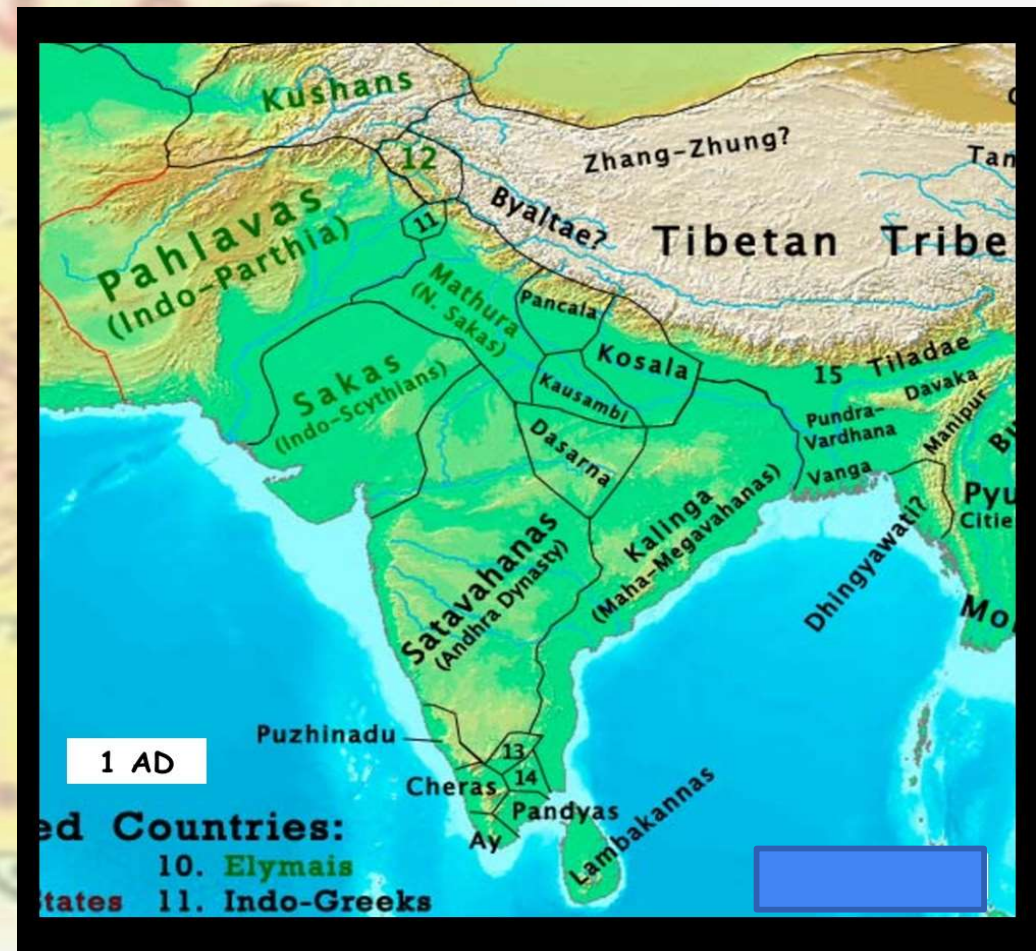


POST MAURYAN PERIOD

CAUSES OF DECLINE OF MAURYANS

- The partition of the empire after the death of emperor Ashoka.
- Sheer vastness of empire and central administration.
- Weak rulers after Emperor Ashoka.
- Political disintegration of empire after Ashoka.
- Foreign invasion.
- Internal revolts.



POST MAURYAN PERIOD IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS

The Native Successor of Mauryan Empire

- Sungas (East, Central and North Central)
- Kanvas (East)
- Satavahanas (Deccan and west)
- Chedi (Kalinga)

Foreign successor of Mauryan empire

- Indo-Greeks (North Western and North)
- Scythians (Western India)
- Parthians (North Western India)
- Kushans (Northwest, North, East)

POST-MAURYAN EMPIRE

Important points on Sunga Dynasty:

Pushyamitra: Staunch Brahmanism follower. Conducted two Ashvamedha sacrifices. Patanjali, the priest during his time, authored Mahabhasya.

