LIFEPAC®

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

10th Grade | Unit 2

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PUBLICATIONS

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 1002

Ancient Civilizations 2

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Ancient Civilizations 2

Introduction

In this LIFEPAC® the study of civilizations is continued from the previous History and Geography LIFEPAC. The primary emphasis will be upon Greece and Rome, two of the most significant world empires and civilizations in history, and upon the spread of Christianity. Consideration will be given also to the civilizations that developed in India and China.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAC, you should be able to:

1. Describe the geographical boundaries of India.
2. Discuss the origins of the Indian people.
3. Identify the major characteristics of ancient Indian culture.
4. Explain the geographical importance of rivers on Chinese civilization.
5. Trace the history of the major Chinese dynasties.
6. List major contributors to Chinese philosophy and religion.
7. Describe the origins of Greek civilization.
8. Trace Greek history from earliest times to the decline and fall of the Greek Empire
9. Describe the rise of the city-states, such as Athens and Sparta, and their impact on the history of Greece.
10. Discuss the rise of Macedonia and its effect upon Greek decline.
11. List major Greek contributors to man's thought and government to the present time.
12. Discuss the rise of Roman civilization from the ruins of Greece.
13. Discuss the origins of the city of Rome.
14. Outline the history of the Roman Empire, emphasizing its historical divisions.
15. Describe the emergence of Roman democracy.
16. Discuss the cultural impact of Rome on the world.
17. Explain the developments that led to the decline and fall of the Roman Empire.
18. Explain how God prepared the way for the birth, life, and ministry of Jesus Christ in a secure Roman world.
19. Summarize the birth, life, and death of Jesus Christ.
20. List the disciples who were most influential in carrying the gospel throughout the world.
21. List the major contributors to Roman thought and culture.
22. Describe the role played by the Christian Church in the first four hundred years of its history.

Survey the LIFEPAC. Ask yourself some questions about this study and write your questions here.

1. THE FAR EAST

Because we live in the West and because Western civilization has dominated modern history, the study of civilization is often concentrated in the roots of European thought and life. At the same time the Near East was developing a civilization that was spreading into Europe, advanced cultures were also developing in India and China

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Describe the geographical boundaries of India.
2. Discuss the origins of the Indian people.
3. Identify the major characteristics of ancient Indian culture.
4. Explain the geographical importance of rivers on Chinese civilization.
5. Trace the history of the major Chinese dynasties.
6. List major contributors to Chinese philosophy and religion.

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

ascetic	**deify**	**diffuse**
ideographic	**metaphysics**	**paternalistic**
rajah	**subcontinent**	**theosophy**

Note: *All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in* **boldface** *print the first time they are used. If you are not sure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.*

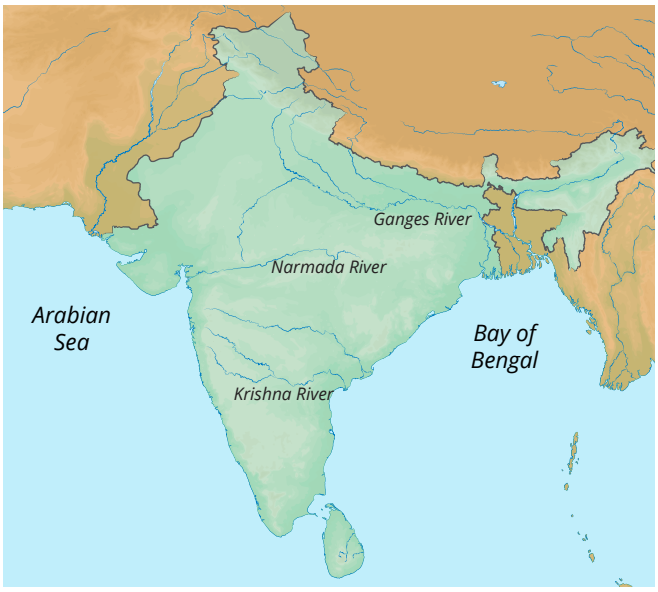
INDIA

The Indian culture is an ancient one. A land of many rivers, India attracted very early settlers who came to farm and raise their livestock. Many invasions by outsiders followed, each of which contributed to the Indian language and culture we know today.

Early Indian literature was comparable in some ways to the later epics of Greece and Rome. The religion of India was Hinduism, which is still practiced and is highly influential on Indian life today.

