

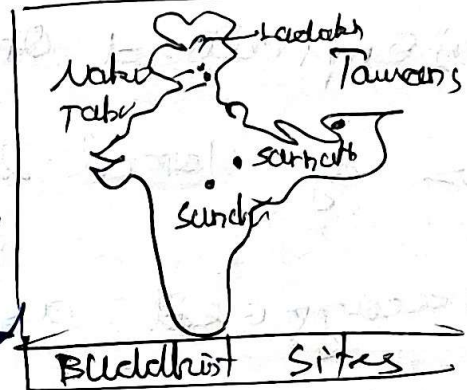
India has a prolonged and continuing history with respect to Buddhism. Recently, 1500 year old Buddha head has been found in Rathagiri, Odisha.

spiritual tradition

① Bahai - India houses one of the important sites of Buddhism.

Vajrayana and Mahayana

Buddhism is widely followed



② Recognised as important religious groups in India with minority status.

Dynamic Force

① Social change - Buddhism questioned the caste rigidities of Hinduism and brought millions out of clutches of exploitation.

ii) Emphasised women empowerment and
master access to everyone.

iii) Led to reform in Hindu religion that
further made modern societies.

② Cultural identity:

i) Emphasised on architectures and
use of local languages. Prakrit recently
recognised as classical language
has its roots in Buddhism.

ii) The Buddhist stupas and paintings
 portray the different forms of evolutions
of Buddhism in India.

iii) Festivals such as Losar and Mask
dance continue the ethos of Buddhism.

③ International engagement

i) Soft power - Buddhism is the ultimate soft power that India uses to strengthen ties with the central Asian and south east Asian countries.

ii) Organisations such as ASEAN, SCO can be leveraged through the use of Buddhism.

Shant has given the world Buddh and not Yuddh - PM Modi

Buddhism is a path of future and sustainability. The eight fold path if followed can ensure peace and inclusivity.