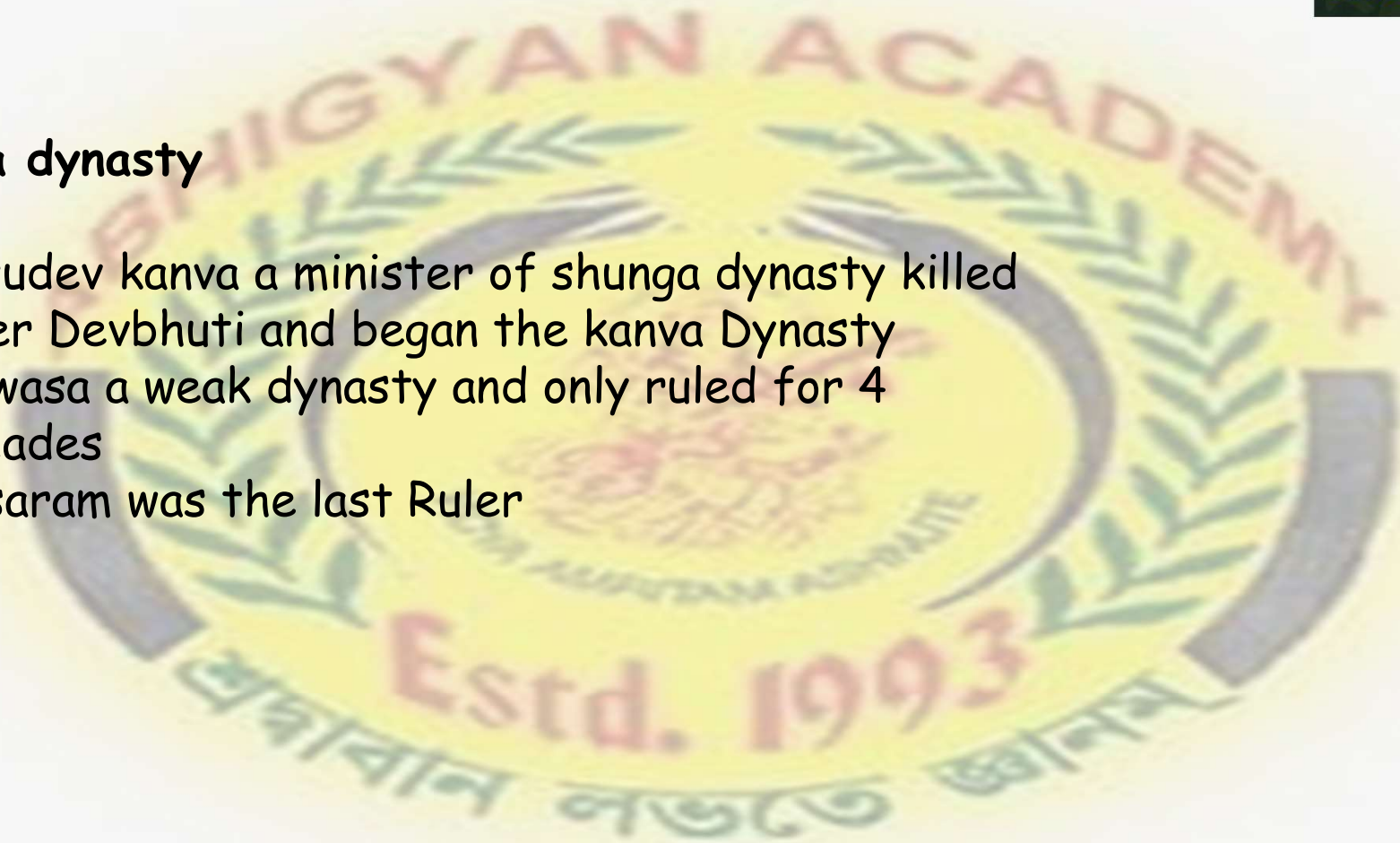
Agnimitra: Hero of Kalidasa's Malvikagnimitra. He conquered Vidarbha (Eastern Maharashtra).

Relations with Greece: Greek king Antialcidas I sent ambassador Heliodorus to Bagabhadra's court. He made a pillar inscription. (use of Sanskrit)

End of Sunga Dynasty: Last ruler: Devabhuti.

