

Pre-Buddhist Japan and how buddhism arrived

Early times

- ◆ Jomon & Yayoi period
 - ◆ Animism
- ◆ Kofun period
 - ◆ Shamanism represented by Himiko



Buddhism

Siddhartha Gautama

- ◆ Born in Lumbini as a prince of the Sakya clan in approx. 563-483 BCE.
- ◆ Departure (the age of 29) and ascetic life
- ◆ Enlightenment (35)
 - ◆ Buddha: "the Awakened One" or "the Enlightened One"
- ◆ Formation of the Sangha
- ◆ Died at the age of 80
 - ◆ A stupa is a mound-like structure containing Buddhist relics, typically the remains of Buddha, used by Buddhists as a place of worship.



Teachings

- ◆ The Middle Way
- ◆ The Four Noble Truths
 - ◆ The Truth of Suffering
 - ◆ The Truth of the Accumulation of Suffering
 - ◆ The Truth of the Elimination of Suffering
 - ◆ The Truth of the Path that Leads Away from Suffering
- ◆ The Dependent Arising (Engi)



Main streams

- ◆ Theravada Buddhism
- ◆ Mahayana Buddhism
 - ◆ since the 1st century BCE

Art of Gandhara (1-5 century)



Buddhism in Japan

The coming of Buddhism

- ◆ Buddhism arrived in Japan in 538 or 552
- ◆ Prince Shotoku, 573-621
 - ◆ He strove to consolidate Japan politically and spiritually with help of Buddhism.



Horyuji Temple



Nara Period (710-794)

- ◆ Buddhism as a national religion
- ◆ Six sects of Nara Buddhism
- ◆ The Great Buddha of the Todaiji temple was dedicated in 749.

Todaiji Temple



Popular Buddhism

- ◆ Combining Buddhism with native shamanism
- ◆ Healing the sick, consoling the afflicted, counseling the oppressed and building the bridges and irrigation system
- ◆ Gyogi (668-749)

