

Pauline Garth

Professor: Dr. Turk

HIS: 113

Week 5: Primary Source

5.3

- (1) Ashoka's Rock and Pillar Edicts was announced and provided evidence from his monumental inscriptions that he placed around the empire, this depicted his strong devotion to dharma "sacred duty" and encouraged it to others. This erection of monumental edicts showed their purpose of the power and majesty of the ruler. This was an active form of administration to serve the welfare of the people by keeping the gods happy.
- (2) Ashoka's edicts project a screen image that he was an adequate king with an understanding heart. In as much as he thinks that even those who do wrong should be forgiven, when he sees where forgiveness is possible, he would extend mercy to whoever he thinks is deserving. Ashoka is always willing to change his order. Ashoka's order differs, in terms of his strong belief in Buddhism, on the other this edict is similar to the images projected by Augustus and Trajan, they agreed on change in promoting new religions and ideas. Uniting vast markets and bringing peace to their world and encouraging the growth of the network connections as well.