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History

Pre History	Proto History	History
NO written records	written records	written records
	Not Deciphered	Deciphered
Ex- stone age	Ex- IVC	

ANCIENT HISTORY

Prehistoric Period

- Paleolithic phase (5 lakh BC - 10K BC)
- Mesolithic Phase (10K BC - 6K BC)
- Neolithic phase (6K BC - 3K BC)

Proto History

- Indus Valley Civilization (Harappan Civilisation) (2600 BC - 1800 BC)
- Chalcolithic Phase (1800 BC - 1500 BC)

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Advent of Aryans
(around 1500 BC)

- Vedic Age
  - Early Vedic Period (1500 - 1000 BC)
  - Later Vedic Period (1000 BC - 6th century BC)

6th Century BC

- Rise of religious movement in the form of Buddhism, Jainism, Ajivika etc.
- Rise of 16 Mahajanapada's

History of Magadh

- Haryanka Dynasty (554 BC - 412 BC)
- Shishunaga Dynasty (412 BC - 344 BC)
- Nanda Dynasty (344 BC - 321 BC) 323
- Maurya Dynasty (321 BC - 185 B.C) 322

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Post Mauryan Age

Mauryan
321-185 BC

Outsiders

- Indo-Greeks (165 BC)
- Shakas (90 BC)
- Parthians (25 AD)
- Kushana (65 AD)

Indigenous

- Shunga (185 BC) - 73 BC
- Kanva (73 - 28 BC) (~~75 BC~~)
- Satavahana (60 BC - 225 AD)
  - Emergence in 2nd century BC
  - Consolidated their power 1st Century AD

GUPTA AGE

(319 AD - 550 AD) (319-540 AD)

- Chandragupta - I
- Samudra gupta
- Chandragupta - II
- Kumar gupta
- Skanda gupta

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SANGAM AGE

(3rd Century BC - 6th Century AD)

- The Chera's
- The Chola's
- The Pandya's

Post Gupta Age

- Pushya bhuti Dynasty (Early 7th Century AD)

Post Sangam Age

- Pallava's (Early 7th Century AD)
- Chalukyas (middle of 6th Century AD)

⇓

By the End of 9th Century AD

- Imperial Chola (Mainland Chola)

By 750 AD

- Pala Dynasty (East)
- Pratihara - Gurjara Dynasty (west)
- Rashtrakuta Dynasty (South west + Central)

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Before Christ **BC** = **BCE** Before Common Era

Anno Domini (In the year of Lord) **AD** = **CE** Common Era

MEDIEVAL HISTORY

Delhi Sultanate (1206 – 1526 AD)

- Slave Dynasty (1206 – 1290)
- Khilji (1290 – 1320)
- Tughlaq (1320 – 1414)
  - VIJAYANAGAR kingdom (1336 – 1640)
  - Bahmani kingdom (1347 – 1520)
- Sayyid (1414 – 1451)
- Lodi (1451 – 1526)

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Mughal Empire (1526 - 1707)

- Babur (1526 - 30)
- Humayun (1530 - 40)
  - * Sur Empire (1540 - 1555)
- Akbar (1556 - 1605)
- Jahangir (1605 - 1627)
- Shah Jahan (1627 - 1658)
- Aurangzeb (1658 - 1707)

I Buddhism, Jainism

II Bhakti, Sufi, Vijaynagar

Other Books (optional)

- Tamil Nadu Text
- New NCERT
  - selectively
    - Themes in Indian History - I
    - Themes in Indian History - II

Reference Books

- NCERT
  - Ancient India (Romila Thapar) class 6th old
  - Medieval India (Romila Thapar) class 7th old
  - Ancient India (R.S Sharma) class 11th

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4.

Human beings appeared on the planet earth in the middle of Pleistocene Epoch. The recent evolutionary phase of human beings happened in Holocene period which led to emergence of Homo Sapiens. The early humans were dependent on animals for their survival. These early humans started to use stone tools for hunting animals. Over the period they sharpened their skill of creating effective stone tools. The prehistory of early humans can only be traced with the stone tools used by them, artifacts used by them and their rock engravings. On the basis of stone tools used by early humans the early history is classified into three stone ages.

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Paleolithic phase

Lower Paleolithic Phase (5 lakh BC - 1 lakh BC)	Middle Paleolithic phase (1 lakh BC - 40 K BC)	Upper Paleolithic phase (40 K BC - 10 K BC)
• They used Big, Rough and irregular shaped tools. • The characteristic tools of this period were Hand axes, Cleavers and choppers	• Rectangular shaped tools • characteristic tools were Borers, Burines, Blades	• Triangular shaped tools • Blades, Points

Paleolithic tools

- Places - Bhimbetaka, (MP)
  Sohan Valley (Pak),
  Belan Valley (Mirzapur UP/MP)
  Narmada Valley
  Bramhagiri (karnataka)
  kurnool (Andhra P.)

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Mesolithic Phase (10 KBC to 6 KBC)

This phase was a transition from very cold climate to warm phase. It was conducive to the development of flora and fauna. moreover human beings started to move to different places. mesolithic Phase also witnessed domestication of animals. Evidences have been found from Adamgarh (M.P) & Bagohar (Rajasthan).

The stone tool used by them is known as Microlith which was small and sharp and easy to operate. It was not only effective in the killing of animals but also it fasilitated rock engraving or mesolithic painting OR Petroglyph.

Mesolithic painting

It provides important insight into socio-cultural practices of the mesolithic community.

They used naturally obtained colours like green, yellow, brown, Red etc. Red colour was also sourced from animal blood. They created wide variety of themes which are as follows :-

	inferences
Hunting, Gathering, Animal riding	domestication of animals
Group Dance	→ Community sense

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Celebration → community sense

Fighting (men) → Division of labour

Sexual union → primitive marriage

Household chores (women) → Division of labour

Phallus worship

Yoni worship

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(H) Neolithic phase (6KBC to 3KBC)

In this phase human beings started to live in larger communities in thatched houses. The stone tools used by them was not only small and sharp but also polished. There were also instances of usage of bone implements and also usage of Bow and arrow.

The most important development in the Neolithic phase was start of agricultural practices. The first evidence of agricultural practices is found from Mehargarh (Balochistan in Pak).

Human beings created wheel and wheel made pottery. They also mastered controlled use of fire.

- Bhimbetka (all ~~places~~ phases)

Important sites

Gufkral
Burzhom (Kashmir)
Chirand (Bihar)
Sarai Nahraya (U.P)

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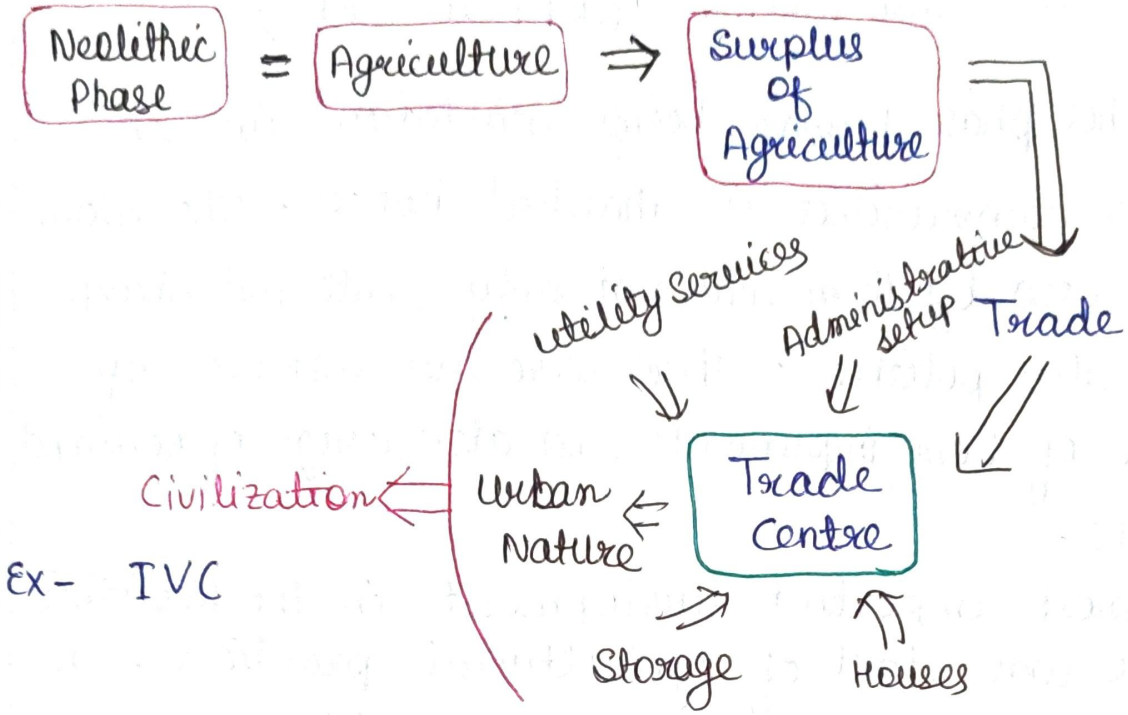

Ex- IVC

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7.