Geography. India is often called a **subcontinent**. Its land area is vast. To the northwest are two ranges of mountains that seem to follow the Indus River: the Kirthar Range and the Sulaiman Range. More northeasterly are the Himalayas. Throughout history these mountains have served as a wall to isolate India from its neighbors in the rest of Euro-Asia. To the west of India is the Arabian Sea, to the east is the Bay of Bengal, and to the south is the Indian Ocean. Also on the east, India borders Burma.

India is a land of many rivers, the greatest of which is the Ganges. The Ganges is one of the largest waterways in the world. This river is sacred to the Hindus of India, thousands of whom travel long distances to bathe in its water to cleanse and purify themselves.



| India

Ancient India is divided into several parts; Tamil Land south of the Krishna River; Deccan between the Krishna and the Narbada rivers; Bengal, including the Ganges delta; Baluchistan northwest of the mountains in what is now Iran; and Punjab, Sind, and Hindustan to the east. The area of greatest importance is Hindustan, the Indus valley.

Complete these activities.

1.1 The borders of India are these:

a. to the northwest _____ ,

b. to the northeast _____ ,

c. to the west _____ ,

d. to the east _____ , and

e. to the south _____ .

1.2 Three rivers of India are these:

a. _____ , b. _____ , and

c. _____ .

History. Some historians date India's earliest civilization at about 2500 B.C., but most now consider the Indus civilization to have lasted from 2200 to 1300 B.C. At one time the Indus civilization extended from the coast up the Indus River 950 miles to the Himalayan foothills. The chief cities were Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, some 350 miles apart. The river was used for transportation.

Communication existed between Sumer and the Indus valley. Erech and its sister cities conducted trade with the cities of this civilization beyond the mountains. Coming not long after the Flood and the Tower of Babel, such contact is no surprise. The Indus people had all the trappings of civilization: a written script, manufacturing, standard weights, metallurgy, agriculture, and so forth.

From about 1500 to 900 B.C., India was invaded by Aryan people from the Caucasus area near the Black and Caspian seas. These people conquered the Indus valley and began to settle the Ganges area. They were cattlemen who lived in tribes headed by a **rajah**. The Aryans subjugated some of the native population and drove others south. Their conquerors called them Dasyu, and they may have been the same as the Dravidians of southern India. The combination of Indus and Aryan cultures resulted in the Sanskrit language, which is considered foundational to the Indo-European language group.

From 900 to 500 B.C., the center of Indian civilization shifted eastward to the Ganges valley. There Indo-Aryan city-states were developed. As in the villages of the Indus valley, each city-state was led by a rajah.

The Indo-Aryans developed the *caste system*, one of the three "pillars" of Indian Society (the other two were the autonomous village and the joint-family). They developed this system to preserve their racial purity. The four main castes were (1) the Brahmans, who were the priests; (2) the Kshatriyas, who were the warriors; (3) the Vaisyas, who were the artisans, merchants, and bankers; and (4) the Sudras, who were the peasants. Those outside the caste system were called the untouchables. To an astonishing degree, the caste system has maintained itself to the present day.

Alexander the Great crossed into India in 326 B.C., but he did not stay long because of the distance from his Greek homeland. In 321 B.C., Chandragupta Maurya took control of all northern India. The Mauryan dynasty lasted until about 185 B.C. That dynasty maintained contact with the Seleucid empire of Greece.

The Mauryan empire was greatly expanded by the highly religious Buddhist, Asoka (273-232 B.C.). He is very important in the history of Buddhism.

In 185 B.C. much of the old Mauryan empire was conquered by Demetrius, a Bactrian Greek. He was followed by his general, Menander. Demetrius and the Bactrians ruled in the Punjab and northwestern India as well as in the Ganges region. The Bactrians lost power when nomadic tribes began to invade India from central Asia at the close of the second century B.C.

After a period of chaos, one of the invading tribes, the Kushans, ruled northwestern India and much of Afghanistan. Their rule lasted until A.D. 220.

Write the correct letter on the blank.

