

## **World Religions**

### **Unit 2: Hinduism**

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#### **Guiding Questions**

1. Explain how a religion with more than three hundred million gods is described as monotheistic.
2. Describe the purpose and origin of the caste system and explain how it is related to the concept of Dharma.
3. What is the role of the goddess in Hinduism?
4. Describe the different purposes of the Vedas and Upanishads.

#### **Reading Schedule**

1/19 Tuesday: pp. 70-76 (up to “The Vedic Era”)

1/20 Wednesday: pp. 76-81

1/25 Monday: pp. 82-88 (up to “Postclassical...”)

1/27 Wednesday: 88-96 (up to “Muslim Influence”)

2/1 Monday: 96-103

#### **Test: Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Be familiar with the meaning and importance of the following terms :** Aryan, pre-Aryan, varna, Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas, Shudras, dharma, karma, samsara, moksha, avatars, four stages of life, bhakti, trimurti, sakti, lingam, yoni, Sankhya system, Yoga system, Mimansa system, Vaisheshika system, Nyaya system, Vedanta system, Holi, Divali, Dasehra, suttee, monism (monistic)

**Be familiar with the following people and their importance to Hinduism:** Ram Mohan Roy, Sri Ramakrishna, Vivekkananda, Mohandas K. Gandhi

**Be familiar with the importance and basic contents of the following Hindu texts:** Rig-Veda, Yajur-Veda, Sama-Veda, Atharva-Veda, Upanishads, Law of Manu, Mahabharata, Bhagavad-Gita, Ramayana

**Be familiar with the following Hindu Gods:** Brahma, Shiva, Vishnu, Devi, Kali

**Be prepared to answer and support the Guiding Questions**