Kanva dynasty

- Vasudev kanva a minister of shunga dynasty killed ruler Devbhuti and began the kanva Dynasty
- It was a weak dynasty and only ruled for 4 decades
- Susaram was the last Ruler



Satavahana

- They are referred to as **Andhras** in the Puranas.
- The **Satavahana kingdom** chiefly comprised of modern-day Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra. At times, their rule also included parts of Karnataka, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- Their capital cities varied at different times. Pratishthana (Paithan) and Amaravati were its capitals.
- **Simuka** founded the dynasty.
- They were the first native Indian rulers to issue their own coins with the portraits of the rulers. This practice was started by Gautamiputra Satakarni who derived the practice from the Western Satraps after defeating them.
- The coin legends were in Prakrit language. Some reverse coin legends are in Telugu, Tamil and Kannada
- They patronised Prakrit more than Sanskrit.
- They supported both Buddhism and Brahmanism although they were Hindus and claimed Brahminical status

GAUTAMIPUTRA SATKARNI

- He is considered the greatest king of the Satavahana dynasty.
- He defeated the Greeks, Pahlavas (Indo-Parthians) and the Sakas.
- His kingdom ran from Krishna in the south to Malwa and Saurashtra in the north and from Berar in the east to the Konkan in the west.
- He defeated Nahapana, an important king of the Western Satraps.
- He is also called Ekabrahmana.
- His mother was Gautami Balasri and hence his name Gautamiputra (son of Gautami).
- He was succeeded by his son Vasisthiputra Sri Pulamavi or Pulamavi II.
- Most of his information is obtained from Nasik inscriptions by his mother .

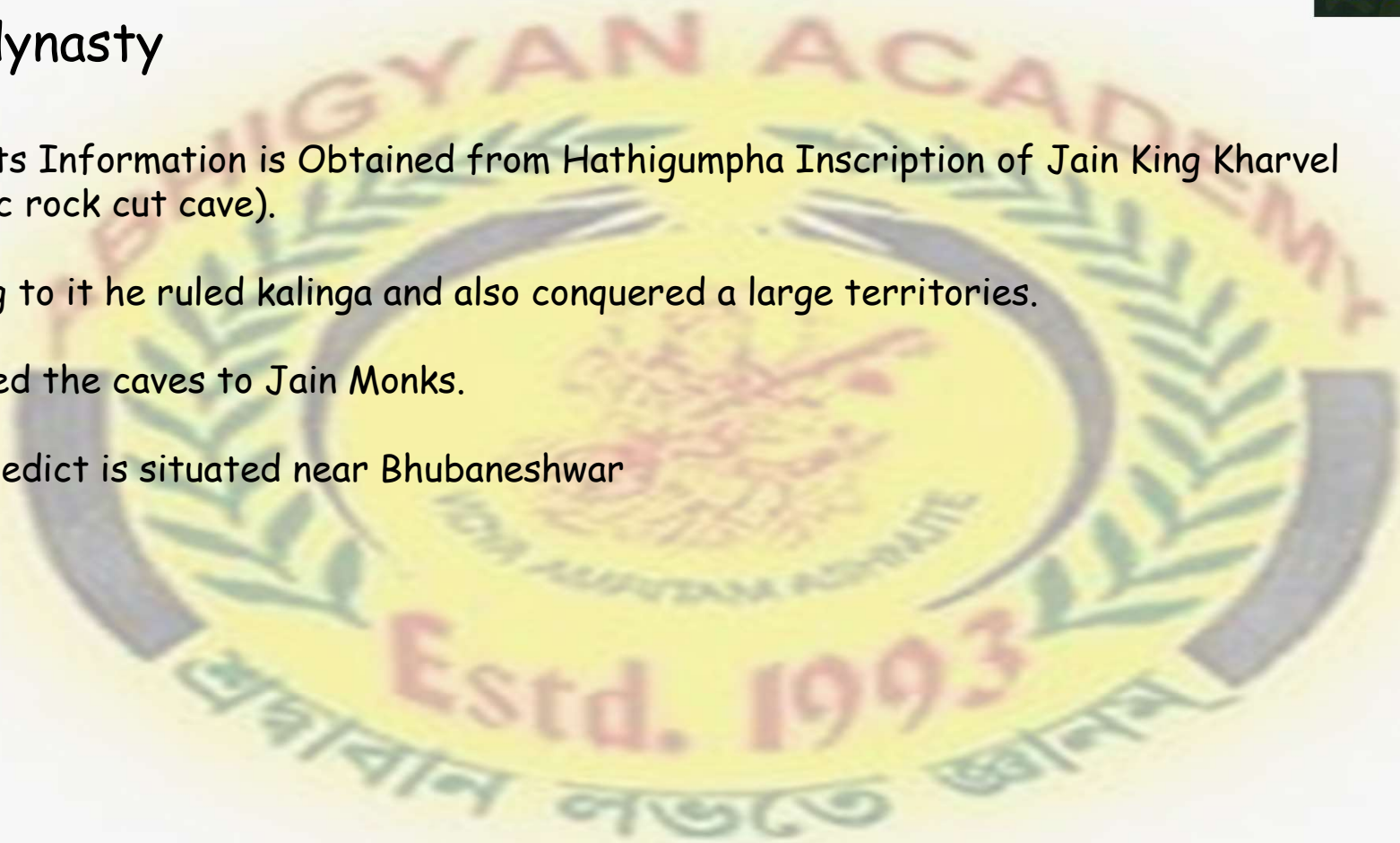
•Important terms during Satvahana Period