1.3 The civilization that probably lasted from 2200 to 1300 B.C. was the _____ .
a. Hindu b. Indus c. Egyptian d. Himalaya

1.4 The chief cities of the Indus civilization were Mohenjo-Daro and _____ .
a. Harappa b. Thebes c. Erech d. Antioch

1.5 The Indus civilization carried on trade between the Indus valley and _____ .
a. Memphis b. Sumer c. Canaan d. China

1.6 The Indus people had all of the trappings of civilization *except* _____ .
a. written script b. standard weights c. metallurgy d. printing press

1.7 From about 1500 to 900 B.C., India was invaded by _____ peoples from the Caucasus area.
a. Semitic b. Negroid c. Andalusian d. Aryan

1.8 The language of ancient India is called _____ .
a. Sanskrit b. Pakistani c. Latin d. Hebrew

1.9 The Indo-Aryans developed a system that still exists today, called the _____ system.
a. free market b. slave c. caste d. accounting

Answer these questions.

1.10 What was an "untouchable"? _____

_____

1.11 Who crossed into India in 326 B.C.? _____

1.12 From 321 B.C. to 185 B.C., which dynasty ruled India? _____

1.13 How did the Bactrians lose power? _____

_____

Language and literature. The Indo-Aryans gave India a language related to Greek, Persian, and Latin. The Indian language is known as Sanskrit. Modern Hindi is derived from it.

The *Vedas* are the oldest Sanskrit literature. The term means *knowledge*, and the *Vedas* are a kind of wisdom literature with thoughts on religion, philosophy, and magic. The *Upanishads* were commentaries upon the *Vedas* written between 800 and 600 B.C. Those commentaries very soon contained philosophic concepts of their own, and those concepts heavily influenced the Epic Age (900-500 B.C.). Some of that literature has been compared to the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, Homer's Greek epics.

Religion. Religion has always been vital to Indian culture. The oldest and most widely held Indian religion is Hinduism, which developed from the thoughts of the *Vedas* and the *Upanishads*.

Indian religion is pantheistic. This pantheism was derived from the polytheism of the *Vedas*. Instead of many gods, pantheism claims that everything is god. According to pantheism, God is not holy, is not different from the creation, because God is thought to be everything. Pantheism, or, as it has been called, "paneverythingism," is contrary to Psalm 100:3 "Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture."

The Bible teaches a God who is transcendent, who is totally and essentially different from and above His creation. Of course, God is also near us and is concerned about us; but He is not one of us. Indian pantheism has come into the West in our century through the many cults of **theosophy**, (such as Christian Science and Scientology).

The *Upanishads* present a more complex concept of pantheism than do the *Vedas*. The Hindu belief in reincarnation is derived from the *Upanishads*. Reincarnation is the belief that

| Image of Buddha

the soul is incarnated into a series of physical bodies over a long period of time.

A prince named Gautama Buddha lived in approximately 500 B.C. According to tradition, Gautama was a happily married aristocrat when one day he was struck by the misery of the poor. He became an **ascetic** and dwelt in a forest for seven years. During that time he fasted and tortured himself. He was not aided in his intellectual difficulties by that episode. One day while sitting under a tree, he was "enlightened." His insights at that time evolved into a philosophy that has had widespread adherents for more than 2,000 years. The Buddha became a wandering preacher among the villages. His teachings are summarized as the *Four Noble Truths:*

1. "The truth of pain"—birth, old age, sickness, death, despair, and so forth;
2. "The truth of the cause of pain" craving for existence, passion, pleasure, and so forth, that lead to rebirth:
3. "The truth of cessation of pain"—by renunciation; and
4. "The truth of the way that leads to the cessation of pain"—called the Middle Path.

The Middle Path involves eight things: "right views, intuition, speech, action, livelihood,

effort, mindfulness, and concentration." Gautama also taught a moral code that stressed equality.

Buddhism is essentially an atheistic religion because it does not require the existence of a god. According to Buddhism following the eightfold path leads to *nirvana*, or reabsorption of the individual into the universal life. Buddhism has **deified** Buddha. In its present form Buddhism is found in many parts of the world.

Complete these sentences.

1.14 The ancient Indian language was known as _____ .

1.15 The oldest Sanskrit literature were the _____ .

1.16 The *Vedas* were a kind of _____ literature.

1.17 Commentaries upon the *Vedas* were the _____ .

1.18 The *Upanishads* have been compared to the Greek epics of _____ .

Answer true or false.

1.19 _____ Hinduism is a development of the thought of the *Vedas* and *Upanishads*.

1.20 _____ The *Vedas* stress a belief in the transcendence of God.

1.21 _____ Pantheism is the belief that everything is God.

