ONLYIAS
BY PHYSICS WALLAH

UDAAN 3.0

Quick and Comprehensive Revision Series

For Prelims 2023



Ancient India

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Youtube Channel: Physics Wallah - Alakh Pandey
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Email: support@pw.live

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PREFACE

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From the beginning, the whole content team comprising Content Creators, Reviewers, DTP operators, Proofreaders and others are involved in shaping the material to their best knowledge and experience to produce powerful content for the students.

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BOOK FEATURES

- Discussion of Highly Probable Topics for Prelims
- Updated Booklets with Latest Data and Facts
- Concise and Curated Content for Solving Objective Questions
- Inclusion of Tables, Flowcharts and Mindmaps for Easy Memorisation

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1 Prehistoric Times

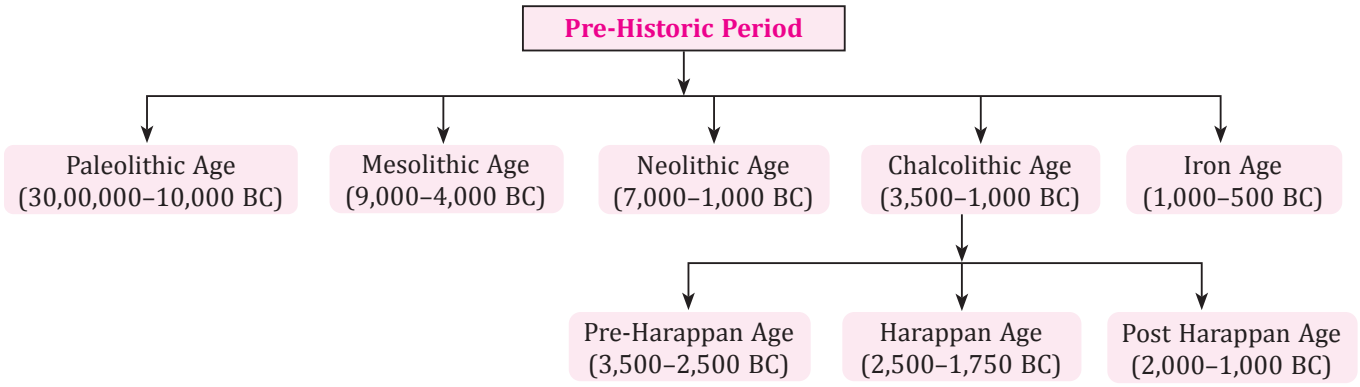


Fig.1.1: Prehistoric Period

1.1 PRE-HISTORIC PERIOD: (30,00,000 BC – 600 BC)

- It consists of **five periods - Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Chalcolithic & Iron Age**.
- **No written records** are available of this period.
- **Archaeological remains** from this period are stone tools, pottery, artefacts, and metal implements used by prehistoric people.
- **Robert Bruce Foote** discovered what was probably the **first Paleolithic tool** discovered in India — the **Pallavaram handaxe**.
- **Robert Bruce B Foote** is known as the **father of Prehistoric Archaeology**.
- **Sir Mortimer Wheeler** contributed towards our knowledge of the prehistoric cultures of India and their sequence.

Historical Sources

Sources	Evidence	Information
Material Remains	• **Radio-Carbon Dating** is a method for determining the age of an object. • **Dendro-Chronology:** the scientific method of dating tree rings (also called growth rings) to the exact year they were formed· • **Structures: Grand Stone temples of Southern India; Brick Monasteries of Eastern India;** vertical & horizontal excavations of mounds; **Megaliths** (South India).	• Almost every aspect of lifestyle like, use of pottery type, house construction design, agriculture (grains produced), animals domesticated, type of tools, weapons etc. and burial practices of the time and geography. • **Vertical Excavations:** provides chronological sequence of material culture. • **Horizontal Excavation:** Gives complete idea of particular culture.
Coins	• The study of coins is called **Numismatics.** • Coins excavated and collected from the surface and cataloged in various museums throughout the country and outside.	• Not many symbols were used in earliest coins; Names of the Kings or issuer (guilds/merchants), Gods or dates are mentioned in the coins from later periods. • They help in the construction of religious, cultural and economic history with chronology. • **Local and cross-border transactions** done through these coins tell about various ruling dynasties and extent of their rule.

		• Metal and number of the coins indicates the level of trade, commerce and wealth in a Kingdom. • Only a few coins belonging to post-Gupta times indicate the decline of trade & commerce in that period.
Inscriptions	• **Epigraphy:** the study of Inscriptions. • **Paleography:** Study of old writings on inscriptions and other records. • Inscriptions carved on seals, stone pillars, rocks, copper plates, temple walls and bricks or images. • Earliest in Prakrit (300 BC), later in Sanskrit and further later in regional languages.	• **Pictographic Harappan Inscriptions** are **yet to be deciphered.** • **South India:** Inscriptions on temple walls. • Inscriptions conveyed various information like royal orders and decisions regarding social, religious and administrative matters (e.g., Ashokan Inscriptions) to officials and people in general. • **Ashokan Inscriptions:** Scripts used **-Brahmi, Kharosthi, Greek** & **Aramaic.** • Donations, land grants, and the achievements of Kings and Conquerors (Example: **Samudragupta and Pulkeshin 2nd** etc.).
Literary Sources	• The **four Vedas, Ramayana** and **Mahabharata**, Smritis and **Dharmasutras**, Epics, Jain & Buddhist texts, poetry, Sangam Literature, plays etc. • In India, the oldest manuscripts were written on birch bark & palm leaves.	• Kautilya's **Arthashastra** gives exhaustive coverage of affairs that concern a King and his, economy, polity, administration and society at large. • **Purana** provides dynastic history up to Gupta rule. • These sources also indicate the usage of language, script and style of writing. • **Rajatarangini:** This is the famous book written by Kalhana and depicts the social and political life of **12th century CE Kashmir** • **Sangam literature:** This is the earliest south Indian literature, produced by poets who assembled together (Sangam). It provides valuable information about the social, economic and political life of the people living in deltaic Tamil Nadu. • **Literary work of Kalidasa:** The works of the great poet Kalidasa comprises kavyas and dramas, one of the most important : **Abhijnanasakuntalam**
Foreigner's Accounts	• Accounts of Greeks, Romans or Chinese either as official historians, diplomats, pilgrims or even navigators/explorers.	• **Alexander's invasion:** solely reconstructed based on Greek sources. • **Indica of Megasthenes:** provides information about the Mauryan period. • **Pliny's Naturalis Historia:** account of trade imbalance between India and Roman empire.

1.2 PALEOLITHIC OR OLD STONE AGE: (30,00,000 BC – 10000 BC)

- The Palaeolithic Age is the **earliest period of the Stone Age**, which developed in the **Pleistocene period or the Ice Age**.
- There was no knowledge of agriculture, house building, pottery, or any metal.
- It spread in practically all parts of India **except** the alluvial plains of the Indus and Ganga.
- **Quartzite men**: Since the stone tools were made of a hard rock called **quartzite**, Palaeolithic men are therefore also called **Quartzite men** in India.
- **Chopper-chopping pebble culture:** The implements of this culture were found first from **Sohan** river valley of west **Punjab** (Pakistan), also called as **Sohan Culture**.
- **Hand Axe culture:** The implements of this culture were found **first in Madurai** and **Attirampakkam of Madras**, so also called as **Madrasian Culture**.
- Famous sites of Old Stone Age:
  - **Soan valley** and **Potwar plateau.**
  - **Siwalik hills** in north India.
  - **Bhimbetka** in Madhya Pradesh.
  - **Adamgarh Hills** in Narmada Valley.
  - **Kurnool** in Andhra Pradesh.
  - **Attirampakkam** near Chennai.



Fig. 1.2: Important Archaeological Sites in India

1.2.1 Lower Paleolithic Age: (5,00,000 to 50,000 BC) (Homoeractus)

- **Evolution:** Learned to control fire for roasting meat and warding off animals. Hunting and food gathering. Lived in trees and in caves.
- **Tools:** Simply chopper-chopping i.e., crude and rough tools prepared out of pebbles. Choppers, Hand Axes and Cleavers.
- **Sites: Soan and Sohan river valley** (now in Pakistan), Didwana, (Rajasthan), **Hiran Valley** (Gujarat), **rock shelters of Bhimbetka** (MP), and **Belan Valley of Mirzapur** (UP).

1.2.2 Middle Paleolithic Age: (50,000 to 40,000 BC) (Neanderthal)

- **Evolution:** Language was invented in this period. Men remained hunters and food gatherers.
- **Tools: Flake culture**: due to excessiveness of implements made from flakes. Refined and lighter tools made of harder stone material like flint were used. Diversified tools based on flakes were used, for example, blades, pointers, scrapers and borers.
- **Sites: Soan, Narmada and Tungabhadra river valleys**, **Potwar plateau** (between Indus and Jehlum), **Sanghao Cave** (near Peshawar, Pakistan).

1.2.3 Upper Paleolithic Age: (40,000 - 10,000 BC) (Homo Sapiens)

- **Evolution:** Other hominin species were eliminated by this time. **Homo sapiens** first appeared at the end of this phase. There is evidence of art in the form of paintings.
- **Tools: Flake-Blade culture:** due to excessiveness of implements made from Flake-Blade. Even more refined and light tools. These were backed blades with two cutting edges. Blades, scrapers, and burns could be fitted in handles; Bone tools like needles, harpoons were also found.
- **Sites:** Found in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Central MP, Southern UP and Chota Nagpur Plateau. Bone tools found only at cave sites of **Kurnool and Muchchatla Chintamani Gavi** in Andhra Pradesh.

1.3 MESOLITHIC OR MIDDLE STONE AGE: (9000 BC- 4000 BC)

- This is the **transitional phase** between the Palaeolithic and Neolithic ages.
- No snakes **are depicted in Mesolithic Paintings**.
- In India, the credit of discovery of Mesolithic archaeological material goes to **John Evan**.
- **Evolution:** It was the **transitional period** between the Paleolithic and Neolithic Age. People used bow and arrow and hence, big animals were hunted down easily. First burials are reported and use of stone-ornaments also appears. Domestication of animals like sheep and goats is found. The **first human colonization** of the Ganga Plains happened during this period.
- **Tools: Microlith** tools i.e., tools made of micro-sized stones which were very refined. Bow and arrow and other microliths in various shapes like moon, triangular, square, rectangle, crescents and arrow-head.
- **Sites: Bhimbetka, Mahadaha, Sarai Nahar Rai, Adamgarh** (MP), **Langhnaj** (Gujarat), etc. **Earliest cave paintings** are found at **Bhimbetka (UNESCO World Heritage Site).**

1.4 NEOLITHIC AGE OR NEW STONE AGE: (7000 BC - 1000 BC)

- In India, the credit of discovery of Neolithic archaeological material goes to **Dr. Primrose.**
- **Neolithic revolution: V.Gordon Childe** termed the Neolithic phase as Neolithic Revolution. It introduced a lot of important changes in man's social and economic life. The Neolithic age saw man turning into a food producer from food gatherer.
- Man lived in huts, reared cattle, developed agriculture (wheat, barley, cotton, rice etc.), used earthenware (both handmade and wheel-made).
- **Domestication of animals**: **cattle, sheep and goats** was also done.
- People of Neolithic age lived in **rectangular** or **circular houses** which were made of mud and reeds.
- **Tools: Sharper, symmetrical and polished stone tools** for not only hunting but agriculture also. Daggers, digging sticks, celts, grinding stones, sickle, saw, sling-stones etc. (continuous rubbing was done to smoothen the tools).
- **Sites:**
  - **Kashmir valley, Chirand** (Bihar), **Daojali Hading, Belan valley** (UP), and **Maski** etc.
  - **Chopani–Mando, Belan valley**: earliest evidence of use of pottery.
  - **Burzahom**: unique rectangular chopper, domestic dogs buried with their masters.
  - **Koldihwa and Mahagara**: earliest evidence of rice cultivation in the world.
  - **South India: Maski, Brahmagiri, Hallur and Kodekal** in Karnataka, **Paiyampalli** in TN and **Utnur** in Andhra Pradesh.
  - **Koldihwa** (Belan valley): presence of three-fold **Neolithic, Chalcolithic and Iron Age settlements.**
  - **Mehrgarh** (Pakistan)**:** earliest Neolithic site known as the **Breadbasket of Balochistan.**

1.5 CHALCOLITHIC (METAL) AGE: (3500 BC-1000 BC)

- The **first metal age of India** is called Chalcolithic Age. It was also called the **Stone-Copper Age.**

Chalcolithic age is divided into 3 stages	
Pre-Harappan Age	3500 BC-2500 BC.
Harappan Age	2500 BC-1750 BC.
Post-Harappan Age	2000 BC-1000 BC.

- Chalcolithic: Chalco + Lithic was derived from the Greek words **khalkos + líthos** which means copper and stone or Copper Age.
- Chalcolithic cultures had grown in river valleys. Harappan culture is considered part of Chalcolithic culture.
- The Chalcolithic culture corresponds to the farming communities: **Kayatha, Ahar or Banas, Malwa, and Jorwe.**
- **Evolution:**
  - Settled & community life.
  - Crops cultivated were: barley, wheat, lentil, bajra, jowar, ragi millets, green pea, green and black gram and cotton.

- Rice and Fish was used as food.
- Technically separate but Harappan civilization evolved out of the Chalcolithic Culture.
- **Unaware of: Iron, horse and script.**
- Marks the beginning of use metal in place of stone yet **burnt brick** was generally **absent**.
- High Child Mortality is indicated by a large number of child burials.

- **Tools/Idols:**
  - Knives, axes, fishing hooks, chisels, pins, and rods were made of copper and its alloys.
  - Beads of semi-precious stones and the **Terracotta image of Mother Goddess are reported**.
  - Dead were buried in urns; at times with tools and objects.
- **Crafts and Pots:**
  - Copper and stone tools were used simultaneously.
  - The chalcolithic people were expert **coppersmiths. Weavers** were present.
  - Used Black and Red Ware. Painted pottery, in black pigment; decorated with different shapes.
- **Sites:**
  - In India it was mainly found in South-Eastern Rajasthan, Western part of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, and in South and East India.
  - Several bronze and copper objects, terracotta figurines and pottery were found at **Paiyampalli** in **Tamil Nadu**.
  - **Important sites: Navdatoli, Jorwe, Daimabad, Ahar Banas, Malwa, Inamgaon, Songaon, Nashik, Mehgam, Kausambi, Alamgirpur, Ropar** etc.

Chalcolithic Cultures	Sites
Ahara Culture	**Aahar (Rajasthan), Balathal, Gilund** etc. The distinctive feature is black and red ware.
Kayatha Culture	Located in Chambal and its tributaries, the sturdy red slipped ware with chocolate designs is the main feature.
Malwa Culture	Narmada & its tributaries in Gujarat. One of the largest Chalcolithic settlements.
Savalda Culture	**Dhulia district** of Maharashtra.
Prabhas & Rangpur Culture	Both of them are derived from the Harappa culture. The **polished red ware** is the hallmark of this culture.

1.6 IRON AGE: (1,000 BC-500 BC)

- The Chalcolithic age is followed by the **Iron Age.**
- Iron is frequently **referred to in the Vedas.**
- The Iron Age of the southern peninsula is often related to **megalithic burials.** Megalith means **large stone.**
- The burial pits covered with these stones are extensively found in South India.

Important Megalithic Sites
• **Hallur** and **Maski** in Karnataka, **Nagarjunakonda** in Andhra Pradesh and **Adichchanallur** in Tamil Nadu.



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2 Harappan Civilization: 2500-1750 BC

- **The Harappan/ Indus Valley civilisation** was the **first urban civilisation in South Asia,** contemporaneous with the civilisations of Mesopotamia and Egypt. It was larger than ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia civilisations.
- **First site excavated**: Harappa site by **Dayaram Sahni** in **1921.**
- **John Marshall:** first scholar to use the term **Indus Civilisation**.
- **Most accepted timeline:** 2500 BC-1750 BC (Carbon-14 Dating).
- **Period**: India Civilization belongs to **proto-historic period- Chalcolithic Age/Bronze Age**.
- **Heartland of Indus Civilization**: Harappa-Ghaggar-Mohenjo Daro axis.
- **Indus sites found in Afghanistan**: Shortughai and Mundigaq.
- **Capital cities**: Harappa**,** Mohenjodaro.
- **Port cities**: **Lothal, Sutkagendor, Allahdino, Balakot, Kuntasi**.
- **Area covered**: Harappan civilisation was **triangular** in shape and was largest among the three ancient urban civilisations, the other two being **ancient Egypt** and **Mesopotamia** (present day Iraq). It roughly covers modern day **Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, and Pakistan**.
- **Father of Indian archaeology**: **Alexander Cunningham,** the **first** Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

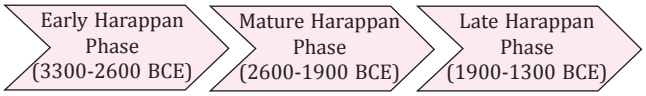


Fig. 2.1: Phases of Harappan Civilization

Additional Information:

- Northernmost site : **Manda** (Jammu-Kashmir).
- Southernmost site : **Daimabad** (Maharashtra).
- Easternmost site : **Alamgirpur** (Uttar Pradesh).
- Western-most site :**Sutkagendor** (Pakistan-Iran border).
- Largest site of Indus civilization : **Mohenjo Daro.**
- Largest Indian site of Indus civilization : **Rakhigarh.**
- **Oldest script in Indian subcontinent** : Harappan script.
- **Oldest deciphered script :** Brahmi script.
- **Shamans** are men and women who claim magical and healing powers, as well as an ability to communicate with the other world.

2.1 INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION: LOCATION, RIVER, EXCAVATOR, FINDINGS

Site	Features	
Harappa (first archaeological site to be discovered)	**State**	• **Pakistan (Punjab).**
	River	• **Ravi.**
	Excavator	• **Dayaram Sahni (1921).**
	Findings	• Granaries, Red sandstone Male torso, Stone symbols of Lingam and Yoni, Painted pottery, Mother Goddess, Dice.
Mohenjo-daro	**State**	• **Pakistan (Sindh).**
	River	• **Indus.**
	Excavator	• **R. D. Banerji (1922), E. Makay, Kashinath Dixit, Sir John Marshall (1930).**

	Findings	• Largest site of Indus civilization, Post cremation burial, Great Granary, Great Bath (largest building of civilization), Seal with Pashupathi and mother goddess, Bronze dancing girl.
Chanhudaro	**State**	• **Pakistan (Sindh),** near Mohenjo-Daro.
	River	• **Indus.**
	Excavator	• **N.G. Mazumdar (1931) and E. Makay.**
	Findings	• Inkpot, Lipstick, Metal workers, Shell-ornament makers and bead makers shop, dog's paw imprint on brick, Terracotta model of bullock cart, Bronze toy cart.
Lothal	**State**	• **Gujarat** (Ahmedabad District, at the head of the Gulf of Cambay).
	River	• **Bhogava** and **Sabarmati river** confluence.
	Excavator	• **S Rao in 1953.**
	Findings	• Important **naval trade site,** Cremation site, Dockyard, Granaries, Rice husk, Double burial (male female together).
Dholavira	**State**	• **Gujarat.**
	River	• **Luni.**
	Excavator	• **R Bisht in 1985 (as per NCERT). Some books mention J.P. Joshi (1990–91).**
	Findings	• Unique water harnessing system and its storm water drainage system, only site divided in 3 parts, Megalithic stone circle, giant water reservoirs.
Surkotada	**State**	• **Gujarat.**
	Excavator	• **J.P. Joshi (1964).**
	Findings	• Only site with bones of horse, Oval grave, Pot burials, Soldiers sign on potsherds.
Kalibangan (Black Bangles)	**State**	• **Rajasthan.**
	River	• **Ghaggar.**
	Excavator	• **Amlanand Ghosh (1953) Dr. B. B. Lal and B. K. Thapar (1961).**
	Findings	• Bangle factory, Ploughed field surface, Camel bones, Fire altars.
Banawali	**State**	• **Haryana.**
	River	• **Ghaggar.**
	Excavator	• **R.S. Bist (1973 – 74).**
	Findings	• **Oval shaped settlement,** Lack of systematic drainage system, Barley grains, Lapis Lazuli, Fire altars, Only city with Radial streets; Centre of pre-Harappan, Mature Harappan as well as Late Harappan civilization.
Ropar	**State**	• **Punjab.**
	River	• **Sutlej.**
	Excavator	• **Y.D. Sharma (1955–56).**
	Findings	• Dog buried with human oval pit burials, copper axe , **first site to be excavated after independence.**

Rakhigarhi	**State**	• **Haryana.**
	Findings	• **Largest Indian site** of Indus valley civilization. Granary, cemetery, drains, terracotta bricks. Shows all three phases of Harappa Culture.
Rangpur	**State**	• **Gujarat (Near Lothal).**
	River	• **Madar River.**
	Excavator	• **M.S. Vatsa (1931) S.R. Rao (1953-54).**
	Findings	• Remains of both pre-Harappan and mature Harappan culture; Yellow and gray color pots of pre Harappan people.
Alamgirpur	**State**	• **Uttar Pradesh.**
	River	• **Hindon.**
	Excavator	• **Y.D. Sharma (1958).**
	Findings	• Broken copper blade, ceramic items and impression of cloth on a trough.
Daimabad	**State**	• **Maharashtra.**
	River	• **Pravara.**
	Excavator	• **Y.D. Sharma (1958).**
	Findings	• Bronze images (charioteer with chariot, ox, elephant and rhinoceros).
Koti-Diji	**State**	• **Sindh (Pakistan).**
	River	• **Sindh.**
	Excavator	• **Ghurey (1835) Fazal Ahmed (1955).**
	Findings	• Bronze images (charioteer with chariot, ox, elephant and rhinoceros).
Amri	**State**	• **Sindh (Pakistan).**
	River	• **Sindh.**
	Excavator	• **Ghurey (1835) Fazal Ahmed (1955).**
	Findings	• Pre-Harappan settlement; Transitional culture between pre and post-Harappan culture; Actual remains of rhinoceros, trace of **jhangar culture** in Late Harappan fire altars.
Suktagendor	**State**	• **Sindh (Pakistan).**
	River	• **Dasht/Dashak River.**
	Excavator	• **A Stein, George Dales.**
	Findings	• Ash filled pot, copper axe , earthen bangles & pottery; Originally port but later cut off from sea due to coastal upliftment; Had trade links with Babylon.

2.2 PROMINENT FEATURES OF HARAPPAN CIVILIZATION

- **Town Planning And Structures:**
  - The towns were in a **rectangular grid pattern** with roads at **right angles**.
  - Used **burnt mud bricks** joined with **gypsum mortar** (contemporary Egyptian dried bricks were used).
  - The city was **divided in two parts**, the city on raised platform, known as **Upper citadel** & the lower town known as **Lower citadel** (working class quarters). Fortified citadel was found, except in Chanhudaro.
  - Most buildings have **private wells and properly ventilated bathrooms**.
  - **Do not have large monumental structures such as temples or palaces** for rulers unlike Egyptian and Mesopotamian Civilization.
  - Evidence of an Advanced **drainage** system.
  - At sites such as **Dholavira** and **Lothal (Gujarat),** the entire settlement was **fortified**, and sections within the town were also **separated by walls**. The Citadel within Lothal was not walled off, but was built at a height.
- **Agriculture:**
  - **Main crops**: Wheat and Barley**.** Evidence of cultivation of rice in Lothal and Rangpur (Gujarat) only.
  - **Other crops**: Dates, Mustard, Sesamum, Cotton, Rai, Peas etc.
  - **First to produce cotton in the world** and used it for textiles**,** Called **Sindon** by the Greeks.
  - Used animal drawn wooden plough, and stone sickles.
  - **Gabarbands** or **Nalas** enclosed by dams were found but **channel or canal irrigation was probably not practiced.**
  - Produced **sufficient food grains** and **cereals** were received as **taxes** from peasants and stored in granaries for wages and emergencies same as Mesopotamia.
- **Domestication of Animals:**
  - **Animals**: Oxen, buffaloes, goats, sheep, and pigs, dogs, cats, asses and camels domesticated.
  - **Humped bulls** were favored by the Harappans.
  - **Neither horse centered nor** were they **aware of it,** but **evidence of horses** are found **in Surkotada, Mohenjo Daro and Lothal.**
  - **Lion was not known.**
  - **Elephants and Rhinoceros (Amari)** were well known.
- **Technology and Craft:**
  - This is known as the **first urbanization in India.**
  - Along with stone, they were well **acquainted with copper, silver, gold and bronze** (occasionally mixed arsenic with copper instead of tin).
  - **Iron was not known** to the people.
  - **Important crafts**: spinning (Spindle whorls), bricklaying, boat-making, seal making, terracotta manufacturing (potter's wheel), goldsmiths, bead making.
  - They were **aware of the use of the wheel.**
- **Trade and Commerce:**
  - The importance of Trade is established by the presence of **Granaries, seals, a uniform script, and regulated weights and measures.**
  - They engaged in **inter-regional as well as foreign trade**. Sumerian texts refer to trade relations with **Meluha** i.e. ancient name given to Indus region & mentions two intermediate trading stations- **Dilmun (Bahrain) & Makan (Makran coast)**.
  - Used **boats** and **bullock-carts** for transportation.
  - **No metallic money** in circulation and trade was conducted by means of **barter**.
  - **Import:** Gold, Silver, Copper, Tin, Jade, Steatite.
  - **Exports**: Agricultural products, cotton goods, terracotta figurines, beads from Chanhudaro, conch- shell from Lothal, ivory products, copper, etc.
  - **Harappan Imports sources:**
  - **Gold**: Afghanistan, Iran, Kolar (South India);
  - **Copper**: Khetri (Rajasthan), Balochistan;
  - **Tin**: Afghanistan, Iran;
  - **Lapis lazuli**: Afghanistan;
  - **Jade**: Pamir;
  - **Turquoise**: Khorasan;
  - **Steatite**: Tapi Chahya (Iran);
  - **Bitumen**: Balochistan, Mesopotamia;
  - **Lead**: South India;
- **Social Organization:**
  - **Hierarchy in urban habitation.** Merchants and priests were an important class of this period.
  - Harappans were **fashion** conscious. Different hairstyles and wearing a beard were popular.
  - The use of **cosmetics** was common (Cinnabar, lipstick and collyrium)
  - Necklaces, filets, armlets and finger rings were **worn by both men and women** but bangles, girdles, anklets, ear-rings were **worn by women only.**
  - **Beads** were made from gold, copper, bronze, cornelian, quartz, steatite, lapis lazuli etc. - naturalistic animal models as pin-heads and beads.

