

Chapter 5 – Ancient India

Section 2 – Confucius Notes

Life	Teachings	Effects
<p>Most famous and important of early Chinese thinkers</p> <p>Born in 551 B.C. to a noble but poor Family</p> <p>Loved learning and was largely self-taught</p> <p>Hoped to advance to an important government job, but did not succeed</p> <p>Became a teacher—possibly China's first professional teacher</p> <p>Accepted students who were not able to pay for an education if they wanted to learn</p> <p>Wandered North China looking for a ruler who would follow his teachings, but did not find one</p> <p>Considered himself unsuccessful and died at age 73 in 479 B.C.</p>	<p>Passed on forgotten teachings of wise people from an earlier age</p> <p>Teachings focused on persuading rulers to reform, and bringing peace, stability, and prosperity to kingdoms</p> <p>Confucius's teachings were gathered into a philosophy known as Confucianism</p> <p>Confucius believed that if people could be taught to behave properly toward each other, order and peace would return</p> <p>Taught that people should know their place in family and society and should respect people above and below them</p> <p>"Do not do to others what you would not want done to yourself" summarizes his teachings</p>	<p>Teachings had major impact on Chinese government</p> <p>Became basic training for members of the civil service</p> <p>Confucius's ideas became the basis for government jobs—anyone could take the exams to hold government offices</p> <p>Examinations for government offices were based on Confucius's teachings</p> <p>Even the poor were able to apply and attain high government offices, whereas before Confucius, only the elite could apply</p> <p>Confucius left a lasting mark on Chinese life</p>