



BUDDHA PU RN I M A

In Focus

May 2022
(First Edition)

*If you light a lamp for somebody,
it will also brighten your path.*

BUDDHA PURNIMA

- Buddha Purnima, also known as Buddha Jayanti, is an auspicious day that marks the birth anniversary of Gautam Buddha, the founder of Buddhism.
- It is believed that this was also the day he attained enlightenment.
- Every year the Purnima tithi in the Hindu month of Vaisakh is observed as Buddha Purnima.
- Buddha Purnima falls on a full moon night, usually between April and May



SIGNIFICANCE

- As per the religious scriptures and mythological stories, Lord Buddha was born as Siddhartha to King Shudhodhan and Queen Maya.
- People believe that He was born in Lumbini, Nepal.
- Hindus have immense faith in Lord Buddha and observe Buddha Purnima with utmost devotion. People often observe the day by taking part in the early morning prayers and yoga. Siddhartha became Gautam Buddha after attaining enlightenment under the Bodhi tree in Bodh Gaya, Bihar.



THE BIRTH OF BUDDHA

LEGEND STATES THAT JUST BEFORE MAYA,
BUDDHA'S MOTHER, GAVE BIRTH TO
SIDDHARTHA GAUTAMA, SHE HAD A DREAM
THAT A WHITE ELEPHANT HAD ENTERED
HER WOMB.



THE GREAT RENUNCIATION

ON THE NIGHT OF HIS 29TH
BIRTHDAY,
SIDDHARTHA GIVES UP HIS LIFE
AS A PRINCE
AND SECRETLY LEAVES THE COURT
WHILE EVERYONE IS ASLEEP.

