

Word Cards

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yoke



a wooden bar that connects two animals like oxen pulling a plow; the word is also used to represent something that is controlling or oppressive

Example: Throughout human history, millions of people have suffered the yoke of slavery.
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monarchy



a form of government in which one person has the power to rule

Example: Sumer and Egypt, starting around 3000 BCE, were headed by kings and queens, which are the earliest monarchies we know about.

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bureaucracy



group of non-elected officials within a government or institution that implements the rules, laws, ideas and functions of their institution

Example: In order to make it easier to manage his empire, Emperor Qin created a bureaucracy by dividing his empire up into different provinces with two government officials in charge of each province.

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dharma

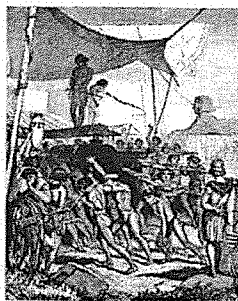


the virtue and right behavior (duty) necessary to maintain the natural order or balance of the universe, according to Hindu and Buddhist traditions; this word is difficult to translate into English

Example: One dharma of a child is to obey his/her parents, while one dharma of parents is to look after their children.

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oppression



prolonged cruel or unjust treatment or control

Example: Emperor Qin's reign was marked by oppression. He forced thousands of people to build the Great Wall and put many Confucian scholars to death.

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