Video Notes: The Dalits

- Take notes on important or interesting details from the video.
- What did you find interesting or important?
- Do you have any questions about what you saw?

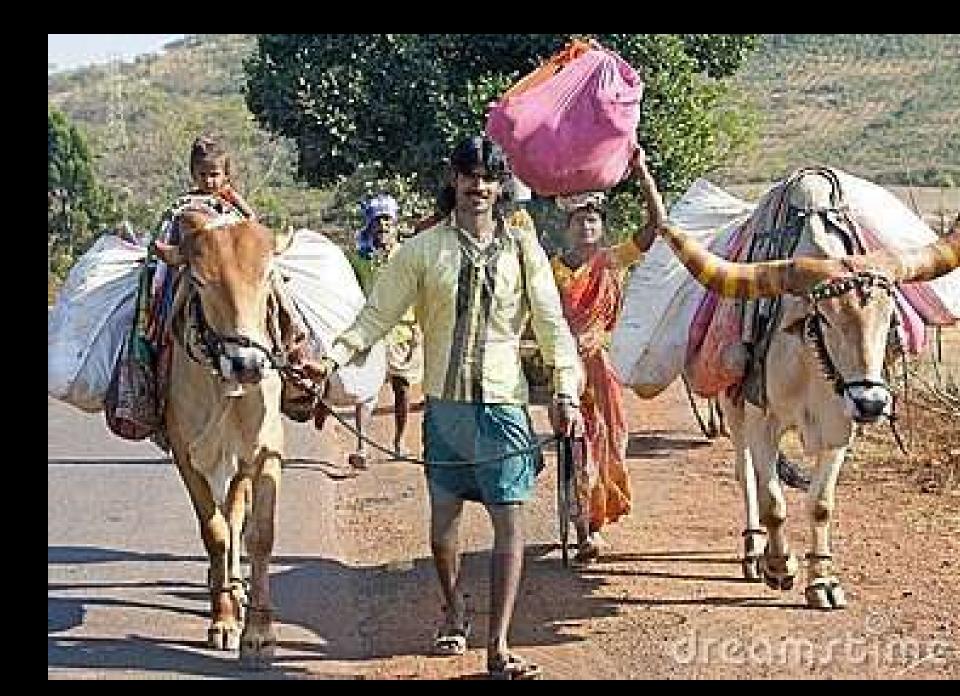
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdGY9UX1
Gr8

3.1 The Indo-Europeans

Chapter 3 Section 1
Class Notes and Homework Review of Questions 3-7.

Who are the Dalits?

- India's Untouchables People with NO CASTE.
- Considered unclean and literally "untouchable" by the rest of Indian society "polluted."
 - Did all the dirty work butchers, sewer & waste workers
- If even the shadow of an untouchable fell upon you, you would have to be ritually purified.
- The caste system and Untouchables are no longer legal class distinctions in India today. BUT socially this system still has a huge impact on daily life in India. Often untouchables convert to other religions to escape the stigma of "untouchability."
 - Ex: Buddhism has no caste system.



Steppes

Dry grasslands that stretch across central Asia.





Where did the Dalit class come from?

- The Aryans an Indo-European people who crossed the Hindu-Kush Mts into the Indus Valley.
- Greatly influenced Indian Culture established the caste system.
- The Dalits are so low they are beneath the caste system.

The Caste (system)

- A system of social classes that has its roots in Hinduism.
 - VERY STRICT (rigid).
- You were born into a specific Caste & you could not change caste.
- Today the untouchables are called <u>Dalits</u>



4 Main Castes

- 1. *Brahmins: priest caste.
- 2. *Kshatrias: rulers & warriors.
- 3. *Vaishyas: landowners, merchants, traders.
- 4. Shudras: laborers
- twice born groups could make it to Moksha enlightenment. Could not achieve Hindu Heaven without first living at least once as a Shudra.
- Why? Maybe you needed to understand what it's like at the bottom before being "promoted" to the top.

3. What were some of the technological achievements of the Hittites?

- a. Advanced Chariots
- b. Iron (steel) weapons.
 - → The making of steel was a highly guarded secret that the Hittites maintained for 200 years!