- **Polity:**
  - **Central authority** may have contributed to uniform culture.
  - **No clear idea** of an organized force or standing army.
  - **Priests did not rule in Harappa** as they did in the cities of lower Mesopotamia but were **possibly ruled by a class of merchants**.
- **Religious Practices:**
  - **Seal: Male deity Pashupati Mahadeva (proto-siva**), three-horned heads, and is represented in the **sitting posture of a yogi,** surrounded by an **Elephant, Tiger, Rhinoceros, and Buffalo**, and **two deer** at his feet.
  - Harrapan was a predominantly **secular civilization**.
  - Prevalence of the **Phallus (Lingam) and Yoni, two deer**.
  - Chief female deity was **mother Goddess**. They worshiped both male and female deities.
  - The people of the Indus region also **worshiped trees** (pipal), **fire and animals** (unicorn, humped bull etc).
  - Harappans **believed in ghosts and evil forces.** They used amulets against them.
  - **Burials**: At burials in Harappan sites the **dead were generally laid in pits**. Some graves contain **pottery and ornaments**, perhaps indicating a belief that these could be used in the afterlife. **Jewelry has been found in burials of both men and women**.
- **Script:**
  - **Oldest script** in Indian subcontinent.
  - **Pictographic script also found,** yet to be deciphered.
  - Writing was **Boustrophedon** - writing from right to left in one line & then left to right in the next line.
- **Pottery:**
  - **Plain pottery is more common** than painted ware and is generally of red clay, and is uniformly sturdy and well baked.
  - The painted pottery is also known as **Red and Black Pottery** as it used red color to paint the background and glossy black paint was used to draw designs and figures on the red background.
  - **Trees, birds, animal figures and geometrical patterns** were the recurring themes of the paintings.
  - Most of the pottery is **wheel-made**. This implies they were well aware of the wheel.
  - Rare **polychrome pottery** has also been found (geometric patterns in red, black, green, rarely white and yellow).
- **Seals and Sealings:**
  - Most of the seals are **square shaped** (2x2 square inches) made mostly from **Steatite.**
  - Seals had an **animal (except cow and horse) or human figure on one side** and **an inscription on the opposite side** or inscriptions on both the sides.
  - Seals were primarily used for **commercial purposes**, **as an amulet**, as a form of **identification**, for **educational purposes** as well.
  - Seals with symbols similar to **Swastika** design have also been found.
  - The **round Persian Gulf seal** found in **Bahrain** sometimes carries Harappan motifs.
  - Interestingly**, local Dilmun** weights followed the Harappan standard.
- **Art:**
  - **Bronze Casting:**Practiced on a wide scale using the **lost wax** or **Cire Perdue** technique. They mainly consist of **human and animal figures**. Example: **Dancing Girl**. She stands in a **Tribhanga** dancing posture.
  - **Stone Statues:Bearded man:** found in **Mohenjo-daro** and made of **Steatite,** interpreted as a priest.
  - **Red sandstone:** a figure of a male torso is found in Harappa and made of Red sandstone.
  - **Terracotta Figures:** Found are less in number and crude in shape and form. Examples: **Mother Goddess**, mask of horned deity, toys, etc.
- **Weights and Measures:**
  - **Cubical weight**s in graduated sizes. These weights conform to the **standard Harappan binary weight system** that was used in all of the settlements.

2.3 DECLINE

- After 2000 BC Indus Valley Civilization declined & gradually faded away. Causes of the decline of this civilization have not been firmly established.
- **Possible reasons** – declined soil fertility, depression in land, Aryans invasion, decline of trade, Floods, Earthquake etc.
- Most acceptable reason is **ecological imbalance**.



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3 Vedic Culture: 1500-600 BC

3.1 ARRIVAL OF ARYANS

- With the advent of Aryans **began the history of Vedic Period (1500 BC-600 BC).**
- The original home of the Aryans is a **debatable question** and there are several views. Aryans originally lived in the **Steppes region**. Later they moved to **central Asia** and then came to the **Punjab region of India** around 1500 BC.
- Vedic period is divided into **Early Vedic or Rigvedic (1500 BC-1000 BC)** & **Later Vedic (1000 BC- 600 BC)** periods.
- The name 'Aryan' appears in **Hittite inscription (Anatolia), Kassitte inscription** (Iraq) & **Mittani inscription** (Syria).
- An Iranian text, **Zend Avesta**, talks about names of Aryan Gods like **Indra**, **Varuna,** etc.
- **Language**: spoke the Indo-Aryan language, Sanskrit.
- The word **Veda** is derived from the root **vid**, which means **to know**. The term 'Veda' signifies **superior knowledge**.
- The rise of Buddhism and Jainism was the direct result of this socio-economic problem arising due to Vedic Culture.

Additional Information:

- Boghazkoi Inscription:
- Mentioning four Vedic gods – **Indra, Varuna, Mitra, Nasatyas**– proves **Central Asian Theory** as their homeland.

3.2 RIG VEDIC/EARLY VEDIC PERIOD (1500 BC- 1000 BC)

- The Main source of information about this age is the **Rig Veda** (10 Mandalas and 1028 Hymns).
- Mandalas/Chapters from 2 to 8 are called **Saptarishi Mandalas** as these are composed by the **seven great sages.**
- Mandalas 2 to 7 form the earliest portions of the Rigveda while 1 and 10 were latest additions.
- **10th Mandala** has the famous **Purush Sukta** that describes cosmic creation (Adi Purush) along with the **4-fold Varna System.**
- **The 3rd Mandala**, composed by **Vishwamitra,** contains **Gayatri Mahamantra** addressed to **Goddess Savitri**.
- **Geographical Expansion:**
  - Early Vedic people or Aryans settled in the land of seven rivers, called **Sapta Sindhu:** Sindhu (Indus), Vitasta (Jhelum), Asikani (Chenab), Parushni (Ravi), Bipasa (Beas), Sutudri (Satluj), and Saraswati (Ghaggar).
  - Their region covered present day parts of **Afghanistan, Punjab and Haryana**.
  - **Sindhu (Indus) is the most mentioned** and **Saraswati is the most revered (holy) river**.
  - Saraswati Valley was called **Brhmavarta.**
  - **The Himalayas** were called **Himavat.**
  - **Hindu Kush** was called **Munjavant**.
- **Society:**
  - Rig Vedic communities comprised populations called **Janas**.
  - Society was divided into **Aryans and Non-Aryans**; non-Aryans were called **Dasas** and **Dasyus**.
  - It was an **egalitarian society.** Unlike the later Vedic period, social divisions were **not rigid** during the Rig Vedic period.
  - Rig Vedic society was **patriarchal**.
  - Basic unit of society was **family or Graham**. The head of the family was known as **Grahapathi**.
  - **Slaves** were used for domestic purposes & not for agriculture.
  - The term **Varna is used** in Rigveda with reference to **Aryans** & **Dasa** having fair & dark complexion respectively.
  - **Women poets**: Viswara, Lopamudra, Ghosha, Sikta, Nivavari, and Apala were female sages of the time and contributed to the composition of Rig Veda.
  - Women could even attend the popular assemblies.
  - **Child Marriage and Sati were absent** and a special widow-remarriage, called **Niyoga** (levirate) was prevalent. This was done to increase the population of the **Jana**.

- Two Drinks – **Soma & Sura** – Soma was sanctioned by religion & was drunk at sacrifices. Sura was disapproved by priests.
- **A wealthy person** was known as **Gomat** and the **daughter** called **Duhitri** which means one who milks the cow.
- **Favorite pastimes**: Chariot racing, horse racing, dicing, music and dance.
- **Monogamy** was generally practiced while **polygamy** was prevalent among the royal and noble families.
- Women were given **equal opportunities** as men for their spiritual and intellectual development.
- A variety of **ornaments were used by both** men and women.
- The **eating of cow's meat was prohibited** since it was a sacred animal.

- **Political System:**
  - The basic unit of political organization was **kula or family.**
  - Rig Vedic polity was normally **monarchical** and the succession was **hereditary**.
  - The **Purohita** or domestic priest was the first ranking official.
  - Janas were headed by a **Rajana** who was assisted by Purohit, Gramani and Senani and popular bodies like **Sabha**, **Samiti**, **Vidhata**, **Gana** and **Sardha** were present.
  - **Sabha** had few chiefs while **Samiti** was a larger body.
  - **Vidhata** was the oldest.
  - **Janas** were further divided into **Vis** and **Vis** in turn was divided into many **Kul** or **Kutumb**. Kul has **Griha** as its unit and **Kulapa** as its head while the **Griha** was headed by **Grihapati** or **Dampati**.
  - **Gaun** was the place where cattle were kept and **Gavishthi** was a quest or war for cows.
  - Group of **Kulas** made a **Gram** and **Gram** was headed by **Gramani**.
  - **Vajrapati:** Had authority over a large land and was leader of Kulupa & Graminis.
  - **Rajana** ruled over his people (Jana) and not over any specified area of land and hence, was called their protector (Gopa Janasya or Gopati Janasya).
  - There were **few non-monarchical states**, whose head was **Ganapati or Jyestha.**
  - **Rajana** had no standing army and bureaucracy too was absent. Military functions were performed by tribal groups called – **Vrat, Gana, Grama, Sardha.**
  - **Tribal kingdoms**: Bharatas, Matsyas, Yadus and Purus.
  - The **Battle of Ten Kings** (Dasrajan war) was fought on the banks of **Ravi river** for protection of wealth i.e. **cow** and **cattle** and was won by **Rajana Sudas** of **Bharat Jana** (tribe).
  - **Right to property existed**.
  - Rig Vedic Aryans used the **coat of mail and helmet in warfare**.
- **Economy:**
  - Rig Vedic society was **pastoral** and secondary occupation was **agriculture**. Cattle was the main form of wealth;
  - Agriculture production was for **consumption only**. They had better **knowledge of agriculture**. Rigveda mentions wooden ploughshare.
  - **Yava** was the common name for any grain.
  - **Bali** was a voluntary gift from producers to the **Rajana**.
  - Trade was conducted on a barter **system**. In the later times, gold coins called **Nishka** were used as media of exchange in large transactions. Coins were not known.
  - Neither tax was imposed nor treasury was maintained.
  - **Copper tools** of this era are reported from Punjab and Haryana.
  - **Ayas** is the common name used for any metal. Gold was called **Hiranya**.
  - Aryan introduced **spoked wheels.**
  - **Horses** played a significant role in their life. Rig Veda has mentioned a horse-drawn **chariot with spoked wheels.**
  - **Economic activities:** Hunting, carpentry, tanning, weaving, chariot-making, metal smeltery etc.
  - **Pottery type: Ochre Colored Pottery** and **Painted Grey Ware (PGW).**
- **Religious Aspect:**
  - **Important Rig Vedic gods:** Prithvi (Earth), Agni (Fire), Vayu (Wind), Varuna (Rain) and Indra (Thunder). Indra was the most popular.
  - **Other important gods**: Rudra, Dyaus, Ashwin, Yama and Soma.
  - **Female gods**: Aditi, Sindhu and Ushas.
  - **Agni** was regarded as an **intermediary** between the **gods and people.**
  - **Elaborate rituals** were followed during the worship.
  - **Chanting of mantras** was an important part of the ritual.
  - Sacrifices were practiced mainly for **praja** and **pashu** i.e. increasing population, protecting cattle, birth of male child and against disease. **Magic and Omen** were not prevalent.
  - Maharishi **Vasistha** & **Vishwamitra** were important priests.

3.3 LATER VEDIC PERIOD: (1000 BC - 600 BC)

- Sources of Information about this phase are: **Sam Veda, Yajur Veda and Atharva Veda.**
- **Other sources:**
  - **Brahmanas**: Detailed commentaries and explanations on the Vedas.
  - **Aranyakas (forest books):** Explains metaphysics & symbolism of sacrifice.
  - **Upanishads:** or books on philosophy or deeper knowledge about **Aatma**, **Brahma** etc.
- They are **anti-ritualistic.**
- The motto **Satyameva Jayate** written in **Devnagari script** below the profile of **Lion Capital** is a part of the **State Emblem of India**. It is taken from the **Mundaka Upanishad**.
- **Geographical Expansion:**
  - Western Ganga-Valley was called '**Aryavarta'**
  - **Arabian Sea** and the **Indian Ocean**, Several **Himalayan peaks** and **Vindhya** mountains (indirectly) are mentioned.
  - **Growth of large kingdoms**: **Kuru** (famous rulers: Parikshat and Janamejaya) and **Panchala** (popular king: Pravahana Jaivali) kingdoms. **Kosala**, **Videha** (King: Janaka; Scholar in court: Yajnavalkya) and **Kasi** (King: Ajatasatru) came into prominence.
  - **Later Vedic texts also refer to the three divisions of India**: **Aryavarta** (Northern India), **Madhyadesa** (Central India) and **Dakshinapatha** (Southern India).
  - **Easternmost tribal kingdoms**: Magadha, Anga and Vanga.
- **Society:**
  - **The 4-fold varna system** (Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaisyas and Sudras) and appearance of several **jatis** or castes made the **social system complex**.
  - **Untouchability** appeared; **women's position degraded** as they no longer got formal education.
  - **Gotra** was the place where cattle resided together with 'janas' and later developed into an identity for the **janas**.
  - **Nishad**, **Chandala** and **Shabar** were the untouchables mentioned. Guests were called **Goghna** (cow-killer).
  - **Niyoga** too was considered a negative activity.
  - Male members of the upper three varnas were called **dvija** or twice born. Only these were entitled to **Upanayan** i.e. wearing the sacred thread.
  - Women like **Gargi and Maitreyi** accomplished in the knowledge arena; **Gargi outwitted Yajnavalkya** in a philosophical discourse.
  - Child marriages had become common. According to **Aitareya Brahmana** a daughter has been described as a source of misery.
  - Institution of **Gotra** & practice of **gotra exogamy** appeared.
  - **Maitrayani Samhita** mentions 3 evils – liquor, women and dice.
- **Political System:**
  - **Janas** evolved to become **Janapadas**. **Hastinapur** and **Indraprastha** were capitals of **Kuru** janapada. Frequent battles among these janapadas were fought for territory.
  - Authority of the **rajana** became more evident and a support staff called **ratnin**; they were 12 jewels of the king, working for **rajana**.
  - Chiefship became **hereditary**. Still, there was **no standing army.**
  - **Rajana** started various sacrifices like **Rajsuya** (consecration ceremony), **Ashwamedh** (horse sacrifice) and **Vajpeya** (chariot race).
  - **Kings assumed titles**: Rajavisvajanan, Ahilabhuvanapathi, (lord of all earth), Ekrat and Samrat (sole ruler).
  - Dependence on **Sabha** and **Samiti** reduced. **Vidhata** completely disappeared.
  - **Women lost their political rights** of attending assemblies.
  - Term **Rashtra**, indicating territory first appeared in this period.
  - **Rajana** assumed titles like Samrat, Ekrat, Sarvabhouma and Virat.
- **Economy:**
  - Later Vedic culture is also called **Painted Grey Ware (PGW) – Iron Phase culture.**
  - **Iron (krishna/shyama ayas) was discovered** and **use of fire** for clearing forest for cultivation increased.
  - **Tin, lead, silver, Iron, gold, bronze, and copper** were known to Later Vedic people.
  - Predominantly pastoral society of Early Vedic times had **become agricultural -** Wheat, Barley, Rice, Beans, Moong, Urad and Sesamum were cultivated.
  - Surplus produce led to **Bali and Bhaga (1/6th or 1/12th)** i.e. customary contributions (minor taxes) to the King's treasury.
  - Treasurer, called **Samgrahitri** and **Bhagdukha,** collected the taxes and Vaishya were only taxpayers.
  - **Shataman Krishnala** are believed to be coins used but have no archaeological backing; there is reference to money lending (Satapatha Brahmana describes a usurer as **kusidin**).

- **Arts and crafts**: smelting, carpentry, weaving, leather-working, jewelry- making, dyeing and pottery-making, glass hoards and bangles.
- Commerce and trade are indicated by **mention of sea voyages.**
- **Pottery type**: Painted Grey Ware (PGW).

- **Religious Aspect:**
  - Religion of early Vedic Aryans was primarily worship of **nature** (natural forces such as earth, fire, wind, rain and thunder) and **Yajanas**.
  - **Varun and Indra,** the most important gods of Rig Vedic age, **lost prominence** in later Vedic phases.
  - **Prajapathi** (the creator), **Vishnu** (the protector) and **Rudra** (the destroyer) became prominent during the Later Vedic period.
  - **Rituals, sacrifices and the requirement of a supervising priest (Purohita)** made religious life complex. The importance of prayers declined and that of sacrifices increased.
  - **Priesthood became a profession** and a hereditary one.
  - There were **no temples, no idol worship**.
  - **Magic and Omen** entered the socio-religious life.
  - At the end of the later Vedic phase **Upanishadik philosophers made efforts to simplify the religious practices.**
  - Few Kshatriyas, in Later Vedic phase, like **Janak** and **Vishswamitra** succeeded in knowing the supreme i.e. 'Brahma'.
  - **Dharma** meant one's duties to oneself and to others. **Rita** was the fundamental law that governed the working of Shrishti (Universe).
  - Towards the end of this period there was a **strong reaction against priestly domination and against sacrifices and rituals**. The rise of Buddhism and Jainism was the direct result of these elaborate sacrifices.

3.4 VEDIC DEITIES

Deity	Information
Indra	• God of Lightning. • Most Mentioned, 250 hymns, known as **Purandhar** or destroyer of forts. • Lost prominence in the Later Vedic Phase.
Vayu	• God of Air.
Agni	• God of Fire. • For purity and Yajna.
Surya	• God of Life Source. • Had Vishnu, Savitri (Gayatri), Mitra and Pushan (vegetation, cattle-wealth and marriage) as its attributes.
Rudra	• God of Destruction. • Also worshiped for healing from diseases. • Merged with Shiva in the later Vedic phase.
Aditi	• Mother of Gods.
Usha	• Goddess of Dawn.
Varun	• God of Water and Morals. • Most Powerful, maintained cosmic order/laws. • Lost prominence in the Later Vedic Phase.
Vishnu	• An aspect of Surya. • Least Mentioned, mentioned in 3 hymns.
Marut	• God of Wind.
Prithvi	• Goddess of Fertility.
Aranyani	• Goddess of Forest.
Parjanya	• God of Rain.
Prajapati/ Adipurush	• Supreme God. • Most prominent during the Later Vedic period.
Pushan	• God of the Shudras. • Supposed to look after cattle.

3.5 VEDIC TEXTS

Shruti	Smriti
• Shrutis are the texts **'that are heard'** or product of **Godly revelation** to the great sages (rishis) while in meditation ('dhyaan'). • The four Vedas and Samhitas are included in the **shrutis**.	• 'Smritis' on the other hand are those that are **recollected** by normal humans. • The **detailed commentaries/ explanations on the Vedas** (Brahmanas**,** Aranyakas and Upanishads), **6 Vedangas and 4 Upavedas make the smritis.**

3.6 VEDIC LITERATURES

3.6.1 The four Vedas

Veda	Upaveda	Brahmana	Upanishad	Aranyakas	Mantra	Priest
Rig Veda	Ayurveda (Medicine)	Aitareya, Kaushi-tiki/ Sankhyana	Aitareya, Kaushitiki	Aitareya, Kaushitiki	1028	Hotr/Hotar
	Comment	• **Oldest surviving text.** • Mentions the concept of **Origin of the Universe.** • Hymns are dedicated to several deities mostly to **Indra** • **Themes**: Life, death, creation, sacrifice and 'soma' (godly pleasure). • Recently, the Rig Veda has been included by **UNESCO** in the list of literature signifying **World Human Heritage.**				
Sam Veda	Gandharva Veda (Music)	Panchvimsh/ Tandya, Jaiminiya	Kena, Chandogya	Jaiminiya, Chandogya	1810	Udgatar
	Comment	• **Earliest book on music** (Sama = Melody; ragas & raginis). • Poetic text, derived from Rig Veda. • Contains the famous **Dhrupada raga**, later sung by **Tansen**.				
Yajur Veda	Dhanurveda (Warfare)	Taittiriya, Shatapatha	Taittiriya, KathaIsa, Brihadaranyaka	Taittiriya	2000	Adhvaryu
	Comment	• **Sacrifices and rituals**, composed both in prose and poetry. • Two related samhitas: **Shukla** and **Krishna.**				
Atharva Veda	Sthapatya Veda/ Shilp Veda (Architecture)	Gopatha	Mandukya, Mundaka Prashan	-	6000	Priests (Brahmins) didn't recite it.
	Comment	• Magic, charms, omen, agriculture, industry/craft, cattle rearing, cure for disease; composed by Non-Aryans.				

3.6.2 Other Texts

Upanishads	• Philosophical texts dealing with topics like the soul, the absolute, the origin of the world and the mysteries of nature. • Upanishad indicates **knowledge acquired by sitting close to the teacher.** • A collection of over 200 Upanishads are known but out of these 108 are called **muktikas.** • **Mundaka Upanishad (largest of all):** contains the famous phrase **Satyameva Jayate.** • **Maitrayani Upanishad:** Doctrine of **Trimurti.**

Brahmanas	• Brahmanas **describe the rules** for the performance of sacrificial ceremonies. • Most important Brahmana is the **Satapatha Brahmana,** which is attached to the Yajur Veda.
Vedanta	• Vedanta literally signifies the **end of the Vedas,** as they reveal the final aim of the Vedas. • They condemn sacrifices and ceremonies and **denote the last phase of the Vedic period.** • **Sankaracharya, Ramanujacharya** and **Swami Vivekananda** promoted the Vedanta school.
Vedanga	• The word **Vedanga** means the **limbs of the Vedas.** • For proper understanding of the Vedas, one needs to know **Vedangas** which are supplements to the Vedas. These are 6 in number: ○ **Siksha:** Pronunciation of the words; education. ○ **Nirukta:** Origin of the words. ○ **Chhanda:** Metrics used in Sanskrit verses. ○ **Jyotish:** Understanding of astronomy. ○ **Vyakaran:** Sanskrit grammar. ○ **Kalpa:** Knowledge of rituals (Dharma sutras).
Aranyakas	• Called **forest books** and they deal with mysticism, rites, rituals and sacrifices.
Ramayana	• Roughly composed between 400 BCE-300CE. • Author was **Valmiki,** known as **Adi Kavya,** the **oldest epic of the world.**
Mahabharata	• Roughly composed between c. 400 BCE-400 CE. • Author was **Ved Vyasa;** the **longest epic of the world;** Bhagavad Gita is extracted from **Bihshama Parvan** of Mahabharata. **Shanti Parvan** is the largest Parvan (chapter) of Mahabharata.
Purana	• **Puranas** literally means **old**. • **Puranas mention four ages:** Krita, Treta, Dvapara and Kali. • Some Puranas such as the Brahma, Matsya, Harivamsha, Vishnu, Brahmanda, and Vayu provide useful information on historical dynasties (of Haryankas, Shishu Nagas, Nandas, Mauryas, Shungas — till the Guptas).
Dharamshastra	• Sanskrit texts dealing specifically with **Dharma (code of conduct)** that conceptually signifies **a righteous moral law.** • **Jabala Upanishad:** 4-fold **ashram** (stages) for **4 purusharthas** (goals): it was not applicable to women or shudras - ○ **Brahmacharya** (Celibate Student) for knowledge **i.e. Dharma.** ○ **Grihastha** (Householder) for wealth and progeny **i.e. 'Artha' and 'Kama'.** ○ **Vanaprastha** (hermit in retreat) for **spiritual wisdom.** ○ **Sanyasa** (Renunciation) for liberation **i.e. Mukti/Moksha.** • Out of the four varnas, three varnas, i.e., **Brahmanas, Kshatriyas, and Vaishyas** were considered **Dvija** (twice born, as they had the right to the sacred thread ceremony considered akin to second birth).