Term	Meaning
Silver coins	Karshapanas
King	Rajan
District	Ahara
Administrators	Mahamatras
Village Headman	Gaulmika



Chedi dynasty

- Most of its Information is Obtained from Hathigumpha Inscription of Jain King Kharvel (Monolithic rock cut cave).
- According to it he ruled kalinga and also conquered a large territories.
- He devoted the caves to Jain Monks.
- The Cave edict is situated near Bhubaneshwar



Bactrian Invasion – Indo-Greek

- **Commanders:** Demetrius sent Appollodotes and Menander to expand Greek rule in India.
- Menander or Melinda, engaged in a dialogue with a Buddhist monk, compiled in 'Milindpanho.'
- They made molded gold coins .

Sakas

- **Ruler:** Rudradaman, known for repairing Sudarshan lake.
- **Identity:** Also called Scythians.
- **Inscriptions:** Junagarh or Ginar rock inscriptions in Gujarat attributed to Rudradaman.

Parthian

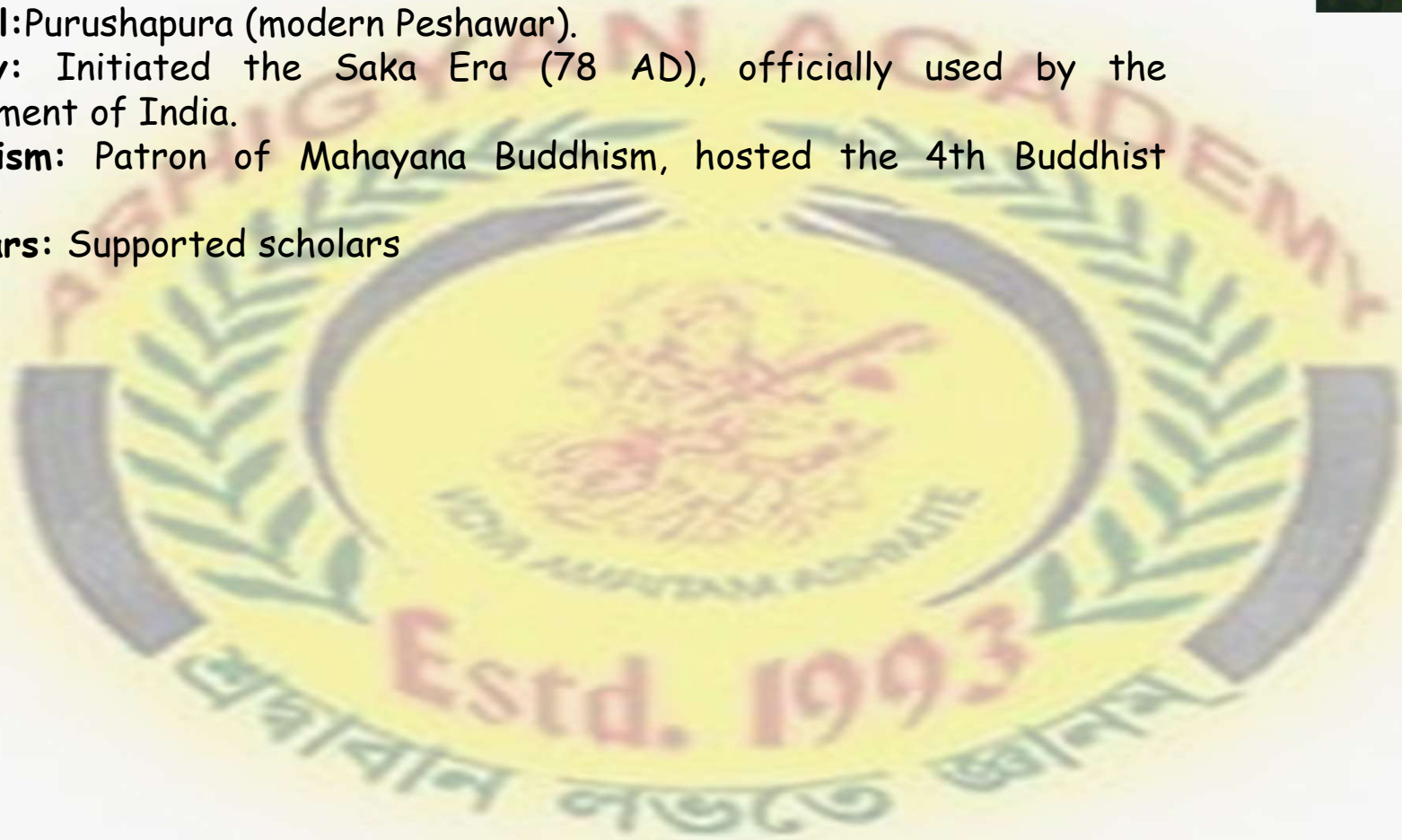
- king **Gondopharnes**
- **St Thomas** visited

