

# JAINISM

## POINTS-

Originally known as Nirgranth sect or shramans.

Oldest sources **Rig Veda** (Rishabh Dev or Adi Nath) 1<sup>st</sup> TIRTHANKARAS

• **Rishabhdev** as 1st Tirthankar:

• **Tirthankar Hierarchy:** Rishabhdev acknowledged as 1st Tirthankar.

• **Significance:** Highlights continuous spiritual tradition within Jainism.



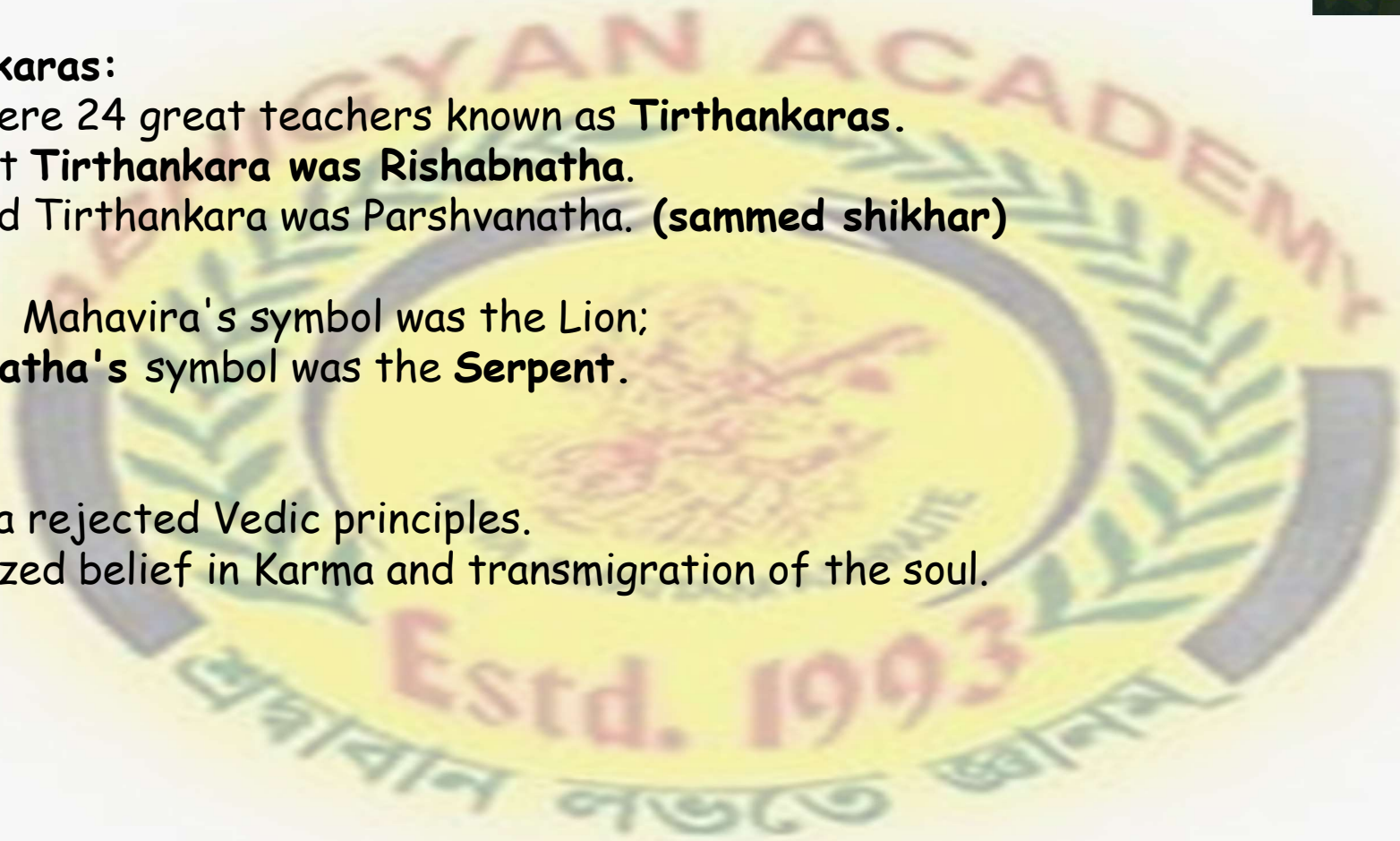
### **Tirthankaras:**

- There were 24 great teachers known as **Tirthankaras**.
- The first **Tirthankara** was **Rishabh**natha.
- The 23rd Tirthankara was Parshvanatha. (**samm**ed shikhar)