Indus Valley Civilisation OR Harappan Civilisation (2600 BC - 1800 BC)

The information about an underlying civilization in the Punjab area was available from 1870s when railway line was laid down b/w Lahore & Karanchi.

In 1920 when JH marshall became the head of ASI he gave the task of excavation to two Indians as such in 1921 Daya Ram Sahni excavated site of Harappa and in 1922 RD Banerji excavated site of mohenjodaro. By this time it was firmly established that IVC was the most advance civilisation of the world. As compared to Egyptian civilisation it didn't had any monumental buildings like pyramids but IV was unique in the sense for its urban planning and usage of burnt brick of same shape and size.

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3 (i) map

Harappa
mohejodaro } Textile

Kalibangan – Bangle Industry

Chanudaro – Bead

Lothal – Dockyard

Lothal + Rangpur – Rice Cultivation

Rakhigarhi – largest site of IVC

Dhola Vira – 3 layer of urban planning

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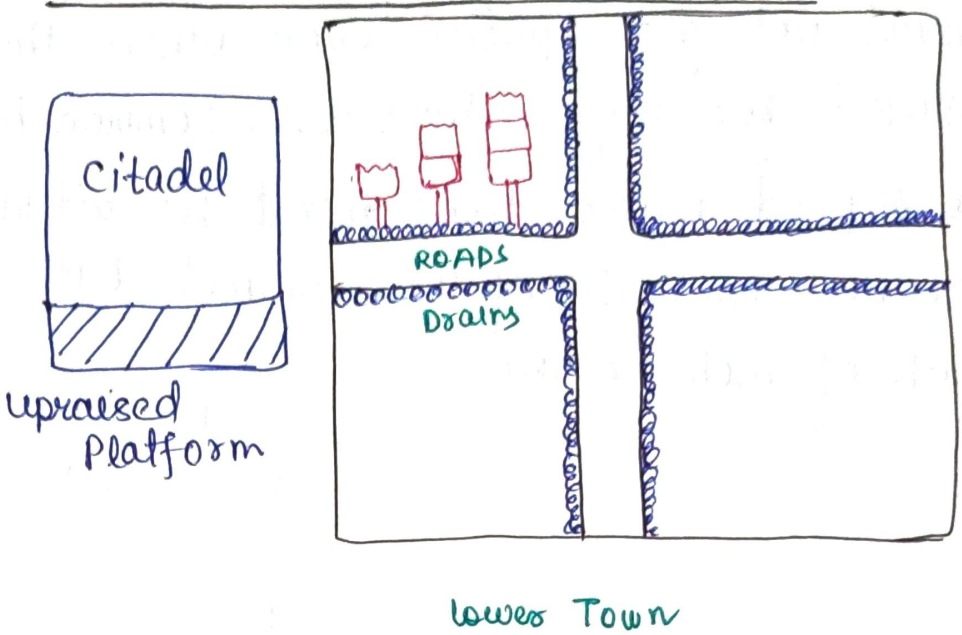
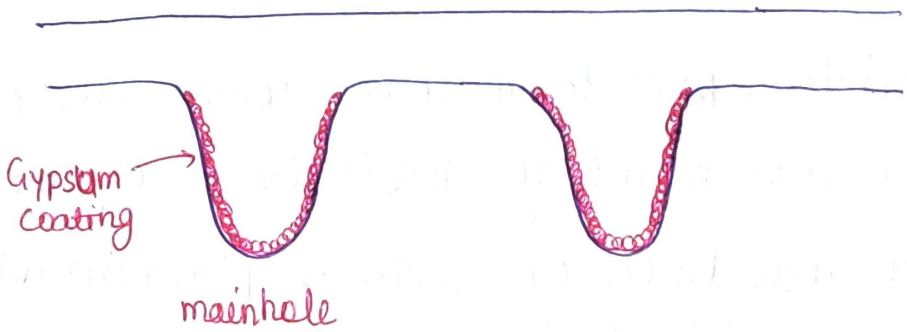
8.

Town Planning OR Urban Planning





Generally Indus towns were divided into two parts i.e. upper town and lower town.

Upper town was known as citadel created on an upraised platform.

In this part of town administrative buildings were created. Generally in this area Granary & common bath is created.

Granary was meant for storage of grains. It

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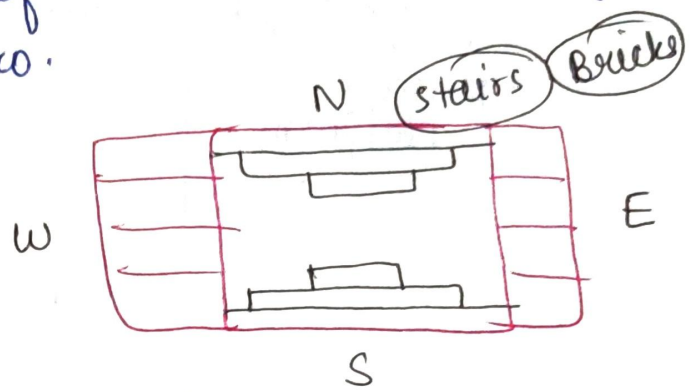
was created in scientific manner so that grains must not get spoiled even when they are stored for longer duration. Common bath was a stepped water tank meant for ritual bathing. The best example of the common bath is great bath of mohenjodaro.



In this stairs were created in N-S direction and they were made from Bricks.

As compared to upper town lower town was quite big in size and meant for habitations of commoners. Lower town was based on sectoral planning which means it was divided into mini sectors. There was very good network of road in the lower town and roads used to cut each other at right angle. On both the sides of the roads drains were created in scientific pattern. These drains were covered with stone slabs or Brick slabs. Inside the drains manholes were created which was plastered with Gypsum.

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9.

It helped in filtering the waste and recharging ground with water.

Inside the sectors there were instances of single storey, double & triple storey houses. All the houses were made from burnt brick of same ~~shame~~ shape & size (4:2:1). Inside the houses bedrooms, courtyards, separate kitchen and separate washroom was created.

All the houses were connected with main drain for waste disposal. Indus Valley people were conserned about their privacy that's why they didn't created the main gates of their houses facing main roads.

It seems that there was a very good system of measurment in IVC & it indicated towards their usage of Decimal system.

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Looking at the town planning of IVC it can be inferred that Indus valley had a central authority. A/c to majority of historians it is beleived that Indus towns were administered by rich traders and merchents instead of a monarchy. We have not come across any instance of standing army in Indus valley.

Economic activities –

Agriculture was the most important economic activity during IVC. They cultivated crops like wheat, cotton, Barley, Pea, sesamum, mustard, Rai etc.

The outsiders often referred cotton as Sindon which means that the plant which originated in Sindhu Valley.

The economic activity also included Textile industry @ Harappa & Mohejadaro

Bead @ Chanudaro

Bangle @ Kalibangan

Ship Building @ Lothal, Alahdino etc.

Artisnal industry were also well established whereby pottery, different kind of sculptures, seals etc. were created.

~~Areas~~ IVC people established trade relations with following areas – Afghanistan, Mesopotamia (Iraq) Sumer, Dilmun (Bahrain), Oman, Magan (Persian gulf coast) (Baghdad)

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IVC people had the knowledge about metals of copper, tin, bronze, gold, silver and they were also using some semi precious stones like Amethyst, Carnelian, lapislazuli.

Society During IVC

As far as the Indus society is concerned majority of historians believe that it was matriarchial society. These historians have cited example of mother goddess which is the most abundant image found from all the Indus towns.

Looking at the towns of Indus valley it seems that though the income inequality was there ~~was~~ but society was not discriminatory in nature. It seems that society was open and there was mobilization in society.

IVC people were quite aware about their asthetic look and they used variety of ornaments like necklace, waistband, bangles, finger rings etc.

