***GRAPES Notes- Ancient India***

**G-GEOGRAPHY**

* INDUS RIVER-
* HAPPARAN CIVILIZATION DEVELOPED AROUND THIS RIVER (3300 B.C.E.-1700 B.C.E.)
* ROLE OF THE RIVER:
	+ PROVIDED FOOD
	+ WATER- drinking, irrigation, etc.
	+ TRADE
	+ TRANSPORTATION
* ADDITIONAL RIVER IN INDIA IS THE GANGES
* OTHER LANDFORMS IN INDIA (positives and negatives)
* HIMALYAN MOUNTAINS IN THE NORTHEAST
* HINDU-KUSH MOUNTAINS (in current Pakistan- west of India)
	+ PROTECTION
	+ ISOLATION
	+ HELPS CREATE SUBCONTINENT
* INDUS RIVER VALLEY (northwest)
* GANGES PLAIN (central part of country)
* CLIMATE IN INDIA
	+ HAS ONLY THREE (3) SEASONS
	+ MONSOON SEASON- INDIA RECEIVES 90% OF ITS YEARLY RAIN IN THREE (3) MONTHS
	+ WINTER- MILD AND COOL
	+ SPRING- VERY HOT

**R-RELIGION**

* BUDDHISM-
	+ ***ORIGIN***-
		- BEGAN IN INDIA
		- INCORPORATED PARTS OF HINDUISM
	+ ***FOUNDER***-
		- SIDDHARTHA GAUTAMA
		- BECAME KNOWN AS BUDDHA “THE ENLIGHTENED ONE”
	+ ***PRINCIPLES***-
		- FOUR NOBLE TRUTHS-
			* TRUTH OF SUFFERING
			* CAUSE OF SUFFERING
			* END OF SUFFERING
			* PATH THAT FREES US FROM SUFFERING
		- EIGHTFOLD PATH- EIGHT “STEPS” THAT ARE INTERGRATED IN EVERY DAY LIFE.
			* QUALITLES THAT ARE TAUGHT/LEARNED THROUGH THE EIGHTFOLD PATH-MORTALITY; CONTROL OF ONE’S MIND (MEDIATION); AND WISDOM
	+ ***RELIGIOUS TEXT***- NONE
	+ ***SPREAD***- SPREAD TO SOUTHEAST AND EAST ASIA THROUGH MISSIONARIES
* HINDUISM--
	+ ***ORIGIN***- DEVELOPED OVER TIME IN INDIA
	+ ***FOUNDER***- NO REAL FOUNDER BUT BEGAN DURING THE END OF THE AYRANS CIVILIZATION (1500 B.C.E. to 700 B.C.E.)
	+ ***PRINCIPLES-***
		- WORLD’S LARGEST POLYTHEISTIC RELIGION
		- BELIEF IN REINCARNATION
		- THREE MAIN GODS (TRIUMVIRATE)
			* BRAHMA-CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE; THE UNIVERSAL GOD; FINAL DESTINATION OF EVERYTHING
			* VISHNU- PRESERVER AND PROTECTOR OF THE UNIVERSE; BALANCE OF GOOD AND EVIL
			* SHIVA- DESTROYER OF THE UNIVERSE IN ORDER TO RE-CREATE IT
		- KARMA- CAUSE/EFFECT; NATURE OF LIFE
		- GOOD AND BAD ACTIONS AFFECT PERSON’S AFTERLIFE
		- DHRAMA- PERSON’S DUTY (HONOR, LOYALTY, RESPECT); PEOPLE SHOULD RESPECT NATURE AND ANIMALS
		- CREATED CASTE SYSTEM- THROUGH ARYAN CIVILIZATION
	+ ***RELIGIOUS TEXT***- VEDAS (four books)
	+ ***SPREAD***- THROUGHOUT INDIA TO SOUTHEAST ASIA THROUGH MISSIONARIES

