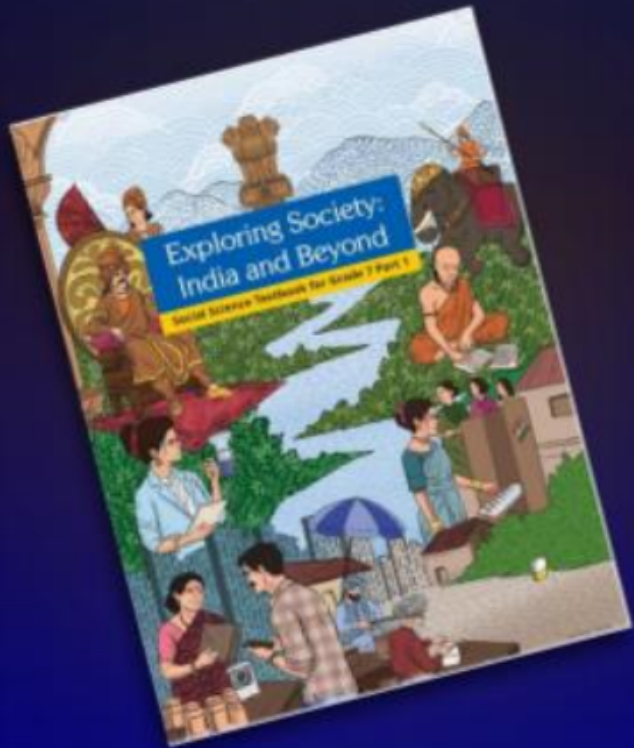


**ONESHOT** 🔥

# New Beginnings: Cities and States

**CLASS 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**SST**

**BY : SRISHTY MA'AM**



