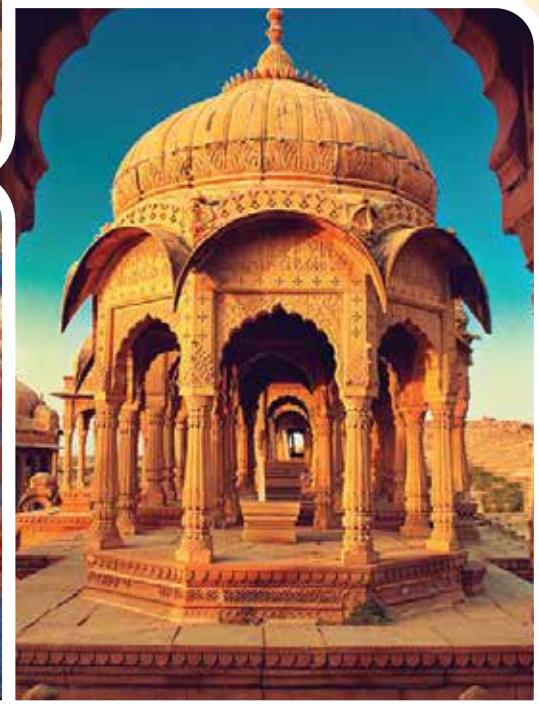
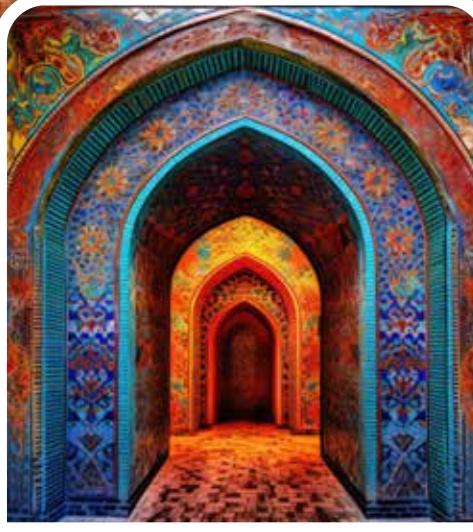
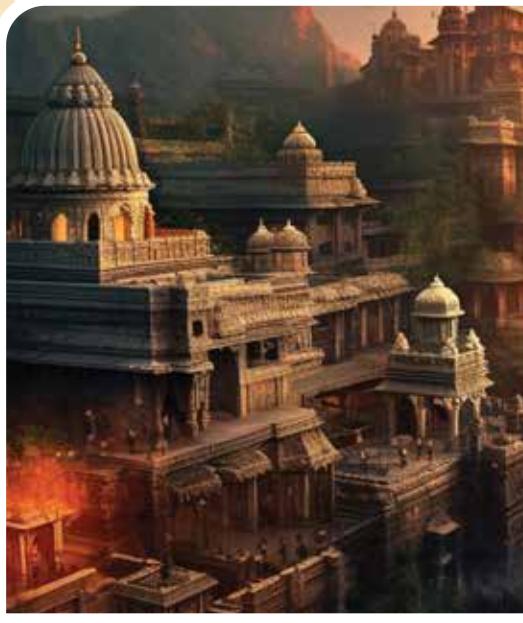
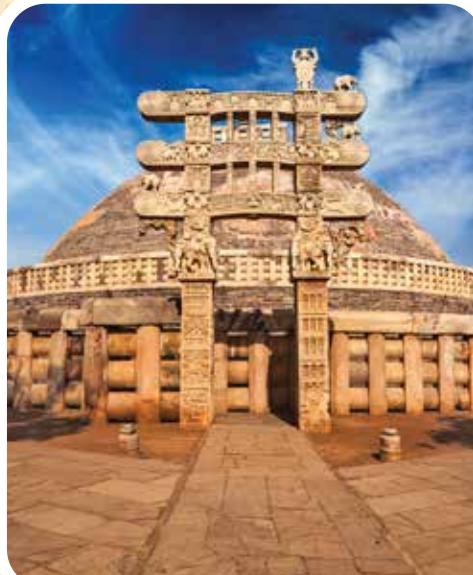


QUICK REVISION MODULE

••• (UPSC PRELIMS 2024) •••

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY



AHMEDABAD



BENGALURU



BHOPAL



CHANDIGARH



DELHI



GUWAHATI



HYDERABAD



JAIPUR



JODHPUR



LUCKNOW



PRAYAGRAJ



PUNE



RANCHI

LIVE/ONLINE

Classes also Available



SCAN QR CODE TO GET
FREE COUNSELING

- Includes comprehensive coverage of all topics for all the four papers of GS Mains, GS Prelims, CSAT and Essay
- Access to Live as well as Recorded classes on your personal online Student Platform
- Includes Personality Development Programme
- Duration for 2025 Program: 12 months
- Duration of each class: 3-4 hrs, 5-6 days a week (If need arises, classes can be held on Sundays also)

NOTE-Students can watch LIVE video classes of our COURSE on their ONLINE PLATFORM at their homes. The students can ask their doubts and subject queries during the class through LIVE Chat Option. They can also note down their doubts & questions and convey to our classroom mentor at Delhi center and we will respond to the queries through phone/mall.

 <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Continuous Individual Assessment Students are provided personalized, specific & concrete feedback and attention through regular tutorials, mini tests and All India Test Series	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Read by All, Recommended by All Relevant & up-to-date study material in the form of magazines compiled by a dedicated team of experts	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Personal Guidance Simplified Receive one-to-one guidance on a regular basis to resolve your queries & stay motivated
 <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ All India Test Series Opted by every 2 out of 3 selected candidates. The VisionIAS Post Test Analysis provides corrective measures and also continuous performance improvement	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Never Miss a Class Technological support to access recorded classes, resources, track your Absolute & Relative performance through your own student portal	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Preparation Uninterrupted Organize all your lectures and study material effectively & access them from anywhere, anytime



/c/VisionIASdelhi



/vision_ias



/visionias_upsc



/VisionIAS_UPSC

Table of Content

Page No.

3

Ancient India

Page No.

17

Mahajanapadas

Page No.

41

Gupta and Harsha period

Page No.

53

The Great Mughals

Page No.

67

Delhi Sultanate

Page No.

83

Important Kingdoms of
North and South India

2024
QUICK
REVISION MATERIAL
ANCIENT INDIA





1. Geographical Setting

Indian Subcontinent	<ol style="list-style-type: none">As large as Europe without Russia.Divided into 3 countries – India, Pakistan and BangladeshSituated in the Tropical Zone
Magadha	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Protects India from Siberian Cold windsShields against the invasion from NorthImportant Ranges<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sulaiman ranges in N-W of Himalayas with Kyber and Gomal PassKirthar Range with Bolan PassPasses helps in terms of Trade, Culture contacts between India and West AsiaBoth Nepal and Kashmir valleys became centre of Cultivation of Sanskrit and repositories of large no.of Sanskrit Manuscripts
Rivers and their role	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Because of their small size they helped to cross from west to east of Himalayas during Pre-historic times.Earliest agricultural settlements and States formed at these rivers of Himalayan foothills.Rainfall Pattern Increases from West (25cm) at Indus to East 250 CM at Brahmaputra Plains.Indus and West Gangetic Vegetation with less rainfall could be cleared with Stone and Copper Implements.East part with hard soil and thick vegetation was cleared with Iron implements happened in later stage.Crops<ul style="list-style-type: none">Indus and Western Gangetic Plains mainly Produced Wheat and BarleyLower and Middle Gangetic Plains – Rice and it became staple diet in Gujarat and South Of VindhyaCultural development<ul style="list-style-type: none">Harappa Culture ~ Originated and Flourished in Indus Valley.Vedic Culture: Originated in Punjab and flourished in Western Gangetic basin.Post-Vedic Culture mainly based on Iron thrived in Gangetic basin.Guptas at Lower Gangetic and North BengalStone Pillars made by Ashoka carried to different parts of the by Boat.Important Towns and Capitals like Hastinapur, Prayag, Varanasi, Pataliputra settled on banks of riversPolitical and Cultural boundaries<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kalinga situated between Mahanadi on North and Godavari on South.Andhra Pradesh – Godavari on North and Krishna on SouthChola Power – in Kaveri delta (between South of Penna river and North of Vaigai River).Port cities of Arikamedu, Kaveripattanam, Mahabalipuram were situated on Coramandal Coast.Maharastra – Between Tapti (Damanganga) on North and Bhima on SouthMalwa region – served as hinterland for Gujarat ports and battled ground between Deccan and Northern powers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a; Sakas and Satavahanas fought this area in 1st and 2nd century A.D.b; Marathas and Rajputs in 18th century.• Vindhyas acted as barrier between North (Aryan languages) and South (Dravidian Languages).a; Traders, Missionaries, Cultural leaders , Brahmins moved from north to south and vice-versa.
Natural Resources and their role	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Timber -for houses (Ex: in Pataliputra)2. Sandstone was widely found in India3. India was known for its Copper, Iron reserves but lack of Tin reserves which is why Bronze age was less known in India (Bronze is made of Copper and Tin).4. Copper Mines- Copper was the first metal to be used.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Khetri copper Mines in South East Rajasthan helped develop human settlements during Chalcolithic Period.• Copper mines at Chotanagpur Plateau (Singhbhum) – Copper tools found in South Bihar and Madhya Pradesh• Rich copper Deposits in Khetri Mines , Rajasthan (tapped by Pre-Vedic and Vedic People).5. Tin<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harappans used but imported from West Asia.• From early years of Christian era, Bronze tools were prominent in South India because of Tin imports from Burma and Malaya Peninsula.6. Iron<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large scale use of Iron in Avanti, capital of Ujjain (6th and 5th centuries B.C)7. Lead<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resources available in Andhra which made wide use of lead coins in Satavahanas period8. Silver<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early coins known as Punch Marked Coins made out of silver which was rarely found in India like at Kharagpur hills.9. Gold in Kolar Fields of Karnataka. Precious metals came from Central India, Orissa and South India.

Only for nashikpatel0753@gmail.com

2. Stone Age

Stone Age is classified into three phases :

1. **Old Stone Age or Palaeolithic Age:**
Ice age
2. **Late Stone Age or Mesolithic Age:**
Moderate climate
3. **New Stone Age.**



Prehistoric Period

Phase 1 : Old Stone Age



Early or Lower Palaeolithic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater part of Ice Age Use of hand axes and Cleavers Found at Soan Valley in Punjab, Pak and Belan site of Mirzapur, U.P. Stone tools during this period mostly used for chopping 	Middle Palaeolithic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industries are based on Flakes (Scrapers) and found in different parts of India. Found in Strata form at Soan Valley, at Narmada, Tungabadra. 	Upper Palaeolithic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate was less humid and is regarded as last phase of Ice Age. New find industries across world. In India Blades and Burins -at Andhra, MH, Bhopal and Chotanagpur plateau. Caves and Rock Shelters at Bhimbetka
-----------------------------	---	---------------------	--	--------------------	---

1. Palaeolithic tools as old as 100000 years found in the Chotanagpur plateau and 25,000 to 10,000 B.C tools found in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh.
2. Animals remains and Bone implements found in Mirzapur district shows sheep, Cattle and goats domesticated around 25,000 B.C.
3. The modern human (*Homo Sapiens*) first appeared during Upper Palaeolithic period. In India, palaeolithic sites are found in all parts except Alluvial plains of Indus and Ganga.

Phase 2 : Late Stone Age or Mesolithic Age

1. In India it lasted between 8000 B.C to 4000 B.C
2. **Tools:** Microliths
3. Found in Central India, Chotanagpur plateau and South of Krishna River
4. Northern Spurs of Vindhya in Belan valley all the three phases Paleo, Meso and Neolithic sequence was found.

Phase 3 : New Stone Age

1. In world context it started at 7000 B.C but in India evidences found from 6000 B.C . In some parts of South and East India they are as late as 1000 B.C.
2. **Characteristics**
 - **Tools :** Polished.
 - **Settlements** locations based on type of axes
 1. **Burzahom, Valley of Kashmir :**
 - Lived on a Plateau in pits
 - Hunting fishing. Less known about agriculture or domestication of animals.

- Polished stone tools and Bone tools
- Used Coarse grey Pottery
- Burial pits of Domestic Dogs with their masters only found in this place of entire Neolithic period in India

2. South of Godavari River:

- Usually on top of Granite Hills.
- Fire baked earthen figurines suggest that they kept large no.of cattle , goats and sheeps.
- They knew producing grains.

3. Hill areas of Assam:

- Also in Garo hills in Meghalaya
- Neolithic sites from Allahabad known for Cultivation of Rice in 6th millennium B.C.

• Some of the important Neolithic sites

1. **Pikhlihal in Andhra** : Known for setting fire with Cow Dung
- Later Neolithic people lived in **Circular or Rectangular houses** made of mud and reed.
- Primitive people lived in Circular houses and owned common property .
- To cook cereals they **produced Handmade Pottery** at beginning which later developed with footwheels.
- Rice cultivation in Orissa hills** indicates Neolithic settlements began little early here.

Since people of Stone Age mostly depended on Stone tools they had to settle at hilly river valleys

3. Chalcolithic Age

Important Sites in India :

The following Chalcolithic sites are shown region-wise:

1- Indus System

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| a; Mohenjo-daro | b; Harappa | c; Ropar | d; Suratgarh | e; Hanumangarh | f; Chanhu-daro |
| g; Jhukar | h; Amri | i; Jhangar | | | |

2- Ganges System

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| a; Kausambi | b; Alamgirpur |
|-------------|---------------|

3- Brahmaputra System

4- Mahanadi System

5- Chambal System

- | | | | | | | |
|----------|----------------|------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| a; Pesva | b; Nagda | c; Paramar-Kheri | d; Tungni | e; Metwa | f; Takraoda | g; Bhilsuri |
| h; Maora | i; Ghata-Bilod | j; Betwa | k; Bilawali | l; Ashta | | |

6- Rajputana- Saurashtra

- | | | | | | | |
|------------|---------|------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| a; Rangpur | b; Ahar | c; Prashas Patan | d; Lakhabawal | e; Lothal | f; Pithadia | g; Rojdi |
| h; Adkot | | | | | | |

7- Narnada System

- | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-------------|
| a; Navdatoli | b; Maheshwar | c; Bhagatrav | d; Telod | e; Mehgam | f; Hasanpur |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-------------|

8- Tapi System

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| a; Prakash | b; Bahal |
|------------|----------|

9- Godavari-Pravara System

- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| a; Jorwe | b; Nasik | c; Kopargaon | d; Nevasa | e; Daimabad |
|----------|----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|

10- Bhima System

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| a; Koregaon | b; Chandoli | c; Umbraj | d; Chanegaon | e; Anachi | f; Hingni | g; Nagarhalli |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|

11- Karnataka

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|----------|
| a; Brahmagiri | b; Piklihal | c; Maski |
|---------------|-------------|----------|

Towards the end of Neolithic period, human beings started using Metal and the first metal to be used was Copper. Cultures that used both Stone and Copper known as Chalcolithic.

Earlier settlements of this period were :

1. South Eastern Rajasthan: Ahar and Gilund Sites
2. Western Madhya Pradesh: Malwa, Kayatha and Eran sites.
3. Western Maharashtra: Jorwe , Nevasa, Inamgaon and these are in Semi-arid regions

Characteristics of Chalcolithic Cultures:

1. Tools

- Microliths: Stone Blade in major and also axes
- Copper implements at Gilund and Ahar region of Rajasthan. At Ahar region stone axes and blades were completely absent.

2. Pottery

- Black and Red Pottery : On wheel and occasionally with white lines
- Channel-spouted pots , dishes-on-sand, bowls-on-sand.
- Pots were used for cooking, storing and eating.

3. Food

1. Animal Domestication

- Goat, sheeps, cows, buffaloes, pigs and hunted deer. Remains of Horse or donkey found but not having evidence of domestication and same for Camel as well.
- People ate beef but not pork on considerable scale

2. Food Grains

- Rice, Wheat, Bajra. Pulses like lentil(Masur), Black gram, green gram, grass pea were produced. Almost all these found at Navdatoli on banks of Narmada (MH).
- At Deccan – Ragi, bajra, Cotton
- Eastern India – Fish, rice
- West – Mostly Barley and Rice

4. Settlements

- Mostly houses are made of mud bricks. Burnt bricks are seldom used.
- Later phase (1000-300 B.C) houses with 5 rooms suggest of large families . This culture known as Jorwe because of location Jorwe, village on the Pravara river.
- Jorwe culture with 30-35 houses which tells the economy was settled, Village economy.
- Some settlements were fortified but not Urban civilisation.

5. Art and Crafts

- Not much information rmatation. But known evidence of the art of Spinning and Weaving Clothes – Cotton, flax and Silk.
- Didn't know Art of writing.

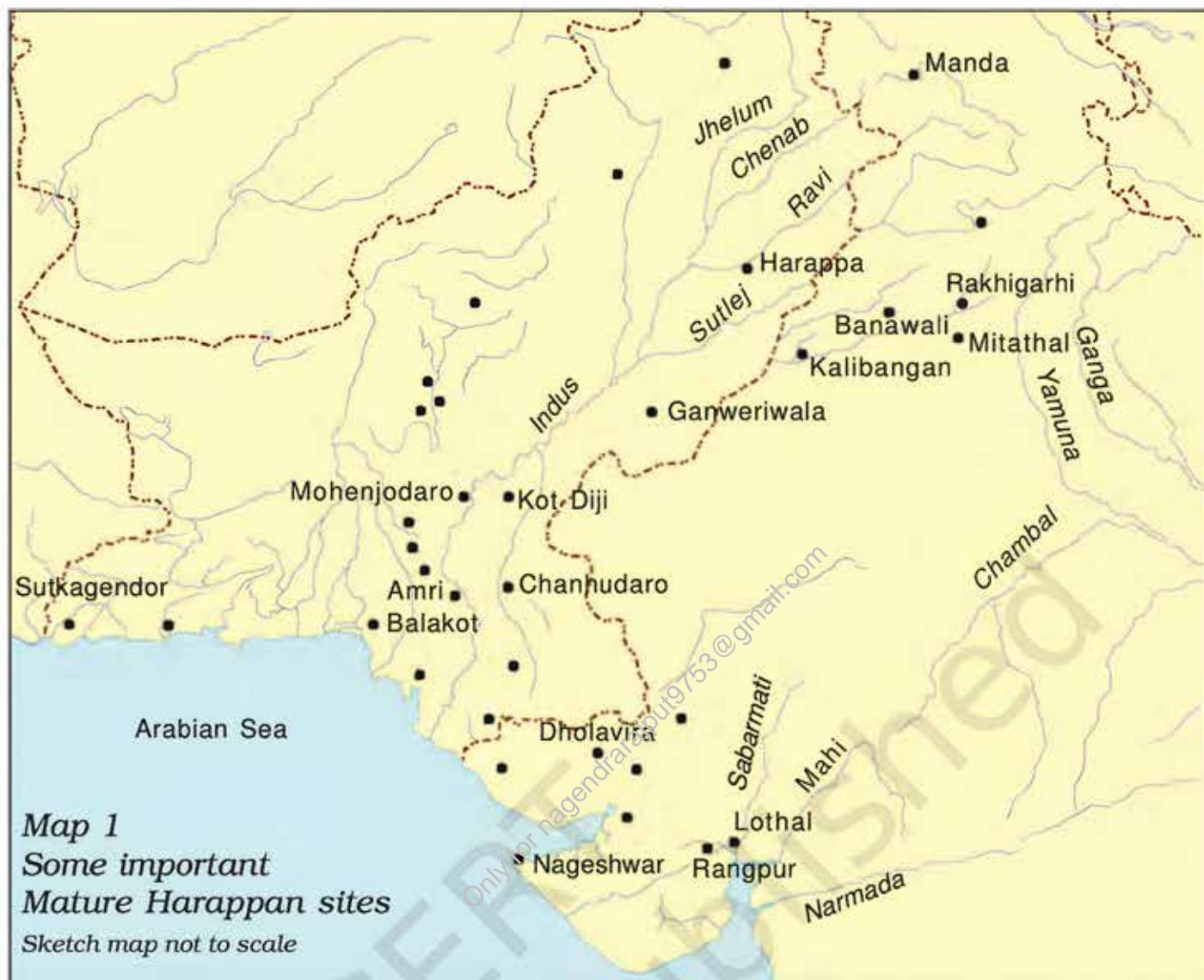
6. Religion &Belief

1. Burial practices

- North – South direction in Maharashtra region.
- East-west in South
- Social Inequality – Some kinds buried with copper necklace. As many children burials found , it may be possibility of high Infant mortality rate.
- Burials within the house like in Harappa where also no separate cemeteries found.
- Terracotta figures of Mother Goddess at Inamgaon indicates religion began during this period . Also Stylised terracotta Bulls found at Malwa and Rajasthan. Some says, hindu religion may have started in Copper Age.

Some common points about Chalcolithic period :

1. Except for alluvial plains and thickly forested areas, Chalcolithic cultures found all over the country and Black-red-pottery found in some areas till 2nd Century B.C
2. They were first to be used Painted pottery.
3. First to establish villages in India.



4. Bronze Age (Harappan Culture)

Time period: Between 2500 B.C and 1750 B.C .

Nomenclature: Harappan Civilisation because of discovery of first site at Harappa at West Punjab in Pakistan in 1921.

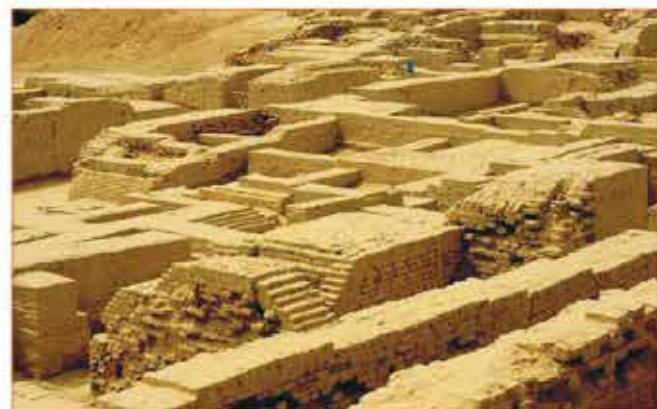
Geographical setting	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Extend from Jammu in North to Narmada Estuary in South, Makram Coast in Baluchistan in West to Meerut in N-E.Size bigger than Egypt and Mesopotamia. No other culture in 2nd and 3rd millennium B.C is bigger than Harappa.Out of 250 Harappa sites 6 are regarded as Cities<ul style="list-style-type: none">Harappa and Mohenjo-daro are important . Both are connected by Indus river.Chanhudaro south of Mohenjo-daroLothal in Gujarat at head of Gulf of CambayKalibangan in RajasthanBanawali in Haryana.
Classification	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Harappan<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mud-brick PlatformsStreets and DrainsMature phase: in Coastal cities of Sutkagendor and Surkotada each of which is marked by Citadel.Later Harappan: Rangpur and Rojdi in Kathiawar peninsula of Gujarat.
Town Planning and Structures	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Harappa and Mohenjo-daro had its own Citadel – having Ruling classBelow Citadel with brick-houses inhabited by common peopleHouses were in Grid pattern. Roads cut across right angle.Mohenjo-daro<ul style="list-style-type: none">Great Bath at citadel. Built with Burn Bricksa; Rooms for Changing Cloths. Water supply from adjacent well.Granary – Largest building in Mohenjodaro.Harappa<ul style="list-style-type: none">6 GranariesKalibangan<ul style="list-style-type: none">Brick Platforms indicates Granaries are common in Harappan Settlements.Houses had wellsIn Harappa, burnt bricks were widely used. But at contemporary Egypt had used Mainly dried bricks for building. In Mesopotamia Backed bricks were usedEvery small and large house had Courtyard and Bathrooms.

