

Name:
Cycle #

**Unit 1: Rivers and
Civilizations**
**Lesson 8: Early Indian
Empires**

LEQ: How did the Mauryan and Gupta empires develop in India?
Mauryan empire was founded, Buddhism played a role during
Asoka's rule, and Gupta had many cultural advances

Describe the achievements of the
Mauryan empire under both
Maurya's and Asoka's rule.

Maurya: modern ideas

- collected taxes
- created postal system
- well paved roadways: Grand Trunk
Road still in use

Asoka:

- practiced Buddhism, but allowed
his people to practice own religions
- 40 years peace/prosperity
- India-center of trade

What were the achievements of the Gupta
Empire?

-epics- greatest works of literature

Math:

- decimal system
- 1-9 numerals
- zero: place values
- algorithms
- algebra

Science:

- discovered sun is center of solar system
- understood concept of gravity

Using Lessons 7-8, write a paragraph about how beliefs shaped life in ancient India. Use
details from the text to support your response.

Major beliefs emerged like Hinduism and Buddhism. Hindus believed good karma led
to favorable reincarnation. They had polytheistic beliefs and prayed to deities.
Caste systems played a major role in everyday life because each caste had a certain
role in their civilization.

Buddhists believed in the Four Noble Truths and The Eightfold Path to relieve people
of suffering.