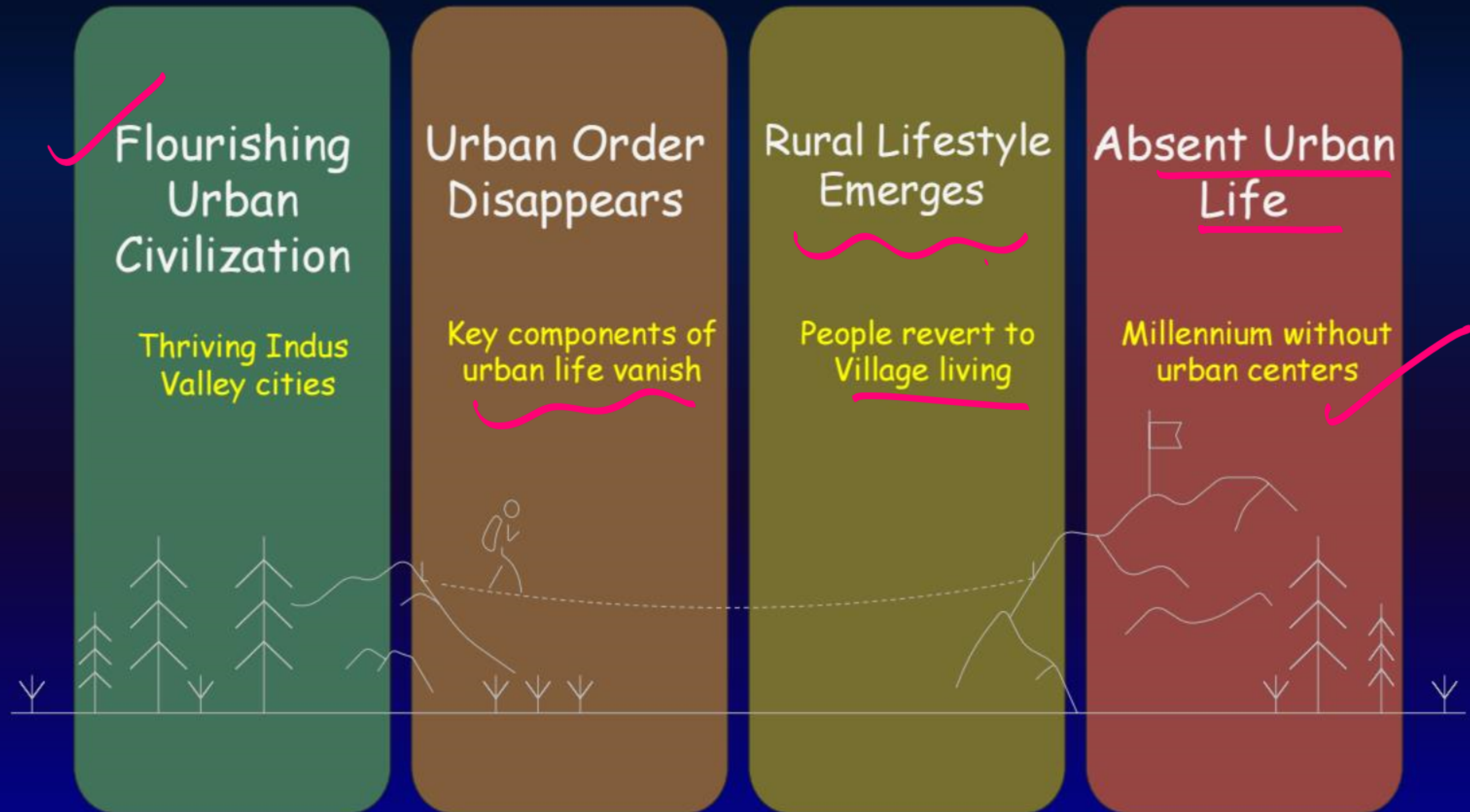
# TOPICS TO BE COVERED

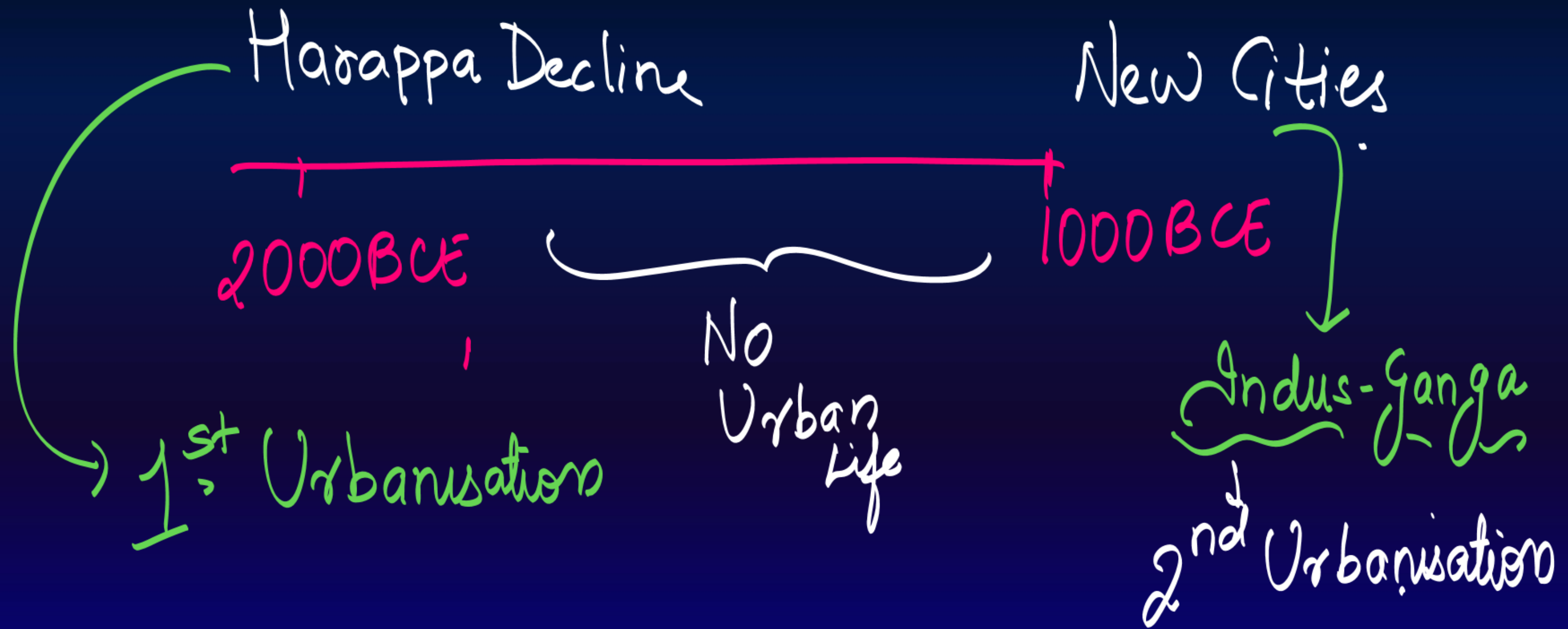
- One Shot





# From Urban to Rural: The Harappan Decline







How do we know about this?