 Why keep it secret?
- Answer: You have a monopoly a huge advantage if you can make an advanced weapon and your enemies cannot.

4. What were some of the <u>borrowings</u> of the Hittites?

- a. Akkadian Language.
- b. Mesopotamian Literature.
 - ex: Epic of Gilgamesh
- c. art, politics, and law.
 - ex: Hammurabi's Code

5. Where do some of the historians think the Aryans lived before they arrived in India?

- northwest of India, between the Aral and Caspian Seas, on other side of the Hindu Kush mountains, and on the Asian Steppe lands.
- Why? b/c the Aryans valued cows highly they were probably nomadic herders.
 - Cows are considered "holy" in Hinduism (text picture).

6. Important Contributions of the Aryans

- a. Religion The caste system: A rigid (permanent & strict) class system.
 - → Kept conquered people in their place.
- b. Literature: The Vedas and Mahabharata
- c. Social Role: Everyone had clearly defined duties in life.

7. The Hittite Chariot

 an excellent fighting machine because it was light & fast, maneuverable, pulled by up to 4 horses and had room for a driver & archer.



11/4 Video Notes

Buddhism

11/4 Video Notes

Hinduism

Many Gods – polytheistic

Karma – good & bad deeds determine next <u>caste</u>.

Caste system – strict social classes based on birth.

Goal: Enlightenment / Moksha

Rivers = symbols of never ending life (reincarnation)
The Ganges river = holy.

Buddhism
No Gods* – a way of life

* today Mahayana Buddhists see Buddha as a god.

Founder: Siddhartha Gautama Goal: Enlightenment / Nirvana Karma – good & bad deeds determine next <u>life</u>.

No Caste – can make it to enlightenment in 1 lifetime Reincarnation – cycle of birth – life – death – rebirth broken with enlightenment

11/5 Class Notes on 3.1 The Hittites

• Indo-European peoples who migrated to Anatolia and established an Empire.



• Famous for their Warrior Chariots. The nobility hunted Lions as a test of Manhood.

Capital City – Hattusha – Rivals of Fevnt



The Lion Gate



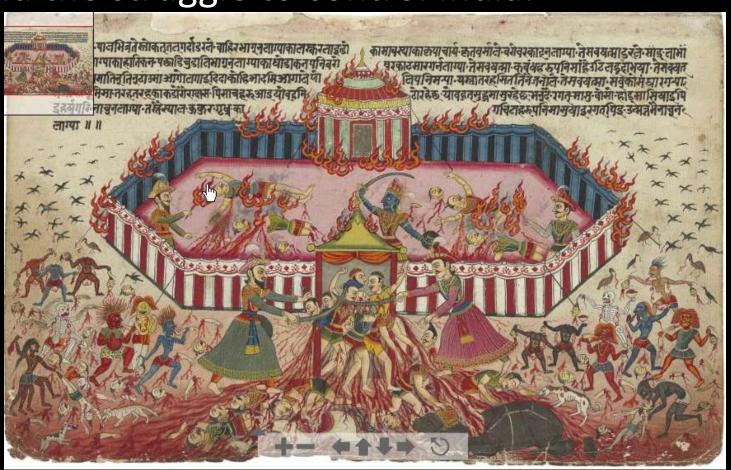
Anatolia

• A huge <u>Peninsula</u> just below the black sea, Home of the Hittite Empire, <u>Modern Turkey</u>.



Mahabharata

 Great Epic & mythical story about Indian kings and the struggle to control India.



Krishna

- Hero of the Mahabharata, Krishna was a god in human form which interacted with humans in different ways.
- Hinduism believes in 1000s of gods, all of whom interact with humans in various ways.





Perusha

- The first human being from which the 4 castes were descended from.
- East caste represents a different body part.
 - Head = Brahmin
 - Arms = Kshatriyas
 - Legs = Vaishyas
 - Feet = Shudras



Sanskrit

 An Indian language which has Indo-European roots (the Aryans) and has influenced many modern languages like English and Spanish.



Vedas

- Sacred book of the Aryans and early Hinduism.
- Provides a picture of Aryan life.



Migration

 Movement of a people from one region to another (generally permanent).