Agriculture	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Unlike less fertile and rainless now, ancient period these regions were fertile.2. Natural vegetation was cleared for Grazing , agriculture and fuel (for burning bricks).3. Just Nile created alluvial plains and supported Egypt , Indus Created Sindh and fed its people.4. Indus people sowed seeds in November , harvested barley and wheat in April.5. Furrows at Kalibangan indicated Ploughing but probably with Wooden Ploughshare.6. Channel or canal irrigation seems to be absent but dams were present to store water.7. Harappans produce excess food grains for themselves and for the town people. <p>8. Crops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wheat, barley, sesamum, mustard, Peas etc.• Two types of Wheat and Barley. Good quality barley discovered at Banawali.• Rice at Lothal <ol style="list-style-type: none">9. Cereals received as Taxes from Peasants and stored at Granaries which they paid as salaries to artisans.10. Mesopotamians paid Barley as salaries.
Domestication of Animals	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Oxen, buffaloes, goats, sheep, cats and pigs. Humped bull was favoured by Harappans.2. Assess and Camels to carry luggage. Evidence of Horse superficially from Mohenjo-daro and from a doubtful terracotta figurine from Lothal. Remains of Horse found dated to 2000 B.C found in Surkotada but was not widely used.3. Known for Elephants and Rhinoceros.4. Mesopotamians also produced and domesticated same food grains and animals respectively as Harappans did. But People in Gujarat Produced rice and domesticated Elephants which was not happened in Mesopotamia.
Technology and Crafts	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Harappan People belong to Bronze Age.2. Bronze Made by mixing of Copper (from Khetri copper mines of Rajasthan) and tin (Initially imported from Afghanistan and later found in Hazaribagh , Bihar). <p>3. Crafts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bronze Smits made – Images, utensils, tools and weapons. Dancing Girl made of Bronze. One Steatite statue with the ornaments.• Spinning – Woven cotton piece found in Mohenjo-daro. Weavers wove cloth of cotton and wool.• Brick Laying, boat -making , Seal Making , terracotta manufacturing .• Gold Smits made of Silver, Gold (both imported from Afghanistan) and Precious stones (From S.India).• Pottery – Glossy and shining Pots. Designs of Trees, Men images , Circles.• Terracotta figures – Figures made of fire-baked earthen clay.<ul style="list-style-type: none">a; Objects of worship, Toyb; Birds, dogs, Sheep, Cattle and Monkeys , Men and Women (more than men in number)c; Seals were made with High skills and used by Upper class whereas Terracotta made with less skills and used by Lower class people.• Poor in Stone art unlike in Egypt and Mesopotamia

Trade	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Metallic Money or Currency 2. Barter System- Exchange of Food grains and finished goods for Metals. 3. They known use of Wheel . 4. Commercial link with Rajasthan, Afghanistan ,Iran, Tigris and Euphrates. 5. Mesopotamians used to call Indus region as Meluha.
Political Organisation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In contrast to Egypt and Mesopotamia no temples have been found in Harappan site. But religious structures like Great Bath in Mohenjo-daro and Fire cults in Lothal. 2. Harappans were possibly ruled by Class of Merchants
Religious Practices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Terracotta figure of women with plant growing out of Women embryo – represents goddess of Earth same like Nile goddess Isis of Egyptians (Who were Matriarchal People). 2. Male deity with 3 heads and one horn. Sitting posture of Yogi. Surrounded by Elephant, Rhinoceros, Tiger and buffalo. At his feet two deer which reminds Pasupati Mahadeva. 3. Numerous symbols of Phallus and female sex organs made of stone found at Harappa (Rig-veda speaks of non-Aryan people who were Phallus worshippers). 4. Tree and Animal Worship – Pipal tree and Animals like Bull on Seals. 5. Amulets – against the Ghosts and Evil forces (Athava Veda a Non-aryan work contains Many Charms, spells and recommends Amulets.
Art of Writing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Harappan invented Art of Writing like Mesopotamia. 2. Earliest Specimen of Harappa noticed in 1853 but complete script discovered in 1923 but not deciphered yet. 3. Unlike Mesopotamians there were no long inscriptions in Harappa. Writings were in Short and on seals. These seals used by propertied people to mark and identify their private property. 4. Script not alphabetic but pictographic
Weights and Measures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For trade and other transactions 2. Weighing mostly 16 and its multiples (till recently 16 annas made 1 rupee). 3. Sticks with measure marks for measurement. One such stick is made of Bronze.
Seals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With images like One-horned Bull, buffalo, tiger, elephant, rhinoceros & goat .

Decline of harappan Civilisation :

1. Around 1750 B.C Harappa and Mohenjo-daro were faded away but the rest of the regions like Rajasthan, Gujarat and W. Uttar Pradesh.
2. Different Causes attributed are:
 - Decreasing fertility and Increasing Salinity of soil.
 - Subsidence or uplift of land and thus floods.
 - Hoard of Skulls, New Jewellery , Axes etc at Mohenjo-daro indicates entry of new people and violence.



Harappan Civilisation

5. Advent of Aryans (Age of the Rig Veda)

Basic aspects about Indo-Aryans

1. Language : Indo-Eurasian

2. Evidences of Aryan entry in to India

- Initially lived on the west of Alps.
- Had common names for flora and Fauna like Pine , Maple etc. and Goats, dogs, horses respectively.
- They practiced mainly Pastoral and agriculture being secondary occupation. They lead Pastoral life.
- Rig Veda which is early specimen of Indo-Eurasian language had information about these people.
- **Important texts**
 - a; Rig-veda - India
 - b; Avesta – Iran
 - c; Kassite and Mirani Inscriptions – Iraq
 - d; All these 3 having some common names of gods.
- Region in which Aryan settled know as “ Land of Seven Rivers”.

Rig Veda

1. Mentioned about Kubha river (Afghanistan) , Indus and its 5 branches

2. Also about Sravastu river , now it lost. Was in Rajasthan. Area represented by it covered with Ghaggar river

3. About Advent of Aryan : Came in several Waves

- Early wave around 1500 B.C mentioned by Rig veda and confronted with inhabitants called Dasa, Dasyus etc.
- Aryans defeated Indra (Purandara) as they were better equipped with Horse Chariots.
- **Aryans:** Fought with Pre-Aryans and fought among themselves.
- Aryans divided into five tribes: **Panchajana**
 - a; Bharatas and Tritsu were Ruling Class – supported by Priest Vasishtha. Bharatavarsha country named after Bharata.
 - b; Bharata ruling clan opposed by 10 kings (5 aryan heads and 5 pre-Aryans).
 - c; Battle of Ten Kings fought between Bharatas and ten kings on Parushni River (identical to River Ravi) and won by Sudas(Bharatas).
 - d; Later Bharatas joined with one of the Defeated tribes Purus and established ruling tribe called Kurus.
 - e; Kurus combined with Panchalas and together established ruling tribe at upper Gangetic basin.

4. About material life of Aryans:

- Used Copper Supplied by Khetri Mines of rajasthan
- Known about Agriculture- Sowing, harvesting, Thrashing, about seasons. Practiced Ploughing (made of wood).
- Pastoralists thus battle for Cows. Rig veda mentioned War as Gavishi or search for Cows.
- **Gifts made to priests** – Cows and Women Slaves. Not Lands.
- Land may be held occasionally but not well-established type of Private Property.
- **Artisans:** Mentioned about Carpenters, Chariot-maker, Weaver, leather worker etc. Term Ayas used for copper or Bronze and thus presence of Metal -Working.
- **Not mentioned about Trade and Cities.** They lived in fortified mud settlements.
- Recent discovery of Bhagawanpura (Haryana) and 3 sites in Punjab had Painted Grey Ware coincide with Late-Harappa and Rig veda time Period. At Bhagawanpura 13 room mud-house has been discovered.

5. Tribal Polity:

- Tribal chief who won at war stood at Centre of administration.
 - King is hereditary post. He was protector of Tribe. Elections do held but for tribal Assembly called Samiti.
 - Several Tribal assemblies: Deliberative, military and Religious Exercises
 - a; **Sabha** – Women allowed (during Rig Veda)
 - b; **Samiti**
 - c; **Vidatha** – Women allowed (During Rig Veda)
 - d; **Gana**
 - e; **Sabha and Samiti** were important and king sought their support
 - **Day to Day administration:**
 - a; Important functionary – Purohit (During Rig veda **Vasishta and Viswamitra** were 2 important priests).
 - b; Next in importance- Senani.
 - c; No information rmation about officer for Tax collection and administering Justice.
 - d; Society was not ideal as thefts do happened and Spies employed.
 - e; Titles to officers do not indicate their administration of territory but some officers were attached with territory.
 - Vrajapati -Authority over Pasture grounds.
 - Kulapas– head of families. Vrajapati leads Kulapas.
 - Gramanis- head of fighting hordes. Eventually he can become Vrajapati.
 - No standing army but military support during wars offered by tribes like Gana, Grama, Sardha.
 - No Civil system or territorial administration because of migration.
 - **Tribes and family:**
 - a; **Kinship was the basis of social structure** and man was identified by his clan.
 - b; **Jana** (tribe) was mentioned 275 times and **Janapada** or territory is not used even once.
 - c; **Vis**(tribe) mentioned in Rigveda. Vis divided into **Gramma** or smaller tribes. When gramas clashed with one another known as Sangrama.
 - d; **Kula** (Family): also called with the term **Griha**. Family was Large Joint unit and Patriarchal like in Roman Society. Desire for Sons and cows was mentioned in Rigveda but not about daughters.
 - e; **Women:**
 - Could attend assemblies and compose Hymns (Only oral during Rigveda).
 - Polyandry was mentioned. Rare Matrilineal cases like with Mamateya.
 - Levirate and Widow remarriage present. No examples of Child-Marriage. Marriage age during Rigveda (16 or 17).
 - **Social Division:**
 - a; **Varna** – used for colour indicated division based on colour.
 - b; Most important factor for division is conquest of indigenous. Aryans after conquest Dasas and Dasyus treated them as Slaves.
 - c; Tribal chiefs and Priests maintained large possessions. As a Pastoral society -rarely seen about Cereals as Gifts. This led to gradual division of society into 3 groups – Warriors, Priests and People (Same like then Iran) & 4th group Sudras appeared towards the end of Rig Vedic Period.
 - d; Women slaves used for domestic purpose not for the agriculture or producing activities.
 - e; Beginning of Division based on Occupation began in Rigvedic Period
 - f; Social division based on Collection of tax and landed property was absent.

- Rig Vedic Gods:**

- a; Aryans personified Natural forces like rain, sun, moon etc and considered them as Living Beings.
- b; Rigveda mentioned about
 - Indra** (Purandara or breaker of ports) as rain god.
 - Agni** (fire god) – regarded as intermediary between People and Gods.
 - Varuna** – Who upholds the Natural order.
 - Soma** – God of Plants
 - Maruts** – Personify the storms
- c; Some female divinities like Aditi and ushas represented the appearance of the dawn.
- d; Dominant mode of worshipping – Recitation of Prayers (collective and individual prayers) and Offering of Sacrifices.
- e; Prayers not for Spiritual Uplift or end of Misery but for the Praja (Children), Pasu (Cattle), food, wealth, health etc.



6. Later Vedic Period

Transition to State and Social Formation (1000 to 600 B.C)

Expansion in Later Vedic Period (1000 to 600 B.C)

1. History of EVP based on hymns or mantras were known as Samhitas.
2. Samhitas
 - Rigvedic Samhita – about early vedic age. Hymns were sung in praise of gods like Agni, Indra etc.
 - Sama Veda Samhita – Collection of melodies and Chants. Two Upanishads embedded in this are Chandogya Upanishad and Kena Upanishad. Later Vedic.
 - Yajur veda Samhita – Ritual Offering Mantras/ Chants. Later Vedic.
 - Atharva Veda Samhita – Charms and Spells to ward off Evil and Diseases. Later Vedic.
3. Vedic Samhitas followed by Series of Texts known as Brahmanas. Later Vedic .
 - Social and Religious aspects of Rituals.
4. All the Late Vedic texts composed in Upper Gangetic during 1000-600 B.C.
 - During same period Painted Grey Ware (bowls and dishes), Iron Weapons found Western U.P, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.
5. Kurus initially lived between Sarasvati and Drishadvati moved to Ganga -yamuna Doab and Delhi - area called Kurukshetra.
6. Kurus combined with Panchalas and setup capital Hastinapur at Meerut. (Kauravas and Pandavas both belong to Kurus. Mahabharata believed to happened around 950 B.C)
7. Due to floods Remnants of Kuru clan moved from Hastinapur to Kausambi near Allahabad.
8. Contact with Late Harappan
 - In eastern UP and North Bihar they confronted against People using Copper and Black -and red earthen pots.
 - In Western UP – with People Using Copper implements and Ochre or red colour pots.
 - And in some places where people using Black -and -red ware

Painted Grey Ware – Iron Phase Culture and Later Vedic Economy

1. From 1000 B.C Iron Used in Gandhara ,Pakistan. Dead bodies buried with Iron Implements also found.
2. Sametime Iron used in Eastern Punjab, Western U.P, Rajasthan.
3. Iron implements used in Clearing Forests, in wars.
4. Iron called as Syama or Krishna Ayas in Later vedic texts.

5. **Economy**
 - Mainly agriculture
 - Ploughing with wooden ploughshare.
 - Less bullocks due to prevalence of Cow Slaughter (So, agriculture was Primitive).
 - Satapatha Brahmana – about Ploughing rituals . Tells that King and Queen were not hesitant to take manual agriculture labor.
 - **Crops**- Wheat, barley , rice (first time produced rice in doab), lentils.

6. **Arts and Crafts**
 - Smiths and Smelters.
 - Copper Smelters (both in Vedic and non-vedic societies).
 - Weaving was confined to women but in large scale.
 - **Pottery: 4 types**
 - a; Black-and-red ware.
 - b; Black-slipped ware.
 - c; Painted Grey ware (most distinctive) and
 - d; Red ware.
 - Specialised Crafts like Bangles etc
 - Jewel Workers also present.
 - Later vedic hardly known of Burnt Bricks.

7. **Nagara** term mentioned in Later vedic texts but Towns began only at the end of Later Vedic Period (Hasarpur and Kausambi).
8. Seas and Sea Voyages were also mentioned.

Political Organisation

1. Popular assemblies lost importance and Royal Power increased.
 - Vidatha completely disappeared.
 - Sabha and Samiti continued but their character changed as they dominated by Princes and rich noble.
 - Women not allowed for Sabhas as Sabhas began to dominated by Nobles and Brahmins.
2. Name of tribe became the name of the territory ex: Panchala.
3. Rituals which increased kings influence
 - Rajasuya sacrifice
 - Asvamedha
 - Vajapeya
4. Collection of Taxes and tributes was common and deposited with officer called Sangrahitri .
5. King assisted by Priest, Commander, Chief Queen and other functionaries.
6. At lower-level Villages assemblies – controlled by Chiefs of Dominant tribes.
7. **No Standing Army.**

Master

UPSC PRELIMS CHALLENGES in CURRENT AFFAIRS with VISIONIAS PT365



How to Prepare
Current Affairs

Current affairs forms the cornerstone of civil services exam preparation, permeating all its phases – **Prelims, Mains, and the Interview**. Staying updated with current affairs equips aspirants to navigate the evolving landscape of the civil services exam. With the right resources and approach, candidates can transform this vast section into a strong advantage.

What is PT 365?

PT 365 document comprehensively covers the important and relevant current affairs of the last 1 year in a consolidated manner to aid Prelims preparation. It is devised as a revision document of the current affairs.

Features of PT365



Comprehensive Coverage

- Entire year's current affairs coverage.
- UPSC relevant subjects like Polity, Economy, S&T, Environment, IR, etc.
- Emphasis on topics likely to appear in upcoming prelims exam.



Clear and Concise Information

- Clear, concise presentation focusing on key issues.
- Information from credible sources.
- Appendices for rapid revision.



QR based Smart quiz

- Interactive feature to assess aspirant's learning and comprehension.



Infographics

- Aids in understanding and retention.
- Techniques, methods, and processes displayed.
- Strategic use of maps to enhance learning.



Government Schemes and Policies

- In-depth coverage of key government schemes, policies, and initiatives.



New Elements

- Tailored to reflect the pattern of previous year's questions.



Scan this QR code
to watch video

Significance of PT 365



Ease of Revision: Content categorisation is based on subjects or topics to make it easier for aspirants to locate and revise specific areas



Value Addition: Includes infographics, related developments, or news, ensuring comprehensive coverage of important information.



Crisp Material: Crisp points have been used in the articles. It allows aspirants to easily do multiple revisions in limited span of time.



Integrated Approach: Covers basic concepts and information of all current affairs in a lucid manner, in line with previous trends of UPSC questions. Also helps in integrating key current affairs with static knowledge.



Scan this QR code
to Know More

PT 365 is a time and tested document. In the previous years, it has helped lakhs of candidates to cover current affairs in a holistic way. Its impactful features make it easier for aspirants to understand current affairs and excel in the UPSC Civil Services examination.

2024 QUICK REVISION MATERIAL

MAHAJANAPADAS

The Janapadas were the major kingdoms of Vedic India. During that period, Aryans were the most powerful tribes and were called as 'Janas'. This gave rise to the term Janapada where Jana means 'people' and Pada means 'foot'.

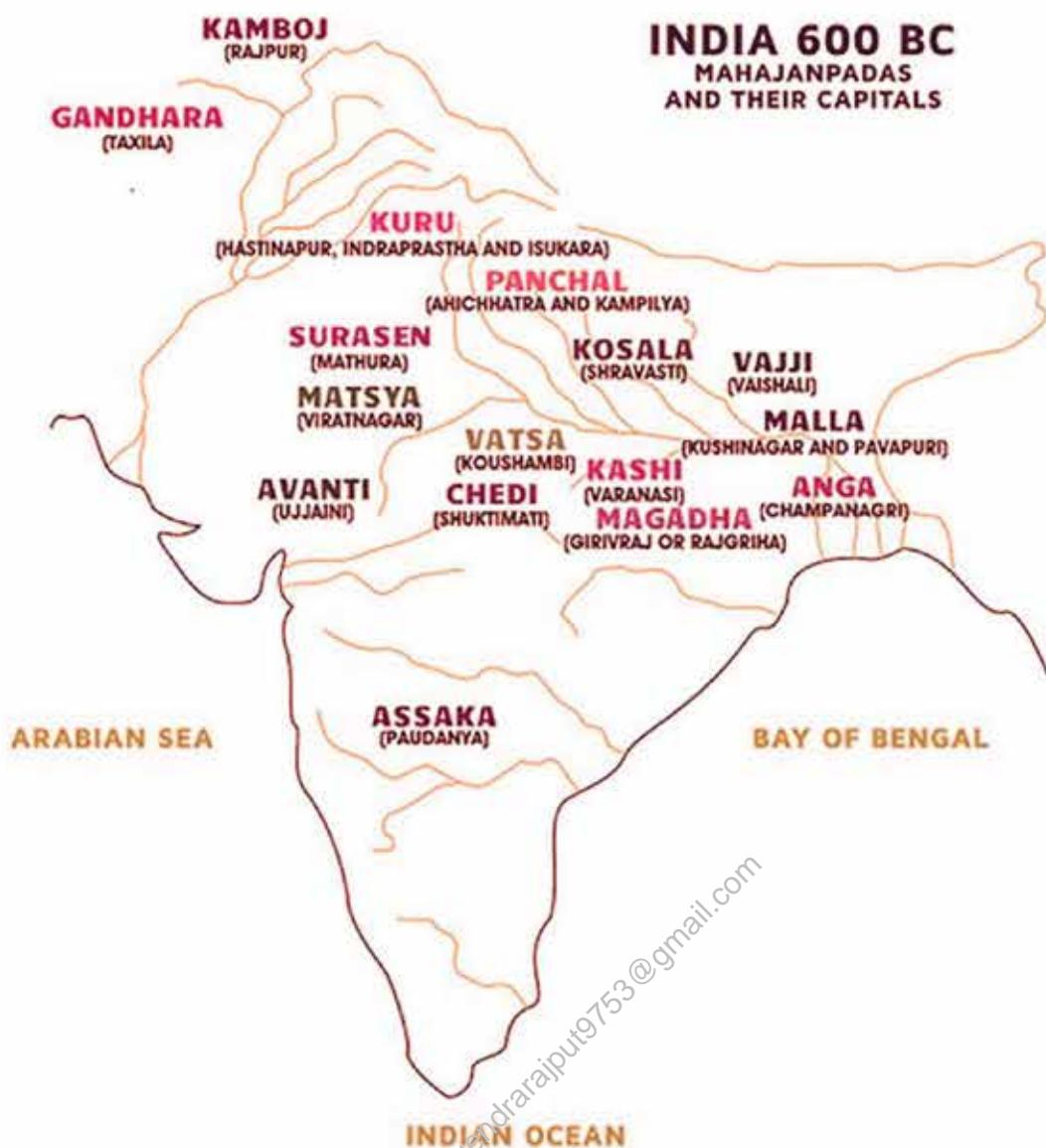
Only for nagendrarajput9753@gmail.com

LIST OF 16 MAHAJANAPADAS THAT AROSE BEFORE THE RISE OF BUDDHISM IN INDIA:

16 Mahajanapadas	Capital of the Mahajanapadas	Modern Location	Facts about 16 Mahajanapadas
Anga	Champa	Munger and Bhagalpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anga Mahajanapada finds reference in the Mahabharata and Atharva Veda. During the rule of Bimbisara, it was taken over by Magadha Empire. It is situated in present-day Bihar and West Bengal.
Magadha	Girivraja/ Rajagriha	Gaya and Patna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Magadha finds mention in the Atharva Veda. It was located in present-day Bihar close to Anga, divided by river Champa. Later, Magadha became a centre of Jainism and the first Buddhist Council was held in Rajagriha.
Kasi	Kasi	Banaras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was located in Varanasi. This city got its name from rivers Varuna and Asi as cited in the Matsya Purana.
Vatsa	Kausambi	Allahabad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vatsa is also known as Vamsa. Located on the banks of the Yamuna. The capital was Kausambi This was a central city for economic activities. There was a prosperous trade and business prospered in the 6th century. After the rise of Buddha, the ruler Udayana made Buddhism a state religion. Vasta was located around the present-day Allahabad.
Kosala	Sravasti	Eastern Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was located in modern Awadh region of Uttar Pradesh. Its capital was Sravasti.
Shurasena	Mathura	Western Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This place was a centre of Krishna worship at the time of Megasthenes. Also, There was a dominant followership of Budha.
Panchala	Ahichchatra and Kampilya	Western Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Its capital for northern Panchala was Ahichchatra (modern Bareilly) and Kampilya (modern Farrukhabad) for its southern regions. The famous city of Kannauj was situated in the Kingdom of Panchala. Later the nature of governance shifted from monarchy to republic.

