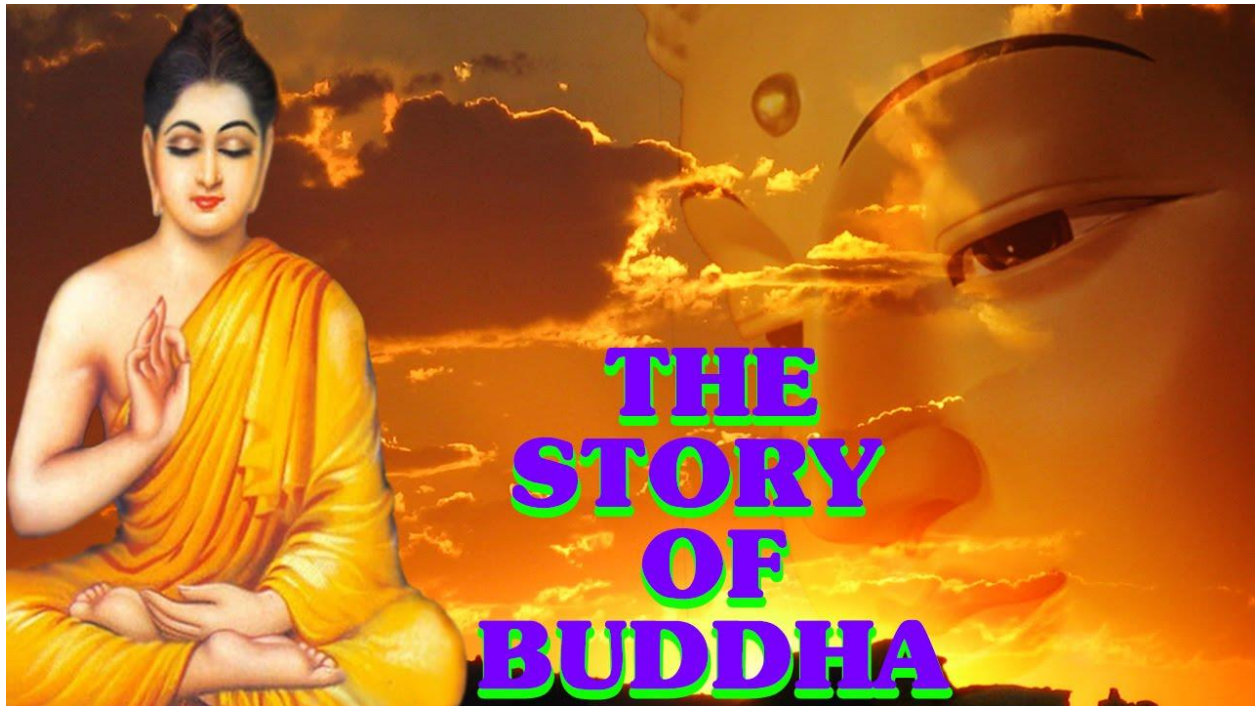


The Story of Buddha





A very long time ago, a baby boy was born in the royal palace in India. His parents named him Prince Siddhartha Gautama. His parents loved him so much. When he was growing up, his parents gave the prince excellent food to eat, nice clothes to wear, and many servants to help him. When he became young, his parents built three different castles for him to live in each season of the year. The prince got married to a beautiful princess and lived happily. They had a baby son, who was beautiful and healthy.

As time went by, the prince was bored with his royal life. He was disappointed about life, knowing that everyone is suffering with pain, old age, sickness and death during their life. The thought of this had always made him very unhappy.

One day, the prince met a monk. He realized that the monk is living in a peaceful and calm life. He decided to leave his parents, his wife, and his newborn son, and become a monk.

He traveled for six years, as a monk looking for a teacher who knows how to stop pain and sadness. He started to practice meditation focusing on suffering and sadness. One day, when he was resting under a bodhi tree, he found the way to end all his sad feelings. That was the day he became the **Buddha**.

After a time, many people began calling the prince "the Buddha". His teaching is called **Buddhism**.

Today, Buddhism is a world religion. People who follow Buddha's teachings are called **Buddhists**. Buddhists value goodness, self-control, wisdom, calm, and loving kindness.

Buddhism teaches how to end their feeling of pain that all people feel inside by ending greediness, hatred and ignorance.

He passed away when he was 80 years old in India, but his teachings spread across the world, mostly in Asia.