

Topics - Religious Revolution, Buddhism, Jainism
Discussion On Mauryan & Post Mauryan India.

Religious Revolution

The reasons for development of new religions were as followed:

1. The economy increasingly from pastoral to agro based and importance of trade increased. Vaishyas which have third position in the varn system provided support to both the new faiths Jainism and Buddhism.
2. The degradation of shudras and women, rigidity in caste and varna system etc, irked the people.
3. The ritual of killing of animal for sacrifices was not favoured in new agro based economy.
4. Vedic religion was over loaded by complex rituals, exaggeration, brahmnic supremacy, superstition etc. Both the new religion challenge the authority of Brahmins.
5. Sanskrit was the language of vedic religion but it started losing charm and most people were speaking Prakrit.

Buddhism :-

Buddha born as Siddhartha, father - Suddhodhana king of Sakya community, Mother - Mahanama Year - 563 BC.

Place - Lumbini, Kapilavastu

Mother died on the seventh day of the birth so he was upbringing by his aunty, the name of aunty was Prajapati Gautami. So he was also called Gautam.

Buddha's birth is celebrated as Vesaka in some country. Married at the age of 16.

He married to Yashodhara. She was also from Sakya Kul. Their son was Rahul. At the age of 29 he left his family. This event in Buddhism is called Mahabhinishkraman.

He reached to Naimisaranya river, wore saffron clothes, His was Alarkalam. He searched knowledge for six year. At the age of 35, on the bank of river, Niranjan, (Punpun) under a peepal tree in the midnight of Vaishakh Purnima, he got enlightenment, and after that he was known as Tathagat and also known as Mahatma Buddha.

He gave his first sermon in Sarnath to five monks. and this incident in Buddhism is known as Dharma chakra Parivartan.

He gave most of his sermon in Kosala.

At the age of 80 on the bank of river Hiranyavati, 483 BC in Kushinagar he died. This event in Buddhism is called as Mahaparinirvana.

Most two important / dear disciple was Upali and Ananda.

Teachings of Buddhism

Tri Ratna of Buddhism

- Buddha
- Dhamma (Duty)
- Sangha (Unity)

Four noble truth of Buddhism.

- life is full of sorrow.
- Desire is cause of sorrow.
- There is a solution to this sorrow.
- Ashtangik mark.

Eight way / Eight fold Path of Buddha.

- | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|--------|--------------|
| 1. Right Vision | 2. Right Resolution | 3. Right Action | 4. Right Speech | Pragya | Skanda | Sheel Skanda |
| 5. Right Livelihood | 6. Right effort | 7. Right memory | 8. Right meditation | Samadhi Skanda | | |

Buddhist Council

1st Buddhist Council → Year - 483 BC

Ruler - Ajatshatru

Capital - Rajgriha / Girivraja

Pitaka - basket of flower

Date _____

(4)

Chairman - Mahakassapa

Goal - Two pitakas were compiled.

(i) Sutta Pitaka - Sayings of Buddha.

(ii) Vinaya Pitaka - The behaviour of monks were expected to follow.

2nd Buddhist Council (383 BC)

Place - Vaishali

Chairman - Sabakanir

King - Kalashoka

Goal - Buddhism divided into two parts

(i) Sthavirya

(ii) Maha.sanghika

3rd Buddhist Council (255 BC)

Place = Pataliputra (Patna)

King - Ashoka

Chairman - Moggaliputta Tissa

Goal - Compilation of third Pitaka
Abhidhamma Pitaka

4th Buddhist Council (78 AD - 100 AD)

King - Kanishka

Place - Kundalvana (Kashmir)

Chairman - Vasumitra and Ashwaghosh.

Goal - Buddhism divided again into two
(i) Hinayana (lesser vehicle)
(ii) Mahayana (Great Vehicle)

In Hinayan - Buddha was considered guru,
 In Mahayana Buddha was considered God.

In Hinayana, Budha was worshiped in the form of symbol. In Mahayana Budha was worshiped in the form of idol.

JAINISM

In Jainism, there were 24 Tirthankaras.
 The name of 1st Tirthankara was Rishabh Deva. He was also called Adinatha.
 The 23rd Tirthankara was Parshvanatha.

The 24th Tirthankara was Mahavira.

Four Mahavarts introduced by Parshavnath.

- (i) Satya (Truth)
- (ii) Non violence (Ahimsa)
- (iii) Aparigraha (Non Possession)
- (iv) Asteya (Non-stealing)

Mahavir born in 540 BC in Vaishali, Kundagrama.
 father name - Siddhartha, Mother - Trishla, wife - Yashodha. Daughter - Priyadarshini.

Left home at the age of 30, search knowledge for 12 years at the age of 42 in Jumbhik gram on the bank of river Triupalika.
 He got enlightenment under "Sal" tree.
 (Kaivalya)

So Mahavir is also called Kevalin.

Tri pearls of Jainism.

1. Right Devotion
2. Right Knowledge
3. Right behaviour.

1st Council of Jainism - (300 BC)

King - Chandragupta Maurya

Place - Pataliputra

Chairman - Sthulbhadra

Goal - compilation of Agam.

After some day Jainism divided into two part.

(i) Digamber

(ii) Svetambar.

2nd Council of Jainism -

Place - Vallabhi (Gujarat)

Chairman - Devardhi, Kshamasikraman

Year - 513 AD.

Goal - Re compilation of Agam and Angas.

Bodhisattva

It means one who has essence of enlightenment. Anyone who has a spontaneous wish to attain buddha hood for the benefit of all is a Bodhisattva.

It is a very popular subject in buddhist art.

A Bodhisattva is bound to enlightenment and refers to all who are destined to become Buddha's in this life or another life. There are celestial bodhisattvas which are manifestations of Gautam Buddha.

MAHAJANPADAS

In 8th century BC, India was broadly could be divided into 16 Mahajanpadas.

| <u>Mahajanpadas</u> | <u>Capital</u> |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Kashi | Banaras |
| Kosala | Shravasti |
| Anga | Champa |
| Magadha | Rajgriha |
| Vajji | Vaishali |
| Malla | Kushinagar |
| Chedi | Suktimati |
| Vats | Kausambi |
| Kuru | Indraprastha |
| Panchala | Ahichhatra |
| Matsya | Viratnagar |
| Surasena | Mathura |
| Asaka | Potali |
| Avanti | Mahishmati |
| Gandhara | Taxila |
| Kamboja | Rajpur |

Today's Main Question

Q1 → Buddhism was not a religious revolution but a social revolution too, comment.

Q2 Discuss the reason for rise of Jainism and Buddhism in India and their impact.

Q3 Religious Revolution of 6th century was not only Religious, comment.

Test Paper - 1 Answer Key

1-b

2-c

3-c

4-c

5-b

6-b

7-d

8-a

9-b

10-c