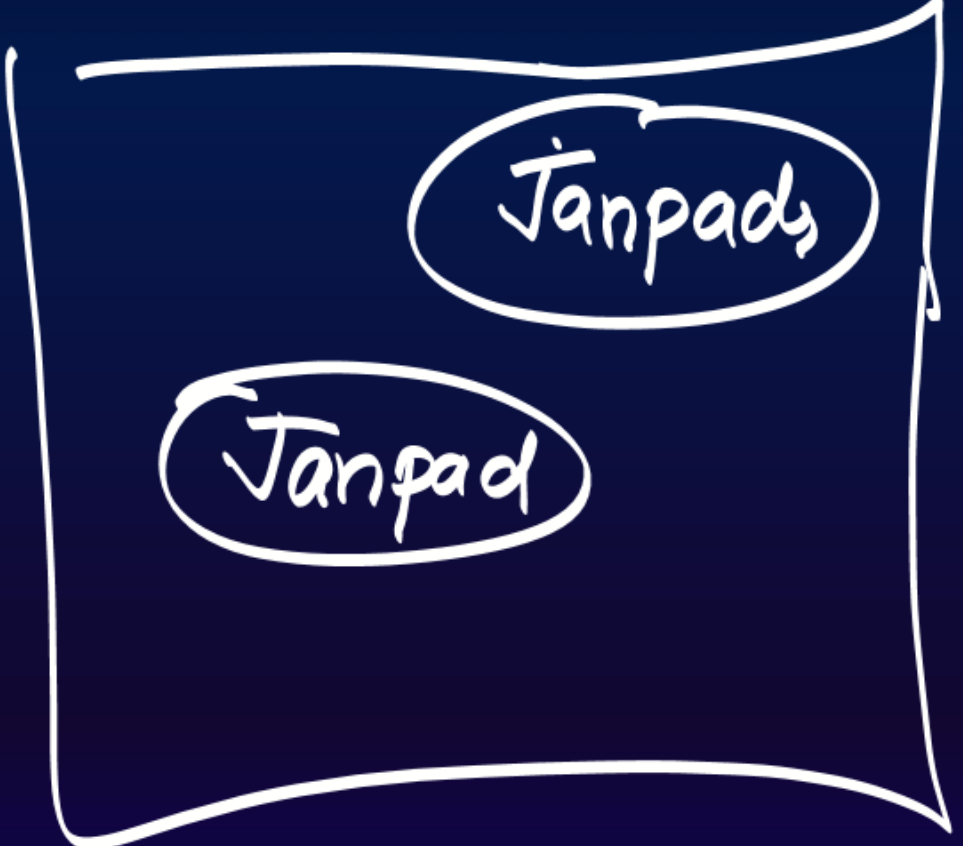
**Archeological  
Evidence**



**Ancient  
Literature**

Jan Pad  
↓ ↓  
People foot

Mahajanpads



Indus Ganga  
Plains





# Janpads and Mahajanpads

1

## Regional Cultures Reorganize

Cultures in north India begin to reorganize

2

## Formation of Clans

People form clans with common language and customs

3

## Association with Territories

Clans become associated with specific territories or janapadas

4

## Expansion of Trade Networks

Trade networks expand and connect janapadas

5

