## MODULE-2 SOCIAL-POLITICAL FORMATION IN THE INDO- GANGETIC PLAINS TOPIC- BUDDHISM & JAINISM

## **BUDDHISM**

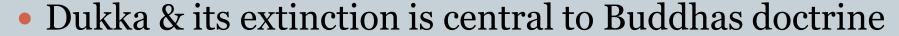
- Siddhartha
- Son of Mahamaya & Suddhodhana (Sakya chief)
- Wife Yasodhara
- Son Rahula
- At the age of 35 attained enlightenment under a pipal tree on the outskirts of the town of Gaya in the realm of Bimbisara, King of Magadha- known as Buddha (the 'Enlightened')
- He went to the deer park in Saranath where his 5
  companions had settled to these 5 ascetics Buddha
  preached his first sermon- 'Dhamma- chakka-pavattana'Turning the wheel of Dhamma

- Samyutta Nikaya- Dhamma-chakka-pavattana
- Preached for 40 years
- Spent his last 18 year near the city of Vaishali
- Died at Kusinara- near modern Gorakhpur- due to dysentery-483 BCE
- Last words- 'Atta dipo bhava'- 'Be a Lamp unto Yourself'
- His ashes were divided amongst his representatives

## TEACHINGS OF BUDDHA

- Different to monastic orders & laymen
- Core of his doctrine is Ariya-sachchani- Four Noble Truths
- There is suffering(dhukka)
- It has a cause(samudaya)
- 3. It can be removed(niroda)
- 4. The way to achieve this is Ashtanga Magga- Eight fold path

- Ashtanga-Magga
- Right view
- 2. Right intention
- 3. Right Speech
- 4. Right action
- Right Livelihood
- 6. Right Effort
- 7. Right mindfulness
- 8. Right Meditation

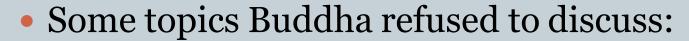


- He taught that everything is suffering
- Desire (trishna) is the central to the cause & removal of suffering
- He also gave importance to the concept of impermanence(anichcha)
- Impermanance of life- no one can control/prevent sickness, old age & death
- Ex —river seems the same but the drops of water that constitute it are changing every instant

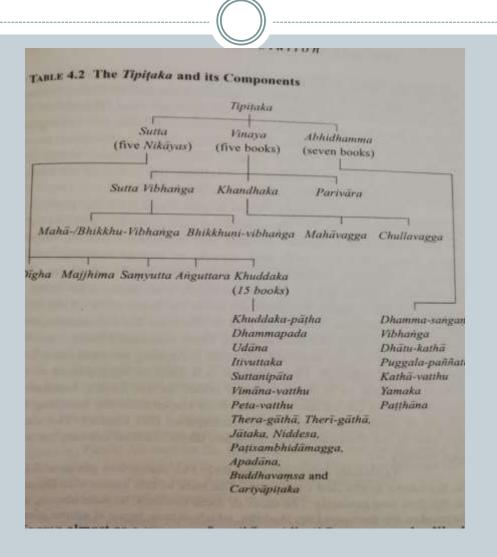
- Another important teaching- patichcha-samuppadalaw of dependent origination- elements of this law were presented as a wheel consisting of nidanas one leading to the next
- Ultimate goal of Buddhas teaching was the attainment of nibbana- does not mean a physical death but it mean breaking out of the cycle of birth, death & rebirth
- Parinibbana- term to denote the death of Buddha



- Buddha emphasis on ahimsa
- Triratnas Buddha, Dhamma, Sangha
- Dhamma- not merely a set of philosophical tenets-it is a path, which leads one to total annihilation of suffering
- Sangha- Buddhist monastic order



- 1. Is the universe permanent or not permanent?
- 2. Is the universe with or without an ending?
- 3. Is the soul identical with the body or separate from it?



- Tripitaka-3 baskets
- Term for Buddhist scriptures
- Vinaya pitaka- rules & regulations of monastic life
- Suttapitaka doctrinal teachings
- Abhidhammapitaka interpretation of Buddhist doctrine
- Dhammapada- anthology of basic Buddhist teachings(part of Khudakka Nikaya(short collection) of Sutta Pitaka

## **JAINISM**

- Mahavira not founder-24<sup>th</sup> & last Tirthankara(Ford Maker)
- Rishabanatha & Arishtanemi- Tirthankaras mentioned in Rigveda
- Parshvanatha-23<sup>rd</sup> Tirthankara
- Vardhamana-born in 599CE at Kundagrama, a city near Vaishali, capital of Videha
- Born in a Kshatriya family
- Father Siddhartha-chief of Jnatri clan
- Mother Trishala, Videha King's sister
- Mahavira attained kevalajnana at the town of Jrimbhikagrama

- Died at Pava near Patna 527 BCE
- Jaina means follower of a jina, which means victor, a person who has attained infinite knowledge & teaches others how to attain moksha i.e., liberation from cycle of rebirth
- Tirthankara means ford builder i.e., one who builds fords that help people across the ocean of suffering
- By 300 CE the Jaina sangha came to be divided into 2 sects- Digambara(skyclad) & Shevtambara(white clad)

- Triratnas-
- > Right Faith
- Right Knowledge
- > Right Conduct

- Five great vows- Pancha-mahavrata
- > Ahimsa
- > Satya
- ➤ Asteya -not to steal
- > Brahmacharya
- > Aparigraha non-possession