Additional Information:	
The Six Theistic Philosophies (Darshan)	• **Samkhya**: theoretical foundation; by **Kapil.** • **Yoga**: union of soul with God; by **Patanjali.** • **Vaisheshika**: discusses atomic theory; by **Kanad.** • **Nyaya**: philosophy of logic; by **Gautam.** • **Mimansa**: rituals; by **Jaimini.** • **Vedanta**: most important; by **Badrayan.**
Atheistic Philosophies	• **Buddhist School** of **Siddhartha Gautama.** • **Jaina School** of **Mahavir Swami.** • **Charvak or Lokayat** School was actually propounded by **Brihaspati** but was systematized by **Charvak.**

3.7 OFFICERS AND THEIR PROFILE IN VEDIC PERIOD

Officers	Profiles	Officers	Profiles
Vrajapati	• Officer-in-charge of pasture land	**Jivagribha**	• Police official
Kshatri	• Chamberlain	**Senani**	• Supreme commander-in-chief
Sthapati	• Chief Judge	**Gramani**	• Head of the village
Bhagadugha	• Revenue collector	**Kulapati**	• Head of the family
Mahishi	• Chief Queen	**Spasas**	• Spies & Messengers
Suta	• Charioteer	**Madhyamasi**	• Dispute resolving
Takshan	• Carpenter	**Palagala**	• Messenger
Sanghrahriti	• Treasurer	**Govikartana**	• Keeper of forests & games
Akshavapa	• Accountant	**Purohita**	• Priest of highest order

3.8 KEY CONCEPTS

Key Concepts	Source
Gotra	• Atharva Veda
Purusha Sukta Hymn (Four-fold division of society)	• Rig Veda (Tenth Mandala)
First three ashramas (Brahmacharya, Grihasthya, Vanaprastha)	• Chandogya Upanishad
Four ashrams (Brahmacharya, Grihasthya, Vanaprastha, Sanyasa)	• Jabala Upanishad
Samsara (transmigration of soul)	• Brihadaranyaka Upanishad
Sabha and Samiti as the two daughters of Prajapati	• Atharva Veda
Doctrine of Trimurti	• Maitrayani Upanishad
Mention of the Great Flood	• Satpatha Brahamana



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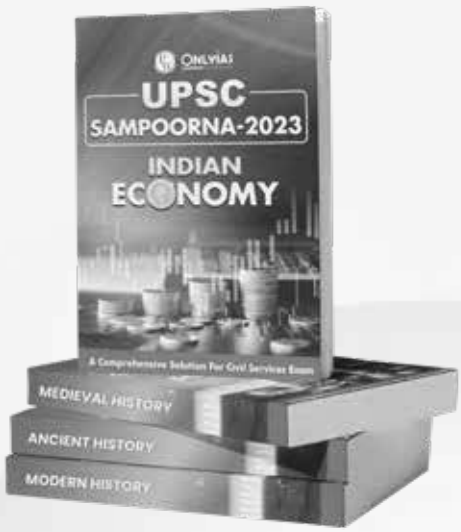
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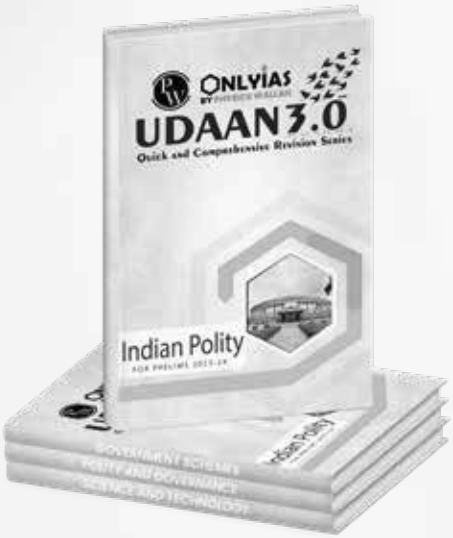
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4 Jainism

ORIGIN OF JAINISM

- The doctrine of Jaina is **older than the Buddhist doctrine and as old as Vedic religion.**
- **Rig Veda** mentions names of **Rishabha** and **Arishtanemi** Jain Tirthankara.
- **Vishnu Purana** and **Bhagavat Purana** describe Rishabha as an incarnation of Narayana.
- Jainism **does not have a single founder**. It is commonly mistaken that Mahavir was the founder of Jainism. However, he was the last **Tirthankara**.
- Jainism came into **prominence in 6th century B.C.**, when Lord Mahavira propagated the religion.
- The word **Jain** is derived from **Jina or Jaina - means the Conqueror**. A Jina is said to possess **Avadhi Jnana**, (Superhuman cognition or psychic power.). All the Tirthankara were **Kshatriyas by birth.**
- The **symbol hand with a wheel on the palm symbolizes Ahimsa in Jainism**. There is a word **ahimsa** written in the middle of it.

Additional Information:

- Jain community makes for **4.5 million or 0.36 percent** of the Indian population as per 2011 census, the **sixth community** to be designated this status as a **national minority**, after Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis. **Gujarat** and **Rajasthan** have the highest concentration of Jain population in India.

4.1 FACTORS BEHIND THE RISE OF JAINISM

- **Vedic religion** had become highly ritualistic.
- It was accessible to people of **all castes**.
- The early Jainas adopted the **Prakrit language** of the common people to preach their doctrines and discarded Sanskrit language (which was mainly patronized by the Brahmanas).
- Jainism offered **lower people an honorable place** in the society.
- The **sacrificial ceremonies** were also found to be too expensive.
- It accorded **equal status to women.**
- The **teachings of Upanishads**, an alternative to the system of sacrifices, were highly philosophical in nature therefore not easily understood by all

4.2 TEACHINGS OF MAHAVIRA

- Rejected authority of the Vedas & Vedic rituals.
- Did not believe in the existence of god.
- Believed in Karma & transmission of Soul.
- Emphasized the equality but did not condemn the Varna system.
- Advocated a life of austerity and non-violence.
- Women had an equal role to play and were not looked down upon.
- Man may be 'good' or 'bad' as per his actions and not birth.

Additional Information: There were 24 Tirthankara (teachers)

1st Tirthankara	• Rishabhnath or Rishabhdev.
22nd Tirthankara	• Arishtanemi.
23rd Tirthankara	• Parshvanatha: born in Varanasi.
24th Tirthankara	• Vardhaman Mahavira.

4.3 VARDHAMAN MAHAVIRA: (539-467 BC)

- **Birth**: Kundagrama near Vaishali. Belongs to **Gnatrika Clan**. Buddha and Mahavira were contemporaries.
- **Parents**: Siddhartha (Head of Jnatrika Clan) and Trisala (Sister of Lichchhavi chief Chetaka).
- **Wife & daughter**: married to **Yashoda** and had a daughter **Anojja or Priyadarshana.**
- **Teachers**: Alarakama and Udraka Ramputra.
- **Kaivalya** (highest spiritual knowledge): attained at the age of 42 under Sal tree at Jrimbhikagrama, on the bank of River Rijupalika. Henceforth, they are called Mahavir (brave), Jina or Jitendriya (one who conquered his senses), Nigrantha (free from all bonds), Arhat (blessed one), Kevalin (perfect learned).

- **First sermon**: on the Vipula Peak at Rajgir to his 11 disciples – known as Gandharas/Gandharvas.
- **First disciple**: Indrabhuti Gautama (female)
- **Death**: at the age of 72 years in c. 527 BCE at Pavapuri near Patna.
- **Symbol**:
  - **Mahavira's symbol** was a **lion.**
  - **Rishabhnatha's symbol** was a **bull.**
  - **Parsvanatha's symbol** was a **hooded serpent.**

4.4 PHILOSOPHY AND TEACHINGS OF JAINISM

Tenets of Jainism	• Belief in God: **Jainism** recognised the existence of **god but placed them lower than Jina (Mahavira).** • **It did not condemn the varna system but** attempted to mitigate the evils of the varna order and the ritualistic Vedic religion. • According to **Mahavira, a person is born in higher or lower varna** as the consequence of the sins or the virtues in the previous birth. Thus, **Jainism** believes in **transmigration of the soul** and **theory of Karma.**
Anekantavada	• Emphasizes that the ultimate truth and reality is complex, and has multiple-aspects i.e. **theory of plurality.** • It refers to the simultaneous acceptance of multiple, diverse, even contradictory viewpoints.
Syadvada	• All judgments are conditional, holding good only in certain conditions, circumstances, or senses. • Syadavada literally means the **method of examining different probabilities.** • Seven modes of prediction **(Saptabhangi Nayavada).**
Five Doctrines of Jainism	• **Parshvanatha's teachings (Chaturthi):** ○ **Ahimsa:** Non-injury to a living being. ○ **Satya:** Do not speak a lie. ○ **Asteya:** Do not steal. ○ **Aparigraha:** Do not acquire property. • **Mahavira added One more teaching:** ○ **Brahmacharya:** Observe continence. • It mainly aims at the **attainment of liberation**, for which no ritual is required.
Three Jewels/Triratna	• **Right Faith:** Samyak Darshan – belief in Tirthankara. • **Right Knowledge:** Samyak jnana – knowledge of the Jain creed. • **Right Action:** Samyak charitra – practice of 5 vows of Jainism.
Two elements of the world	• **Jiva-** meaning conscious. • **Atma-** meaning unconscious.
Three Sources of Knowledge	• **Pratyaksha:** Direct Knowledge. • **Anuman:** Contemplation. • Sayings of Tirthankara.
Five types of Knowledge	• **Mati Jnana –** perception through activity of sense organs. • **Shruta Jnana –** knowledge revealed by scriptures. • **Avadhi Jnana –** clairvoyant perception. • **Mana Paryaya Jnana –** telepathic knowledge. • **Keval Jnana –** temporal knowledge.
Jain Metaphysics	• **Nirjana:** Destruction of karma. • **Moksha:** complete deliverance from karma. • **Jiva:** living matter or soul. • **Ajiva:** non-living matter. • **Paap:** sin.

	• **Punya:** actions which lead to good karma. • **Asrava:** flow of karma. • **Samvara:** impediment of flow of karma. • **Bandha:** bondage of soul to karma.
Anuvrata	• Anuvrata means the **'lesser vows'** which Jain lay-people take, as a kind of parallel to the great vows of the ascetics. They are **applied to the practice of daily life.** • The **five great vows apply only to ascetics in Jainism,** and in their place are **five minor vows for householders.** • The five minor vows in Jainism are modeled after the great vows, but differ in degree and they are less demanding or restrictive than the same "great vows" for ascetics.

4.5 SECTS/SCHOOLS OF JAINISM

- **Jain order has been divided into two major sects**: **Digambara** and **Svetambara**. The division occurred mainly due to **famine in Magadha** which compelled a group led by **Bhadrabahu** to move South India.
- During the 12 years famine, the **group in South India stuck to the strict practices** while the **group in Magadha adopted a more lax attitude** and started wearing white clothes.
- After the end of famine, when the Southern group came back to Magadha, the changed practices led to the division of Jainism into two sects.

Digambara	• Monks of this sect believe in **complete nudity**. Male monks do not wear clothes while female monks wear unstitched plain white sarees. • **Follow all five vows:** Satya, Ahimsa, Asteya, Aparigraha and Brahmacharya. • Believe women cannot achieve liberation. • The earliest record of Digambara beliefs is contained in the Prakrit Suttapahuda of Kundakunda. • Monasticism rules are more rigid under Digambara School. • **Bhadrabahu** was an exponent of this sect. • **Major Sub-Sects: Mula Sangh, Bisapantha**, **Terapanth**, **Taranpantha** or **Samaiyapantha.** • **Minor Sub-Sets: Gumanapantha**, **Totapantha.**
Svetambara	• Monks wear **white clothes**. • **Follow only 4 vows (except brahmacharya):** Satya, Ahimsa, Asteya, Aparigraha. • Believe women can achieve liberation. • They believe tirthankaras can be men or women. • Svetambara tradition of Jainism **indicates five eternal substances in existence**: Soul (jiva), Matter (pudgala), Space (akasha), motion (Dharma) and rest (Adharma), unlike Digambaras which add the sixth eternal substance as **time (Kala)**. • **Sthulabhadra** was an exponent of this sect. • **Major Sub-Sects**: **Murtipujaka (Deravasi), Sthanakvasi, Terapanthi.**
Ajivikas	• The Ajivikas or **'Followers of the way of life,'** were an ascetic order that started at the time of Buddha and Mahavira, and lasted until the 14th century. • **Makkhali Gosala** left Mahavira to found the sect of the Ajivikas (pre-determinism or 'Niyati'). • No human effort could have any effect against Niyati, and therefore karma is a fallacy.
Other Sects	• **Uchche Dvd**: Its promoter was **Ajita Kesh Kambali.** According to him, everything is destroyed after death. • **Akriyavad**: According to this view promoted by **Puran Kasayap**, there is no fruit of good and bad deeds of human beings. • **Nityavad**: Its promoter was **Pakudha Kachaiyan**. He told only seven elements, such as earth, water, fire, air, happiness, sorrow and soul (these elements do not interact with one another). • **Sandehvad**: Its promoter was **Sanjay Beluttaputra**. He neither accepted any opinion nor denied any opinion. • **Sthanakvasi**: It is a sect of **Svetambara Jainism** founded by a merchant named **Lavaji** in 1653 AD. It believes that **idol worship is not essential** in the path of soul purification and attainment of Nirvana/Moksha. Svetambaras who are not **Sthanakavasins** are mostly part of the **Murtipujak sect**.

4.6 IMPORTANT TERMS RELATED TO JAINISM

Terms	Information
Asrav	• Inflow of karmas to the soul that occurs at every second in life.
Shramana	• Seeker, one who performs acts of austerity and ascetic.
Samvara	• Stopping the influx of the material karmas into the soul consciousness.
Nirjara	• Shedding or removal of accumulated karmas from the Atma (soul), essential for breaking free from samsara, the cycle of birth-death and rebirth, by achieving moksha, liberation. • It is one of the seven fundamental principles, or Tattva in Jain philosophy.
Sallekhana	• It is the religious practice of voluntarily fasting to death by gradually reducing the intake of food and liquids, also called Santhara.
Kaivalya	• Also known as Kevala Jnana, means omniscience in Jainism and is roughly translated as complete understanding or supreme wisdom.
Pratikraman **Posadha**	• It is a process during which Jains repent for their sins during their daily life, and remind themselves not to repeat them. • Fasting by a Jaina member on full Moon and new Moon day.
Theravali	• The second section of the Jaina Kalpasutra contains a list of schools.
Ajnanavada	• The Jaina doctrine of agnosticism. The Jain texts mention 67 kinds of Ajnanavada.
Mahavratas	• Five principles observed by Jain monks.
Siddha	• Fully liberated.
Jiva	• Soul.
Gunasthana	• Stage of purification.
Basadis	• Jaina monastic establishment.
Guna	• Quality.

4.7 JAIN COUNCILS

Council	Venue	Chairperson	Outcome
First 300 BC	Patliputra.	Sthulabahu, Patron-Chandragupta Maurya.	• Compilation of 12 Angas to replace 14 Purvas.
Second 512 AD	Vallabhi.	Devardhigani.	• Final compilation of 12 Angas & 12 Upanga.

4.8 ROYAL PATRONS OF JAINISM

North India	Bimbisara, Ajatashatru, Chandragupta Maurya, Bindusara, Harshavardhana, Bindusara, Kharavela, Udayan, Pradyota.
South India	Kadamba dynasty, Ganga dynasty, Amoghavarsha (Rashtrakuta dynasty), Kumarapala (Chalukya dynasty).

4.9 IMPORTANT JAIN LITERATURE

- Traditionally, the original doctrine of Jainism was contained in scriptures called **Purva**. There were fourteen Purva**.** Jain literature is mainly written in **Prakrit language.**
- **These Agamas are further divided into**: Angas, Mulasutra, Upangas, Prakirnaka Sutra, Chedasutra & Ulikasutras.
- **Kalpasutra**: written by **Bhadrabahu**. It contains biographies of Jain Tirthankaras.
- **Agam or Canonical Literature (Agam Sutras):** Agam ('what has come down to us' or tradition) literature consists of many texts, which are the sacred books of the Jain religion. They are written in the **Ardha-magadhi**, a form of Prakrit language. The **canonical Jain literature** is claimed to have **started from Adinatha (Rishabhnath)** (first Tirthankara).
- **Non Agam Literature**: consists of commentary and explanation of Agam literature, and independent works, compiled by ascetics and scholars. They are written partly in Prakrit dialects (such as Maharashtri) and partly in Sanskrit.

4.10 EIGHT AUSPICIOUS SYMBOLS UNDER JAINISM

Swastika	• It signifies peace and well-being of the humans.
Nandyavarta	• It is a large swastika with nine end points.
Bhadrasana	• A throne which is said to be sanctified by the Jaina's feet.
Shrivasta	• A mark which manifested on the Jain's chest and signified his pure soul.
Darpana	• The mirror which reflects the inner self.
Minayugala	• A couple of fish which signifies the conquest over sexual urges.
Vardhamanaka	• A shallow dish used as a lamp which shows the increase in wealth, due and merit.
Kalasha	• A pot filled with pure water signifying water.

Additional Information:

Comparison between Jainism and Buddhism:

- Jainism **recognised** the **existence of god** while **Buddhism did not**.
- Jainism does **not condemn** the varna system while Buddhism does.
- Jainism believed in the **transmigration of soul i.e. reincarnation** while **Buddhism does not**.
- Buddhism prescribes a **middle path** while Jainism advocates its followers to live the life of **complete austerity**.

4.11 JAIN ARCHITECTURE

- **Manastambha**: It is found in the front side of the temple, having religious importance with an ornamental pillar structure carrying the image of Tirthankara on top and on all four cardinal directions.
- **Basadis**: Jain monastic establishment or temples in Karnataka.

Layana/ Gumphas (Caves)	• **Ellora Caves** (Cave No. 30-35)- Maharashtra. • **Mangi Tungi Cave**- Maharashtra. • **Gajpantha Cave**- Maharashtra. • **Udayagiri-Khandagiri Caves**- Odisha. • **Hathi-gumpha Cave**- Odisha. • **Sittanavasal Cave**- Tamil Nadu.
Statues	• **Gomateshwara/Bahubali Statue**- Shravanabelagola, Karnataka. • **Statue of Ahimsa (Rishabnatha)**- Mangi-Tungi hills, Maharashtra.
Jainalaya (Temple)	• **Dilwara Temple**- Mount Abu, Rajasthan. • **Girnar and Palitana Temple**- Gujarat. • **Muktagiri Temple**- Maharashtra.

4.12 SPREAD OF JAINISM

- Through **Sangha,** it consists of women & men.
- Under the patronage of Chandragupta Maurya, Kharavela of Kalinga and the royal dynasties of south India such as the Ganges, the Kadambas, the Chalukyas and the Rashtrakutas.
- When **Bhadrabahu** (Guru of Chandragupta Maurya) left for South India, **Sthulabahu** remained in the North with his followers.
- **Chandragupta Maurya** (he himself became a Jaina ascetic and spent his last years in Karnataka).

4.13 CONTRIBUTION OF JAINISM

- Preached **Non-violence** toward all living beings.
- Growth of **Prakrit & kannada** language.
- Vardhaman Mahavir preached in **'Ardha-Magadhi'** language, the language of the common man.
- Introduced new philosophy – **Syatvad**.

- Art & architecture - statue of Gomateshwara (Shramanbdlogola), temples of Khajuraho and Abu. Tiger cave of **Udayagiri** and **Indra Sabha** of Ellora.
- Jainism contributed to the growth of the trading community.

4.14 TIRTHANKARAS AND THEIR SYMBOLS

Tirthankara	Symbol	Tirthankara	Symbol
Rishabhanatha	• Bull	**Vimalanatha**	• Hog
Ajitanatha	• Elephant	**Anantanatha**	• Hawk or Porcupine
Sambhavanatha	• Horse	**Dharmanatha**	• Thunderbolt
Abhinandananatha	• Ape (Monkey)	**Santinatha**	• Antelope
Sumatinatha	• Heron	**Kunthunatha**	• Goat
Padmaprabhu	• Red lotus	**Aranatha**	• Fish
Suparsvanatha	• Swastika	**Mallinatha**	• Jar
Chandraprabha	• Moon (Crescent)	**Suvrata**	• Tortoise
Suvidhinath	• Dolphin	**Neminatha**	• Blue lotus
Sitalanatha	• Wishing Tree	**Arishtanemi**	• Conch
Shreya Sanatha	• Rhinoceros	**Parshvanath**	• Hooded serpent
Vasupujya	• Buffalo	**Mahavira**	• Lion

Additional Information:

Mahavira's Disciples

Agnipath Achala Putra Pradyot	Indrabhuti, Prabhas, Bimbisara	Vayu Bhuti, Metarya, Ajatshatru	Sudharman, Aleampit, Dadhivahan	Mandit Vyakta, Malliray Sastipal	Moriyaputra Chetak



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LAUNCHING SOON



5 Buddhism

- During the later Vedic period, (around 5 circa B.C) two important religions -**Buddhism and Jainism** - came up with new philosophies.

5.1 PHILOSOPHY OF BUDDHISM

- The religion is based upon the teachings, life experiences of its founder **Siddhartha Gautam**, born in circa 563 BCE.
- Buddha asked his followers to **avoid the two extremes** of indulgence in worldly pleasure and the practice of strict abstinence and asceticism.
- He ascribed instead the **Madhyam Marg** (Madhya Pratipada) or the middle path which was to be followed.
- **Roots of Buddhism in the past**: Vedanta, Sankhya philosophy & Upanishad.

5.1.1 Reasons for the Spread and Popularity of Buddhism

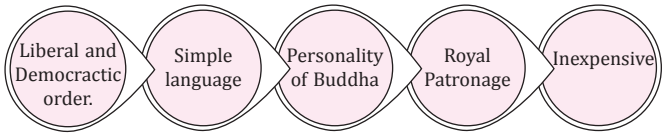


Fig. 5.1: Reasons for the Spread and popularity of Buddhism

- Liberal & democratic: Unlike Brahmanism, it was far more liberal & democratic. It won the hearts of the lower classes as it attacked the varna system.
- Simple language: The Pali language which Buddha used was the spoken language of the masses.
- Personality of the Buddha: He was kind and ego-less. His calm composure, simple philosophy and his life of renunciation drew the masses to him.
- Royal patronage: Kings like Prasenjit, Bimbisara, Ashoka, Kanishka patronized Buddhism and helped it spread throughout India and outside as well. Ashoka sent his children to Sri Lanka for the spread of Buddhism.
- Inexpensive: Buddhism was inexpensive, without the expensive rituals that characterized the Vedic religion.

5.1.2 Causes of Origin of Buddhism

- Expensive & complicated **Vedic rituals**, Superstitious beliefs, mantras confused the people.
- The **teachings of the Upanishads** were highly philosophical, therefore not understood by all.
- The **rigid caste system** prevalent in India generated tensions in society.
- **Desire of Vaishya** to improve their social position due to the increase in trade and economic prosperity.
- **Unrest in society** due to supremacy of the Brahmins.
- **Practice of killing cows** became a hindrance to the new Agricultural economy.

5.2 IMPORTANT CONCEPTS RELATED TO BUDDHISM

Gautama Buddha (563 BC-483 BC)	• He is also known as **Siddharta, Sakyamuni & Tathagata.** • Belonged to the Sakya **Clan.** • Father: **Suddhodana**. • Mother: **Mahamaya (princess of the Kosala dynasty)**; brought up by his maternal aunt, Prajapati Gautami. She gave him the name 'Gautama'. • Wife: **Yashodhara** and had a **son, Rahula.** • Birth Place: **Lumbini, Kapilavastu (in present Nepal)** capital of Sakya republic. • Teachers: **Alara kama** and **Udraka Ramputra** • Enlightenment: At age of 33 under **Peepal tree** at **Uruvela (Bodhgaya)** on banks of **river Niranjana (Falgu).**

	• First Sermon: **Sarnath (Deer park) (Varanasi)** to **5 disciples** including **Mahakasyapa (first disciple);** known **as Dharma Chakra Parivarthana (turning of the wheel of law).** • Mahaparinirvana: **Under Sal tree at Kushinagar (in UP)** at age of 80. • Idea of renunciation:Sight of **Sick man, Old man, Corpse and Ascetic.** • Contemporaries of Buddha: **Mahavira Jaina, Kings Prasenjit, Bimbisara and Ajatasatru.**
Doctrine of Buddhism	• Did not involve himself in debates of soul & Brahma but concentrated on **worldly problems.** • Buddhism accepts **transmigration** and **impermanence.** • Buddha did not believe in God or soul. • Stressed on karma and ahimsa. • Against the varna system. • World is full of sorrows & people suffer on account of desires.If desires are conquered, Nirvana will be attained & there will be freedom from the cycle of birth & death.
Literary Sources	• **Ceylonese Chronicles: Mahavamsa** by **Mahanama**, **Dipavamsa** and **Attakatha** by Wattagamani. • **Tibetan Chronicles:** Divyavadana-Kalachakra. • **Tripitaka/ Three baskets of Buddhist scripture:** ○ **Sutta Pitaka:** Sutra related to Buddha and companions. ○ **Vinaypitaka:** monastic rules. ○ **Abhidhampitaka:** Doctrine and philosophy of Buddhism. • **Jataka Folklore:** stories related to the birth of Buddha/in Chinese they are called **Sadok.** • **Milindapanha:** Questions of Milinda i.e Greek king Meander and answers of Buddhist monk Nagasena.
3 Jewels of Buddhism (Triratna)	• **Buddha:** Founder/Teacher. • **Dhamma:** Teachings. • **Sangha:** Order of Buddhist monks/nuns.
Three Pitakas	• **Vinaya Pitaka:** consists of rules of conduct and discipline applicable to the monastic life of the monks and nuns. • **Sutta Pitaka:** consists of the main teaching or Dhamma of Buddha. It is divided into five Nikayas or collections: Digha Nikaya, Majjhima Nikaya, Samyutta Nikaya, Anguttara Nikaya, Khuddaka Nikaya. • **Abhidhamma Pitaka:** philosophical analysis and systematization of the teaching and the scholarly activity of the monks. • Other important Buddhist texts include **Divyavadana, Dipavamsa, Mahavamsa, Milind Panha** etc.
4 Noble Truths: 'Chatwari Arya Satyani'	• **Truth of Suffering (Dukkha):** Buddha taught that everything is suffering (Sabbam Dukkham). It refers not only to the actual pain and sorrow experienced by an individual, but also to the potential to experience these things. • **Truth of the cause of Suffering (Samudaya):** Suffering is part of living. Desire (Trishna) is the main cause of suffering. • **Truth of the End of Suffering (Nirodha):** This suffering can be ended by attaining Nirvana/ Nibbana. • **Truth of the Path Leading to the End of Suffering (Astangika-Marga):** There is a path that leads to the end of suffering.
5 Buddha's Teachings (Panchshila)	• Buddha also **established code of conduct** both for the monastic order and the laymen to follow which are also known as the **Five Precepts or Panchshila:** ○ No killing and respect for life. ○ Abstention from theft. ○ Abstention from sexual misconduct. ○ Abstention from falsehood. ○ Abstention from intoxication.