They were also aware about soap, lipstick and kajal, sindoor. (ore of mercury - Cinabar)

For healing the wound they used tincture.

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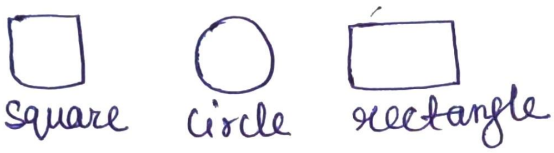
★ Rice was not main staple food of IVC but it was grown at Lothal and Rangpur only.

Note- For the first time in India Rice was cultivated in Allahabad region (Neolithic phase).

Seal

Geometrical shaped artifact, mainly ~~based~~ made from soft river stone steatite.

It was pictographic in nature.



One of the very famous example ~~of~~ is Pasupati Seal in which a deity Proto Siva has been depicted along with many animals.

In one other seal peepal leaf was depicted which indicates nature worship.

The most abondoned religious image in Indus town was the sculpture of mother godess. Moreover Shamanism was also practiced whereby IVC people were using amulets to ward off evil.

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Burial practices in IVC

There was no uniformity in the Burial practices of IVC. They followed fractional burial, pot burial, full cremation, Double burial. At many places the daily objects used by the person was also burried with him. It seems that Indus Valley people had belief in other worldly things and they must have thought that the dead person will be using these all articles at the other place.

Decline of IVC

There was a divisionary debate among the historians regarding decline of IVC. Some historians claimed that Aryan Invasion was the possible reason behind the decline of Indus Valley But this theory was rejected. As per the scientific evidence it is confirmed ~~due~~ that decline of IVC was due to Inundation and frequent flooding. By 1800 BC IVC completely disappeared from Indian Subcontinent.

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Chalcolithic Culture (1800 BC - 1500 BC)

It is derived from the word chalco which means copper and lith means stone.
The chalcolithic culture signifies usage of copper and stone tools simultaneously.
Though this practice began in the Neolithic phase only But its dominant phase was b/w 1800 - 1500 BC.

In b/w 1800 - 1500 BC the livelyhood of chalcolithic people was depended on agricultural activity, animal husbandry, stock ~~grazi~~ raising, phishing etc.

They also produced textile and some metal crafts.
One of the very important development in this phase was uniform practice of dead burial and moreover they also followed direction N-S while burrying their dead at majority of the places.

Copper was the most widely used metal in this phase which was obtained from Ahar, Gilund, Khetri & Jhunjhunu mines of Rajasthan.

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Important pockets of chalcolithic culture (1800-1500 BC)

Ahar - Banas (Raj)
Kayadh (MP)
Malwa (MP, Guj)
Svaldah (maharashtra)

Advent of Aryans

Aryans started to arrive in Indian sub-continent by 1500 BC from central Asia or Steppes grass-land. They were nomadic and pastoralist. Cattle was their most important wealth. Their most important wealth was cattle and for their cattle they were ~~always~~ always insearch of good pasture land.

The term aryan stands for liguistic community who spoke aryan group of languages.

Aryans were able to defeat indegenous popl^n of India by their usage of superior Bronze tools which included even mail coats and helmets. Moreover they were using horses and horse driven chariots which provided swiftness to their army.

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Initially aryans were concentrated in NW part of Indian subcontinent which includes NWFP, Keshmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal, Western UP & Northern Rajasthan.

Aryans after arriving in Indian Sub-continent started to compose Veda in Sanskrit language.

The first Veda to be composed was Rig Veda which is the most important source of information about early Aryans.

Initially the Veda was oral composition i.e. Shruti - the one you listen to.

In Rig Veda Himalaya mountains are mentioned as Himavant Pravat. It also mentions Sapta-Sindhu rivers which are as follows —

Present day Name	Original Name
Indus	Sindhu
Jhelum	Vitasta
Chenab	Askini
Ravi	Parushani
Beas	Vipasa
Satulaj	Shutudri
Saraswati	Naditarna / Harkhawati

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(II) Early Vedic Period (1500-1000 BC)

Economy during Early vedic period -

Cattle was the most important economic wealth of early Aryans. Its importance is highlighted through many words associated with cattles mentioned in Rig Veda.

Gopa → Cow

Gopajanya → master of cow

Duhitri → milcher of cow

Godhuma → the one which germinates in cow dung (wheat)

Godhuli → the time when cow returns to its shade (Dusk)

Aghanya → not to be killed

Gavisthi → search for cows

Even battles were fought for securing large no. of cattles. The other important economic commodity in this period was barley known as Yava & wheat.

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There was no formal system of taxation but people contributed voluntarily to the chief of community which was known as Bali or Bhaga.

Dec 4

Polity during IVC

The head of Aryan tribal community was known as Rajan. His most important work was organising battle for securing large no. of cattle.
Rajan was assisted by sabha, samiti and vidhat.

Sabha – most decisive assembly which was exclusive in nature number wise as it included elder members of the society But gender wise it was inclusive since it had both males & females as members.

Samiti – Number wise it was inclusive but it was less decisive in nature. Only males were part of this assembly.

Vidhata – It was a cohesive and small assembly which included both males and females. Its exact function was not clear but it has been mentioned at few places in Rig veda that it was involved in religious rituals decision.

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Bharata was the most important and powerful Aryan tribe of this time. The ruler of Bharata tribe Sudas had to take a policy decision in which head priest of Bharat Clan was to be appointed. Sudas gave the coveted position of head priest to Vashisth rishi instead of Vishwa mitra. Humiliated Vishwamitra persuaded 5 Aryan Rajans and 5 non Aryan Rajans to fight with Sudasa. As such Dasrajan war was fought on the banks of river Parushni in which Sudash defeated Dasrajan. After this war the entire territory was named after his clan i.e. Bharat Varsha.

Society During Early Vedic Period

Society was organised on the lines of Kula, Vis, Gram.

Kul = Family

Vis = Clan

Gram = Community

Kul was the most important unit of the society. Head of family was Kulapa who was the eldest male member of the family.

Society was patriarchial in nature But women were highly respected in society.

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Lec - 5

women enjoyed political rights as they were members of sabha and vidhat. women were allowed to participate in educational discourse similar to males.
Ex - Lopmudra was one of the intellectuals of this time known for her debate and discussion.

marriage rights

We have not come across any instance of child marriage during this period. Love marriage was allowed under Gandharva vivah. wherby both males and females were allowed to chose their spouces. But from their own community.
widow remarriage was allowed under Niyog vivah whereby widow was allowed to get married with younger brother of the deceased brother. moreover if she had a son out of the first marriage then she was suggested not to marry.
Slavery were rampant at this point of time there were two kinds of slaves — Das and Dasyu.
Defeated aryans were Das and non-Aryans were Dasyu. many a times Das were given favourable treatment ~~wer~~ but Dasyu were heavily discriminated. In Rig Veda there is a mention of Dasyuhatya which means mass killing of Dasyu.

Polygamy & Polyandry were allowed. (not general) only some instances.

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Religious practices of Early Vedic Period

Early vedic people personified the elements of nature into God. As such following important divinity emerged at this point of time.

(i) Indra – He was considered as the God of rain & thunderstorm also known as Purandhar meaning breaker of forts.
He was the most important divinity mentioned more than 250 times in Rig Veda.

(ii) Agni – 2nd important divinity. God of fire. He was considered as intermediary God. mentioned more than 200 times in Rig Veda.

(iii) Varun – God of water. He was worshiped for maintaining equilibrium or cosmic order.

(iv) Mitra – 4th important divinity and God of wind

Apart from all these divinities Sun God was also worshiped.

Pushan = God of animals.

Female Divinities —

Aditi – Goddess of day
Usha – —— morning/Dawn
Nisha – —— Dusk
Savitri – —— Daylight/Sunlight

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Gyatri mantra composed by Vishwa mitra was dedicated to Sun God and Goddess Savitri.

The mode of worship was through offering sacrifices and performance of Yajna. which also involved recitation of prayers and mantras. The objective of worship was material gain and not spritual purpose.

(#) LATER VEDIC PERIOD

It is said that the discovery of iron around 1000 BC marked the begining of later vedic period. It was discovered from place like Atranjkheda and Kheda in UP. with iron sharp tools were created which facilitated in clearing the dense forest of gangetic plane. more over very fertile land was available for agriculture practices. With this Aryans further penetrated into Eastern part of the country and central India.

