

IV. SHAKYAMUNI BUDDHA

A. Learn about Shakyamuni's childhood . (Pages IV-1, IV-2, IV-3)

Do the following:

- _____ 1. Research the information below:
 1. Birthdate and country
 2. Parents
 3. Birthplace and events leading to his birth
 4. His childhood name
- _____ 2. Read two stories of Shakyamuni's childhood (CS-4a)
Title: _____
Title: _____

Do one of the following:

- _____ 1. Make a diagram of Shakyamuni's family tree. (Page IV-4)
- _____ 2. Illustrate one of the stories or make a collage or origami activity of his childhood. (Pages IV-5, IV-6, IV-7, IV-8)
- _____ 3. Tell one of the stories
- _____ 4. Write a paragraph of how he spent his boyhood years (CS-4c)

B. Learn the sequence and significant events that shaped Shakyamuni's Life (J-1a) (Pages IV-9, IV-10, IV-11)

Do the following:

- _____ 1. Find out information on the list below:
 1. Hanamatsuri (Buddha Day)
 2. The Four Gates (Page IV-12)
 3. Renunciation (Page IV-13)
 4. Enlightenment (Page IV-14, IV-15)
- _____ 2. Make a timeline showing the significant events of Shakyamuni's life. (Page IV-16)

Do one of the following:

- _____ 1. Make a timeline of your life and compare it as best as you can to Shakyamuni's life.
- _____ 2. Tell the story of Hanamatsuri through pictures or words.
- _____ 3. Write a brief paragraph about Shakyamuni's life.

C. Learn about Shakyamuni's search for Enlightenment (Page IV-17)

Do the following:

- _____ 1. Read/research about the following:
 1. Experiences that led to renunciation (Page IV-18)
 2. Search for Enlightenment (Page IV-19)
- _____ 2. Tell about the experiences that led to Shakyamuni's renunciation of the world.

Do one of the following:

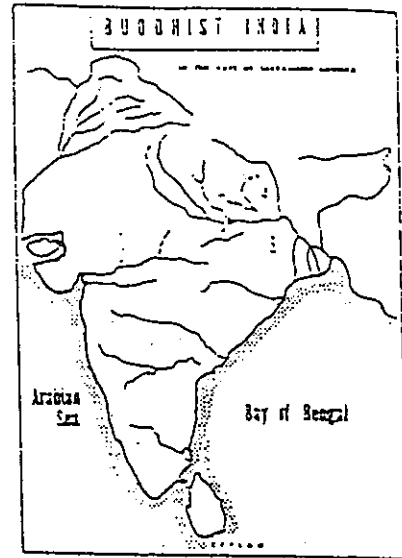
- _____ 1. List the reasons why Prince Siddhartha abandoned his palace to seek Enlightenment.
- _____ 2. Tell the sequence of events that Shakyamuni encountered in his search for Enlightenment (where did he go and what did he do?). (CS-5b)
- _____ 3. Draw a map of India and mark the location of Shakyamuni's Enlightenment. (CS-5c) (Pages IV-20, IV-21)
- _____ 4. Do worksheet (Page IV-22)

REFLECTION: *Why does the life of Shakyamuni Buddha affect us as Buddhists?*

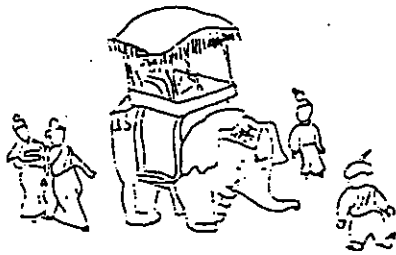
IV. SHAKYAMUNI BUDDHA

A SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF SHAKYAMUNI BUDDHA

In India in the 6th century B.C., there at the foot of the Himalaya Mountains in Northern India, King Suddodana and Queen Maya of the Shakya Clan found that she was going to have a child. They were very, very happy.



It was the custom of India in those days for a mother to return to her own parents' home to give birth to a child. Therefore, as the time drew near, the queen, accompanied by her retainers, started her journey to her parents'



home. On the way there she stopped at the beautiful Lumbini Garden to rest. It was here that the little prince Siddhartha was born among the sweet flowers. It was the morning of April 8, 566 B.C. This day is now known as Hanamatsuri. The queen immediately returned to the palace, where there was great rejoicing.

Among the well wishers who came to the palace was an old sage named Asita who foretold the prince's future -- that he would become a great king of kings or he would become a Holy Teacher to help those living now and the millions yet to come. "Truly, O King! Thy son will become a Buddha", he said.

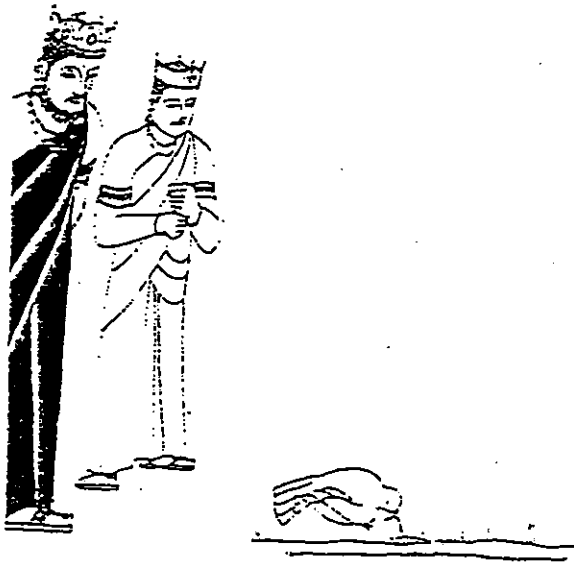


Within seven days, the queen died. Soon after, Prajapati, the sister of Maya, came to the palace and became Siddharta's mother. She and the king had a child named Nanda.

The king remembered Asita's words and did everything he could to educate the prince to become a great king. He had the best scholars for teachers who soon found that the young prince was a good student and learned fast and well.

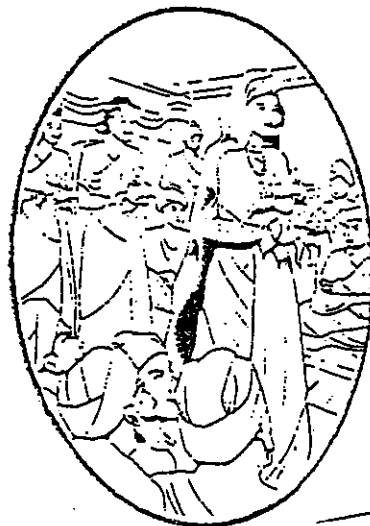


He was good in all the arts and skills needed by a great warrior. He showed strength in wrestling and archery. But he never boasted about his accomplishments. He was gentle and kind and never drove his animals to extreme in order to win a contest.



The King did everything he could to provide his son with all the things that would make a young man happy. Anything that was unpleasant or ugly was carefully avoided.

The Prince married the fair Yasodhara and they had a son Rahula. They lived happily for many years. Still, the Prince wanted to know so many more things about life and why there was suffering.

