

Asia Vocabulary

- 1. Great Wall of China:** A wall that was built 2,200 years ago to defend China from invaders from the north. Over the years it has been rebuilt and lengthened and now is over 4000 miles.
- 2. Human Rights:** Rights that are believed to belong justifiably to every person
- 3. Han:** An ethnic group in China that makes up 92% of the population
- 4. Mandarin:** the official language of China and Taiwan
- 5. Buddhism:** A religion based on the teachings of the Buddha that developed in India in the 500s BC
- 6. Daoism:** One of many religions in China that reflects a reverence for nature
- 7. Mao Zedong:** Chinese leader; He made China a Communist state in 1949
- 8. Communism:** An economic and political system in which the government owns all businesses and controls the economy
- 9. Outsourcing:** Companies hire outside an company or individual to do work. U.S. companies often outsource to foreign countries where workers may be more flexible or willing to work for lower wages.
- 10. The Silk Road:** A network of trade routes that linked China and Europe
- 11. Mother Teresa:** A Roman Catholic nun who devoted her life to serving the poor and destitute around the world. She spent many years in Calcutta, India where she founded Missionaries of Charity.
- 12. Nonviolence:** Refraining from the use of violence, especially when reacting to or protesting against oppression, injustice or discrimination
- 13. Gandhi:** Hindu nationalist leader, he led nonviolent protests against British rule in India
- 14. Caste System:** A social structure in which classes are determined by heredity
- 17. Hinduism:** The main religion of India; it teaches that everything is part of a universal spirit called Brahman
- 18. Reincarnation:** The rebirth of a soul in a new body
- 19. Karma:** The total effect of a person's actions and conduct during the successive phases of the person's existence, regarded as determining the person's destiny.

20. Ring of Fire: A long narrow band of volcanoes surrounding the Pacific Ocean

21. Cultural Diffusion: The movement of ideas or behaviors from one cultural region to another