Only for nagendra975@gmail.com

Kuru	Indraprastha	Meerut and Southeastern Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area around Kurukshetra was apparently the site for Kuru Mahajanapada. It moved to a republic form of governance.
Matsya	Viratanagara	Jaipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was situated to the west of the Panchalas and south of the Kurus. The capital was at Viratanagara. It is situated around present-day Jaipur.
Chedi	Sothivati	Bundelkhand region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This was cited in the Rigveda. The capital was Sothivati. It located in the present-day Bundelkhand region.
Avanti	Ujjaini or Mahismati	Malwa and Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avanti was significant in relation to the rise of Buddhism. The capital of Avanti was located at Ujjaini or Mahismati. It was situated around present-day Malwa and Madhya Pradesh.
Gandhara	Taxila	Rawalpindi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The capital was at Taxila. Gandhara is cited in the Atharva Veda. The people were highly trained in the art of war. It was significant for international commercial activities.
Kamboja	Poonch	Rajouri and Hajra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The capital of Kamboja was Poonch. It is situated in present-day Kashmir and Hindukush. Several literary sources mention that Kamboja was a republic.
Asmaka or Assaka	Pratisthan/Paithan	Banks of Godavari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The capital of the Mahajanapadas was located at Pratisthan or Paithan. It was located on the banks of Godavari.
Vajji	Vaishali	Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is the capital of Vajji was Vaishali. The main races residing in this Mahajanapadas were Lichchhavis, Vedehans, Jnatrikas and Vajji.
Malla	Kusinara	Deoria and Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It finds a reference in Buddhist and Jain texts and in the Mahabharata. Malla was a republic. Their capital was kusinara situated around present-day Deoria and Uttar Pradesh.



RISE & GROWTH OF MAGADHA EMPIRE

The Magadha Empire came into existence when the four Mahajanpada- Magadha, Kosala, Vatsa and Avanti engaged in the struggle for the supremacy from the 6th Century BC to 4th Century BC. Ultimately, Magadha emerged as the most powerful and prosperous kingdom in the North India. Magadha is situated in modern Bihar. Jarasandha, who was a descendant of Brihadratha, founded the empire in Magadha.

Magadha Empire – Haryanka Dynasty

There were three important kings in Haryanka Dynasty- Bimbisara, Ajatashatru and Udayin. Giriviraja was the earliest capital of Magadha and later shifted to Rajagriha.

Bimbisara (Soeniya or Sreniya)

1. He was the **first king** to have standing army and was contemporary to the **Buddha**.
2. He was the first who started matrimonial alliances to strengthen its position as a king after defeating
3. **Brahmadutta** (Anga King).
4. He had three wives: Kosala Devi (King of Kosala's daughter and the sister of Prasenjit), Chellana (daughter of the Lichchavi chief of Vaisali) and Khema (daughter of the king of Modra, Punjab).
5. Marriage relation with the different princely families gave enormous diplomatic prestige and paved the way for the expansion of Magadha western and northward.
6. Pukkusati came into his court who was the ambassador of the Gandhara ruler of Taxila.
7. He sent his personal physician Jivak (son of Salavati), to his rival Chandapraditya Mahasena of Ujjain to cure him of jaundice.



Ajatshatru (Kunika)

1. **Son of Bimbisara and Chellana** who occupied throne by killing his father.
2. He was a contemporary of both Mahavira and Gautama Buddha and embraced Buddhism.
3. He was also instrumental in convening the First Buddhist Council at Rajagriha soon after the death of Buddha.



Udayin

1. **Son and successor of Ajatshatru**
2. Built the fort on the confluence of the Ganga and the Son river at Patliputra (now Patna)
3. He was murdered at the instigation of the king of Avanti, Palak. He was succeeded by weak successors-Anuruddha, Munda and Naga-Dasaka.

MAGADHA EMPIRE : SISUNAGA DYNASTY

As per the Sri Lankan chronicles, the people of Magadha revolted during the reign of Nagadasaka and placed an amatya (minister) named Sisunaga as king.

Sisunaga

1. Was the viceroy of Kasi before becoming king of Magadha.
2. The capital was at Girivaraja which was later shifted to Vaishali.
3. He annexed Avanti and brought an end to the long rivalry between Magadha and Avanti.



Kalasaka

1. Son of Sisunaga.
2. Kalasaka shifted the capital to Pataliputra.
3. He conducted the Second Buddhist Council at Vaishali.
4. He was killed in a palace revolution that brought the Nanda dynasty to the throne.

MAGADHA EMPIRE : NANDA DYNASTY

This was the first non-Kshatriya dynasty.

Mahapadma Nanda

(“First historical emperor of India.”) (Chandragupta Maurya is the First Emperor of India)

1. He murdered Kalasoka to become the king.
2. His origins are not clear. As per the Puranas, he was the son of the last Sisunaga king from a Sudra woman. As per some Jain texts and Greek writer Curtius, he was the son of a barber and a courtesan.
3. His reign lasted for twenty-eight years from 367 BC to 338 BC.
4. He is also called “Sarva Kashtriyantaka” (destroyer of all the Kshatriyas) and “Ekrat”.
5. The empire grew under his reign. It ran from the Kuru country in the north to the Godavari Valley in the south and from Magadha in the east to Narmada on the west.



Dhana Nanda

1. He was the last Nanda ruler. He is said to be one of the sons of Mahapadma Nanda.
2. He is referred to as Agrammes or Xandrames in Greek texts.
3. Alexander invaded North-Western India during his reign, but he could not proceed towards the Gangetic plains because of his army's refusal.
4. He inherited a huge empire from his father. He possessed a standing army of 200,000 infantry, 20,000 cavalry, 3000 elephants and 2000 chariots. He became a powerful ruler because of this.
5. He became unpopular with his subjects owing to an oppressive way of extorting taxes. Also, his Sudra origins and an anti-Kshatriya policy led to a large number of enemies.
6. Finally, he was overthrown by Chandragupta Maurya along with Chanakya, which led to the foundations of the Maurya Empire in Magadha.

Reasons for the rise of Magadha

Geographical factors

- Upper and lower parts of the Gangeic valley on the mainland route between west and east India.
- The area had fertile soil and also received enough rainfall.
- Magadha was encircled by rivers on three sides, the Ganga, Son and Champa making the region impregnable to enemies.
- Both Rajgir and Pataliputra were located in strategic positions.

Economic factors

- **Magadha had huge copper and iron deposits.**
- Because of its location, it could easily control trade.
- Had a large population which could be used for agriculture, mining, building cities and in the army.
- The general prosperity of the people and the rulers.
- The mastery over Ganga meant economic hegemony. Ganga was important for trade in North India.
- With the annexation of Anga by Bimbisara, river Champa was added to the Magadha Empire. Champa was important in the trade with South-East Asia, Sri Lanka and South India.

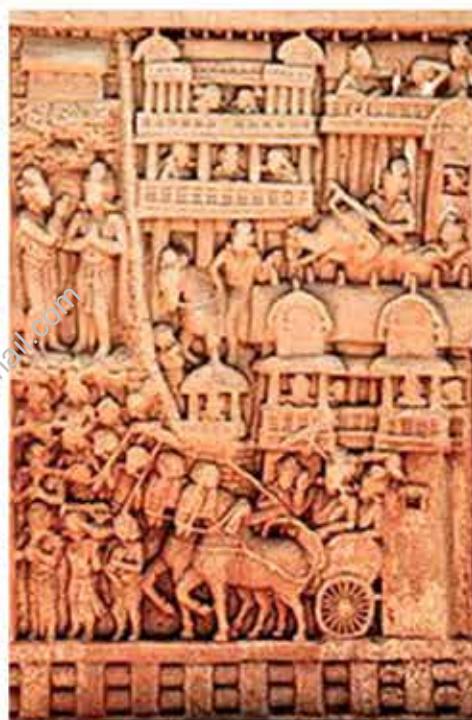




Only for narendrakumar755@gmail.com

Cultural factors

- Magadhan society had an unorthodox character which had a good mix of Aryan and non-Aryan peoples.
- The emergence of Jainism and Buddhism led to a revolution in terms of philosophy and thought.
- They enhanced liberal traditions.
- Society was not so much dominated by the Brahmanas and many kings of Magadha were 'low' in origins.



Political factors

- Magadha was lucky to have many powerful and ambitious rulers.
- They had strong standing armies.
- Availability of iron enabled them to develop advanced weaponry.
- They were also the first kings to use elephants in the army.
- The major kings also developed a good administrative system.

IRANIAN AND MACEDONIAN INVASIONS

Iranian Invasion

- During the first half the sixth century B.C., there were several small principalities in the north-west India such as those of the Kambojas, Gandharas and Madras fought one another.
- The Iranian ruler Darius penetrated into north-west India in 516 B.C. and annexed Punjab, west of Indus and Sindh. This area constituted the twentieth province or satrapy of Iran.
- The Indian satrapy included Sindh, the north-west frontier and the part of Punjab that lay to the west of the Indus. It was most fertile and populous part of the empire.
- India continued to be a part of the Iranian empire till Alexander's invasion of India.

Result of the Indo-Iranian contact That lasted for about 200 years.

- The Iranian scribes brought into India a form of writing which came to be known as the Kharosthi script. It was written from right to left like the Arabic.
- Iranian influence on the Maurya sculpture is clearly perceptible. The monuments of Ashoka's time especially the bell shaped capital, owed something to the Iranian models.
- Iranian influence may also be traced in the preamble of Ashoka's edicts as well as in certain terms used in them. For instance, for the Iranian term dipi, the Ashokan scribe used the term lipi.
- It seems that through the Iranians the Greeks came to know about the great wealth of India, which whetted their greed and eventually led to Alexander's invasion.

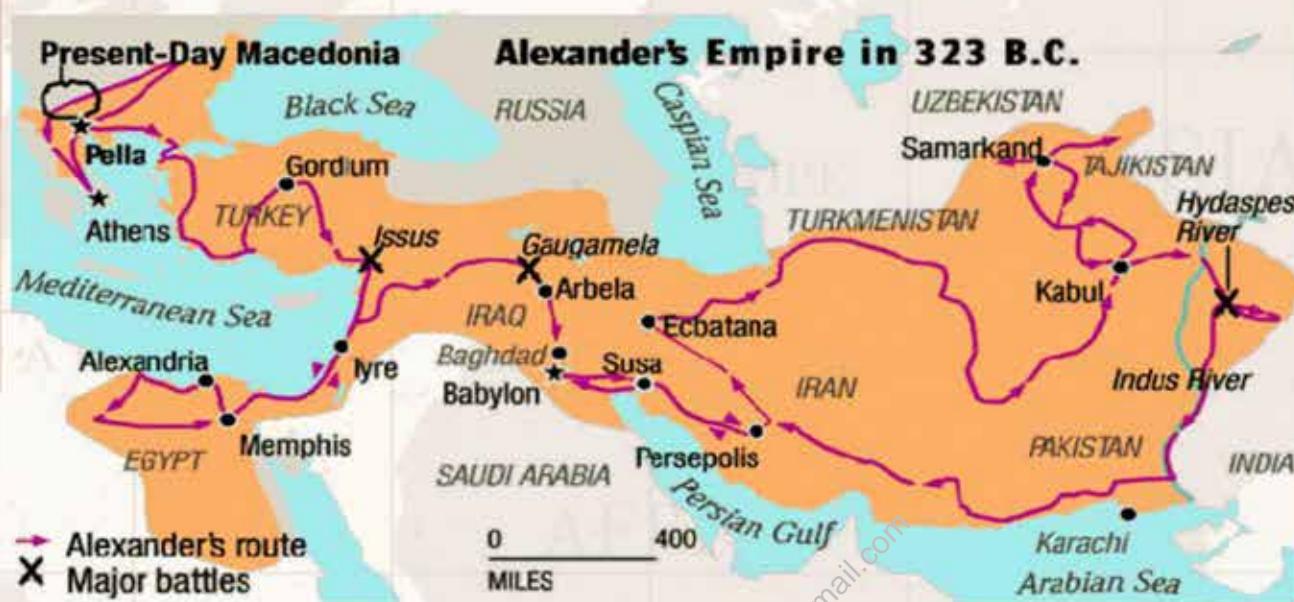
Alexander's Invasion

- Under the leadership of Alexander of Macedonia, the Greeks finally destroyed the Iranian empire.
- Alexander conquered not only Asia Minor and Iraq but also Iran.
- Herodotus, who is called father of history, and other Greek writers had painted India as, a fablous land, which tempted Alexander to invade it.
- Alexander also possessed a strong passion for geographical inquiry and natural history.
- He had heard that the Caspian Sea continued on the eastern side of India.
- Alexander marched towards India through the Khyber pass in 326 B.C.
- Ambhi the prince of Taxila, readily submitted to the invader, augmented his army and replenished his treasure.
- Near Jhelum, Alexander met from Porus the first and the strongest resistance whose kingdom lay between the Jhelum and the Chenab. Alexander defeated Porus, he was impressed by his bravery and courage.
- Then he advanced as far as the Beas River. He wanted to move still farther eastward but his army refused to accompany him.
- The Greek soldiers had grown war-weary and diseased. The hot climate of India and ten years of continuous campaigning had made them terribly homesick.
- They had also experienced a taste of Indian fighting qualities on the bank of Indus
- As the Greek historian Arrian tells us; "In the art of war the Indians were far superior to the other nations inhabiting the area at that time."
- Especially the Greek soldiers were told of a formidable power on the Ganga.
- Obviously it was the kingdom of Magadha ruled by the Nandas who maintained an army far outnumbering that of Alexander.



- So despite the repeated appeals of Alexander to advance, the Greek soldiers did not budge an inch. Alexander lamented: "I am trying to rouse the hearts that are disloyal and crushed with craven fears".
- The king who had never known defeat at the hands of his enemies had to accept defeat from his own men. He was forced to retreat.
- He remained in India for 19 months (326-325 B.C.).
- Most conquered states were restored to their rulers who submitted to his authority.

Alexander Empire and Battle Site



Effects of Alexander's Invasion

Alexander's invasion provided the first occasion when ancient Europe came into close contact with ancient India.

- Establishment of direct contact between India and Greece in different fields: Alexander's campaign
- opened up four distinct routes by land and sea. It paved the way for Greek merchants and craftsmen.
- The invasion led to the establishment of more Greek settlements in this area. The most important of them were the city of Alexandria in the Kabul region, Boukephale on the Jhelum, and Alexandria in Sindh.
- Alexander was deeply interested in the geography of the mysterious ocean which he saw for the first time at the mouth of the Indus. Therefore he despatched his new fleet under his friend Nearchus to explore the coast and search for harbours from the mouth of the Indus to that of the Euphrates.
- Alexander's historians have left valuable geographical accounts. They also have left clearly dated records of Alexander's campaign, which enable to build Indian chronology for subsequent events on a definite basis.
- Alexander's historians also give us important information about social and economic conditions. It documents the sati system, sale of girls in market places by poor parents, and the fine breed of oxen in north-west India. The art of carpentry flourished in India and carpenters built chariots, boats and ships.
- His invasion paved the way for the expansion of the Maurya Empire in that area. According to tradition, Chandragupta Maurya had seen the working of the army of Alexander and acquired some knowledge which helped him in destroying the Nandas.

Mauryan Age

The last of the Nanda rulers, Dhana Nanda was highly unpopular due to his oppressive tax regime. Also, post-Alexander's invasion of North-Western India, that region faced a lot of unrest from foreign powers. Chandragupta, with the help of an intelligent and politically astute Brahmin, Kautilya usurped the throne by defeating Dhana Nanda in 321 BC.

Chandragupta

Chandragupta liberated north western India from Seleucus Nicator, who ruled area west of the Indus. He entered into a treaty with Seleucus Nicator in which Chandragupta acquired Baluchistan, eastern Afghanistan and the region to the west of Indus. In return, Seleucus Nicator got 500 elephants. Chandragupta thus built up a vast empire covering the whole of the subcontinent.



Ashoka

He is greatest of the Mauryan rulers. According to the Buddhist tradition, he killed his 99 brothers to get the throne.



Timeline of important Maurya Rule

Rule	Span of Rule
Chandragupta Maurya	321-297 BC
Bindusara	297-272 BC
Asoka	272-232 BC



Bindusara

Son of Chandragupta. Also called Amitraghata (Slayer of foes) or Amitrochates in Greek sources. Deimachus was a Greek ambassador at his court. He had appointed his son, Ashoka as the governor of Ujjain. Bindusara is believed to have extended the Mauryan Empire to Mysore as well.



Ashokan Inscriptions

- Inscription is bases of the reconstructed history of Ashoka which are classified into: Major Rock Edicts; Minor Rock Edicts; Separate Rock Edicts; Major Pillar Edicts; and Minor pillar Edicts
- These inscriptions are found in India, Nepal, Pakistan and Afghanistan. In these inscriptions, Ashok refers to himself as "Devanampiya piyadasi" which means "dear to God".
- The name of Ashoka occurs only in copies of a Minor Rock Edicts I found at the three places in Karnataka and at one in Madhya Pradesh.
- They appeared in Aramaic language and Kharoshthi Script in north-western part of the sub-continent. In Afghanistan, they were written in both Aramaic and Greek Scripts and languages.

Impact of Kalinga war

Bindusara

Kalinga war was one of the major war fought by Ashoka. Loss caused during war caused Ashoka much grief and remorse. So he abandoned the policy of physical conquest with cultural conquest i.e. bherighosha was replaced by dhammadhoshha. Ashoka converted to Buddhism and missionaries were sent to Sri Lanka, Burma and other countries to promote Buddhism.



Significance of the Mauryan rule

1. State Control

- Kautilya advises the king to promulgate dharma when the social order based on the varnas and ashramas (stages in life) collapses. He calls the king dharmaprvartaka or promulgator of the social order. Ashoka promulgated dharma and appointed officials to inculcate and enforce its essentials throughout India.
- The administrative mechanism was backed by an elaborate system of espionage. Various types of spies collected intelligence about foreign enemies and kept an eye on numerous officers.
- Important functionaries were called tirtha. It appears that most functionaries were paid in cash, the highest among whom, the minister (mantrin), high priest (purohita), commander-in-chief (senapati) and crown prince (yuvaraja), were paid generously.

2. Economic Regulations

- The state appointed twenty-seven superintendents (adhyakshas), principally to regulate its economic activities. They controlled and regulated agriculture, trade and commerce, weights and measures, crafts such as weaving and spinning, mining, and the like. The state also provided irrigation facilities and regulated water supply for the benefit of agriculturists.
- According to the Arthashastra of Kautilya, a striking social development of the Maurya period was the employment of slaves in agricultural operations. Royal control was exercised over a very large area, at least in the core of the empire.
- The Ashokan inscriptions appear on important highways. The stone pillars were made in Chunar near Varanasi from where they were transported to north and south India.
- Pataliputra was the chief centre of royal power, but Tosali, Suvarnagiri, Ujjain, and Taxila were seats of provincial power. Each of them was governed by a governor called kumara or prince, and thus every governor hailed from the royal family.
- The Maurya period constitutes a landmark in the system of taxation in ancient India. Kautilya names many taxes which were collected from peasants, artisans, and traders. This required a strong and efficient machinery for assessment, collection, and storage.
- The Mauryas attached greater importance to assessment than to storage and deposit. The samaharta was the highest officer in charge of assessment and collection, and the sannidhata was the chief custodian of the state treasury and storehouse. The assessor-cum-collector was far more important than the chief treasurer.
- It seems that the punch-marked silver coins, which carry the symbols of the peacock and crescented hill, formed the imperial currency of the Mauryas.

3. Art and Architecture

- Fragments of stone pillars and stumps, indicating the existence of an 84-pillared hall, have been discovered at Kumrahar on the outskirts of modern Patna. Each pillar is made of a single piece of buff-coloured sandstone. Only their capitals, which are beautiful pieces of sculpture in the form of lions or bulls, are joined to the pillars on the top. The erection of the polished pillars throughout India shows the spread of the technical knowledge involved in the art of polishing them. The earliest examples are the Barabar caves at a distance of 30 km from Gaya.
- In the central phase of the Northern Black Polished Ware around 300 BC, the central Gangetic plains became the centre of terracotta art.
- The stone statue of Yakshini in the form of a beautiful woman found in Didarganj (Patna) is noted for its Maurya polish.

4. Spread of Material Culture

- This period evidences socketed axes, hoes, spades, sickles, and ploughshares. Besides these iron implements, the spoked wheel also began to be used.
- In the end of the Maurya period burnt bricks were used for the first time in north-eastern India. Maurya constructions made of burnt bricks have been found in Bihar and UP.
- Ring wells, which were first constructed under the Mauryas in the Gangetic plains spread beyond the heart of the empire.
- The art of making steel may have spread through Maurya contacts across some other parts of India. Steel objects relating to about 200 BC or an earlier date have been found in the mid-Gangetic plains. The spread of steel may have led to jungle clearance and the use of better methods of cultivation in Kalinga, and could have created the conditions for the rise of the Cheti kingdom in that region

Sources of Mauryas Age

1. Buddhist Texts: Jatakas, Divyavadana and Ashokavadana
2. Srilankan Text, Mahavamsa and Dipavamsa
3. Puranas
4. Kautilya's Arthashastra (Politico-economy or Statecraft)
5. Indica (Megasthenes)
6. Vishakhadatta's Mudrarakshasa (Account of how Nandas overthrown by Chandragupta Mauryas in Sanskrit)
7. Somadeva's Kathasaritasagara, Kshemendra's Brihadkatha Manjari and Kalhana's Rajtarangini
8. Ashokan Inscriptions and edicts.

Causes of the fall of the Maurya Empire

- **Brahmanical Reaction:** The tolerance policy of Ashoka developed some kind of antipathy because animals and birds sacrifice, and women derided superfluous ritual performed affected the income of the brahmanas. New Kingdoms like Shungas, Kanvas etc ruled by Brahmaṇas arose to ruined the empire.
- **Financial Crisis:** The enormous expenditure on the army and payment to bureaucracy created a financial crisis for the empire.
- **Oppressive Rule** in the province was an important cause of the break-up of the empire.
- **Spread of New material Knowledge in the Outlying Areas:** Mauraya rule owned its expansion to certain basic material advantages and this causes the rise of new kingdoms like Shungas, Kanvas, Chetis and Satvahanas.
- **Neglected the North-West Frontier and the Great Wall of China:** Maurya ruler could not pay attention to the passage on the north-west frontier. This is the only reason, Scythians made a push towards India they forced the Parthians, the Shakas and the Greeks to move towards India. The Chinese ruler Shih Huang Ti (247-210 BC) constructed wall i.e. Great Wall of China to shield his empire from alien attack especially from Scythians.

CENTRAL ASIAN CONTACT AND THEIR RESULTS

The Indo-Greeks

1. A series of invasions took place from about 200 BCE. The first to cross the Hindukush were the Greeks, who ruled Bactria, lying south of the Oxus river in the area covered by north Afghanistan.



Causes of invasion

- Weakness of the Seleucid empire, which had been established in Bactria and the adjoining areas of Iran called Parthia.
- Due to the growing pressure from the Scythian tribes, the later Greek rulers were unable to hold their power in this area.
- The construction of the Chinese wall prevented the Scythians from entering China. So, their attention turned towards Greeks and Parthians. Pushed by the Scythian tribes, the Bactrian Greeks were forced to invade India.
- The successors of Ashoka were too weak to thwart the attack.