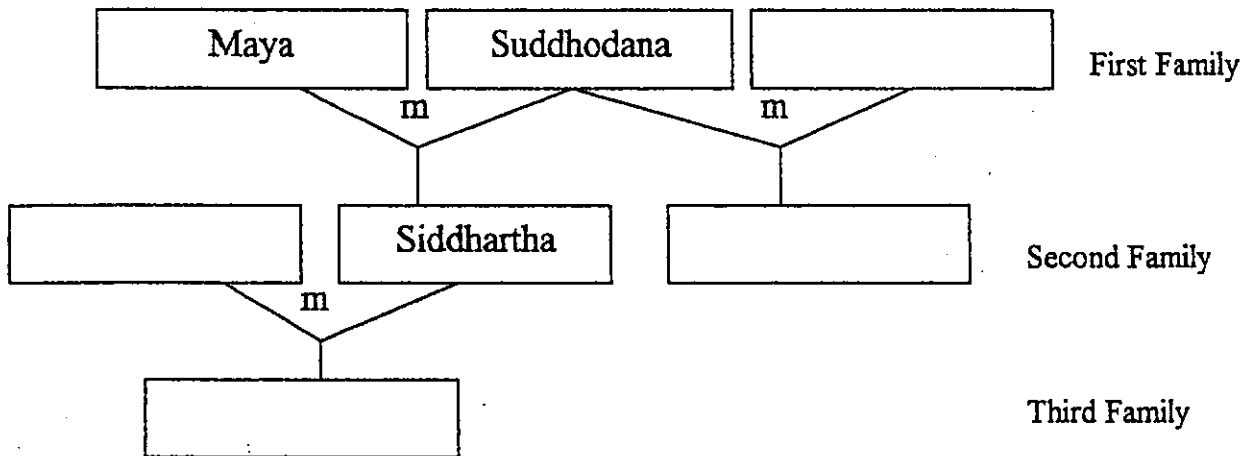


FAMILY TREE

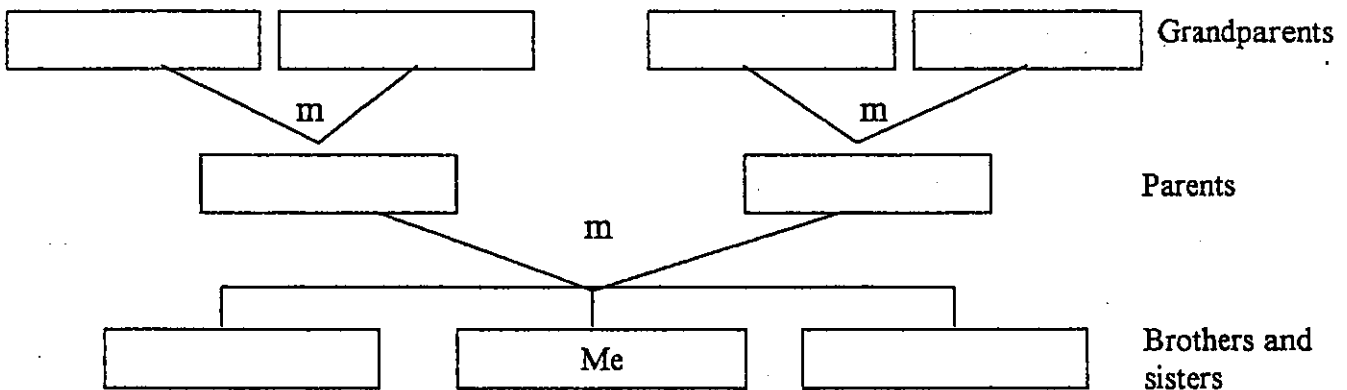
Explain who were Prince Siddhartha's father and mother. Make a family tree of siddhartha's family.

FAMILY TREE

This is a diagram of Prince Siddhartha's family tree.



YOUR FAMILY TREE



*m=marriage

ANSWER
FAMILY TREE
 Maya Suddhodana Prajapati

Siddhartha Nanda

Yasodhana

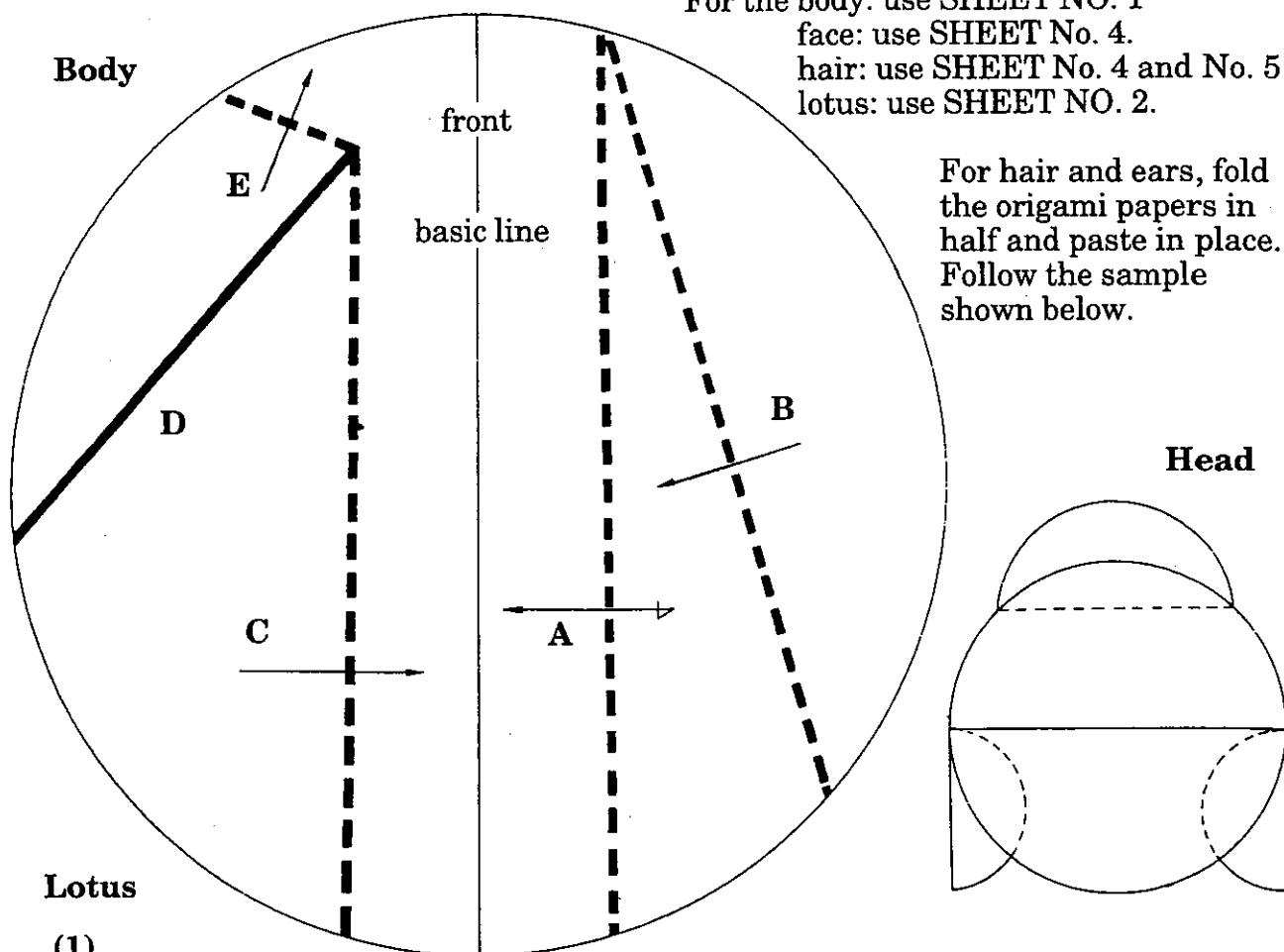
Rahula

Origami Activity

How to make the figure of Buddha

For the body: use SHEET NO. 1
 face: use SHEET No. 4.
 hair: use SHEET No. 4 and No. 5
 lotus: use SHEET NO. 2.

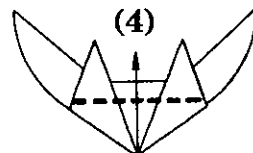
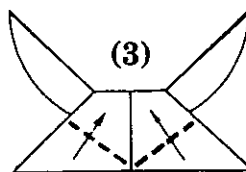
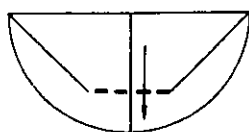
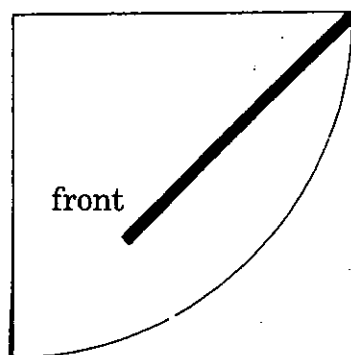
For hair and ears, fold the origami papers in half and paste in place. Follow the sample shown below.