**Symbols:** Mahavira's symbol was the Lion;  
Parshvanatha's symbol was the **Serpent**.

### **Beliefs:**

- Mahavira rejected Vedic principles.
- Emphasized belief in Karma and transmigration of the soul.





### • Five Doctrines of Jainism

- **Ahimsa:** Non-injury to a living being
- **Satya:** Do not speak a lie
- **Asteya:** Do not steal
- **Aparigraha:** Do not acquire property
- **Brahmacharya:** Observe continence (added by Mahavira)

### • Three Jewels

- Right Faith (Samyakdarshana)
- Right Knowledge (Samyakjnana)
- Right Action (Samyakcharita)

### 3 Jewels of Jainism

- ✦ Darshana: Right Faith-right mindset/right seeing
- ✦ Jnana: Right Knowledge
- ✦ Caritra: Right Practice

### Five Doctrines of JAINISM (Pancha Mahavaratas)

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## •Vardhamana Mahavira, 24th Tirthankara

- Born in 540 B.C. in Kundagrama (Vaishali).
- Belonged to the **Jnatrika** clan, connected to Magadha's royal family.
- Father Siddharta** was the clan head, **mother Trishala** .
- Renounced home at 30, became an ascetic.
- Practiced **austerity for 12 years**, attained **Kaivalya** at 42.
- First sermon** delivered at Pava.
- Jamali**, son-in-law, was his first disciple.
- Symbol: Lion**.
- Missionary travels to Koshala, Magadha, Mithila, Champa, etc.
- Passed away at 72 in 468 B.C. in Pavapuri, Bihar.



## Sect/Schools of Jainism

### 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.
- **Bhadrabahu** was an exponent of this sect.

### Svetambara

- Monks wear white clothes.
- Follow only **4 vows** (except brahmacharya).
- **Believe women** can achieve liberation.
- **Sthulabhadra** was an exponent of this sect.





## Ajivika Sect

- **Founder:** Goshala Maskariputra, contemporary of Mahavira (24th Tirthankara of Jainism) & Buddhism.
- **Philosophy:** Based on the concept of "niyati" (Sanskrit: "rule" or "destiny").
- **Belief:** Asserts that the cosmic force of niyati governs the entire universe, determining all events, including individual fate.

## Jain Councils

**First council** held at Pataliputra in the 3rd century BC.  
Presided by **Sthulabahu**.

**Second Council** held at Vallabhi in Gujarat in 512 AD.  
Presided by **Devardhigani**.  
**12 Angas** was compiled here