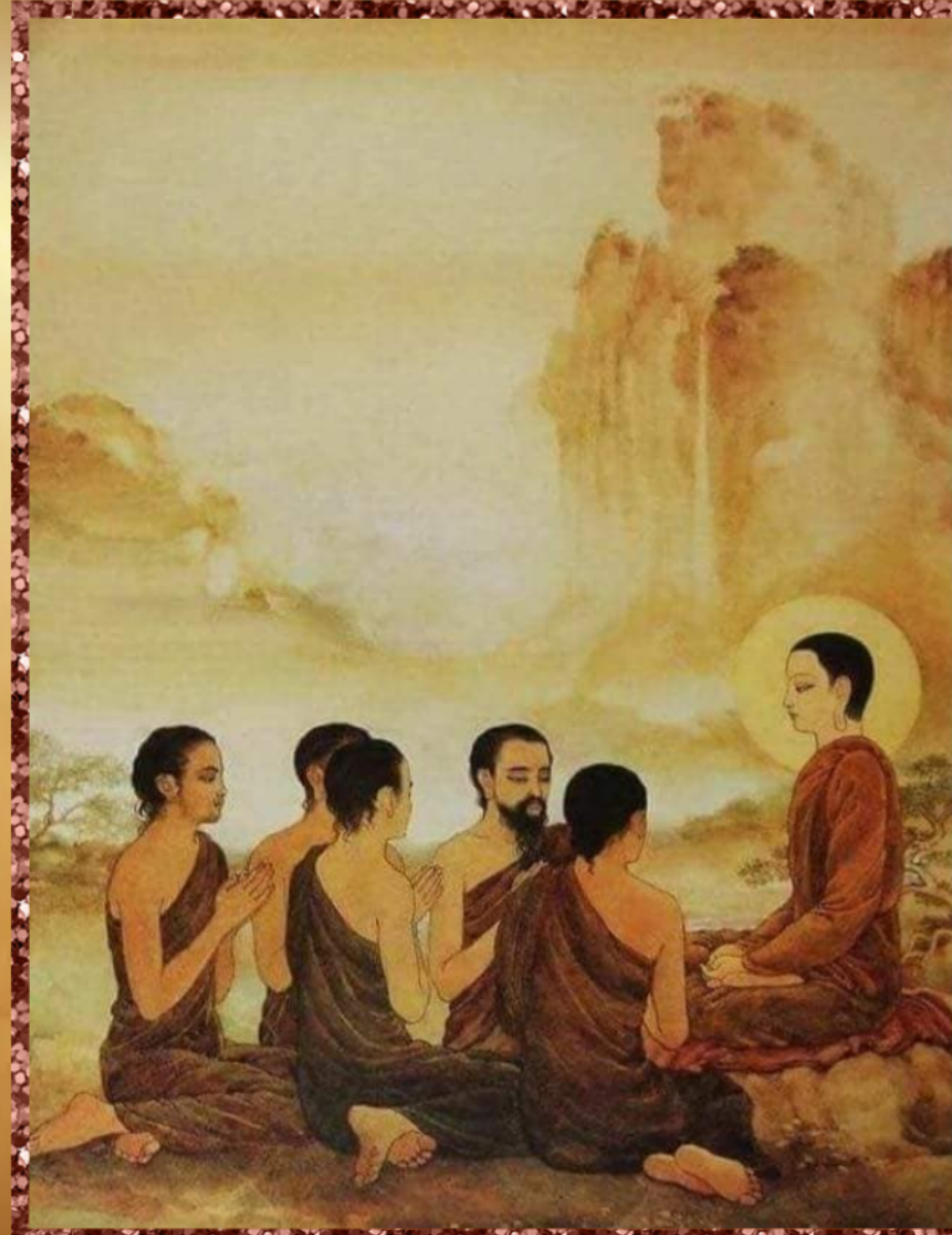


THE ENLIGHTENMENT

WHILE MEDITATING UNDER A BODHI TREE IN BODH-GAYA, SOUTH OF GAYA IN THE STATE OF BIHAR, INDIA, THE BODHISATTVA EXPERIENCES THE GREAT ENLIGHTENMENT, WHICH REVEALS TO HIM THE WAY OF SALVATION FROM SUFFERING.

• THE FIRST SERMON

DHARMACHAKRA PRAVARTANA- BUDDHA FINDS HIS FORMER FIVE DISCIPLES IN BENARES. IN HIS FIRST SERMON HE TEACHES THEM WHAT WILL BECOME THE GIST OF BUDDHISM.



DEATH- MAHAPARINIRVANA

HAVING ACHIEVED THE GOAL OF SPREADING THE TEACHING TO THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PEOPLE, BUDDHA DIES AT THE AGE OF EIGHTY YEARS, AS A RESULT OF FOOD POISONING. HE DIES IN A FOREST NEAR KUSINAGARA, INDIA, IN THE COMPANY OF HIS FOLLOWERS RECLINING ON A BED WHERE HE SPEAKS HIS LAST WORDS: "ALL COMPOUNDED THINGS ARE EPHEMERAL; WORK DILIGENTLY ON YOUR SALVATION." WITH THESE WORDS ON HIS LIPS, HE PASSES INTO THE STATE OF NIRVANA.