**A-ACHIEVEMENTS**

* INDUS RIVER VALLEY (Happaran)
	+ FIRST URBAN SANITATION SYSTEMS
	+ ASTRONOMY
	+ CREATED SANSKRIT- WRITTEN LANGUAGE (follow the money!)
	+ BRICK HOMES BUILT IN A GRID SYSTEM- URBAN PLANNING
	+ WEIGHTS AND MEASURES
		- Scholars are unsure of what happened to this civilization in Ancient India.
* GUTPA EMPIRE- [320 C.E -550 C.E. (during the beginning of the Middles Ages in the West)—overrun by the Huns]
	+ CONSIDERED THE GOLDEN AGE OF INDIA
	+ UNIVERSITIES- FOR UPPER CLASS BUDDHISTS AND HINDUS
	+ LITERATURE- POETRY, FABLES, FOLKTALES, PLAYS, DRAMAS
		- PLAYS- BHAGAVAD GITA- SONG OF THE LORD, TALES OF ALADDIN
		- DRAMAS- MAHABHARTARA, RAMAYANA (epic stories about the reincarnations of gods)
	+ PAINTING- RELIGIOUS TOPICS PAINTED ON LONG SCROLLS
	+ SCULPTING- STONE, WOOD, BRONZE, TERRA-COTTA, CLAY OF BUDDHIST AND HINDU GODS
	+ METAL WORK- COINS MADE OF GOLD AND COPPER; OWNED MINES OF GOLD, COPPER, AND IRON
	+ MATHEMATICS- HINDU-ARABIC NUMERALS, ADDED A ZERO, DECIMAL SYSTEM, EARTH SPINS ON AN AXIS
	+ ROADS- WELL BUILT TO HELP TRADE; SIGNS; CONNECTED INDIA TO CHINA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA (MESOPOTAMIA)
	+ CULTIVATED COTTON- CHURKA- CREATED A TYPE OF COTTON GIN
	+ STEPWELLS- used for drinking and bathing (most were built during the Middle Ages!)

**P-POLITICAL SYSTEMS**

* SINCE THERE WERE SEVERAL DIFFERENT EMPIRES AND KINGDOMS, THE POLITICAL SYSTEMS VARIED.
* HOWEVER, MOST FOLLOWED A SIMILAR SET UP:
	+ RAJAH OR KING- leader or possible priest
	+ SOME HAD LEGISLATIVE, JUDICAL, AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES (like a democracy)
	+ OTHERS HAD COUNCILS THAT ADVISED THE RAJAH
	+ MOST ALSO HAD OFFICIALS AND AGENTS WHO OVERSAW LOCAL CITIES/TOWNS/VILLAGES AND COLLECTED TAXES
* EVENTUALLY A STRICT CASTE SYSTEM (from Hinduism) BECAME THE POLITICAL SYSTEM FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.
	+ MODERN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TODAY DOES NOT SUPPORT ANY CASTE SYSTEM

**E-ECONOMICS**

* NATURAL RESOURCES- COTTON, SPICES, METALS FROM MINING, GRAINS
* SUBSISTENCE FARMING- ONLY ENOUGH TO SURVIVE
* SPICES- USED IN TRADING
* BAZAARS- LARGE MARKETPLACES
* ELEPHANT CARAVANS
* SILVER BAR COINS

S-SOCIAL STRUCTURE

* SUBSISTENCE FARMING- ONLY ENOUGH TO SURVIVE; NO SURPLUS FOR TRADING/BARTERING
* MOST OF POPULATION FARMED THE LAND
* RIGID CASTE SYSTEM-
	+ BRAHMAN- PRIESTS, SCHOLARS
	+ KSHATRIYA- WARRIORS AND KINGS
	+ VAISYAS- ARTISANS AND TRADERS
	+ SUDRAS- FARMERS (largest class)
	+ PARIAH- OUTCASTES AND UNTOUCHABLES (work with tasks that dealt with disease and pollution, cleaning up after funerals, dealing with the sanitation systems, etc.)