Lotus

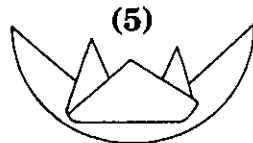
(1)

Fold in half, then fold in half (2) Open the folded paper again and cut a slit.



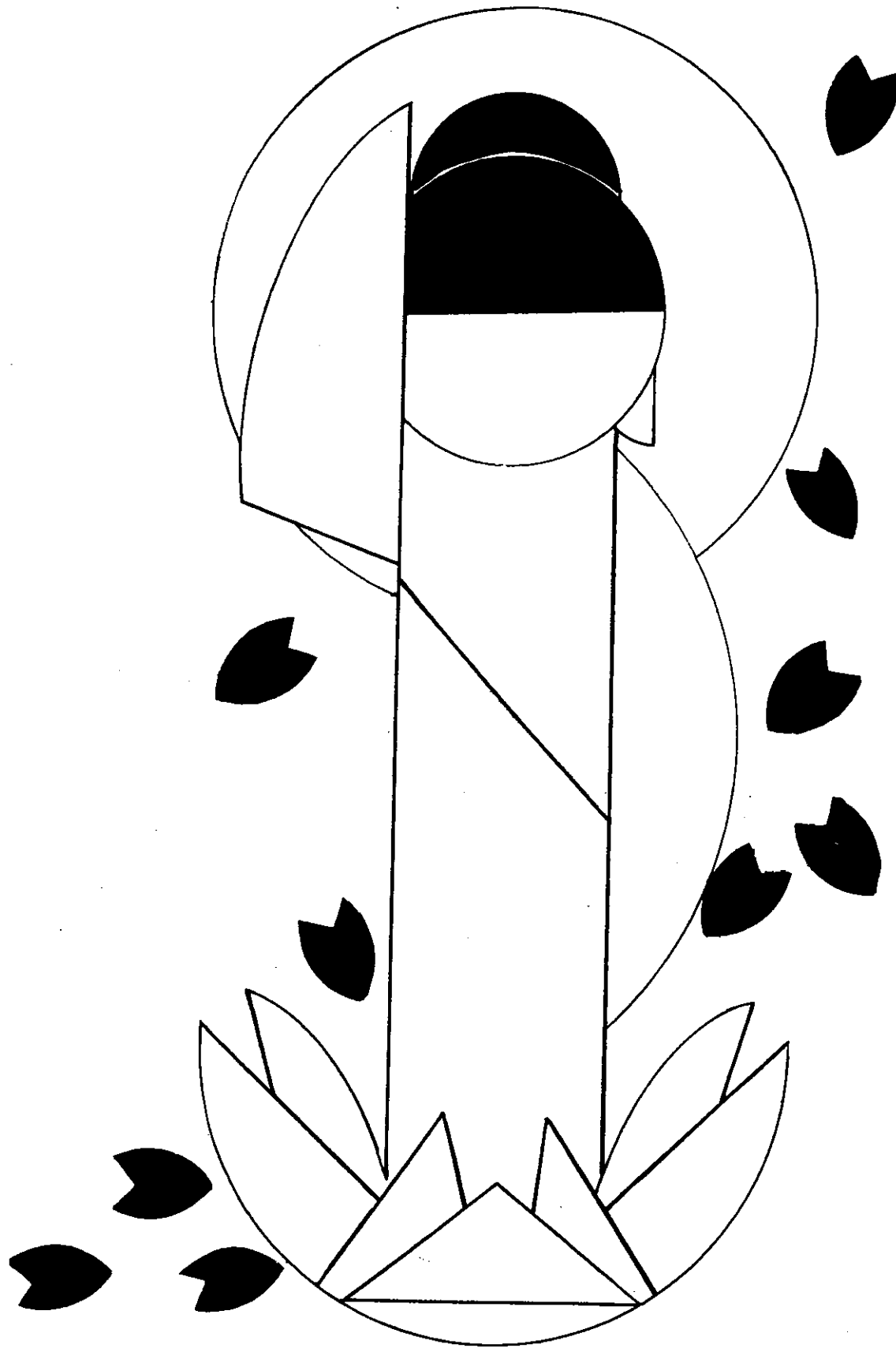
(7) Return to the front

(6) The reverse side of the previous fold.



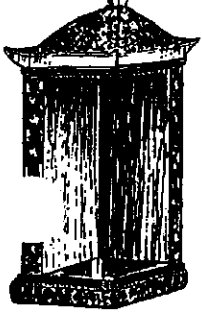
Birth of Buddha

After some time, the Queen gave birth to a baby. The baby was born as she was about to break a twig from a blooming Asoka tree. Immediately after birth, the baby held its right hand up to heaven and its left hand toward the earth and declared, "Above heaven and below heaven, I alone am the world-honored one."

