

Introduction to Buddhism

Session 1

10/2/22

Discussion Points

* Is Buddhism a Religion or Philosophy?

*What does Buddhism seek to do?

*The idea of Religious myth.

*What does Buddha mean?

*What is the Buddha's name?

Siddhartha: Given name meaning “He whose purpose is accomplished”

Gautama: Family name which means the highest (*tama*) cow (*go*)

Shakyamuni: Shakya refers to the name of his clan, and “*muni*” means the sage.

Siddhartha is thought as the founder of Buddhism.

To Buddhists around the world Siddhartha was a man who awakened to the Truth of suffering of life at age thirty five. For the next forty five years he shared what he had awakened to.

*A matter of questioning:

SUGGESTED BOOKS REGARDING BASIC BUDDHISM

Basic Teachings of the Buddha By Glenn Wallis, Modern Library Classics 2007

Jewels By Kenneth Tanaka, BDK 2020

Jodo Shinshu A Guide Hongwanji International Center 2004

Ocean By Kenneth Tanaka, Wisdom Ocean Publications 1998

The heart of the Buddha-Dharma By Rev. Kenryu Tsuji, Numata Center 2003

The Vision of the Buddha By Tom Lowenstein, Little Brown 1996 (Thorsons 2002)