

Hinduism in Ancient India

## **SECTION 2**

# The Beginnings of Hinduism

- A Blend of Religions

- \_\_\_\_\_ is a blend of Aryan religion (comes from the Vedas) and traditional Indian religions
- Developed of 3500 years- very \_\_\_\_\_
- Different ways of approaching god
- 850 million worships, not like other world religions
  - \_\_\_\_\_, no one founder
  - \_\_\_\_\_ single spiritual power
  - many paths to truth

# The Beginnings of Hinduism

- Hindu Gods and Goddesses
  - Each stands for a part of brahman
  - Most important: \_\_\_\_\_(creator),  
\_\_\_\_\_(preserver),  
\_\_\_\_\_(destroyer)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - the representation of a Hindu god or goddess in human or animal form
  - Brahma- born from a golden egg, created all things
    - Not the most worshipped

# The Beginnings of Hinduism

- Vishnu- kind, concerned about humans
  - Visits Earth every now and then to help humans or save from disaster
- Shiva- powerful, doesn't care about people
  - Creative and destructive forces of universe
  - Came from Rudra- god of the thunderbolt
- Shakti- Shiva's wife
  - Destroyer/creator, kind/cruel

# The Teachings of Hinduism

- The \_\_\_\_\_
  - Religious text- “Sitting near a teacher”
  - Q&A format- pupil and teacher
  - Brahman is too complicated for the human mind, has no physical form

# The Teachings of Hinduism



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- Rebirth of the soul, described in the Upanishads
  - When you die, you come back as something else- every living thing has a soul
  - Good- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bad- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Perfect life- become part of brahman-
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# The Teachings of Hinduism

- A Hindu's Duties

- Must obey \_\_\_\_\_ -  
religious and moral duties of each person

- Based on class, age, occupation, etc

- \_\_\_\_\_ - nonviolence

- All things part of brahman- should be treated with respect
    - Many Hindus are vegans

# The Practice of Hinduism

- The \_\_\_\_\_
  - Union with brahman
  - Many forms- including physical activity
  - Other examples: selfless deeds, knowledge, devotion
- Private Devotion
  - Praying, worship, rituals- in temples
  - Also worship personal god at home with small shrine