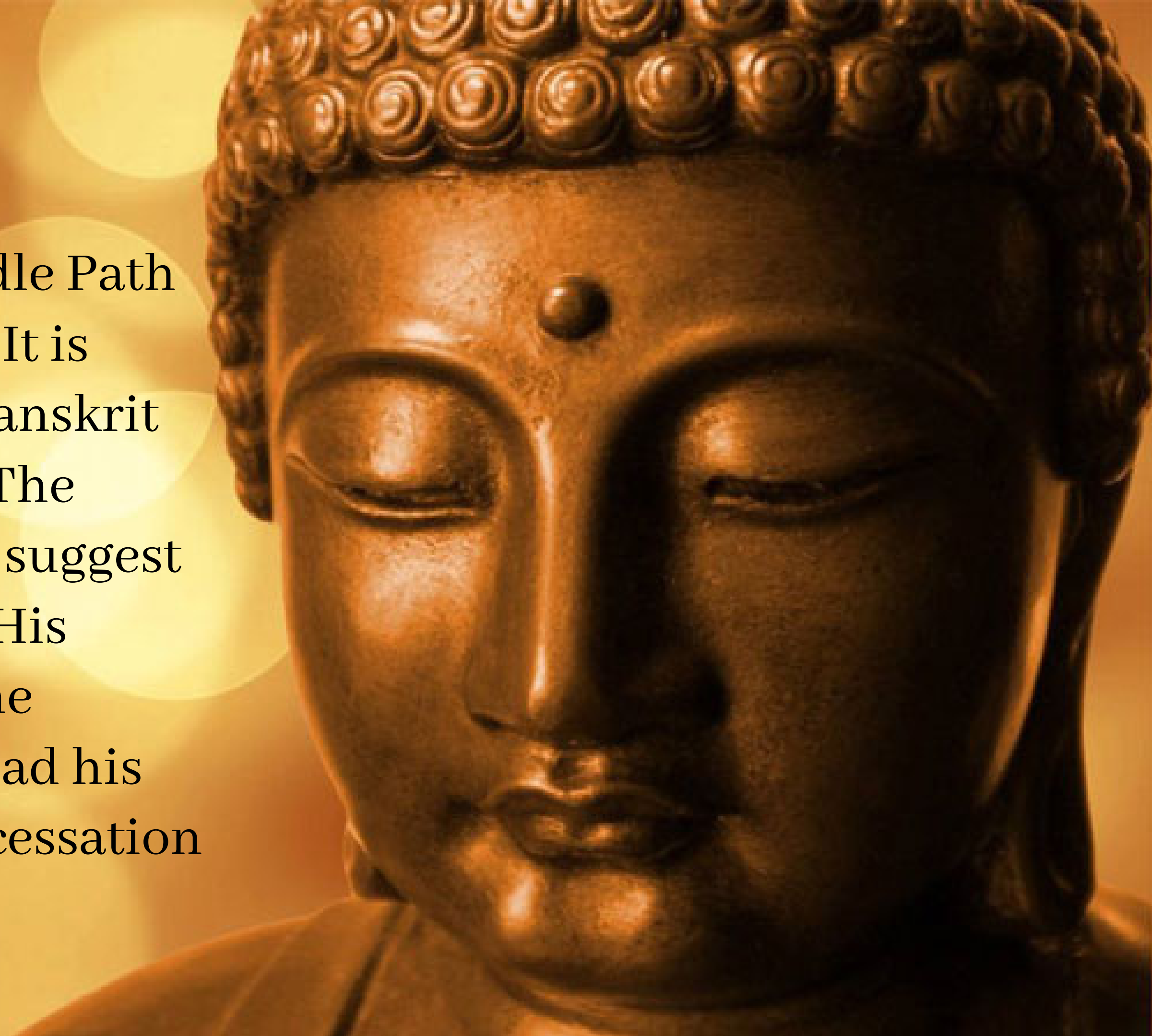


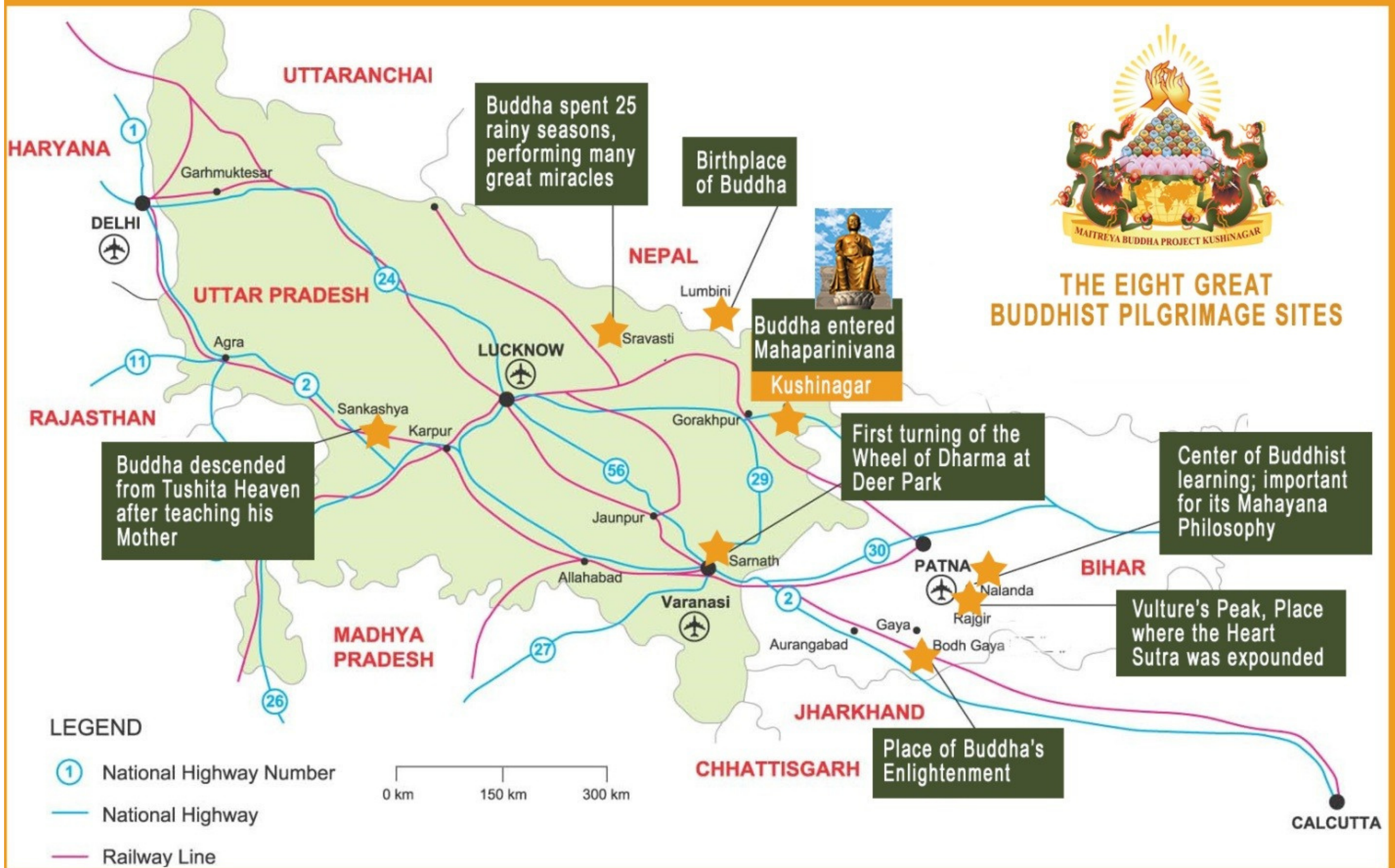
The Four Noble Truths



MIDDLE PATH

The Middle Way or the Middle Path is well known in Buddhism. It is called Madhyama pada in Sanskrit and Majjhima pada in Pali. The Buddha coined this word to suggest a way of life that embodied His teaching and emphasized the virtues he believed would lead his followers to Nirvana or the cessation of being and becoming.





DID YOU KNOW?



- BUDDHA TREATED WOMEN EQUALLY.
- BUDDHA BELONGS TO THE SAME DYNASTY AS OF LORD RAMA-IKSHVAKU.
- SUPPOSEDLY, BUDDHA'S TOOTH IS STILL AROUND TODAY. IT WAS REMOVED DURING HIS CREMATION CEREMONY AND SMUGGLED INTO SRI LANKA WHERE IT IS STILL PRESENT TODAY.
- BUDDHA'S SPOT OF ENLIGHTENMENT UNDERNEATH THE BODHI TREE IS STILL PRESERVED TO THIS DAY.

DID YOU KNOW?



- UNLIKE MOST RELIGIONS OR SPIRITUAL BELIEFS, BUDDHA'S TEACHINGS WERE SPREAD BY NONVIOLENT METHODS SUCH AS WORD OF MOUTH OR CARVINGS ON PROMINENT STONE BUILDINGS.
