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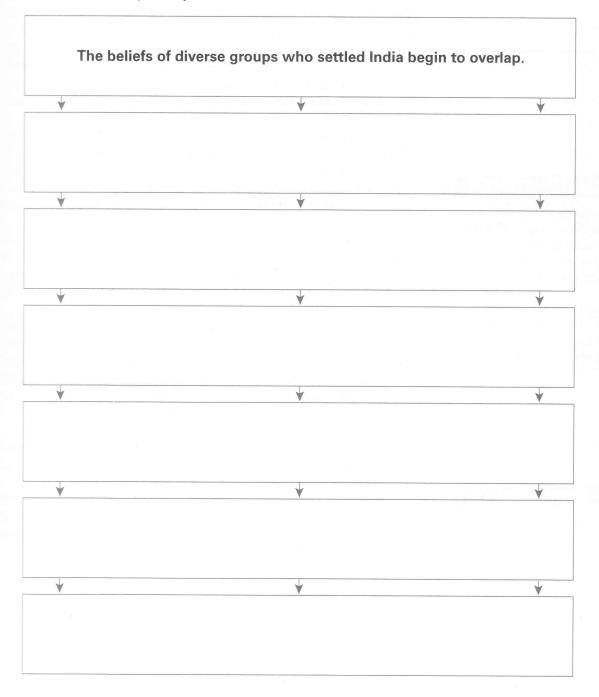
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Note Taking Study Guide

HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM

Focus Question: In what ways were religion and society intertwined in ancient India?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following chart to sequence important events in the development of Hinduism and Buddhism.



	SECTION 2 HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM
READING CHECK	Two major religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, emerged in ancient India. Although Hinduism grew out of the overlapping religious
Who became known as the "Enlightened One"?	ideas of diverse groups, all Hindus share basic beliefs. One force, the brahman, is the basis of everything. People have an essential self, or atman. Their goal is to achieve moksha, or union with brahman. Because most cannot achieve it in one life, reincarnation allows people to continue working toward moksha through several lifetimes. Karma affects a person's fate in the next life, and people who act correctly are reborn closer to brahman. By following dharma, or personal religious and moral duties, people can escape the cycle of death and rebirth. One part of dharma is ahimsa, or nonviolence, toward all people and things. Hinduism was connected to a system of castes, or social groups. This system included strict rules for every part of life. People in higher castes were believed to be more spiritually pure; the lowest
VOCABULARY STRATEGY	caste was considered untouchable. Despite its inequalities, the caste
What does aspirations mean in the underlined sentence? What prior knowledge do you have about this word? If you heard someone say that they aspired to a career in medicine, does that mean they want or don't want a career in medicine? Use these clues to help you figure out the meaning of aspirations.	system ensured a stable social order by giving people a sense of identity. Each caste had a role in Indian society. Siddhartha Gautama was born a Hindu prince in 563 B.C. When Gautama became aware of human suffering, he left his home to search for answers. Eventually, he believed he understood the cause and cure for suffering. He became known as the Buddha, or "the Enlightened One." The Buddha taught the Four Noble Truths, which explain life as suffering and give ways to cure it. The fourth truth is to follow the Eightfold Path. The Eightfold Path includes "right aspirations" and directs people in achieving the goals of a moral life and enlightenment. Buddhists strive to achieve nirvana, or union with the universe and release from the cycle of rebirth. Buddhism and Hinduism share many beliefs. However, Buddhism teaches people to seek enlightenment personally, rather than through priests or gods. It also rejects the caste system and teaches that everyone can reach nirvana. Buddhism spread throughout Asia but gradually broke into two seats or subgroups, with differing beliefs. Buddhism remained very
Recognize Sequence Did Buddhism develop before or after Hinduism?	sects, or subgroups, with differing beliefs. Buddhism remained very popular in Asia but declined in India. Hinduism there absorbed some Buddhist ideas.
	Review Questions
	1. How does reincarnation relate to moksha?
	2. How does Buddhism differ from Hinduism?

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Section Summary

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