a. The poet of King Bhoj who accepted Jainism

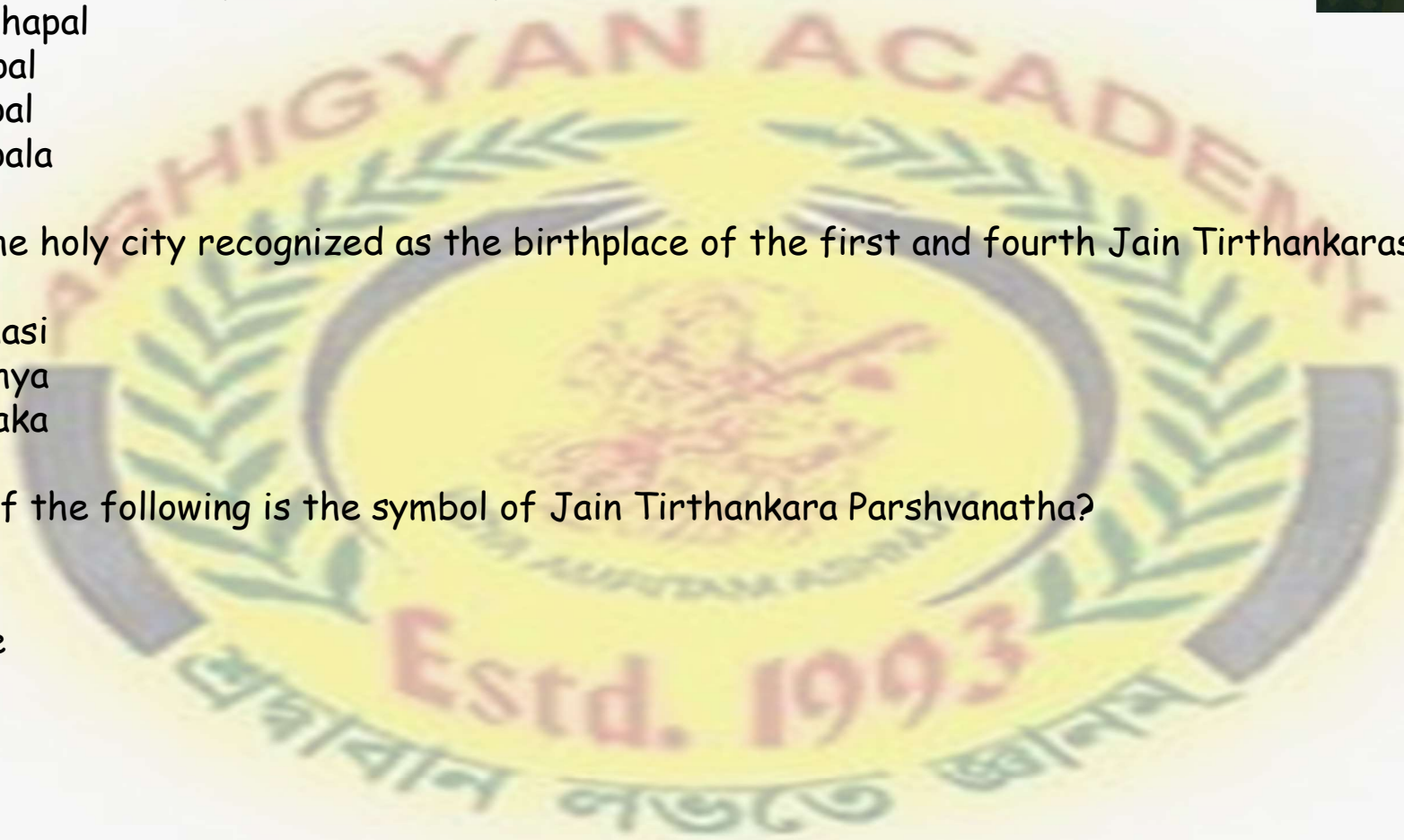
1. Granthapal
2. Dhanpal
3. Mahipal
4. Mahipala

b. Name the holy city recognized as the birthplace of the first and fourth Jain Tirthankaras.

1. Gaya
2. Varanasi
3. Ayodhya
4. Dwaraka

c. Which of the following is the symbol of Jain Tirthankara Parshvanatha?

1. Bull
2. Lotus
3. Snake
4. Lion



d. In Jainism, three Ratnas (Triratnas) are given and they are called the way to Nirvana. What are they?

1. Right Speech, Right Knowledge and Right Conduct.
2. Right Faith, Right Knowledge and Right Process.
3. Right Faith, Right Path and Right Conduct.
4. Right Faith, Right Knowledge and Right Conduct.





# Mauryan Empire



## **The Rise of the Mauryan**

- Nanda Empire preceded Maurya Empire, dominant in Indian Subcontinent.
- Chanakya, minister under Nanda, insulted by Emperor Dhana Nanda, vowed revenge.
- Fled to Taxila, worked as a teacher.
- Chanakya impressed by Chandragupta's potential during travels.
- Dhana Nanda unpopular due to oppressive tax regime.
- Minister of Dhana Nanda Amatya rakshasa
- Unrest in North-Western India after Alexander's invasion, ruled by Indo-Greek powers.
- Chandragupta, aided by Kautilya, defeated Dhana Nanda in 321 BC, seized throne.

