

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

World History: **Classical Civilizations**

## **The Mauryan Empire**

**11/28/2023**

From the video clips

### Chandragupta

1. Who was Chandragupta? What was his empire and his city of Patna like?

2. How did religion influence Chandragupta's life?

### Ashoka

3. What was the beginning of Ashoka's rule like? How did he come to power?

4. Why did Ashoka convert to Buddhism? How did this conversion impact Ashoka and his rule?

### **Excerpts: Kautilya – The Arthashastra, c. 250 BCE, from Chandragupta Maurya's reign**

What does each section reveal about Chandragupta's reign and his ability to consolidate and legitimate his power and create a successful empire? Bullet points are fine.

Section	How did Chandragupta attempt to consolidate/legitimate his power and create an empire?
<b>BOOK I: CONCERNING DISCIPLINE, CHAPTER XIX, THE DUTIES OF A KING</b>  <b>On Regulations &amp; Taxes</b>	

Section	How did Chandragupta attempt to consolidate/legitimate his power and create an empire?
<b>BOOK IV: REMOVAL OF THORNS, CHAPTER III. REMEDIES AGAINST NATURAL CALAMITIES.</b>	
<b>BOOK X: RELATING TO WAR</b>	

**Ashoka's [\*Seven Pillar Edicts\*](#) c. 237 BCE**

- 1. What was the purpose (or purposes) of Ashoka's edicts? Why construct these pillars throughout India? How might they contribute to his desire to consolidate and maintain an empire?**
- 2. What do the edicts reveal about Ashoka's policies regarding government & leaders, laws and the justice system, animals, treatment of the people of the empire?**
- 3. How do the governing styles or philosophies of Chandragupta and Ashoka compare to other rulers or philosophies we have discussed (Greece, Persia, China)?**
- 4. Sourcing: How could these two sources (the Arthashastra and Rock Edicts) be both useful and limited to historians who want to learn about the Mauryan Empire?**