

## **MANDATE AND DHARMA**

### Power and Greatness in Ancient India and China 8th Grade Comparative History Project

#### **Project Overview**

In this project, you will compare one important person from ancient India and one important person from ancient China. You will define what “greatness” means and argue why both persons fit your definition. This is not just a biography project. You must make an argument and support it with evidence.

#### **Project Requirements**

##### **1. Choose Your Figures**

- One major figure from ancient India (must be approved by Dr. K)
- One major figure from ancient China (must be approved by Dr. K)

##### **2. Define “Greatness” (Required)**

- Choose at least TWO criteria (moral influence, political power, legacy, etc.)
- Explain why your criteria matter
- Use your definition consistently throughout the project

##### **3. Slides Presentation (Google Slides or PowerPoint)**

Slide 1: Title Slide (Name, date, title)

Slides 2–3: Definition of Greatness

Slides 4–6: Ancient India Figure (background, accomplishments, context)

Slides 7–9: Ancient China Figure (background, accomplishments, context)

Slide 10: Mandate of Heaven and Dharma explained and connected

Slides 11–12: Argument with three pieces of evidence, counterargument, rebuttal

Slide 13: Conclusion answering what the comparison teaches us

Slide 14: At least 6 credible sources (See me for help)

#### **4. Poster Requirements**

- Both figures clearly displayed
- Key dates
- Major achievements
- Visual of Mandate of Heaven or dharma
- Clear one-sentence thesis statement

#### **5. Oral Presentation (10 minutes)**

- Explain your definition of greatness
- Summarize each figure
- Present your argument clearly
- Avoid reading directly from slides
- Use specifics! You should know your material!

All information must be historically accurate and supported with specific evidence.

## **GRADING RUBRIC (100 Points Total)**

### **Definition of Greatness (15 points)**

Clear criteria (5)

Thoughtful explanation (5)

Used consistently (5)

### **Historical Accuracy & Depth (20 points)**

Accurate facts (10)

Specific examples (5)

Context understanding (5)

### **Understanding Mandate & Dharma (15 points)**

Correct explanations (10)

Clear connection to figures (5)

### **Argument & Critical Thinking (25 points)**

Clear thesis (5)

Strong evidence (10)

Counterargument (5)

Rebuttal (5)

### **Slides Quality (10 points)**

Organization & clarity (5)

Effective visuals (5)

### **Poster Quality (5 points)**

Visual clarity (5)

Content & thesis visible (5)

### **Presentation (10 points)**

Clear speaking & preparation (5)