**Ashoka – A person of significance**

**Key terms:**

**dynasty** - a succession of rulers from the same family or hereditary line  
**empire** - a group of states or countries under a single authority.**monument** - a statue, building or structure built to commemorate a notable person or event.  
**philosophy** - theories about the nature of knowledge, reality and existence.**precept** - a general rule  
**stupa** - dome-shaped buildings which contain the relics of the Buddha

**Ashoka**

Words:

battles empire edicts Kalinga battle

reflected stupas hospitals beliefs peaceful

Ashoka Maurya ruled an ………………… established by his grandfather Chandagupta Maurya. Ashoka ruled the Maurayan Empire from 273 BCE to 232 BCE. Ashoka fought many ………………… and was a highly skilled warrior. The battle at ………………… was an extremely brutal battle. At the end of the ………………… Ashoka went out to the battlefields and saw the destruction he had caused. He ………………… on his behaviour and decided he must change. He converted to the religion of Buddhism.

Ashoka spread the ………………… and practices of Buddhism throughout his empire. He made Buddhism the state religion, and spread the ten main rules of the religion, known as precepts. He spread the ………………… message of the religion by writing rules of behaviour on stone monuments. These are called …………………. He sent out his own children and monks as missionaries to spread the message of Buddhism outside of his Empire.

Ashoka had large dome-shaped buildings called ………………… built to house the Buddha’s sacred remains.

Ashoka was a fair and just ruler, who built ………………… and roads for his people and tried to meet the needs of the poor people in his empire.