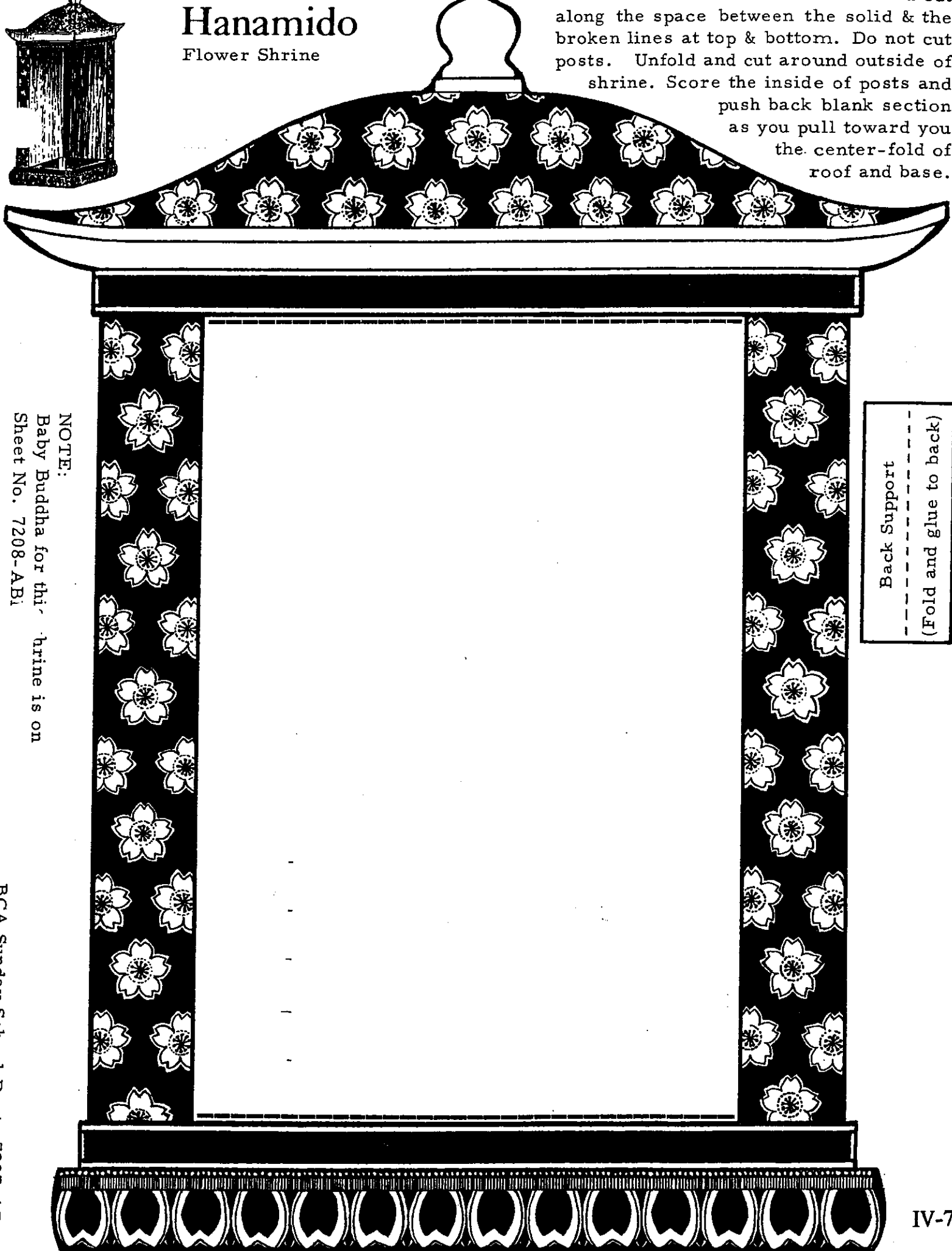


Hanamido

Flower Shrine



along the space between the solid & the broken lines at top & bottom. Do not cut posts. Unfold and cut around outside of shrine. Score the inside of posts and push back blank section as you pull toward you the center-fold of roof and base.



NOTE:
Baby Buddha for this shrine is on
Sheet No. 7208-AB

Back Support

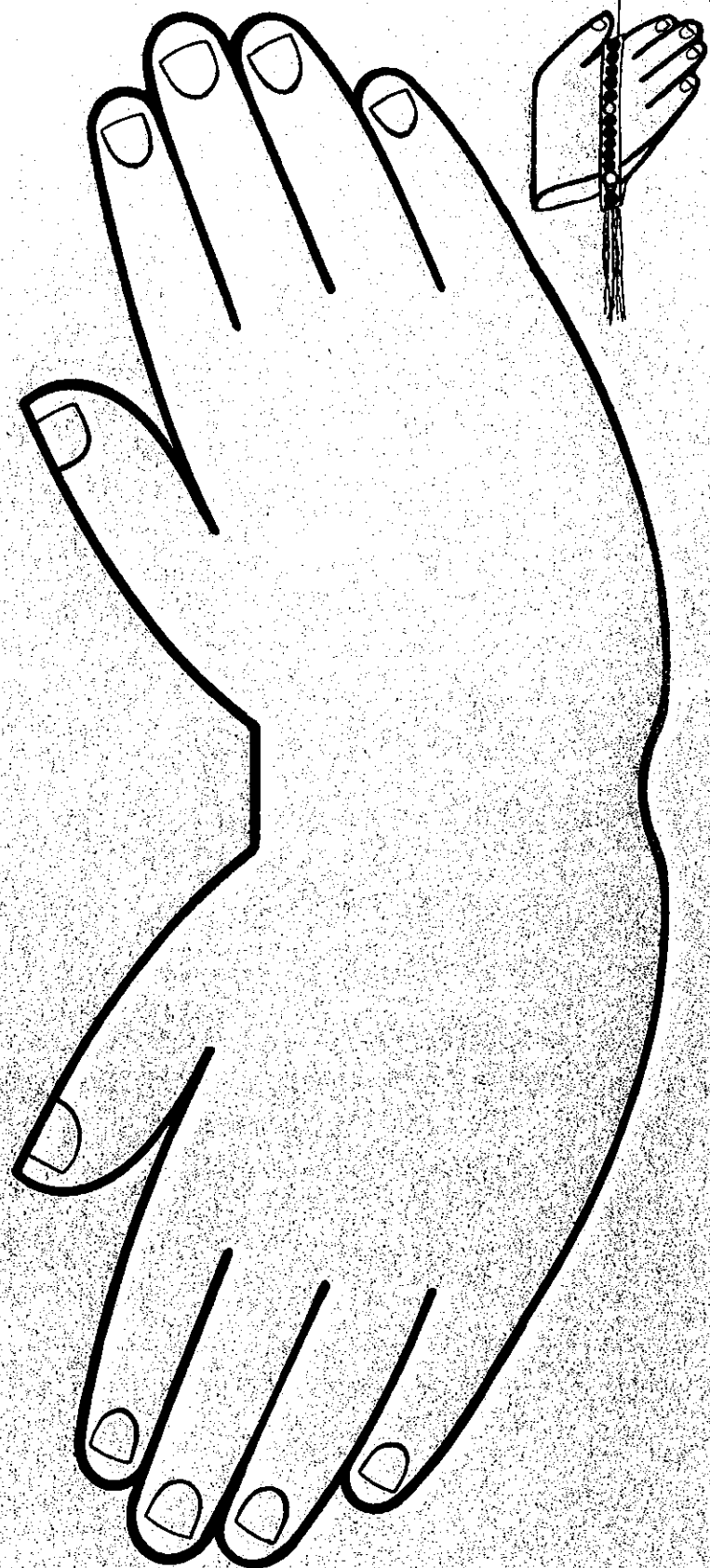
(Fold and glue to back)



Glue this section to the back of
Flower shrine base

Fold →

NOTE:
Flower shrine, "Hanamido" is on
Sheet No. 7207-AB



Answer Sheet:

REVIEW — CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. ARROW | 2. RAJA |
| 2. SAKYA | 3. MAYA |
| 9. VISWAMITRA | 4. SEVEN |
| 11. DEVADATTA | 5. YASODHARA |
| 13. KAPILAVASTU | 7. AMIDA |
| 16. HEART | 8. SIDDHARTHA |
| 17. GAUTAMA | 10. KANTHAKA |
| | 11. TEACHER |
| | 14. INDIA |
| | 15. KING |

Awareness

Vocabulary: Discuss the meaning of these words

satisfied	gilded	compassion
develop	chariot	marvel
surround	graciously	astonish
decorate	Channa	ascetic
diseased	plead	misery
preparations		

Read:

Prince Siddhartha and Yasodhara lived very happily for many years. King Suddhodana was well satisfied with the marriage and felt that now surely his worries were over. No longer need he fear the prediction of Asita that his son would leave home and kingdom to become a holy man.

He began to make plans for Siddhartha to follow in his royal footsteps. The King discussed with his ministers how Siddhartha would become a great king and develop the kingdom into one of power and glory.

However, all was not well with the young Prince. It was not that he was unhappy. Yasodhara was good to him and life all around him was gay and beautiful.

Perhaps that was it! Life was too good. The Prince, who was very alert in mind and spirit, grew tired of the pleasures that surrounded him day after day. There were so many things he wanted to know.

Finally, he asked the King to allow him to visit the city in order to see for himself how the other people lived. The King, unable to refuse his son's request, ordered that the surrounding country be decorated. He demanded that all aged and diseased men be removed from the streets.

Not knowing that preparations had been made for his coming, the Prince with his faithful servant, Channa, went out of the palace gates in a gilded chariot. As he passed through the streets, the people crowded around him and bowed for they all loved him for

his beauty and gentle manners. And Siddhartha looked graciously at his people, and was glad to see them look so happy.

Suddenly, into the middle of the road, just in front of the Prince's chariot, tottered an old man. Siddhartha who had never seen such a pitiful sight, turned to Channa and said, "Why is this man so different from other men?"

Channa replied, "My Prince, this is an old man. He has lived long. We, too, will one day be as old as he."

Siddhartha ordered Channa to drive back to the palace. He was silent and thoughtful as he could not forget the sight of the helpless old man. He felt as though the sun had darkened and all the beauties of the earth had faded away.

The appearance of the old man was like a sign of some kind.

As the days followed there were to be three other signs.

One time the Prince saw a diseased man, and another time, a dead man.

He now knew how the people outside the palace lived. Rich people lived like kings who cared not for the poor. Beggars lined the streets, pleading for pennies. Their children dressed in rags roamed the street hungry and cold. The old, the sick and the poor lived lonely lives as they waited for death.

