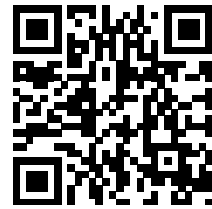


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## Religions of Ancient India



In ancient India, \_\_\_\_\_ played a crucial role in shaping the society and culture. The Indus Valley \_\_\_\_\_, one of the world's earliest urban cultures, had a profound spiritual aspect, evident in the \_\_\_\_\_ and ruins discovered. They worshipped a Mother Goddess and a \_\_\_\_\_ figure, highlighting the importance of fertility and creation. The \_\_\_\_\_, a collection of hymns and religious texts, were composed during the Vedic period, introducing gods like \_\_\_\_\_ and Agni. These texts laid the foundation for \_\_\_\_\_, influencing Indian society for centuries. The concept of karma and the cycle of \_\_\_\_\_ were introduced, emphasizing moral living and spiritual liberation. Buddhism and \_\_\_\_\_ emerged as reactions to Vedic rituals, stressing non-violence and self-discipline. Emperor \_\_\_\_\_'s conversion to Buddhism marked a significant turn, leading to its spread across Asia. The construction of \_\_\_\_\_ and temples during this time shows the intertwining of religion and politics. The Bhagavad \_\_\_\_\_, part of the epic Mahabharata, offered guidance on duty and righteousness, reflecting the evolving religious \_\_\_\_\_. This period laid the groundwork for a rich tapestry of beliefs and practices that continue to influence \_\_\_\_\_ and beyond.

landscape

rebirth

India

proto-Shiva

Indra

Civilization

Jainism

Hinduism

Ashoka

Vedas

artifacts

stupas

Gita

religion