## Emergence of Mahajanapadas

Janapadas merge to form larger units known as mahajanapadas

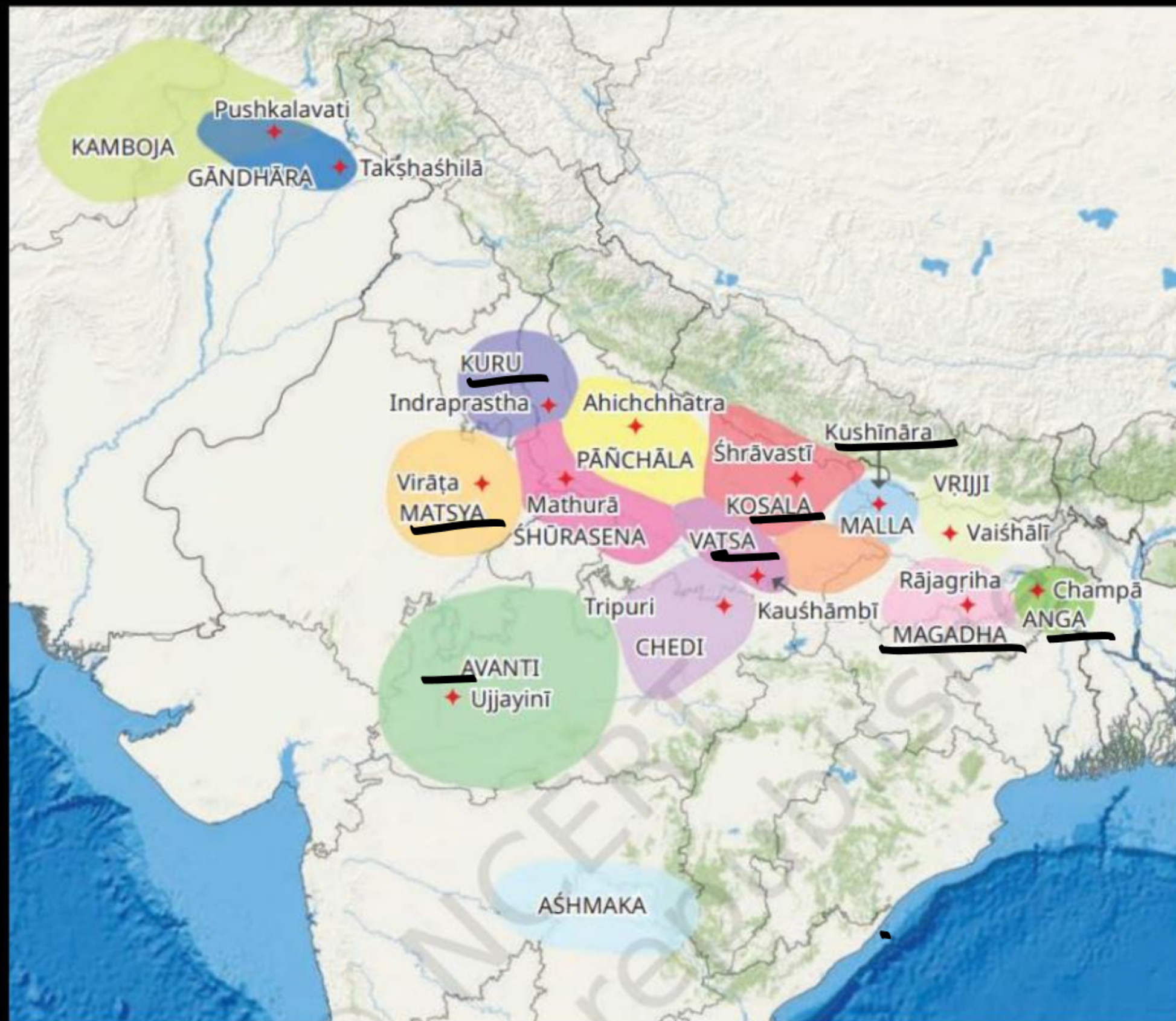
6

## List of 16 Mahajanapadas

A list of 16 mahajanapadas is established









# Ancient Mahajanapadas' Capitals



✓ Fortifications

✓ Moats

✓ Narrow Gateways





# Governance



JANPADS



• SABHA / SAMITI



Advised the raja

↓  
*King* ✓



Select few wise people

(Usually elder people)



Mass of common people ✓



Janpad  $\rightarrow$  Mahajampad?

$J_1, J_2, J_3$   
 $K_1, K_2, K_3$ ?

