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Welcome

Japanese Art History
ARTH 2071
Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

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The Rich Aesthetic of Japanese Art






1
Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

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Introduction To Buddhism

- Siddhartha Gautama
- Prince, son of King of Sakya in Nepal
- Great Renunciation – to seek the truth
- Great Enlightenment in 528 BC – salvation from suffering through freedom from desires
- Buddha means “Enlightened One”



Great Buddha at Todaiji
8th century

2
Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

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Introduction To Buddhism

- Buddha believed in the karmic cycle and that the entire universe was a self-perpetuating illusion.
- Karma – each moment arises out of a multitude of causes and conditions and in turn conditions the next moment.
- The goal of life is to break the cycles of death and birth by realizing the true nature of things.

3
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◀▶

Introduction To Buddhism

- Reincarnation exists because of our cravings and desires to live in this world.
- Nirvana is freedom from the cycle of reincarnation – the enlightened state in which the person is free from greed, hate, and ignorance.

4
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◀▶

Introduction To Buddhism

- Four Noble Truths of Buddhism
 - Life is suffering
 - The reason for suffering is desire
 - Liberation from suffering comes from cessation of desire
 - There is a path to follow to free oneself from desire
- Following the Noble Eightfold Path helps a person realize that greed and selfishness cause all earthly suffering. With this new understanding, one’s suffering may end.

5
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Introduction To Buddhism

- The Eightfold Path
 - Right Knowledge
 - Right Thinking
 - Right Speech
 - Right Conduct
 - Right Livelihood
 - Right Effort
 - Right Mindfulness
 - Right Concentration

6 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Introduction To Buddhism

- After his enlightenment, Buddha preached throughout India until his death at age 80
- For hundreds of years, Buddha's teachings were an oral tradition, passed from his ten disciples to others.
- Buddha's teachings were not written down until about 50 BC
- The original written documents are in Sanskrit, a major language of the Indian sub-continent.
- The writings of Buddha are divided into chapters or sutras.

7 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhism In Japan

- Buddhism introduced in Japan in 552 and 584 – epidemics broke out and temples were destroyed.
- Buddhism successfully reintroduced in 587 by Prince Shotoku (Regent) and Soga no Umako (Prime Minister); integrated into government reforms of 645.
- In 624 there were 46 Buddhist temples; just 70 years later in 694 there were 545 temples.
- Emperor Shomu (r. 724-749) focused the government, aristocracy and court on Buddhism and built Todaiji.

8 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka & Nara

9 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

- A Buddhist temple is a complex of buildings
 - Chomon – entrance gate, generally at the south of the compound
 - Pagoda – diagram of the universe and often a memorial to an important person
 - Kondo or hondo – main hall, contains principal altars and dedicated to active worship
 - Kodo – lecture hall
 - Roofed Cloister – private area for priests
 - Support buildings – refectory, sleeping quarters, storage, etc.

10 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Plan of Yakushiji Completed 697 Mason fig. 74

1 main pagoda	4 gate	7 roofed cloister
2 main pagoda	5 refectory	8 kitchen
3 chomon	6 living quarters	9 main gate

11 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Yakushi Temple, Hondo, Main Hall
Mason fig. 75

12 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

East Pagoda Yakushiji
First half 8th century
Mason fig. 76

13 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Plan of Todaiji
Completed 752
Mason fig. 77

1. Main Hall	2. Main Hall	3. Main Hall
4. Main Hall	5. Main Hall	6. Main Hall
7. Main Hall	8. Main Hall	9. Main Hall
10. Main Hall	11. Main Hall	12. Main Hall
13. Main Hall	14. Main Hall	15. Main Hall
16. Main Hall	17. Main Hall	18. Main Hall
19. Main Hall	20. Main Hall	21. Main Hall
22. Main Hall	23. Main Hall	24. Main Hall
25. Main Hall	26. Main Hall	27. Main Hall
28. Main Hall	29. Main Hall	30. Main Hall
31. Main Hall	32. Main Hall	33. Main Hall
34. Main Hall	35. Main Hall	36. Main Hall
37. Main Hall	38. Main Hall	39. Main Hall
40. Main Hall	41. Main Hall	42. Main Hall
43. Main Hall	44. Main Hall	45. Main Hall
46. Main Hall	47. Main Hall	48. Main Hall
49. Main Hall	50. Main Hall	51. Main Hall
52. Main Hall	53. Main Hall	54. Main Hall
55. Main Hall	56. Main Hall	57. Main Hall
58. Main Hall	59. Main Hall	60. Main Hall
61. Main Hall	62. Main Hall	63. Main Hall
64. Main Hall	65. Main Hall	66. Main Hall
67. Main Hall	68. Main Hall	69. Main Hall
70. Main Hall	71. Main Hall	72. Main Hall
73. Main Hall	74. Main Hall	75. Main Hall
76. Main Hall	77. Main Hall	78. Main Hall
79. Main Hall	80. Main Hall	81. Main Hall
82. Main Hall	83. Main Hall	84. Main Hall
85. Main Hall	86. Main Hall	87. Main Hall
88. Main Hall	89. Main Hall	90. Main Hall
91. Main Hall	92. Main Hall	93. Main Hall
94. Main Hall	95. Main Hall	96. Main Hall
97. Main Hall	98. Main Hall	99. Main Hall
100. Main Hall	101. Main Hall	102. Main Hall