Kushanas

- **First and Last Rulers:** Kujula Kadphises to Vasudeva.
- **Origin:** One of the Yuchi clans from Central Asia.
- **Control:** Governed the Silk Route, known as Guishuang in Chinese sources.
like Vasumitra, Asvagosha, and Nagarjuna and Charka

Kanishka (70–101 AD):

- **Capital:** Purushapura (modern Peshawar).
- **Legacy:** Initiated the Saka Era (78 AD), officially used by the Government of India.
- **Buddhism:** Patron of Mahayana Buddhism, hosted the 4th Buddhist Council.
- **Scholars:** Supported scholars



• **School of Art**

• **Symbolic Buddha:** Mathura and Gandhara portrayed Buddha in human form.

• **Gandhara School of Art**

• **Sculptures:** Greco-Roman style Buddha sculptures patronized by Shaka and Kushan rulers.

• **Characteristics:** Exhibits spiritual expression absent in Gandhara school.

Mudras: Depicted Buddha using Mudras like Abhaya, Dhyana, Dharmachakra, and Bhumisparsha.

Mathura School of Art

Influence: Sculptures influenced by Buddhism, Hinduism, and Jainism.

Patronage: Supported by Kushan rulers.

Key Feature: Symbolism played a significant role in Mathura school art.

Amravati School of Art

Emphasis: Emphasized dynamic images and narrative art, particularly Jataka tales.

Patronage: Supported by Satavahana rulers.

Gandhara	Mathura	Amravati
1. High influence of helenistic and greek art features.	1. Indegenous in nature	1. Indegenous in nature
2. Grey-sandstone is used. (we also find images made of stucco with lime plaster)	2. Spotted red sandstone	2. White marble
3. Mainly Buddhist images are found	3. Buddhism, Jainism and hindu images are found.	3. Mainly Buddhism
4. Patron- kushana	4. Kushana	4. Shatavahanas
5. Found in north-west india	5. North india. Mainly region of Mathura	5. Deccan region near Krishna-godavari delta.
6. Spiritual Buddha images. Very stylish with wavy hair,	6. Delighted Buddha and not spiritual look	6. Mainly depicts stories of jatakas.
7. Has beard and moustache.	7. No beard and moustache	
8. Lean body.	8. Strong muscular feature	
9. Both seated and standing images are found.	9. Most of them are seated.	
10. Eyes are half closed and ears are large	10. Eyes are open with small Ears.	

