Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hinduism & Buddhism Vocabulary Mrs. Valdes



**Hinduism:**

The predominate (largest) religion of the Indian subcontinent. It is currently the world’s 3rd largest religion. It is based on the overlapping beliefs of Ayran invaders that conquered India. **NO ONE SINGLE FOUNDER.**

**Reincarnation**:

 In Hinduism and Buddhism, the process by which a soul is reborn continuously until it achieves perfect understanding and becomes one with the universe.

**Caste System**:

The caste system is a fixed social class system. A Hindus is born into his caste and must remain in his caste for a lifetime.

**Karma:**

In Hinduism and Buddhism, the totality of the good and bad deeds performed by a person, which is believed to determine his or her fate after rebirth.

**Dharma**:

The rules of each caste which much be followed.

**Brahman**:

A Hindu god considered the creator of the world.

**Vishnu**:

 A Hindu god considered the preserver of the world.

**Shiva**:

 A Hindu god considered the destroyer of the world.

**Vedas and the Upanishads:**

Thesacred texts (holy books) of Hinduism.

**Atman**:

The soul of every living thing

**Moksha:** The ultimate goal of existence is achieving moksha, or union with Brahma and becoming one with the universe**.**

**Ahisma:**

Hindu belief ofnon-violence.

**Buddhism**:

A religion indigenous to the Indian subcontinent, it is largely based on the teachings, traditions, practices and beliefs of Siddhartha Gautama.

**Siddhartha Gautama**:

 The founder of Buddhism, known as the Buddha (“awakened one”).

**Enlightenment**:

 In Buddhism, a state of perfect wisdom in which one understands basic truths about the universe.

**Four Noble Truths:**

The essence of the Buddha's teaching that:

**1. life is suffering,**

**2. desires cause suffering,**

**3. the elimination of desires can relieve suffering,**

**4.the way to do this is by following the Eightfold Path**

**Eight Fold Path**:

The Middle Way and part of the Four Noble Truths that the Buddha taught as the path to nirvana or enlightenment and consisting of Right View/Understanding, Right Thought, Right Speech, Right Action, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness, Right Concentration; also called Noble Eightfold Path.

**Nirvana**:

In Buddhism, the release from pain and suffering achieved after enlightenment.

**Indian Empires**

**Mauryan Empire**:

 The first empire in India, founded by Chandragupta Maurya in 321 BC.

**Asoka**:

 Ruler of the Mauryan Empire who ruled during the Empire’s golden age. He was born Hindu but converted to Buddhism. He was responsible for spreading Buddhism throughout southeast Asia.

 **Religious toleration**:

A recognition of people’s right to hold differing religious beliefs.

**Gupta Empire**:

 The second empire in India, founded by Chandra Gupta I in AD 320.

**Patriarchal**:

Relating to a social system in which the father is head of the family.

**Matriarchal**:

 Relating to a social system in which the mother is head of the family.

**Silk Roads**:

A system of ancient caravan routes across Central Asia, along which traders carried silk and other trade goods.