## Literary sources of Mauryan Empire

- **Arthashastra of Kautilya:** Ancient treatise on **statecraft, economics, and military strategy**.
- **Indica by Megasthenes:** An account of ancient India providing insights into **Mauryan society and administration**.
- **Edicts of Ashoka:** Official inscriptions issued by **Emperor Ashoka**, revealing his **governance principles and promotion of Buddhism**.
- **Mudrarakshasa by Vishakhadatta:** Describes how Chandragupta, with Kautilya's assistance, overthrew the Nandas.
- **Buddhist Texts:** **Jatakas, Divyavadana, and Ashokavadana** offer perspectives on Mauryan history and Ashoka's reign.
- **Additional Sources:** Ashokavadana (Sanskrit), Dipavamsa, and Mahavamsa (Sri Lankan Pali chronicles)



## MAURYAN RULERS

### 1. Chandragupta Maurya:

- **Founder of Mauryan Empire.**
- **Origins:** Mystery surrounds his early life.
- **Identity:** Greek texts depict him as non-warrior ancestry, Hindu texts suggest lowly origin, Buddhist texts claim Kshatriya status.
- **Military Victories:** Defeated Greek-ruled towns post-Alexander's departure in 324 BC.
- **Rise to Power:** Destroyed Dhana Nanda around 321 BC, establishing Maurya Empire.
- **Diplomacy:** Signed deal with Seleucus Nicator in 305 BC, acquiring territories.
- **Expansionist Policies:** Expanded empire across India except for few regions.
- **Reign:** Ruled from 321 BC to 297 BC.
- **Abdication:** Handed over throne to son Bindusara, embraced Jainism, and reportedly died by fasting(santara) in Shravanabelagola.

## 2. Bindusara:

- **Second ruler** of Mauryan Empire, son of **Chandragupta**.
- **Chanakya's Role**: Served as **Prime Minister** throughout Bindusara's reign.
- Received **Deimachus** as an ambassador from the **Syrian king Antiochus I**.
- Greeks called him '**Amitrochates**' (**slayer of foes**) in Greek and Sanskrit **Amitragatha** meaning **slayer of enemies**.
- **Conquered 16 states** according to Tibetan monk Taranatha.
- Appointed his son **Asoka** as the **governor of Ujjain**.
- **Diplomatic Relations**: Maintained cordial ties with **Greece**, received envoy from Seleucid emperor.
- **Religious Affiliation**: Belonged to **Ajivika sect**, unlike his **Jainist father**.
- **Death**: Died around 270s BCE.

### 3. Ashoka -

- **Third ruler of Mauryan Empire**, grandson of Chandragupta Maurya.
- **Names:** Also known as **Devanampiya** and **Piyadasi**.
- **Born:** 304 BC, ruled from 268 BC to 232 BC.
- **Military Achievements:** Suppressed revolts in Ujjain and Takshashila, conquered Kalinga (262-261 BCE).
- **Religious Conversion:** Became Buddhist, guided by monk Moggaliputta Tissa.
- **Third Buddhist Council:** Presided over in 247 BC in Pataliputra by **Ashoka**, led by **Moggaliputta Tissa**.



