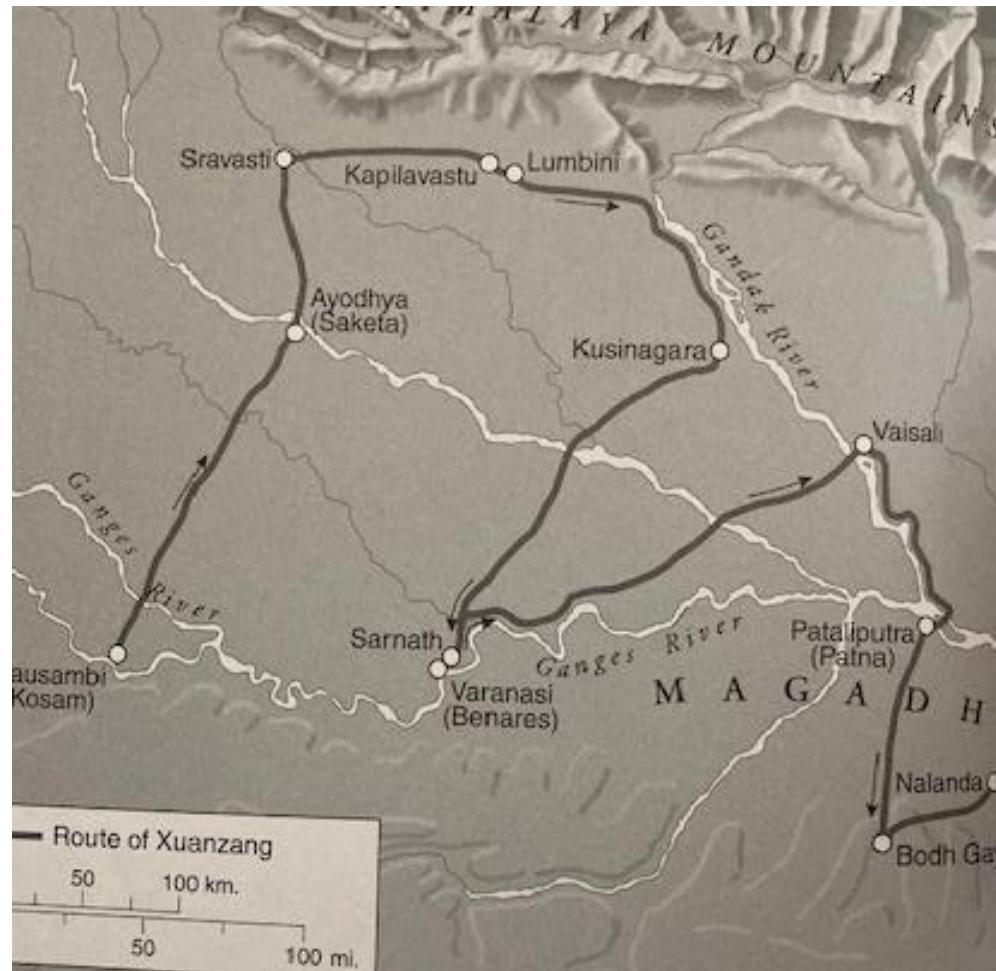
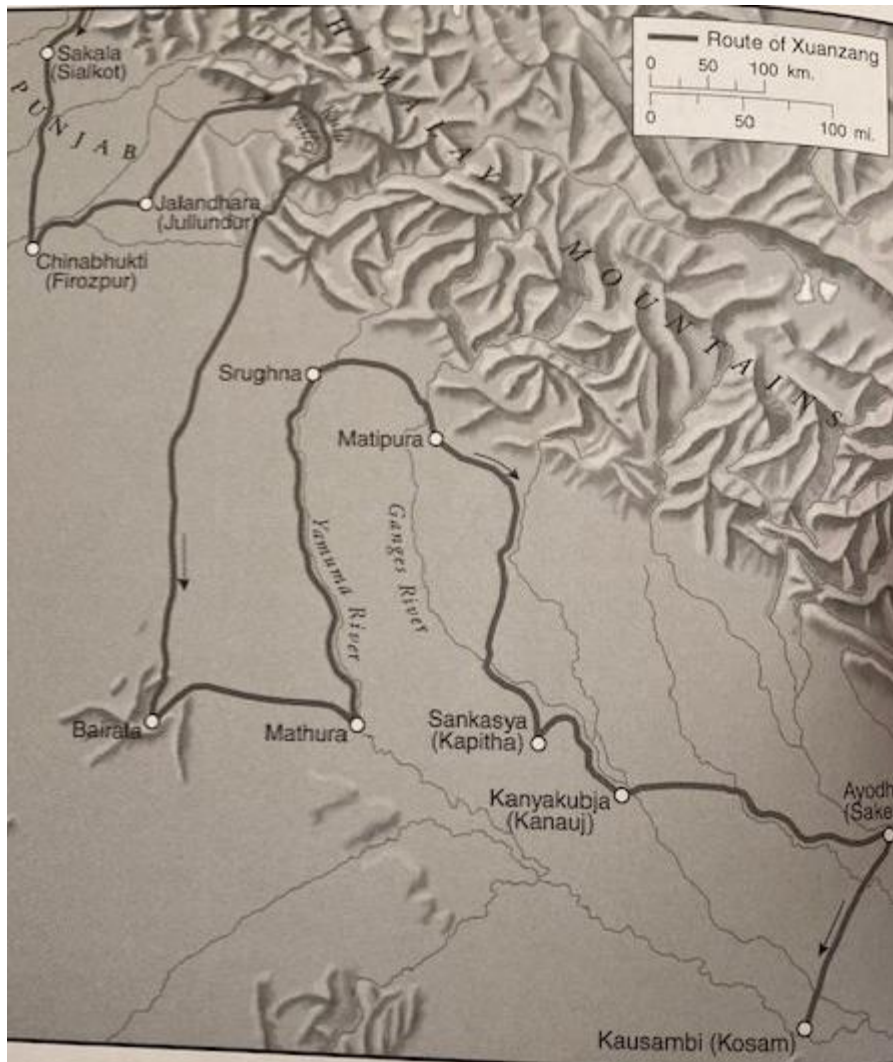


Travels with Xuanzang
OLLI-DC
Spring 2021

Handout # 5

Northern India and the Buddhist Holy Land





“There are more than one hundred deva temples with over ten thousand heretical followers. Most of them worship Maheśvara. Some of them cut their hair while others keep it in a topknot. They go naked without any dress and smear their bodies with ash. They rigorously practice austerities, seeking freedom from birth and death.” Xuanzang p.171





King Udayana presenting the Buddha image to the Buddha
3rd c ad, Gandhara
Peshawar Museum



Sravasti: site of the twin miracles
of flames and water



Sankasya: site of the descent of the
Buddha from Triyastimsa heaven

Rajagriha



The Buddha calms the elephant Nalagiri

Vulture Peak: the Buddha taught here frequently



Nalanda



Founded 1st century bc?; high point 5-12th centuries

Course of study: Mahayana Buddhism, Hinayana Buddhism, the Vedas, Logic, Grammar, Philosophy, Medicine, Math, Sanskrit, Astronomy, Literature, Works of Magic.