The Five Aggregates (Pancha-khanda or Panch skandha)	• Buddha believed that a **human being is a collection of Five Aggregates** and a proper understanding of these is an essential step towards the attainment of freedom from suffering. • **Material Form (Rupa):** It includes the five physical organs (ear, eye, tongue, nose & body) and the corresponding objects of the sense organs (sound, sight, taste, smell and tangible objects). • **Feeling or Sensation (Vedana):** The aggregate of feelings arising out of contact with the objects of the senses is of three kinds-pleasant, unpleasant and indifferent. • **Perception (Sanna):** This aggregate is the capacity to recognize & conceptualize things by associating them with other things. • **Mental formation (Santharas):** This aggregate may be described as a conditioned response to the object of experience. • **Consciousness (Vinnana):** The aggregate of consciousness is an indispensable element in the prediction of experience. It is essential to understand that consciousness depends on the other aggregates and does not exist independently.
Eight-Fold Paths (Astangika Marga)	• The path consists of various interconnected activities related to knowledge, conduct, and meditative practices. Eight-Fold Path is more about unlearning rather than learning: ○ **Right understanding (Samma-Ditthi):** Understanding that the Four Noble Truths are noble and true. ○ **Right thought (Samma-Sankappa):** Determining and resolving to practice Buddhist faith. ○ **Right speech (Samma-Vaca):** Avoiding slander, gossip, lying, and all forms of untrue and abusive speech. ○ **Right conduct (Samma-Kammanta):** Adhering to the idea of nonviolence (ahimsa), as well as refraining from any form of stealing or sexual impropriety. ○ **Right means of making a living (Samma-Ajiva):** Not slaughtering animals or working at jobs that force you to violate others. ○ **Right mental attitude or effort (Samma-Vayama):** Avoiding negative thoughts and emotions, such as anger and jealousy. ○ **Right mindfulness (Samma-Sati):** Having a clear sense of one's mental state and bodily health and feelings. ○ **Right concentration (Samma-Samadhi):** It signifies 'Samadhi' in the sense of enlightenment or Buddhahood.

5.3 GREAT EVENTS IN BUDDHA'S LIFE AND SYMBOLS

Great Events in Buddha's Life	Symbols
Avakranti (conception or descent)	• White Elephant.
Janma (birth)	• Lotus and Bull.
Mahabhinishkramana (Great Renunciation)	• Horse.
Nirvana/ Sambodhi (enlightenment)	• Bodhi tree.
Dharmachakra Parivarthana (first Sermon)	• Wheel.
Mahaparinirvana (Death)	• Stupa.

5.4 BUDDHIST SANGHA AND ITS FEATURES

- The oldest prayer place in history where slaves, Insolvents, and diseased were not allowed.
- There were 64 types of crimes called **Pathimokshas,** which were prohibited.
- Women were also allowed to join.

5.4.1 Important Buddhist Scholars

- **Moggaliputta Tissa:** launched Ashoka's dhamma campaign.
- **Asvagosha:** wrote **Buddhacharita** and Sanskrit drama **Sariputra Prakarana** (Sariputra - the disciple of Buddha).
- **Nagarjuna:** Founded **Madhyamaka school** of Mahayana Buddhism, gave theory of **Sunyavada-Emptiness** and important work including **Mulamadhyamakakarika.**

- **Buddhaghosa:** most important commentator of Theravada, important work is **Visuddimagga**.
- **Dharmakirti:** Teacher at Nalanda, called as **Kant of India**.
- **Asanga and Vasubandhu:** Two brothers who flourished in the Punjab region in the fourth century CE.
  - **Asanga** was the most important **teacher** of **Yogacara or Vijnanavada school** founded by his guru, **Maitreyanatha.**
  - **Vasubandhu's** greatest work, **Abhidharmakosa,** is still considered an important encyclopedia of Buddhism.
- **Dinnaga:** The last mighty intellectual of the fifth century, also well known as the founder of the Buddhist logic

5.4.2 Bodhisattvas

- In Mahayana, Buddhism Bodhisattva is a person who can reach nirvana but delays doing so through compassion for suffering beings.
- It is similar to the concept of incarnations in **Hindu Mythology.**
- **Bodhisattvas** are common figures in Buddhist literature and art.

Bodhisattva	Traits
Maitreya	• **Future Buddha** & earliest bodhisattva. • Also known as **Ajita-Bodhisattva**. • Holds a waterfall in his left hand. • Popular laughing Buddha is claimed to be an incarnation of Maitreya.
Samantabhadra	• Universal Bodhisattva. • Associated with Meditation. • Manifestation is action.
Vajrapani	• Like Indra, holds a thunderbolt (depict power). • Depicted as one of the 3 protective deities around Buddha. • Others two: **Manjusri** and **Avlokiteshwara**.
Avalokitesvara	• Kind-hearted. • Manifests Buddha's compassion.
Kshitigarbha	• Guardian of purgatories and children. • Bodhisattva of hell-beings or earth immortal beings.
Amitabha	• Buddha of Heaven.
Sadaparibhuta	• Manifests never disparaging spirit.
Manjushri	• Stimulator of **understanding** and he holds a book describing **10 paramitas.** • Depict male Bodhisattva wielding a flaming sword in his left hand.
Akasagarbha	• He is boundless as space. • Manifestation of wisdom.

5.5 BUDDHIST COUNCILS

Council	Venue	Chairman	Patron
First - 483 BC	Sattapani cave at **Rajgriha.**	**Mahakasyapa.**	**Ajatasatru (Harayanka).**
	Outcomes: ○ It was held soon after the Mahaparinirvan of the Buddha. ○ The council was held with the **purpose of preserving Buddha's teachings (Sutta)** and rules for disciples. ○ During this council, the teachings of Buddha were divided into **three Pitakas**. ○ Compilation of **Sutta pitaka** and **Vinaya Pitaka** by **Upali**		

Second - 383 BC	**Vaishali**	**Sabakami**	**Kalashoka (Shishunaga)**
	Outcome: Division into **Sthaviradins** & **Mahasanghikas.**		
Third - 250 BC	**Pataliputra**	**Mogaliputta Tissa**	**Ashoka (Maurya)**
	Outcome: ❍ Compilation of **Abhidhamma Pitaka.** ❍ Decision to send missionaries to various parts of the world.		
Fourth - 98 AD	**Kashmir**	**Vasumitra** & Vice-chairperson: Ashvaghosa	**Kanishka (Kushana)**
	Outcomes: ❍ Compilation of **Mahavibhasha sastra.** ❍ All deliberations were conducted in **Sanskrit.** ❍ **Division of Buddhism** into **Hinayana** (the Lesser Vehicle) and **Mahayana** (the Greater Vehicle). ❍ **Abhidhamma texts** were translated from Prakrit to Sanskrit.		

5.6 SCHOOLS OF BUDDHISM

5.6.1 Major Schools: Mahayana & Hinayana

Mahayana Buddhism	Hinayana Buddhism
• The term Mahayana (Sanskrit word) which literally means **Greater Vehicle.** • Sought salvation through grace & help of Buddha & Bodhisattvas. • It originated in **northern India** and **Kashmir** and then spread east into Central Asia, East Asia and some areas of Southeast Asia: China, Mongolia, Korea, Tibet and Japan. • Believed that Buddha will be born again. • Worship Buddha in **idol form.** • Language: **Sanskrit.** • Mahayana sects include: Pure Land, Zen, and Vajrayana (or Tantric) Buddhism. • Sub-schools: **Chittmatra** & **Madhyamaka.** • **Zen** is a sub school of Mahayana which is prevalent in China, Korea and related to Taoism.	• Considered a Lesser **Vehicle**. Also known as **Abandoned Vehicle or Defective vehicle.** • It believes in the **original teaching of Buddha or Doctrine of elders.** • **Orthodox, conservative** schools of Buddhism. • Followed the **original teachings** of Buddha. • Sought **individual salvation** through self-discipline & meditation. • Buddha will **never be reborn.** • Did not believe in Idol worship. • **Language: Pali.** • Buddha was an **intellectual, not** a **god**. • Encompasses **18 sub schools.** Most important: **Sarvastivada, Theravadin & Sautantrika.** • Buddhism preached by **Emperor Ashoka was Hinayana.**

5.6.2 Other Schools: Theravada, Vajrayana & Zen

Theravada and Sarvastivada	• **Theravada Buddhism is older and the more conservative** of the two main divisions of Buddhism and is often referred to as the **'Tradition of the Elder'**. • Theravada is a **Hinayana sect.** • Theravada Buddhists strive to become **Arhats** and gain freedom from the **cycle of samsara.** • Sarvastivadin considers everything empirical to be **impermanent,** they maintain that the dharma factors are eternally existing realities. • Theravada Buddhism **developed in Sri Lanka** and subsequently spread to the rest of **Southeast Asia**. It is the dominant form of religion in **Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.**

Vajrayana	• Vajrayana means **The Vehicle of the Thunderbolt**, also known as **Tantric Buddhism.** • This Buddhist school developed in India around 900 CE. • Believed in acquiring magical power for liberation. • **Developed in Tibet** and believes in the worship of female deities - **Taras**. • It became popular in **Eastern India**, particularly **Bengal** and **Bihar.**
Zen	• It is a **sub-school of Mahayana Buddhism** that originated in **China** during the **Tang dynasty** as the Chan school of Chinese Buddhism and later developed into various schools. • It **spread to Japan** in the 7th century C.E. • **Meditation** is the most distinctive feature of this Buddhist tradition.

5.7 MISCELLANEOUS

5.7.1 Buddhist Universities with their Location and Founder

University	Location	Founder
Nalanda	• Bihar	• Kumaragupta I (Gupta Ruler)
Odantapuri	• Bihar	• Gopala (Pala Ruler)
Vikramshila	• Bihar	• Dharampala (Pala Ruler)
Somapuri	• North Bengal	• Dharampala (Pala Ruler)
Jagadal	• Bengal	• Rampala (Pala Ruler)
Vallabhi	• Gujarat	• Bhattarika (Maitrak Ruler)

5.7.2 Important Terms and Meanings Related to Buddhism

Term	Meaning
Arhats	Liberated beings.
Nirvana	State of Supreme Bliss.
Sheel	Refers to when a layperson leaves home to live the life of a Buddhist renunciate among a community of bhikkhus.
Sarma	One who labors, toils, or exerts themselves (for some higher or religious purpose) or a seeker, who performs acts of austerity, ascetic.
Upasampada	Refers to the rite and ritual of ascetic vetting (ordination) by which a candidate, if deemed acceptable, enters the community as **Upasampada** (ordained) and authorized to undertake ascetic life.
Vassa	Three-month annual retreat observed by **Theravada practitioners**. It lasts for three lunar months, usually from July to October (wet months).
Uposatha	It is a Buddhist day of observance. The Buddha taught that the Uposatha day is for the cleansing of the defiled mind, resulting in inner calm and joy.
Pavarana	Assembly at the end of Vassa.
Posadha	Restoration of vows.
Mahabhinishkramana	Great going forth – renunciation.
Chaityas	Prayer halls of monks.
Viharas	Monasteries.

Parajika	Literally meaning defeat, it included four most serious offenses involving expulsion from the Sangha.
Upasakas	**Male followers** who have taken refuge in the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha, but who have **not taken monastic vows**.
Upasikas	**Female followers** who have taken refuge in the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha, but who have **not taken monastic vows.**

5.8 CONTRIBUTION OF BUDDHISM

Socio- Religious Sphere	Art and Culture Sphere
• Stressed on **ethical living** rather than rituals, animal sacrifices, etc. • Does not recognize the existence of God/soul. • Taught the **Middle path** for salvation. • Propagated **Liberal & democratic values Women** were given **equal status** as men. • **Opposed caste** and **Varna system**, any form of hierarchy and discrimination. • Authority of Vedas was challenged. Faith was given a rational basis. • Concept of **ahimsa** was its chief contribution.	• The **stupas** at **Sanchi, Bharhu**t and **Gaya**, the chaityas and viharas. • Promoted education through **residential universities** like those at Taxila, Nalanda and Vikramasila. • The **language of Pali** and other local languages developed through the teachings of Buddhism. • Promoted the **spread of Indian culture** to other parts of Asia.

5.9 CAUSES FOR THE DECLINE OF BUDDHISM

- Decline of Buddhist Sanghas due to **violation of Buddhist principles & discipline**.
- The Buddhists **began to adopt Sanskrit**, the language of the elite. So the masses moved away.
- The **attack of Huns in 5th & 6th centuries and Turkish invaders in the 12th century** destroyed the monasteries.
- Buddhism was **mainly an urban religion** with rural India always Hindu. When Islam came to India, it impacted the urban regions & thus Buddhism was impacted.
- **Revival of Brahmanism** and division among Buddhists.
- **Rajput rulers** were warlike and could not follow the policy of Ahimsa.
- **Loss of Royal Patronage.**
- **Image worship** was started in Buddhism by the Mahayana Buddhists.

Additional Information:	
UNESCO's Heritage sites related to Buddhism: • Archaeological Site of **Nalanda Mahavira** at Nalanda, Bihar. • Buddhist Monuments at **Sanchi, MP.** • **Mahabodhi Temple Complex** at Bodh Gaya, Bihar. • **Ajanta Caves,** Aurangabad, Maharashtra.	• **Heritage City Development Scheme** (HRIDAY) and identification of **3 Buddhist circuits** are some of the few initiatives by the central government to harness the Buddhist pilgrims to both augment the Tourism and employment opportunities.



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(HISTORY)

- >MOST LOVED FACULTY FOR HISTORY OPTIONAL
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- > MORE THAN 2000 SELECTIONS IN UPSC
- > POST GRADUATE FROM DLHI UNIVERSITY



AMIT KUMAR SINGH

(ETHICS)

- >15 + YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AT RENOWNED INSTITUTES
- > MENTOR MORE THAN 1,00,000+ STUDENTS & 1000+ SELECTION
- > TAUGHT ETHICS & PHILOSOPHY IN DELHI UNIVERSITY FOR 3 YEARS
- > GRADUATE FROM ALLAHABAD UNIVERSITY IN PHILOSOPHY & POST GRADUATE FROM DELHI UNIVERSITY



DR.ADARSH KUMAR

(POLITY, GOVERNANCE AND IR)

- > EDUCATIONAL & LEGAL CONSULTANT
- > PHD IN ROLE OF BUREAUCRACY, UGC-NET QUALIFIED
- > 23+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING, MENTORING 3,00,000+ STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- > AUTHORED BOOKS ON INDIAN POLITY, CONSTITUTION & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FOR UPSC ASPIRANTS



RAJESH MISHRA

(GEOGRAPHY)

- > 10+ YEARS OF UPSC TEACHING EXPERIENCE WITH MENTORING OF 1 LAKH+ ASPIRANTS
- > UGC-NET QUALIFIED
- > EX. FACULTY FOR MULTIPLE RENOWNED INSTITUTES



DEEPAK KUMAR SINGH

(ETHICS & IR)

- > 18 YEARS+ EXPERIENCE IN BOTH ONLINE AND OFFLINE PLATFORM
- > RENOWNED FACULTY FOR ETHICS, PSIR & POLITY.
- > EX-EDUCATOR OF TOP PROMINENT INSTITUTES.
- > MENTORED MORE THAN 100000+ STUDENTS IN UPSC



RITESH R JAISWAL

(SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT)

- > 15+ YEARS OF UPSC TEACHING EXPERIENCE WITH RENOWNED INSTITUTES ACROSS INDIA
- > MOCK INTERVIEW PANELIST & INTERVIEW EXPERT
- > SPECIALIZED IN TEACHING SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT



PRATIK GUPTA

(ECONOMY)

- > POST GRADUATE FROM DU & IGNOU
- > MENTORED MORE THAN 1,00,000 STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- > 10+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING WITH VARIOUS RENOWNED INSTITUTES



KAPIL SIKKA

(POLITY & GOVERNANCE)

- > MENTORING, GUIDING AND TEACHING UPSC STUDENTS SINCE 9 YEARS
- > SPECIALIZED IN TEACHING INDIAN POLITY, INDIAN ECONOMY, ESSAY, INTERNAL SECURITY & POST INDEPENDENCE INDIA WITH AN EXPERIENCE OF TEACHING IN LEADING INSTITUTES



DR. MOHD. ZIA

(ECONOMY & HISTORY)

- > FACULTY, COACH AND MENTOR- GS-HISTORY, GS-ECONOMY AND HISTORY OPTIONAL
- > TEACHING EXPERIENCE OF 8+ YEARS WHICH INCLUDES SERVICE AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT RIE, NCERT, BHOPAL
- > MA IN HISTORY FROM IGNOU, PHD FROM A.M.U.



ABHISHEK SRIVASTAV

(HISTORY)

- > EXPERIENCED FACULTY FOR INDIAN HISTORY & CULTURE AT RENOWNED INSTITUTES
- > 7+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING AND MENTORING 45000+ STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- > GRADUATE FROM INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY, KOLKATA



LOKESH TRIPATHI

(ECONOMY)

- > MA (ECONOMICS) , UGC NET QUALIFIED
- > APPEARED FOR 3 UPSC INTERVIEWS
- > 10+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING, MENTORING 60000+ STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- > FACULTY, COACH AND MENTOR- GS-INDIAN ECONOMY AND GOVERNMENT SCHEMES.



MANJU CHOUDHARY

(POLITY, NCERTS, CA)

- > M.COM (GOLD MEDALIST), MA (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION) , UGC NET QUALIFIED
- > 6+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING, MENTORING 50000+ STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- > FACULTY, COACH AND MENTOR- GS- INDIAN POLITY AND NCERT BASICS, CURRENT AFFAIRS.

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DR. MOHD SALEEM

(SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY)

- RENOWNED SCIENCE & TECH FACULTY
- 12+ YEARS YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING
- MENTORED MORE THAN 100000+ STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- ALUMNI OF JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA RESIDENTIAL COACHING
- EX-EDUCATOR OF PROMINENT INSTITUTES



ANANT TRIPATHI

(HISTORY, CSAT)

- MBA FROM IIFT, NET QUALIFIED IN HISTORY, MANAGEMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.
- MENTORED MORE THAN 1,00,000 STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- 10+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING WITH VARIOUS RENOWNED INSTITUTES



BARUN

(ECONOMICS & CURRENT AFFAIRS)

- B. TECH FROM WEST BENGAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
- MENTORED MORE THAN 5,00,000 STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- 5+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING WITH VARIOUS RENOWNED INSTITUTES



NANKI BAWEJA

(ECONOMY)

- EX. EDUCATOR AT RENOWNED INSTITUTES WITH AN EXPERIENCE OF MENTORING 5000+ STUDENTS IN THEIR UPSC JOURNEY
- QUALIFIED COMPANY SECRETARY AND HOLDS AN MBA IN FINANCE



DEEPAK SINGH

(HISTORY, ECONOMY & ETHICS)

- B.COM ACCOUNTS HONORS GRADUATE
- MENTORED MORE THAN 1,00,000 STUDENTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
- 8+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING WITH VARIOUS RENOWNED INSTITUTES



SHASHANK SHEKHAR ROY

(ETHICS & IR)

- TRAINED THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS FOR UPSC AND OTHER STATE SERVICES
- DECADES OF EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING, TRAINING AND MENTORING
- CERTIFIED COMMUNICATION COACH, MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER AND MENTOR



AKSHAT DWIVEDI

(POLITY & IR)

- B.TECH IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING & POST GRADUATION IN M. A. POLITICAL SCIENCE
- 5+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AT RENOWNED INSTITUTE
- MENTORED MORE THAN 20,000 UPSC CSE ASPIRANTS.
- INVOLVED IN RESEARCH FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



SNEHIL TRIPATHI

(POLITY)

- PUBLISHED AUTHOR WITH MCGRAW HILL EDUCATION AND OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
- 7+ YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE WITH VARIOUS INSTITUTES ACROSS THE COUNTRY
- EX. ACADEMIC HEAD AND TOP FACULTY WITH RENOWNED ED-TECH ORGANIZATION



SONIYA AHUJA

(INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)

- 7+ YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PSYCHOLOGY
- MA POLITICS WITH SPECIALIZATION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, JNU DELHI
- SPECIALIZED IN LEARNING PEDAGOGY AND CURRICULUM DESIGN
- BA IN SOCIAL SCIENCE, TISS MUMBAI



ADITYA TIWARI

(HISTORY, ECONOMY AND ETHICS)

- BIOCHEMICAL ENGINEER, HBTI, KANPUR
- G.T.E. DESIGN, INDIAN OIL CORPORATION
- UPSC INTERVIEW APPEARED

6 Pre-Mauryan Period: 600-300 BCE

6.1 AGE OF MAHAJANAPADAS

- The sixth century BCE is known as an era of **Second Urbanisation** in the Indian Subcontinent.
- The center of economic and political activity **shifted from the North-West, Punjab, Haryana, and Western UP, to Eastern UP and Bihar (Ganga Basin).**
- According to Buddhist texts, **Anguttara Nikaya** (land between Himalayas and Narmada) was divided into 16 independent states (Mahajanapadas).
- It was the phase during which **Janapadas** became greater in size and got involved in expansion of territory resulting in the formation of Mahajanapadas.
- **Sources of information**: Anguttara Nikaya (Buddhist texts) and Bhagwati Sutra (Jain texts).
- **Magadha** displayed the tendency and potential of becoming an empire.
- This period of Indian history was deeply influenced and driven by development of philosophical movements like **Jainism** and **Buddhism**.

6.2 THE SIXTEEN MAHAJANAPADAS

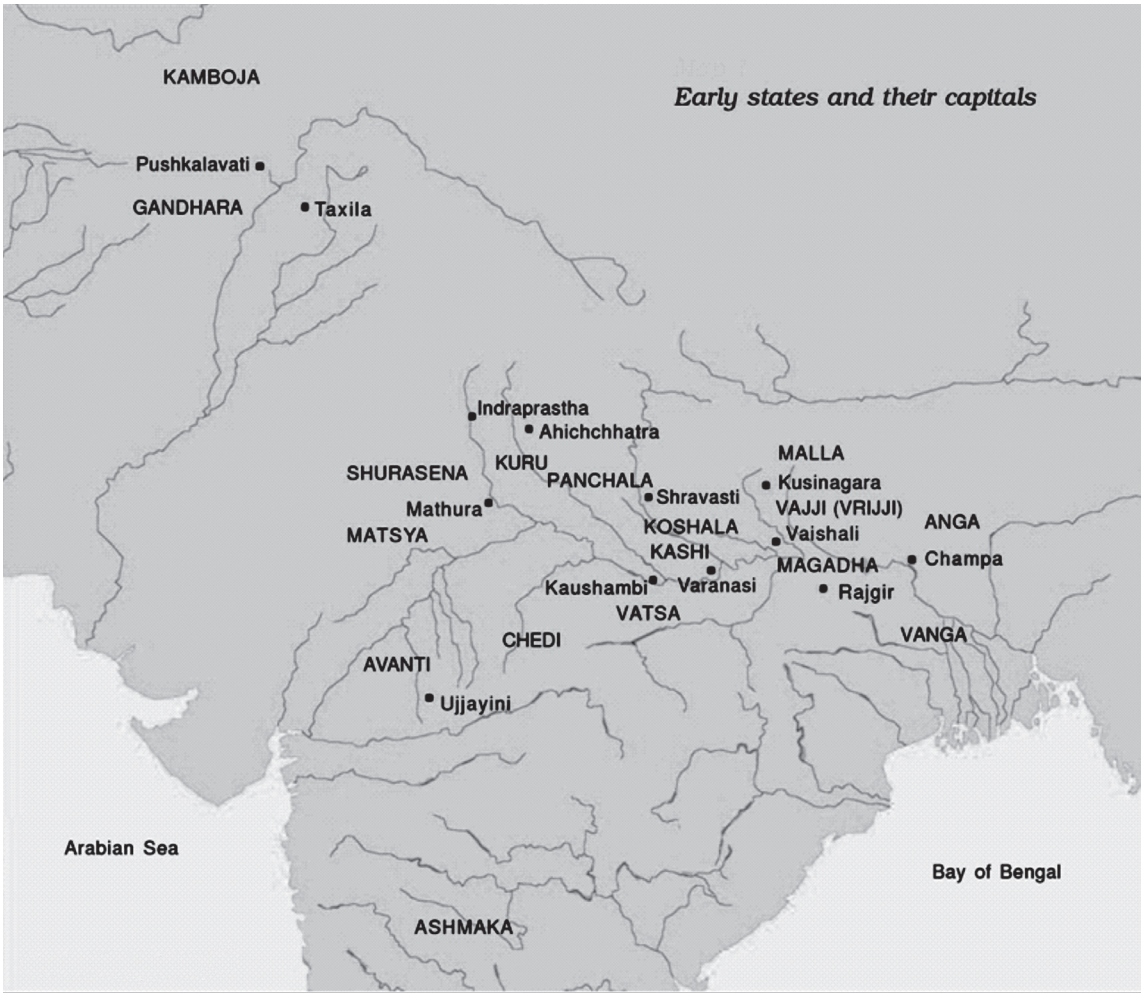


Fig. 6.1: The Sixteen Mahajanapadas

- Mahajanapadas were **either monarchical or republican**:
  - **Monarchies**: on the Gangetic plain – **Magadha, Kosala, Vatsa, Aanti, Anga, Kashi, Gandhara, Shursena, Chedi and Matsya.**
  - **Republics**: on the foothills of the Himalayas and in north- western India – **Malla, Vajji, Kamboja and Kuru.**
- Economic growth led to development of urban centers and **first use of coins is also reported** from this period; they were called **punch-mark coins**.
- Large scale **use of iron tools, spread of agriculture** and **North Black Polished Pottery** is also associated with this age.
- During this period '**Brahmi' script** appeared for the **first time.**
- Taxation added to the wealth of the state, prostitution too appeared in the cities.