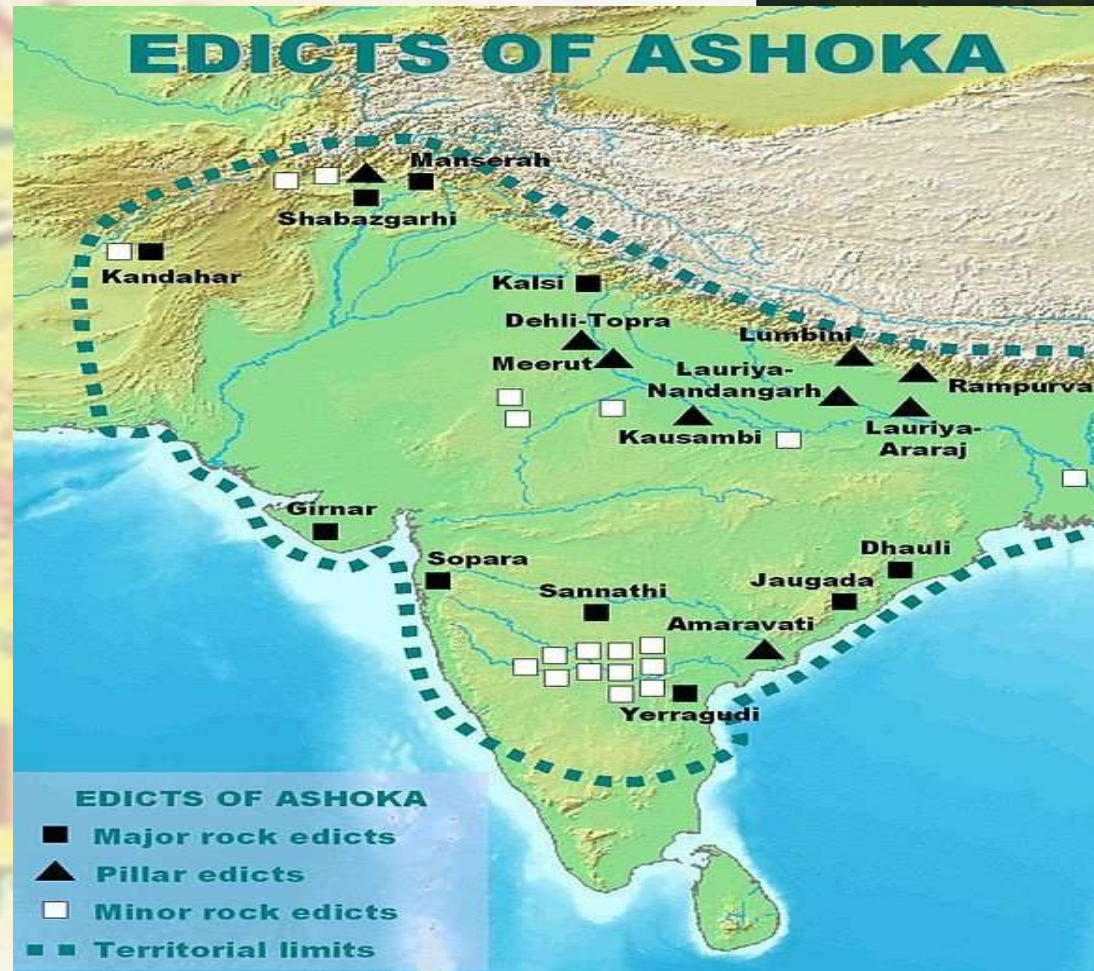
## Kautilya:

- Chandragupta Maurya's teacher and **Chief Minister**.
- Also known as **Vishnugupta** and **Chanakya**.
- **Minister** in Bindusara's palace as well.
- Main planner behind Nanda throne usurpation and Mauryan Empire's development.
- Authored "**Arthashastra**," a book on **statecraft, economics, and military strategy**.
- **Divided into 15 volumes and 180 chapters** covering various aspects of governance.
- Known as "**Indian Machiavelli**."