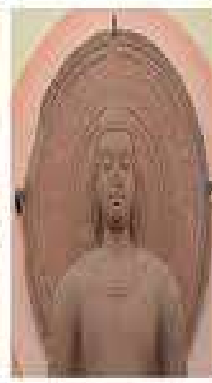
Mathura School of Art Examples :-



Kanishka



Vima Kadphises



Buddha

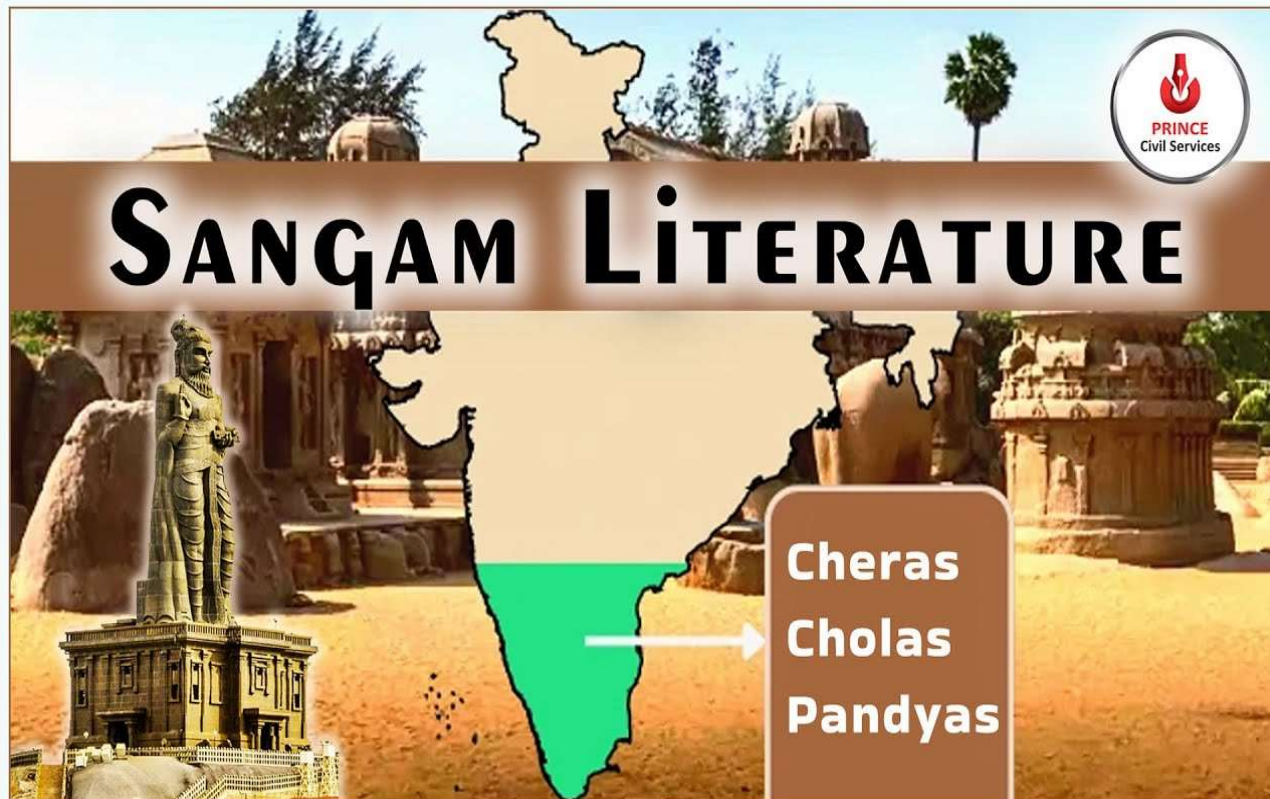


Sarvabhadra



Standing Buddha





Literary Sources

- The Sangam literature chiefly consists of Tholkappiyam, Ettuthogai and Pathuppattu.
- These works provide valuable information to know the history of the Sangam Age.
- Among these Tholkappiyam was the earliest.
- During the post-Sangam period, the Pathinen Kilkanakku or the Eighteen Works was composed.
- The twin epics - Silappathigaram and Manimegalai - also belonged to the post- Sangam period.
- All these literature help us to know the society, economy and culture of the ancient Tamils.

• **Three Sangams:**

- 1st Sangam: Then Madurai
- 2nd Sangam: Kapadapuram
- 3rd Sangam: Madurai

Sangam Literature

Tolkappiyam: Authored by Tolkappiyar, earliest Tamil literary work.

Ettutogai (Eight Anthologies): Collection of eight(poems) works.

Pattuppattu (Ten Idylls): Compilation of ten (poems)works.

Pathinenkilkanakku: Contains eighteen works, mainly focusing on ethics and morals.

Silappathigaram: Written by Elango Adigal.

Manimegalai: Written by SittalaiSattanar, offering insights into Sangam polity and society.

