

Readings: Day 3 = chap 4 p.66-74; chap 2 p.23-29

India

- First civ appeared along Indus River
-
- Settlements grew; developed more complex way existence

- Mohenjo-Daro & Harappa

- Height = ~2000 BC

- Civ produced:

- Economy
- Based on irrigation farming
- Developed metallurgical techniques
- Trade was highly organized

- Civ declined ~1800BC

- Aryans

- Spread through mountain passes

- Spoke Sanskrit

- Pastoral people

- Effective warriors

- Gradually moved eastward

- Adopted agriculture

- Society was based upon the “rita”,
 - Both cosmic law of nature & customary tribal law

 - Tribal structure

 - Raja

 - Chosen & advised by two tribal assemblies

- Developed only four social classes
 - Brahmins
 - Kshatriyas
 - Vaishyas
 - Shudras
 - Dasas
- Each class subdivided into jatis
- Indian women coped w/ patriarchal attitudes
- Religion
 - Worshipped gods with sacrificial rituals
 - Accompanied by *ric* verses
 - Rig-Vedas

- the Rig-Veda

 - Brahmanas and Upanishads
-
- The Gods

 - Indra, Agni, Varuna, & Mitra

 - Vishnu & Brahma

 - Brahmins came to view Brahma as reality itself

 - Gurus

 - Commentaries on Vedas = Upanishads.

 - Atman
 - Dharma

 - Doing one's duty leads to attainment of karma

 - Atman will experience samsara

- Moshka

- Brahmanism = Hinduism

- Society stable for ~1000 years
 - Discontent appeared during 6th century BC

- Mahavira
 - Desire = root of life's problems

 - All life was sacred

 - Jains

- **Siddarth Gautama – “The Buddha”** (Enlightened One)
 - Dedicated life to understanding differences between good & evil, pain & suffering, and truth & falsehood

 - **Four noble truths:**

- **1)** suffering is part of every human life,
- **2)** people suffer because of their ambition and desire,
- **3)** the way to remove suffering is to be free of all ambition and desire, &
- **4)** the only way to liberate oneself from suffering was to follow **the Eightfold Path**
- **Nirvana**