

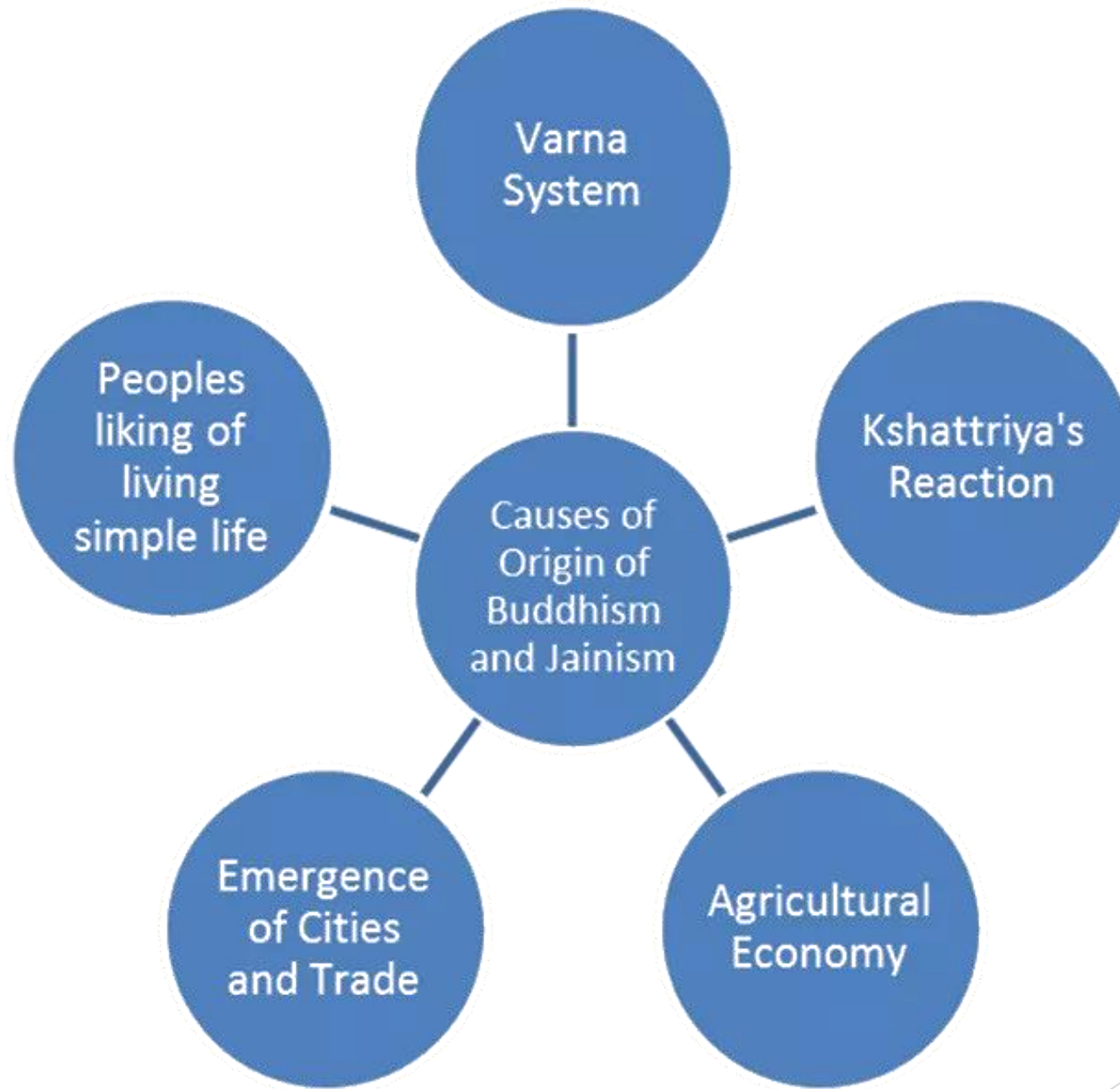


Swami Mahavir ji



Mahatma Gautam Buddha

Buddhism and Jainism



❖ Cause of origin of Buddhism and Jainism:

1. New agricultural economy in North - Eastern India.
2. Vedic practices of killing cattle indiscriminately sacrifices hampered the progress of the new agriculture.
3. The use of coins in newly formed cities facilitated trade and commerce, which added to the importance of the Vaishyas.
4. The new form of property created sharp social inequalities, and caused misery and suffering to the mass of ordinary people.
5. The Kshatriya reaction against domination of Brahmins, who claimed various privileges.
6. Vardhaman Mahavir founded Jainism and Gautam Buddha, who founded Buddhism belonged to Kshatriya clan

