

Sources

Many archeological give information about kanishka's contribution and belief in buddhism

Ashwagosh wrote Buddhacharitra was responsible for Kanishka's conversion

Steps taken by Kanishka

1) Assemblies and Buddhist Councils

2) 4th Buddhist Council was held during this period

3) In the 4th Council, commentaries were written on 3 Pitakas and Tripitaka

4) An encyclopedia called Mahavibhasha was prepared

5) Council was attended by many eminent buddhist scholars - Ashwagosh, Vashumitra etc

6) During his period, Buddhism got divided in Hinayana and Mahayana

Hinayana and Mahayna Buddhism

Hins. don't believe in idol worship to get moksha

Maha. believe in idol worship to get Moksha

Buddha was elevated from prophet to god

Kanishka was a great supporter, sent missionaries to Japan, Tibet and China

Mahayana became more popular

Gandhra School of Art

conclusion

great empire builder

strong follower of Mahayana Buddhism

Because of Ashoka and Kanishka, Buddhism became the religion of many states



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Page 1 of 1.

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