- BUDDHA TAUGHT AND TRAVELED HIS ENTIRE LIFE UNTIL THE AGE OF 80 WHEN HE PASSED AWAY. HIS FINAL REQUEST OF HIS FOLLOWERS WAS THIS: "ALL COMPONENT THINGS IN THE WORLD ARE CHANGEABLE. THEY ARE NOT LASTING. WORK HARD TO GAIN YOUR OWN SALVATION."
- THE TERM 'BUDDHISM' WAS COINED BY WESTERN SCHOLARS IN THE 1830S. BUDDHISTS DON'T ACTUALLY REFER TO THEIR RELIGION AS "BUDDHISM."

REFERENCE

[HTTPS://WWW.BOLDSKY.COM/YOGA-SPIRITUALITY/FAITH-MYSTICISM/BUDDHA-PURNIMA-DATE-RITUALS-AND-SIGNIFICANCE-137180.HTML](https://www.boldsky.com/yoga-spirituality/faith-mysticism/buddha-purnima-date-rituals-and-significance-137180.html)

BUDDHA PURNIMA 2021: DATE, WISHES, IMAGES, QUOTES, SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE (INDIANEXPRESS.COM)

10 INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BUDDHA (SIVANASPIRIT.COM)

THE MIDDLE WAY / BUDDHISTS.ORG

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