Essential Questions CH. 15

1. Examine the complex religious world of India. What were the main religions and how did they interact? Was there an attempt to bring the various branches of belief together?
2. How did Islam reach India? How might India’s fragmented political situation help explain Islam’s success? Why would Islam be popular among certain segments of the Hindu population?
3. Why did a powerful, centralized state like the Tang dynasty in China never arise in India after the collapse of the Guptas? What factors might help explain this fact?
4. Examine the spread of Islam into southeast Asia. How did it spread and why was it successful? In what ways was Islam viewed differently in southeast Asia than elsewhere?
5. How did Indian agriculture improve in the postclassical era? What was the impact of these improvements on the population of the subcontinent?
6. What were some of the specialized goods and manufactures to emerge from India into the world markets at this time?
7. What factors led to the collapse of unified, imperial rule in India before and after the reign of Harsha?
8. What was the function of the Hindu temple within Chola society?