## Edicts of Ashoka

**James Prinsep**, a British antiquary, and colonial administrator was the first person to decipher **Ashoka's edicts in 1837**. There are 33 *inscriptions* in total and primarily classified into the following:

1. Major rock edicts
2. Minor rock edicts
3. Separate rock edicts
4. Major pillar edicts
5. Minor pillar edicts



•Major Rock Edicts: There are 14 major rock edicts: Here a list of important ones

Edict	Ashoka Inscription Details
Major Rock Edict I	Prohibition of animal sacrifice
Major Rock Edict III	Generosity to Brahmins
Major Rock Edict V	Treating slaves right
Major Rock Edict VII	Tolerance towards religions among all sects and welfare measures
Major Rock Edict VIII	Ashoka's first visit to Bodh Gaya and the Bodhi tree
Major Rock Edict IX	Condemns popular ceremonies
Major Rock Edict X	Disapproves of the individual's desire for fame and glory
Major Rock Edict XII	Women's welfare
Major Rock Edict XIII	Mentions victory over Kalinga



- **Minor Rock Edicts**
- Minor rock edicts are found on 15 rocks across the country and in Afghanistan also.
- Ashoka uses his name only in four of these places namely: **Maski, Brahmagiri (Karnataka), Gujjara (MP) and Nettur (AP).**
- **Important Minor Rock Edicts.**

Edict	Inscription Details
Minor Rock Edict 1	Indicates that Ashoka turned towards Buddhism gradually, after 2.5 years in power.
Minor Rock Edict 3	Ashoka greets Sangha, professes his deep faith in the Buddha, dhamma, and Sangha, also recommends six Buddhist texts for monks, nuns and general laity.

## ADMINISTRATION

### Heads of Various Departments:

1. **Purohita:** Chief priest
2. **Senapati:** Commander of the army
3. **Samaharta:** Revenue collector
4. **Pratihara:** Gatekeeper
5. **Durgapala:** Governor of the forest
6. **Nyayadish:** Chief Justice
7. **Prasasta:** Head of the Police
8. **Vamisika:** Leader of the harem guards

**Sabha:** Likely existed in Mauryan period, referred to by Patanjali under Chandragupta

### City Administration:

City divided into four parts, each headed by **Sthanika** under **nagarika**.

**Courts:** Civil courts called **Dharma-sthiva**, criminal courts called **Kantaksodhana**.

**War-Office:** Managed army with thirty members, divided into six boards overseeing different aspects of military affairs.

## Economy:

- **Taxes:** Bali (religious tribute) and Bhaga (agricultural levy).
- **Exemptions:** Brahmins, women, children, handicapped, king's men exempt from taxation.
- **Agriculture:** Barley in west India, rice in Magadha with evidence of irrigation.
- **Iron Industry:** Evidence of iron-working found in Ujjain.
- **Cotton Industry:** Centres in Kasi, Mathura.
- **Trade:** Varanasi had special bazar for ivory articles, economic relations with corporations mentioned in inscriptions.

## Society:

- **Slavery:** Megasthenes claimed no slaves in India.
- **Social Groups:** Seven groups including philosophers, cultivators, herdsmen, artisans, fighters, overseers, councillors.



## Minor Pillar Inscriptions

Monument	Details
Sarnath Lion Capital	Built by Ashoka near Varanasi in commemoration of Dhammachakrapravartana, the first sermon of Buddha.
Vaishali Pillar, Bihar	Single lion, with no inscription.

## •Major Pillar Inscriptions

Inscription	Details
Rummindei Pillar Inscription	Asoka's visit to Lumbini and exemption of Lumbini from tax.
Nigalisagar Pillar Inscription	Asoka increased the height of the stupa of Buddha Konakamana to its double size in Nepal.

