

CHAPTER
3
SECTION 1

Note Taking Study Guide

EARLY CIVILIZATIONS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Focus Question: How have scholars learned about India’s first two civilizations, the Indus and the Aryan?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following chart to sequence important events in early civilizations of India and Pakistan.

Event						
Date						

CHAPTER 3
SECTION 1

Section Summary
EARLY CIVILIZATIONS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN

READING CHECK

What group was at the top of Aryan society?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *embodied* mean in the underlined sentence? The prefix *em-* means “to put or to cover with.” What is the root word of *embodied*? Use these clues to help you figure out the meaning of *embodied*.

READING SKILL

Recognize Sequence Number the following in the correct sequence:

- ___ Aryans migrate to India.
- ___ Organized government plans Mohenjo-Daro.
- ___ Aryan beliefs move toward the concept of brahman and mysticism.
- ___ Flood, earthquake, or other disaster hits Indus civilization.

The Indian **subcontinent** is a large landmass that juts out from Asia. It is divided into three zones: the Gangetic Plain, with rivers that support farming; the Deccan **plateau**, a raised area of level land too dry for farming; and the coastal plains, which receive plenty of rain. Life there is greatly affected by **monsoons**, or winds that bring hot, dry air from the northeast in October and rains from the southwest in mid-June.

Civilization began on the subcontinent around 2600 B.C. in the Indus River valley. Archaeologists believe organized governments helped plan cities such as **Harappa** and **Mohenjo-Daro**. They were built with wide streets, strong building materials, and complex plumbing systems. Most people farmed, although some traded goods by ship with Sumer. People worshiped many gods and regarded certain animals as sacred, perhaps influencing latter Indian beliefs such as the **veneration** of cattle. The civilization declined by about 1900 B.C., possibly as a result of environmental damage, a major flood, or an earthquake.

The Aryans migrated to the subcontinent and established a strong civilization about 1500 B.C. They began as nomadic herders but later settled into farming. Aryan warriors elected leaders called **rajahs**. Some rajahs competed for control of trade and land. The society was divided into four groups. At the top were priests, followed by warriors, farmers and merchants, and workers and servants.

People worshiped gods and goddesses who embodied natural forces, such as the sky and sun. **Indra**, the god of war, was the chief deity and used thunderbolts as weapons. Priests wrote sacred teachings in the **Vedas**, a collection of hymns and religious instructions.

Over time, Aryan beliefs changed. There was a move toward the concept of **brahman**, a single spiritual power beyond the gods of the Vedas and existing in all things. **Mystics** also sought direct communion with divine forces.

By 500 B.C. there were many kingdoms, yet **acculturation** created a common culture by blending traditions. Epic poems were part of the culture. They described early Aryan warfare, important religious beliefs, and valued behavior.