• DYNASTIES OF SOUTH INDIA

1. Pandyas

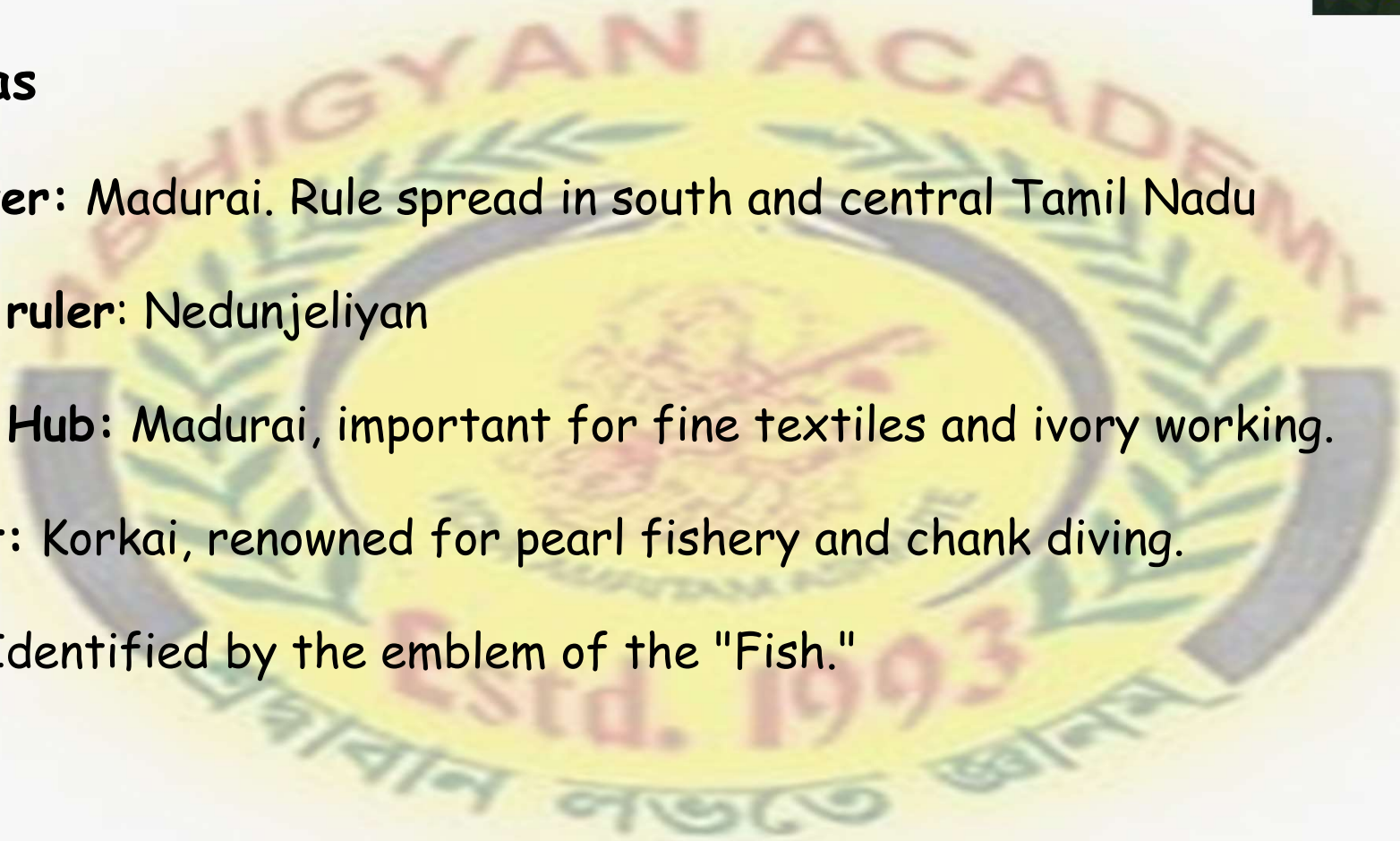
Rule Center: Madurai. Rule spread in south and central Tamil Nadu

Greatest ruler: Nedunjeliyan

Economic Hub: Madurai, important for fine textiles and ivory working.