### **Depiction of Buddha at Stupas:**

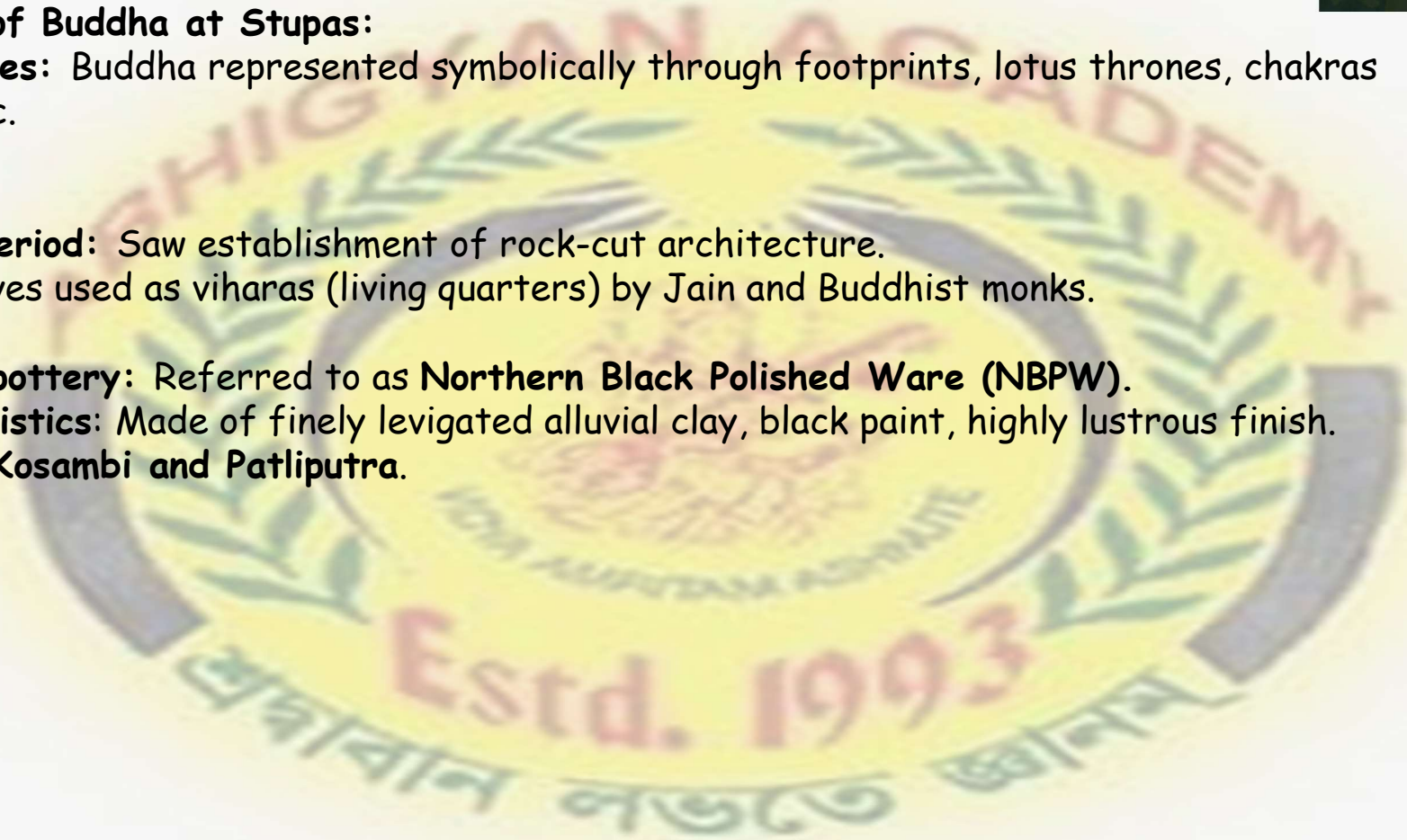
**Early Stages:** Buddha represented symbolically through footprints, lotus thrones, chakras stupas, etc.

### **Caves:**

**Mauryan Period:** Saw establishment of rock-cut architecture.

**Usage:** Caves used as viharas (living quarters) by Jain and Buddhist monks.

- **Mauryan pottery:** Referred to as **Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW)**.
- **Characteristics:** Made of finely levigated alluvial clay, black paint, highly lustrous finish.
- **Centers:** Kosambi and Patliputra.