What hope was there for these people? Siddhartha, who was filled with compassion for all life, felt he had to find some way to help the people.

When finally the fourth sign appeared, Siddhartha knew what he had to do. He met a man quite unlike anyone he had ever seen before. This man wore a robe of dull orange color and his hair and beard were shaved. In his hand he carried a bowl.

The Prince wondered who this man was, for he marveled at the peace and calm of his face. When the man came nearer, Siddhartha asked him who he was.

The stranger replied, "I am a holy man. I have seen the pain and suffering of life. I have left my home and everything that belonged to me to wander alone in the forests and mountains. I am searching for true happiness that is everlasting."

The Prince was astonished to find someone like himself who searched for peace and happiness.

Suddenly all his troubles cleared away. What he must do became plain to him. He thought to himself, "I will do as this man has done; I will give up everything I possess and live the life of an ascetic. So shall I find peace of mind and learn the wisdom which will teach people how to overcome the miseries of this life."

Discussion:

Why was King Suddhodana satisfied?

What kind of plans did he make for the prince?

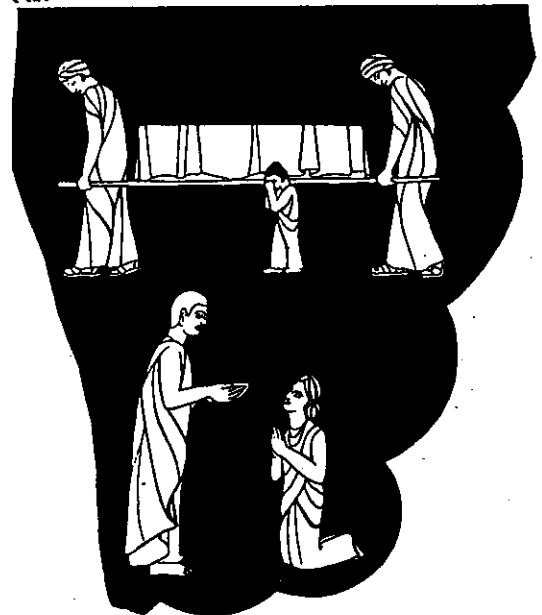
Why did the prince become bored?

Why did the king order that the city be cleaned and decorated?

What did Siddhartha see during the visit?

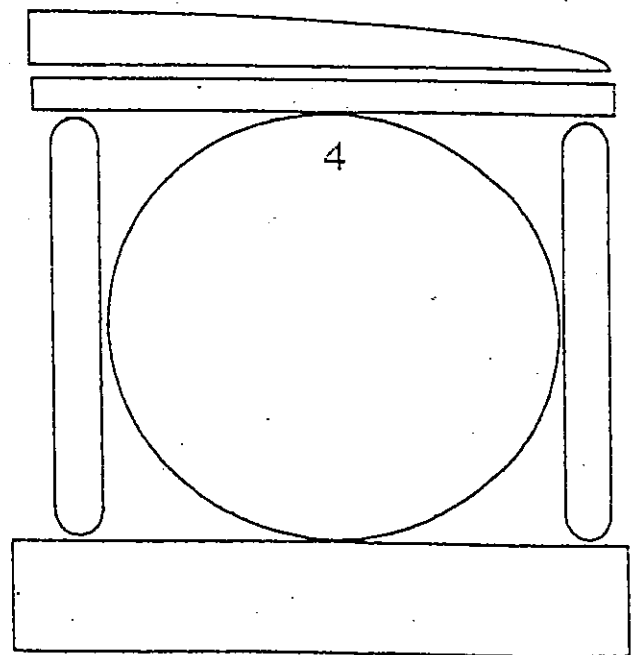
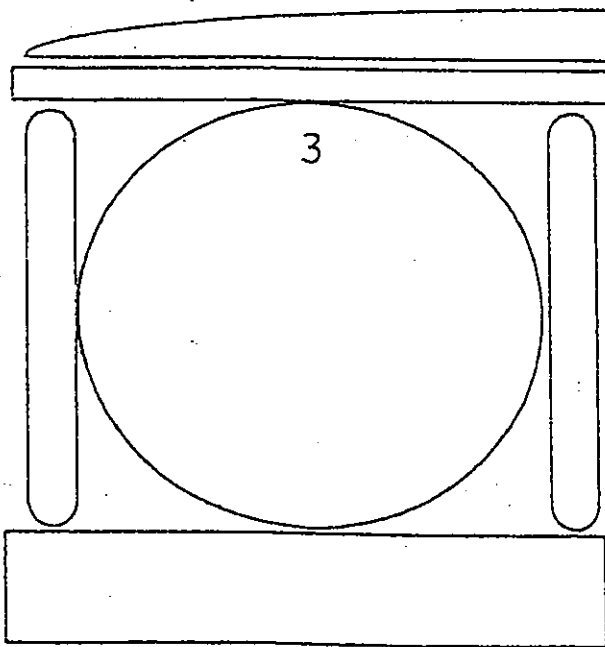
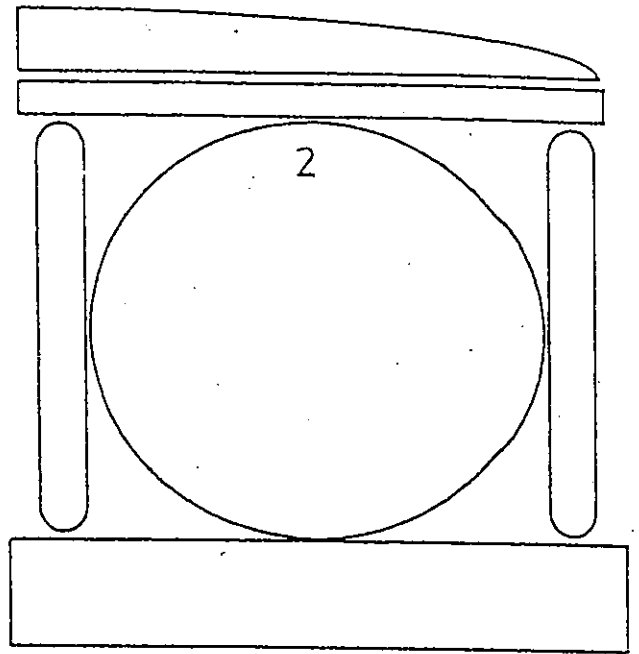
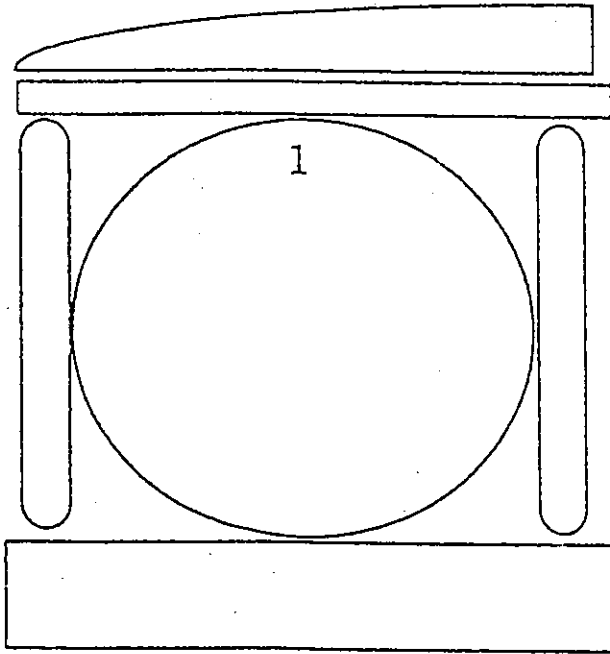
What other signs did the prince see?

What was Siddhartha's plan?