Review Questions

1. Why do archaeologists think organized governments planned Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro?

2. What are the Vedas?

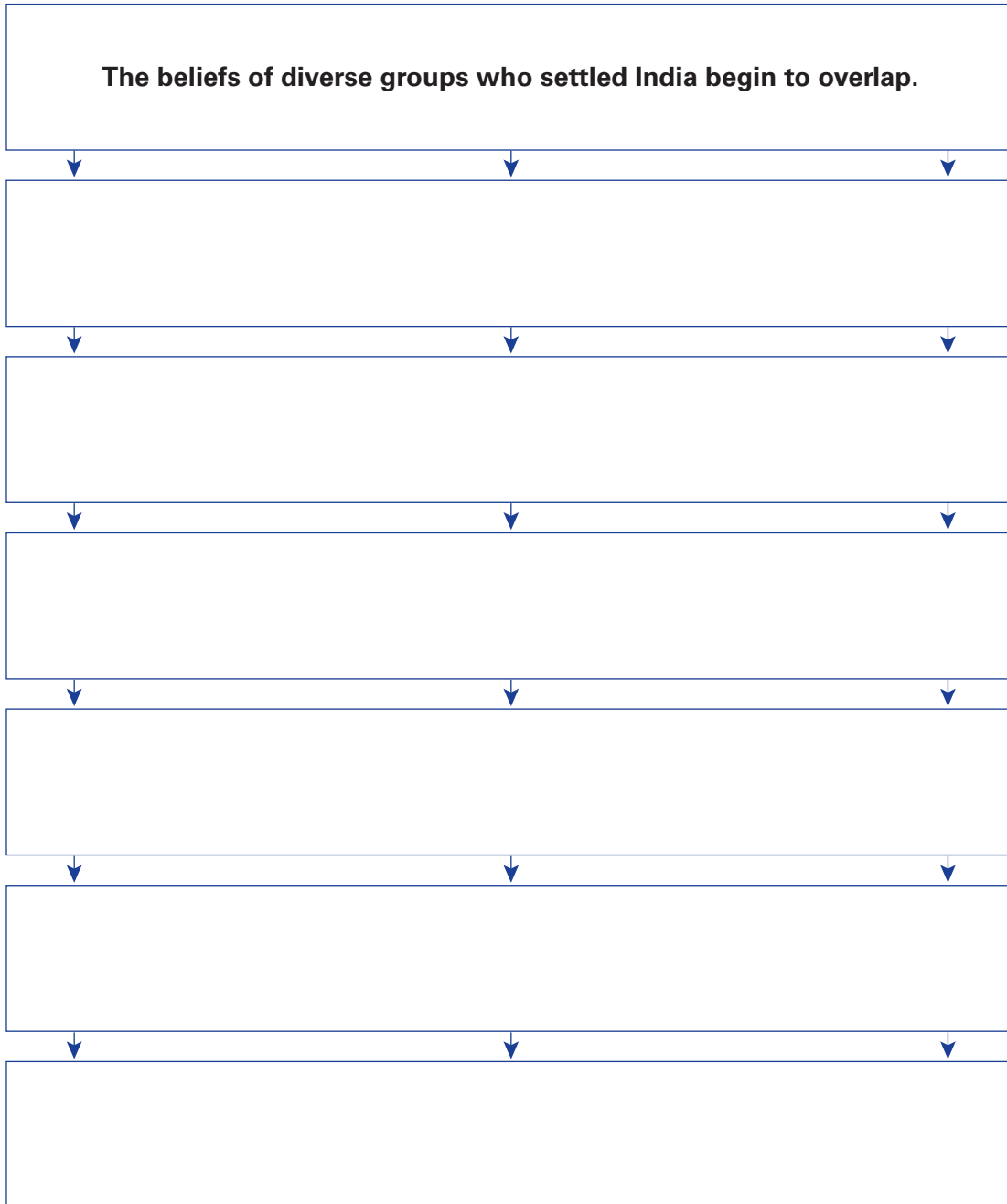
CHAPTER
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SECTION 2

Note Taking Study Guide

HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM

Focus Question: In what ways were religion and society intertwined in ancient India?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following chart to sequence important events in the development of Hinduism and Buddhism.



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SECTION 2

Section Summary

HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM

READING CHECK

Who became known as the “Enlightened One”?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does *aspirations* mean in the underlined sentence? What prior knowledge do you have about this word? If you heard someone say that they *aspired* to a career in medicine, does that mean they want or don’t want a career in medicine? Use these clues to help you figure out the meaning of *aspirations*.

READING SKILL

Recognize Sequence Did Buddhism develop before or after Hinduism?

Two major religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, emerged in ancient India. Although Hinduism grew out of the overlapping religious ideas of diverse groups, all Hindus share basic beliefs. One force, the brahman, is the basis of everything. People have an essential self, or **atman**. Their goal is to achieve **moksha**, or union with brahman. Because most cannot achieve it in one life, **reincarnation** allows people to continue working toward moksha through several lifetimes. **Karma** affects a person’s fate in the next life, and people who act correctly are reborn closer to brahman. By following **dharma**, or personal religious and moral duties, people can escape the cycle of death and rebirth. One part of dharma is **ahimsa**, or nonviolence, toward all people and things.

Hinduism was connected to a system of **castes**, or social groups. This system included strict rules for every part of life. People in higher castes were believed to be more spiritually pure; the lowest caste was considered untouchable. Despite its inequalities, the caste system ensured a stable social order by giving people a sense of identity. Each caste had a role in Indian society.

Siddhartha Gautama was born a Hindu prince in 563 B.C. When Gautama became aware of human suffering, he left his home to search for answers. Eventually, he believed he understood the cause and cure for suffering. He became known as the Buddha, or “the Enlightened One.”

The Buddha taught the **Four Noble Truths**, which explain life as suffering and give ways to cure it. The fourth truth is to follow the **Eightfold Path**. The Eightfold Path includes “right aspirations” and directs people in achieving the goals of a moral life and enlightenment. Buddhists strive to achieve **nirvana**, or union with the universe and release from the cycle of rebirth.