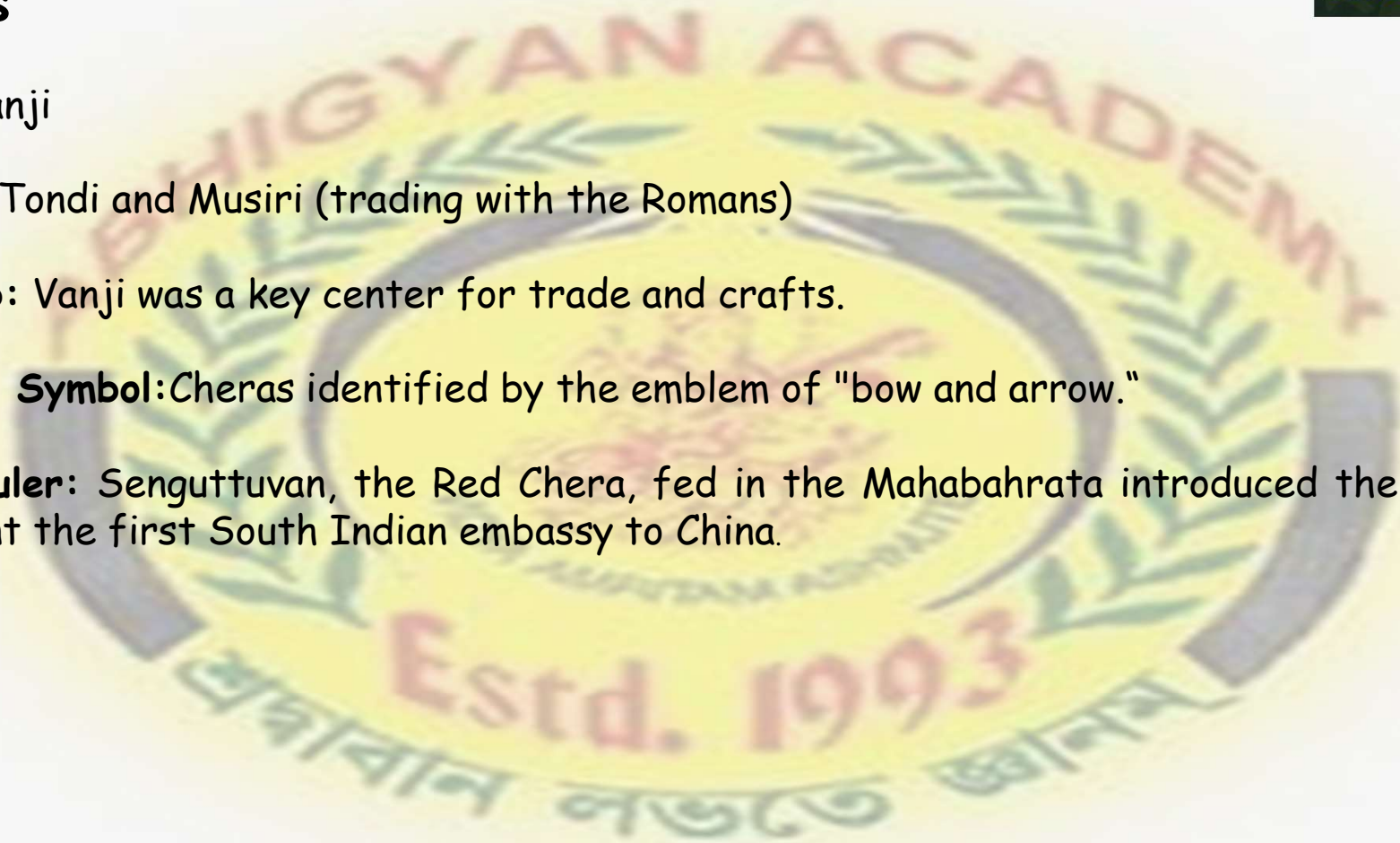
Main Port: Korkai, renowned for pearl fishery and chank diving.

Symbol: Identified by the emblem of the "Fish."



2. Cheras

- **Capital:** Vanji
- **Seaports:** Tondi and Musiri (trading with the Romans)
- **Trade Hub:** Vanji was a key center for trade and crafts.
- **Distinctive Symbol:** Cheras identified by the emblem of "bow and arrow."
- **Notable Ruler:** Senguttuvan, the Red Chera, fed in the Mahabahrata introduced the Pattini cult and sent the first South Indian embassy to China.



3.Cholas

- Core Rule:** Kaveri delta, later known as Chola mandalam. They ruled in North Tamil Nadu.
- Capital Shift:** Uraiyur to Puhar.
- Symbol:** Tiger emblem.
- Infrastructure:** Uraiyur, a grand city with magnificent buildings.
- Naval Strength:** Maintained an efficient navy and conquered the north Sri Lanka.
- Famous King: Karikala,** known for constructing 160 km of embankment along the Kaveri River.
- He defeated the alliance of Chera, Pandya and other 11 small kingdoms in the battle of Venni.