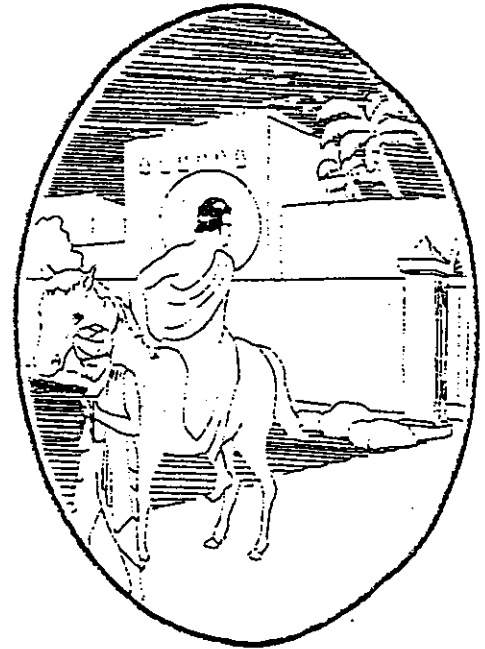
THROUGH THE FOUR GATES

Siddhartha went to visit the city through the four gates of the palace. What did he see and what did each sign make him think about?



RENUNCIATION OF THE WORLD

When he was 29, the Prince decided to leave the palace and his family. He would devote his life to search for answers to his questions: Why is there suffering everywhere even among the seemingly peaceful and happy? How can this suffering be ended?



As an ascetic who gives up all worldly pleasures, he studied and meditated. After six years, he gave up asceticism, cleansed his body in a river and accepted a bowl of food from a maiden that lived nearby.

SEEKING THE TRUTH

Siddhartha sat under a bodhi tree and cast his mind inward. He sought the causes of man's suffering. He was lured by all kinds of doubts and temptations. He examined each and rejected them one by one.



A deep spiritual insight into all the ills and suffering of the world awakened in him and Truth illuminated his mind. Prince Siddhartha became the Buddha, the fully Enlightened One. This was the morning of December 8. We know this day as Bodhi Day. He was 35 years old.



After Prince Siddhartha became fully enlightened, he was known as Shakyamuni Buddha, or the Sage of the Shakya Clan. His long search lasted 6 years. He spread the Dharma of the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path until he died at age 85.

In his search for true happiness, Siddhartha studied with the wise men for awhile. Unsatisfied with the teachings of these men, he decided to leave Rajagrha. He travelled in a southerly direction until he came to the great forest of Uruvilva. Here, not far from the present temple of Buddha Gaya, he settled himself for a life of solitude and meditation.

Together with him were five other monks who were so struck by his great goodness and holiness that they attached themselves to him as disciples. They served him as their master because they felt sure that one day he would find perfect wisdom.

But as yet Gautama saw not the truth, though he sought it by every means in his power. For six long years he continued to put his body through all kinds of torment. His poor body was greatly weakened, thin and tortured.

Would he ever be able to find the Truth with his body in such a poor condition? Surely some change would have to be made.

At last he decided to bathe in the clear warm waters of the River Nairanjana. Later, Siddhartha sat in the warm sunshine and rested. As he thought to himself, he knew that instead of torturing himself, he must eat normally and find new strength.

From Sujata, a maiden from the neighboring village, he accepted a bowl of rice milk. Once again his mind became clear and determined.

Rajagrha = Rajagriha 43

The five men who had been with Gautama left him, for they believed that holiness could not be found by one who ate food like ordinary men. One of them said, "Gautama seeks a more pleasant life. He has failed."

But this was not true. As the day passed into evening, Gautama walked until he found shelter beneath the boughs of a lovely old tree.¹

Sitting down, he placed his hands together in his lap and folded his feet crosslegged beneath him. He resolved never to leave the spot until he reached enlightenment.

After continuous struggle all through the night, Gautama found the answers that he had been seeking. He became a Buddha... a Perfect One.² He was 35 years old and the memorable day was December 8th. Now, he knew how he could help the people.

Days went by and as the Buddha sat beneath the shade of the ancient tree his heart was full of peace and joy. And because he was a Buddha, great rainbow colors came from his body and spread for miles around.³

-
- 1) It was this tree that became famous as the Bodhi Tree--or Tree of Enlightenment.
 - 2) Forever thereafter, Prince Siddhartha was called Gautama Buddha, Sakyamuni Buddha or The Blessed One. (Sakyamuni means the "Sage of the Sakyas").
 - 3) The colors used in the Buddhist flag of today originate from this source.

TIME LINE OF THE LIFE OF SHAKYAMUNI BUDDHA

Approximate
Year

566 B.C.		_____
537 B.C.		_____
531 B.C.		_____
48 ⁶ B.C.		_____

Correct

Put in the right order:

- Left the palace to seek a world without suffering
- Born on April 8, in India
- Died at the age of 85
- Became enlightened under the Bodhi tree. He awakened to the Universal Truth.



THE CONCEPT OF ENLIGHTENMENT

What is Enlightenment?

Let us get a picture of what Prince Siddhartha went through under the bodhi tree. He was tempted with worldly power, fame and adoration, loyalty to his father and his followers; and human pleasures and desires. But the strengths of his perfections and his determination were so great that nothing could change his great resolution—to stay under the Bodhi tree until he could find what he was seeking. His deep meditation resulted in insight into the “why we live”, the cause of suffering, and the way to end all suffering. This was what he was seeking. This is enlightenment.

He had seen that life or existence is full of sorrow and suffering and now he saw that there was a cause for each suffering. His Wisdom made him see that removing the cause of suffering was the only way to end suffering. He then laid down the path by which the cause of the suffering could be removed.

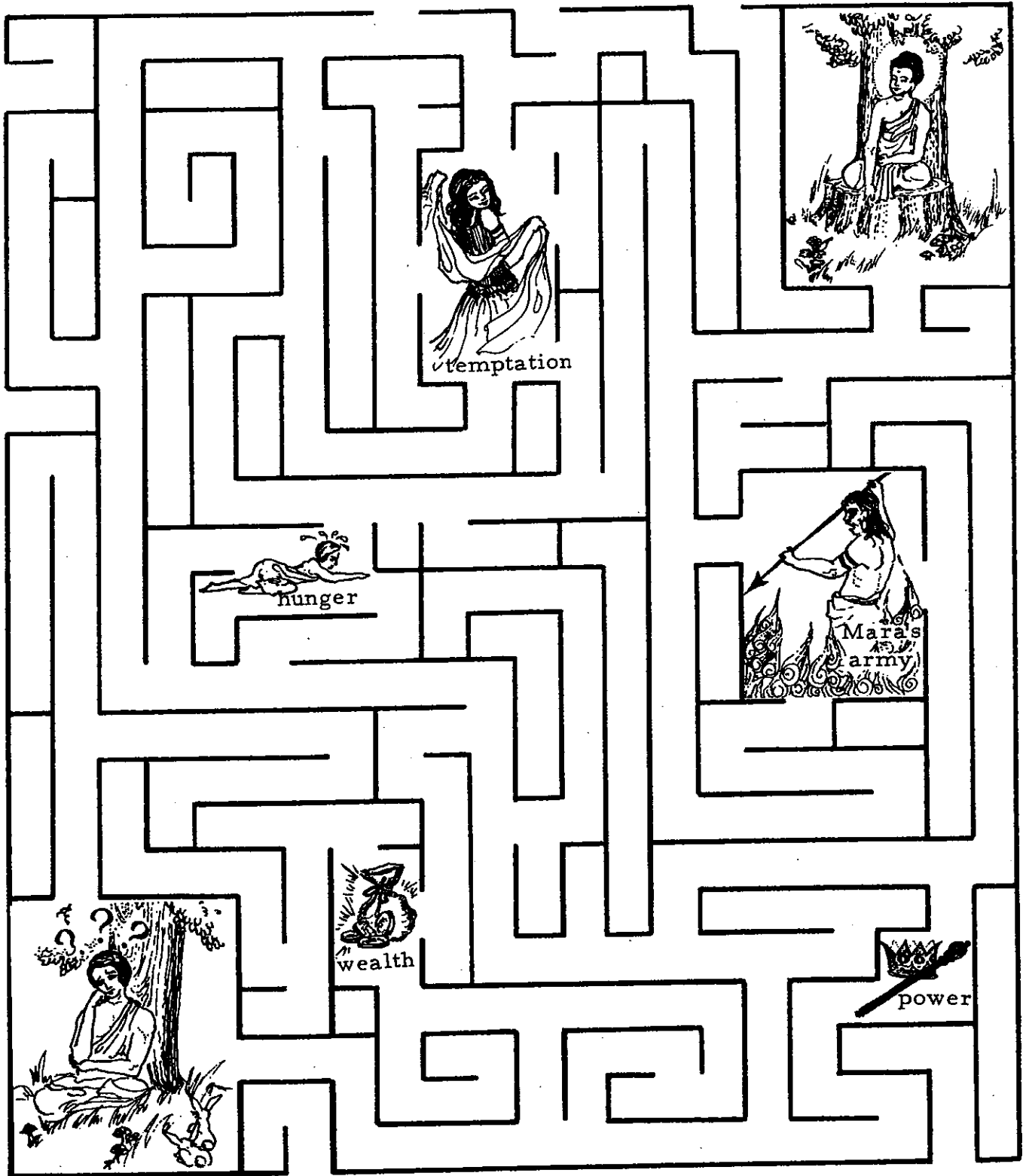
This is summarized in the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. What is the Four Noble Truths?