In the beginning of the 2nd century BCE, the Indo-Greeks/Bactrian Greeks were the first to invade India. They occupied a large part of north-western India, much larger than that conquered by Alexander. It is believed that they pushed forward to as far as Ayodhya and Pataliputra. However, the Greeks failed to establish a united rule in India. Two Greek dynasties ruled north-western India on parallel lines at the same time. The Indo-Bactrian rule is important in the history of India because of the large number of coins issued by the Greek kings. The Indo-Greeks were the first rulers in India to issue coins which can be definitely attributed to the kings. It is rather interesting to note that out of the forty-two Indo-Greek kings, as many as 34 are known only through their coins.

Demetrius (King of Bactria)

- Invaded India around 190 BCE and probably also came into conflict with Pushyamitra Sunga, founder of the Sunga dynasty.
- Conquered a large part of north-western India and also extended Bactrian rule to the south of the Hindukush.

Menander/Milinda/Minedra (165 BCE- 145 BCE)

- The most celebrated Indo-Greek ruler who stabilized Indo-Greek power and also extended his empire's frontiers in India.
- Also included southern Afghanistan and Gandhara, the region west of the Indus river.
- Had his capital at Sakala (modern Sialkot, Punjab, Pakistan).
- It is believed that he invaded Ganga-Yamuna doab but had failed to retain it for long.
- He was converted to Buddhism by Nagasena, (also known as Nagarjuna). Menander has been identified with the king Milinda mentioned in the famous Buddhist text Milindapanho (Question of Milinda), which contains philosophical questions that Milinda asked Nagasena. The text claims that impressed by the answers, the king accepted Buddhism as his religion
- He is also identified with king Minedra mentioned in a fragmented Kharosthi inscription found on a casket at Bajaur (presently in Pakistan) which refers to the enshrining of relics of the Buddha, probably in a stupa, during his reign.

hermaius

- He was the last ruler of this dynasty and was defeated by the Parthians around the last quarter of the 2nd century BCE, which led to the end of Greek rule in Bactria and the area to the south of the Hindukush.
- However, the Indo-Greek rule continued in north-western India for some more time.
- This north-western Gandhara region was also lost to Parthians and Shakas in due course of time.
- Later, in the late 1st century BCE or the early 1st century CE, the remaining part of the territory, i.e., the area to the east of the Jhelum also ceded to the Kshatrapa ruler Rajuvula.

Impact of the Indo-Greek Rule

- The Indo-Greeks were the first rulers in India to issue coins (gold, silver, copper and nickel). The coins of the Shakas, Parthians and the Kshatrapas followed the basic features of the Indo-Greek coinage, including the bilingual and bi-script legends. These coins provide important information about the religious sects and cults of that era (especially Shaiva and Bhagavata sects).
- The Indo-Greeks introduced Gandhara art in the north-west frontier of India, which was the outcome of the intermingling and influence of both Indian and central Asian contacts.
- The Indo-Greeks also introduced the practice of military governorship and the Governors were called strategos/satraps.
- The Hellenistic Greeks are well known for their monumental buildings and finely crafted objects. Excavation of the cities reveals a great talent in urban planning.

Shakas/Scythians

Shakas is the Indian term for the people called the Scythians, who originally belonged to Central Asia. There were five branches of the Shakas with their seats of power in different parts of India and Afghanistan.

1. One branch of the Shakas settled in Afghanistan. Prominent rulers of this branch were Vonones and Spalirises.
2. The second branch settled in Punjab with Taxila as their capital. Maues was a prominent ruler.
3. The third branch settled in Mathura, where they ruled for about two centuries. Azilises was a prominent ruler.
4. The fourth branch established its hold over western India, where they continued to rule till the 4th century CE. They ruled for the maximum period owing to a flourishing economy based on the sea-borne trade in Gujarat and also issued a large number of silver coins. One of the famous Shaka rulers was Rudradaman I (CE 130-150). He ruled over Sindh, Kutch and Gujarat and also recovered from the Satavahanas, Kokan, the Narmada valley, Malwa and Kathiawar. He is famous in history because of the repairs he undertook to improve the Sudarsana lake in the semi-arid zone of Kathiawar. He was a great lover of Sanskrit and issued the first-ever long inscription in chaste Sanskrit. All the earlier longer inscriptions were composed in Prakrit.

5. The fifth branch of the Shakas established its power in the upper Deccan. The Shakas did not meet effective resistance from the rulers and the masses of India. The king of Ujjain (around 58 BCE), effectively fought and succeeded in throwing the Shakas out. He called himself Vikramaditya and an era called Vikram-Samvat is reckoned from the event of his victory over the Shakas in 58 BCE. From this time onwards, Vikramaditya became a coveted title and whoever achieved anything great adopted this title, as the Roman emperors adopted the title Caesar in order to emphasize their great power.

Parthians

In the mid 1st century CE, the Shakas' domination in northwest India was followed by that of the **Parthians**. In many ancient Sanskrit texts, they are mentioned together as the Shaka-Pahlava. Originally the Parthians lived in Iran, from where they moved to India and in comparison with the Greeks and the Shakas they occupied a small portion of north-western India in the 1st century. The most famous Parthian king was Gondophernes (mentioned in an inscription dated 45 CE found at Takht-i-Bahi, recovered from Mardan near Peshawar) in whose reign Saint Thomas came to India to propagate Christianity. In due course of time, the Parthians, like the Shakas, became assimilated into Indian society and became an integral part of it. The Kushanas ultimately ousted the successors of Gondophernes from north-west India.

Kushanas

The Parthians were followed by the Kushanas who were also called Yue-Chis (moon tribe) or Tocharians. The Kushanas were one of the five clans into which the Yue-Chis tribe was divided. They were nomadic tribal people who were originally from the steppes of North Central Asia, in the neighbourhood of China. They first occupied Bactria or north Afghanistan where they displaced the Shakas, and gradually moved to the Kabul valley and seized Gandhara by crossing the Hindu Kush, replacing the rule of the Greeks and the Parthians in these areas. Finally, they set up their authority over the lower Indus basin and the greater part of the Gangetic basin. Their empire extended from the Oxus to the Ganga, from Khorasan in Central Asia to Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. A good part of Central Asia, a portion of Iran, a portion of Afghanistan, the whole of Pakistan and almost the whole of northern India were brought under one rule by the Kushanas.

The Kushana dynasty was founded by a house of chiefs called Kadphises.



Kujula Kadphises 1 (15 CE – 64 CE)

- He laid the foundation of a unified Kushana empire by amalgamating the five clans of the Yue-Chi tribe.
- He minted the coins in copper and is believed to have imitated the Roman 'aurei' type coins to facilitate trade.
- His coins have been found south of the Hindukush.
- His coins give an idea about his association with Buddhism.
- He adopted the epithet 'Dharmathida' and 'Sachadharmathida'.

Vima Kadphises 2 (64 CE – 78 CE)

- He was the son of Kadphises 1.
- He conquered Gandhara from the Parthians and extended the kingdom to the east of the Indus till Mathura region.
- He issued a large number of gold coins.
- He was a firm devotee of Lord Shiva and proclaimed himself as 'Mahishvara' on his coins.



Kanishka (78 CE – 105 CE)

- He is the most famous Kushan ruler. During his reign, the kingdom expanded from Central Asia to Afghanistan and from northwestern India to further east into the Ganga valley and also southwards into the Malwa region. The empire also included Varanasi, Kaushambi and Shravasti in Uttar Pradesh and Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh. The centre of this huge empire was Bactria, as is evident in the use of the Bactrian language in Kanishka's coins and inscriptions.
- The valuable information about Kanishka is provided by the famous **Rabatak inscription (Afghanistan)**.
- Adopted the title of '**Devputra**' and on some coins has been shown wearing a peaked helmet.
- His empire had two capitals – the first one was at Purushapura (Peshawar) where Kanishka erected a monastery and a huge stupa to house the Buddha's relics. The second one was at Mathura in India.
- Kanishka is famous for two reasons: First, he started an era in 78 CE which is now known as the Shaka era and is used by the government of India for its calendar. Secondly, Kanishka extended his whole-hearted patronage to Buddhism. He also convened the fourth Buddhist council to discuss matters relating to Buddhist theology and doctrine. It was held at Kundalavana monastery near Srinagar (Kashmir) under the presidency of Vasumitra. It was in this council that Buddhism was split into two schools – the Hinayana and the Mahayana.
- Kanishka patronized Buddhist scholars of that era like Vasumitra (authored Mahavibhasa),
- Ashvagosha (wrote the hagiographic Buddhacharita), Charaka (The father of Ayurveda), Nagarjuna (a great advocate of the Mahayana doctrine and propounded the Madhyamaka which focuses on emptiness or Sunyata).
- Kanishka embraced Buddhism in the early part of his reign. However, his coins exhibit the images of not only Buddha but also of Greek and Hindu Gods. It reflects Kanishka's tolerance towards other religions
- Kanishka also patronised the Gandhara and the Mathura schools of sculpture. At Mathura, a headless statue of Kanishka depicting him as a warrior has been found.



Vasudeva (the last Kushana emperor)

- The successors of Kanishka were Vasishka, Huvishka, Kanishka II (who adopted the title of 'Kaiser') and Vasudeva – the last important Kushana ruler. The Kushana empire was very much reduced in his rule. Around the mid 2nd century he took the title 'Shaono Shao Vasudevo Koshano', which reflects that by this time the Kushanas were totally Indianised.
- Kushana power gradually declined from the early third century CE. The Kushana empire in Afghanistan and in the area west of the Indus was supplanted by the Sassanian power (of Iran) in the mid-third century CE. But Kushan principalities continued to exist in India for about a century. Some remnants of the Kushanas lingered on in the Kabul valley, Kapisa, Bactria, Khorezm and Sogdian (identical with Bukhara and Samarkand) in the third-fourth century CE.

Impact of Central Asian Contacts

The Central Asian influence was felt in almost all spheres and aspects of social life.

1. Pottery and Architecture

- The typical pottery of this age (Shaka-Kushana) was red ware, both in plain and polished form with medium to fine fabric.
- The distinctive pots being sprinklers and spouted channels.
- The age was marked by the construction of brick walls. The use of burnt bricks for flooring and tiles for both roofing and flooring was evident.

2. Trade and Agriculture

- The Shaka-Kushana phase saw the establishment of direct contact between India and Central Asia which helped to develop trade between the two.
- India imported a good deal of gold from the Altai mountains of Central Asia. Gold also may have been received in India through trade with the Roman empire.
- The silk route which started from China and crossed through the empire in Central Asia and Afghanistan to Iran and Western Asia was controlled by the Kushanas.
- This route was a source of great income to the Kushanas and they built a large prosperous empire because of the tolls levied from the traders.
- Although the Indo-Greeks introduced gold coins in India, the Kushans were the first rulers in India to issue gold coins on a large scale.
- The Kushans also promoted agriculture. The archaeological traces of irrigation facilities have been discovered in parts of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Western Central Asia.

3. Trade and Agriculture

- The Shakas and the Kushanas introduced better cavalry and popularised the use of riding horses on a large scale.
- The use of reins, saddles and toe-stirrup made of rope was common in this phase.
- They also introduced tunic, turban, trousers, heavy long coats and long boots which facilitated victories in war.

4. Polity

- The Shakas-Kushanas propagated the idea of the divine origin of kinship.
- The Kushan kings were called sons of god.
- The Kushanas introduced the “satrap system” of government wherein the empire was divided into numerous satrapies and each satrapy was placed under the rule of a Satrap.
- The Indo-Greeks introduced the practice of military governorship wherein they appointed their governors called strategos. Military governors were necessary to maintain the power of foreign rulers over the conquered people.

5. Indian Society

- The Shakas and the Kushanas added new elements to Indian culture and enriched it immensely.
- They settled in India for good and completely identified themselves with its culture.
- Since they did not have their own script, language or religion, they adopted these elements of culture from India. They became completely Indianised in course of time.
- As most of them came as conquerors they were absorbed in Indian society as a warrior class, Kshatriyas.
- The lawgiver Manu stated that the Shakas and the Parthians were the Kshatriyas who had fallen from their status and were thus considered as second-class Kshatriyas.
- In no other period of ancient history were foreigners assimilated into Indian society on such a large scale as they were in the post-Maurya period.

6. Religion

- Some of the foreign rulers converted to Vaishnavism (worshipped Vishnu – the god of protection and preservation). The Greek ambassador Heliodorus set up a pillar in honour of Vishnu near Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh.
- A few others adopted Buddhism, as in the case of the Greek ruler Menander who became a Buddhist.
- The Kushana rulers worshipped both Shiva and the Buddha as is evident from the images of these two gods on the Kushana coins.
- Buddhism in its original form was too puritanical and abstract for foreigners. They did not appreciate the philosophical doctrines of Buddhism, emphasized by the existing Buddhist schools. So, there developed a new form of Buddhism called the Mahayana or the Great Wheel, in which the image of the Buddha began to be worshipped. Kanishka was a great patron of the Mahayana form of Buddhism who not only organised the fourth Buddhist council at Srinagar but also set up many stupas to perpetuate the memory of the Buddha. This sect opened its doors for all sections of people. Those who did not follow this sect (newly found) came to be known as the followers of the Hinayana sect or the Small Wheel.

7. Art and Literature

- The construction of stupas and development of regional schools of sculpture are the two main features concerning art and architecture of this period.
- Stupas – A stupa is a large hemispherical dome having a central chamber in which relics of the Buddha or some Buddhist monk are kept in a small casket. The base is surrounded by a path for clockwise circumambulation (pradakshina), enclosed by wooden railings which were later made in stone. The three main stupas of this period are at Bharhut (dates to the middle of the second century, its railings are made of red stone), Sanchi (three big stupas were constructed at Sanchi, the biggest one was originally made by Ashoka, which was enlarged to twice its size in the second century), and Amravati and Nagarjunkonda (Andhra Pradesh).
- Schools of Sculpture – The Central Asian rulers became enthusiastic patrons of Indian art and culture and showed great zeal in establishing new schools of art. The Kushana empire brought together masons and other artisans trained in different schools and countries. Indian craftsmen came into contact with the Greeks and the Romans, especially in the north-western frontier of India in Gandhara. The three main schools of sculptural art which developed in this period were – Gandhara school of Art, Mathura school of Art and Amravati school of Art.

Gandhara School



Mathura School



Amravati School



Basis	Gandhara School	Mathura School	Amaravati School
External influence	Heavy influence of Greek or Hellenistic sculpture, so it is also known as Indo-Greek art.	It was developed indigenously and not influenced by external cultures.	It was developed indigenously and not influenced by external cultures.
Ingredient used	Early Gandhara School used bluish-grey sandstone while the latter period saw the use of mud and stucco.	The sculptures of Mathura School were made using spotted red sandstone.	The sculptures of Amaravathi School were made using white marbles.
Religious influence	Mainly Buddhist imagery , influenced by the Greco-Roman pantheon.	Influence of all three religions of the time, i.e. Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.	Mainly Buddhist influence.
Patronage	Patronised by Kushana rulers	Patronised by Kushana rulers.	Patronised by Satvahana rulers.
Area of development	Developed in the North West Frontier, in modern day area of Kandhara.	Developed in and around Mathura, Sonkh and Kankalitila. Kankalitila was famous for Jain sculptures.	Developed in the Krishna-Godavari lower valley, in and around Amaravati and Nagaarjunakonda.
Features of Budha sculpture	The Buddha is shown in a spiritual state , with wavy hair. He wears fewer ornaments and seated in the position of a yogi . The eyes are half-closed as in meditation. A protuberance is shown on the head signifying the omniscience of Buddha.	Buddha is shown in delighted mood with a smiling face. The body is muscular, wearing tight dress. The face and head are shaven. Buddha is seated in padmasana with different mudras and his face reflects grace. A similar protuberance is shown on the head.	Since the sculptures are generally part of a narrative art, there is less emphasis on the individual features of Buddha. The sculptures generally depict life stories of Buddha and the Jataka tales. i.e previous lives of Buddha in both human and animal form.

Examples



8. Science and technology

- Indian astronomy and astrology profited from contact with the Greeks.

AGE OF THE SATAVAHANAS

1. Political History

- In Deccan and in central India, the Satavahanas succeeded the Mauryas although after a gap of about 100 years. The Satavahanas are considered to be identical with the Andhras who are mentioned in the Puranas. The Puranas speak only of the Andhra rule and not of the Satavahana rule.
- The earliest inscriptions of the Satavahanas belong to the first century B.C., when they defeated the Kanvas and established their power in parts of central India and gradually extended their power over Karnataka and Andhra,
- **Gautamiputra Satakarni** (A.D. 106-130) called himself the only brahmana. He defeated the Shakas and destroyed many Kshatriya rulers.
- The coins and inscriptions of Gautamiputra's immediate successor Vashishthiputra Pulumayi (A.D. 130-154) are found in Andhra. He set up his capital at Paithan on the Godavari in Aurangabad district.
- Rudradaman I (A.D. 130-150), the Shaka ruler of Saurashtra (Kathiawar), defeated the Satavahanas twice, but did not destroy them on account of matrimonial relations. Yajna Sri Satakarni recovered north Konkan and Malwa from the Shaka rulers. He was a lover of trade and navigation. His coins have been found not only in Andhra but also in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. His love for navigation and overseas trade is shown by the representation of a ship on his coins.



2. Aspects of Material Culture

- The material culture of the Deccan under the Satavahanas was a fusion of local elements and northern ingredients. The megalith builders of the Deccan were fairly acquainted with the use of iron and agriculture. At a site Karimnagar district even a blacksmith shop has been discovered.
- The Satavahanas may have exploited the iron workings as early as the megalithic phases have been found. Evidence of ancient gold workings has been found in the Kolar fields in the pre-Christian centuries and later.
- The Satavahanas may have used gold as bullion, for they did not issue gold coins as the Kushans did. They issued mostly coins of lead. They also issued potin, copper and bronze money.
- In foreign accounts, Andhra is considered to be famous for its cotton products. A good portion of the Deccan developed a very advanced rural economy.
- According to Pliny, the Andhra Kingdom maintained an army of 1,00,000 infantry, 2000 cavalry and 1000 elephants. This presupposes a large rural population, and apparently the peasants produced enough to support this military strength.
- Pliny informs us that the Andhra country in the eastern Deccan included 30 walled towns, besides numerous villages. Increasing trade is indicated by numerous Roman and Satavahana coins.

3. Social Organization

- The Satavahanas originally seem to have been a tribe of the **Deccan**. But they were brahmanized and their most famous king Gautamiputra Satakarni claims to have established the four-fold vama system which had fallen into disorder. He boasts that he put an end to the intermixture between the people of different social orders.
- The Satavahanas were also the first rulers to make land grants to the brahmanas, although we have more instances of grants being made to Buddhist monks. The Satavahana rulers called themselves brahmanas. Gautamiputra boasts that he was the true brahmana.

- Increasing craft and commerce in this period brought many merchants and artisans to the forefront. Both artisans and merchants made generous donations to the Buddhist cause. Among the artisans the gandhikas or the perfumers are repeatedly mentioned as donors. At a later stage the term gandhika became so general as to connote all kinds of shopkeepers. The modern title Gandhi is derived from this ancient term.
- Satavahanas show traces of a matrilineal social structure. It was customary for their king to be, named after his mother. Such names as Gautamiputra and Vashishthiputra indicate that in their society mother enjoyed a great deal of importance.
- The Satavahanas retained some of the administrative units found in Ashokan times. Their district was called Ahara, as it was known in the time of Ashoka. Their officials were known as Amatyas and Mahamatras. There were certain military and feudal traits in the administration of the Satavahanas.
- The administration in the rural areas was placed in the hands of gaulmika, who was the head of a military regiment consisting of 9 chariots, 9 elephants, 25 horses and 45 foot-soldiers.
- The military character of the Satavahana rule is also evident from the common use of such terms as Kataka and Skandhavaras in their inscriptions. These were military camps and settlements which served as administrative centers so long as the king was there.
- The Satavahanas started the practice of granting tax-free villages to brahmanas and Buddhist monks. These areas therefore became small independent islands within the Satavahana kingdom.
- The Satavahana kingdom had three grades of feudatories. The highest grade was formed by the king who was called raja and who had the right to strike coins. The second grade was formed by the mahabhoja, and the third grade by the senapati. It seems that these feudatories and landed beneficiaries enjoyed some authority in their respective localities.

4. Religion

- The Satavahana rulers were brahmanas, and they represented the march of triumphant brahmanism. Kings and Queens performed the Vedic sacrifices. They also worshipped a large number of Vaishnava gods.
- However, the Satavahana rulers promoted Buddhism by granting land to the monks. In their kingdom the Mahayana form of Buddhism commanded considerable following especially in the artisan class. Nagarjunakonda and Amaravati in Andhra Pradesh became important seats of Buddhist culture under the Satavahanas and more so under their successors, the Ikshvakus. Buddhism flourished in the Nasik and Junar areas in the western Deccan in Maharashtra, where it seems to have been supported by the traders.

5. Architecture

- In the Satavahana phase many chaityas (sacred shrines) and monasteries were cut out of the solid rock in the north-western Deccan or Maharashtra with great skill and patience.
- The two common religious constructions were the Buddhist temple which was called chaitya and the monastery which was called vihara. The chaitya was a large hall with a number of columns, and the vihara consisted of a central hall. The most famous chaitya is that of Karle in the western Deccan.
- The viharas or monasteries were excavated near the chaityas for the residence of monks in the rainy season.
- Rock-cut architecture is also to be found in Andhra in the Krishna-Godavari region but the region is really famous for independent Buddhist structures, mostly in the form of stupas. The most famous of them are Amaravati and Nagarjunakonda. The stupa was a large round structure erected over some relic of the Buddha. The Amaravati stupa began in about 200 B.C. but was completely reconstructed in the second half of the second century A.D.

6. Language

- The official language of the Satavahanas was **Prakrit**. All inscriptions were composed in this language and written in the Brahmi script, as was the case in Ashokan times.
- Some satavahana king may have composed prakrit text called gathasaptasati is attributed to a Satavahana king called **Hala**.

HISTORY OF THE DEEP SOUTH

The Megalithic Background

Megalith graves were encircled by big pieces of stones. They also contained pottery and iron objects buried with the corpse. They are found in the upland regions of Peninsula with concentration in **Eastern Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu**.

State formation and rise of civilization

- The megalithic people started to reclaim the fertile deltaic lands. The route to the south is called as **Dakshinapatha** which became **economically important**.
- Megasthenes knew about Pandyas while Ashokan inscriptions mention about Cholas, Pandyas, Keralaputras and Satyaputras.
- Flourishing trade with Roman empire led to the formation of these three states i.e., **Cheras, Cholas and Pandyas**.

Sangam Period

Sangam period is the period in the history of ancient Tamil Nadu spanning from c. 3rd century BC to c. 3rd century AD. It is named after the famous Sangam academies of poets and scholars centred in the city of Madurai.



Great Temple:
Thanjavur



Three Early Kingdoms

Kingdom	Capital	Port	Emblem	Famous Ruler
Cheras	Vanji Modern Kerala	Muzuri, Tondi	Bow	Senguttuvan
Cholas	Uraiur, Puhar	Kaveripattanam/ Puhar. they had an efficient Navy	Tiger	Karikalan
Pandys	Madurai	Korkai for Peral Fishing	Fish	Neduncheliyan

Cheras

- They had Palmyra flowers as their Garland.
- Pugalur inscriptions mention of three generations of Cheras.
- Senguttuvan introduced Patri cult or Worship of Kannagi as ideal wife.