They mentioned following parts —

North west — Bramhavrat
North — Aryavrat
East — Purva Khand
Central — madhya desh

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In the later vedic text there is mention of Ganga, Yamuna But the river which was often mentioned was Gandak or Sadnira.

Polity During later Vedic Period

The position of Rajan became much more important at this point of time. The early political assembly of Vidhat disappeared completely. Sabha and Sameti lost their formal relevence moreover women were evicted from assembly of Sabha. At this time priestly class assumed very important role of aiding and advising rajan. To confer supreme power to Rajan priestly class devised ritual sacrifices which are as follows –

(i) Rajsuiya – It was basically a consecration ceremony. In this ceremony ~~excess~~ accession of Rajan to throun happen with the blessings of preistly class.

(ii) Vajpeya – In this ceremony sports events chariots race was to be organised. After the end of sports event a grant feast was throun to public.

(iii) Ashwamedha – This ritual sacrifice was associated with territory expansion in which a bruised house was let loosed with the flag of kingdom to run into territory of other kingdoms.

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If the ruler of other kingdom captures the horse then a fight was insured and whoever would be victorious will control the entire territory.
But if the other ruler does not captures the horse then it means he has accepted supermacy of Ashwamedha king.
On the last day of ceremony horse was brought back to kingdom and it was sacrificed along with 21 sterile cows and more than 200 bulls.

Economy during later Vedic Period

At this point of time land became most important economic wealth. Battles at this time were fought for securing large tracts of land. The importance of land is highlighted in the later Vedic tex with the term Rashtra.
There was no formal system of taxation and people voluntarily contributed in the form of Bhaga / Bali.

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Society

Women didn't enjoy any political rights at this point of time, as they were no more member of Sabha and Vidhat disappeared completely.

Educational discourse was still open to women they were allowed to participate in intellectual debate and discussion.

Gandarva Vivah was not encouraged at this point of time.

There were instances of Anuloma & Pratiloma marriages.

Anuloma = Higher caste men married to lower caste women

Pratiloma = Higher caste women married to lower caste men.

Though non of the marriages were encouraged but Anuloma was accomodated.

No instance of child marriage has come to light.

Widow re-marriage continued under Niyog Vivah.

In the 10th mandala of Rig Veda under Purusha Sukti it was mentioned to divide society into 4 Varnas on the basis of birth — i.e - Brahman, Ksatriya, Vaishya, Shudra.

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Brahman – Emerged from the mouth of Primeval man (Adi Bramha)
Ksatriya – —— " —— shoulder | chest ——
Vaishya – —— " —— thigh ——
Shudra – —— " —— Feet ——

Gotra which means lineage from common ancestor was further consolidated at this point of time. Brahmins advised exogamy of gotra in the matters of matrimonial alliance.

Brahmins also consolidated the concept of 16 samskara. Some of important are Upanayan samskar = Sacred thread ceremony,
Vivah samskara – marriage ceremony
Antyesti Samskara – last rite
Annaprasana –
Namakarana –

The first 3 stages of Ashram system came to reality at this point of time –

(i) Bramhacharya – celebacy period & Study period
(ii) Grehastha – married life & its responsibility
(iii) Vanaprastha – partial retirement from householders life to attain wisdom.
(iv) Sanyasa – complete retirement from householder's life to attain enlightenment. (came to reality at the time of Buddha & Mahavir)

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Religious Practices

The early vedic gods like Indra, Agni, Varun etc. lost their former importance and at this point of time Prajapati / Bramha (creater of the Universe) emerged as the most important God. moreover Rudra & Vishnu also emerged as important God.

The mode of worship at this point of time was through prayers, recitation of mantra, performance of Yajna and offering sacrifices.

The objective of the worship was to seek material gain, wealth & prosparity But it was not for spritualism.

In the later half of the later Vedic period ~~[illegible]~~ the progressive section of society started reform movements whereby they emphasised spritualism to be the most important objective of worship.

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RISE OF 16 MAHAJANAPADA

By the 6th C BC 16 mahajanapada emerged in India. Mahajanpads were big territorial states with well established system of administeration. more over they were also known for having large standing army

The intial mahajanpada history can be traced from Buddist and jain books like Anguttar Nikaya & Mahavastu of Buddism and Bhagwati Sutra of Jainism.

Rise of magadh as most powerful mahajanapad –

Initially kasi and kosala were the most powerful and rich mahajanapad but over the period magadh emerged as the most powerful mahajanapad.

Its reasons are as follows –

(i) Magadh capital Rajgriha was stratagically located. It was surrounded by 5 mountains which inturn ~~provided~~ / safeguarded the capital.

(ii) magadh rulers used the abundant river channels for trade and commerce.

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(iii) Magadh was densely forested which provided good quality timber.

(iv) Magadh had huge reservoir of iron with which they created good quality of tools and maintained a very strong army.

(v) Magadh rulers were unorthodox and enterprising in nature.

(I) Haryanka Dynasty (554 BC – 412 BC)

Bimbisar was founder of Haryanka Dynasty in Magadh. To increase his power and authority he followed the policy of matrimonial alliance whereby he married Mahakoshal Devi of Kashi, Chellana of Lichavi and Khema of Madra.

Following the policy of military annexation he annexed Mahajanapada of Anga and placed it under his son Ajatsatru.

He sent his famous physician Jivak to Avanti to treat Chanda Pradyota who was suffering from jaundice. As such friendly relation developed b/w Avanti and Magadh.

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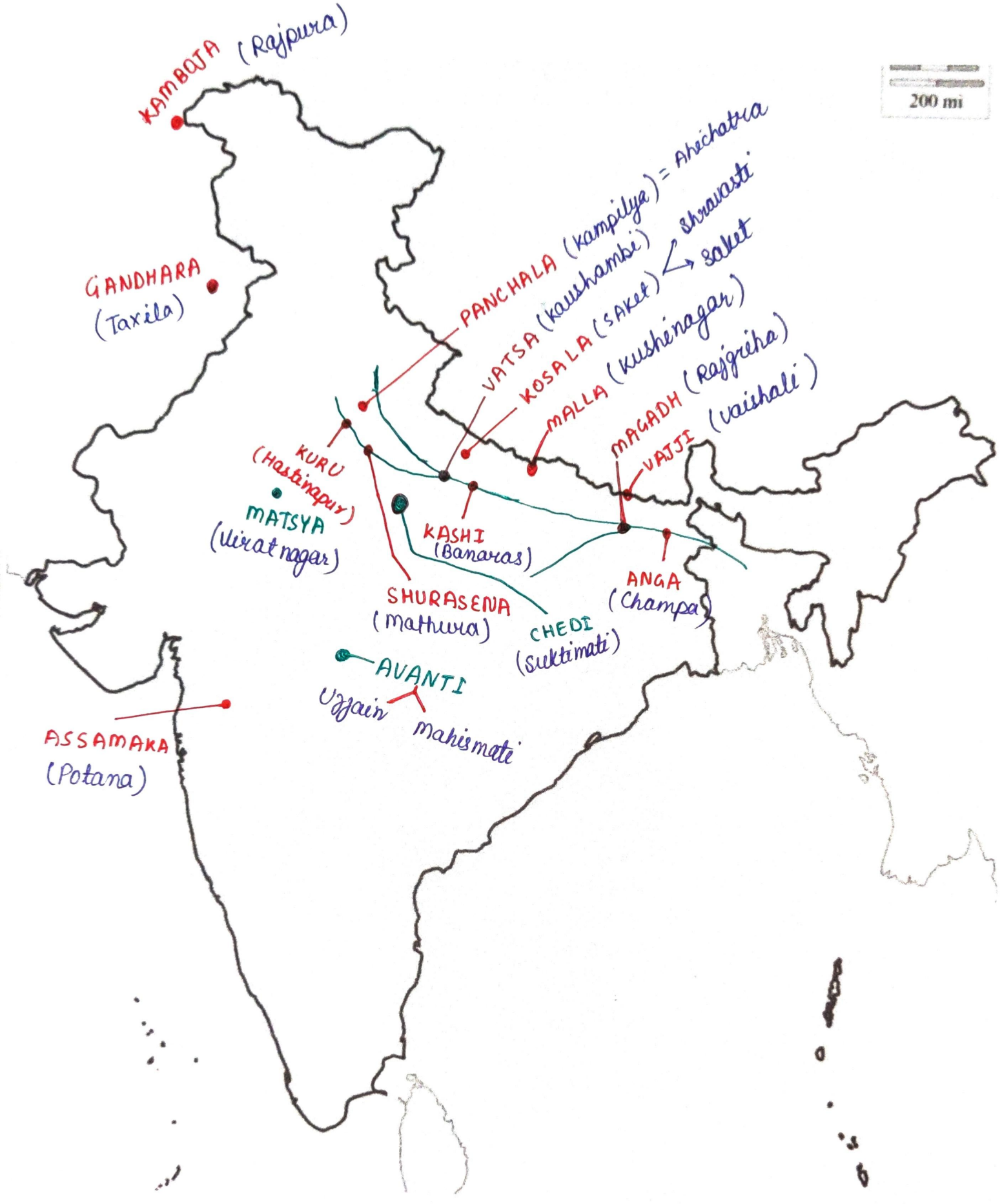

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Bimbisar was contemporary of Buddha and he respected Buddha alot.