Democracy  
 Powerful

# MAHAJANPADAS

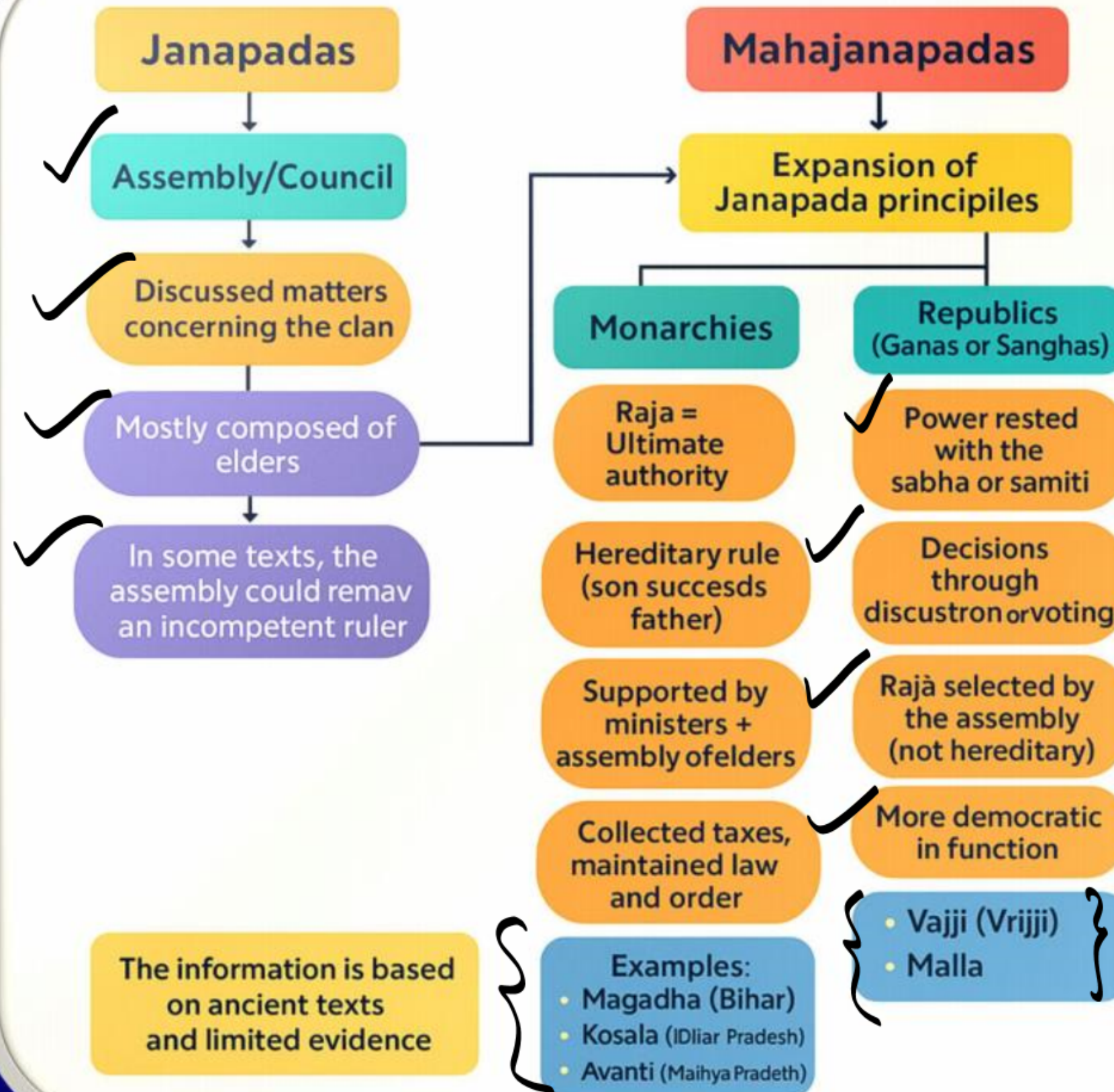
  
**Monarchies**

 **Raja held full  
authority**

  
**Democracies**

   
**Sabha/Samiti  
selects Raja**









# More Innovation



## Emergence of New Schools

The rise of Vedic, Buddhist, and