

Name: _____ HR: _____ Date: _____

6th Social Studies Do Now: Day 4

Need help? Use the numbers below to call your teacher!

Ms. Flowers phone number: 615-306-7488

Mr. Permadi phone number: 202-375-0136

Directions: In the space below, answer the following questions in a complete sentence. Reference your material from day 3 for help.

What was religion like in ancient Egypt?

What was one achievement of ancient Egypt and how did it help their civilization?

Why do people trade with one another?

HUSTLE.

Directions: In the space below, match the vocabulary term with its correct definition

Indus River	Himalaya Mountains	pharaoh	Mesopotamia	polytheism
hieroglyphics	Nile River	pyramid	monsoon	embalm

- _____ - a name for a king in ancient Egypt
- _____ - Egypt was settled beside this river
- _____ - process of preserving a body
- _____ - natural barrier separating India from China
- _____ - Egypt's first writing system
- _____ - name for a region that held the first civilizations
- _____ - a belief in more than one god
- _____ - large tomb used to house pharaohs body and possessions
- _____ - India was settled beside this river
- _____ - extremely heavy rains and winds that cause flooding

Building Background Knowledge

Directions: Please use a minimum three annotations per source. These annotations do not have to be long, however, they need to 3 – 4 words that explain the gist of what the paragraph is describing. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Aryans

Fall of Harappa

The Harappan civilization collapsed around 1500 BCE. Historians think that several earthquakes and floods damaged the cities. Then the Indus River changed its course, killing many people and forcing others to flee the area. In the years that followed, a group of people called the **Aryans** began settling in the region. Soon a new civilization emerged.

Who Were the Aryans?

The Aryans lived in central Asia where they raised and herded animals. The Aryans were not a race or ethnic group. Some historians believe that the Aryans were part of a larger group they refer to as Indo-Europeans. The Indo-Europeans all spoke similar languages. Some migrated south to India and Iran. Others went to Europe.

The Aryans were great warriors. They were expert horse riders and hunters. They had metal-tipped spears and wooden chariots, which they sometimes used to invade nearby villages for food.

After 2000 BCE, the Aryans began leaving their home territory. They moved in waves and some groups crossed through the mountain passes in the Himalayas. They entered the Indus River Valley around 1500 BCE.

The Aryans Bring Change

When the Aryans arrived in India, they no longer lived as nomads. They became farmers but continued to raise cattle. Eventually, the Aryans would declare that cattle were sacred and forbid them to be used as food.

Aryans technology improved farming in India. They invented an iron plow to help clear India's many jungles and built canals to irrigate. They slowly turned the Ganges River Valley into good farmland.

The Aryans also brought a new language to India. As nomads, they had no written language, but in India, they developed a written language later called Sanskrit. Over time, the sacred songs, poems, and prayers that Aryans had known for many centuries were written down.

Start of Hinduism

Hinduism started when the Aryans arrived in India around 1500 BCE. The Aryan religion had many gods and goddesses who ruled nature. Over time, the Aryan religion added ideas from the Indian people to create Hinduism

What is Karma?

Hinduism believe that a soul joins Brahman, the universal spirit, when a person dies. However, a soul must live many lives—even as an animal—before it joins Brahman. The idea of living many lives, one after another, is called **reincarnation**.

If people do the duties of their caste, they will get a better next life. So they must follow **dharma**, or the divine law. If you follow dharma, then you have good **karma**. Karma is the result of how a person lives. For example, if you live a good life and do your duty, you have good karma.

This belief in dharma and karma made people accept the caste system. A dedicated Hindu thinks that higher caste people really are better than lower caste people. This belief meant that servants would not rebel. The idea of reincarnation gave hope to everyone.

1. How did Aryans change ancient India?
-

T: What is the topic of this source?	
AOT: What is the author's opinion of this source?	

Background Essay

Society in Ancient India

Journey Across Time Textbook

One of the results of the Aryan arrival in India was the development of the caste system. A **caste** is a social group that someone is born into and cannot change. A caste dictates who job you will have, whom you can marry, and with whom you can eat or drink.

