

RELIGIONS OF CHINA

中華宗教

TRANSMISSION OF BUDDHISM INTO CHINA

Important Dynasties:	Han	206 BCE – 220 CE
	(Period of Disunity)	220-589 CE
	Sui	589-618 CE
	Tang	618-907 CE
	(Period of Disunity)	907-960 CE
	Song	960-1279
	Yuan	1279-1368
	Ming	1368-1644

148 CE: Arrival of the Buddhist missionary from Parthia, **An Shigao (An Shih-kao)** 安世高

- problems of translation: transliterate or “matching the meaning”?
- “matching the meaning” links Buddhism to Daoism

Problem: incompatible concepts

E.g.: “sunyata” translated with the Daoist “primordial emptiness” benwu (本無)

But benwu is a state of nonbeing before they can be actualized into being

Kumarajiva (344-413 CE)

- first foreign monk to learn Chinese
- presence in China: 399-413 CE
- produced 70 translations