

World Religions

Chapter 6: Buddhism

Guiding Questions

1. Explain how the experiences of Siddhartha Gautama led to the Four Noble Truths and the Eight-fold path.
2. Describe the key differences between Theravada Buddhism and Mahayana Buddhism.
3. Be able to compare and contrast the basic beliefs of Hinduism and Buddhism.
4. How did Buddhism spread and what role does it play in world affairs today?

Reading Schedule

2/3 Wednesday: pp. 123-127 (up to “Teachings”)

2/4 Thursday: pp. 127-130 (up to “Theravada...”)

2/9 Tuesday: pp. 130-134 (up to “Mahayana Sects”)

2/17 Wednesday: pp. 134-138 (up to “Tibetan...”)

2/18 Thursday: pp. 138-143

Test: Tuesday, February 23rd

Be familiar with the meaning and importance of the following terms : Buddha, sunyata (emptiness), anicca (impermanence of all things), Nirvana, dukkha, Dharma, Sangha, Pure Land Buddhism, Intuitive(Zen) Buddhism, Rationalist Buddhism, Sociopolitical Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism, anatman, wat, Sammatta mediation, Vipassana mediation, sutra, tantras, “Om mani padme hum”, lama, koans

Be familiar with the following people and their importance to Buddhism: Siddhartha Gautama, Asoka, Bodhidharma, Chih-I, Nichiren, Dalai Lama, Aung San Suu Kyi

Be familiar with the importance and basic contents of the following Buddhist texts: Pali Canon, Dhammapada, Bardo Thodol

Be familiar with the following Bodhisattvas and Buddhas: Amitabha, Avalokiteshvara, Dalai Lama