Ajatshatru (492-460 BC) [Chellana's son]

He came to power after assassinating Bimbisara. After which his authority was challenged by kashi & Lichavi rulers. He had to wage a fight with kashi and Lichavi. In the course of war there was agreement b/w kashi ruler Presenjit and Ajatshatru But not ~~b/~~ with Lichavi.

Ajatshatru completely destroyed the capital of Lichavi i.e. Vaishali.

In this war against Lichavi Ajatshatru used two innovative war engines.

(a) Ratha musala – a revolving mace was attached to a chariot.

(b) mahashilakantaka – It was a flexible platform to catalpult stones.

Ajatshatru was also contemporary of Buddha and had huge respect for Buddha. In 483 BC after the death of Buddha Ajatshatru convened first Buddhist council at Rajgriha in 483 BC.

Ajatshatru before his death decided to shift capital of magadh from Rajgriha to Patliputra. He died

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460 BC.

Udayén (460 BC - 440 BC)

The next successor udayén constructed the beutiful city of Pattlipuhra.

The last ruler of Haryanka Nagadasak was assacinated by one of his minister Shishunaga who established Shishunaga Dynasty in magadh.

Shishunaga Dynasty (412-344 BC)

Shishunaga completely annexed the mahajanapade of Avanti he also decided to shift capital from pattliputra to vaishali.

After his death kalashok became the next emperor.

During the tenure of kalashok 2nd Buddhist council was convened in 383 BC @ Vaishali. In which informal division of Buddhism happened.

Kalashok was assassinated by a person

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mahapadmanand who established Nanda dynasty in magadh in 344BC.
It was first Non-Ksatriya dynasty of magadh.

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NANDA DYNASTY

It was founded by mahapadma nand in 344 BC. After coming to power he took resol ~~that he to~~ to eliminate all the kshtriyas from magadh.
Due to his aggressive attitude he came to be known as EKARAT or UGRASENA.
He annexed kalinga during his tenure. In a quick succession, after the death of mahapadnand, many rulers were appointed.
The last ruler of Nanda Dynasty was Dhanand. who was also the most powerful Nanda ruler.

At this time ruler of Macedonia Alexander started his eastern campaign. In 326 BC he fought with the Indian ruler Porus in battle of Hydaspes (Jhelum r.).
Though Alexandar defeated Porus but impressed by his bravery he reinstated Porus and made him his ally.
Alexander planned to attack on magadh but his army was exhausted because of continuous wars

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and it wanted time to recuperate. As such Alexander decided not to attack on magadh.

Very soon when Alexander was returning to macedonia he was attacked treacherously and because of the injuries he died.

MAURYA DYNASTY (321 - 185 BC)

Dhananand was defeated and killed by chandragupta maurya in 321 BC.
The defeat of Nanda ruler was possible due to the active support of Vishnu gupta or kautilya or chanakya.
The political mechanisation ~~mentioned~~ devised by kautilya against Nanda ruler is mentioned in historical work Mudrarakshasha written by Visakhadutta.

In 305 BC Chandragupta fought with Selenkos Nikator (Greek governor of Alexander). Again with the active support of kautilya he defeated Nicator. After the battle a friendship treaty was signed whereby Nicator gave area lying west of river Indus to Maurya. He also married his daughter Helena with Chandragupta

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mauryа. As per the treaty one greek ambassodor megasthanese was appointed in mauryа's court. megasthanese wrote a very famous book Indica. which provides details about socio-political conditions during mauryа period.

Under the influence of a Jain monk Bhadrabahu, Chandragupta mauryа professed jainism & decided to shift to a place called Shravana Belgola in karnataka. At this place Chandragupta followed extreme Jain penance Sallekhana & died in typical jain fashion in 299 B C.

After the death of chandragupta mauryа his son Bindusar came to power.

Bindusar maintained cordeal relation with the ruler of Egypt Philadelphius Ptolemy and syrian ruler Antiochux.

Bindusar requested for sweet wine, fig and philosopher from the Syrian ruler. Though Syrian ruler sent sweet wine and fig but refused to sent philospher as the rule of Syria didn't allowed this.

In 299 BC Bindusar convened first Jain Council at Patliputra. One of the major development

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of this council was division of Jainism into two branches.

After the death of Bindusar in 273 BC a war of succession started among his sons which continued for next 4 years.

In 269 BC one of his son Asoka emerged successful after killing ~~to~~ hundred of his brother.

Ashoka (269 BC – 232 BC)

Three phases of Ashoka life :-

(i) Kamashoka

He was involved with physical pleasure.

(ii) Chandashoka

It was extreme and brutal phase of Ashoka's life where he did military annexation with large level of annexation.

(iii) Dhamma Ashoka

In this phase he accepted Buddhism and propagated Dhamma.

After coming to power the biggest challenge for Ashoka was Kalinga. In his 9th regenal year i.e. 261 BC he decided to attack on Kalinga.

The Battle was fought at the sight of Dhauli

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*Before = Ajivika

On the banks of river Daya. It is said that near about 1 lakh soldiers died in this Battle. when Ashoka saw blood red Daya river he was filled with guilt and remorse. He decided to abandon the policy of Bherigosh (military annexation). After Kalinga war Ashoka accepted Buddhism* & started policy of Dhammagosh (socio-cultural annexation).

In 250 BC Ashoka convened 3rd Buddhist council at Pathliputra. It is considered to be most important Buddhist council because of the development which happened in the council. For example reform in Buddhism, composition of Abhidhamma pitaka and Buddhist missionary activity.

Ashoka sent his son Mahendra and daughter Sanghmitra to Sri Lanka for the propagation of Buddhism.

He also sent various Buddhist missions to East Asia and central Asia.

Ashoka after establishing a very large Maurya empire died in 232 BC after his death Mauryan territory started to disintegrate under the weak

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successor. The last maurya ruler Brihadratha was assassinated by one of his minister Pushyamitra Sunga in 185 BC.

Administration of Maurya's

Saptanga (7 organs of mauryan administration)

1. Swami – king
2. Ammatya – ministers
3. Kosha – treasury
4. Bala – Army
5. Janapada = Durg – Fort
6. Mitra – ally
7. Shatru – Enemy

Important officials

1. Dhamma mahamātya's → minister associated with propagation of Dhamma (Doctarine of Buddhism = moral ethical code of conduct).

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② Shulkadyaksha = Tax collector

③ Sitadyaksha (land) = minister responsible to look after Royal land

④ Nagarika = Supritendent of city administration

⑤ Bhesaj = physicians (doctors)

Mauryas also established a very good network of espionage known as Guptachar Vibhag.
Mauryan rulers were also aware about importance of public welfare whereby they created public hospitals and also improved irrigation facility by creating canals and diggeing wells.
Perhaps Ashoka was the first ruler who created a wildlife sanctuary for the protection of animals.

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Society during Maurya Period

As per Megasthanese there were 7 caste in the Mauryas time which are —

Councellors
Priest
Shramana (monk)
Herdsman
Peasants
Philosophers
Artisans

It seems that megasthanese confused profession with caste.

There was mobility in the society and people can rise to important position with their capacity and capability.

Religious toleration and accomodation was also very well there in Maurya times.

Generally Shramana & Brahmins were accorded high respect and many a times they were exempted from paying taxes.

women and elders were also respected in the society and there were instances of women being appointed to some official positions.

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POST MAURYA

OUTSIDERS	INDIGENOUS
Indogreeks	Shunga
Shakas	Kanva
Parthians	Satvahana
Kushanas	

INDO-GREEKS

They started arriving in Indian sub-continent by 165 BC. Indo-Greeks were the first people who issued gold coins. Their most important ruler was Menander who established his capital @ Shakala (Sialkot, Pak). He was pursuaded by a Buddhist monk Nagasen. As such menander asked many questions to Nagasen and nagasen gave satisfactory reply to each of the questions as such Menander accepted Buddhism and also took a new name Milind.