1. Who succeeded in reading Ashok script for the first time?

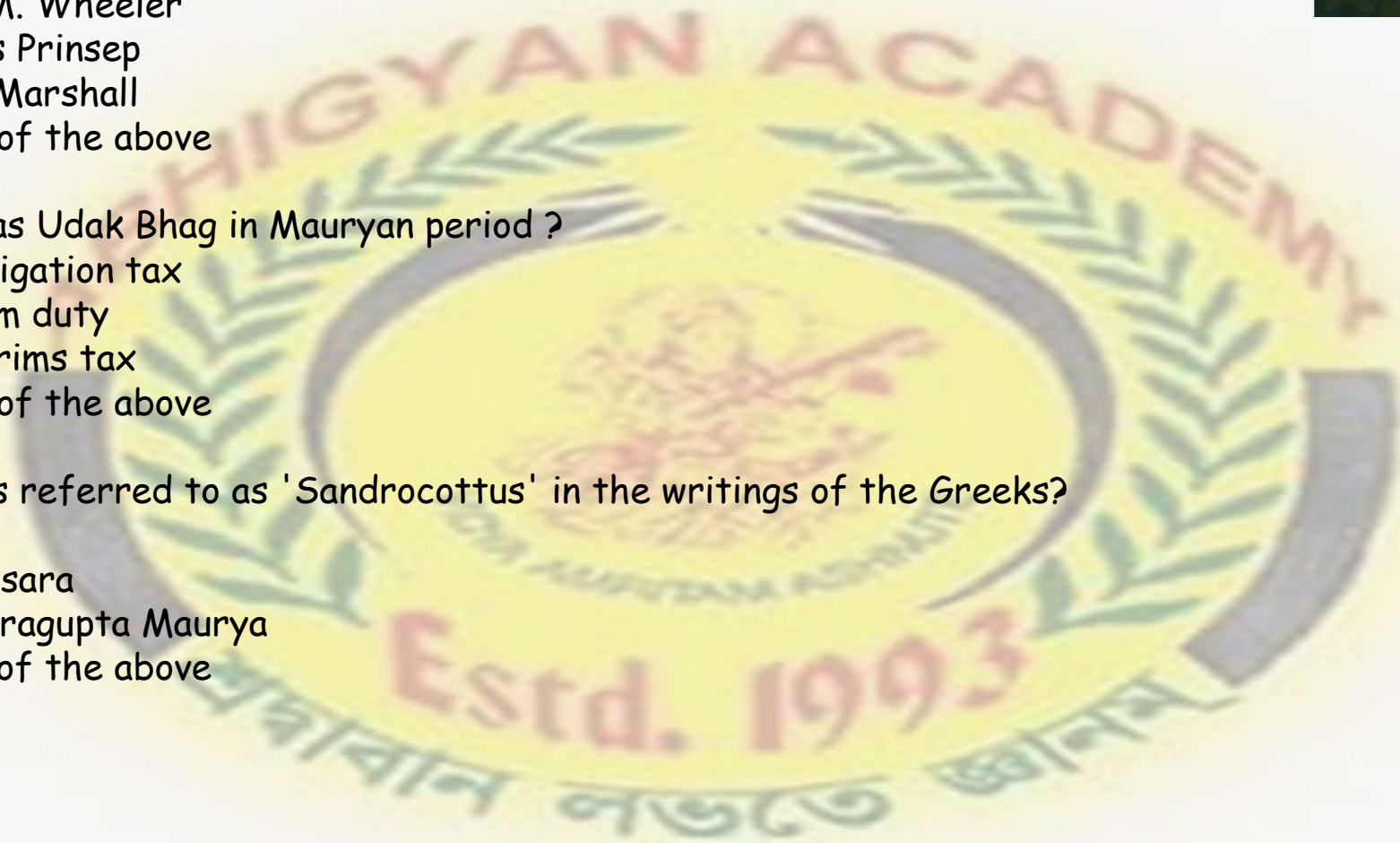
- a) R. E. M. Wheeler
- b) James Prinsep
- c) John Marshall
- d) None of the above

2. What was Udak Bhag in Mauryan period ?

- a) An irrigation tax
- b) Custom duty
- c) A pilgrims tax
- d) None of the above

3. Who was referred to as 'Sandrocottus' in the writings of the Greeks?

- a) Asoka
- b) Bindusara
- c) Chandragupta Maurya
- d) None of the above





d."Indica" which is an account of Mauryan India was authored by

- a) Megasthenes
- b) Fa-hien
- c) Hiuen-Tsang
- d) None of these