1. Truth of suffering. Because life is imperfect, there is suffering, friction and disharmony. Decay, change, death, illness, separation from objects or persons we love, presence of things we dislike and not to get what we want are some examples of suffering.
2. Truth of the Cause of Suffering. We suffer because of ignorance; we do not see things in their true light. When we consider impermanent things as permanent and become attached to them, we feel deeply hurt when we lose them. Desires for pleasures, existence and prosperity also are causes of suffering.
3. Truth of Cessation of Suffering or Truth of the Perfect State of Nirvana. The causes of suffering can be extinguished.
4. Truth of the Path to the Cessation of Suffering or Truth to the Way to Nirvana. The causes of suffering can be extinguished by following the Noble Eightfold Path and by accepting the Nembutsu way to Nirvana.



EXPERIENCES THAT LED TO ENLIGHTENMENT

Help Siddhartha along the path toward Enlightenment. Avoid all obstacles along the way.



SEARCH FOR ENLIGHTENMENT

HIDDEN WORD

Find the word that fits the blank spaces. The letters in the blocks spell the hidden word.

____ _ _ _ _ _

____ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

____ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

____ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

____ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Maiden who offered a bowl of rice milk

A river in which Siddhartha refreshed himself

A forest where Siddhartha first meditated

Another name for Gautama Buddha (two words)

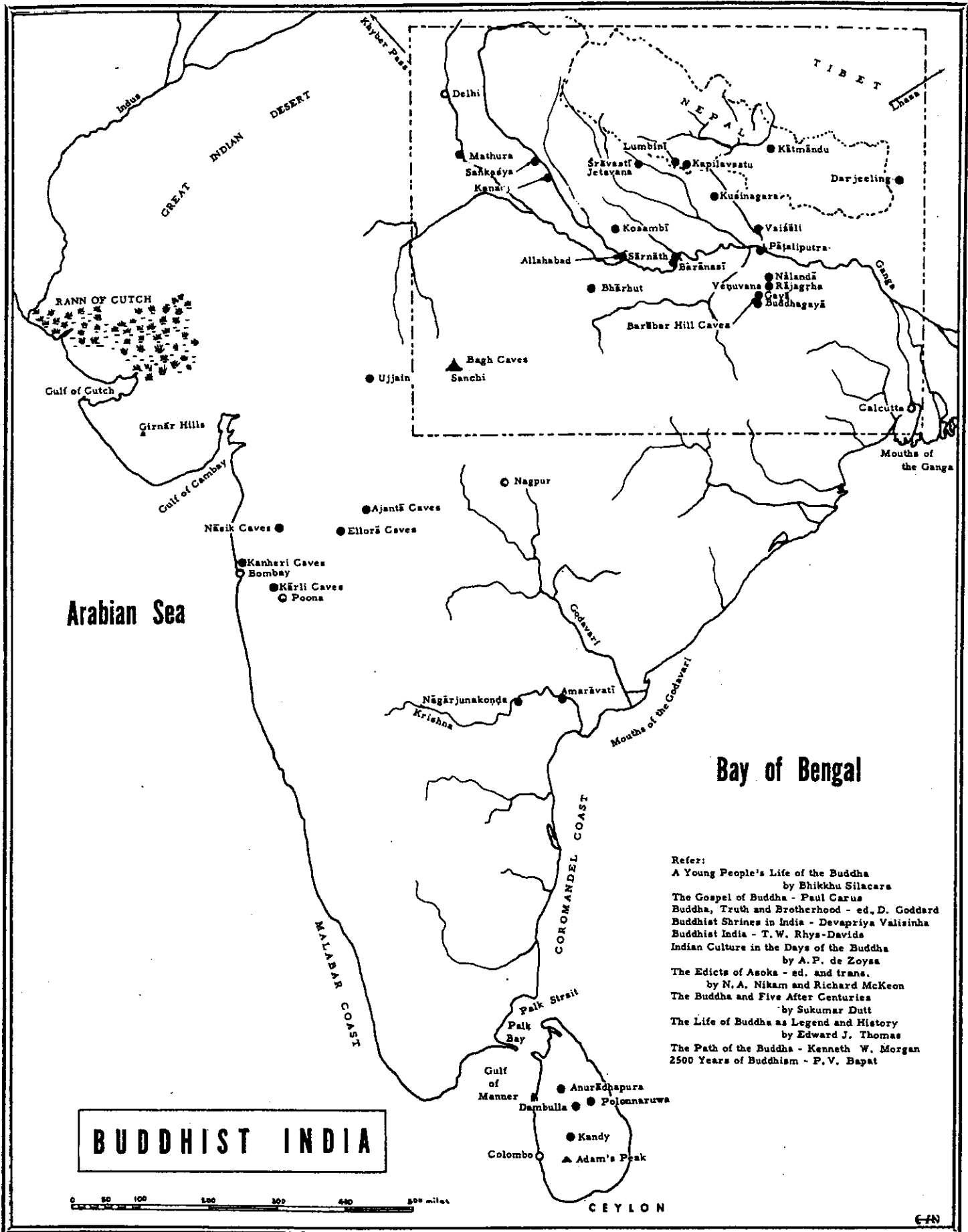
Tree of enlightenment (two words)