Cholas

- Karikalan built Kallanai (Check dam) against River Kaveri.



Pandyas

- Maduraikkanchi written by Mangudi Maruthanar describes the socio-economic conditions of the Pandyas.
- Invasion by Kalbharas led to their decline.
- These kingdoms had a profitable trade with the Roman empire. They produced Pepper, Ivory, Pearls, Precious stones, Muslin, Silk, Cotton etc. which led to prosperity in their region.



Rise of social classes

Enadi – captains of the army
 Vellalas – Rich peasants
 Arasar – ruling class
 Kadaiyiars – the lowest class
 Pariyars – agricultural labourers

Four castes mentioned in Tolkappiyam

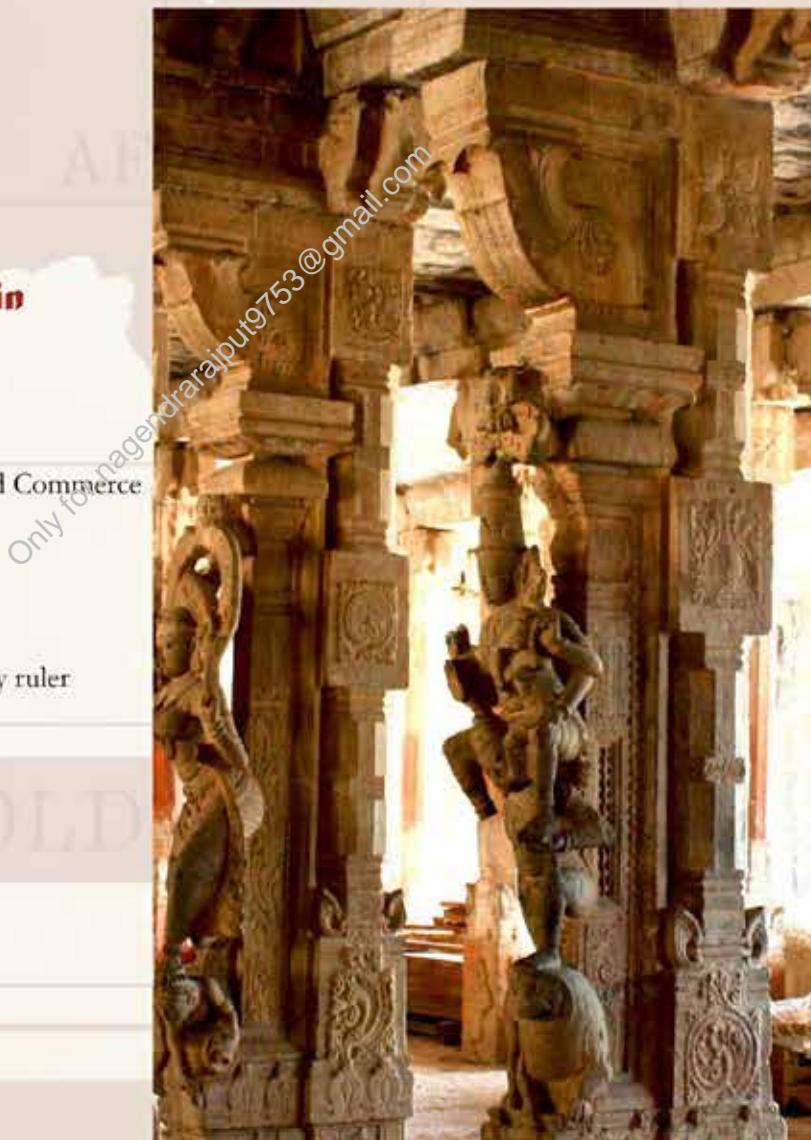
Arasar – Ruling class
 Anthanar – Brahmanas
 Vanigar – People involved in Trade and Commerce
 Vellalar – Labourers

Sangam administration

- Avai – the imperial court
- Kodimaram – tutelary tree of every ruler
- Panchmahasabha
- Amaichar – ministers
- Senatipathiar – Army chief
- Otrar – Spy
- Thoodar – Envoy
- Purohit – Priest

Kingdom's division

- Mandalam/Nadu – Province
- Ur – town
- Perur – Big village
- Sitrur – Small village



Five-fold division of land

Land	Type of land	Chief deity	Chief occupation
Kurunji	Hilly tracts	Murugan	Hunting and honey collection
Mullai	Pastoral	Mayon	Cattle rearing and dealing with dairy products
Marudham	Agricultural	Indira	Agricultural
Neidhal	Coastal	Varunai	Fishing and salt manufacturing
Palai	Desert	Koravai	Robbery

Sangams

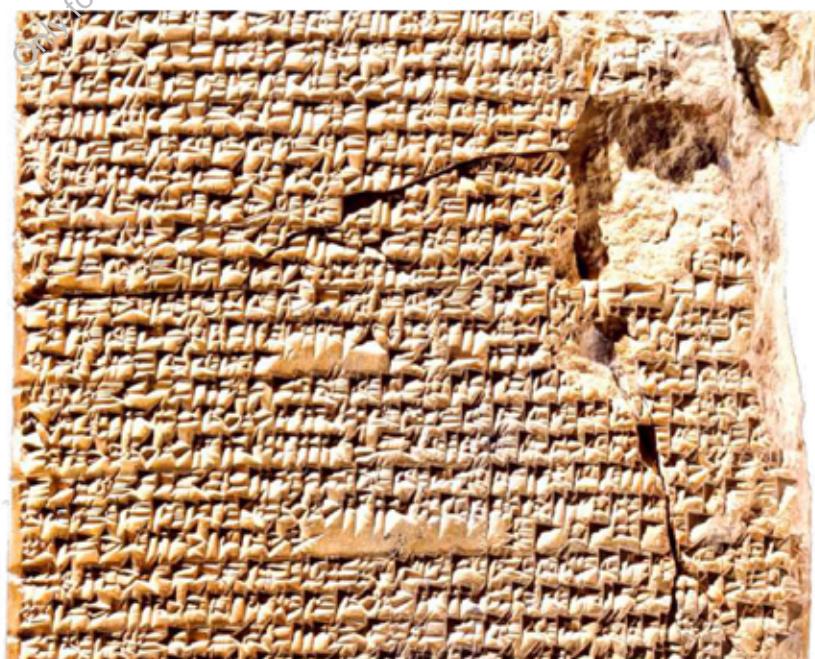
Sangam	Place	Chairman	Surviving texts
1 st	Then-Madurai	Agasthiyar	Nil
2 nd	Kapadapuram	Agasthiyar and Tolkappiyar	Tolkappiyam
3 rd	Madurai	Founder - Mudathirumaran Nakkirar	Ettutogai, Pattu Pattu (10 idylls)

Tamil language and Sangam literature

- Narrative – Ettutogai and Pattupattu which are called **Melkankakku** – 18 Major works. They are divided into **Agam** (love) and **Puram** (Valour)
- Didactic – Pathinenkilkanakku – 18 minor works. They deal with Ethics and Morals.
- Thirukkural** – Written by Thiruvalluvar is a treatise covering various aspects of life.
- Tolkappiyam** by Tolkappiyar is the earliest of Tamil literature. It is a work on Tamil Grammar but also provides information on Political and Social conditions of Sangam period

Epics

- Silapadhikaram by Elango Adikal
- Manimegalai by Sittalai Sathanar
- Valayapathi
- Kundalagesi
- Sivaga Sinthamani



Smart and Effective UPSC Prelims Preparation Strategy

The UPSC Prelims is the first and highly competitive stage of the Civil Services Examination. It comprises two objective-type papers (General Studies and CSAT) designed to test a candidate's knowledge, understanding, and aptitude.

This stage challenges aspirants to not only master a broad syllabus and adapt to changing patterns but also excel in time management, information retention, and navigating the Prelims unpredictability.

Achieving success in this exam transcends mere hard work; it necessitates a holistic and adaptive approach to preparation.



Scan QR Code for
Instant Personalized
Mentoring

Key Strategies for Prelims Preparation



Strategized Preparation Plan: Allocate your study time wisely across subjects, ensuring you have enough time for revision and practice mocks. Pay attention to your weak areas.



Resource Optimization: Choose study materials that are both thorough and to the point. Focus on quality over quantity to prevent getting overwhelmed.



Strategic Use of PYQs and Mock Tests: Use past year papers to understand the exam pattern, important topics, and question trends. Regularly practicing and assessing progress with mock tests improves preparation and time management.



Systematic Current Affairs Preparation: Keep abreast with Current affairs through newspapers, magazines and integrating this knowledge with static subjects to improve understanding and retention.



Smart Learning: Focus on understanding concepts rather than rote learning, use mnemonics, infographics, and other effective learning tools for better retention.



Seeking Personalized Guidance: Engage with mentors for customized strategies, areas to improve, and motivation. This mentorship also helps in stress management, guiding you through effective practices to maintain mental well-being.



Keeping the needs of the UPSC Prelims examination, the VisionIAS has brought its much-celebrated **All India GS Prelims Test Series and Mentoring Program** which encompass the entire UPSC syllabus based on the latest trends.



Scan QR code to watch "UPSC Prelims 2024: Effective Strategy for 3.5 Months"

Its key Features include:



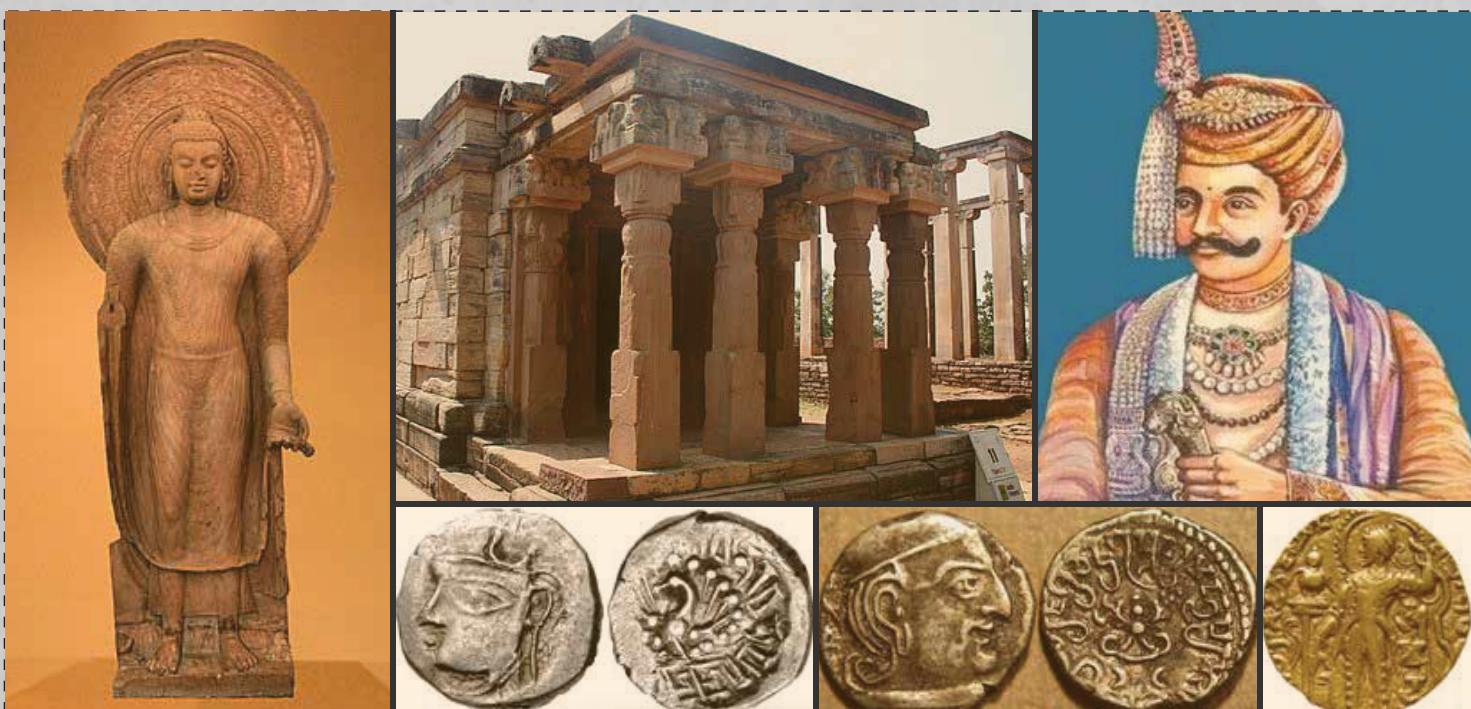
- Comprehensive coverage of the UPSC syllabus
- Flexible test series schedule
- Live online/offline test discussion and post-test analysis
- Answer keys and comprehensive explanation for every test paper

- Individualized Personal Mentoring
- Innovative Assessment System and Performance Analysis with All India Rankings
- Quick Revision Module (QRM)

Ultimately, a strategic, well-rounded preparation combining smart study plans, practice, focused resources, and personalized guidance is key to navigating the UPSC Prelims successfully.

Scan QR code to register and download brochure "All India GS Prelims Test Series and Mentoring Program"





 VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION

Quick Revision Module (UPSC Prelims 2024) Ancient & Medieval History

GUPTA AND HARSHA PERIOD

○ Rise and Growth of Gupta Empire ○

275 CE

The dynasty of the Guptas gained power and founded by Sri Gupta.



319–20 CE

The Gupta era started by the 1st important Gupta emperor Chandragupta I (319–34).



335–80 CE

Samudragupta, the son and successor of Chandragupta I



550 CE

Guptas lost
Bihar and UP



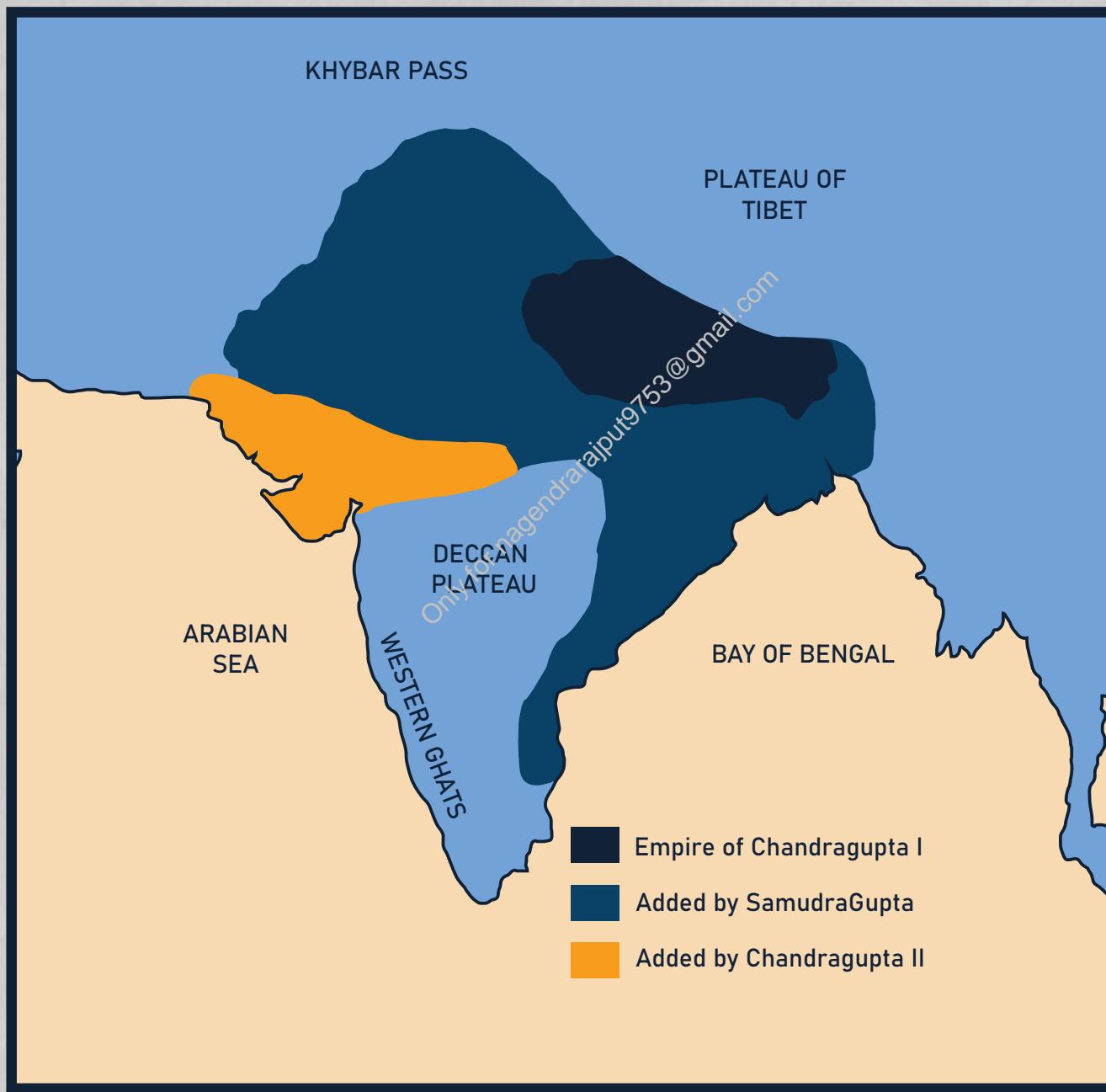
5th Century

Huna invasion
and end of
Skandagupta's
reign



380–412 CE

Chandragupta II



Background

The Gupta empire arose on the ruins of the Kushan empire. The Guptas were possibly feudatories of the Kushans in UP. The original kingdom of the Guptas comprised UP and Bihar at the end of the third century.

Note: Early Gupta coins and inscriptions are largely found in UP.

The Guptas enjoyed certain material advantages. The centre of their operations lay in the fertile land of Madhyadesh covering Bihar and UP. They were able to exploit the iron ores of central India and south Bihar.

Also, they took advantage of their proximity to the areas in north India that conducted the silk trade with the eastern Roman empire, also known as the Byzantine empire.

Chandragupta I (AD 319–34)

He was the first important king of the Gupta dynasty. He married a Lichchhavi princess, in all probability from Nepal, which strengthened his position.

The Guptas were probably vaishyas, and hence marriage into a kshatriya family lent them prestige.

Note: He assumed the title of 'Maharajadhiraja' and started the Gupta Era.

Samudragupta (AD 335–80)

He was Chandragupta's son and successor. His court poet Harishena wrote a glowing account of the military exploits of his patron.

The inscription is engraved at Allahabad on the same pillar that carries the inscriptions of Ashoka.

Meghavarman, the ruler of Sri Lanka, is believed to have sent a missionary to Samudragupta for permission to build a Buddhist temple at Gaya.

Note: Called 'Napoleon of India' by V.A. Smith

Chandragupta II (AD 380–412)

The reign of Chandragupta II saw the high watermark of the Gupta empire. He extended the limits of the empire by marriage alliance and conquest. He married his daughter Prabhavati to a Vakataka prince. The prince died, and Prabhavati became the virtual ruler.

Chandragupta II adopted the title of Vikramaditya. During his reign, the Chinese pilgrim Fa-hsien (AD 399–414) visited India and wrote an elaborate account of the life of its people.

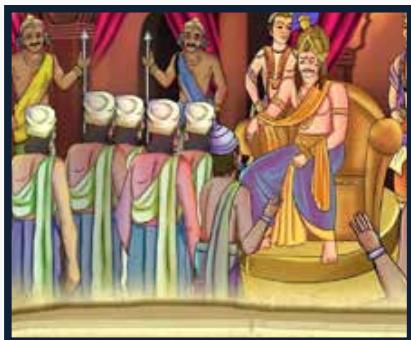
Note: The court of Chandragupta II at Ujjain was adorned by numerous scholars (navratnas) like Kalidasa, Amarsinha, Harisena, Varahmihira, Vararuchi, Vetalbhatta, Sanku, Dhanvanti and Kahapanaka.

NOTE

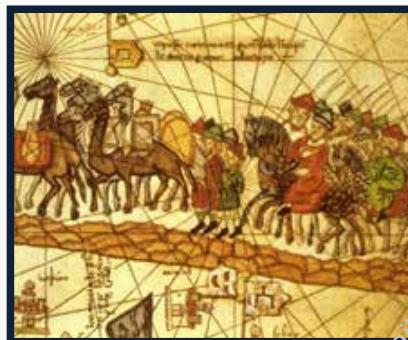
- The successors of Chandragupta II had to face an invasion by Hunas from Central Asia, which ultimately led to downfall of the empire.
- Kumaragupta I founded Nalanda University.
- Vishnugupta was last known ruler of Gupta dynasty.

Life in Gupta Age

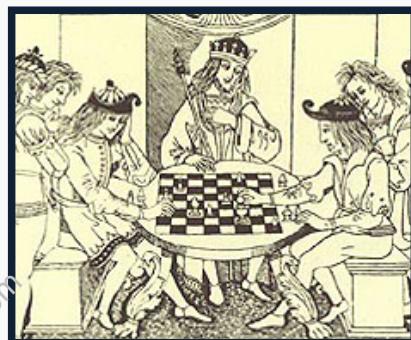
System of Administration



Trends in Trade and the Agrarian Economy



Social Developments



- Fa-Hien visited different parts of the Gupta empire. He found that Magadha was full of cities and its rich people believed in and supported it with charitable offerings.
- In ancient India, the Guptas issued the largest number of gold coins, which were called dinaras in their inscriptions. Although in gold content the Gupta coins are not as pure as the Kushan ones, they not only served to pay the officers in the army and administration but also

- Large-scale land grants to the brahmanas suggest that the brahmana supremacy increased in Gupta times. The brahmanas presented the Gupta kings as possessing god-like attributes. All this helped to legitimize the position of the Gupta princes, who became great supporters of the brahmanical order.
- The castes proliferated into numerous sub-castes as a result of two factors. First, a large number of foreigners had been assimilated

● The king maintained a standing army, supplemented by forces supplied by his feudatories. Horse chariots receded into the background, and cavalry came to the fore. Horse archery became an important element in military tactics.

● During the Gupta period land taxes increased in number, and those on trade and commerce decreased. In central and western India, the villagers were also subjected to forced labour called vishti.

● The judicial system was far more developed under the Guptas than in earlier times; for the first time civil and criminal laws were clearly demarcated.

Note: The guilds of artisans, merchants, and others were governed by their own laws.

● Religious functionaries were granted land, free of tax, for posterity, and they were authorized to collect from the peasants all the taxes that once went directly to the emperor. The beneficiaries were also empowered to punish criminals.

to meet the needs of the sale and purchase of land. After the conquest of Gujarat, the Guptas issued a large number of silver coins mainly for local exchange. In contrast to those of the Kushans, the Gupta copper coins are very few in number.

● In comparison to the earlier period we notice a decline in long-distance trade. Till AD 550 India carried on some trade with the eastern Roman or Byzantine empire, to which it exported silk. Around AD 550, the people of the eastern Roman empire learnt from the Chinese the art of growing silk, which adversely affected India's export trade.