Mahajanapada	Capital	Information
Kamboja	**Pooncha/Rajpura**	• Laid in Afghanistan & Some parts of Jammu & Kashmir. • The kambojas were famous for their excellent horse breeds.
Ashmakas	**Paithan**	• Situated on the banks of the river Godavari near modern Paithan in Maharashtra. • It was the only Mahajanapada situated to the south of the Vindhya Range, and was in Dakshinapatha.
Vatsa	**Kaushambi**	• Central Malwa and the adjoining areas of Madhya Pradesh. • The Vatsa capital is located 64 km from Allahabad at **Kaushambi** on the bank of the Yamuna. • **Swapna Vasavadatta** was written about king Udayana (ruler of Vatsa) love affairs.
Avanti	**Ujjaini (North)/ Mahishmati (South)**	• The Avanti's king **Pradyota** is famous in legends, and had relations with Udayan, the ruler of Vatsa.
Shurasena	**Mathura**	• It was marked by uneven roads, excessive dust, vicious talks and 'Yakshas'. Belonging to the Yadava clan which is also associated with Krishna.
Chedi	**Suktimati**	• Eastern parts of Bundelkhand and adjoining areas.
Malla	**Kusinara/ Pava**	• Non-monarchical, Kusinara is identified with Kasia in Gorakhpur district and Pava is possibly identical with Pawapuri in Patna district.
Kuru	**Hastinapur/ Indraprastha**	• Delhi-Meerut region. • Tribal polity. • Formed because of the alliance and merger between the Bharata and Pura tribes.
Panchala	**Ahichhatra (W.Panchala), Kampily (S. Panchala)**	• Modern Kampil in Farrukhabad district. • Tribal polity.
Matsya	**Virat Nagari**	• Associated with modern **Jaipur- Bharatpur-Alwar** region of Rajasthan.
Vajji (Vrijji)	**Vaishali**	• From north of the Ganga and up to as far as the Nepal hills. • A confederation of eight clans (atthakula), of whom the **Videhans,** the **Lichchhavis**, the **Jnatrikas** and the **Vrijjis** were the most important. • A flourishing non-monarchical state in the time of Mahavira and Gautama Buddha.
Gandhara	**Taxila**	• Extended up to the Kabul valley. • Gandhara king Pukkusati exchanged gifts with Bimbisara in Magadha and went on foot to see the Buddha. • According to the Greek historian Herodotus, Gandhara formed the twentieth province of the Achaemenid empire of Persia.

Anga	**Champa**	• Modern districts of **Munger** and **Bhagalpur,** Bihar. Noted for its wealth and commerce.
Kashi	**Banaras**	• Initially, the most powerful of them played an important part in the subversion of the Videhan monarchy. • Leading center of textile manufacture in the time of the Buddha; the **kashaya** (orange brown) robes of the Buddhist monks are said to have been manufactured here.
Koshala	**Shravasti**	• **Ayodhya** on the Saryu, **Saketa** adjoining it and **Shravasti** (modern Sahet- Mahet) on the borders of the Gonda and Bahraich districts of Uttar Pradesh, were three important Koshalan cities.
Magadha	**Rajagriha/Girivraja**	• Modern Patna and Gaya districts of Bihar; bounded on the north and west by the rivers Ganga and Son respectively. • Did not follow the varna system, hence Brahmanical texts make derogatory remarks for Magadha and Buddhist text hold it high in regard as being the place of Buddha's enlightenment (Gaya). • Details of the king and people of Magadha are mentioned in the **Anguttara Nikaya**.

6.3 SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY OF MAHAJANAPADA PERIOD

- **Economy:**
  - Most urban settlements were inhabited by merchants and artisans (organized into a 'sartha' guild).
  - Practice of **trade** and **crafts** was hereditary.
  - Most important cities of the time were settled on the banks of the rivers and trade routes.
  - **Money economy:** Trade was facilitated through use of money called **'Nishka'** and **'Satamana'** (mentioned in Vedic texts; no archaeological evidence).
  - **Mahajani System (banking system):** Buddhism and Jainism recognized Mahajani or money lending.
  - Agriculture was made easier with the use of iron tools. Paddy transplantation was practiced. Barley, cotton, pulses, millets and sugarcane were also produced.
  - $1/6^{th}$ of the farm produce was to be paid to the royal agent as tax and there were no intermediate landlords.
  - Rich peasants were called **'Grihapatis'.** Vessa meant Merchants Street.
  - **'Balisadhakas'** collected the compulsory taxes called 'bali' from peasants and Vaishyas only.
  - **Land route:** A route led from Taxila to north Afghanistan and Iran and from there silver, gold, Lapis lazuli, jade (ornamental mineral) were obtained as raw materials.
  - **Sea route:** The Pali texts of this period throw light on foreign trade. There is a mention of sea merchants in the **Angutar Nikaya.**
  - **Two major trans-regional routes** of the time:
  - **Uttarapatha:** of northern India, stretching from the north-west across the Indo-Gangetic plains to the port city of Tamralipti on the Bay of Bengal.
  - **Dakshinapatha:** of southern India, stretching from Patliputra in Magadha to Pratishthana on the Godavari, and connected to ports on the western coast.
- **Society:**
  - The **Pali texts** (Vinay Pitaka) suggests three types of villages (grama).
  - **Typical villages:** inhabited by various castes and communities – headed by **gramabhojaka, gramini or gramakas.**
  - **Suburban villages:** which were in the nature of craft villages.
  - **Border villages (anamika-grama):** which were situated on the periphery of the countryside
  - **Society was divided into four varnas:** Brahmans, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras.
  - **Writing** had started and was used for book keepings in trade, taxation and the large size of the army.
  - Lower varnas were subjected to many discriminations.
  - The strengthening of **patriarchal control** within the household led to the increased subordination of women. **Position of women degraded** further except in Buddhist and Jain orders.
  - **Number of castes appeared** and the condition of untouchability further worsened.
  - The age of marriage of women was reduced compared to the Vedic period.
  - **Severe punishments** were awarded by royal agents.

- **Administration and Army:**
  - **Jatakas** or stories of previous lives of Buddha mention that land grants were given in favor of great religious leaders.
  - The **King** was the **highest administrative official** who was supported by other officials called **Mahamantras** who performed functions of **Mantrin** (minister) and **Senanayaka** (Commander), **judge** and **chief accountant** etc.
  - Another class of officers performing similar functions were called **Aayuktas.**
  - Administration of the village was under a village headman called **Gramabhojaka, Gramini or Gramika.**
  - **Large, professional and permanent army.**
  - This period marks the **origin of the Indian legal and judicial systems.** The civil and criminal law was based on the varna division.

6.4 THE MAGADHA EMPIRE

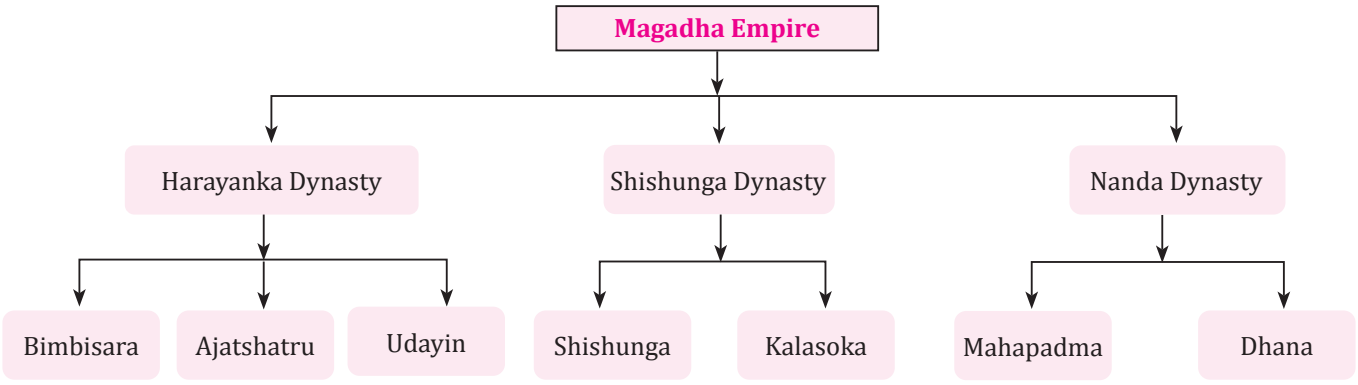


Fig. 6.2: The Magadha Empire

- **The Magadha** word was first mentioned in **Atharvaveda.**
- Kashi, Koshala, Magadha and the Vajji confederacy—remained significant in the sixth century BC.
- **Jarasandha,** who was a descendant of **Brihadratha** (eldest of the five sons of Vasu, the Kuru king of Chedi) founded the empire in Magadha.
- Magadha emerged victorious and became the **center of political activity** in north India.
- Magadha had a **strategic position** between the upper and lower part of the Gangetic valley.
- The iron ores in the hills near Rajgir and copper and iron deposits near Gaya were the **natural assets** of Magadha.
- **Capital of Magadha:** Rajgriha
- First King of Magadha was **Brihadratha** and he belonged to the **Brihadratha dynasty.**
- During the reign of **Bimbisara** and **Ajatasatru,** the prosperity of Magadha reached its zenith.

6.4.1 Major Dynasties

Haryanka Dynasty (544 BC-492 BC)		
Bimbisara (542-493 BC)	**Ajatashatru (492-460 BC)**	**Udayin (Udayabhadra) (460-444 BC)**
• The first important ruler of Magadha, Bimbisara, was a **patron of Buddhism.** • He was a **contemporary of** both **Buddha** and **Mahavira**, and paid equal respect to them. • Bimbisar's capital: **Rajgriha** or Girivraja. He is described as Seniya, i.e., the one 'with an army'. • Started the practice of using **matrimonial alliances** to strengthen his political position.	• Ajatashatru killed his father - Bimbisara - and ascended the throne. • Adopted **expansionist policy** & defeated Koshala and Vaishali. • Ajatashatru was the contemporary of **Buddha**. Buddha died during his reign. • **Most powerful and aggressive** ruler. • He convened the **First Buddhist Council** at Rajgriha just after the death of Buddha in 483 BC.	• As per the Mahavamsa, the Sri Lankan Buddhist chronicle, Ajatashatru's son **Udayin** succeeded Ajatashatru and ruled for the next sixteen years. • Founded the **new capital at Pataliputra (modern Patna),** situated at the confluence of Ganga and Son rivers. • The **last ruler** of the Haryanka dynasty. • Succeeded by three kings: Aniruddha, Manda, Nagadasaka.

• **Dynastic marriages** promoted goodwill between Bimbisara and contemporary rulers of Koshala and Viji. • Policy of conquest and expansion. • First king to have a standing army. • Bimbisara sent his personal physician Jivaka to Ujjain to win the friendship of Pradyota, the king of Avanti. • Bimbisara's aggression was towards Anga Mahajanapada, it was annexed to Magadha. • Effective and excellent administrative system.	• **Used two innovative military weapons**: War engine (Mahashilakantaka); Chariot with mace (Rathamusala). • The **fortification of Rajgriha.**	• They were later **succeeded by the Sisunaga dynasty.**

Shishunaga Dynasty (412 BC-344 BC)	
Shishunaga	**Kalasoka**
• Shishunaga was earlier a Viceroy/Amatya (high ranking official) at Varanasi (Banaras). • Temporarily shifted capital to **Vaishali**. • During the reign of Shishunaga, Magadha annexed Avanti (Ujjain) and many other Janapadas into the fold of the Magadha empire.	• Also known as **Kakarvarna** (according to the Puranas). • Son and successor of Shishunaga. • Kalashoka shifted the capital back to **Patliputra**. • Convened the **Second Buddhist Council** held at **Vaishali.**
Nanda Dynasty (First non-Kshatriya dynasty)(344 BC-323 BC)	
Mahapadma Nanda	**Dhana Nanda**
• Mahapadma Nanda, who was from a **shudra** (**non-Kshatriya**) lineage, **laid the foundation** of the Nanda dynasty in Magadha. Also called **Ugrasena** in Pali texts, because of his large army. • He is called the **first historical emperor of India.** • Puranas refer to him as **destroyer of all Kshatriyas** i.e. **Sarvaksatrantaka** and **Ekarat.** • Presence of Jain ministers like **Kalpaka**, **Sakatala**, etc. in his court indicates his leaning towards Jainism.	• **Last** important king of the Nanda dynasty. • He is referred to as **Agrammes** or **Xandrames** in Greek texts. • Credited with the invention of **Nandopakramani** (a particular measuring standard). • He was a **contemporary of Alexander of Macedon**. Alexander invaded North-Western India during his reign. • Finally, he was **overthrown by Chandragupta Maurya** along with Chanakya, which led to the foundations of the Mauryan Empire in Magadha.

6.4.2 Causes of Magadha's Success

- Magadha enjoyed an **advantageous geographical position**. Magadha was located on the main land route between west and east India. Both **Rajagir** and **Pataliputra** were located on strategic positions (near to richest Iron ores).
- The area had **fertile soil** drained by **river Ganga**, which received enough rainfall.
- **Pataliputra** has a famous water fort (Jaladurga), encircled by rivers on three sides, the **Ganga**, **Son** and **Gandak** making the region impregnable to enemies and fourth river Ghaghra joins the Ganga nearby.
- Magadha had huge **copper** and **iron** deposits.
- Magadha could easily control trade because of its **strategic location**. It had a large population which followed different occupations such as **agriculture**, **mining**, **building cities** and served in the army.
- With the annexation of Anga by **Bimbisara**, river **Champa** was added to the Magadha Empire. Champa was important in trade with South-East Asia, Sri Lanka and South India.
- Magadha society had an **unorthodox character**. Society was not much dominated by the **Brahmanas**.
- It had a good mix of **Aryan** and **non-Aryan people**.
- Emergence of **Jainism** and **Buddhism** led to a revolution in terms of philosophy and thoughts. They both enhanced **liberal traditions**.

- Magadha had **strong standing armies** and **availability of iron** enabled them to develop **advanced weaponry**. Magadha was the first to **deploy elephants** on a large scale in wars.

6.5 FOREIGN INVASIONS

6.5.1 Iranian (Persian) Invasion in India

- **Founder** of the **Achaemenid empire** of Persia (Iran), **Cyrus II** invaded the region west of river Indus, during Bimbisar's reign in Magadha, and succeeded in establishing control over Gandhara, Kamboja, and Madra. His grandson **Darius I** conquered Punjab and Sindh.
- As a result, Indo-Iranian trade, influences of language, art and architecture increased.
- **Bell-shaped capital**, **Ashokan inscriptions** and introduction of **Kharosthi script** are the products of this influence.

6.5.2 Greek/Alexander's Invasion (327 BC – 325 BC)

- After defeating Darius III, the last Achaemenid emperor, **Alexander** crossed the Hindukush and entered north-western India which was an Achaemenid province in 327 BC.
- Ambhi (Omphis), the king of Takshashila, submitted to Alexander.
- **Battle of Hydaspes (Jhelum):**
  - **Porus,** who ruled the **territory between the Jhelum and the Ravi**, was defeated and captured after initial resistance.
  - Alexander, impressed by Porus' resistance, reinstated him to power.
  - Alexander's army refused to cross river Beas (Hyphasis) to fight further and thus a clash between the tired Macedonian mercenaries and the huge army of the Nandas did not happen.
  - After establishing a few Greek settlements in north-west India, **Alexander died** in **323 BC** in **Babylon**.
- **Impacts:**
  - **Direct contact** between India and Greece (Europe).
  - Encouraged **political unification of north India** under the Mauryas.
  - Accounts by Alexander's historians provide information about that period.
  - Seeds of **Indo-Bactrian** and **Parthian States** in India.
  - Greek influences on the **Gandhara School of Art** and **Architecture.**
  - **New land & sea routes** were discovered by Alexander**.**



OPTIONAL SUBJECTS OFFERED

- History
- Sociology
- Geography
- PSIR
- Anthropology
- Public Administration

- इतिहास
- समाजशास्त्र
- भूगोल
- राजनीति विज्ञान एवं अंतरर्राष्ट्रीय संबंध
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7 Mauryan Age

- The Maurya period not only marks the establishment of the **first sub-continental empire**, but also the development of innovative and comparatively **stable governance strategies**.
- Maurya ruled over the whole of the sub-continent, except Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and some parts of north-eastern India.

7.1 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

7.1.1 Literary Sources

- **Megasthenes' Indica:**
  - Contains information about the **Mauryan administration**, particularly the administration of the capital city of Pataliputra and also the **military organization**
  - Throws light on **contemporary social life.**
- **Kautilya's Arthashastra:**
  - Written by **Kautilya**, a contemporary of Chandragupta Maurya, most important literary source for the history of the Maurya.
  - Kautilya was also called **Indian Machiavelli**.
  - The manuscript of Arthashastra was first discovered by **R. Shama Sastri** in **1904.**
- **Visakha Datta's Mudra Rakshasa:**
  - Drama in Sanskrit which describes how Chandragupta with the assistance of Kautilya overthrew the Nandas (written during the Gupta period).
  - It also gives a picture on the **socio-economic condition** under the Mauryas.
- **Buddhist Text:**
  - **Jatak Stories, Dipavamsa, Ashokavadana, Divyavadana.**
  - **Trinity** of Buddhist texts: **Mahavamsa, Milindapanho**, and **Mahabhashya.**
- **Brahmin Literature:**
  - **Puranas** reveal the lists of Mauryan kings and the chronology.
  - Hemachandra's **Parishishta Parvan**.
  - Dandin's **Dashakumaracharita**.
  - Banabhatta's **Kadambari**.

7.1.2 Archaeological Sources

- **Punch marked coins**, **Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW).**
- Wooden palace of Chandragupta Maurya in Pataliputra.
- Ashokan inscriptions and Edicts.
- **Junagarh Inscription of Rudradaman I.**

7.2 THE MAURYAN DYNASTY

- The founder of the Mauryan dynasty, **Chandragupta Maurya** (324/321 – 297 BCE) inherited a large army of the **Nandas**, which he used to conquer almost the whole of north, the northwest, and a large part of the peninsular India.
- There is a lot of ambiguity about the origins and caste of the Maurya family, and they vary from text to text.
- **Buddhist texts**: Digha Nikaya, Mahavamsa, and Divyavadana, speak of the Mauryas as belonging to a Kshatriya Moriya clan associated with the Shakyas.
- **Brahmanical sources**: consider them Shudras and heretics.

7.2.1 Important Rulers

Chandragupta Maurya (322–298 BC):

- **Chandraupta or Sandrokottos** (referred to in Greek literature) launched a series of wars against Dhana Nanda.
- Laid the foundation of Mauryan empire in 322 BC with help of Chanakya (Kautilya).
- Credit for the first unification of North India is attributed to Chandragupta Maurya.
- He was the **chief architect** of the Mauryan empire and built a vast empire, which included **Bihar, Nepal, western and north-western India,** and the **Deccan.**
- In 305 BC, Chandragupta **defeated Seleucas Nikator,** the Greek king after Alexander.
- **Megasthenes** (wrote the Indica), a Greek ambassador, was **sent by Seleucus** in the **Chandragupta Maurya court**.

- According to Jaina sources, **Chandragupta embraced Jainism** towards the end of his life and abdicated the throne in favor of his son.
- Accompanied by Bhadrabahu, a Jaina saint, he went to **Shravanabelagola (Karnataka) (famous for the statue of Gomateshwar),** where he died by slow starvation **(Sallekhana).**

Bindusara (298–273 BC):

- Chandragupta was succeeded by his son Bindusara, known to the Greeks as **Amitrochates,** while the Mahabhasya refer to him as **Amitraghat** (the destroyer of foes). **Madrasar**, **Simhasena** are other names used for Bindusara.
- Bindusara followed the **extreme fatalistic order** (religion) **Ajivika** founded by **Makhali Gosala.** This order had complete disregard for **karma**.
- Greek sources also mention his **diplomatic relations** with **western kings**.
- Believed to have **joined the Ajivika sect**.
- Tibetan Buddhist monk Taranatha describes Bindusara as **conqueror of the land between two seas** i.e., peninsular India.
- **Divyavadan**, Buddhist biographical narrative of Mauryan Kings, mentions a revolt at Taxila being suppressed by **Ashoka (son of Bindusara);** who was **Kumara** or **viceroy** of Ujjain at that time.

Ashoka the Great (273–237 BC):

- Ashoka was crowned in **269 BC**. Radhagupta, helped Ashoka in usurping the throne.
- Regarded as one of the greatest kings of all times, and probably was the **first ruler to maintain direct contact with his people** through his inscriptions.
- He was appointed the **viceroy of Taxila and Ujjain** during the reign of Bindusara.
- **Other names of emperor**: **Buddhashakya** and **Ashoka** (in the Maski Edict), **Dharmasoka** (Sarnath inscription), **Devanampiya** (beloved of the gods), and **Piyadassi** (pleasing appearance, given in the Sri Lankan Buddhist chronicles Dipavamsa and Mahavamsa).
- His capital was at **Pataliputra (Patna)** and had provincial capitals at **Taxila** and **Ujjain**.
- **Childrens of Ashoka**: Mahendra/Mahinda and Sanghamitra/Sanghamitta.
- 8 years after coronation, Ashoka fought the horrible **Kalinga War** in **261 BC.**
- Ashoka was moved by the untold miseries caused by the war, renouncing conquest by warfare, in favor of cultural conquest. In other words, **Bherighosha was replaced with Dhammaghosha**.
- Under Ashoka, almost entire subcontinent came under single control **except extreme south**: Uttarapatha (Taxila), Avantirashtra (Ujjain), Prachi (Pataliputra), Kalinga (Toshali) and Dakshinpatha (Suvarnagiri) were important provinces.
- **Ashoka was not an extreme pacifist.** He retained Kalinga and incorporated it into his kingdom; he also did not disband the army.
- Under Ashoka, the Mauryan Empire reached its **climax**.

7.2.2 Contributions of Ashoka

- **Ashoka and Buddhism:**
  - He became a Buddhist under the guidance of **Mogaliputta Tissa**. Ashoka is known for his **Dhamma policy.**
  - Ashoka convened the **Third Buddhist Council at Pataliputra** in 240 BCE, in order to strengthen the Sangha. It was presided over by **Moggaliputta Tissa.**
  - According to tradition, and as mentioned in the Mahavamsa and Dipavamsa, he was converted to Buddhism by his nephew **Nigrodha**.
  - He **visited Bodhgaya**, and organized missions. He appointed special officers called **Dharma Mahamatras** to speed up the progress of Dhamma.
  - Buddhism for the first time went outside India during his reign. He sent his son **Mahendra** and daughter **Sanghamitra** to **Ceylon (Sri Lanka).**
- **Ashoka's Dhamma:**
  - The concept of **non-violence** and other similar ideas of Ashoka's Dhamma are identical with the teachings of Buddha.
  - His policy of dhamma was a broad concept with elaboration of a way of life, signifying a **general code of conduct** and a **set of principles** to be adopted and practiced by the people at large.
  - **4-cardinal points of Dhamma**: Tolerance, Non-violence, Good Conduct (Obeying parents and elders, respecting Brahmanas and Monks) & Welfare.
  - A new officer called, **Dhamma mahamatra** was appointed for promotion of **Dhamma**.
- **Ashoka Rock Edicts:**
  - **James Princep**, a British antiquary and colonial administrator was the first person to decipher Ashoka's edicts.
  - The **national emblem of India** is taken from the Ashoka's **Sarnath Pillar.**
  - **Name of Ashoka occurs only on minor rock edicts**. He was the first king to speak to people directly through inscriptions.
  - **Rock and pillar edicts:**
    - Major and minor rock edicts (16 and 2 respectively).

- Major and minor pillar edicts (17 and 3 respectively).

- **Features of pillars:**
  - Mostly, the pillars are **similar in form and dimensions**
    - **Two types of stones are used:**
    - **Spotted white sandstone** (from Mathura).
    - **Buff coloured sandstone** and **quartzite** (from Amaravati)
  - **Mostly monoliths** (i.e., carved out of a single piece of stone) and have a lustrous, polished surface.
  - Do not have a base, and the plain, smooth cylindrical **shaft tapers slightly upwards.**
  - Have a **bell capital** (a stone carved in the shape of an inverted lotus).
  - On top of the bell capital is a **platform (abacus)** which is intended to support the crowned animal.
- **Places of pillars: Kandahar** (Afghanistan), **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa** (Pakistan), **Delhi, Vaishali** and **Champaran** (Bihar), **Sarnath** and **Allahabad** (Uttar Pradesh), **Amaravati** (Andhra Pradesh), and **Sanchi** (Madhya Pradesh).
- **Eastern part of the empire:** Magadhi language in Brahmi script is used. (Magadhi is the **dialect of Prakrit** found in Magadha).
- **Western parts of the empire:** Prakrit in **kharosthi script** is used.
- Kandhar Inscriptions is **bilingual**, it uses Greek and Aramaic languages and scripts.
- **Major Rock Edict XIII** contains an extract in Greek and Aramaic as well.
- **Principles of Dhamma were clearly stated in Edicts. Summed up as follows:**
  - Service to father and mother, **practice of ahimsa**, love for truth, reverence to teachers and good treatment to relatives.
  - **Prohibition of animal sacrifices** and festive gatherings and avoiding expensive and meaningless ceremonies and rituals.
  - Efficient organization of administration in the direction of **social welfare** and maintenance of constant contact with people through the system of Dhamma Yatra.
  - **Humane treatment** to servants by masters and prisoners by government officials.
  - Consideration and **non-violence** towards animals and courtesy to relations and liberality to Brahmins.
  - **Tolerance** among all the religious sects.
  - **Conquest through Dhamma** instead of through war.

7.2.3 Major/Minor Rock Edicts

Major Rock Edicts			
Edict No.	**Message**	**Edict No.**	**Message**
I	• **Prohibits animal slaughter**. Only two peacocks and one deer were killed in Ashoka's kitchen. He wished to discontinue this practice of animal slaughter.	**II**	• **Planting medicinal herbs** and **humans and animals** were given medical treatment. Also mentions about the **Cholas**, the **Pandyas**, the **Satyaputra** and the **Kerala Putras**.
III	• **Pradeshikas**, **Rajukas** and **Yuktas going** on tours of inspection, preaching dhamma.	**IV**	• **Dhammaghosa** replaced **Bherighosha** (war drum).
V	• About **Dhamma Mahamattas'** appointment.	**VI**	• **Mantri Parishad** and officers like **Pulisani** and **Pativedakas** (reporters).
VII	• **Religious tolerance** in his own kingdom and in the neighboring kingdoms.	**VIII**	• **Dhamma Yatras** (dharma tours) replaced **Vihara- Yatras** (Royal pleasure tours).
IX	• Emphasis on **dhamma** and **moral conduct**.	**X**	• No desire for fame and glory by the king.
XI	• **Policy of dhamma** is the best policy to follow and a best gift.	**XII**	• Appeals tolerance amongst all sects and people to honor the dhamma of others. Also mentions about **mahamattas in charge of women's welfare** (Ithijika Mahamatta).
XIII	• **Ashoka's victory over Kalinga**. Victory of Ashoka's Dhamma over Greek Kings, Antiochus, Ptolemy, Antigonus, Magas, Alexander and Cholas, Pandyas etc. This is the **Largest Edict**. It mentions **Kamboj**,**Nabhaks**, **Bhoja**, **Andhra** etc.	**XIV**	• Describes engraving of inscriptions in different parts of the country.