❖ Causes of Spread of Jainism and Buddhism:

1. Both Gautam Buddha and Vardhaman Mahavira were **magnetic personalities** who could profoundly influence anybody they came into contact with.
2. **Buddhism used Pali** and **Jainism used Prakrit**, both languages of the common people which helped in their spread.
3. Buddhism did not indulge in metaphysical discussions and suggested a simple and practical way of living.
4. They were patronized by various kingdoms, **Nandas patronized Jainism** and **Mauryas Patronized Buddhism**.
5. They did not attach much importance to the existing varna system, and hence appealed to the lower classes.
6. Mahavira followed a liberal policy towards women. Admission of women to be sangha swelled the ranks of Buddhism.

❖ Buddhist Literature:

Tripitaka (also called Tipitaka in Pali), or **three baskets**, written in the Pali language, are the most important texts in Buddhism.

1. **Sutta Pitaka**: It is the largest of the three Pitaka. It contains **discourses, lessons, and quotations** allegedly taken directly from the Buddha. **Ananda**, a student of Buddha, recited it after the Death of Buddha.
2. **Vinaya Pitaka**: It contains monastic rules for monks and nuns. **Upali**, another student of Buddha, recited it.
3. **Abhidhamma Pitaka**: It contains a philosophical treatise on Buddhism. Since both **Hinayana and Mahayana** have different philosophical interpretations, they have different versions of their Abhidhamma.

Further, Sarvastivada and Mahayana have produced their Abhidhamma in Sanskrit instead of Pali.

Apart from the Pali canon, a separate Abhidhamma was written by the Sarvastivadins, as seen in the Fourth Buddhist Council.

Jainism and Buddhism- Similarities and Dissimilarities

Similarities	Dissimilarities	
	JAINISM	BUDDHISM
■ Both Mahavira and Buddha hailed from royal families. Yet they renounced royal privileges and chose to adopt an ascetic life. ■ Denied the authority of Vedas. ■ Taught in the language of the common people. ■ Admitted disciples from all the castes and from both the genders ■ Opposed blood sacrifices. ■ Believed in the doctrine of Karma. ■ Emphasized on right conduct and right knowledge instead of performing religious ceremonies and rituals as the means to achieve salvation.	■ It followed extreme path. ■ It remained in India only. ■ It does not believe in the existence of god, but believes life in every living being.	■ It followed middle path. ■ It spread across many parts of the world. ■ It emphasises on ANATMA (no eternal soul) and ANITYA (impermanence).

❑ Buddhism:

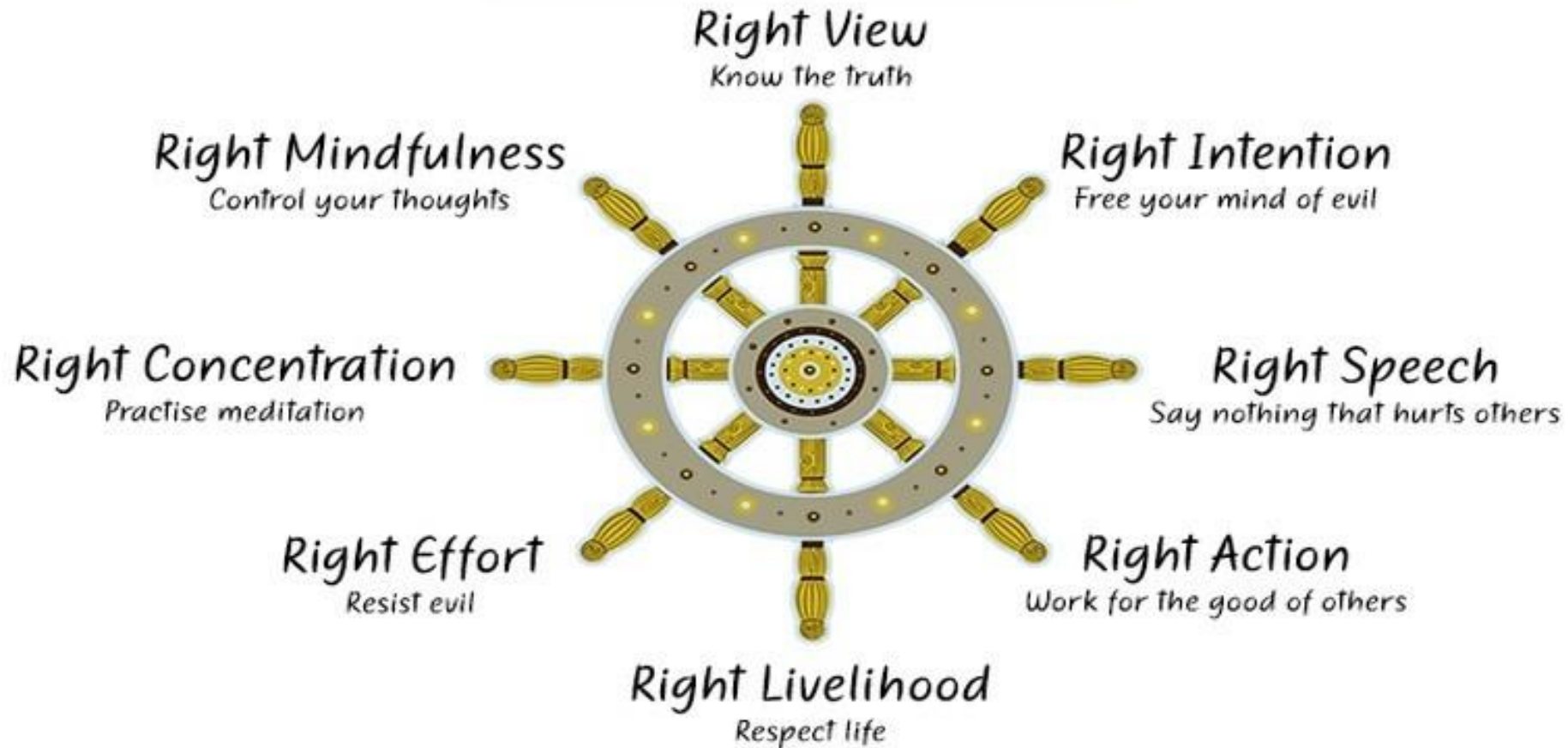
- Founded by Gautam Buddha originally known as Siddhartha.