1.22 _____ The Hindu belief in reincarnation comes from the *Upanishads*.

1.23 _____ Buddhism is basically atheistic.

1.24 _____ The early life of Gautama Buddha was similar to that of Christ.

1.25 _____ "Truth of pain" was one of the Four Noble Truths of Buddha.

CHINA

In this section, you will become acquainted with ancient China. Its geography, history, religion, and philosophical heritage will be discussed.

Geography. Ancient China was clustered alongsome rivers that empty into the Pacific Ocean and some that empty into the Yellow Sea. In the north was the Hwang Ho and its valley. In the central region, the dominant river was the Yangtze. To the south were several short river valleys in the area where modern Canton is located. These rivers served as sources of irrigation and as a means of transportation. Like Egypt, China's need for cooperation in agriculture, especially in harnessing the river water for irrigation, led to organized society and civilization.

History. Compared to the Near East, little is known about ancient China. Its recorded history does not begin until about 1500 B.C. Chinese history is divided into several major dynasties. From 1500 to 1100 B.C. are the approximate years of the Shang dynasty. That dynasty ruled over a civilization that developed on the Hwang Ho. That civilization developed

| Great Wall of China

farming, the growing of silk worms, a written script, metallurgy, and several artistic achievements. The most outstanding pieces of art were bronzes; others included hand-made gods and some pottery. The writing found on art objects of the period was partially pictorial and partially **ideographic.** The ruling dynasty was a sort of priesthood, and political power was **diffused** among several nobles.

The Shang dynasty was overthrown by the Chou, who ruled from 1027 to 256 B.C. The Chou dynasty awarded feudal fiefs to its supporters and then created feudal states ruled by nobles throughout their lands. This practice resulted in much conflict causing the Chou period to be called the "Era of Contending States." The Chou dynasty was finally overthrown by the Chin dynasty (256-202 B.C.) whose administration was that of a centralized, strong monarch. Shih Huang Ti, the first emperor, was an autocratic ruler who destroyed much ancient Chinese scholarship, especially the Confucianist philosophers. He ordered the construction of the Great Wall of China to protect his empire from northern Asian tribes (also known as Huns).

The Chin dynasty was overthrown in 200 B.C. by a general who began the Han dynasty. The Hans ruled until A.D. 220. Perhaps the most significant Han emperor was Wu Ti, the Warrior Emperor (140-87 B.C.). He defeated the Huns and made cultural contact with the West. He was responsible for the *Pax Sinica*, the Chinese equivalent of the *Pax Romana* of Augustus Caesar, a 200-year period of peace.

Answer these questions.

1.26 What were the two major rivers of ancient China?

a. _____

b. _____

1.27 Approximately when does China's recorded history begin? _____

1.28 Which dynasty overthrew the Shang? _____

1.29 Who was the most significant Han emperor? _____

1.30 What was *Pax Sinica*? _____

1.31 How did Emperor Shih Huang Ti attempt to protect his empire against Asian invaders? _____

_____

1.32 What metal was used primarily in Chinese art? _____

1.33 Which dynasty ruled during the "Era of Contending States"? _____

Beliefs. Chinese religion has always been closely allied with philosophy. Chinese thinkers were not **metaphysicians** as were their Indian and Greek counterparts; they were social philosophers. They were concerned with society and morals—with how men should live together.

The most influential ancient Chinese philosopher was Confucius (551-479 B.C.), who lived during the Chou dynasty. Originally a feudal official, the scholarly Confucius resigned because of a disagreement with the nobleman who ruled his state. He began a school where he taught ethics and politics to young men. He believed that the principle of *li*, or the polite manner that was observed among the members of the aristocracy, should be applied to the common people.

Confucius was an advocate of **paternalistic** government with the ruler considering himself responsible for his people's welfare. He stated that what heaven is to the universe and what a father is to his family is what the ruler should be to his people. He advocated strong families in which the head of the family was obeyed and ancestors were venerated. He believed that education is an instrument to further moral development, and that one should strive for a high ethical code. Three hundred years after his death, Confucius was worshiped by many Chinese. He would not have personally advocated this development. His ideas of tradition, order, and family have been hallmarks of Chinese society.

One of Confucius's early scholarly followers, Mencius (about 322-289 B.C.), is noted for his belief in democracy. He believed in government by the consent of the governed. The way to exercise this freedom, he said, was to rebel against a bad ruler.