Why was the caste system created? No one is sure, but ideas about skin color were probably part of it. The Aryans were a light-skinned people. They thought they were better than the dark-skinned people they encountered in India. The Aryans might have created the caste system because the people they encountered in India greatly outnumbered them. The caste system kept groups separate and set rules for everyone's behavior. This helped the Aryans stay in control.

Social Levels of the Caste System

The thousands of different castes in Indian society were grouped together into four classes called **varnas**. The top two varnas were **Brahmins** and Kshatiryas. Brahmins included the priests—the only people who could perform religious ceremonies. The Ksharyas were warriors who ran the government and army.

Next were the Vaisyas, or commoners. Vaisyas were usually farmers and merchants. Below the Vaisyas came the Sudras. Sudras were manual laborers and servants and had few rights. Most Indians belonged to the Sudra caste.

There was one group that did not belong to any caste. Its members were called Untouchables. They performed dirty work considered polluting, such as collecting trash, skinning animals, or handling dead bodies. Life for an Untouchable was very hard. Most Indians believed that being near and Untouchable was polluting, so they forced them to live apart from others. When Untouchables traveled, they had to tap two sticks together so that everyone would hear them coming and have time to move away.

1. What is a caste, and how did it impact daily life in India?

2. Historians believe that the Aryans may have brought the caste system to India to control the native Indus population. Explain how the caste system would help the Aryans control the natives to the Indus Valley.

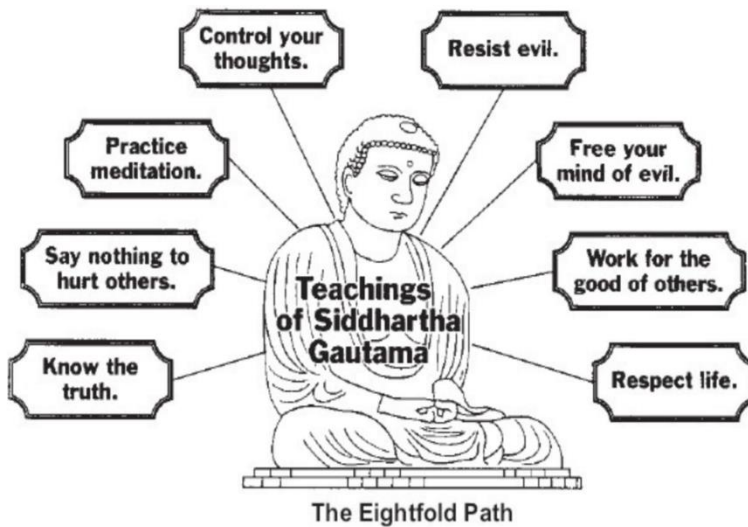
3. What types of jobs were at the top of the caste system?

4. What types of jobs were at the bottom of the caste system?

The Eightfold Path

Siddhartha left his life as a prince to seek the answers to the questions: "Why must people suffer, and what is the cause of suffering?" Siddhartha spent many years doing many religious practices such as praying, meditating, and fasting until he finally understood the basic truths of life. This realization occurred after sitting under a Bo tree for many days, in deep meditation. He reached enlightenment and discovered the path to nirvana, and was given the title of Buddha, which means Enlightened One. This was the start of the Buddhist philosophy.

Buddha then taught people not to worship him as a god. He said they should take responsibility for their own lives and actions. He taught that the Middle Way and the Eight Fold Path was the way to nirvana. The Middle Way meant not leading a life of luxury and indulgence but also not one of too much fasting and hardship. There are eight guides for following the Middle path.



1. What was the purpose of the eight fold path?

T: What is the topic of this source?

AOT: What is the author's opinion of this source?

Apply Your Knowledge

Directions: On the lines below, explain one difference between Buddhism and Hinduism. This can either be knowledge from previous lessons, or the work you went over today. Please use no fewer than three sentences.