Minor Rock Edicts
• Minor Rock Edicts are concentrated in the South and Central parts of the empire. • They highlight the personal history of Ashoka and the summary of Dhamma. • The edict found at **Kandahar** is **bilingual**, being inscribed in **Greek** and **Aramaic and Minor Rock Edict III (Bairat)** is addressed to the Buddhist clergy. • The title most commonly adopted by Ashoka in his edicts is **Devanampiya Piyadassi** (beloved of the Gods).

7.3 SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY OF MAURYAN PERIOD

- **Mauryan Economy:**
  - **Sources of revenue**: the revenues came from land, ferry tax, forests, mines and pastures, license fee from craftsmen and fines collected in the law courts.
  - The land revenue was normally fixed as **one-sixth** of the produce.
  - Occurrences of famines are also reported in **Kautilya's Arthashastra** and **Jaina texts.**
  - **Tolls** were also levied on commodities brought to town for sale.
  - **Crown land** was called **Sita**.
  - The Mauryan State had a **strict legal and penal system** (civil and criminal); tax evaders attracted the death penalty.
  - **Punch-marked coins** (mostly silver) were used for transactions.
  - **Hired laborers** were called **karmakaras**.
  - State monopoly of mining, forest, salt, sale of liquor, manufacture of arms and metallurgy.
- **Mauryan Society:**
  - Society was clearly divided into a four-fold **Varna system**, **slavery** (Dasa) existed in the society.
  - There was improvement in the **social status** of Vaishyas and Shudras.
  - There is **no mention of either Varna or Sati** in the Ashokan edicts.
  - **Varna-Shankar Vivah** or **inter-varna** or **inter-caste marriages** too are reported; these were of two kinds, namely, **Anuloma** (groom of higher varna/caste) and **Pratiloma** (bride of higher varna/caste).
  - While Kautilya mentions **9 categories of slaves**, Megasthenes reports its absence.
  - As per the Jataka tales untouchables like **Chanadala, Nishad, Shabar** etc. existed and were treated inhumanely.
  - **Women's position in society deteriorated severely**: widow remarriage stopped, the institution of **Ganikas** (prostitution) expanded.
- **Mauryan Administration:**
  - **The Mauryan Empire was divided into 5 provinces**: **Uttarapatha** (Capital: Taxila), **Avantipatha** (Ujjain), **Dakshinpatha** (Suvarnagiri), **Prachyapatha** and **Magadha.**
  - **Huge army** and **Navy** were maintained in which all the **4 varnas** were allowed to serve.
  - The ascendancy of the Mauryas had resulted in the **triumph of monarchy in India.**
- **Central Administration:**
  - **Council of ministers (Mantriparishad):** consisted of Purohita, Mahamantri, Senapati and Yuvaraja to assist the king in administrative matters.
  - Highest officers were called **'Tirthas'** and **'Adhyakshas'** (superintendents), they managed 26 departments.
  - **Census**: Census was conducted regularly during the Mauryan period
  - **Judicial and Police departments:** Kautilya mentions presence of both civil and criminal courts.
  - **Important Officials:**
    - **Mantri** – Chief Minister.
    - **Mantriparishad/Adhyaksha** – Head of Council of Ministers.
    - **Purohita** – Chief priest.
    - **Senapati** - Commander-In-Chief.
    - **Yuvaraj** - Crown Prince.
    - **Samaharta** - Revenue Collector.
    - **Shulkadhyaksha** - Officer-In-Charge of Royal Income.
    - **Spies (gudda purushas)** and **informers** (**prativedakas**) played an important role.
- **Local Administration:**
  - The Mauryan state also had local and municipal administration; **Vish** or **Ahara** (districts) were the units of a province.
  - Megasthenese's account mentions **6 committees of five members each** for administering the municipalities.

- **Important Officers:**
  - **Sitadhyaksha:** Supervised agriculture.
  - **Panyadhyaksha:** Superintendent of Commerce.
  - **Yukta:** Subordinate Revenue Officer.
  - **Pradeshika:** Chief revenue officer.
  - **Sthanika:** Head of local administration. worked under Preadesika
  - **Rajuka:** Revenue settlement officer.
  - **Sams Adhyaksha:** Superintendent of market.
  - **Pauthavadhyaksha:** Superintendent of weight & measure.
  - **Nava Adhyaksha:** Superintendent of ships.
  - **Sulkaadhyaksha:** Collector of tolls.
  - **Village Level Officers:**
    - **Gramika:** Head of the village.
    - **Gramvriddhas:** Panchayat consists of Village elders to settle disputes
- **Sudarshan lake** (Girnar Hill, Gujrat) was constructed during the reign of **Chandragupta Maurya.**
- **Tamralipti** (Tamlook in Midnapur, WB) in the east and **Bharuch/Broach** (Gujrat) in the west were two important **ports**.
- **Raja** (the king), **Mitra** (Friend), **Durg** (fort), **Amatya** (the secretaries), **Janapada** (territory), **Kosha** (the treasure), **Sena** (Army) were the 7 elements of states of **Kautilya's Saptanga theory**.

7.4 OFFICERS IN MAURYAN STATE

Officer	Position	Officer	Position
Prashasti	Prison Head	**Annapala**	Head of Food Grains Department
Sannidata	Treasury Head	**Rajjukas**	Land Measurer
Koshadhyaksha	Treasury Officer	**Akaradhyaksha**	Mining Officer
Koshagar Adhyaksha	Royal Treasury Manager	**Lauhadhyaksha**	Metallurgy Officer
Nayaka	City Security Chief	**Lakshan Adhyaksha**	Coin Minting
Vyabharika	Chief Judge	**Lava Adhyaksha**	Officer of Salt Department
Karmantika	Head of Industries & Factories	**Ayudha Adhyaksha**	Weapon Manufacturing & Defence.
Swarn Adhyaksha	Officer of Gold Department	**Kunyadhyaksha**	Officer of Forest
Dandapala	Head of Police	**Man Adhyaksha**	Office of Time & Place Determination
Durgapal	Head of Royal Fort	**Sun Adhyaksha**	Slaughter- House Officer
Mudr Adhyaksha	Royal Symbol, Coin	**Dyut Adhyaksha**	Gambling Department
Naukadhyaksha	Shipping Officer	**Pattan Adhyaksha**	Officer of Port
Pauta Adhyaksha	In Charge of Weights and Measures		

7.5 DECLINE OF THE MAURYAN EMPIRE

- **Over-centralisation, cumbersome bureaucracy, super heavy taxation** (on almost every activity) and **foreign invasions** were main factors of decline.
- **Neglect of North**: West frontier and construction of great wall of China.
- **Financial Crisis**: Ashoka incurred huge expenditure for promotion of his 'Dhamma Mission'.
- **Over-tolerant, non-violent attitude** killed the fighting spirit of the army.
- After Ashoka's death in 232 BC Mauryan emperors were **incompetent** and **oppressive.**
- **Pushyamitra Shunga**, a Mauryan army commander, killed the last Mauryan emperor **Brihadrath** and founded the **Shunga Dynasty in 187 BC**.



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8 Post-Mauryan Age

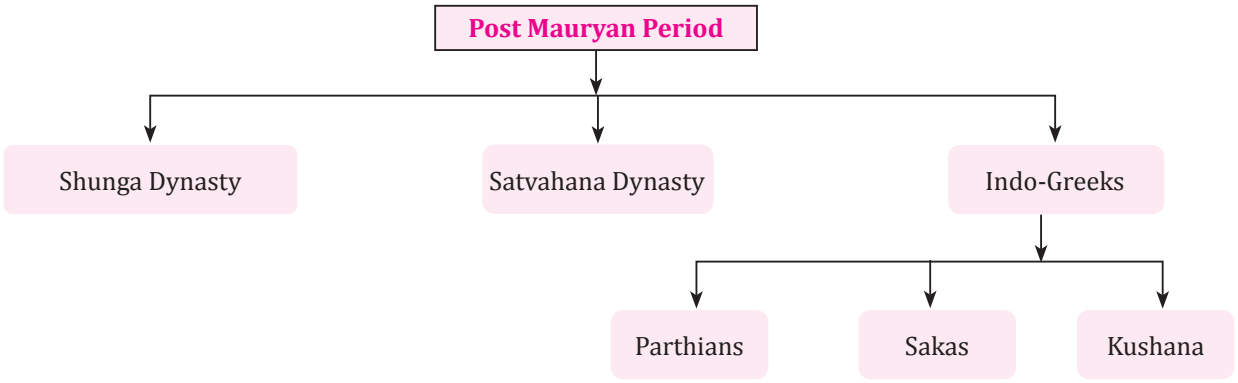


Fig. 8.1: Post Mauryan Period

- The Maurya rule thus came to an end and the **Sunga Dynasty** was established as the ruler of Magadha.
- The native dynasties like Shungas, Satvahana, and the Kanvas ruled in eastern India, central India and the Deccan region.
- Foreigners like Indo-Greeks or Bactrians, Sakas, Parthians and the Kushanas ruled in north-western India.
- This was a period defined by the **intermingling and influence of new cultures**, **vibrant doctrinal debates**, the rise in **devotional worship** of images and the **institutionalization of religious activity**.
- The period also saw the **emergence of sophisticated sculptural and architectural styles**.

8.1 SOURCE OF INFORMATION

- Puranas; Dharmashastra; Manusmriti also known as **Manav Dharma Shastra** is composed by **Sage Manu** and is the first detailed lawbook available.
- **Gargi Samhita** and the **Mahabhashya of Patanjali** (commentary on **Panini's Ashtadhyayi**).
- Buddhist Jatakas, **Divyavadana, Mahavastu** and the **Milindpanho** (Sanskrit, Milindaprashna).
- **Malavikagnimitram** of **Kalidasa** and the **Harshacharita** of **Banabhatta.**
- **Periplus of the Erythraean Sea** written by an anonymous Greek seafarer (pattern of trade between India and the Western world).
- Epigraphic records in **Kharosthi** found in large numbers in **Gandhara** and **Central Asia** refer to different facets of India's regular contacts with these regions.

8.2 SHUNGA DYNASTY (187 BC-78 BC)

- **Founder**: **Pushyamitra Sunga**, who was the commander- in-chief under the Mauryas.
- Capital at **Pataliputra** and a second capital at **Vidisha** (under son Agnimitra's viceroy).
- **Pushyamitra Shunga:**
  - He defended the country (the Gangetic valley) and its culture against foreign invasions (Greeks).
  - Pushyamitra shunga erected **Bharhut stupa.**
  - He followed **Brahmanism** and performed two **Ashvamedha sacrifices**.
  - Also promoted the growth of **Vaishnavism** and the **Sanskrit language**.
- **Agnimitra:**
  - **After Pushyamitra, his son Agnimitra ruled.**
  - Kalidasa's play **Malvikagnimitra** is a love story of the **King Agnimitra and a handmaiden Malvika.**
  - A significant attempt at penetrating into India by **Demetrius I of Bactria** was countered successfully by **Vasumitra, son of Agnimitra.**
  - Performed **Ashwamedh sacrifice** for revival of Brahmanical order and patronized scholars like **Patanjali and Manu**

- **Vasumitra:**
  - After Agnimitra, **Vasumitra** became the King and was succeeded by 7 more kings of the same dynasty.
  - Shunga's empire covered regions of **Bihar, Bengal and Uttar Pradesh and northern Madhya Pradesh.**
  - The last ruler of the Shunga dynasty was **Devabhuti.**

8.2.1 Importance of Shungas

- Shungas issued **gold and silver coins** and they inherited and continued with the Mauryan **structure of administration.**
- They patronized the Brahmanical order, yet there was **no antagonism towards Buddhism**.
- **Mathura school of art** achieved new heights, especially in realistic human depiction.
- Manu's **Manav Dharma Shastra** or **Manusmriti** and **Kalidasa's Malavikagnimitram** are said to have been composed during this period.
- **Yavanarajya inscription, Dhangadeva-Ayodhya inscription** mentions Shungas.
- **Nanaghat** inscription, **Nasik** Inscription, **Hatigumpa** inscription of Kharavela, **Erragudi** inscription of Ashoka provide important information about Shungas.

8.3 SATAVAHANA DYNASTY

- Satavahana are referred as **Andhras** in the **Puranas**.
- **Simuka** was the **founder** of the Satavahana dynasty.
- The Satavahana kingdom is chiefly composed of **modern-day Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra.**
- At times, their rule also included parts of Karnataka, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- **Primary capital: Pratishthana** (modern Paithan in Maharashtra) on **Godavari river** & second Capital was **Amravati.**
- **Sources of Information**: **Aitareya Brahmana, Puranas, epics, Brihat Katha of Gunadya, Kamasutra of Vatsyayana.**
- The Satavahana graves are reported to be **encircled by big pieces of stone** and therefore they are known also as **megalithic people**.
- Next important king was **Gautamiputra Satkarni** (known as **Ekabrahmana**) whose achievements are recorded in the **Nasik inscription** of **Gautami Balashri** (his mother). He defeated **Sakas**, **Greeks**, **Parthians** and **Nahapana** (king of western Satrapa)
- Around 150 CE, **Rudradaman** took advantage of weak successors of Gautamiputra Satkarni and defeated them.
- At the end of 2nd CE, another important ruler **Yajnasut Alakrni** came to the throne who conquered back the areas of Gujrat, Malwa and Andhra.
- After Alakarni, Satavahana power declined and they were **replaced by Vakataka Dynasty** in the same regions, who too were **Brahmins.**

8.4 SIGNIFICANCE OF SATAVAHANA RULE

Political Setup and Administration	• Important officials: **Amatyas, Mahamatya, Mahasenapati.** • King: upholder of Dharma. • Feudal traits can be seen in their administration. • Practice of **tax-free land grants** to Brahmins. • **Amatyas** and **Mahamatras** were **district officers** during Satavahana rule which was called as **Ahara**. • **Gaulmika** administered the **rural areas.** • **Katakas and Skandhvaras** were the **military camps.** • Dharmshastras not only set ideals for the people but also for the King.
Art and Architecture	• Satvahanas promoted **development of architecture** in hills of the Western Ghats where caves were cut in **Ajanta, Nasik, Kaule, Bhaja, Kondain, Kanheri**. • These caves were cut in to make **Chaityas** (Buddhist cave-temple) and **Viharas** (Buddhist rest houses). **Karle Chaitya** is the **largest** cave temple. • **Nagarjunkonda** and **Amravati** were important centers of trade and art. Stupas were constructed here, use of white marble too is reported for the first time. • Contributed to the **development of Ajanta school of painting** which is known for beautiful color combinations, drawings, expression of emotions, and spirituality. • Buddha's entire life is pictured - **Saptashati.** • **Gatha sattasai**: excellent work in **Prakrit** by **Hala**

Economy	• Did not issue gold coins but issued **gold as bullion.** • They issue coins of **lead, potins** (silver-like alloy used in coins. It is typically a mixture of copper, tin and lead), **copper** etc. • Trade with the **Roman empire.** • **Pratishthana & Tagara** were important trade centers. • **They were the first native rulers to issue their own coins with the portraits of the rulers.** • Paddy transplantation, cotton production and exploitation of iron ores (Karimnagar and Warangal) was commonly practiced.
Society and Religion	• Being **matrilineal,** most of the kings are named after their mother- Gautamiputra Satakarni, Vasisthiputra Pulumayi, Yagnasri Satakarni. • With the flourishing **of Mahayana Buddhism, worship** of **Krishna and Vasudeva** was also common. • They **supported both Buddhism and Brahmanism** although they were Hindus and claimed Brahmanical status.
Literature	• Most of the inscriptions of the Satavahana rulers are in **Prakrit Language** as it was their official language. • Satavahana ruler Hala, himself a great scholar, composed **Gathasaptasati**.

8.5 INDO-GREEKS (200 BCE-100 BCE)

- Indo-Greeks were the Greek people who got settled in India and became localized over a period of time.
- **Indo-Greek rule in India had 3 branches,** namely, **Bactria i.e., North Afghanistan, Taxila (Takshashila)** and **Sakal or Sialkot** which is now in Pakistan.
- An ambassador from the **Taxila branch**, **Heliodorus** was sent to the court of the King of Vidisha. Heliodorus got a **stone pillar** constructed in **Greek style** (different from Ashokan style) which was dedicated to **Lord Vasudeva.**
- **Demetrious and Menander or Milind** are two significant rulers mentioned from the **Sakal or Sialkot** branch of Indo-Greek. Menander or Milind (165 BC - 145 BC) **adopted Buddhism under Nagasen** who wrote **Milindpanho** in **Sanskrit.** This book is a great source of history of this age.
- Indo-Greeks were the first to **issue gold coins** bearing inscriptions of **images of Kings and Gods.** India learned the use of the curtain (yavan) from Greeks. The Greek term horoscope was derived from the term **Horasastra**. They introduced the practice of **governorship**.
- Growth of **metallurgy, medicine, astronomy, stone-cutting, perfume-making** are evidence of technical advancements under Indo-Greeks.
- **Patronizing both Buddhism and Hinduism,** the greatest contribution of Indo-Greeks is witnessed in the development of **Gandhara School of Art**.
- **Gandhara School of Art:**
  - In this, Greek techniques are applied over Buddhist themes and it is also known as **Greeko-Buddhist Art**.
  - **Taxila**, **Peshawar**, **Bactria**, **Bamiyan**, **Hadda**; in Afghanistan; **Baigram** (Kashmir) were important sites of development of this school of art.
  - **Muscular body, beard and mustache** are seen in the images of **Buddha and Bodhisattvas**. Images of Greek gods and Kings too are reported.
  - Use of **gray sandstone**, outer robe (Roman influence), facial images and anthropomorphic (human form) God (Greek influence) is evident in the Gandhara School of Art.
- **Significance of the Indo-Greeks:**
  - **1st rulers** to **issue coins** as well as **gold coins.**
  - They **inscribed date & human figures** on the coins.
  - Many coins have been found with **images of Indian deities** also.
  - Also **introduced drama/play** with use of curtains.
  - **Patronized Buddhism**, most of the Indo-Greek kings were Buddhists.
  - Greek influence is mostly seen in art and sculpture, particularly the Gandhara School of Art.

8.5.1 Important Dynasties

Parthians	• At the end of 100 BC few kings with Iranian names like **Pahlavas of Indo-Parthians**, captured north-western India. • In the reign of **Gondophares** (the most significant of the Indo-Parthians) St. Thomas is said to have come to India for the propagation of Christianity.
Sakas/ Scythians	• Sakas who were **also known as Scythians**, were from Western China. • The **first Shaka king was Maues or Moga** (approx 80 BC) who is known from inscriptions and a series of coins. • **Mathura, Ujjain and Girnar** were centers of Saka rule in north India. • They ruled in the capacity of **Satrapas (**i.e., governors) and **Mahasatrapas.** • With control over western Ganga valley, parts of central India and Gujarat, Sakas were almost always at war with Satavahana and put pressure over the Deccan region. • **Rudradaman** (130 CE - 150 CE) of Ujjain center of Sakas is of significance as he finds mention in **Junagarh inscription.** • This inscription is in **Sanskrit** unlike previous Prakrit inscriptions. • **Rudradaman got the lake Sudarshan repaired** for better irrigation (constructed during the time of Chandragupta Maurya). • Huge numbers and a great variety of **silver coins are reported** from western India that are attributed to the Sakas. • **Patronizing Indian art and culture** many of the Saka rulers got themselves Indianized. • Important centers of development of art were **Sanchi, Mathura and Gandhara.** • The King of Ujjain defeated Sakas and assumed the title of **Vikramaditya** and established the **Vikram Samvat** or **era in 58 CE.**
Kushans	• Kushanas (or Yueh-Chis) too were **from China**, they ruled in North-West India with **Purushpur (Peshawar)** as their capital. • **Kanishka, a Mahayan Buddhist**, was the most important Kushana ruler. • Wem Kadphises, Huviska and Vasiska were other important Kushana rulers in India. • The **4th Buddhist council** at **Kundalvan Vihar (Kashmir)** with **Vasumitra** as president was held during Kanishka's reign. Ashwaghosh was vice-president of the Mahayana Buddhist council. • Adopted the title of '**Devputra'**, and has been shown wearing a '**peaked helmet'** on some coins. • **Buddha Charita** (biography of Buddha), was composed by **Ashwaghosh of Patliputra.** • **Nagarjuna** was a great scholar of his court, who propounded the **Madhyamika Philosophy** of Mahayana Buddhism. • **Nagarjuna** also discussed the **idea of relativity** and hence was called as **Einstein of India**. • In **78 CE,** the **Saka era** was founded by **Kanishka**. • They **issued gold standard coins** (22 or 23 carats). • Ruling over the regions of the **Silk route**, Kushanas greatly benefitted from it. • Greater use of saddles in horse riding, armor, turbans, trousers, helmets, long coats and better cavalry are Kushina's contributions. • **Scholars in his court**: Parsva, Ashvaghosha, Vasumitra, Nagarjuna, Charaka and Mathara. • **Introduced Satrap system:** The Empire was divided into Satrapies under the Satrap. • It was during this time that **Buddhism began to spread to Korea and Japan also.** • **Three distinct schools of art flourished**: **Gandhara School** in northwest India, **Amaravati School** in Andhra and the **Mathura School** in the Ganges valley. • It is said that the Kushana period in Indian history was the **predecessor to the golden age of the Gupta period.** • **Sanskrit literature began to be developed** during this time. The fourth Buddhist council was held in Sanskrit.



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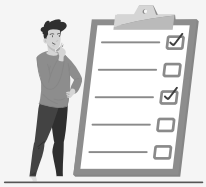


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9 The Gupta Period

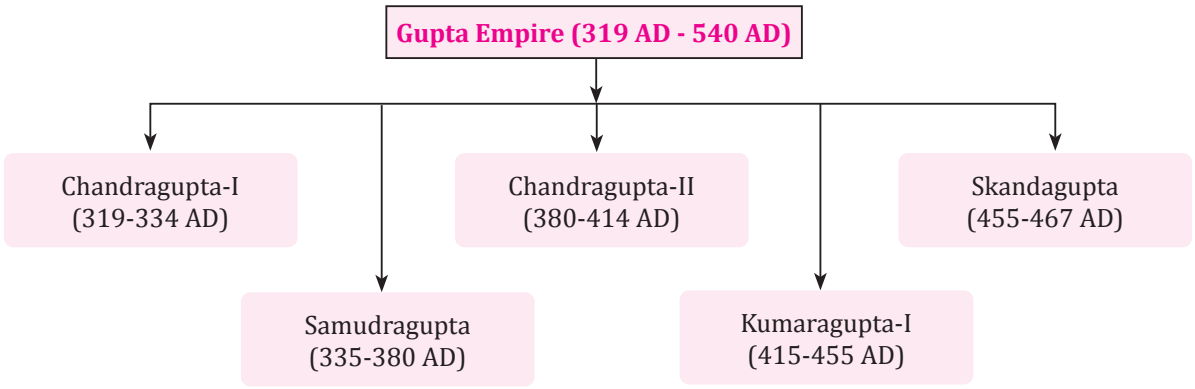


Fig. 9.1: The Gupta Empire

- After the fall of the Maurya empire, the **Kushans in the North** and the **Satvahanas in the Deccan** emerged as the two major political powers.
- Guptas are believed to be **feudatories of the Kushans**. They are most likely **Vaishyas in origin**.
- **They ruled over fertile parts of the Madhyadesha**: Anuganga (middle Gangetic basin), Saketa (modern Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh), and Magadha (Bihar).
- **Probably an important center of power**: **Prayag** (modern Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh) was probably their important center of power. **Prayag Prashasti inscription of Samudragupta** also supports this opinion.
- **Probable state seal**: **'Garuda'.**
- According to the epigraphic evidence, the founder of the dynasty was a person named "**Gupta**".
- It is regarded as the **Classical Age** or **Golden Age of Ancient India**: all round progress in spheres of art, architecture, Sanskrit literature, stone sculpture, science and technology, metallurgy, and philosophy.
- **Development of North India:** Stable polity, profitable trade, secured and peaceful social set up.
- **Founder of Gupta Dynasty**: **Maharaja Gupta/Sri Gupta** was the first ruler of the dynasty followed by his son **Ghatotkachchh.** These two were called **Maharajas.**

9.1 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Literary Sources	• **Puranas:** Vishnu, Vayu, Bhagvata, Matysa (oldest source) etc. • **Kamandaka Nitisara** written by **Shikhara,** prime minister of Chandragupta II.
Kavya-Nataka Literature	• **Vishakhadatta**: Devi Chandraguptam and Mudrarakshasa. • **Shudraka**: Marikchhaktikam. • **Kalidas:** Play Vikramourvashiya. • **Pravarsena**: Setubandha kavya. • **Vishnu Sharma**: Panchatantra. • Travel account of **Fa-Hein.**

Inscriptions	• **Mehrauli Iron Pillar Inscription**: refers to the achievements of **Chandragupta I.** • **Allahabad Pillar inscription**: important source for the reign of **Samudragupta.** • **Udayagiri Cave** Inscription. • **Mathura stone Inscriptions.** • **Sanchi Stone Inscriptions.** • **Bhitari pillar inscription** dates to his reign gives the chronology of Guptas and his conflict with Pushyamitra and Huns.
Seals	• Seal of **Dhruvaswamini**, queen of Chandragupta II. • Seal of other officials.
Monument	• **Vishnu temple** at Tigawa. • **Shiva Temple** at Bhumara. • **Parvati Temple** at Nachana-Kuthara. • **Buddhist shrines** at Sanchi and Bodhgaya. • **Dasavatara Temple** at Deogarh, etc.
Coins	• Every ruler minted their own coins based on their own preferences. • For example, Tiger type, Lyrist type, Ashvamedha type, Archer type, Chhatra type, Lion-slayer type.