● The striking development of the Gupta period, especially in eastern and central MP, was the emergence of priestly landlords at the cost of local peasants. Land grants made to the priests brought many virgin areas under cultivation, but these beneficiaries were imposed from above on local tribal peasants who were reduced to a lower status.

ed into Indian society, and each group of foreigners was considered a kind of caste. Second, the absorption of many tribal people into brahmanical society through the process of land grants. The tribal chiefs were assigned a respectable origin, but most of their ordinary kinsmen were assigned a low origin.

● The position of shudras improved during this period. They were now permitted to listen to recitations of the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, and the Puranas.

● The number of untouchables increased, especially the chandalas.

● In the Gupta period, like the shudras, women were also allowed to listen to the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, and the Puranas, and were advised to worship Krishna. However, women of the higher orders did not have access to independent sources of livelihood in pre-Gupta and Gupta times. The first example of the immolation of a widow after the death of her husband occurred during the Gupta period in AD 510.



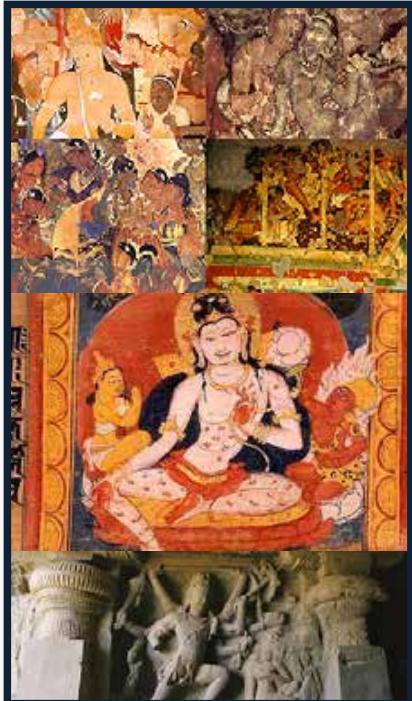
● Buddhism ceased to be as important during the Gupta period as it had been in the days of Ashoka and Kanishka. However, some stupas and viharas were constructed, and Nalanda became a centre of Buddhist education.

● Bhagavatism originated in post-Maurya times and centred around the worship of Vishnu. It overshadowed Mahayana Buddhism by Gupta times. Idol worship in the temples became a common feature of Hinduism from the Gupta period onwards and many festivals also began to be celebrated. The Gupta kings followed a policy of tolerance towards different religious sects.





Art and Science during the Gupta times

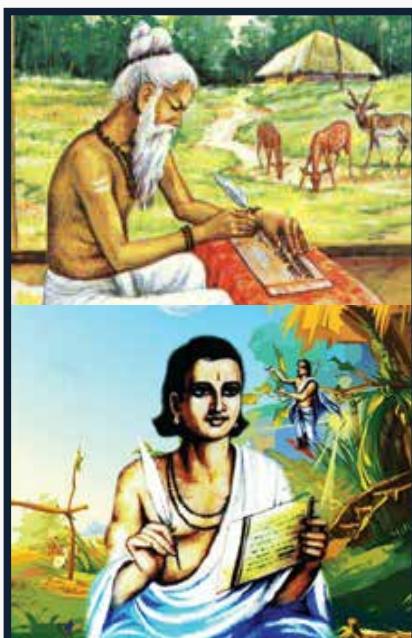


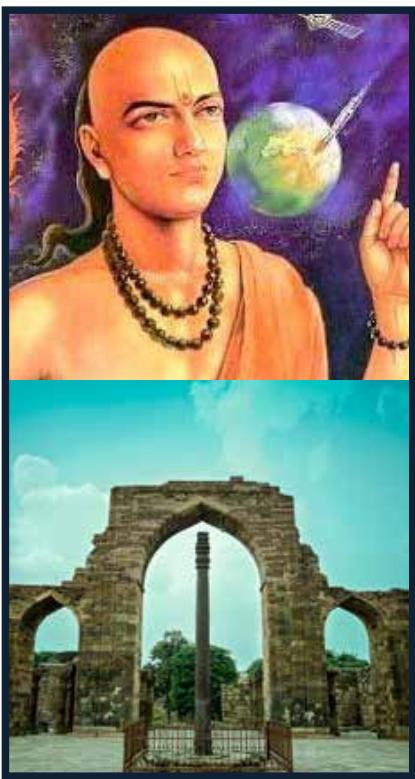
Art

- Both Samudragupta and Chandragupta II were patrons of art and literature.
- Buddhism gave great impetus to art in Maurya and post-Maurya times - creation of massive stone pillars, the raising of high stupas or relic towers etc. During the Gupta period a life-size copper image of the Buddha of more than 6 feet was made. The finest specimens of Buddhist art in Gupta times are the Ajanta paintings.
- As the Guptas supported Brahmanism, images of Vishnu, Shiva, and some other Hindu gods were fashioned for the first time during their period.
- The Gupta period was poor in terms of architecture. There were a few temples made of brick in UP and a stone temple. The Buddhist university at Nalanda was set up in the fifth century, and its earliest structure, made of brick, relates to this period.

Literature

- Bhasa** was an important poet in the early phase of the Gupta period. He was the author of a drama called Dradiracharudatta, which was later refashioned as Mrichchhakatika or the Little Clay Cart by Shudraka.
- Kalidasa** lived in the 4th-5th century. He was the greatest poet of classical Sanskrit literature and wrote Abijnanashakuntalam which is very highly regarded in world literature.
- The two great epics, namely the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, were almost completed by the fourth century AD.
- The Gupta period also saw the development of Sanskrit grammar based on the work of Panini and Patanjali. This period is particularly memorable for the compilation of Amarakosha by Amarasimha, who was a lumi-





Science and Technology

- In mathematics, in the fifth century, a work called Aryabhatiya was written by Aryabhata who belonged to Pataliputra.
- A Gupta inscription of AD 448 from Allahabad district suggests that the decimal system was known in India at the beginning of the fifth century.
- In the field of astronomy, a book called Romaka Sidhanta was compiled, its title indicating that it was influenced by Greek and Roman ideas.
- Bronze images of the Buddha began to be produced on a considerable scale because of the knowledge the smiths had of advanced metal technology.
- With regard to iron objects, the best example is the iron pillar found at Mehrauli in Delhi. Manufactured in the fourth century AD. The pillar has not gathered any rust over the subsequent fifteen centuries which is a great tribute to the technological skill of the craftsmen.

○ Spread of Civilization in Eastern India ○

Orissa, and Eastern and Southern MP	Bengal	Assam
<p>► Kalinga, or coastal Orissa south of the Mahanadi, rose to importance under Ashoka, though a strong state had been founded in that area in the first century BC.</p> <p>► In the 4th century Kosala and Mahakantara were conquered by Samudragupta, and covered parts of northern and western Orissa. From the 2nd half of the 4th century to the 6th century, several states were</p>	<p>► The area situated between the Ganges and the Brahmaputra now covering Bangladesh emerged as a settled and fairly Sanskrit-educated region in the fifth and sixth centuries. The Gupta governors, who seem to have become independent after about AD 550, occupied north Bengal; some part of it may also have been seized by the rulers of Kamarupa. By AD 600 the area came to be</p>	<p>► Kamarupa, coterminous with the Brahmaputra basin running from east to west, shot into prominence in the seventh century. In the fourth century Samudragupta received tributes from Davaka and Kamarupa. The rulers who submitted to Samudragupta may have been chiefs living on the tributes collected from the tribal peasantry.</p>

formed in Orissa, and at least five of them can be clearly identified. The most important of those was the state of the Matharas, also known as **Pitribhaktas**, who at the peak of their power dominated the area between the Mahanadi and the Krishna.

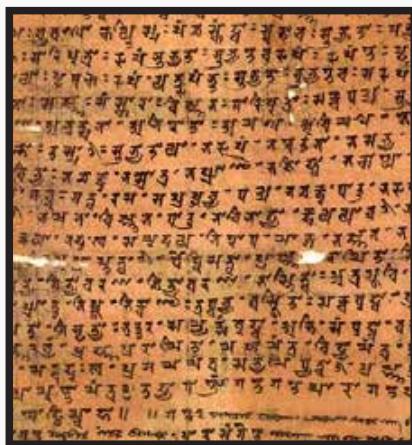
- The induction of the brahmanas through land grants brought new lands under cultivation and introduced better methods of agriculture. Formerly the year was divided into three units, each of four months, and time was reckoned on the basis of three seasons. Under the Matharas, in the mid-fifth century, people began the practise of dividing the year into twelve lunar months. This implied a sound idea of weather conditions which was useful for agricultural operations.
- In coastal Orissa, writing had certainly been known since the third century BC, and inscriptions up to the mid-fourth century AD were written in Prakrit, but from about AD 350 onwards Sanskrit began to be used.

known as Gauda and functioned as an independent state ruled by **Shashanka, Harsha's adversary.**

- For a century from AD 432 we notice a series of land sale documents recorded on copper-plates. The land sale documents not only indicate the existence of different social groups and local functionaries but also shed valuable light on the expansion of agriculture.
- A fiscal and administrative unit called **Dandabhukti** was formed in the border areas between Bengal and Orissa. Danda means punishment, and bhukti enjoyment. The unit was apparently to pacify and suppress the tribal inhabitants of that region and may have promoted Sanskrit and other elements of culture in the tribal areas.
- The two centuries from about the middle of the fifth appear to have been very momentous in the history of Bengal. They saw the progress of Brahmanism and the coming of Buddhism. The statues of the

► By the beginning of the sixth century, the use of Sanskrit and the art of writing are clearly in evidence. The **Kamarupa kings adopted the title varman**, which obtained not only in northern, central, and western India but also in Bengal, Orissa, Andhra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. This title, which means armour and symbolizes a warrior, was given to the kshatriyas by Manu.

- In the seventh century **Bhaskaravarman emerged as the head of a state** which controlled a substantial part of the Brahmaputra basin and some areas beyond it. Buddhism also acquired a foothold, and the Chinese traveller Hieun Tsang visited this state.
- The decline and fall of the Gupta empire therefore coincided with considerable progress in the outlying regions. Many obscure areas, which were possibly ruled by tribal chiefs and were thinly settled, came into limelight.



Buddha are virtually non-existent in early centuries, after which they are found in Bodh-Gaya, Sanchi, Mathura, and Gandhara. In the fifth century, however, statues were set up at several places in Bengal.



Harsha and His Times

Rise of Harshavardhana



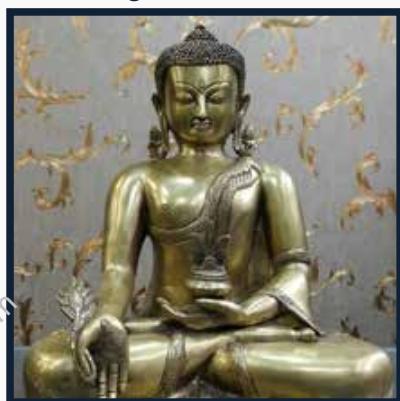
- The Guptas, with their seat of power in UP and Bihar, ruled over north and western India for about 160 years until the mid-sixth century. Then north India again split up into several kingdoms, the Hunas and other feudal dynasties. Gradually one of these dynasties ruling at Thanesar in Haryana extended its authority over all the other feudatories. The ruler who brought this about was Harshavardhana (AD 606–47).
- Harsha made Kanauj his seat of power, and from

Administration



- Harshavardhana's reign is an example of transition from ancient to medieval times. Harsha governed his empire on the same lines as did the Guptas, but his administration had become feudal and decentralized.
- Every feudatory contributed his quota of foot soldiers and horses, and thus enormously added to the imperial army.
- Hsuan Tsang spent many years in Harsha's court and travelled widely in India. Under

Religious Outlook



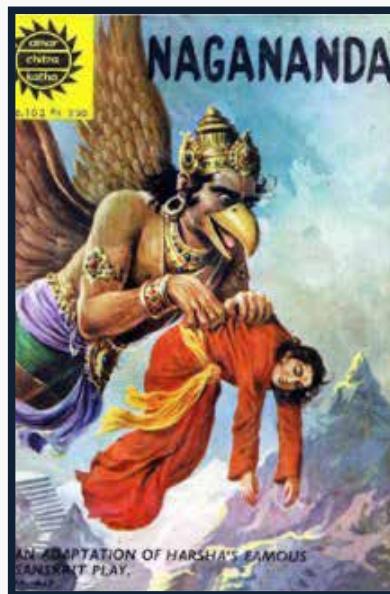
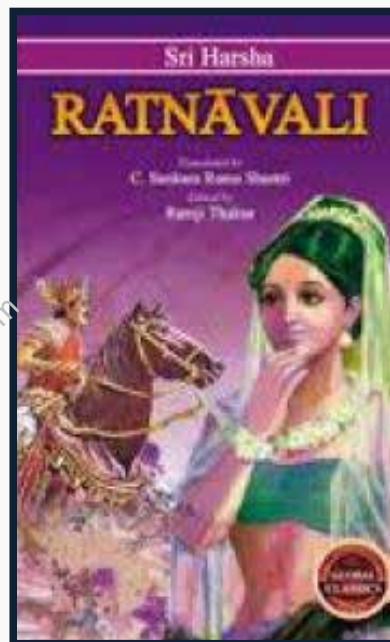
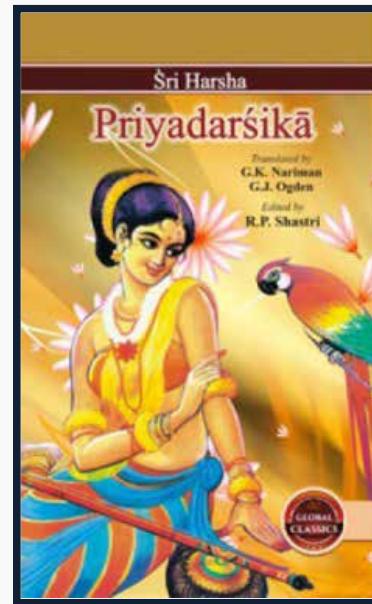
- Harsha followed a tolerant religious policy. A Shaiva in his early years, he gradually became a great patron of Buddhism. As a devout Buddhist he convened a grand assembly at Kanauj to widely publicize the doctrines of Mahayana, and later an assembly at Prayag.
- Harsha is remembered not only for his patronage and learning but also for the authorship of three plays: Priyadarshika, Ratnavali, and Nagananda.

there he extended his authority in all directions. Kanauj's emergence as a centre of political power from the reign of Harsha onwards typifies the coming of the feudal age in north India just as Pataliputra largely represents the pre-feudal order.

- The early history of Harsha's reign is reconstructed from a study by Banabhatta, who was his court poet and wrote a book called *Harshacharita*. This can be supplemented by the account of the Chinese pilgrim Hiuan Tsang, who visited India in the seventh century and stayed in the country for about fifteen years.
- Rajasthan, Punjab, UP, Bihar, and Orissa were under his direct control, but his sphere of influence spread over a much wider area. It appears that the peripheral states acknowledged his sovereignty.
- Harsha's southward march was stopped at the Narmada river by the Chalukya king Pulakeshin, who ruled over a great part of modern Karnataka and Maharashtra with his capital at Badami.

his influence Harsha became a great supporter of Buddhism and made generous endowments to it.

- Hiuan Tsang informs us that Harsha's revenues were divided into four parts. One part was earmarked for the expenditure of the king, a second for scholars, a third for the endowment of officials and public servants, and a fourth for religious purposes. He also tells us that ministers and high officers of the state were endowed with land. The feudal practice of rewarding and paying officers with grants of land seems to have begun under Harsha. This explains why we do not have very many coins issued by this king.
- In Harsha's empire, law and order was not well maintained. Hiuan Tsang was robbed of his belongings, although he reports that according to the laws of the land, severe punishments were inflicted for crime.



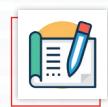


Answer Writing for CIVIL SERVICES MAINS EXAMINATION



Answer writing holds paramount importance in the UPSC Mains exam as it serves as the primary means for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding, analytical ability, and time management skills. Effective answer writing is pivotal in showcasing one's ability to synthesize information, critically evaluate diverse perspectives, and present balanced arguments concisely. Proficient answer writing is instrumental in securing high scores and distinguishing candidates in a competitive environment, ultimately determining their success in the rigorous selection process for the UPSC Mains examination.

COMPONENTS OF AN IMPACTFUL ANSWER



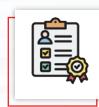
Identification of Context: Understanding the specific theme or topic of the question, and situating the response within its relevant context.



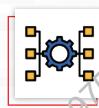
An impactful Introduction: Engagingly setting the stage for the answer, capturing the examiner's attention while providing a brief overview of the discussion to follow.



Balanced Conclusion: Summarizing key points concisely, offering insights or recommendations if applicable, and providing a satisfying closure to the argument or discussion.



Content Competence: Demonstrating a comprehensive grasp of the subject matter, supported by accurate facts, relevant examples, and insightful analysis.



Structure and Presentation: Organizing the answer coherently with clear headings, subheadings, or bullet points, and presenting information logically and aesthetically for easy comprehension.



Language: Employing precise, formal language appropriate to the context, avoiding jargon, colloquialisms, or ambiguity, and demonstrating fluency and clarity in expression.

Master the art and understand the science behind impactful answer writing with VisionIAS All India GS Mains Test Series and Mentoring Program, comprising:



Master Classes on Answer Writing



Detailed Evaluation



Personalized Mentoring



Flexible Testing Schedule



Comprehensive Feedback



Post-Test Discussions

Keep in mind, the Mains exam isn't just a stage within the UPSC CSE journey but rather a direct gateway to coveted position in the Indian Civil Services, turning your aspirations into reality.



Scan QR code to Register & download
brochure "All India GS Mains Test Series
and Mentoring Program"

Scan QR code to know Toppers
Approach & Preparation
strategies





QUICK REVISION MODULE (UPSC PRELIMS 2024) ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

THE GREAT MUGHALS (Six Major Rulers)



ZAHIRUDDIN MUHAMMAD BABUR

1526–1530



NASIR- UD -DIN MUHAMMAD HUMAYUN

1530–1540 & 1555–1556



ABU'L-FATH JALAL-UD-DIN MUHAMMAD AKBAR

1556–1605



NUR-UD-DIN MUHAMMAD SALIM JAHANGIR

1605–1627



SHAHAB-UD-DIN MUHAMMAD KHURRAM SHAH JAHAN

1627–1658



MUHI-UD-DIN MUHAMMAD AURANGZEB

1658–1707



IMPORTANT BATTLES 1526–1556



S. No	Name of the Battle	Participants	Result
1	First Battle of Panipat, 21 April 1526	Babur Vs. Ibrahim Lodi	Babur won with the help of strategic positioning of his forces and the effective use of artillery.
2	Battle of Khanwa, 1527	Babur Vs. Rana Sanga of Chittor, Mahmud Lodi, brother of Ibrahim Lodi, and Hasan Khan Mewati, ruler of Mewat	Babur defeated Rana Sanga's forces. The capture of forts at Gwalior and Dholpur which further strengthened Babur's position.

S. No	Name of the Battle	Participants	Result
3	Battle of Chanderi, 1528	Babur Vs. Medini Rai	Babur won.
4	Battle of Ghagra, 1529	Babur Vs. Sultan Ibrahim Lodi's brother Mahmud Lodi and Sultan Nusrat Shah, son-in-law of Ibrahim Lodi	Babur defeated the Afghans. But he died on his way from Agra to Lahore in 1530
5	Battle of Chausa (1539)	HUMAYUN Vs. Sher Shah	Sher Shah won due to his superior political and military skills.
6	Battle of Kanauj (1540)	HUMAYUN Vs. Sher Shah	Sher Shah won. Humayun became a prince without a kingdom.
7	Second Battle of Panipat, 1556	Akbar Vs. Hemu (the Hindu general of Adil Shah)	The Mughal forces won the war.

AKBAR'S MILITARY CONQUEST

Malwa

1562

Baz Bahadur, who was later made a mansabdar in Akbar's court.

Gondwana region

1564

Rani Durgavati And Narayan. Central India was annexed

Mewar

1567

From Rana Uday Singh.

Gujarat

1573

From Muzaffar Shah

Kabul

1581

From Mirza Hakim

Khandesh

1591

From Raja Ali Khan ruler of Khandesh, accepted Mughal emperor's suzerainty and agreed to pay an annual tribute.

Berar

1596

From Chand Bibi

Ahmednagar

1600

From Muzaffar Shah



IMPORTANT WARS/EVENTS UNDER JAHANGIR



**Challenging
Jahangir's
ascension**



**Capturing
Rebellious
Provinces**

- ★ Prince Khusrau who staged a revolt with the blessings of Sikh Guru Arjun Dev (5th Sikh Guru).
- ★ Prince Khusrau was defeated, captured and blinded, while Guru Arjun Dev was executed.

- ★ Tamed the rebel Afghan Usman Khan in Bengal.
- ★ Rana Udai Singh and his son Rana Pratap Singh of Mewar Jahangir after a military campaign led by his son Prince Khurram.

IMPORTANT WARS/EVENTS UNDER SHAH JAHAN

Consolidation of Deccan in Mughal Empire:

Shah Jahan divided Deccan into four provinces:

Ahmednagar with Daulatabad; Khandesh;

Berar; and Telengana. The viceroyalty of the four provinces was conferred to Aurangzeb.

Ahmednagar, which offered resistance to the Mughals, was annexed despite the efforts of Malik Ambar

1638 Shah Jahan annexed Kandahar, conquered by Akbar and lost by Jahangir

Portuguese 200 in number were driven out of Hugli area (Bengal)

IMPORTANT WARS/EVENTS UNDER AURANGZEB

A war of succession broke out between the four sons of Shah Jahan in which Aurangzeb won

The Jat rebellion (1669), Mathura rose under the leadership of a local Zamindar Gokul. Mughal army pursued the Jats and the leader Gokul was captured and executed

The Sikhs rebelled against Aurangzeb. The Sikh (The Punjab) rebellion, 1670 This erupted due to the political intrigues of Ram Rai, a claimant for the position of Sikh Guru, against the incumbent Guru Tegh Bahadur. This finally ended with the execution of Guru Tegh Bahadur (9th Sikh Guru).

The Satnamis Haryana region(1672), the Satnamis – a sect comprising peasants, artisans and untouchables – rebelled against the mighty Mughal Empire

Aurangzeb's Deccan Policy, to contain:

1. growing influence of the Marathas
2. The rebellious attitude of the Shia kingdoms of Deccan like Golkonda and Bijapur
3. Curtail the rebellious activities of his son Akbar

THE MUGHAL ADMINISTRATION

Highly Centralised ➤ Pan India

Humayun & Babur

Did not concentrate on establishing a definite system

focus was more on military matters.

Akbar

Established various offices with assigned functions

Elaborate rules and regulations were placed to guide officers in charge of administration

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Emperor

- ★ Divine origin of monarchy.
- ★ All officers in Mughal administration over their position in power to the emperor.

Wazir/wakil

- ★ Enjoyed both military and civil powers till Humayun's Reign.
- ★ Under Akbar Financial powers were transferred to **diwan kul**.

Diwan Kul (chief Diwan)

- ★ Supervise imperial treasury & check all accounts.

Mir Bakhshi

- ★ Appointment of Mansabdars.
- ★ Supervision of Dagh (branding of horses) & Chehra (preparation of muster roll based on facial description).

Mir Saman/ Khan Saman

- ★ Officer in charge of royal **karkhanas**

Sadr-us-Sudur

- ★ Head of Ecclesiastical department.
- ★ Duty to protect laws of the Shariat.