The historical conversation b/w Menander and Nagasen is mentioned in Milinda Panho.

Indo-Greeks introduced curtains in India.

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Shakas (90 BC)

Shakas or Scythians started to arrive in India by 90 BC. They arrived in many branches but the most important was the western branch of Shaka. The most important ruler of this branch was Rudradaman. Rudradaman is known for his Junagarh inscription which was the first inscription written in pure or chaste Sanskrit. In this he mentions Sudarshan lake of kathiawar which was constructed by one of the Chandragupta's Maurya's governor Pushyagupta maurya.

He further mentions that he himself repaired the Sudarshan lake.

In the next part of inscription Rudradaman mentions that twice he defeated Satvahna ruler Vasishthi-putra satkarni But everytime he spared life of satvahana ruler to respect the matrimonial alliance b/w two kingdoms.

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Parthians (25 AD)

Parthians started arriving by 25 AD. The most important Parthian ruler in India was Gondophernus. During his tenure a christian missionary St. Thomas came to India from Israel to propagate Christianity.

KUSHANA

Central Asians
↓
Kushana
|
2 Branches
- 65 AD — Kadphise
- 78 AD — Kanishka

Kushana belonged to Yueché tribe of Central Asia.
They arrived in two branches i.e. Kadphise branch (65 AD) and Kanishka branch (78 AD).
Kujul Kadphise was the intial ruler followed by Wimm Kadphise.
Kadphise rulers release their coins in India. On the obverse side of the coin image of king was created and on the reverse side image of a free standing person holding a trident along with a Bull was depicted.
It indicates that kushanas were devotee of Shiva.

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Kanishka branch arrived in India by 78 AD. He defeated nothern branch of Shaka to commemorate his victory he started Shaka era from 78 AD.

With the arrival of Kanishka there was a new wave of urbanisation in India.

Kanishka founded two new cities i.e. Kanishkapur and Purushapur. He also further urbanised mathura. His tenure is also known for very high level of monetisation. He released large number of Gold coins which were purest of the pure quality. He utilised silk route for establishing trade with China and western world.

In 78 AD Kanishka convened 4th Buddhist council @ kundalvana in Kashmir under the influence of Ashvagosh he accepted Mahayan Buddhism.

He also patronised Gandhara & mathura style of sculpture.

Kushana introduced longover court, Boots and kurta Pyjama outfit in Indian subcontinent.

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INDIGENOUS DYNASTIES

SHUNGA DYNASTY (185BC)

This dynasty was founded by a Brahmin Pushyamitra Shunga.

Pushyamitra tried to revive Vedic rituals. He also performed an Ashwamedha Yajna which is mentioned in Ayodhya inscription. He also destroyed many Buddhist stupas. Patanjali was the contemporary of Pushyamitra Shunga who propounded philosophy of Yoga and wrote Yogasutra.

Next ruler was Agnimitra sunga whose love affair with malavika is mentioned in historical work of kalidas malvikagnimitra. He was followed by Vasumitra Shunga. During his tenure the stupas which were destroyed by Pushyamitra Shunga were restored. During the tenure of Shunga ruler Bhagabhadra a greek ambessador Heliodorus not only accepted hinduism but also erected a pillar at Bhilsa (Vidisha, MP) to mark the worship of lord Vishnu. The pillar was popularly known as Garud Dhawaj. It is considered as 1st Archaelogical

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evidence of Vishnu worship.

KANVA (75 BC)

Shunga dynasty was replaced by Kanva in 75 BC. This dynasty was founded by Vasudev Kanva who also promoted vedic hinduism.
In 1st c AD Kanva's were defeated by Satvahna who were the rulers of Deccan and annexed Magadh into their kingdom.

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SATVAHANA DYNASTY

Satvahanas were also known as Andhra or Andhrabhritya. The most important source of their history is Hindu religious text Purana.

In the 1st century AD Satvahan kingdom was firmly established by Simuk.

One of the important ruler of Satvahana who was Hala who Patronised Art & literature. He wrote a famous erotic love poetry Gatha Saptasati.

Gautami Putra Satakarni was the most important ruler of Satvahana. His mother Gautami Balashree proclaimed in Nashik inscription that Satkarni is the only protector of Brahmin.

Initiatives

(i) Satvahans were the first rulers in India who started to release lead coins for commercial transactions.

(ii) They were also the first rulers who started the practice of granting lands to Brahmins and monks in lieu of their service.

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GUPTA DYNASTY

Gupta Dynasty emerged around 230 AD its initial ruler was Sri Gupta. But they were not very powerful in the 3rd Century AD. In the second decade of 4th C Chandragupta I filled the void created due to demise of the Kushanas in North India. With his efforts Chandragupta brought North, East and Central India under one central authority.

Chandragupta I (319 – 335 AD)

Chandragupta followed the policy of matrimonial alliance also whereby he married Kumardevi of Licchavi. To celeberate this marriage special type of Kumardevi coins were released. On the obverse side of the coin image of King & Queen was created and on the reverse side of the coin either of the three goddess Laxmi, Parvati, Saraswati was created.

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Samudragupta (335 - 375 AD)

He was the most powerful Gupta ruler. He is also known as second chakravartin samrat of India. His court poet Harisen wrote Prayag Prashasti which was eulogization of Samudragupta. In this Harisen has mentioned that Samudragupta won more than 100 battles and never faced a single defeat.

Samudragupta was an ardent believer of Hinduism. He performed Asvamedha yajna also. He also gave permission to the Srilankan ruler Meghavarman to create a Buddhist monestary at Bodh Gaya.

Samudragupta was also acomplished poet and musician. In one of his coins he has been depicted playing musical instrument Veena.

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Chandra gupta II (385 - 415 AD)

Chandra gupta II after coming to power took the title of Vikramaditya. He created Ujjain as the 2nd capital of the Guptas. He is considered as the most enlightened ruler of the Guptas. There was holistic development during his tenure in the fields of temple architecture, sanskrit literature, Hindu religious literature, mathematics, astrology, astronomy, mettalurgy, medicine etc.

⊙ Prayag 1st Capital

He maintained several luminaries in his court which includes Kalidas
Amarsimha
Varahmihir
Dhanvantari
Vara ruchi

He married his daughter Prabhavati to the Vakataka ruler Rudrasena. After the death of Rudrasena Prabhavati administered the Vakataka area under the guidance of Chandragupta II.

During the tenure of the Chandragupta II Chinese Buddhist traveller Fa-Hein visited Gupta's court. He wrote a book Fu-kuo-ki which is one of the important book which gives details about

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Socio-economic-political conditions during Guptas.

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KUMAR GUPTA (415 - 450 BC)

He founded Nalanda university under the influence of Fahein. The university had dedicated physical infrastructure like classrooms, hostels, library etc. Infact it is said that Nalanda liberary was the largest in the world. It regularly conducted exam on the basis of pre define syllabus and promotion to next grade was based on the outcome of exam.

On the other hand Taxila university didn't had dedicated physical structure like Nalanda and education was imparted in Guru-Shisya Parampara. Regular exams were not conducted But students were tested by the Guru on the basis of their knowledge in an informal setup.

On one hand the learning in Nalanda was concentrated around Buddhism But Taxila was multidiscipilinary in nature.

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SKANDA GUPTA (455 - 467)

He was the last important ruler of Gupta Dynasty. He also repaired Sudarshan lake which he mentioned in Junagarh inscription.

During his tenure a barbaric tribe from Central Asia Hunas started to invade Gupta territory. Skanda Gupta effectively repelled them. But after the death of Skandagupta Hunas reorganised themselves under the leadership of Toramana & Mihirkula and completly looted the Gupta territory. It marked the decline and disintegration of Guptas who disappeared from India by 550 AD.

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ECONOMY

Land tax was the most important source of revenue. It was fixed at 1/6 of the produce during normal times. But in emergency situations it was altered. For example - It was enhanced during the external war or aggression and reduced at the time of Natural calamity.

Guptas continued with the practice of land grant. It was not only granted to the priestly class But also to the important officers and Nobels.

Agrahara & Bramhadeya were special land grants given to Brahmins.