Born into royal family of Sakya clan in 563 B.C. at Lumbini (who ruled in Nepal near Kapilavastu)

- He renounced the world (Mahabhinishkarmana) at age of 29 after witnessing four scenes- **old man, sick man, dead and ascetic**.
- Attained Nirvana/ Bodhi - at 35 years of age at Bodhgaya under a Pipal tree on the banks of Nirjan(Phalgu) river on the **49th day of meditation**.
- He delivered his First Sermon(Dharma-Chakra-Pravartana) - **turning of the wheel of law** at Sarnath near Varanasi(UP) and died at age of 80 years in 483 B.C. at Kusinagar in U.P. (**Mahaparinirvaan**).
- He was **also known as Sakyamuni**.
- Sudhodhan(Father), Mahamaya(Mother), Yashodhara(Wife), Rahula(Son), Devadutta(cousin), Alara kaula of Vaishali, Ananda(favorite disciple), Kanthaka(Horse), were some of the **important people** in his life.

Noble Truth	Buddhist word	Meaning
The truth of suffering	Dukkha	<u>Accepting that all life is impermanent and imperfect</u> , and that it involves suffering (frustration or dissatisfaction).
The truth of the origin of suffering	Samudaya	Knowing that there are things in life that cause suffering, for example <u>desire</u> , which is the need for things to be a certain way.
The truth of the end of suffering	Nirodha	Understanding that suffering can be ended if we <u>detach ourselves from craving and desire</u> .
The truth of the path to the end of suffering	Magga	Knowing that there is <u>a way to end suffering: the Noble Eightfold Path</u> .

The Noble Eightfold Path



► The three Jewels(Triratna):

1. Buddha(The Enlightened)
2. Dharma(Doctrine)
3. Sangha(Order)

Buddhist Council			
First		Second	
Location	Rajagriha (Saptaparni Cave)	Location	Vaishali
Time	483 BCE	Time	383 BC
President	Mahakassap	President	Sabbakami (Sarvakaamee)
Reign	Ajatashatru (Haryanka dynasty)	Reign	Kalashoka (Shishunaga dynasty)
Result	Compilation of Buddha's teachings into two Pitakas—Sutta Pitaka and Vinaya Pitaka	Result	Division of Buddhism into Sthavira and Mahasanghika
Third		Fourth	
Location	Patliputra	Location	Kundalvan of Kashmir
Time	251 BCE	Time	1st century AD
President	Moggaliputta Tissa	President	Vasumitra and Ashvaghosha (Vice President)
Reign	Ashoka (Mauryan dynasty)	Reign	Kanishka (Kushana dynasty)
Result	Rendering of strict rules against Sangh discrimination and compilation of third pitaka Abhidhamma Pitaka	Result	Division of Buddhism into two sects Hinayana and Mahayana