Qazi-ul quzzat

- ★ Administer Shariat law both in civil and criminal matter.
- ★ Head of judiciary (prior to Aurangzeb this office did not exist).

PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Akbar

1580

- ★ Empire was divided into 12 subas(later 3 were added total 15)
- ★ Suba> Sarkar> Parganas> Mahal

Shah Jahan //

- ★ Added another administrative unit Chakla i.e cluster of Parganas.
- ★ Chakla> Pargana> Mahal

Subadar/Sipah Salaror Nazim	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Governor of a province.★ Directly appointed by the emperor.★ Tenure: 3 years
Diwan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Head of revenue department.★ Independent officer answerable to the Centre.★ Roznamcha (daily register) maintained by him to enter amounts deposited in royal treasury.
Bakhshi	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Performed same functions as performed by Mir Bakhshi but for provinces.
Darogha- I Dak	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Head of Imperial Postal System.
Waqai navis & Waqai nigars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Part of the postal system.★ Duty was to supply important reports directly to the emperor.
Sawanih nigar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Supplied confidential reports to the emperor, part of the secret services

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

Sarkars >

Pargana
(tehsil)>

Mauza
(village)

At level of Sarkar 2 important officers:

Faujdar: Head of the sarkar, take care of law and order problems.
Also help Amalguzar in matters of revenue collection.

Amalguzar/Amil: Assess and supervise the revenue collection.
Sends receipts and expenditure reports to provincial diwan.

Thanedar: Was the head of thana where army was stationed.
He was placed under fuajdar.



PARGANA ADMINISTRATION



Pargana

Shiqqdar : executive officer of the paragana, assisted amils in revenue collection.

Amil : Revenue collection at pargana level.

Qanungos : Kept all records pertaining to land in his area. Take note of different crops in the pargana.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION

Muqaddam/Mandal Village headman

Patwari Took care of village revenue records.

Town, Fort and Port Administration

Kotwal: Duty to safeguard life and property in towns. Maintain register of people entering and leaving towns.

Qiladar: Officer incharge of forts. Generally a high ranking mansabdar.

Mutasaddi: Governor of the port, directly appointed by the emperor.

THE MUGHAL ARMY

Consists of

- ★ Cavalry
- ★ Infantry
- ★ Artillery
- ★ Elephants
- ★ Camels
- ★ There was no navy but there was a flotilla of boats.

Cavalry	★ Dagh system (branding of horses) was used to maintain an efficient and well-equipped force of cavalry.
Dakhili	★ Soldiers directly employed by state and sent to high ranking mansabdars.
Ahadi	★ A separate category of soldiers called gentlemen troopers, were allowed to keep 5 horses or more. ★ Could be appointed in army or can serve as a messenger.
Artillery	★ Developed rapidly in India after Babur. ★ Consists of 1 heavy artillery i.e., siege guns and heavy guns on forts. ★ 2 light artilleries: narnal (mounted on man), gajanal (mounted on elephants) & shutrnal (mounted on camels)

MANSABDARI SYSTEM

Administrative system of Mughals. The word mansab is of Arabic origin meaning rank or position.

The system determines rank and status of a government official and military generals.

Every civil and military officer was given a mansab, which determined their salaries & allowances

The mansab were in multiples of 10,

Highest Rank under Akbar was 10000 which was increased by him to 12000. Rank above 7000 was given to princes.

CLASSIFICATION OF MANSABDARS



Amir- I - Azam/Udma: > Rank 2500

Amir: Rank 500 to 2500

Mansabdar: < Rank 500

Structure of Mansabdari System

- ★ The system was designated by dual representation: 1 personal rank called zat. 2 Cavalry rank called sawar.
- ★ Sawar rank determined number of armed cavalry men that the masabar had to maintain for imperial army.

1st class mansabdar: Number of Sawar = Number of zat

2nd class mansabdar: Number of Sawar = $\frac{1}{2}$ Number of zat

3rd class mansabdar: Number of Sawar < $\frac{1}{2}$ Number of zat

SALARY AND PAYMENT SYSTEM

Paid in cash (**naqdi**) or assigning mansabdars with **jagirs (land)** and allowed to collect land revenue and all other taxes from the jagirs.

The Jagirdari System was integral part of the Mansabdari system.

Types of Jagirs

Tankha

non hereditary
(transferable)

Only for Jagirs given in lieu of salary

Mashrut

non hereditary

Watan

hereditary (non transferable)

Rajputs entitled to this.

Given to Zamindar or Rajas in their local dominion

Altamagha

non hereditary

CHANGES IN MANSABDARI SYSTEM

Du-aspah suh-aspah

- ★ Introduced by Jahangir.
- ★ Selected nobels were allowed to maintain a large quota of soldiers without changing the zat rank

Month ratio or month- scale system

- ★ Introduced by Shah Jahan.
- ★ Salaries of mansabdars were put on the monthly scale i.e. 8 months, 6 months or even less.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC LIFE UNDER MUGHALS



Mughal Land Revenue System: Known as **mal** and **mal wajib**

Process of land revenue collection:

Assessment called **Tashkhis/ Jama**

Actual collection called **hasil**. It was done separately for kharif and rabi crop



After assessment the findings are written on documents called **patta, qual or qualqarar**.

METHODS OF LAND REVENUE ASSESSMENT



Ghalla Bakshi/ bhaoii/ batai: Division of crop at threshing floor after the grain was extracted.



Khet batai: Share decided before the harvesting of crops.



Lang batai: crop was cut but assessment was done before threshing.



Nigamama-i Munshi: best method as the peasant and the State shared the risk of farming equally.



Kankut/ danabandi: System where the revenue demand was fixed after the grain yield was estimated.



Zabti System: For each crop cash revenue was fixed known as **dastur ul amal/ dastur**. It was to be paid in cash. It was based on Sher Shah rai system.

Adopted only in Delhi, Agra, Awadh, Lahore and Multan.

Revenue Farming or Ijara system

- ★ When peasants lacked the means to cultivate their land or cultivation was impossible due to a calamity, the lands were farmed out on ijarah to a third party known as revenue farmers.
- ★ Mughals disapproved of this system but yet it was common in jagir lands.



Peasants/ raiyat/ muzarian/asami

Two kinds of peasants:

1. khud-kashta: residents of the village in which they held their lands.
2. pahi-kashta non-resident cultivators who belonged to some other village, but cultivated lands on a contractual basis



TRADE



Wholesale trade carried out by **seth/bohra**

Retail trade was carried out by **beoparis/banik**

Banjaras specialised in transporting goods.

Sarraf/shroff specialised in changing, keeping or lending money.

Hundi was letter of credit payable after certain time.

Religious Ideas and Beliefs

- ★ **Tawhid-i-ilahi/ Din-i-ilahi:**
- ★ Syncretic religion propounded by Akbar in 1572.
- ★ The spirit and core elements were borrowed from Sufism.
- ★ Main elements from Islam, Hinduism & Zoroastrianism.
- ★ Some elements of Christianity, Buddhism and Jainism can also be found.

- ★ **Shul-i-kul**
- ★ Discussion with various religious leaders used to take place in ibadat khana.
- ★ Akbar got the idea of shul-i-kul or Universal peace from participating in these discussions. It was one of the important vision of governance.
- ★ Jahangir and Shah Jahan too followed this principle.

TRAVELLERS DURING THE GREAT MUGHAL REIGN

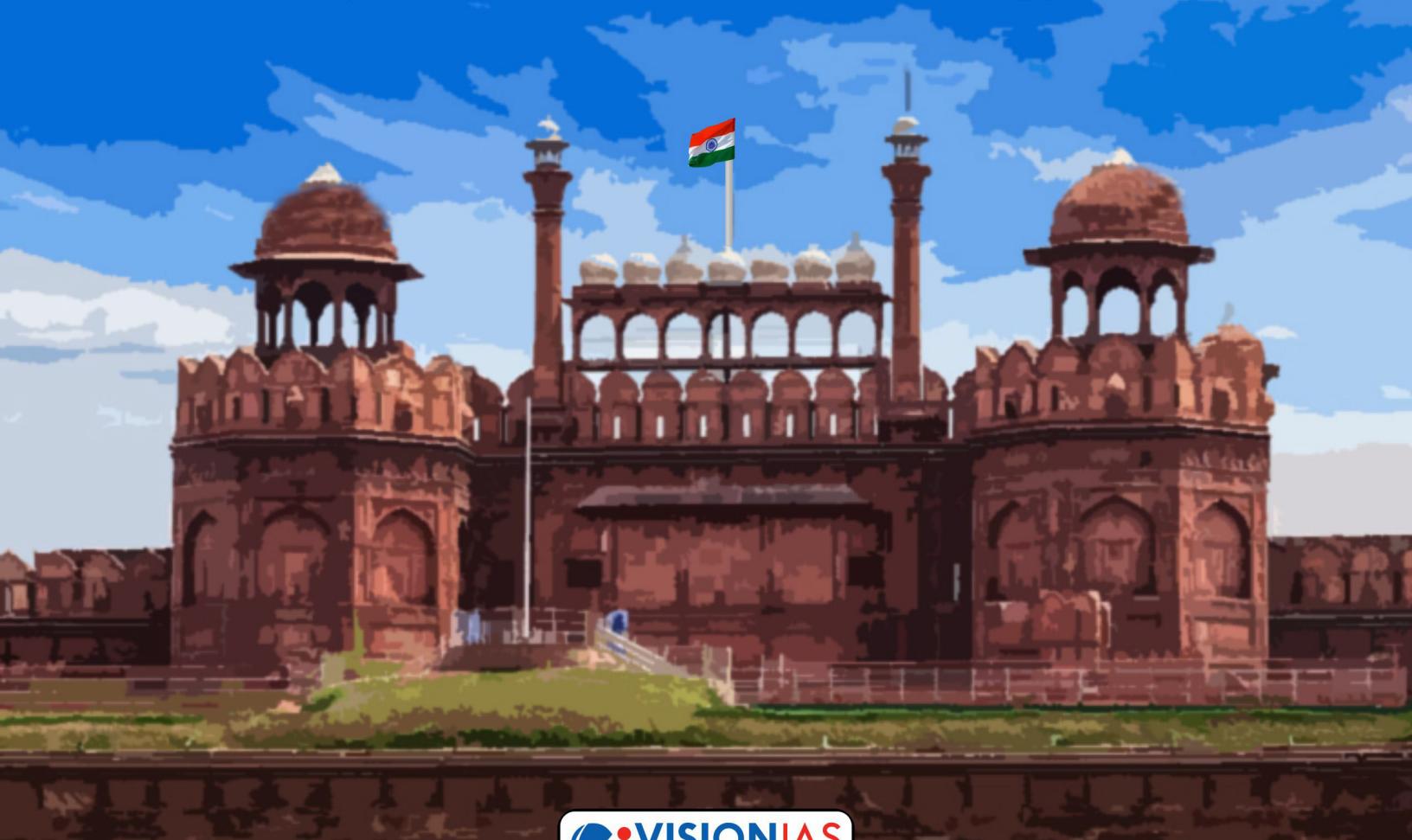
Traveller	Emperor	About/Observations/books
Anthony Monserrate (1578–1582)	Akbar	Portuguese priest
Ralph Fitch (1585–1591)	Akbar	A merchant, 1st Englishman to travel through India and Southeast Asia. Described about village life in detail.

Traveller	Emperor	About/Observations/books
William Hawkins (1608-1611)	Jahangir	English Ambassador of King James I
Sir Thomas Roe (1615-1619)	Jahangir	English Diplomat came to India seeking for a trade agreement with Mughals.
Francisco Pelasaert (1620-1627)	Jahangir	Dutch merchant, author of "Jahangir's India".
Pietro Della Valle (1622- 1633)	Jahangir & Shah Jahan	Italian music composer. Gave vivid description of Ahmedabad.
Peter Mundy (1628-1634)	Shah Jahan	British merchant.

Traveller	Emperor	About/Observations/books
Jean Baptiste Travernier (1640-1668)	Shah Jahan & Aurangzeb	French Gem merchant, travelled India 6 times.
Francois Bernier (1656-1668)	Shah Jahan & Aurangzeb	French physician, political philosopher, closely associated with Dara Shukoh. Author of "Travels in the Mughal Empire". Made adverse remarks on efficiency of Mughal army (no drills or discipline). Excessive oppression of peasantry. Gave an account of royal Karkhanas.
Niccolao Manucci (1658-1687)	Shah Jahan & Aurangzeb	Venetian writer, stayed back in India did not return to his homeland. Author of "Storia de Mogor", a book on Mughals.
Jean De Thevenot (1666-1668)	Aurangzeb	French botanist and traveller.

Copyright © by Vision IAS

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of Vision IAS.



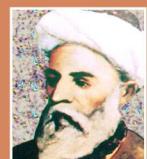
QUICK REVISION MODULE (UPSC PRELIMS 2024) ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

Delhi Sultanate

Shahnama: Firdausi

Al-Beruni: Tarikh-Al-Hind

Minhaj us Siraj: Tabaqat-i-Nasiri



Amir Khusrau

Mifta Ul Futuh (Jalal-ud-din Khalji)

Khazain Ul Futuh (Allauddin Khalji)

Tughlaq Nama (History of Tughlaq dynasty)

Ziauddin Barani: Tarikh-i Firuz Shahi

Shams-i-Siraj Afif: Tarikh-i Firuz Shahi (after Barani's account of Delhi Sultanate)

Sources for the Study of Delhi Sultanate



Ghulam Yahya Bin Ahmad:

Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi (Sayyid ruler Mubarak Shah)

Ferishta: History of the Muslim Rule in India (Persian)

The Arab Conquest of Sind

1st Islamic invasion
Muhammad Bin Qasim

2nd Islamic invasion
Mahmud of Ghazni

3rd Islamic invasion
Muhammad Ghori

1st Islamic invasion



Initiative

- ◆ Arab governor of Iraq, Hajjaj Bin Yusuf sent Muhammad Bin Qasim (Umayyad) against Dahar in 712 AD.



Causes of defeat

- ◆ Dahar's wazir betrayed him.
- ◆ Dahar lacked popular support due to biases for Dahar Brahmins.



Result

- ◆ Muhammad Qasim captured Brahmanabad and plundered Debal.
- ◆ Arab conquest of Sind has been described as a “triumph without results”.

2nd Islamic invasion

Alaptigin 963 AD

Established independent kingdom in city of Ghazni.

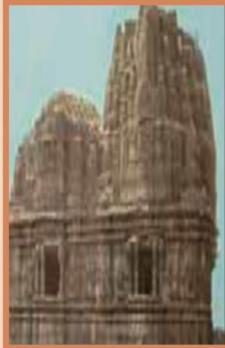
Events led to invasion

Mahmud

Title Yamini-ud-Daulah
(‘Right-hand of the Empire’).

Sabuktigin Defeated the Shahi ruler of Afghanistan, Jaypal.

Mahmud of Ghazni (reign 998–1030 AD) ➤➤➤



- ◆ Defeating the Shahi king **Anandapala** went beyond Punjab. Raided Mathura, etc.
- ◆ Mahmud ruled for **thirty-two years, seventeen military campaigns** into India, motive was to loot, demolishing temples and smashing idols.
- ◆ Invasion of the **temple city of Somnath (1025)**. These plunders were meant to replenish the treasury to maintain his huge army.

3rd Islamic invasion ➤➤➤

Muizzud-din Muhammad (Muhammad Ghori)

- ◆ **1186**: Invaded Punjab and seized Lahore.
- ◆ **Ghaznavid invasions**: Intended for loot.
- ◆ **Ghurid invasions**: Establish **garrison towns** to ensure the regular flow of plunder and tribute.

Areas of annexation

- ◆ **Lahore, Sind, Multan, Uchch**, etc.
- ◆ **Chalukyas of Gujarat** defeated Muhammad Ghori at Mt. Abu (1179).
- ◆ After this defeat, consolidated his position in Sind and the Punjab.

Prithviraj Chauhan

- ◆ Ghori attacked the fortress of **Tabarhinda** (Bhatinda).
- ◆ Prithviraj Chauhan marched to Tabarhinda.
- ◆ **First Battle of Tarain (1191)**-> Won by **Prithviraj Chauhan** but failed to consolidate.
- ◆ **Second Battle of Tarain(1192)**-> Prithviraj was defeated and captured.
- ◆ **Qutb-ud-din Aibak** was appointed as his deputy in India.

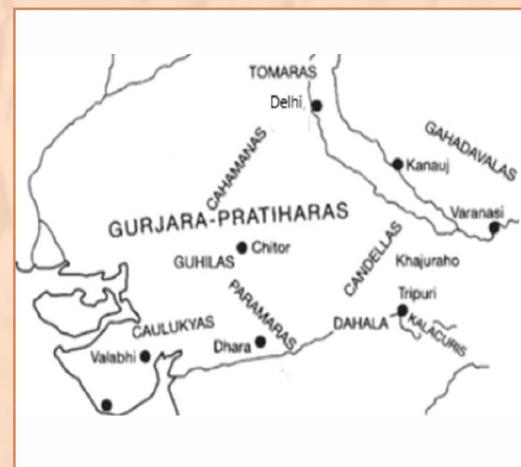
Battle of Chand war
(1193-94)

Kanauj ruler Jaya Chanda
vs Muhammad Ghori's
forces.

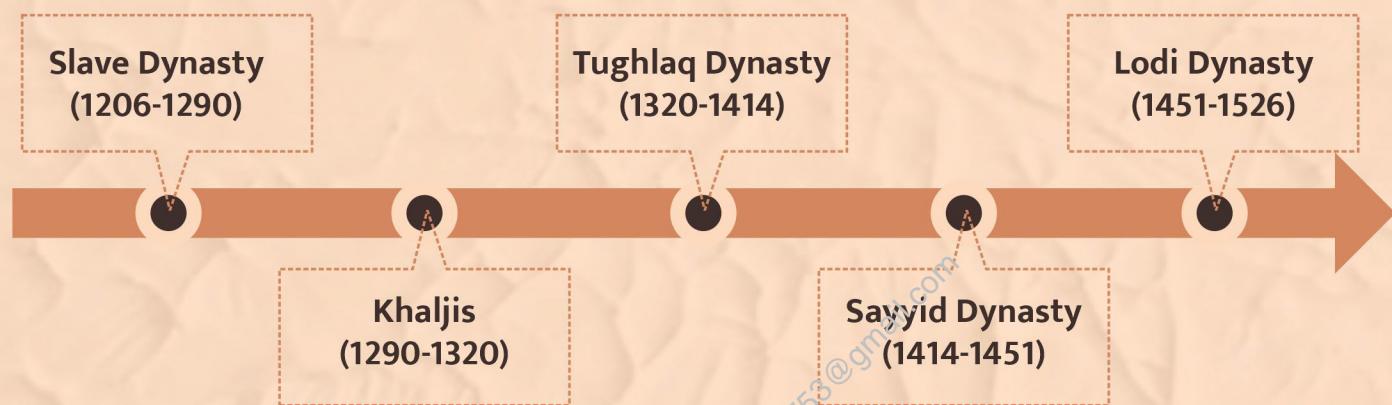
Defeat of Jaya Chanda

Rajput Kingdoms

Kingdom	Prominent ruler	Region
Chauhan	Vighraharaja and Prithviraj	Rajasthan
Tomar	Anangpal Tomar II	Delhi
Paramara	Bhoja	Malwa
Ghadavala	Jayachandra	Kanauj
Chandelas	Yasovarman, Kirti Varman	Bundelkhand



Foundation of Delhi Sultanate

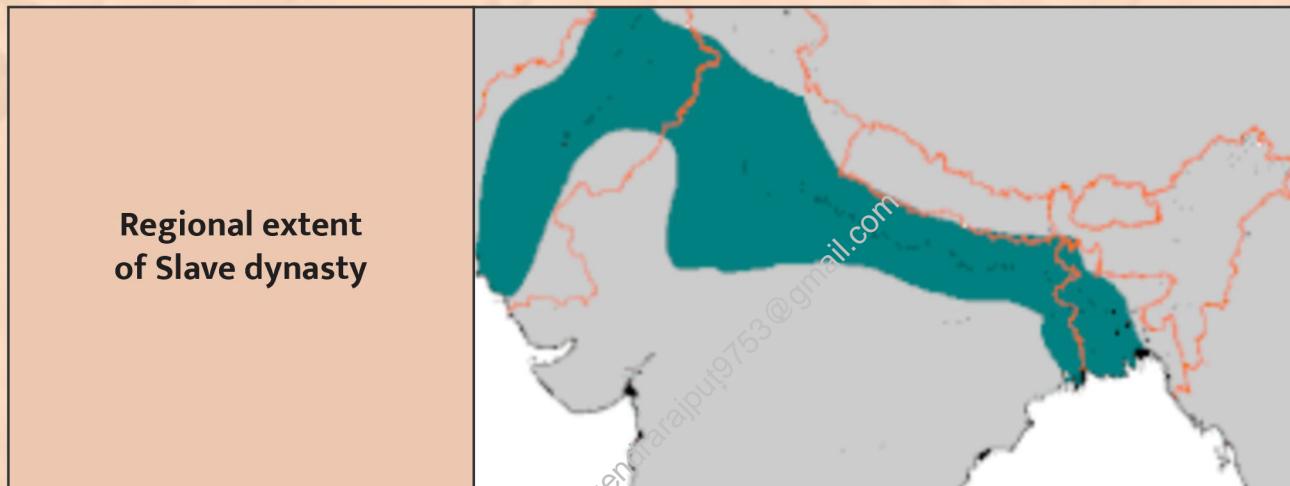


The Slave Dynasty (Mamluk dynasty or Ilbari dynasty)

Sultan	Important Features
 Qutb-ud-din Aibak (1206-1210)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Slave of Muhammad Ghori and founder of Delhi Sultanate. ◆ Muhammad Bin Bhakthiyar Khalji was contemporary. ◆ Known as "Lakh Baksh" due to his generosity. ◆ Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque in Delhi. ◆ Died in 1210 in Lahore while playing Chaugan.
 Iltutmish (1210-1236)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Slave of Qutb-ud-din Aibak and defeated Aram Shah. ◆ Internal rebellions of Rajputs at Gwalior, Ranthambor, Ajmer and Jalore were set aside. ◆ Saved India by refusing to support the Khwarizmi Shah Jalaluddin of Central Asia against the Mongol ruler Chengiz Khan. ◆ Credit of consolidating the Delhi Sultanate. ◆ Obtained a 'Letter of Investiture' in AD 1229 from the Abbasid Caliph of Baghdad to gain legitimacy.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Completion of Qutb Minar. <p>Administrative aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Administrative institution such as iqtas, army and currency system. ◆ Organised his trusted nobles or officers into a “Group of Forty” (Turkan-i-Chahlgani). ◆ Silver 'Tanka' and the copper 'Jittal' coins of the Sultanate period. ◆ Elite military slaves (Bandagan). ◆ Iqtas (land assignments in lieu of cash salaries) to his Turkish officers (known as “iqtadars”). ◆ Financial and administrative control regions of North India.
 Raziya (1236–40)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Iltutmish nominated Raziya as his successor. ◆ Her Brother Ruknuddin Firoz betrayed and ascended the throne. ◆ Raziya soon ascended the throne. ◆ Attempted to create a counter nobility of non-Turks. ◆ Appointed the Abyssinian, Malik Jamaluddin Yaqut, as the amir-i-akhur (master of the horses), thus irked nobility. <p>Reforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Gave up her 'Purdah' and started appearing in the court in male attire wearing a 'Kuva' (Coat) and a 'Kulah' (Cap). ◆ Started horse riding, hunting and commanding the army etc. <p>Led to Multiple revolts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Most important was revolt by Altunia, the governor of Bhatinda. ◆ Razia and her husband Altunia were defeated and murdered near Kaithal.
 Nasiruddin Mahmud (1246–66 AD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Placed by Ulugh Khan (Balban) as titular ruler and Balban assumed the position of Naib (deputy). ◆ According to Ibn Battuta and Isami, Balban poisoned his master Nasiruddin and ascended the throne.
 Balban (AD 1266–87)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Finally ascended the throne in AD 1266. ◆ Faced hostile situation from inside and outside including from Turkish chiefs, Mongols, Indian rulers, Rajput zamindars, Mewatis, etc. ◆ Balban adopted a stern policy against it. ◆ Punitive Expedition against Tughril Khan, Governor of Bengal. <p>Nature of rule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Autocratic rule, did not allow any noble to assume great power, formulated the theory of kingship, and redefined the relations between the Sultan and nobility. ◆ Negative attitude towards the non-Turks.