Vishthi - type of tax paid in form of physical labour/ forced labour

Important Ports of Guptas

West	East
Chaul	Kadura
Kalyan	Ghantashila
Bharuch	Tamralipti
Cambay	

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Administrative Units				Head
Bhukti	—	Province	→	Bhuktipati
~~Vithi~~	—	~~Zone~~	→	~~Vithipati~~
Vishaya	—	District	→	Vishayapati
Vithi	—	Block	→	Vithipati
Gram	—	Village	→	Gramani

Religion

By post Maurya period concept of Trideu was already consolidated. In Gupta period Trideui concept was fully formalised i.e. Saraswati, Laxmi and Parvati.

Moreover the concept of devotion or Bhakti superceded the practice of animal sacrifice.

A majority of Hindu literature was written down at this point of time which includes Puranas.

Another major development in the Gupta period was begining of construction of temples which gave rise to Nagar style of temple.

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Society

Though the Gupta rulers tried to uplift the position of women in society But they were not successful. many restrictions were imposed on them regarding their movement. Higher class women were not allowed to secure independent source of living but lower class women were allowed to do so.

Women were allowed to participate in religious discourse and they were allowed to listen to religious literature.

The first archaelogical evidence of Sati has been found in Gupta period. Eran inscription (MP) which is dated around 510 AD mentions Sati Pratha.

The famous law giver of this time Katyayana further clarified the concept of StreeDhan. He maintained that the precious articles and jwellary given to the girl at the time of her marriage is meant for her maintainance and only she has the right to sell it and mortagage it.

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By the time of Post mauryа two types of Shudra emerged.

Anirvasita Shudra — lived inside village or town

Nirvasita shudra — not allowed to live inside village or town.

During Gupta period large number of Chandala who were category of Niravasita shudra emerged. They were living in the graveyards and on the peripheries of towns & villages.

Several disabilities were imposed on them for ex. they needed to blow horn or beat drum whenever they entered inside village. moreover they can't ~~moreover~~ enter in early morning and remain till late evening as their shadows were also considered as pollute.

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SANGAM AGE

Around 4 C BC three dynasties emerged in south Asia. which were The Chera, Chola and Pandya.

Cheras were also mentioned as Keralaputra in mauryan inscriptions.

The Cheras

Intial ruler was Udayin jerdl.

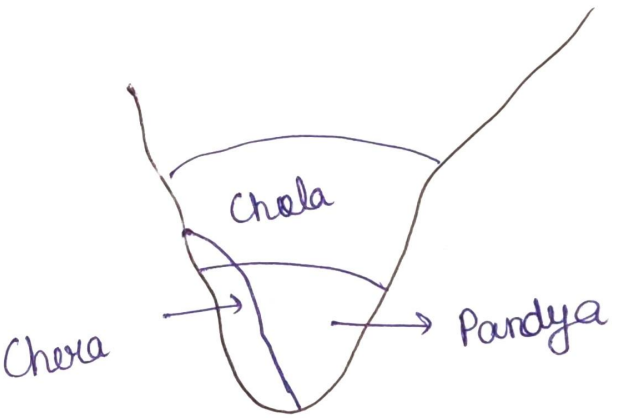
capital – Karur

most important ruler was Senguttavan also known as Good chera or Red Chera.

He founded temple of Kannagi – Goddess of chastity.

He also founded Pattini Cult.

Most important port of chera was Muziri.



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The Cholas

Intial ruler — Elara

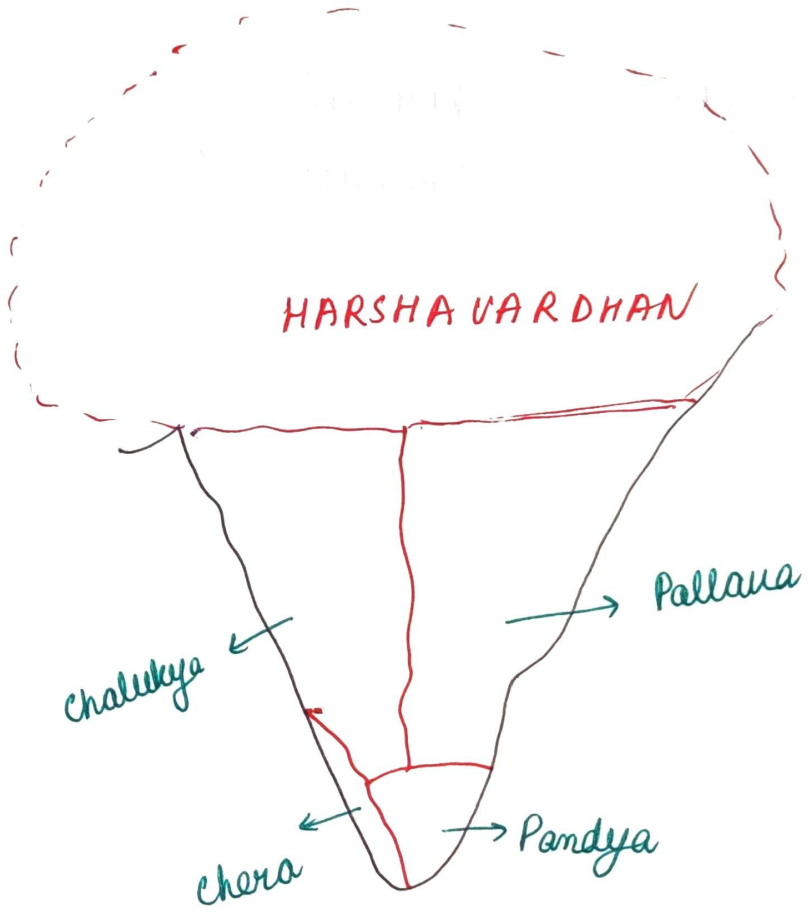
Capital — Kaveri patnam & Puhar

Most important ruler — Karikala.

Perhaps he was the first ruler who created Kalanai dam on Kaveri river.

Most important port — Kaveripatnam

Arikamedu (Puducherry)



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The Pandyas

Intial ruler — mudukumudi

capital — madurai

Most important ruler — Nedunjeliyan

He is known for curse of kannagi.

During tenure of Pandyan three Sangam assemblies were held which gave rise to Tamil literature.

most important port — korkai

Thuthukodi

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All the three dynasties of Sangam age were quite rich and had powerful naval system. They traded spices, ivory, pearls and cotton textile with Arab traders and further to the Roman areas.

PUSHYABHUTI DYNASTY

After the demise of Guptas a vacuum was created in North India which was filled by Pushyabhuti Dynasty based in Sthaneshwar (Haryana) by 600 AD. Prabhakarvardhan was the founder of this Dynasty. He married his daughter Rajyashri to the maukhari ruler of Kannauj Grahavarman.

After the death of Prabhakarvarman his elder son Rajyavardhan became the ruler. At this time one of his adversary Shashank Gauda killed Grahvarman and captured Rajyashri. He also assassinated Rajyavardhan treacherously.

After which young Harshavardhan became the next ruler. Harshavardhan first freed the

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sister Rajyashri from the captivity of Shashank. He also established his hold over Kannauj and made Kannauj as his capital.

Shashank was a formadable enemy and it took almost 30 yrs to finally defeat Shashank and annex the eastern territory.

Harshavardhan was an ambitious ruler. He wanted to expand his territory further south of Narmada river. As such he fought with Chalukya ruler Pulkeshin II. In which Pulkeshin II defeated Harshavardhan. After the battle a friendship treaty was signed b/w the two rulers mentioned in Aihole inscription. As per the treaty it was agreed that in future they will not venture into each other territory and recognised Narmada river as boundary.

During the tenure of Harshavardhan the famous Chinese Buddhist traveller Hiuen Tsang (Xhuang Xiang) came to India. He wrote his experience of Harshavardhan court in his book Si-Yu-Ki. He writes that there was very strict provision

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for punishment even for the pettiest of the crime in Kannauj. He further adds that even in this situation the streets of Kannauj were not free from robbers.

Harshavardhan was devotee of lord Shiva and the Sun. Under the influence of Hiuen Tsang he also accepted Mahayana Buddhism.

To show his support to Mahayana Buddhism he convened two councils one at Kannauj and other at Prayag.

In both the councils Hiuen-Tsang gave elaborate lectures on Mahayana Buddhism.

After the councils Harshavardhan donated all his personal wealth and started to live like a monk.

The Chinese Tsang ruler sent an envoy led by I-Tsing to meet Harshavardhan in Kannauj But before the arrival of I-Tsing in Kannauj Harshavardhan died.

