

Chapter 4: Early Civilizations of South Asia

इच्छा ३: पुरातन में वैदिक ऋषि

Directions: Read the entirety of the above section, including any additional text selections such as “Eyewitness” or “Sources from the Past” and examine all maps, charts, images, and diagrams. As you read and learn, complete the questions and tasks below to both demonstrate and preserve what you have learned.

EYEWITNESS: Indra, War God of the Aryans

- Go back to page 75 to read this part of the Chapter 4 introduction.



Religion in the Vedic Age

- Define intriguing:
- The combination of Aryan and Dravidian religious beliefs laid the groundwork for:

Aryan Religion

❖ Aryan Gods

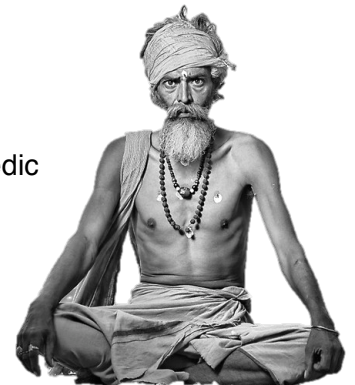
- Main god of the Rig Veda = _____
- Things Indra likes = _____, _____, _____
- The popularity of Indra suggests that the early Aryans in India were very _____
- What did the Aryans believe about the god Varuna?

❖ Ritual Sacrifices

- Main focus of Vedic religion was not moral behavior but actually _____
- Draw a picture below of what you imagine for the ritual sacrifices. Include AT LEAST THREE specific components from the reading and label them accordingly.

❖ Spirituality

- Define hermit:
- Define mystic (n):
- Why do you think some people became bored or unhappy with the early Vedic religion?



Name _____ Date _____ Class _____ Period _____

- What were the Dravidian beliefs from which mystics and hermits drew inspiration, specifically those related to life and death?

The Blending of Aryan and Dravidian Values

❖ The Upanishads

- Religious texts that began to appear between _____ and _____
- Literal meaning of Upanishad = _____
- Texts of Upanishads contained “_____ that explored the _____ and the religious issues they raised.”
- Define reincarnation:

❖ Brahman, the Universal Soul

- Define monism:
- According to Upanishadic tradition, what is Brahman?
- Belief: Every person’s soul was actually part of _____
- Belief: Souls could be reborn not just as humans but also as _____ & _____

❖ Teachings of the Upanishads

- Define inevitable:
- Define ecstasy:
- Define asceticism:
- Define sever:
- What is Samsara?
- What is Karma?
- What happened after death if you had good karma?
- Define meditation:
- Define purge:
- Define diligent:
- Define doctrine:

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____ Period _____

- What happened after death if you had bad karma?

- According to the text, what is Moksha, and how does a person achieve it?

❖ **Religion and Vedic Society**

- Define conscientious:

- Define substantial:

- Define material (adj):

- Define ethical:

- Is the idea that “this world and this existence are merely illusion, and that there is a greater, more real, ultimate reality beyond this one” an idea that is exclusive and unique to Indian traditions? Explain.

- What was the motivation behind ethical behavior for followers of the Upanishads?

- Why did many people become vegetarians?