

# **Influence of Buddhism on Ashoka**

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This statement clearly exemplifies that Ashoka in the World Historical Perspective was not only the third monarch of the Mauryan dynasty in the third century B.C. who unified India for the first time but one of the greatest political figure who made an deliberate attempt to imbibe politics with spiritualism to sustain the manifestations of power, domination with moral illuminations and inward self-enlightenment. This conjoint effort was clearly seen in numerous edicts and inscriptions which shows Ashoka in close association with Buddhism. The Buddhist texts and traditions project him as an illustrious political figure and an devout upasaka. He holds a very special place in Buddhist Sangha and marks the emergence of “the beginnings of political theory”.