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Pallava & Chalukya

By the end of 6th c AD two important dynasties emerged in South India which were Chalukyas of Badami/Vatapi and Pallavas of Kanchi. From the very begining both the dynasties started to fight with each other on the question of controlling very fertile Tungabhadra Doab. Initially Chalukya ruler Pulkesein II defeated Pallava ruler Mahendravarman and captured area of Vengi. The area of Vengi was handed over to Vishnuvardhan who later founded Eastern Branch of Chalukya.

Mahendravarman's son Narsimha Verman decided to take revenge and captured the fertile area as such he attacked on Chalukya capital Badami and defeated Pulkesein II. He also captured Chalukya capital Badami/Vatapi.

To celebrate this victory he took the title of Vatapi konde (conqueror of Vatapi).

Both the dynasties are known for their contribution to the temple art in South India. Pallavas initiated rock-cut architecture which later

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transformed itself to Dravida style of temple architecture. Chalukyas initiated ~~Vesara~~ Vesara style of temple art.

After the demise of Pushyabhuti dynasty and defeat of Pulkesein II a vacuum was created in the North and central India. By 750 AD three dynasties emerged —

① Pala Dynasty of East (Bihar, Bengal)

② Pratihar Gurjar of West (Rajasthan etc)

③ Rashtrakuta Dynasty of Central India

① <u>Pala Dynasty</u>

Founder — Gopala by 750 AD
most important ruler — Dharmapala

He granted 200 villages to Nalanda University for its upkeep and maintainance.

He was also the founder of University of Vikramshila, Oddantpura and Somarupa.

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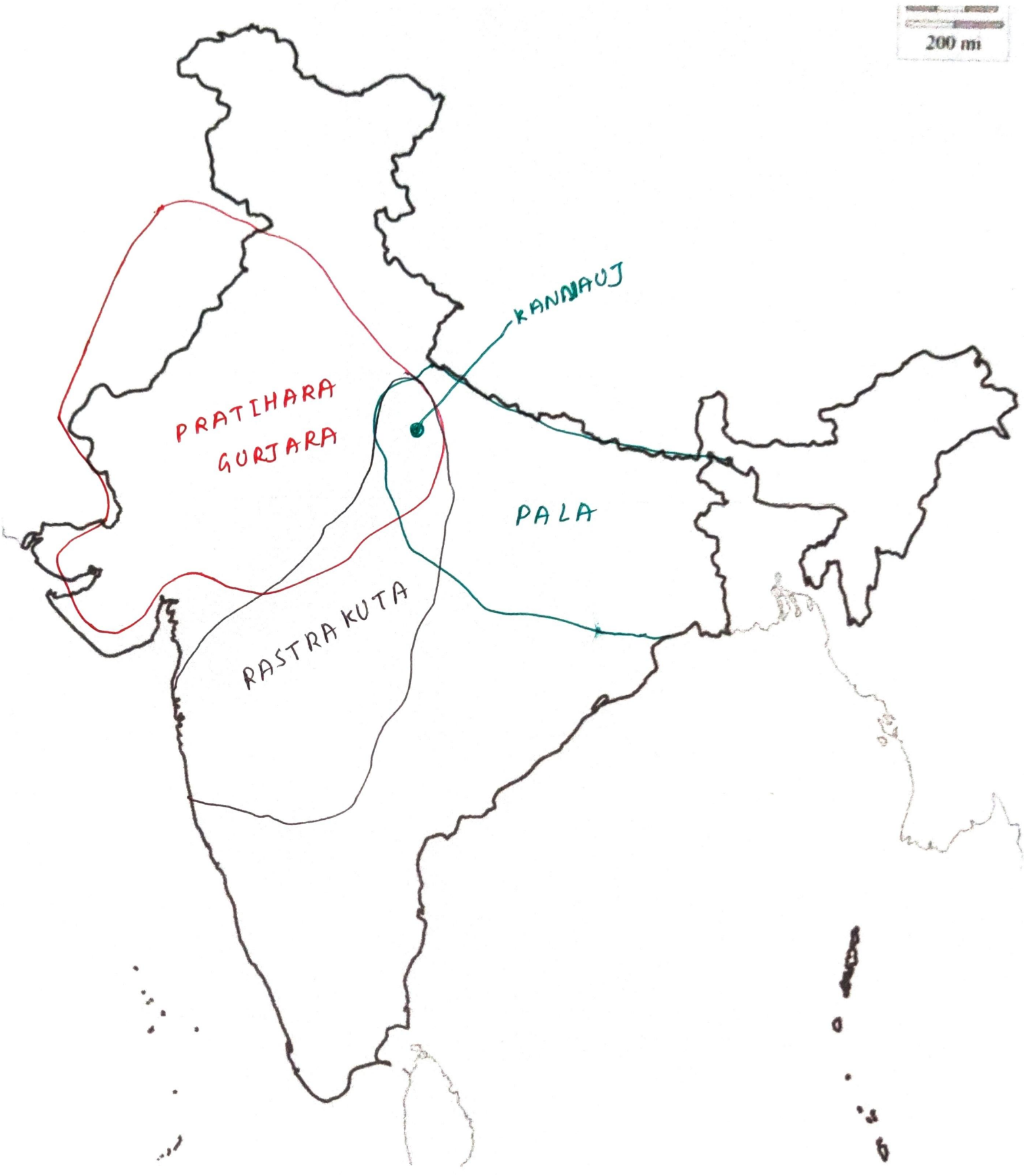

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Pala rulers were the followers of Buddhism. During their tenure miniature painting started in India.

② Pratihara-Gurjar Dynasty

The initial ruler of this Dynasty was Nagabhatta. It is said about him that he repelled one Arab invader from western side.

The most important ruler of this Dynasty was Mihir Bhoj.

Mihir Bhoj was devotee of Lord Vishnu and he took the title of Adi Vraha. He also initiated ~~Gurjar~~ construction of Gurjar style of temple in west.

During this time Gurjars created strongest cavalry. They procured very good quality of horses from central Asia.

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③ Rashtrakuta Dynasty

This dynasty was founded by Danti Dorga (757 AD).

The second ruler of this Dynasty was Krishna I. He created Kailashnath temple of Ellora. It is a monolith temple created from single stone. It is considered as one of the architectural wonder of India.

most important ruler — Amoghavarsha.
He patronised Kannada language and he wrote 1st poetic in Kannada i.e. Kaviraj marga.
Perhaps he is the second monarch from Ancient India who performed Sallekhna.

⊙ There was tripartite struggle b/w the three dynasties to control Kannauj in which finally Pratiharas were successful.

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Mainline / Imperial Chola

They were feudatories of Pallava. By the end of 9th c AD Vijayalaya usurped power from Pallavas and established mainline Chola dynasty in south.

The Chola territory was further expanded by Parataka and Adithya.

The most important ruler of mainline Chola was Raj Raja Chola and his son Rajendra Chola.

Raj Raja Chola defeated ~~Chola~~ Cheras at Trivandrum (Trivanantpuram) and Pandyas at Madurai.

He also annexed Northern part of Srilanka & considerable part of Cheras and Pandyas.

In 1011 AD he led the foundation of Brihadeshwara temple at Tanjore which is also considered as one of the architectural wonders of India.

The next ruler Rajendra I Chola was most powerful Chola ruler. He completely annexed Chera kingdom, Pandyas and Srilanka.

Rajendra I marched towards Gangetic plain and defeated Mahipala of gangetic dalta. To celebrate this victory he created a city on

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On the banks of river Kaveri known as Gangaikond Cholapuram.

Perhaps Rajendra I was the first Indian ruler who crossed Bay of Bengal and invaded cities of Shri vijaya in Malaya Peninsula. After this invasion cultural exchange b/w India and Malaya Peninsula started.

Administration

Perhaps Cholas were the first ruler who initated the process of decentralisation. They created many subdivisions in their area and officers were appointed with sufficient atonomy and Power.

Sub divisions are as follows:-

Chola mandalam → Entire Chola territory

mandalam → Province

Valanadu → Block

Nadu → Town or big village

Kottam → Small Village

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Chola rulers also acted as Bankers or financial institution whereby they provided loan to the people and charged interest.

Chola were one of the finest temple builders of that time. Temple was not just place of worship but it was also centre of education and area of market activity.

Perhaps they were the first rulers who emphasised on the importance of rainwater harvesting. Moreover they also wrote inscription regarding water conservation.

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