**Lesson #7**

**Guided Reading**

**India**

**India**- @ 5th Century BCE – 5th Century ACE

* Time period of religious and artistic change
* Although there isn’t a lot of “artwork” we are mainly focusing on **architecture** that both the Hindu’s and Buddhist’s used to worship.

**The Indus Valley Civilizations**

**The Harappans-** Largest of all civilizations

* **Mohenjo-Daro**- means Mound of the Dead
  + Discovered in 1922
  + @ 35,000 people
  + Basically the Mohenjo-Daro and Harappans are on in the same
* Used copper, bronze, made clay pots and built architecture out of brick
  + **Sherds-** fragments of ancient pottery
    - Archeologists are able to piece back together the sherds in order to see what the pottery looked like and what images were carved or painted on them
* Language based on pictograms
* System of weights and measures
* Drainage system
* Civilization came to a decline because…
  + Invasion of Aryans
  + Decline started in 2000 BCE
  + Completely gone in 1500 BCE

**The Ganges Civilization-**

* Ruled after the Harappans/Mohenjo-Daro
* No organized Government
* Ruled by the Aryans
  + **Raja**- chief or leader of the Ganges Civilization
* Worshiped multiple gods and goddesses
  + Overtime, beliefs blended with the Harappans and formed a new religion called Hinduism

**Hinduism-** a combination of different practices and beliefs

* There are 3 main purposes in life and represented by a god

1. **Creation**- Brahma the creator
2. **Preservation**- Vishnu the preserver
3. **Destruction-** Shiva the destroyer

* **Reincarnation-** process in which a soul can live in many bodies over time
  + No distinction from humans and animals
  + Ultimate goal is the purification of the soul through lifetimes of high moral conduct
  + Once this happens, Reincarnation process stops and your soul becomes one with the creator, Brahma

**Hindu Temples-** Think about how Hindu/Greek Temples are similar or different

* **Vishnu**- located in Deogarh
  + Not designed to hold large groups of people
  + Mainly seen from outside
  + Inside contained a sculpture or relic
  + The structure or building is made to contain the sculpture/relic

**Buddhism-** Created by Prince Siddhartha Gautama and became known as “Buddha”, meaning the “Enlightened One”

* Buddha is not a god or divine inspiration
* **Meditation-** practiced by Buddhists, the act of focusing one’s thoughts on one idea or object.
* Buddhist Sculpture peaked @ 320-600 ACE known as the Gupta Period
* Believes in Reincarnation like the Hindus
* **Nirvana-** When the cycle of reincarnation is complete, you will experience a state of bliss
* **Viharas-** a place to go to meditate, usually constructed of wood or were built in caves
  + Caves were carved out of hillsides and served as monasteries or “viharas” or a place to meditate
* **Stupa-** small round burial shrine built over a gravesite and holds relics or objects that have religious value or purpose
  + @ end of 2nd century
  + Buddhists would walk clockwise around the stupa and meditate in order to get closer to Buddha or “Nirvana”
  + Decorated with images of….
    - An empty throne
    - Footprints
    - A tree
    - (all of these remind people of Buddha)
* **Relief Sculptures-** carving on a flat surface
  + All of the decoration on the Stupa’s, Viharas and other architecture used this method to illustrate stories and imagery