

Name: _____

Classical Civilizations

The Gupta Empire

11/29/2023

Answer the following based on the [video clip](#)

The Story of Rama

1. Why do the Indians consider the 5th century CE a golden age? How does India's golden age sound similar to and different from other cultures' golden ages?
2. Why is the story of Rama so important to Indian culture? What are the basic lessons to be learned from Rama and his stories?
3. How has Rama mythology been used by Hindu extremists?
4. How did the Chinese traveler Fa Hsien (or Faxian) describe the Gupta Empire? Why would his outside perspective be important to historians? How might it be limited in telling us about what India was like?
5. Why was the Kushan Empire so important in facilitating connections between East and West (China and the Mediterranean)?

Journey through Classical India: record what you learn about India from the travel records of each traveler. There are four “stops” or locations for each traveler—what do they have to say about each place they visit? What do their accounts reveal about Ancient India?

Periplus Account (unknown author, likely Greek)	Faxian

What conclusions or inferences can you make about the Gupta Empire based on the accounts of these travelers?

Why might our ability to learn about the Gupta Empire based on these sources be limited?