9.2 IMPORTANT RULERS

Ruler	Related Information
Chandragupta-I (319 –334 AD)	• **First important ruler** was **considered the actual** founder of the dynasty. • Chandragupta I was the first to be called **Maharajadhiraja** (the great king of kings) • Married to a Lichchhavi princess **Kumaradevi -** expanded it through **matrimonial alliance.** • His reign covered regions of South Bihar, Jharkhand and parts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh (Saketa and Prayaga). • His accession in about AD 319-20 marks the **beginning of the Gupta Samvat (era).** • First in Guptas who **issued gold coins (Dinaras)-** bearing the figures of Kumardevi and Chandragupta. • **Mehrauli Iron Pillar** inscription mentions his extensive conquests.
Samudragupta (335–380 AD)	• The son of Chandragupta-I, Samudragupta, became the next ruler whose conquests are recorded in **Prayaga Prashasti (Eulogy).** • Ardent follower of **Vaishnavism**. Was the patron of the great Buddhist scholar **Vasubandhu.** • **Prayaga Prashasti/Allahabad pillar inscriptions** ❍ It was composed by **Samudragupta's court poet**, a scholar and minister, **Harisena** in classical **Sanskrit** and provides a detailed account of his reign ❍ According to Prayaga Prashasti, Samuddragupta conquered **Eight kings of Aryavarta.** ❍ The Allahabad Pillar inscription mentions that **Samudragupta defeated twelve rulers in his South Indian Expedition (Dakshinapatha).** • Samudragupta's policy in South India was different. He did not destroy and annex those kingdoms. • Samudragupta performed the **Ashwamedh Yajna (sacrifice)** after these achievements. • He issued gold and silver coins - **Ashwamedh coins** - with the legend **Restorer of the Asvamedha.** • **Kaviraja:** Samudragupta was not only a conqueror but also a **great poet, musician and patron of learning.** • He is called **Napoleon of India** by historian **Vincent Smith.** • Allahabad pillar inscriptions called him **Dharma Prachar Bandhu**. • Gave permission to the king of Sri Lanka, **Meghavarna** to build a monastery in Bodh Gaya.

Chandragupta-II (380– 414 AD)	• Coming to the throne, Chandragupta-II **defeated the Sakas** in western region (Gujarat, Kathiawar and west Malwa), assumed the title of **Sakari** (destroyer of Sakas), **Vikramaditya** and ruled from Ujjain. • **Watermark period** of Gupta dynasty. • **Udayagiri Cave Inscription (Vidisha, MP)** and **Sanchi inscription** give information about this. • He established **matrimonial alliances** with the Nagas and the Vakatakas. • Assumed the title of **Parama Bhagavata**. • Chandragupta-II was the **first Gupta ruler to issue silver coins** bearing lion figures similar in pattern with Saka coins. • **Mehrauli iron pillar inscription (Delhi's Qutub-minar complex):** records that Chandragupta-II defeated Valikas of Bactria crossing the Sapta Sindhu. • His court had **nine jewels or Navaratnas:** ***Kalidasa, Amarsinha, Dhanvantari, Varahmihira, Araruchi, Ghatakarna, Kshapranak, Velabhatt, Shanku.*** • **Chinese Buddhist monk Fa-Hien visited his court:** ❍ He visited Peshawar, Mathura, Kanauj, Sravasti, Kapilavastu, Kusinagara, Pataliputra, Kasi and Bodh Gaya among other places. ❍ He refers to the Gangetic valley as the **land of Brahmanism**. ❍ Gives information on the religious, social and economic condition of the Gupta empire. ❍ He did not mention the name of Chandragupta II.
Kumaragupta I (415– 455 AD)	• **Karamdanda** (Fyzabad) inscription refers to king Kumaragupta I as ruler of 4 oceans, **Mandsor inscription** as ruler of all earth and **copper plate inscription of Damodarpur** as **Maharajadhiraj**. • **Bilsad (Etah) inscription** also mentions Kumaragupta I. • Kumaragupta I performed **Ashwamedha yajna** and **assumed titles like Ashwamedha-Mahendra and Mahendraditya.** He was also called **Shakraditya.** • Kumaragupta I was the **founder of Nalanda University.** • Himself a devotee of Shiva, Kumaragupta I issued Kartikeya type coins bearing the figure **of peacock**.
Skandagupta (455–467 AD)	• Son of Kumaragupta I, Skandgupta, during his lifetime bravely fought and **defeated Hunas** on the North-Western frontier. • His conquest over Pushyamitra is marked in **Bhitari Pillar inscription**. • Got the **Sudarshan Lake repaired** (Junagadh inscription). • The Gupta Empire declined after the death of Skandagupta in 467 AD. • **Vishnugupta** (540 CE- 550 CE) was the **last recognized Gupta ruler**.

9.3 SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY OF GUPTA PERIOD

Administration	• Gupta kings assumed titles: **Paramabhattaraka, Maharajadhiraja, Parameswara, Samrat** and **Chakravartin.** • The most important officers under the Guptas were called the **Kumaramatyas**, with an office of their own called the **Adhikarana.** • **Bhukti (province) and Vishaya (province division)** were administrative units headed by Uparika and Vishayapati respectively. • The king was assisted in his administration by a council consisting of a chief minister, a Senapati or commander- in-chief of the army and other important officials. • Bureaucracy was not elaborated as that of Maurya. • **Fa-Hien's account on the Gupta administration:** ❍ There was no state interference in the individual's life.

	❍ The administration was so efficient that the roads were kept safe for travelers, and there was no fear of thieves. ❍ No restrictions on people's movements ❍ Crimes were negligible. **Important Offices** • **Mahananda Nayaka-** Justice Delivery. • **Mahapratisara-**Chief of the Guards. • **Gramadhyaksha/ gramika** - Village headman. • **Dutakas**- Associated with Gifts and Grants. • **Sandhi-Vigrahika**- Minister of Peace and War. • **Pilupati**-Headed Elephants. • **Asvapati** -Headed Horses. • **Nagara Sreshtis**- officers looking after the city administration. • **Narapati-**Headed Foot Soldiers. • **Ranabhandagrika**- In charge of stores. • **Akshapataladhikrita-** Superintendent of Records and Accounts.
Economy	• Agriculture, trade, commerce and art and crafts all flourished under Guptas. • The King's administration facilitated **irrigation**, ensured **measurement** and **categorization of land** into cultivated (Kshetra) and uncultivated (Khila/ Aprahata) lands. • **The Landowner class** (Mahattars, Gramika and Kutumbika) became influential as land was a prestigious property to be sold or gifted. • There was an **Increase in land taxes** but a decrease in trade and commerce taxes. • **Kulyavapa and Dronavapa:** terms related to measurement of land. • The king collected taxes varying from **one-fourth to one-sixth** of the produce. • **Two new agricultural taxes**: **Uparikara** (probably a tax imposed on temporary tenants) and **Udranga** (its exact nature is not clear, but might be water tax or a sort of police tax). • It is confirmed by a **general scarcity of gold coins** after the Guptas. Issued **less pure gold coins than Kushana.** • The Gupta and post-Gupta period **witnessed a comparative decline** in the country's trade and commerce. The disruption of the north-western trade route by the **Huns**. • **Shreni** continued to govern the trader's affairs.
Society and Religion	• Society became **clearly feudalistic**, Brahmins (Brahmadiyas & Agraharas) and feudal chiefs received land grants. • **Bhanugupta's Airana (Eran) inscription** gives the **first evidence** of **Sati, Child marriage** too existed. • **Chandalas were the outcaste** i.e., out of the 4-fold varna system and made to reside outside village settlements. • **Vaishnavite or Shaivite Kings** got temples constructed for their respective deities**.** • **Bhagavatism** was also identified with Vaishnavism. • **Sanskrit** was firmly established as the language of royal inscriptions • **Idol worship** became a common feature. • Gupta kings **proclaimed themselves as Bhagavatas** (worshippers of Lord Krishna) and **Garuda** was their emblem. • Religious texts like **Puranas, Mahabharata and Ramayana** were expanded in this period. • Absorption of tribal communities into **Brahminical society.** • Assimilation of a large number of foreigners. • Practice of **untouchability intensified**.

	• Socio-economic **status of shudras improved** during this period. • **Status of women deteriorated** further in the Gupta period. Women **lacked property rights**. They had **full right to their Stridhana**. There was **no purdah system** in the society. • Dharamshastra (law books) texts belonging to the period reflect a **tendency towards lowering the age of marriage for girls** and **advocating a celibate and austere life for widows**. • **Narada Smriti** mentions **fifteen types of slaves**. • **Vishti** was **forced labour** to serve the royal army & officials.
Art and Architecture	• Continued growth of the **Ajanta School** (Theme: Buddha's life) was accompanied by the emergence of **Bagh School** (Hoshangabad in Madhya Pradesh). In this cave-walls were decorated (painted) in **local themes**. • Ajanta frescoes depict religious scenes of **Yakshas, Gandharvas, Apasaras**. • **Sculpture making** made considerable growth with evidence of various stone images. • **Metal and stone images of Buddha, Shiva** and **Vishnu** are reported from a number of places. • Images of God appeared for the first time. • **Stupa and cave construction reduced and temple construction (Nagara styled) picked up:** ○ **Dashavatar Temple**, Jhansi, U.P. ○ **Bhitargaon Temple** (Brick) Kanpur, U.P. ○ **Parvati Temple,** Nachnakuthara, M.P. ○ **Vishnu Temple,** Jabalpur, M.P. ○ **Bagh cave Paintings.**
Literature	• The Gupta period is considered as the **Golden Age of art and literature** in ancient India. • **Development of literature in Gupta period was diverse** as it covered from poetry and play, art (dance and music), philosophy, religion to science, mathematics, physiology, astronomy etc. • There were **Navaratnas, or Nine Gems** in the court of Chandragupta II who were experts of particular fields. • **Dharmashastras, Narad Smriti, Vishnu Smriti, Brihaspati Smriti** and **portions of Ramayana and Mahabharata, Bhasa's 12 plays** were also written in this period. • Most of the literature is developed using ornate **Sanskrit language.**
Science	• **Aryabhata**: a great mathematician and astronomer, wrote the **book Aryabhatiya** in **499 CE**. It deals with mathematics and astronomy. He was the first to declare that the earth was spherical in shape. • **Varahamihira**: composed **Pancha Siddhantika**, the five astronomical systems. • **Brihadsamhita** is a great work by him in Sanskrit literature which deals with a variety of subjects like astronomy, astrology, geography, architecture, weather, animals, marriage and omens. His **Brihadjataka** is a standard work on astrology. • **Vagbhata**: A disciple of Charaka and distinguished physician of Ayurvedic system of medicine from c. 600 CE. He wrote the **Ashtanga Hridaya** ('Heart of Medicine') and the **Ashtangasamgraha** ('Tome on Medicine'). • **Maharishi Palakapya**: He wrote the **Hastayurveda**, a treatise dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of the major diseases of elephants through medication and surgery. • **Bhaskara II**: Author of the **Lilavati** written in the 12th century, which contains important ideas of calculus. • **Mahavira**: A famous 9th century mathematician of Karnataka who lived in the court of the Rashtrakuta king Amoghvarsha, and wrote a book called the **Ganitasara Sangraha**, which deals with various mathematical problems.

	• **Dhanvantri**: He was famous for his knowledge of **Ayurveda.** • **Kashyapa**: A 7th century physician who compiled his Ayurvedic knowledge in a compendium which dealt with the diseases of women and children. • **Sushruta**: The famous author of the **Sushruta Samhita**, which deals with surgery. • **Metallurgy** also saw technological advancement in Gupta times. The bronze images of Buddha produced on a considerable scale • The **iron pillar at Mehrauli, Delhi**, standing in the open, which has surprisingly not gathered rust even after fifteen centuries.

9.4 DECLINE OF THE GUPTAS

Hun Invasions	• Weak successors of Skandagupta could not check growing Hun power and the Hun chief Toramana was able to conquer large parts of western India, stretching up to **Eran near Bhopal** in central India.
Rise of Feudatories	• The Guptas' power was severely curbed by the rise of feudatories. • **Yashodharman of Malwa**, who belonged to the **Aulikara feudatory** family, successfully challenged the authority of the Guptas.
Gradual Decline in Economic Prosperity	• Indicated by the gold coins of later Gupta rulers, which have less gold content and more of alloy. • A gradual disappearance of coins in the post-Gupta period is also observed. It led the kings to make payments in the form of land rather than cash. • Due to the loss of western India, the rich revenues from foreign trade and commerce also dropped and this further crippled the Guptas

9.5 AUTHORS/SCHOLARS AND THEIR WORKS

Author	Work	Author	Work
Kalidasa	• Abhijnana Shakuntalam • Vikramorvasiyam • Malavikagnimitra • Kumarasambhava • Raghuvansham • Meghadootam • Ritusamhara • Jyotirvid Abharana	**Gunadhya**	• Brihatkatha
		Sudraka	• Mrichhakatikam
		Varahamihira	• Panchasiddhantika (5 books, • Brihatsamhita most notable)
		Susrut	• Susrutsamhita on surgery
		Vagbhata	• Ashtanga Hridaya
Dhanvantari	• Ayurveda	**Amarasimha**	• Amarkosh
Kamandaka	• Nitisara	**Aryabhatt**	• Aryabhatiya, Surya Siddhanta
Vishakhadatta	• Mudrarakshasa • Devichandraguptam	**Brahmagupta**	• Brahmasphutasiddhanta
Bhasa	• Svapnavasavadattam		

9.6 OTHER IMPORTANT CONCEPTS IN GUPTA

9.6.1 Nine Famous Scholars/Navaratnas in the Court of Chandragupta II

Kalidasa	• He wrote **Abhijananashakuntalam**, **Malavikagnimitram** and **Vikramorvasiyam**.
Amarasimha	• He wrote **Amarakosha** and he was a poet and **Sanskrit** lexicographer.
Varahamihira	• He wrote **Panchasiddhantika** (a treatise on mathematical astronomy), **Brihat Samhita** (included clouds, astrology, planetary movements etc) and **Brihat Jataka** (Vedic astrology).

Dhanvantri	• He was a **famous physician.**
Ghatakarapara	• He was an expert in **sculpture** and **architecture.**
Shanku	• He wrote **Shilpashastra** based on architecture.
Kahapanaka	• He wrote **Jyotishastra** based on astrology.
Vararuchi	• He wrote **Prakrit Prakasha** (grammar of the Prakrit language).
Vetala Bhatta	• He wrote **Mantrashastra** on music.

9.6.2 Coins Issued by the Gupta Kings

Kings	Types of Coins
Chandragupta I	• Kumaradevi Type.
Samudragupta	• Dhanurdhari-Archer, Garud; Axe; Ashvamedha Vyaghra-anam (tiger killing); Veenavadan (playing flute).
Chandragupta II	• Ashvarohi, Chhatrahari, Chakra-Vikram type etc.
Kumaragupta	• Gajarohi, Kadgadhari, Sinhnihanta, Khang-nihanta (i.e. Rhinoceros Slayer), Kartikeya and Apratigh-mudra type.
Skandagupta	• Archer, Lion slayer, swordsman, Horseman.

9.7 THE VAKATAKAS OF THE DECCAN: GUPTA CONTEMPORARIES

- In peninsular India, especially in **northern Maharashtra** and **Vidarbha,** the Satavahanas were **succeeded by a local power known as the Vakatakas.**
- The **Vakatakas** were contemporaneous of the Guptas in northern India.
- The Vakatakas, who were **Brahmin** themselves, were great **champions of the Brahmanical religion** and performed numerous **Vedic sacrifices**.
- They were **liberal in outlook** and **patronized Buddhism** as well.
- The **rock-cut Buddhist viharas** and **chaityas of the Ajanta caves** (UNESCO World Heritage Site) were built under the patronage of the **Vakataka king**, **Harisena**.
- **Ajanta cave numbers XVI, XVII and XIX** are the best examples of **Vakataka excellence in the field of painting**, in particular the painting titled **Mahabhinishkramana**.
- A style by name **Vaidharbhariti** was developed in Sanskrit during their rule, which was praised by the poets of the likes of Kalidasa, Banabhatta, and Dandin.
- In the case of the Vakatakas, less information is available about their administrative structure. It was **very similar to the Guptas**.
- Their empire was also divided into provinces called **Rashtras or Rajyas**, which were administered by governors known as **Rajyadhikritas**.

9.7.1 Important Rulers of the Vakataka Dynasty

Vindhya Shakti I	• **Founder of the Vakataka dynasty**, who probably ruled from **Purika**. • He is credited to have performed a number of Vedic sacrifices and thus revived Brahminical rituals, which were in abeyance during the rule of the later Satavahanas.
Rudrasena I	• **Founder** of the **Vakataka Nandivardhana branch**, which ruled from Nandivardhana (near Nagpur).
Pravarasena II	• Largest number of Vakataka inscriptions belongs to his reign. • He is credited with the founding of a **new capital at Pravarapura,** which is identified as Paunar in the present- day Wardha district.
Harisena	• Last known king of the Vatsa Gulma line, who not only united the two Vakataka branches but also extended his territories by conquering Kuntala, Avanti, Kalinga, Kosala, Konkan, and Andhra.

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10 Harshvardhan Period (606-647 AD)

- Decline of the Gupta Empire was followed by a period of **political disorder and disunity** in North India.
- Harshavardhana's reign was established in the beginning of the 7th century CE.

10.1 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- **Harshacharita** written by **Bana** (court poet of Harsha).
- **Travel accounts of Hiuen Tsang: Chinese traveler** who visited India in the 7th century CE.
- Dramas written by Harsha - **Ratnavali, Nagananda** and **Priyadarshika.**
- Inscriptions: **Madhuben plate inscription** and the **Sonpat inscription** are helpful to know the ecology of Harsha. **Banskhera inscription** contains the signature of Harsha.

10.2 HARSHAVARDHAN (606–647 CE)

- Both Bana and Hiuen Tsang portray social life in the times of Harsha.
- Pushyabhutis were **feudatories of Gupta**. They called themselves **Vardhanas.**
- **Important rulers of this dynasty:** Prabhakar vardhana, Adityavardhan and Harshavardhana.
- Harshvardhan was son of **Prabhakarvardhana.**

10.2.1 The Reign of Harsha

- Harsha's reign marked the **beginning of feudalism in India**.
- Harshavardhana belonged to the **Pushyabhuti Dynasty** also **called Vardhana Dynasty.**
- He was a **Hindu** who **later embraced Mahayana Buddhism.**
- Harshavardhana attacked Shashank of Gauda Kingdom and established his control over regions of Bengal, Bihar and Odisha and befriended Bhashkarvarman of Kamrup (Assam).
- Vallabhi King Dhruvbhata in Gujrat too was defeated and a truce was negotiated with him by marriage of Harsha's daughter to Dhruvbhata.
- He moved his capital to **Kannauj**.
- He assumed titles of **Uttarapathanatha or Uttarapathapati** (Lord of the North).
- While marching southwards, Harshavardhan conquered regions of Malwa and after crossing Narmada, he was **defeated by Pulkeshin II** in the **Battle of Narmada.**
- Harshavardhana was greatly influenced by the personality of **Hieun Tsang** and **organized a Buddhist assembly at Kannauj under his chairmanship.**
- **Hieun Tsang**, in his book, has appreciated Harshvardhan's justice and munificence (generosity).
- Harshavardhan, the **able military commander** and **good administrator**, died in 647 CE without heir and is regarded as the **last Hindu King to have ruled a large part of North India**.
- Hence, his **death marks the end of Pushyabhuti dynasty** and **beginning of Muslim rule over North India.**

10.2.2 Harsha's Military Conquests

- **First expedition**: Harsha drove out Sasanka from Kannauj. He made **Kanauj his new capital.** This made him the most powerful ruler of north India.
- Harsha **fought against Dhuruvasena II of Valabhi** and defeated him.
- Accounts of **Hiuen Tsang** and **the inscriptions of Pulakesin II** provide the details of the campaign against Western Chalukya ruler Pulakesin II.
- **Aihole inscription of Pulakesin II** mentions the defeat of Harsha by Pulakesin, who after this achievement assumed the title Paramesvara. Hiuen Tsang's accounts also confirm the victory of Pulakesin.
- **Nepal** had accepted Harsha's overlordship.
- Harsha established his **control over Kashmir** and its ruler sent tributes to him.
- He also maintained cordial relations with Bhaskaravarman, the ruler of **Assam**.
- **Last military campaign**: against the kingdom of Kalinga in Orissa and it was a success.
- The regions of modern **Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa** were under his direct control.
- **Kashmir, Sindh, Vallabhi and Kamarupa** acknowledged his sovereignty.

10.2.3 Harsha and Buddhism

- He became an **ardent Hinayana Buddhist**.
- Hiuen Tsang converted him to **Mahayana Buddhism**.
- Harsha **prohibited the use of animal food in his kingdom**.
- He erected **thousands of monasteries and stupas** and **established travelers resting places** all over his kingdom.
- Once in five years he convened a gathering of representatives of all religions.
- He brought the Buddhist monks together frequently to **discuss and examine the Buddhist doctrine.**

10.2.4 Kannauj Assembly

- Harsha organized a **religious assembly at Kannauj to honor the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang** towards the close of his reign.
- He **invited representatives of all religious sects**. It was attended by scholars from the Nalanda University, Hinayanists, Mahayanists, Brahmins and Jains.
- Hiuen Tsang explained the values of Mahayana doctrine and established its superiority over others.
- However, violence broke out and there was also an attempt on the life of Harsha.

10.2.5 Allahabad Conference

- **Hiuen Tsang** mentions the conference held at Allahabad, known as **Prayag**.
- It was the one among the conferences routinely convened by Harsha **once in five years**.
- Harsha **gave away his enormous wealth as gifts** to the members of all religious sects.

10.3 SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY OF HARSHAVARDHAN PERIOD

Administration	• Harsha governed his empire on the same lines of Gupta. • The **basic unit of administration** was a **village.** • **Offices under the king** became **hereditary** as **Harisena** who was a '**Mahadandanayaka'**, or Chief Judicial Officer inherited the office from his father. • One person could bear more than one office as Harisena also held offices of '**Kumaramatya**' and **'Sangrahvigrahika**'. • Important officers: The **'Sreshti'** (Chief Banker or Merchant), the **'Sarthavaha'** (Leader of Merchant Caravans), '**Prathama Kulika'** (Chief Craftsman), and the **'Kayasthas'** (head of the scribes). • Maintenance of **public records** is an important feature of Harsha rule. • **Army:** Harsha's army consisted of the traditional **four divisions**- **foot, horse, chariot** and **elephant.** Cavalry and the elephants were much more than that of the Mauryan army.
Economy	• **Taxes** imposed on ports, income from mines and tributes from vassals were other important revenue sources. • **One-sixth of the produce** was collected as tax and was the main source of revenue. • Overall, trade and commerce are said to have declined during this phase. • Rise of **self-sufficient economy.**
Society	• **Hiuen-Tsang mentions:** ❍ There were castes, a mix of sub-castes, untouchables and outcastes. ❍ Forced labor was absent. ❍ Sudras practiced agriculture. ❍ Three ways of disposal of the dead – cremation, water burial and exposure in the woods. • **Fourfold division of society:** Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras • **Brahmins were the privileged section** of the society and were given **land grants** by the kings. • **Institution of Swayamvara** (the ceremony of choosing a husband) had become **dysfunctional.** • **Widow remarriage** was **not allowed** and **Sati & dowry systems** were **prevalent**.
Religion	• As Harshavardhan was a **secular king,** all sects of religion peacefully coexisted but Brahmanism grew more than others. • Harshvardhan was a Shiva devotee. Later he converted to **Mahayana Buddhism.** • According to Hieun Tsang, **Harsha held the Allahabad conference once every 5 years**.

Art and Culture	• A **patron** of art and literature, Harshavardhan patronized the **Banabhatta, Mayura, Matanga Divakara** etc. • **Banabhatta (biographer of Harsha)** wrote **Harshacharita**, **Kadambari & Parvatiparinay.** • **Harsha** was a poet and composed **three Sanskrit plays**: **Nagananda, Ratnavali,** and **Priyadarshika.** • Harshavardhan held 5 yearly donation (Daan) ceremonies at Prayag (Allahabad Conference) and donated money in favor of: Administration, Royal Household, Scholars and Religion. • Brick **temple of Laxamana** at **Sirpur** was built during Harsha rule. • Hiuen Tsang describes the **glory of the monastery** with many storeys built by Harsha at **Nalanda**.
Nalanda University	• The most famous educational institutions were the **Hinayana University of Valabhi** and the **Mahayana University of Nalanda**. • The term Nalanda means "**giver of knowledge**", founded by **Kumaragupta I** during the Gupta period. Patronized by his successors and later by **Harsha**. • **Renowned professors**: Dingnaga, Dharmapala, Sthiramati and Silabadhra. • **Dharmapala** (native of Kanchipuram) became the head of Nalanda University. • Though it was a Mahayana University, different religious subjects like the **Vedas, Hinayana doctrine, Sankhya and Yoga philosophies** were also taught. • Medium of instruction was **Sanskrit**.



