

Ancient India Philosophies/Religions

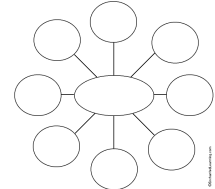
Introduction:

Ancient India had many philosophies/religions, including Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. Philosophy/Religion was a very large part of everyday life; it influenced everything from art, clothes and activities to music, stories, and legends.

For this project, we will focus on Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Jainism. How did philosophy/religion influence ancient Indian life?

The Task:

1. Identify elements of each religion and take notes on things such as: gods, clothing, symbols, important objects, main philosophy, rituals, texts...
2. Create a web (example to the right) that shows the influences and/or impacts of **EACH** (all 4, so 4 separate webs) of these religions on ancient Indian society.



Booklet- You and your partner will create a booklet including each philosophy/religion.

Your booklet must include the following:

- An attractive COVER- includes title, names, period and date along with a picture to go along with your religions.
- Table of Contents- includes all pages in book properly numbered
- 4 webs(2 religions per page)- 1 for each religion- in this order- 1. Buddhism 2. Hinduism 3. Islam 4. Jainism
- 1 page of information about each religion with 2 pictures included per page to depict each religion. This can be done in bulleted main ideas(minimum of 10 important ideas). Give each religion a centered and underlined title- bulleted points underneath- pictures at the bottom.

The Process:

1. Groups of 2 students.
2. Each person researches 2 Philosophy/Religions
 - **Buddhist Expert:** Researches the customs of Buddhism
 - **Hinduist Expert:** Researches the customs of Hinduism
 - **Jain Expert:** Researches the customs of Jainism
 - **Islam Expert:** Researches the customs of Islam
1. *When doing research, consider these topics:*
 - **Buddhist Expert:** What are some quotes from the Dalai Lama? What does the Buddha look like? What are some traditions in the Buddhist religion?
 - **Hinduist Expert:** What are some of the Hindu Gods and temples? Find information about prayer cloths. What is Herbal Sindoor?
 - **Jain Expert:** Find information on artifacts such as: prayer cords, bracelets, musical instruments, and pottery/offering bowls. What are some principles of the Jain Religion? Who are some Jain leaders?
 - **Islam Expert:** What are the basic tenets/beliefs of this religion? What are some of the religious practices or rituals? Who are their Gods/leaders? What texts or scriptures do they follow?

Here are some informational websites you should consider when doing research:

- <http://www.culturalindia.net/indian-religions/>
- <http://www.quick-facts.co.uk/religion/indian.htm>
- <http://www.hindukids.org>
- <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhism/primary.htm>
- <http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/culture/ramadan/>
- <http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/famoushistoricalfigures/mahatmagandhi/>
- http://www.uri.org/kids/other_jain.htm Really good one for all!!
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/jainism/>



