

Sure Asmi — here is the clean, chronological lineage of Ancient India, starting from the Indus Valley Civilization (Harappan) all the way to the end of Ancient India (around 1200 CE).

I will show:

- Who came before whom
- Where they ruled
- Predecessors → successors
- Contemporaries
- Important rulers (simple list)

A map cannot be generated historically with perfect accuracy, so I will give you a clear, study-ready linear timeline.

FULL LINEAGE OF ANCIENT INDIA

From 3300 BCE → 1200 CE

1. Indus Valley / Harappan Civilization (3300–1300 BCE)

Region: Northwest India & Pakistan (Sindh, Punjab, Gujarat).

Key sites: Harappa, Mohenjo-daro, Dholavira, Lothal.

Predecessor: None (earliest urban civilization).

Successor: Post-Harappan cultures → Vedic Aryans.

Rulers?

→ No known kings. Decentralized city administration.

Contemporaries:

→ Mesopotamia, Old Kingdom Egypt.

2. Vedic Period (1500–600 BCE)

Region: Initially Punjab → Later Gangetic plains.

Predecessor: Post-Harappans.

Successor: Mahajanapadas.

Early Vedic tribes:

- Bharatas
- Purus
- Yadavas
- Kurus
- Panchalas

Late Vedic:

Formation of larger kingdoms.

No single king list (tribal chiefs, rajas).

Contemporaries:

→ Shang dynasty China.

3. Mahajanapadas (16 Kingdoms) (600–300 BCE)

Region: Entire North India.

Predecessor: Vedic period.

Successor: Mauryan Empire.

Major Janapadas and important rulers:

- **Magadha** – Bimbisara, Ajatashatru
- **Kosala** – Prasenajit
- **Vatsa** – Udayana

- **Avanti** – Pradyota
- **Kuru, Panchala, Matsya, Chedi, Gandhara, Kamboja, Videha, Asmaka, etc.**

Religious contemporaries:

- Gautama Buddha
- Mahavira

Political contemporaries:

- Achaemenid Persia
 - Greece (Alexander later)
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4. Magadha Empires (4 Dynasties)

Magadha became the core of political power.

(a) Haryanka Dynasty (544–413 BCE)

Rulers:

- Bimbisara
- Ajatashatru
- Udayin

Successor: Shishunagas.

Contemporaries: Buddha, Mahavira.

(b) Shishunaga Dynasty (413–345 BCE)

Rulers:

- Shishunaga
- Kalashoka (Second Buddhist Council)

Successor: Nanda Dynasty.

(c) Nanda Dynasty (345–321 BCE)

Rulers:

- Mahapadma Nanda
- Dhanananda

Contemporaries: Achaemenids, Alexander the Great.

Successor: Mauryan Empire.

5. Mauryan Empire (322–185 BCE)

Founder: Chandragupta Maurya

Region: Entire India except deep south.

Major rulers:

- Chandragupta Maurya
- Bindusara
- **Ashoka the Great** 
- Dasaratha
- Brihadratha

Successor: Shunga Dynasty (Pushyamitra Shunga).

Contemporaries:

- Seleucid Empire
 - Ptolemaic Egypt
 - Hellenistic kingdoms
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6. Post-Mauryan Period (200 BCE–300 CE)

This is where contemporaries become VERY important.
Three main powers and many parallel regional dynasties.

★ (a) Shungas (185–73 BCE)

Successor to Maurya.

Rulers:

- Pushyamitra Shunga
 - Agnimitra
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★ (b) Kanvas (73–28 BCE)

Short dynasty replacing Shungas.

★ (c) Satavahanas (1st century BCE–3rd century CE)

Region: Deccan (Maharashtra, Andhra, Telangana).

Contemporaries: Kushanas.

Rulers:

- Simuka

- Gautamiputra Satakarni
 - Yajna Sri Satakarni
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★ (d) Indo-Greeks (200–10 BCE)

Northwest region.

Famous rulers:

- Demetrius
 - Menander (Milinda)
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★ (e) Shakas / Scythians (100 BCE–400 CE)

Western India.

★ (f) Parthians (1–100 CE)

★ (g) Kushanas (30–375 CE)

Contemporary of Satavahanas

Rulers:

- Kujula Kadphises
- Vima Kadphises
- Kanishka (Buddhist 4th council)

PRECISE CONTEMPORARY RELATION:

- ✓ After Mauryans collapsed →
- ✓ Shungas & Kanavas ruled Magadha →

- ✓ Satavahanas ruled Deccan →
 - ✓ Kushanas ruled simultaneously in Northwest.
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7. Early Historic South Indian Kingdoms (300 BCE – 300 CE)

Sangam Age – Tamilakam

- **Cheras** – Kerala
- **Cholas** – Tamil Nadu (Early Cholas)
- **Pandyas** – Madurai

Contemporaries of:
→ Shungas, Satavahanas, Kushanas.

8. Gupta Empire (320–550 CE)

“Golden Age of India”

Predecessor: Kushanas, Nagas, Vakatakas.

Successor: Post-Gupta small kingdoms.

Rulers:

- Sri Gupta
- Ghatotkacha
- Chandragupta I
- Samudragupta
- Chandragupta II (Vikramaditya)
- Kumaragupta
- Skandagupta

Contemporaries:

- Roman Empire decline
 - Sassanid Persia
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9. Post-Gupta / Regional Kingdoms (500–750 CE)

- **Vakatakas** (Central India)
 - **Maitrakas** (Saurashtra)
 - **Pallavas** (Kanchipuram)
 - **Chalukyas** (Badami)
 - **Rashtrakutas** (later)
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10. Harsha / Vardhana Empire (606–647 CE)

Ruler: **Harshavardhana**

Region: North India.

Successor: No strong successor → small kingdoms.

Contemporaries:

- Pallavas
 - Chalukyas
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11. Early Medieval Kingdoms (650–1200 CE)

This ends Ancient India and enters Early Medieval India.

North India:

- Pratiharas
- Palas
- Rashtrakutas (also in Deccan)

South India:

- Pallavas
- Cholas (Medieval) – Rajaraja I, Rajendra I
- Pandyas
- Chalukyas

★ SUPER SUMMARY TIMELINE (Easy to Memorize)

Period	Kingdom	Region	Successor
3300–1300 BCE	Harappan	NW India	Vedic
1500–600 BCE	Vedic	North India	Mahajanapadas
600–300 BCE	Mahajanapadas	North	Magadha Empires
544–321 BCE	Magadha Dynasties	Bihar	Mauryas

322–185 BCE	Mauryan	Pan-India	Shungas
200 BCE–300 CE	Indo-Greeks, Shakas, Parthians, Kushanas, Satavahanas	NW + Deccan	Guptas
300–550 CE	Gupta	North India	Post-Gupta
600–750 CE	Harsha, Chalukyas, Pallavas	North + South	Early Medieval
750–1200 CE	Palas, Pratiharas, Rashtrakutas, Cholas	Pan-India regional	Medieval India

★ MOST IMPORTANT CONTEMPORARY RELATIONS (EXAM-RELEVANT)

- **Satavahanas ↔ Kushanas** → exact contemporaries
 - **Mauryans ↔ Seleucids**
 - **Guptas ↔ Vakatakas**
 - **Harsha ↔ Chalukyas (Pulakeshin II)**
 - **Early Cholas ↔ Sangam era contemporaries**
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If you want next:

I can prepare **individual dynasties one by one** with:

- capital
- rulers list
- chronology
- achievements

- maps (if you want)
- contemporaries

Just tell me:

Which dynasty do you want to start studying first?