Jain schools of thought and their literature.

## Renewal of Indian Art

The revitalization of artistic expression and cultural forms.

## Technological Shift

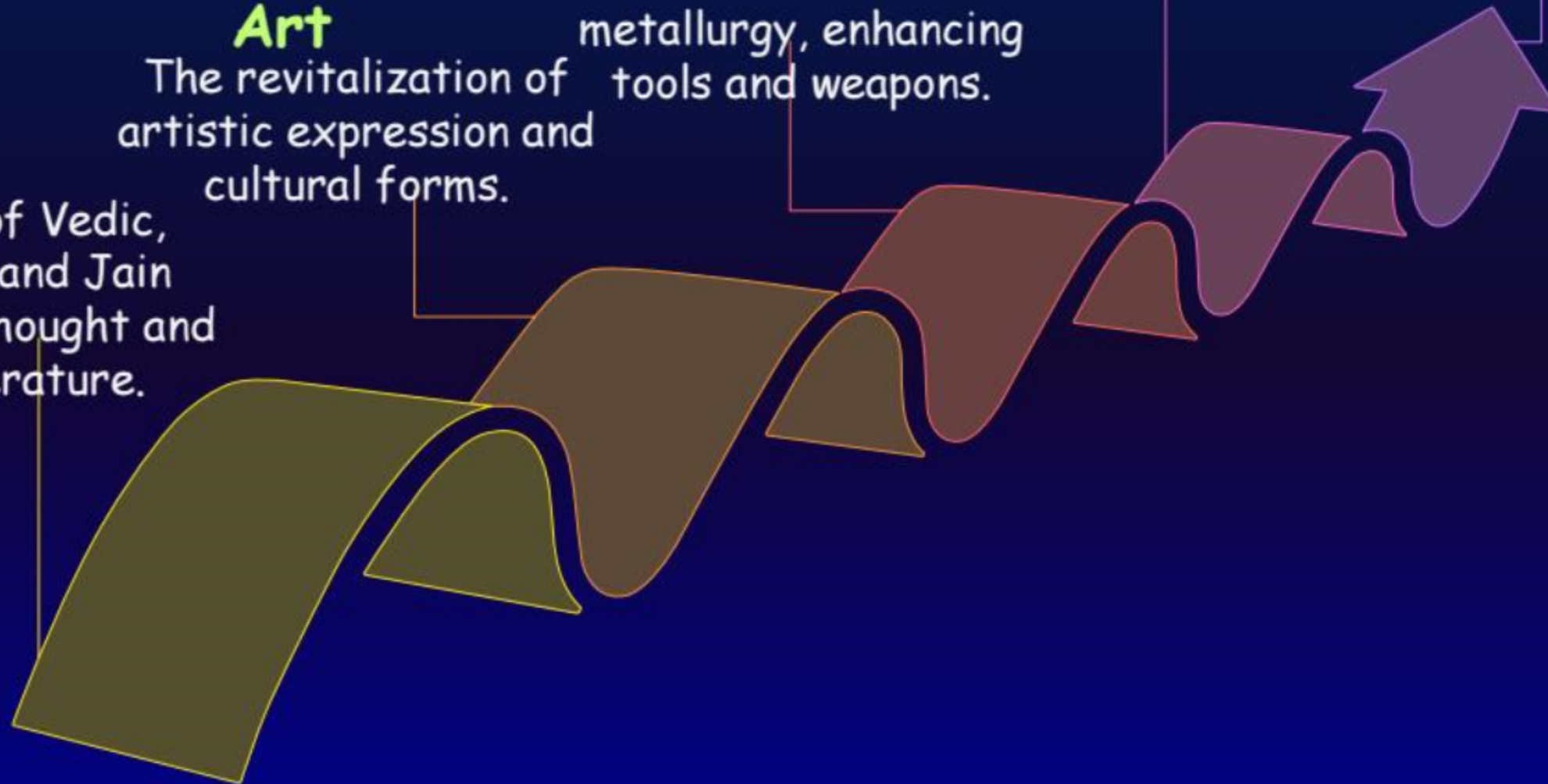
The transition from bronze to iron metallurgy, enhancing tools and weapons.

