.
Fourth Noble Truth	The way to overcome such desires and attain enlightenment is to follow the Eightfold Path, which is called the Middle Way between desires and self-denial.

The Eightfold Path, a guide to behavior, was like a staircase. For the Buddha, those who were seeking enlightenment had to master one step at a time. Most often, this mastery would occur over many lifetimes. Here is how he described the Middle Way and its Eightfold Path:

PRIMARY SOURCE

What is the Middle Way? . . . It is the Noble Eightfold Path—Right Views, Right Resolve, Right Speech, Right Conduct, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness, and Right Concentration. This is the Middle Way.

Buddha, from *Samyutta Nikaya*

The Phoenicians

- Shipbuilding
- Seafarers
- Developed Phoenician alphabet (phonetic)

HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM

Hinduism	Founder/Origins	Buddhism
	Key Beliefs	
	Gods	
	Sacred Literature	
	Effect on Society	

PRIMARY SOURCE

1. I am the Lord thy God. . . . Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image. . . .
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. . . .
4. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
5. Honor thy father and thy mother. . . .
6. Thou shalt not kill.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
10. Thou shalt not covet . . . anything that is thy neighbor's.