MATERIAL 2

THE SPREAD OF BUDDHISM – TIMELINE

ca. 560 BC	Buddha's birth in Lumbini, his enlightenment in Bodhgaya, 45 years of teaching in northern India
from ca. 380 BC	Spread of Theravada in India
ca. 3rd century BC	Buddhism establishes itself in Ceylon/Sri Lanka under emperor Ashoka
1st century AD	Great Way becomes stronger in Indian
from 1st century	Buddhism reaches China
from 2nd century	Buddhism reaches China, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia and became established there in the 11th and 12th centuries as Theravada, also known as "Southern Buddhism"
from 4th century	Buddhism in Korea
from 6th century	Emergence of Zen Buddhism in Japan
from 8th century	Buddhism reaches Tibet mainly through King Songtsen Gampo, 100 years later strengthened by King Trisong Detsen, who invited Padmasambhava (Guru Rinpoche)
10th century	Buddhism flourishes in Kashmir, Afghanistan and Pakistan
from 11th century	Diamond Way Buddhism flourishes for 1000 years in Tibet
from 11th century	Buddhism is destroyed in India by Muslim tribes
from 12th century	Buddhism is destroyed in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Kashmir by Muslims
from 13th century	Mongolia and parts of Russia (the western and northern Mongolian tribes of Kalmykia, Buryatia and Tuva) become Buddhist
from 15th century	Destruction of Buddhism in Malaysia (partly) and Indonesia (completely) by Muslims
from 16th century	Dalai Lamas rule Tibet
from 19th century	First attempts to establish Buddhism in Western countries (Central Europe, USA)
1951 – 1959	Forced annexation of Tibet by Chinese; almost complete destruction of all Buddhist traditions; flight of many Tibetans; Forced resettlement of Buddhist ethnic groups in the communist Soviet Union under Stalin
from ca. 1970	Increased interest in Buddhism in the western free countries, in its different forms Theravada, Mahayana / Zen and Diamond Way Buddhism as a religion recognized by the state, e.g. in Austria (1983), Russia (1991) and Denmark, Slovenia (2007)
1989 **from ca. 1990**	The 14th Dalai Lama receives the Nobel Peace Prize Increased interest in Buddhism in the states of the former Warsaw Pact
from ca. 2000 and after	Worldwide travels and activities of Buddhist teachers of different traditions
from about 2000	Buddhism has established itself outside the traditional Buddhist countries on a small scale in the Western world