## Rise of Kingdoms

The formation of new kingdoms and empires through warfare and alliances.

## Introduction of Coins

The advent of punch-marked coins, facilitating trade and economic growth.



First Urbanisation



Second Urbanisation

Copper and Bronze Metallurgy

Iron tools





✓ Another innovation was the first use of coins in India, made necessary by growing trade.

The first Indian coins were made of silver, a soft metal into which symbols could be 'punched'; they are called 'punch-marked coins'.

Later, coins of copper, gold and other metals were also made.

Generally, a mahājanapada issued its own coins, but coins from neighbouring regions were used as well as exchanged in trade.





# The Varna- Jati System

Equality is an ideal that human societies have often aspired to, very few, if any, have ever achieved it

## Two Fold System

Jati

Grouped by Occupation - like agriculture, commerce

Varna

Grouped by Vedic texts - Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas, Shudras



It was flexible earlier, became rigid - especially under british rule

## The Varṇa–Jāti System – Ancient Indian Society Explained!



Brahmin



Kshatriya



Vaishya/Farming



Shudra





# DEVELOPMENTS ELSEWHERE IN INDIA

- Routes emerged in the 1st Millennium BCE for Trade, Pilgrimage, military campaigns.

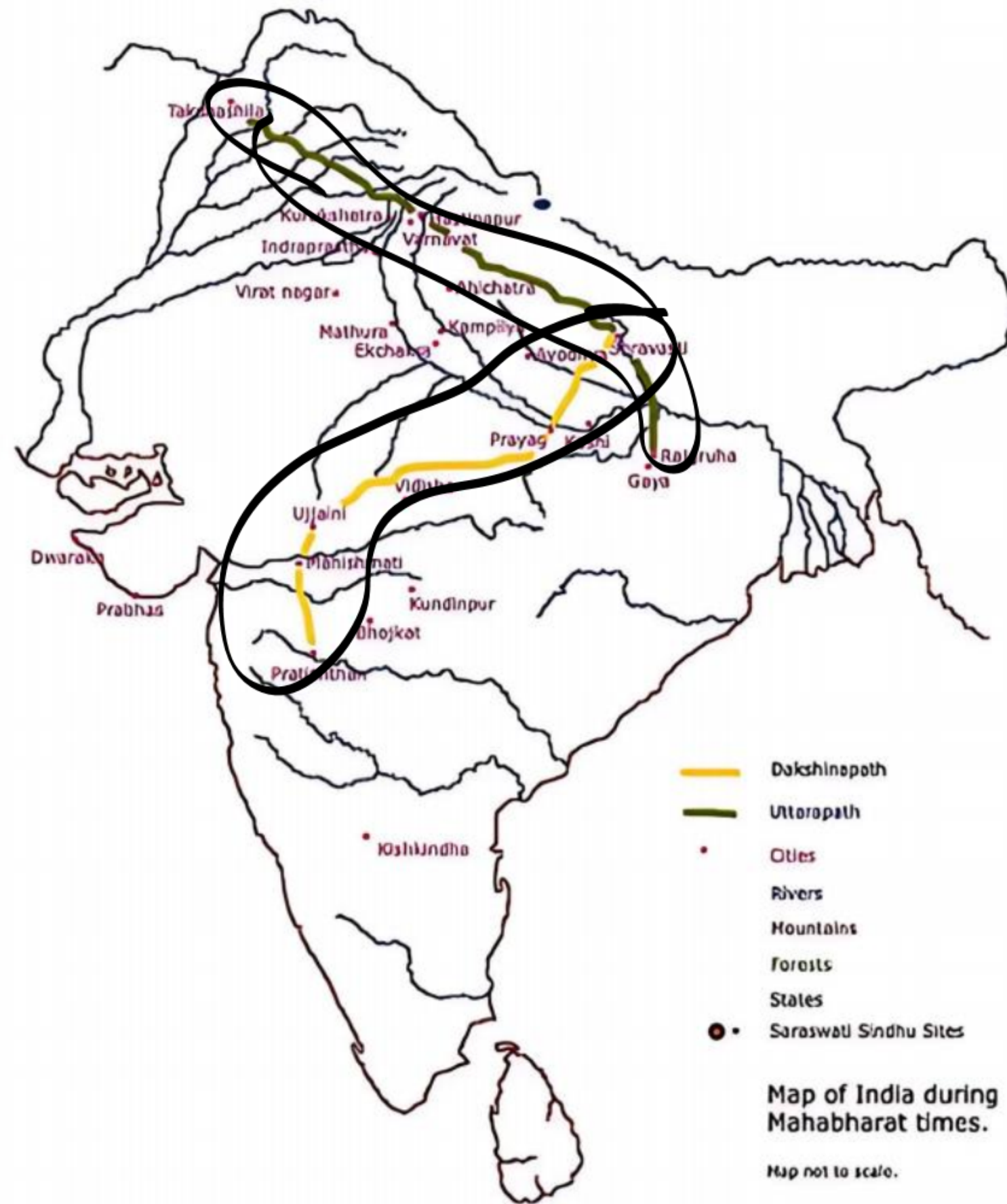
Two Major  
Routes

Uttarapath

Connected NW to the Ganga Plains and eastern India

Dakshinapath


from Kaushambi (near Prayagraj) to south India,  
via Vindhya Range





**Many lateral roads also connected with other parts of India, especially the important ports on the western and eastern coasts, which were vibrant centres of trade**

**EAST -----→ major cities emerged, such as Śhiśhupalgarh (today Sisupalgarh, part of Bhubaneswar), which was the capital of the Kalinga region**



**South -----→ three kingdoms emerged—the Cholas, the Cheras and the Pāṇḍyas.**







# DEVELOPMENTS ELSEWHERE IN INDIA

- **Resources in the South:**

- **Precious/ Semi-Precious stones, Gold, Spices.**
- **Trade flourished within India and overseas with other Kingdoms/Empires.**





# DEVELOPMENTS ELSEWHERE IN INDIA

✓ • By 300-200 BCE :

- Subcontinent was interconnected.
- Goods & Culture spread across regions and beyond India to Central and Southeast Asia.

✓ • Mahajanpadas faded, giving rise to new developments that reshaped India.







**THANK  
YOU**