Buddhism and Hinduism share many beliefs. However, Buddhism teaches people to seek enlightenment personally, rather than through priests or gods. It also rejects the caste system and teaches that everyone can reach nirvana.

Buddhism spread throughout Asia but gradually broke into two **sects**, or subgroups, with differing beliefs. Buddhism remained very popular in Asia but declined in India. Hinduism there absorbed some Buddhist ideas.

Review Questions

1. How does reincarnation relate to moksha?

2. How does Buddhism differ from Hinduism?

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SECTION 3

Note Taking Study Guide

POWERFUL EMPIRES OF INDIA

Focus Question: In what ways did Maurya and Gupta rulers achieve peace and order for ancient India?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following timeline to sequence the important events in the Maurya and Gupta periods.



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SECTION 3

Section Summary
POWERFUL EMPIRES OF INDIA

READING CHECK

Who founded the first Indian empire?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *status* mean in the underlined sentence? What context clues to its meaning can you find in surrounding sentences? For example, the last sentence says there were more restrictions on women. Use this and other context clues to help you figure out the meaning of *status*.

READING SKILL

Recognize Sequence Did nomadic people from Central Asia overrun Gupta India before or after the decline of the Maurya empire?

Chandragupta Maurya founded the first Indian empire in 321 B.C. The Maurya empire’s capital had schools, libraries, and palaces. The government built roads and harbors, collected taxes, and managed businesses. A secret police force reported on crime and **dissent**, or ideas opposed to those of the government.

Chandragupta’s grandson, **Asoka**, continued to expand the empire. Asoka began ruling in 268 B.C. He became a Buddhist and ruled by moral example. He sent **missionaries** to spread Buddhism throughout Asia. To help his people, Asoka built hospitals and roads. However, the empire declined after his death and ended around 185 B.C.

Rival princes then held power for about 500 years. Each kingdom had its own government and capital. Dravidians in the Deccan spoke different languages and had different traditions from peoples of the Aryan north.

The Gupta dynasty united India from A.D. 320 to about 540. During this time, India enjoyed a period of great cultural achievement called a **golden age**. Prosperity contributed to a flowering of the arts and learning. Universities attracted students from many parts of Asia. Advances in mathematics included the system of numerals that we use today, the concept of zero, and the **decimal system**. Villages had more power than they had under the Mauryas. Eventually, nomadic people from Central Asia overran Gupta India.

For most Indians, everyday life revolved around the rules and duties associated with caste, family, and village. Villages produced most of the food and goods they needed. People regularly interacted with others from nearby villages while attending weddings, visiting relatives, or going to markets. Parents, children, and their offspring shared a common dwelling as a **joint family**. The father or oldest male served as head of the household. Children were trained to do the duties of their caste. Arranging good marriages was important and some families provided a **dowry**, or payment to the bridegroom. Women had had a higher status in early Aryan society than they did now. Over time, Hindu law placed greater restrictions on them.

Review Questions

1. How did Buddhism influence Asoka’s rule?

2. What were some of the advances of the Gupta dynasty?

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SECTION 4

Note Taking Study Guide

RISE OF CIVILIZATION IN CHINA

Focus Question: What characteristics defined the civilization that developed in China under its early rulers?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following outline to sequence the important events in early China.

I.	_____
A.	_____
1.	_____
2.	_____
3.	_____
4.	_____
B.	_____
1.	_____
2.	_____
II.	_____
A.	_____
B.	_____
1.	_____
2.	_____
III.	_____
A.	_____
B.	_____
C.	_____
1.	_____
2.	_____
D.	_____
IV.	_____
A.	_____
B.	_____

(Outline continues on the next page.)

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SECTION 4

Note Taking Study Guide

RISE OF CIVILIZATION IN CHINA

(Continued from page 31)

V. _____
A. _____
B. _____
C. _____

VI. _____
A. _____
B. _____
C. _____
1. _____
2. _____
D. _____

CHAPTER
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SECTION 4

Section Summary
RISE OF CIVILIZATION IN CHINA

The earliest civilization in China grew along the Huang River. This river carries **loess**, or fine windblown yellow soil, which raises the water level. People suffered from the river’s frequent floods. The need to control the water likely led to the rise of government.

The Shang dynasty began about 1766 B.C. Kings ruled along with princes. The princes were probably the heads of **clans**, or groups of families claiming a common ancestor. Shang warriors used leather armor, bronze weapons, and horse-drawn chariots. They may have learned of chariots as they interacted with other Asian peoples.