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11 Sangam Age: The History of South India

- **South of the Deccan plateau**, the land between the Venkatam hills and Kanyakumari is known as the **Tamilaham**.
- The Sangam texts mention three chiefs: **Chola, Chera** and **Pandya.**
- **Sangam Period**: Period between the **1st century B.C.** to the end of **2nd century A.D**. in Southern India.
- There existed **three Sangams (Academy of Tamil poets)** in ancient Tamil Nadu popularly called **Muchchangam**. These Sangams flourished under the **royal patronage of the Pandyas**.
- **2nd and 13th rock edicts of Ashoka** named 4 neighborly kingdoms of South India: Cholas, Cheras (Kerala putras of Malabar) Pandyas and Satyaputra.
- The Greek authors like **Megasthenes**, **Strabo**, **Pliny** and **Ptolemy** mention about commercial trade contacts between the West and South India.
- **The Hathigumpha inscription** of **Kharavela of Kalinga** mentions Tamil kingdoms.

11.1 SANGAM LITERATURE

- Sangam literature is the main source of **History of ancient South India i.e., Tamilkam**.
- It was compiled **during the 3rd century BC to 3rd century CE** & was composed in **poetic format** around themes of **love and war.**
- Sangam was a **college or assemblies of Tamil poets** held under royal patronage.

Sangam	Venue	Chairmanship	Remark
1st Sangam	**Old Madurai**	**Agastasya**	• Attended by gods and legendary sages. • **No literary work** of this Sangam is available.
2nd Sangam	**Kapadapuram**	**Agastasya**	• Only **Tolkappiyam** (grammar book) survives from this.
3rd Sangam	**New Madurai**	**Nakkirar**	• A few of these Tamil literary works have survived and are a useful source to reconstruct the history of the Sangam period.

11.1.1 Sangam Literature is Broadly Divided into 2 Groups

- **Narrative texts**: called **Melkanakku/Eighteen major works** consisting of **Ettuthogai** (Collection of 8 long poems) & **Pattupattu** (Collection of 10 small poems). Narrative texts are considered heroic poetry in which heroes and wars are glorified. They also give ideas of state formation in South India.
- **Didactic texts**: called **Kilkannaku/Eighteen minor works** consisting of **Tirukural** and **Naladiyar.** These texts prescribe a code of conduct for kings & society.

11.1.2 Significant Sangam Literature

- **Silappadikaram**: Written by **Ilango Adigal**. It is about the love affair of Kovalan, Kanaggi and Madhavi. Later, a Kanaggi Cult developed in South India.
- **Manimekhalai**: Written by **Sittalai Sattanar,** continues the story of Silappadikaram in the next generation in which **Manimekhalai** is the daughter of Madhavi and Kovalan.
- **Tolkappiyam**: Written by **Tolkappiyar** was product of 2nd Sangam and it is basically a work on **Tamil grammar & poetics.**
- **Thirukkural**: Deals with philosophy and was written by **Tiruvallur.**
- **Jeevak Chintamani**: Authored by a Madurai-based Jain ascetic **Tiruttakkatevar** (10th century). The epic is a supernatural fantasy story of a prince who is the perfect master of all arts, perfect warrior, and perfect lover with numerous wives.
- **Kundalakesi**: It appears to be a tragic love story about a Hindu or Jain girl of merchant caste named Kundalakesi who falls in love with Kalan – a Buddhist criminal on a death sentence.
- **Valayapathi**: one of the five great Tamil epics, but one that is almost entirely lost. It is a story of a father who has two wives.

11.2 SOUTH INDIAN DYNASTIES

- The Sangam literature discusses the 3 main Kingdoms: **Chola, Pandya** & **Chera** and about their rivalry.

Cholas	• Capitals: first, at **Uraiyur** and later shifted to **Puhar (Tanjore).** • Territory: N-E to the territory of Pandya, between Pennar & Velar Rivers. • Emblem: **Tiger.** • Centers of trade and industry: **Kaverippattanam, Uraiyur** and **Arikamedu (Puducherry).** • Many Sangam Poems mention the **Battle of Venni** where he defeated the confederacy of Cheras, Pandyas and eleven minor chieftains. • Elara was the earliest known king. He conquered Sri Lanka & ruled over it for 50 years. • **Karikala** was the greatest king. He founded **Puhar** & also built irrigation tanks near river Kaveri to provide water for reclaimed land from forest for cultivation.
Pandyas	• **Capital**: **Madurai** (center of trade and industry). • **Territory**: Southernmost & South eastern portion of peninsula. • **Emblem**: **Carp (fish).** • Pandyas had trade relations with **Romans**. They were first mentioned by **Megasthenes**. They also find mention in the Ramayana & Mahabharata. • Nedunjelian, known for his kingdom's wealth and prosperity, was the most noteworthy Pandya ruler. • **Maduraikkanji** was written by **Mangudi Maruthainar** which describes the socio-economic condition of the flourishing seaport of **Korkai**.
Cheras	• **Capital**: at **Vanji** (Malabar). • **Important seaports**: **Tondi** and **Musiri.** • **Territory**: West & North of Pandya. • **Emblem**: **Bow and Arrow.** • **Senguttuvan (Red Chera)** was the most important ruler. He established the Kannagi or Pattini Cult; **Kannagi** became the object of worship. • He was the **first King from South India to send an ambassador to China.** • His military achievements have been chronicled in epic **Silapathikaram.** • He enjoyed the reputation of being **highly ethical or virtuous.** • **Gajabahu** was his contemporary Sri Lankan King. • **Karrur** and **Mujirispattanam** were important centers of international trade. • Romans settled at Muziris Pattanam. • The Temple of Roman emperor Augustus was constructed here.

11.3 SANGAM PERIOD: POLITY, ECONOMY, SOCIETY, RELIGION AND CULTURE

Polity and Administration	• Form of government: **hereditary monarchy.** • Kingdom was divided into **Mandalam, Nadu** (province), **Ur** (Town), **Sirur** (Small village), **Perur** (Big Village). • Each of the dynasties had a royal emblem: **tiger for Cholas, carp for Pandyas**, and **bow for Cheras.** • King was called **Ko Mannan, Vendan, Korravan** or **Iraivan.** He was the center of the administration. **Avai** was the court of the crowned monarch. • **Amaichar** (ministers), **Anthanar** (priests), **Dutar** (envoys), **Senapatiyar** (military commanders) and **Orrar** (spies) were the 5 important officers that assisted the King. • Revenue Administration: **Karai –** land tax**; Ulgu –** custom duties; **Iravu –** Forced gift/ extra demand; **Irai –** tribute paid by feudatories; **Variyar –** Tax collector.
Economy	• **Agriculture** was the chief occupation. **Rice** was the most common crop. • People were **pastoralists, hunters, fishermen** although they also produced rice. • Regular system of taxation was not seen. • **Items of Export:** Maslin, glass beads, pearls, sandalwood, perfumes, black pepper (**Yavanapriya**), tortoise shell, medicines, animals and birds.

	• **Items of Imports:** Gold, Silver, Munga, wine, olive oil, dry fruits, raw glass, ivory, copper, tin, medicine and slaves. • **Gold and Silver** in huge quantities were brought into India and made the trade greatly in favor of India. • **Pliny**, the Roman author and member of senate, in his **Naturalis Historia** (77CE) regrets the drain out of huge amounts of gold and silver to India. • **Ptolemy** in his **Geographia** (Geography) and **Strabo** in his **Geographica** (Geography) also describe this trade imbalance of the Roman empire with India. • **Discovery of Monsoon winds by Hippalus** around 45-47 CE further promoted the trade between India and the west. • **Tamilmandalam** served as the zone of interaction for **silk trade with China.** • **Land revenue, customs duty on foreign trade and booty captured in wars** were the main sources of the income**.**
Society	• Tamil people were **primarily pastoral** and **traces of early megalithic life** appear in the Sangam texts. • **Social classes**: **Arasars** (Ruling Class), **Kadasiyar** (lower classes people), **Aanthanars** (priests), **Vanigar** (involved with trade and commerce), **Vellalar** (Agriculturists). • In the Marutham region, the **Vellalas or the rich peasants** were dominant. • Some **social** (Parathavar, Panar, Eyinar, Kadambar, Maravar, Pulaiyar) and other **primitive** (Thodas, Irulas, Nagas, Vedars) **tribal groups** also lived in the Sangam age.
Position of Women	• There were **women poets** like **Avvaiyar, Nachchellaiyar, and Kakkaipadiniyar** who flourished and contributed to Tamil literature. • **Love marriage** was accepted in Sangam society. • Yet, the widows were treated badly as **Sati was prevalent**.
Religion	• **Murugan** was the **most important deity** of the Sangam age and **Nadu Kal (Hero Stone)** was also commonly worshiped remembering the bravery of soldiers. • **Kurinji** (hilly tracks), **Mullai** (pastoral), **Marudam** (agricultural), **Neydal** (coastal) and **Palai** (desert) are the **five types of the lands** mentioned in the **Tolkappiyam**. Each type of land was associated with a distinct activity and a related deity: • **Kurinji**- Hunting; Murugan • **Mullai**- cattle-rearing; Vishnu (Mayon) • **Marudam**- agriculture; Indra • **Neydal**- Fishing, Salt-manufacturing; Varunan • **Palai**- Robbery; korravai
Fine Arts	• **Poetry, music and dancing** were popular. • **Liberal donations** were given to poets by the kings, chieftains and nobles. • The royal courts were crowded with **singing bards** called **Panar** and **Viraliyar**. • They were **experts in folk songs** and **folk dances**. • A variety of **Yazhs and drums** are referred to in the Sangam literature. • Dancing was performed by **Kanigaiyar**. **Koothu** was the most popular entertainment of the people.

11.4 END OF THE SANGAM AGE

- Towards the end of the third century CE, the Sangam Age slowly witnessed its decline.
- The **Kalabhras** occupied the Tamil country for about two and a half centuries.
- **Jainism** and **Buddhism** flourished and expanded during this period.
- The Pallavas in northern Tamil Nadu and Pandyas in southern Tamil Nadu drove the Kalabhras out and established their own empire and established their rule.

11.5 GLOSSARY

Shreni/Guilds	• Shreni is a group in which **communities of merchants** were organized
Sartha	• It was a **mercantile group** (caravan trading corporation).
Pattini cult	• This cult was based on the worship of **Kannigi,** which was started by **Senguttuvan.**
Akam	• It is a category of Sangam literature that idolizes love and its various aspects, while **Puramo** deals with war and kings.
Ula	• Minor form of literature dealing with the Kings.
Katikai	• It is an assembly of **learned people**.
Ur	• It is an assembly of **village elders.**
Manrams	• **Village** was the **fundamental unit** of administration, which was administered by local assemblies called **Manrams.**
Virakkal (Nadukul)	• Practice of **erecting monuments** for the dead soldiers and worshiping them.
Kanatikan	• Chief of **scribes.**
Kavalmaram /Kodimaram	• During the Sangam Age, a tutelary tree called **Kadimaram** or **Kavalmaram** was planted by the rulers at a central place in the town and they took great care to protect the tree.
Kolu	• **Hard iron tip** fixed to a wooden plough share.
Emporium	• **Coastal towns** associated with foreign trade.
Setthikula	• Family of **merchants** and **bankers.**
Sattasai or Gathasaptasati	• An anthology of 700 verses in **Marathi Prakrit (Hala's reign).**
Aadi Perukku festival	• 18th day of the Tamil month of Adi (July-August) celebrated in Kaveri basin since the Chola Ages. A water ritual celebrated by women to honor nature.
Kammarakula	• Family of **metalsmiths.**
Dhannavanjakula	• Family of **grain merchants.**
Satthavahaputta	• Son of a **Caravan trader.**
Pannikakula	• Family of **greengrocers**.
Atavirakkhikakula	• Family of **forest guards.**



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12 South Indian Kingdoms: Pallavas, Chalukyas and Rashtrakutas

12.1 PALLAVAS

- Pallavas are **identical with the Pulindas** mentioned in Ashoka's Inscriptions.
- Pallavas **ruled from Kanchi** and **Mahabalipuram/ Mamallapuram as their capital**.
- They gained prominence after the eclipse of the **Satavahana dynasty** in the third century CE, under whom the Pallavas served as feudatories.
- Pallavas were instrumental in spreading Indian culture in South-East Asia.

12.1.1 Important Rulers

Mahendravarman I (600-630 CE)	• He was **defeated by Chalukya King Pulkeshin II.** • Titles assumed: **Gunabhara, Satyasandha, Chattakari** (temple-maker) **Chitrakarapuli** (painter), **Vichitrachitta** and **Mattavilasa**. • **Mandagapattu inscriptions** mention the beginning of **rock-cut temple constructions.** • He was a versatile genius having expertise over painting, music and literature; composed a satirical drama **Mattavilasa Prahasanam** in **Sanskrit.** • Music inscriptions at **Kudumiyanmalai** were ascribed to him.
Narshimhavarman I (630-668 CE)	• **Narshimhavarman I defeated the Chalukya King Pulkeshin II** at the **battle of Manimangalam** as per the **Kuram copper plate inscriptions.** • Assumed title of **Mamalla** (great wrestler). • **Founder of Mamallapuram** or **Mahabalipuram** and the **monolithic rathas** were erected during his reign. • On conquering **Chalukyan capital Vatapi**, he assumed the title of **Vatapikonda**. • He sent a naval **expedition to Sri Lanka** and restored the throne of Sri Lankan prince-Manavarma. • Chinese traveler and Buddhist monk **Hieun Tsang** visited Kanchi during his reign.
Narsimhavarman II	• Also **known as Rajsimha**. he assumed titles of **Shankar Bhakta, Agmapriya** etc. • He sent **embassies to China**. • Was interested in developing the art and architecture: **Shore temple & Kailasanatha temple** were built during his reign. • **Dandin- Sanskrit scholar** lived in his court. • Patronized **Perundevannar** who translated Mahabharata in Tamil and named **Bharathavenba**. • **End of Pallava dynasty**: Chola king Aditya I defeated the last Pallava ruler Aparajita and seized the Kanchi region.

- Other notable rulers were **Nandivarman, Parmeshwarvarman I** and **Parmeshwarvarmn II.**

12.1.2 Socio-Economic Conditions

Administration	• Pallavas promoted **agriculture** and **sea-trade** and collected huge wealth which is reflected in the **grand temple-architecture** of this time. • Pallava kingdom was divided into **Kottams.** • In Pallava administration **land grants** were **given to Brahmans** (Brahmadeya) and to temples **Devadhana** and were exempted from taxation.

	• **Group of villages** were called as **'Nadu'** • **Group of Nadus** were called as **'Nagaram'** (Organisation of merchants) • **Group of Nagarams** were called as **'Manadalam'** • Sabhas (assemblies) consisting of brahmin land owners functioned through smaller assemblies/ committees that looked after irrigation, agriculture, roads, and temples. • **Non- brahmin land owners' assemblies** were called **'Ur'.** • Well organized administrative system with a **well-trained army.**
Society & Religion	• **Four-fold caste system became rigid** & Brahmana occupied the dominant position as Pallava were orthodox Brahmanical Hindus. • **Bhakti Movement** received promotion under Pallavas. • **Shaiva and Vaishnav** sages promoted Shiva and Vishnu bhakti (devotion). • **Shaiva sage-poets were called as "Nayanars"** (Important Nayanars: **Thirunavukkarasar or Appar**, **Sundarar or Sundaramurti**, **Sambandar, Manikkavsagar)** • **Vaishnav sage-poets were called "Alvars"** (Important Alvars: **Perialvar, Andal-poetess, Nammalvar, Kulashekhar**). • The Pallava period witnessed the decline **of Jainism & Buddhism.**
Literature, Art and Architecture	• **Kanchi developed** as a **great center of education, culture** and **trade**. The **Ghatika (centers of learning**) at Kanchi was very popular. • **Tamil language and literature** along with Sanskrit flourished under Pallavas. • **Periyapuranam**: Collection of songs in love and devotion of **Shiva**. • **Nalayir-Divya-Prabandham**: Collection of songs in love and devotion of **Vishnu.** • Under Pallavas, the basic features of the **Dravidian architecture** i.e. Vimana, Mandapam and Gopuram became vividly developed. • The five rathas, popularly called as the **Panchapandavar rathas**, signifies five different styles of temple architecture. • **'Open Art Gallery' at Mamallapuram** remains an important monument bearing the sculptural beauty of this period. • **During Pallavas rule temple architecture developed in 4 styles under various kings:** ○ **Mahendravarman I: small rock-cut temples** were made and called as **'Manadapas';** examples are **Bhairavakonda temple** and **Anantheshwara temple** at **Undavalli.** ○ **Narsimhavarman I:** 'mandapas' became bigger, Mahabalipuram/ Mamallapuram city was founded and a number of monolithic Ratha (Chariot) temples were constructed like the Panchapandavar rathas. Important Mandapams are of **Varaha, Mahishasuramardhini** and **Tirumurthi.** ○ **Rajasimha**: free-standing or structural temples started to be built. **Shore, Olakkaneshwara** and **Mukunda Nayanar Temples** in Mahabalipuram and **Kailash Nath Temple** and **Vaikuntha Perumal temple** at Kanchipuram were constructed with this feature. ○ **Nandivarman and later Pallavas**: temples continue to be constructed in Rajasimha style. **Matagenswara** and **Muktheeswarar** temples are examples of this. • **Sittannavasal paintings** belonged to this period. • **Dakshinachitra (Commentary)** was compiled during the reign of **Mahendravarman I.** • The **Mamandur inscription** contains a note on the notation of **vocal music.**

12.2 CHALUKYAS OF VATAPI

- Founded by **Pulakesin I**, Chalukyas ruled the extensive **Deccan region** between 6th and 12th century CE with the **capital at Badami (Vatapi).**
- Chalukyas were involved in continued struggle against Pallavas.
- **Pulakesin II (608 CE-642 CE):**
  - The **Aihole inscription** issued by Pulakesin II substantiates that he was **the most important ruler of the dynasty**.
  - **Ravikirti**, the court poet of Pulakesin II and composer of Aihole inscription was a **Jain**.

- Pulakesin II **defeated Harshavardhan** and limited his southward expansion till Narmada.
- He also defeated Kadambas of Banavasi and the Gangas of Mysore and established his suzerainty.
- Pulakesin II emerged victorious in the first struggle with Pallavas but he was **defeated by Narasimhavarman I (Vatapikonda) of Pallavas (Kanchi)** who captured the capital Vatapi (Badami).
- Pulakesin II **sent an ambassador to the court of Persian King Khusrau**.
- **Huien Tsang**, the Buddhist pilgrim from China, visited Chalukyas' Kingdom during his reign.
- **Last of the rulers**: Kirtivarman II. He was defeated by **Dantidurga, the founder of the Rashtrakuta dynasty.**

- **Socio-Economic conditions:**

Administration	• Chalukyas were **highly centralized** unlike Chola and Pallavas. Units (villages) were in direct control of central authorities. • Chalukyas maintained a **great naval force** and small but well organized standing army. • Army officers were put to civil duties whenever an emergency arose.
Economy	• Rocky and infertile land limited the income from land for Chalukyas. • Overall **decline of trade and commerce** in India during this period, therefore the Chalukyas conducted invasions and plunder of the neighboring regions. • **Arab traders** were given patronage at the west coast under Chalukyas
Social life and Religion	• Chalukyas of Badami **practiced Brahmanism** but respected other sects of religion too. • **Expansion of Brahmanism** is reflected by the building of temples in honor of **Vishnu, Shiva** and **other gods.** • Religious sphere of life became **more ritualistic.** • **Hiuen Tsang** mentioned about the **decline of Buddhism and progress of Jainism** in **western Deccan.** • Importance was given to **Vedic rites and rituals**. **Pulakesin I** performed the **Ashvamedha sacrifice.**
Literature, Art and Architecture	• Chalukyas contributed to the growth of **Prakrit language** and **literature**. • **Ajanta art** continued to grow under the patronage of Chalukyas. • The **fusion of Nagara and Dravidian style** i.e. **Vesara Style** of temples started to appear during Chalukyas' time but they distinctively developed under Rashtrakutas and Hoysalas. • **Aihole, Badami and Pattadakal** are important centers of structural temples. • **Ajanta (Cave paintings), Ellora** and **Nasik** have some of the Cave temples. • **Number of rock-cut halls (Chaityas)** were constructed and granted to Jain monks. • **Division of Chalukya temples- two stages:** • **First stage:** ◦ It was represented by the temples at **Aihole and Badami.** Important temples found at **Aihole** (among the seventy)- ◦ **Ladh Khan temple** is a low, flat-roofed structure consisting of a pillared hall. ◦ **Durga temple** resembles a Buddha Chaitya. ◦ **Huchimalligudi temple.** ◦ **Jain temple at Meguti.** ◦ **Temples at Badami**: Muktheeswara temple and the **Melagutti Sivalaya.** • **Second stage**: represented by the temples at **Pattadakal (UNESCO World Heritage site).** There are ten temples here- four in the northern style and six in the Dravidian style.

12.3 IKSHVAKUS

- After the fall of the **Satavahanas**, there arose the Ikshvakus in the **Eastern part** of the **peninsula**. They built monuments at **Nagarjunakonda** and **Dharanikonda**.
- They began providing land grants in the **Krishna-Guntur region**, where their **copper-plate inscriptions** have been found.
- Their rule ended with their conquest by the **Pallavas of Kanchi**.

12.4 THE KADAMBA KINGDOM

- This kingdom was founded by **Mayurasharman**, a learned **Brahmana (345-365 AD)** who established his rule in **northern Karnataka** and **Konkan** in the **4th century AD**.
- Their capital was at **Vaijayanti** or **Banavasi** in **North Kanara** district in **Karnataka**.
- **Mayurasharman** came to receive education at **Kanchi**, but he was driven out unceremoniously.
- Then, he set up his camp in a forest and defeated the **Pallavas** with the help of forest tribes.
- He performed **18 ashwamedha sacrifices** and granted a number of villages to Brahmanas.
- **Kakusthavaran** maintained matrimonial relations with the **Ganges** and the **Guptas**. After his death, **Kadambas** split up into **Banavasi** and **Triparvata**. The rulers of this dynasty were **Brahmanas** and still **gave land grants to Jainas** too.

12.5 THE KALABHRAS

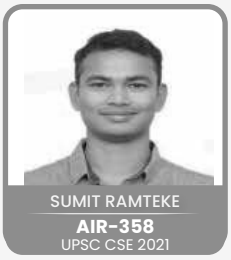
- They led a revolt in the **6th century AD** against the existing social and political order in south India. It affected the **Pallavas** and other neighboring contemporaries and their revolt was so strong that it could be put down only through the joint efforts of **the Pandyas**, **the Pallavas** and **the Chalukyas of Badami**.
- They imprisoned the rulers of the **Cholas, Cheras** and the **Pandyas**. They established their hold in **Tamil Nadu**.
- They put an **end to the Brahmadeya rights** granted to the Brahmanas in numerous villages.
- They patronized **Buddhism** and **Jainism**.
- **Sanskrit** and **Prakrit languages** penetrated the Tamil region resulting in the development of a new script- **Vattezhuthu**.

Additional Information:

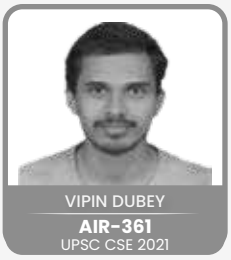
- Epics like **Seevaka Chinthamani** and **Kundalakesi** were written during this period. **Nigandus** (Tamil thesaurus) were also composed during this period.
- **Jain Pali** remained an important educational center. **Sarva Nandhi** and **Vajra Nandhi** were the popular Jain scholars.
- Tamil Siddhars like **Thirumular** preached philosophical ideas.
- Buddhist educational institutions were called **Ghatikas.** Scholars like **Buddhadatta**, **Buddhaghosa** and **Bodhidharma** lived during this period.
- During the end of the Kalabhra rule, **Shaivism** emerged as the main strand followed by people. Even the latter rulers also embraced it.



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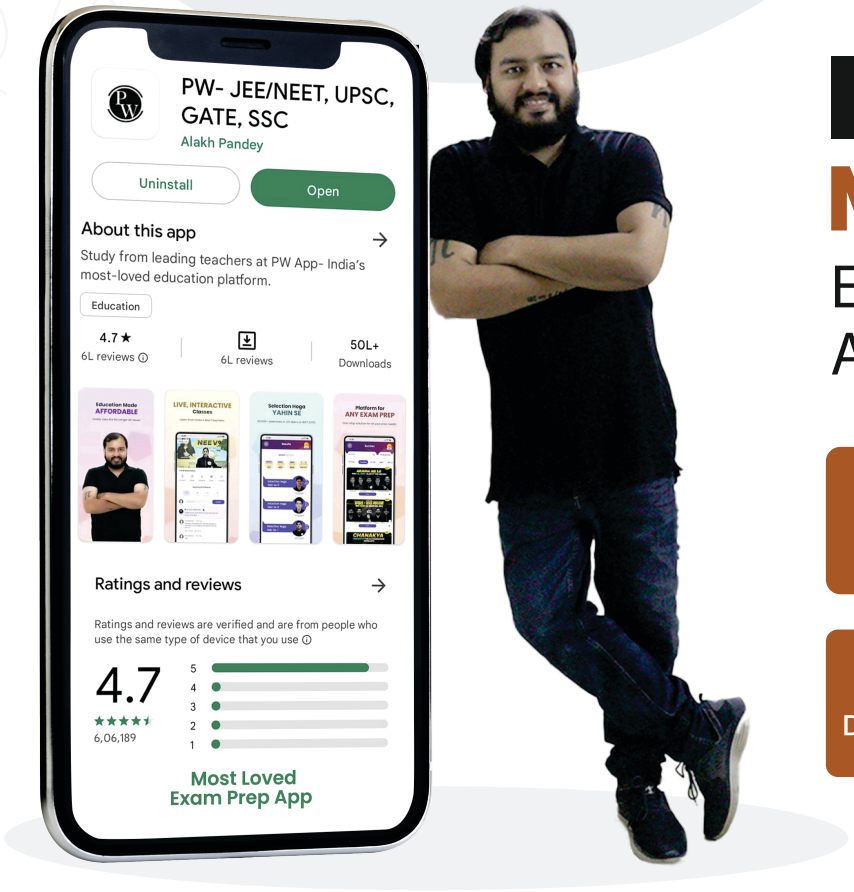
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