❖ SCHOOLS OF BUDDHISM:

	Hinayana Buddhism	Mahayana Buddhism
1	Hinayana held firm to the letter of Buddha's teachings	Mahayana held firm to the essence of buddha's teachings
2	Hinayana developed with the Sangha as the Centre	Mahayana developed with the individual as the centre
3	Hinayana Scriptures are written mainly Pali and are founded on the Tripitaka.	Mahayana scriptures written in Sanskrit are the sutras.
4	Hinayana believes in Salvation by works, that each man must work out his own Salvation	Mahayana believes in Salvation by faith
5	Hinayana is centered round the acts of Buddha	Mahayana is centered around the Symbolism of Buddha's life and personality
6	Hinayan stressed righteous action and the law of Karma	Mahayan held that over and above the law of Karma was law of karuna or compassion
7	The Hinayana ideas is the Arhat, who strives after his own redemption	Mahayana upholds the ideal of the Bodhisattva or saviour who is concerned with the salvation of others.
8	Hinayana literally means the lesser vehicle.	Mahayana literally means the greater vehicle.

❖ Impact of Buddhism:

1. **Replacement of Dogmatism and Faith** with logic and Reason
2. Promotion of Trade and Commerce.
3. **Concept of ahimsa** was its chief Contribution. Ahimsa boosted the cattle wealth of the country.
4. Improvement of condition of women and other downtrodden sections.
5. **Promotion of Pali and many other local Languages.**
6. Promotion of education through residential Universities like those at **Takshila, Nagarjunakonda, Nalanda and Vikramshila.**
7. Buddhist architecture developed in three forms- **Stupa, Chaitya and Vihara.**
Stupa is a domical structure in which relics of Buddha or some other prominent Buddhist monk are preserved.
Chaitya is temple or shrine with a prayer hall. **Vihar is a Monastery** or residence of monks

❖ REASONS FOR DECLINE OF BUDDHISM IN INDIA:

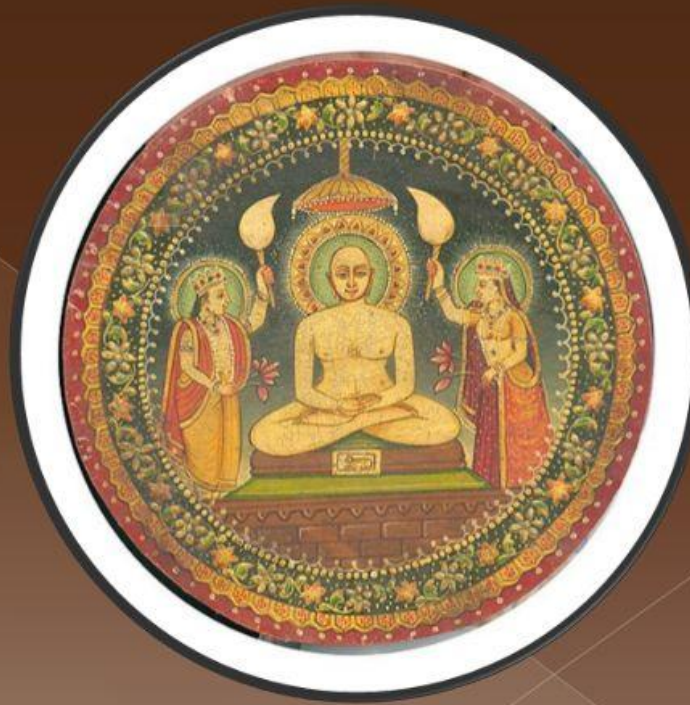
- Division among the Buddhists
- Corruption in Buddhist Sanghas
- The decline in royal patronage
- Reform in Hinduism
- Use of Sanskrit Language
- Idol worship
- Role of Hindu saints

❖ Jainism:

- Vardhaman Mahavir born in 540 BC at Kundligram near Vaishali.
- He was from kshatriya clan (Siddhartha - Father).
- Married and had a daughter but then renounced family at age of 30, for year was a member of an order founded by **Parsavnath**.
- Spent 6 years wandering with Makkhali Gosala
- **Attained Kaivalya** under sal tree, at Trimbhikagrama at a **age of 42**.
- **Died at the age of 72** in 486 BC. At Pavipuri.
- **Mahavir** was the 24th Tirthankar,
Parsavnath - 23rd Tirthankar and
Rishabhdev - 1st Tirthankar.