The Zhou people overthrew the Shang in 1122 B.C. They promoted the Mandate of Heaven, or divine right to rule. This idea later expanded to explain the **dynastic cycle**, or rise and fall of dynasties. If rulers became corrupt, heaven would withdraw support and dynasties would fail. The Zhou established **feudalism**, where lords governed their own land but owed military service and support to a ruler. In the 600s B.C., iron tools made farming more productive and the population increased. The Zhou dynasty ended when fighting feudal lords could not be controlled.

During the Shang dynasty, the Chinese prayed to many gods and nature spirits. During the Zhou dynasty, two great thinkers emerged: **Confucius** and **Laozi**. Confucius developed a **philosophy**, or system of ideas, that greatly influenced Chinese civilization. Confucius was concerned with social order and good government. He emphasized five key relationships between people. **Filial piety**, or respect for parents, was everyone’s highest duty.

Laozi founded Daoism about the same time. It emphasized that people should live in harmony with nature. They should look beyond everyday cares and focus on the Dao, or “the way.”

One great achievement of early China was silk-making. The Chinese kept the technique a secret for many years. They also developed a system of writing at least 4,000 years ago. Questions were written on **oracle bones**. After heating the bones, priests interpreted the answers. Later, a writing system evolved that included thousands of **characters**, or written symbols. The Chinese then turned writing into an art called **calligraphy**.

Review Questions

1. What impact did iron tools have on China?

2. What was the focus of Confucius’ teachings?

READING CHECK

What is the dynastic cycle?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *interacted* mean in the underlined sentence? Break the word into parts. The prefix *inter-* means “between,” “among,” or “with.” The word *act* means “to do something.” Use these word-part clues to help you figure out the meaning of *interacted*.

READING SKILL

Recognize Sequence Did Confucianism emerge before or after 1122 B.C.?

CHAPTER
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 SECTION 5

Note Taking Study Guide

STRONG RULERS UNITE CHINA

Focus Question: How did powerful emperors unite much of China and bring about a golden age of cultural achievement?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following chart to sequence the important events of the Qin and Han periods.

Event					
Date					

CHAPTER
3
SECTION 5

Section Summary
STRONG RULERS UNITE CHINA

The Qin Dynasty began in 221 B.C. when the leader of the Qin conquered the Zhou and proclaimed himself **Shi Huangdi**, or First Emperor. He centralized his power by adhering to Legalism, a philosophy that said that strength, not goodness, was a ruler’s greatest virtue. He tortured and killed any who opposed his rule. Shi Huangdi replaced feudal states with military districts headed by loyal officials. To promote unity, he standardized weights and measures, coins, and Chinese writing. Under his orders, thousands of workers connected shorter walls to form the one Great Wall against invaders from the north.

The Han Dynasty began in 202 B.C. The most famous Han emperor, **Wudi**, ruled from 141 B.C. to 87 B.C. Instead of Legalism, Wudi made Confucianism the official belief system of the state. He improved transportation, controlled prices, and created a government **monopoly** on iron and salt. His policy of **expansionism** increased the land under Chinese rule. He also opened a network of trade routes, later called the Silk Road.

Han rulers chose Confucian scholars as government officials, or **civil servants**. Young men could advance in government through skill, rather than family influence. They might be tested on their knowledge of the Five Classics, a collection of histories, poems, and handbooks compiled from the works of Confucius and others.

The Han dynasty was a golden age for Chinese culture. Han scientists wrote texts on chemistry, zoology, and botany. The Han invented the seismograph, suspension bridge, rudder, and paper from wood pulp. Medical treatment included **acupuncture** to relieve pain or treat illness. Artisans created products from jade, ceramics, bronze, and silk. Poets and historians wrote about the grandeur of Han cities.

As the Han dynasty aged, emperors could no longer control **warlords**, or local military rulers. Peasants rebelled. The last emperor was overthrown in A.D. 220, after 400 years of Han rule.

Buddhism had spread from India to China by about A.D. 100. It became increasingly popular during the times of crisis that followed the fall of the Han, and by A.D. 400 it had spread throughout China.

Review Questions

1. How did Legalism influence the rule of Shi Huangdi?

2. How was the Han dynasty a golden age for China?

READING CHECK

Which emperor had the Great Wall built?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *compiled* mean in the underlined sentence? Note that the Five Classics contain the works of several people. Use this context clue to help you figure out what *compiled* means.

READING SKILL

Recognize Sequence Sequence the following events:

Buddhism spreads throughout China; warlords overthrow the Han Dynasty; Shi Huangdi standardizes weights, measures, and coins

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____