14 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Todaiji Temple, Entrance to Deer Park
Established 752 in Nara, Photo: S. Rindsberg

15 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Todaiji Temple
Gate to Main Kondo
Established 752 in Nara
Photo: H. Rindsberg

16 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Todaiji Temple, Established 752 in Nara
Looking back towards Gate to Main Kondo, Photo: H. Rindsberg

17 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Todaiji Temple, Kondo, Main Hall
Established 752 in Nara, Photo: H. Rindsberg

18 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Todaiji Temple
Kondo, Main Hall
Established 752 in Nara

19 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Overview of Todaiji, From Nigatsudo Temple
Web: Asian Historical Architecture

20 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Elevation Five-Storyed Pagoda
Horyuji Temple
Mason fig. 73

21 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Elevation Five-Storyed
Pagoda
Horyuji Temple
Mason fig. 73

22 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

Elevation Five-Storyed
Pagoda
Horyuji Temple
Mason fig. 73

23 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Hakuho 645 - 710

Tableau of the Death of Shaka
Horyuji, 711, Mason fig. 99

24 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Hakuho 645 - 710

Detail, *Tableau of the Death of Shaka*
Horyuji, 711
Mason fig. 99 *

25 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

A

Elevation Five-Storeyed Pagoda
Horyuji Temple
Mason fig. 73

26 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

In Other Cultures

Potala Monastery, Lhasa, Tibet
Former Home of the Dalai Lama, 7th century

27 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

In Other Cultures

Notre Dame Cathedral, By Maurice de Sully, 1163 – 1345
Web: aviewoncities.com


28 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

In Other Cultures – Buddhist Sculpture

Buddha's Footprint, *Bussokuseki*
From Pakistan
Web: The Buddha Corner

29 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism


Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara



The Daibutsu Birushana
Todaiji Temple
H: 53 feet, bronze
Established 752 in Nara
Wiki Commons

30 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism


Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara



The Daibutsu Birushana, Todaiji
Web: Asian Historical Architecture

31 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism


Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara



The Daibutsu Birushana, Todaiji Temple
For a sense of scale
Web: wa-pedia.com

32 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

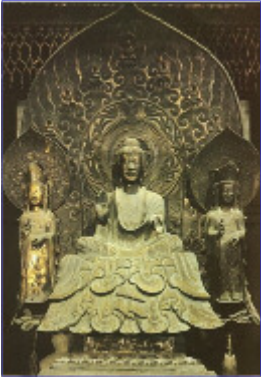
Buddhist Sculpture – Asuka/Nara



Interior and Display of Shaka Triad and Yakushi
Horyuji, Nara Mason fig. 93 *

33 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Sculpture – Asuka/Nara




A

Shaka Triad by Tori Busshi
Dated 623 H: 46 inches
Horyuji Temple
Mason fig. 86

34 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Sculpture – Asuka/Nara



Shaka Triad Bodhisattvas
Details, Mason fig. 86 *

35 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Sculpture – Asuka/Nara

Shaka Triad Mandara
Details
Web: Buddha Corner
Dr. Hirayama

36 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Sculpture – Asuka/Nara

A

Shaka Triad by Tori Busshi
Dated 623 H: 46 inches
Horyuji Temple
Mason fig. 86

37 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Sculpture – Asuka/Nara

Chuguji Miroku
(Buddha of the Future)
7th century H: 52 inches
Mason fig. 96

38 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Sculpture – Asuka/Nara

Chuguji Miroku, Detail
7th century H: 52 inches
Mason fig. 96

39 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Architecture – Asuka/Nara

A

Elevation Five-Storeyed Pagoda
Horyuji Temple
Mason fig. 73

40 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism

Buddhist Sculpture – Asuka/Nara

A

Shaka Triad by Tori Busshi
Dated 623 H: 46 inches
Horyuji Temple
Mason fig. 86

41 Chapter Two: Early Buddhism