In China, a more **metaphysical** approach was taken by the Taoists. *Tao* literally means *road or way,* but it was used by philosophers to designate the absolute. The most outstanding philosopher of this school was Lao-Tse, who may have been contemporary with Confucius or may have lived in the fourth century B.C., or even later. His beliefs are in the *Tao Te Ching, The Canon of the Way and of Virtue*. The following statement is how Lao-Tse defined the *Tao*:

"There is a thing, formless yet complete. Before Heaven and Earth it existed. Without sound, without substance, it is all pervading and unfailing. One may think of it as the mother of all beneath Heaven. We do not know its name, but we term it *Tao*."

Taoists desired men to be harmonious with the laws of nature. Their thought is somewhat like that of the later English Romanticists.

Pure scholarship developed during the Han dynasty. In A.D. 100 the world's first dictionary was published. Ssu-ma Chi'en wrote the first significant Chinese history. In science, a 365-and-a-fraction-day solar calendar was developed as well as scientific knowledge about lunar and solar eclipses.

The late Han dynasty witnessed the entrance and spread of Buddhism. This religion would have a long and meaningful existence in China.

| Confucius

Complete the following sentences.

1.34 The most influential Chinese philosopher was _____.

1.35 Confucius believed in a polite manner observed among members of the aristocracy called _____.

1.36 Mencius, a follower of Confucius, believed the way to treat a bad ruler was to _____.

1.37 Chinese thinkers were not metaphysicians like their Greek and Indian counter-parts; they were _____ philosophers.

1.38 Confucius believed that government should be like a _____ to his family.

1.39 Taoists believed men should be in harmony with the laws of _____.

1.40 The first dictionary and a solar calendar were accomplishments of the _____ dynasty.

Review the material in this section in preparation for the Self Test. This Self Test will check your mastery of this particular section. The items missed on this Self Test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

SELF TEST 1

Match these items (each answer, 2 points).

1.01 _____ subcontinent
1.02 _____ Mohenjo-Daro
1.03 _____ Sanskrit
1.04 _____ *Vedas*
1.05 _____ Buddha
1.06 _____ reincarnation
1.07 _____ pantheism
1.08 _____ *Upanishads*
1.09 _____ Great Wall
1.010 _____ Taoism

a. ancient Indus city
b. everything is god
c. oldest Sanskrit literature
d. Indian who conquered Greece
e. resembled Greek epics
f. India
g. successive lives
h. protected China against invaders
i. early language of India
j. harmony with nature
k. aristocrat who pitied the poor

Complete these sentences (each answer, 3 points).

1.011 The Ganges and the Indus are two main rivers of _____ .
1.012 Brahmans, Vaisyas, and Sudras are three main parts of the _____system.
1.013 The first Chinese dynasty was the _____ dynasty.
1.014 The language of ancient India was _____ .
1.015 Indian pantheism claimed that everything was _____ .
1.016 The young aristocrat who was struck by the misery of the poor and founded a new religion in India was _____ .
1.017 Reincarnation is part of the _____ religion.
1.018 The calendar, as we know it today, was first developed by the _____ .
1.019 The Himalayas are _____ that isolate India from its neighbors.
1.020 Mencius was a follower of _____ .

Answer true or false (each answer, 2 point).

1.021 _____ Modern theosophy is derived from Hindu thought.

1.022 _____ China's recorded history begins about 1500 B.C.

1.023 _____ *Upanishads* was one of the early rulers of India.

1.024 _____ Burma is one of the countries that borders India.

1.025 _____ China is often called a subcontinent.

1.026 _____ Alexander the Great crossed into India but withdrew because of poor weather and the hostile people there.

1.027 _____ The caste system was one of three "pillars" of Indian society.

1.028 _____ The ancient Indus people of India had a writing system and a system of standards and weights.

1.029 _____ Early Indian civilization produced no literature of any value.

1.030 _____ *Vedas* are the oldest Sanskrit literature.

Answer these questions (each answer, 5 points).

1.031 Why is Buddhism essentially an atheistic religion? _____

_____

1.032 What are two examples of Buddha's "truth of pain"?

a. _____ b. _____

1.033 What is Chinese history divided into? _____

_____

1.034 What was the *Pax Sinica* in China? _____

_____

1.035 How are the Chinese best remembered for their use of bronze? _____

_____

80/100 **SCORE** _____ **TEACHER** _____ _____
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