Important people from after the time the Buddha lived:

King Asoka (Ashoka): Ruled India over 200 years after the Buddha passed away. He sent missionaries around Asia and protected the monastic saṅgha.

Mahinda, Ven. Arahant: Son of King Asoka who was the first missionary to Sri Lanka. He first established the royal family as disciples of the Buddha and then went on to convert the population.

Sanghamittā, Ven. Arahant: Daughter of King Asokha. She was sent by the king to establish the order of nuns on the island and to bring a cutting of the sacred Bodhi Tree.
Ajātasattu, King: Son of king Bimbisāra. Murdered his father to usurp the throne at the encouragement of Devadatta.

Ānanda, Ven. Arahant: Cousin and chief attendant to the Buddha. He had an exceptional memory and could recall all of the sermons that the Buddha preached.

Anāthapiṇḍika: Chief male lay donor to the Buddha. He built and offered Jetavana monastery in the city of Sāvatthī.

Angīrasa: Another name for our Buddha Gotama.

Anuruddha, Ven. Arahant: Monk with the greatest development of the divine-eye.

Avīci Hell: The worst hell realm.

Bamboo Grove (Veluvanaya): A monastery in Rājagaha donated by King Bimbisara.

Bhāradvāja: A common Brahmin clan name. Used for various people.

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Bodhgaya: The place where the Buddha attained enlightenment.

Channa, Ven. Arahant: The Bodhisatta’s charioteer who later became a difficult monk, but eventually attained enlightenment.

Devadatta: Cousin of the Buddha who became a monk. Later he tried to take over the Sangha. When unsuccessful, he tried to kill the Buddha. When that was unsuccessful, he tried to split the Sangha.

Gijikūta Mountain (Vulture’s Peak): A mountain outside of Rājagaha where the Buddha liked to live.

Isigili Mountain: Located outside of Rājagaha.

Isipatana Migadāya: The Deer Park where the Buddha preached his first sermon.

Jambudīpa: The ancient name for India.

Jetavana (Jeta’s Grove): The monastery donated by Anāthapiṇḍika in the city of Sāvatti.

Kanthaka: The horse that the Bodhisatta rode when left home to become a monk.

Kapilavatthu: (current name: Kapilavastu) The Buddha’s home town.

Khemā, Ven. Arahant: Chief female monastic disciple skilled in wisdom.

Koṇḍañña, Ven. Arahant: The first monk to attain stream-entry under the Buddha.

Kusinara: (current name: Kushināra) Town where the Buddha passed away (attained Parinibbāna).

Lumbini: Town where the Buddha was born.

Mahā Kassapa, Ven. Arahant: The monk most skilled in the ascetic practices.

Mahā Māyā, Queen: The Buddha’s mother.

Mahā Pajāpati Gotami: The Buddha’s aunt who raised him after his mother died.


Māra: A non-human being who is dedicated to making sure people don’t attain enlight-