

AP World History
Hindu and Buddhism Readings

Name_____Pd____Date_____

Read the following document and answer the HIPP questions below.

Document 6

Source: Tang Emperor Wu, Edict on Buddhism, 845 C.E.

We have heard that the Buddha was never spoken of before the Han dynasty; from then on the religion of idols gradually came to prominence. So in this latter age Buddhism has transmitted its strange ways and has spread like a luxuriant vine until it has poisoned the customs of our nation. Buddhism has spread to all the nine provinces of China; each day finds its monks and followers growing more numerous and its temples more lofty. Buddhism wears out the people's strength, pilfers their wealth, causes people to abandon their lords and parents for the company of teachers, and severs man and wife with its monastic decrees. In destroying law and injuring humankind indeed nothing surpasses this doctrine!

Now if even one man fails to work the fields, someone must go hungry; if one woman does not tend her silkworms, someone will go cold. At present there are an inestimable number of monks and nuns in the empire, all of them waiting for the farmers to feed them and the silkworms to clothe them while the Buddhist public temples and private chapels have reached boundless numbers, sufficient to outshine the imperial palace itself.

Having thoroughly examined all earlier reports and consulted public opinion on all sides, there no longer remains the slightest doubt in Our mind that this evil should be eradicated.

1. Intended Audience

2. Purpose

Please read *Mahavira: the "Great Hero" of the Jain religion* and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. In what ways might Mahavira's behavior have provoked such violent responses in others?
2. What did Mahavira's diet consist of while he sought enlightenment?
3. What often occurred when Mahavira approached a village?
4. What admirable traits does the writer see in Mahavira?

Please read *"Dhammapada": oral tradition becomes part of the Buddhist canon* and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. To what extent and in what manner is stress placed upon the "passive life"?
2. Apart from passivity and resignation, what other notable themes recur in "Dhammapada"?