Jain Practice

- ◉ The three Jewels
 - Right insight
 - Right knowledge
 - Right conduct (the Five practices)
 - Non-violence
 - Truthfulness
 - Non-stealing
 - Sexual Purity
 - Non-possession



Ahimsa

• **Non-Violence**

Satya

• **Truth**

Asteya

• **Non stealing and not to receive anything which was not voluntarily given**

Aparigraha

• **Non possession**

Brahmacharya

• **Celibacy**

	1st	2nd
Year	330 B.C.	512 B.C.
Venue	Patliputra	Vallabhi
Chairman	Sthulbhadra	Devardhi Kshmasramna
Patron	Chandragupta Maurya	-
Result	Complilation of 12 Angas	Final Complioation of 12 Angas & 12 Upangas

❖ Jain Literature:

There are two types of Jain texts:

1. **Agam Sutras or Canonical Literature**: consists of many sacred texts written in the Ardha-magadhi, a form of Prakrit language.
2. **Non-Agam Literature**: commentary on the Agam literature and independent works compiled by ascetics and scholars.

Teachings of Tirthankara before Mahavira were known as **Purva Sutras**. The Digambar's today believe that the original Jain text has long been lost and, Svetambara's believe that some portion of the text is preserved.

The canon is divided into six sections and contains either forty-five or forty-six books.

1. The twelve Angas or limbs
2. The twelve Upangas, or secondary limbs
3. The ten Painnas, or 'Scattered-pieces'
4. The six Cheya-Suttas
5. Individual texts (two)
6. The four Mula-Suttas

	<u>Digambara</u> (The 'sky clad')	<u>Svetamabara</u> (The 'White clad')
Position on Clothes	To achieve nirvana (liberation), one must renounce everything, including clothes.	Nudity is not essential to attain liberation.
On Women	Women require to be first reborn as a man to attain liberation.	All individuals, including women, are equally capable of achieving liberation.
On Having Possession	Monks cannot have any possessions except three things, <u>Picchi</u> (Broom), <u>Kamandal</u> (water pot), and shastra (books).	<u>Shvetambara</u> monks are allowed to possess 14 specified things
On idols	<u>Digambara</u> idols are undecorated and naked, having downcast eyes.	Svetambara idols are decorated with jewels, wearing loin-cloth with prominent staring eyes.
On scriptures	They hold the opinion that original texts of Jainism were lost long ago.	They believe they have the original scriptures, even though they are incomplete.
On Mahavira's Marriage	They believe that Mahavira was not married.	They believe that Mahavira was married to princess Yashoda before renunciation.

❖ **Contribution of Jainism:**

- Jainism made the first serious attempt to mitigate the evils of the Varna system and ritualistic Vedic Religion.
 - The early Jinas discarded Sanskrit and adopted Prakrit language for preaching, the religious literature was written in Ardhamaghadhi.
 - Out of Suraseni Prakrit Marathi Language grew, prepared first grammar of Apbhramsa
 - Jains started worshiping Idols of Mahavira.
 - Contributed substantially in art and architecture of Medieval times.
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- ✓ **Avadhi jnana**-Clairvoyant Perception
 - ✓ **Manahparyaya jnana**- Telepathic Knowledge
 - ✓ **Keval Jnana**- Temporal Knowledge or Omniscience

❖ **DECLINE OF JAINISM IN INDIA:**

- ▶ **Decline of Jainism Lack of royal patronage:** Rulers like Bimbisara, Ajatasatru, Udayin, and Kharavela had extended royal patronage to Jainism. But later on, the spread of Buddhism captured the space occupied by Jainism.
- ▶ **Lack of missionary zeal:** Unlike Buddhists, Jain monks were less enthusiastic about the spread of Jainism.
- ▶ **Extreme austere lifestyle:** Strict lifestyle was practiced by the Jain monks - alienation of people.
- ▶ **Renunciation of certain occupations:** For example, Jainas couldn't be agriculturalists as it involved showing cruelty towards pests.
- ▶ **The rise of Buddhism:** The most critical factor behind the decline of Jainism. Since Buddhism advocated simple living and a middle path, it was accepted by the masses.
- ▶ **The rise of Bhakti movement** - the rise of Vaishnavism, Saivism and Shaktism was another reason behind the decline.

Summary:

- * The Sixth century BC (BCE) was an important period of the intellectual and spiritual development in India.
- * Jainism was a doctrine developed by 24 Tirthankaras.
- * Mahavira exhorted the three-fold path – Right faith, Right knowledge, Right action.
- * Gautama Buddha was the founder of Buddhism.
- * Buddha's teachings are referred to as dhamma.
- * Buddhism crossed the frontiers of Indian sub-continent but Jainism was confined to India.
- * Basic philosophy of Jainism and Buddhism is ahimsa or non-violence

