East Asia Lesson Plan 3
COMPARING BUDDHISM AND CONFUCIANISM
Prepared by Alaric (Rickey) Harris

Purpose:
The ‘Big Concept’ in this lesson is recognizing the similarities and differences in Korea’s 2 largest religions.

The ‘Essential Questions’ students will address are
   (1) What are the basic beliefs of Buddhism?
   (2) What are the basic beliefs of Confucianism?
   (3) How are Buddhism & Confucianism similar?
   (4) How are Buddhism & Confucianism different?

Rationale:
Help students understand and analyze the 2 largest religions in East Asia.

Materials:
- Copies of World Explorer: The Ancient World by Heidi Hayes Jacobs, et. al. (Prentice-Hall, Inc., 2001) (preferably one per student)
- Copies of the attached handout (at least one per student)

Activities: (1-2 Days)
- Distribute & review the handout “Comparing Buddhism and Confucianism”
- Working independently students will use information from The Ancient World to complete the data table and writing.

Assessment:
- This lesson addresses the Ohio Academic Content Standard “People In Societies: Compare cultural practices, products and perspectives of past civilizations in order to understand commonality and diversity of cultures”
- Data tables will be assessed based on the accuracy of the information included by the student
- Writings will be assessed based on the use of facts to support a point of view.

Grade Adaptation:
This lesson is designed for a 7th grade class. It can easily be scaled down by eliminating the essay and/or having students work in small groups to create the data tables. Upper grades students can conduct independent research on the 2 religions.
COMPARING BUDDHISM AND CONFUCIANISM

Directions: Use information from The Ancient World textbook to complete the data table below; then on a separate sheet of paper write an essay describing the similarities and differences between the 2 religions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BUDDHISM</th>
<th>CONFUCIANISM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who started it?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>When?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>How did it spread?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Beliefs</td>
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