

Religion 202. Question sheet 4: Jainism and early Indian Buddhism.

NOTE: Please answer with schematic overviews, NOT in full sentences.

Please do not type, but hand-write your answer

Fact and Comparison Questions to study for the exam (required)

1. How would you define Jainism in terms of geographic area, founder (give date + doubt), and main points of praxis and philosophy. Illustrate the philosophical points with references to the scripture you have read.
2. Make a comparative overview of the two main branches of Jainism (include doctrinal differences, as well as practical and canonical ones).
3. Outline the main doctrinal points attributed to the Buddha, and illustrate with references to the scriptures you have read.
4. List the similarities that Jainism and Buddhism have in common as opposed to Vedic religion.
5. Make a comparative overview of the differences in approach and doctrine between early Buddhism (as ascribed to the Buddha) and early Jainism (as ascribed to Mahāvira)

Discussion questions (optional)

1. Outline briefly the discussion in Oxtoby 2002 (169-70) on Jainism and women. Compare with the rhetoric on Jain websites. How do you evaluate the author's argument?
2. Outline briefly the discussion of "Jainism in the Diaspora" in Oxtoby 2002 (191-2). What parallels do you see with what you read about the Hindu and Sikh diaspora? How do you account for the changes in emphasis?

Text interpretation questions to help you read the scriptures (optional)

1. List elements in the readings of Jain scripture that seem similar to different strands of Vedic religion/Hinduism and Buddhism.
2. List elements in the readings of Jain scripture that seem to be a reaction to different strands of Vedic religion/Hinduism and Buddhism.
3. List elements in the readings of early Buddhist scripture that seem similar to different strands of Vedic religion/Hinduism and Jainism.
4. List elements in the readings of early Buddhist scripture that seem to be a reaction to different strands of Vedic religion/Hinduism and Jainism