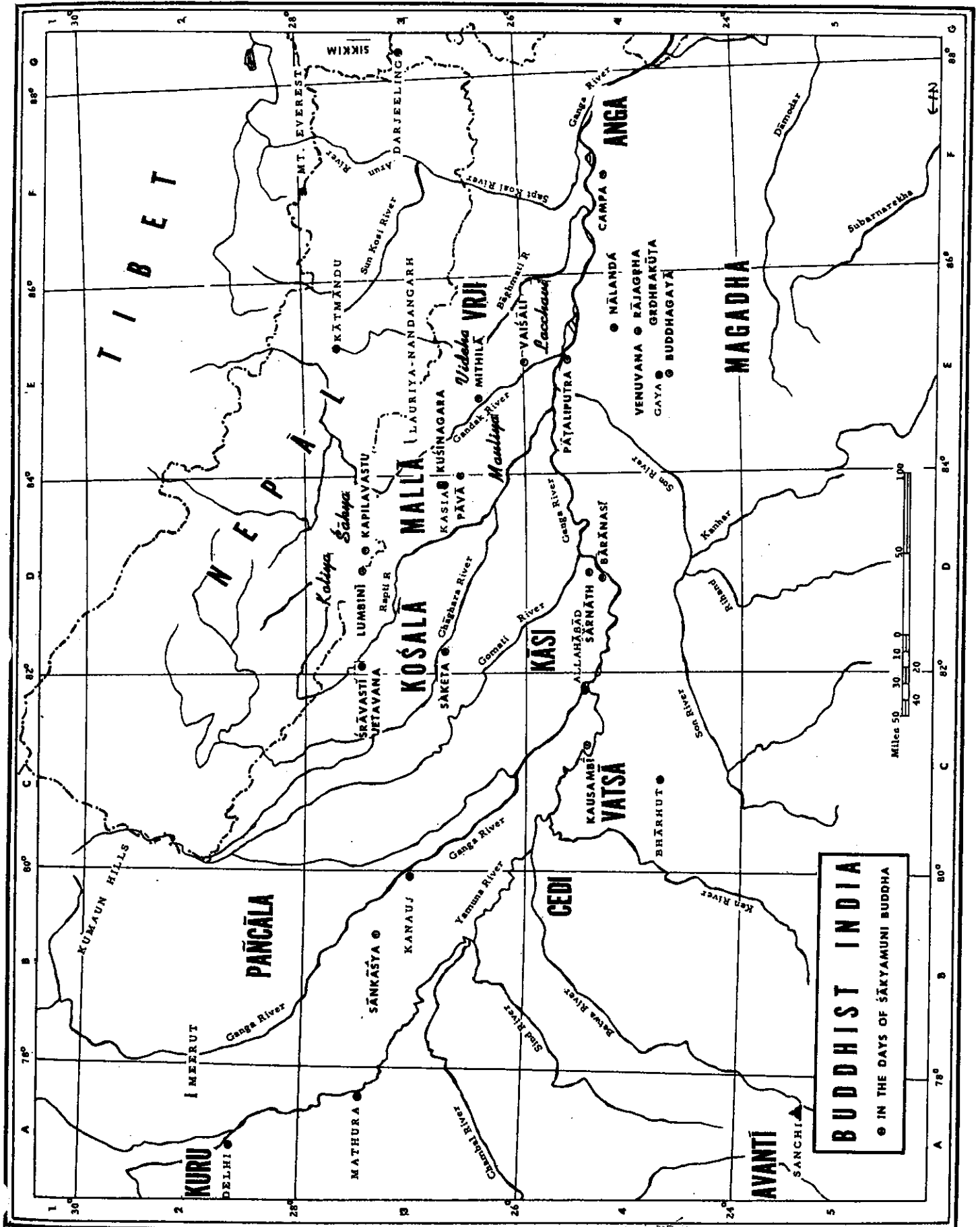
What did Gautama seek?

SIMILARITIES

Cross out the word or phrase which does not match the others.

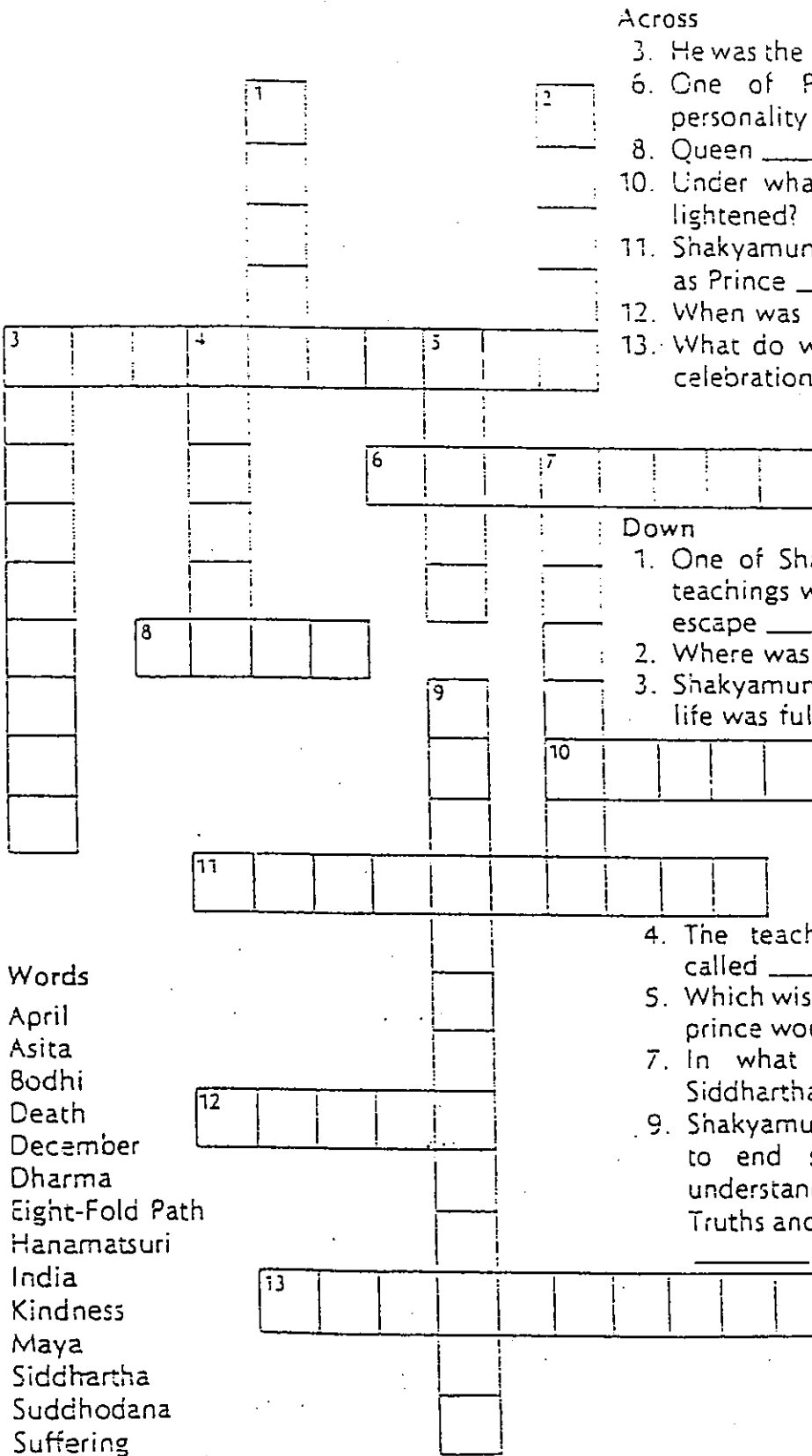
- | | | | | |
|----|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | monk | holy man | disciple | prince |
| 2. | Bodhi Tree | Tree of Enlightenment | Oak Tree | |
| 3. | Suffering | Enlightenment | Nirvana | |
| 4. | Dharma | Teachings | Superstitions | Truth |
| 5. | Gautama Buddha | Sakyamuni Buddha | Amida Buddha | The Blessed One |





BUDDHIST INDIA
 • IN THE DAYS OF ŚĀKYAMUNI BUDDHA

WORKSHEET



Across

3. He was the son of King _____.
6. One of Prince Siddhartha's personality traits was _____.
8. Queen _____ is his mother.
10. Under what tree was he enlightened?
11. Shakyamuni Buddha was born as Prince _____.
12. When was he born?
13. What do we call his birthday celebration?

Down

1. One of Shakyamuni Buddha's teachings was that no one can escape _____.
2. Where was he born?
3. Shakyamuni Buddha said that life was full of _____.

Words

- April
- Asita
- Bodhi
- Death
- December
- Dharma
- Eight-Fold Path
- Hanamatsuri
- India
- Kindness
- Maya
- Siddhartha
- Suddhodana
- Suffering

4. The teachings of Buddha is called _____.
5. Which wise hermit said that the prince would become a Buddha?
7. In what month did Prince Siddhartha become a Buddha?
9. Shakyamuni Buddha saw that to end suffering one must understand the Four Noble Truths and follow the _____ (two words)