- ◆ To break powers of Chahalgani, appointed spies in every department.
- ◆ Organised a **strong centralized army**.
- ◆ Re-organised the military department (**diwan-i-arz**).
- ◆ Maintained a **magnificent court**.
Refused to laugh and joke in the court, even gave up drinking wine.
- ◆ Insisted on the ceremony of **sijada (prostration)** and **paibos (kissing of the monarch's feet)** in the court.
- ◆ Balban adopted a **policy of consolidation** rather than expansion.
- ◆ **Firoz (Jalal-ud-din Khalji)** was Ariz-i-Mumalik (Minister of War).
- ◆ Balban was replaced by **Kaiquabad**, who was soon replaced by his son, **Kaimurs**.
- ◆ In 1290 AD **Firoz**, murdered Kaimurs and seized the throne.
- ◆ It brought to an **end the slave dynasty** and Firoz ascended the throne under the title of **Jalal-ud-din Khalji**.



Regional extent
of Slave dynasty

The Khaljis (1290-1320) ➤➤➤



Regional extent of The Khaljis:

- ◆ Khalji territory (dark green)
- ◆ Khalji tributaries (light green)

Malik Jalal-ud-din Khalji (1290-1296)

Afghanized Turk, laid the foundation of the Khalji dynasty.

Ended the monopoly of nobility of slaves.

First ruler of the Delhi Sultanate to clearly put forward the view that the state should be based on the willing support of the governed.

Policy of tolerance.

Ala-ud-din, who was appointed governor of Kara, arranged to get Jalaluddin Khalji murdered and captured the throne.

Ala-ud-din Khalji (1296–1316)

Background <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Nephew and son-in-law of Jalaluddin. ◆ Appointed as Amir-i-Tuzuk (Master of Ceremonies). ◆ Victorious expeditions during the reign of Jalaluddin: Bhilsa (Vidisa) in 1292 and Devagiri in 1294. ◆ Appointed as Arizi-i-Mumalik (Minister of War). ◆ Captured throne in 1296. 	Nature of rule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Revive Balban's policies of ruthless governance. ◆ Curb the powers of the nobles and interference of Ulema in the matters of the state. ◆ Rebellions in succession during the early years of his rule.
<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> Inefficiency of the spy system. General practice of the use of wine. </div> <div style="text-align: center; background-color: #c8512e; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;"> Reasons for the rebellions as per Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> Social intercourse among the nobles and inter-marriage between them. </div> <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> Excess of wealth in the possession of certain nobles. </div> </div>	

	Regulations to prevent the reoccurrence of these rebellions			
	Land tax for the holdings to curb the excess of wealth.	Reorganized the spy system	Use of liquor and intoxicants was prohibited.	Nobles were ordered not to have social gatherings or inter-marriages without his permission.
Levels of administration	<p>Central Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Diwan-i-Riyasat: Duty was to check the smooth running of market and price control. <p>Provincial Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The empire was divided into number of provinces. ◆ Each province was administered by a Governor who was the chief executive and provincial in-charge of revenue collection. ◆ Also the in-charge of provincial army. ◆ Other independent officials as well. <p>Pargana Level /District Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Alauddin appointed officers to collect taxes in Pargana known as Amils. ◆ Administrative unit at local level was Sadi, which was a group of 100 villages. ◆ Village head (Chaudhari/Muqqadamat), a Patwari and revenue officers. 			
Army reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ First Sultan to have a permanent army at the centre. ◆ Introduced the system of Daag and Huliya in the army. ◆ Organised his army on the Decimal System. ◆ Started paying the salary of the army in cash. ◆ Also constructed local army. ◆ Daftar-i-fazilat-i-hasan: Records of revenue and salary related to the army. ◆ Special army for the frontiers. 			
Financial Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Charai tax: Number of cattle's was fixed and taxes were collected. ◆ Gharai tax: House tax which the house owner had to pay. ◆ Rate of Kharaj was increased by half the produce (50 per cent). ◆ Paimaish: Assessment of land measurement. ◆ Diwan-i-Mushtakraj: New department to keep an account of the unpaid taxes and their proper and timely collection. 			
Mongol Threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Attacks from 1298 to 1308. ◆ Ala-ud-din succeeded in driving them back. ◆ Huge permanent, standing army to satisfy his ambition of conquest and to protect the country from Mongol invasion. ◆ Army took a large number of Mongols as prisoners and slaughtered them mercilessly. 			

Expansion of Delhi Sultanate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Territorial conquest with a campaign against Gujarat in 1299. ◆ Temple of Somnath was captured. ◆ Malik Kafur, captured from Gujarat. ◆ Ranthambore was next target in 1301. ◆ In 1303, Alauddin besieged Chittor, another powerful state of Rajputana. ◆ Episode of Padmini. ◆ In 1305, Khalji army under Ain-ul-Mulk captured Malwa. ◆ Ujjain, Mandu, Dhar and Chanderi were also captured.
Military Campaigns to Deccan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Large army commanded by Malik Kafur for Deccan victory. ◆ Rai Ramachandra of Devagiri: 1307 ◆ Prataparudradeva, the Kakatiya ruler of Warangal: 1309 ◆ Hoysala ruler Vira Ballala III: 1310 ◆ Pandyan ruler of Madurai: 1311

Market Regulations of Alauddin Khalji ➤➤➤

First Sultan to pay his soldiers in cash rather than give them a share of booty. Thus, prices had to be monitored and controlled



Three different markets

Grain market (Mandi)

Cloth market (Sarai Adl)

Market for horses, slaves, cattles, etc.

To ensure implementation appointed

Superintendent (**Shahna-i-Mandi**) assisted by an intelligence officer.

Independent sources, barid (intelligence officer) and munhiyans (secret spies).



Any violation of Sultan's orders resulted in harsh punishment, including expulsion from the capital, imposition of fine, imprisonment and mutilation

Ghazi Malik, a veteran of several campaigns against the Mongols, ascending the throne of Delhi in 1320 as **Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq**.

Tughlaq Dynasty(1320-1414) ➤➤➤

Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq
(1320–1324)

- ◆ Founder of Tughlaq Dynasty.
- ◆ Followed a policy of **reconciliation with the nobles**.
- ◆ Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq died in AD 1325 and his son **Muhammad Bin Tughlaq** ascended the throne.

Muhammad Bin Tughlaq (Jauna) (1324-1351)

- ◆ Learned, cultured and talented prince but gained a reputation of being merciless, cruel and unjust.
- ◆ Repulsed the Mongol army.
- ◆ An innovator, but unlike Ala-ud-din, lacked the will to execute his plans successfully.

Transfer of Capital (1327 AD)

Attempt to shift the capital from Delhi to Devagiri (renamed Daulatabad) as it was difficult to rule south India from Delhi.

The Sultan ordered important officers and leading men including many Sufi saints to shift to Devagiri.

Plan failed, and soon Muhammad realised that it was difficult to rule North India from Daulatabad.

Again ordered transfer of capital back to Delhi.

Token Currency (1329 AD)

Bronze coins as token

Already been experimented in China and Iran.

During that time coins were based on silver content.

Challenges

Fake coins were minted that could not be prevented by the government.

Devaluation of new coins.

Repercussions

Government had to withdraw the bronze coins and replace them with silver coins.

Expedition of Khurasan (1332-1333AD)

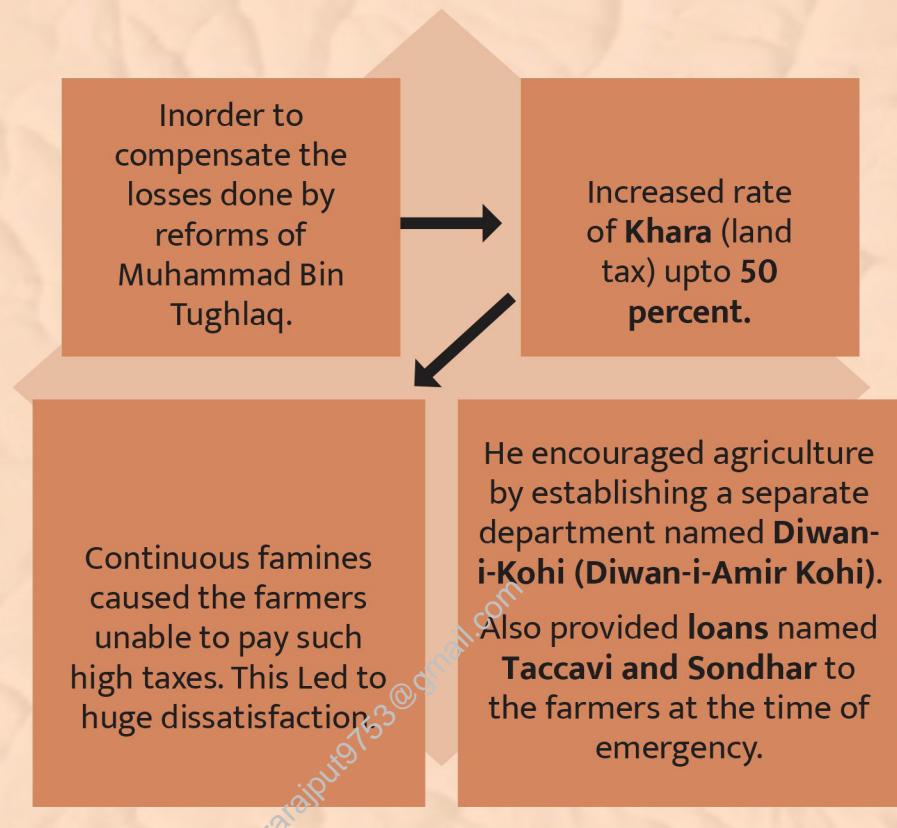
Alliance between the mongol invader Tarmashirin and Muhammad Bin Tughlaq against the contemporary ruler of Khurasan Abbu Saiid.

Expedition resulted in partial victory of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq, as the ruler of Khurasan accepted the subordination of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq and agreed to pay annual tax.

Karachil Expedition (1333 AD)

- ◆ Muhammad Bin Tughlaq **attacked** on Karachil with aim to **annex the KulluKangra area of Himachal Pradesh.**
- ◆ Initially fruitful, but later it turned out to be a failure due to heavy rain and spread of epidemic.

Taxation in Doab (1334 AD)



Difference in approach of Ala-ud-din Khalji and Muhammad Bin Tughlaq

- ◆ **Ala-ud-din Khalji** had not annexed distant territories knowing well that they could not be effectively governed. Establish his **suzerainty over them**.
- ◆ **Muhammad** annexed all the lands he conquered. Hence, he faced a series of rebellions. His repressive measures further alienated his subjects.

Firuz Tughlaq (1351–1388)

- ◆ Muhammad bin Tughlaq died without naming his successor.
- ◆ Firuz ascended the throne **in 1351**.

Administrative changes:

- ◆ **Conciliatory policy** towards the nobles and theologians.
- ◆ Reintroduced the **system of hereditary appointments** to offices, a practice which was not favoured by Ala-ud-din Khalji.
- ◆ **Increased salaries** of government officials.
- ◆ Reduced multiple taxes.
- ◆ Abolished many varieties of torture employed by his predecessor.

- ◆ Established a **separate government department** to ensure welfare of slaves (**Diwan-i-Bandagan**).

Firuz Policy of No Wars:

- ◆ Firuz waged no wars of annexation.
- ◆ However, successfully put down rebellions and incursions.
- ◆ Major military campaign of his period was against **Sind (1362)**.
- ◆ Ruler of Sind agreed to surrender and pay tribute to the Sultan.

Religious Policy

- ◆ Favoured **orthodox Islam**.
- ◆ **Heretics** were persecuted, and practices considered **un-Islamic** were banned.
- ◆ Imposed **jizya**, a head tax on non-Muslims, even Brahmins were compelled to pay.
- ◆ Firuz did not prohibit the building of new Hindu temples and shrines.
- ◆ Translation of many Sanskrit works relating to religion, medicine and music.
- ◆ Credited with establishing several educational institutions and a number of mosques, palaces and forts.

Public Works

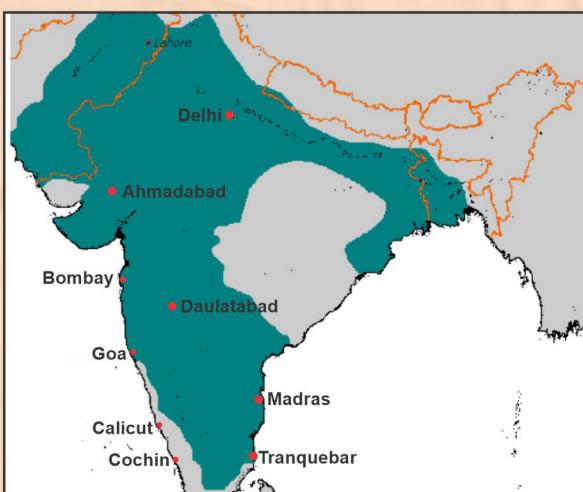
- ◆ Undertook many **irrigation projects**.
- ◆ Canal he dug from **Sutlej river to Hansi, canal in Yamuna**, etc.

Issues with his set-up:

- ◆ The principle of **heredity** permitted for the nobles and applied to the army weakened the Delhi Sultanate.
- ◆ The nobility that had **regained power** got involved in political **intrigues** which undermined the stability of the Sultanate.

Nasir-ud-din Muhammad Shah (1394–1412)

- ◆ Timur's Invasion from Central Asia.



Territory under Tughlaq dynasty when it was on peak.

After defeating the army of Delhi in 1398 Timur appointed **Khizr Khan** as the ruler of Multan.

Khizr Khan defeated Sultan Daulat Khan and occupied Delhi and founded **Sayyid dynasty** in 1414.

The author of the **Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi, Yahya Sirhindi** claims that the founder of the Sayyid dynasty was a descendant of the prophet.

- ◆ Khizr Khan
- ◆ Mubarak Shah
- ◆ Muhammad Shah
- ◆ Alam Shah

Lodi Dynasty (1451–1526)



Bahlol Lodi
(AD 1451–1489)

- ◆ Foundation of Lodi dynasty, 1st to be headed by the Afghans.
- ◆ Required help and support of Afghan nobles.
- ◆ Afghan nobles wanted Sultan to treat them as an equal partner rather than an absolute monarch.
- ◆ This policy worked well throughout his reign.
- ◆ Successfully suppressed the revolts in Mewat and Doab, annexed Jaunpur, and brought Kalpi and Dholpur under the suzerainty of Delhi.



Sikandar Lodi
(AD 1489–1517)

- ◆ Little tolerance towards the non-muslim.
- ◆ Re-imposed jaziya on non-muslim.
- ◆ Superior position of the Sultan vis-a-vis the nobles.
- ◆ Re-annexed Bihar, Dholpur, Narwar and some parts of the kingdom of Gwalior and Nagor to the Delhi Sultanate.



Ibrahim Lodi
(1517–1526)

- ◆ Bihar declared its independence.
- ◆ Daulat Khan the governor of Punjab also rebelled.
- ◆ Sultan's behaviour caused much dissatisfaction.
- ◆ Daulat Khan sent an invitation to Babur at Kabul to invade India.
- ◆ Babur defeated Sultan Ibrahim Lodi in AD 1526 in the **Battle at Panipat**.
- ◆ The Sultanate of Delhi, which had its birth on the “battlefield of Tarain” in AD 1192, breathed its last in AD 1526 a few miles away on the “battlefield of Panipat”.

The administrative departments of the Delhi sultanate

1. State and Society

Nature of state:

Islamic State
Sultans preferred to call themselves the lieutenant of the Caliph.

Balban claimed, he ruled as the representative of god on earth.

Ala-ud-din Khalji claimed absolute powers.

An all-India empire, except Kashmir and Kerala.

2. General administrative system

The Sultan

- ◆ Central figure in the administrative set up.
- ◆ Headed civil administration, Army, Judiciary.
- ◆ Generally under the influence of powerful group of nobility and Ulema.

Nobility

- ◆ Most important functionaries of the state and enjoyed high social status.
- ◆ The nobility was not a homogeneous class.
- ◆ Power and status varied under different sultans.

Ulema

- ◆ Religious intellectual group of Muslims.
- ◆ Influential group and commanded respect of Sultan and nobility.

3. Different departments under Delhi sultanate

Department	Key Functions					
Diwan-i-Wizarat	<p>Chief advisor to the Sultan, to look after financial organization of the State. Departments under the wizarat:</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Department</th><th>Purpose</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Mustaufi-i-Mumalik</td><td>Auditor General</td></tr></tbody></table>		Department	Purpose	Mustaufi-i-Mumalik	Auditor General
Department	Purpose					
Mustaufi-i-Mumalik	Auditor General					

	Mushrif-i-Mumalik	Accountant General
	Majmuadar	Keeper of loans and balances from treasury
	Diwan-i -Waqoof	To supervise expenditure
	Diwan-i-Mustakhraj	Arrears of revenue payments
	Diwan-i-Amir Kohi	Department of agriculture
Diwan-i-Risalat	Department for foreign affairs , some considers it to related with religious matters.	
Diwan-i-arz	Department of Military, headed by Ariz-i-Mumalik .	
Diwan-i-Bandagan	Department of slaves	
Diwan-i-Qaza-i-Mamalik	Department of justice	
Diwan-i-Ishtiaq	Department of pensions	
Diwan-i-Khairat	Department of charity	
Diwan-i-insha	Department of correspondence, headed by Dabir-i-Khas .	

IQTA SYSTEM

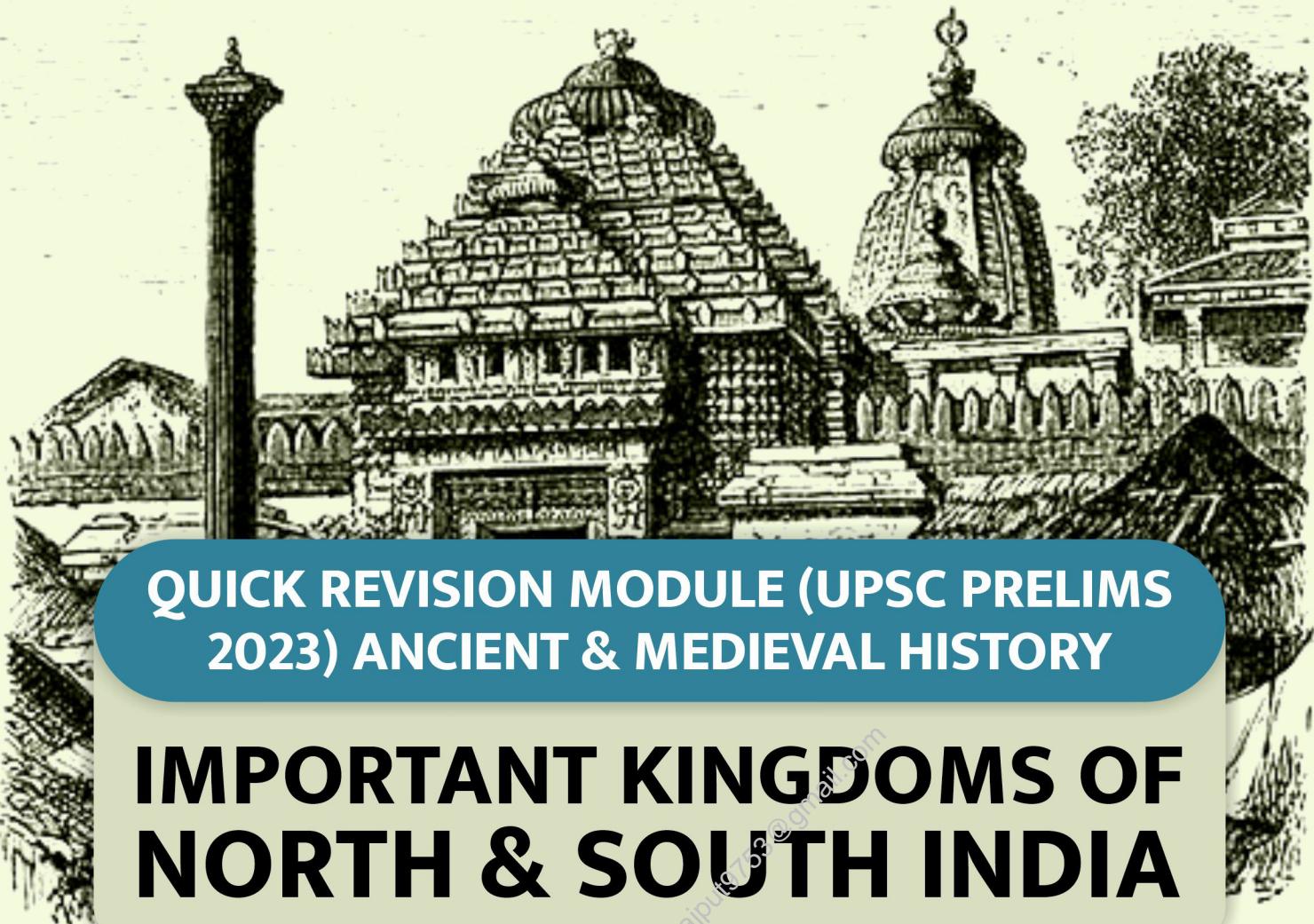
Meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Form of reward for services to the state. Holders as iqtadar or muqtி. ◆ Army commanders and nobles were given territories to administer and collect the revenue.
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ System of payment to the officers and maintenance of army. ◆ Muqtி was given complete charge of the administration of the iqta.
Important terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Khwaja: To keep a record of the income of the Iqtas. ◆ Barid: Intelligence officer. ◆ khalisa: Areas under direct control of Sultan.

Traveller's chronology and important events

Traveller	Reign and Timeline	Important aspects associated
Al Masudi	Arab traveller 896 - 956	Muruj-ul-Zehab or Muruj-adh-dhahab: Extensive account of India in his work.
Muhammad ibn Ahmad Abu Raihan“Al-Biruni” (from Uzbekistan)	Mahmud of Ghazni 973-1048	KitabUl Hind He was the inter-civilizational connect between India and The rest of the world.
Marco Polo (from Italy)	Venetian Traveller came during reign of Rudramma Devi of the Kakatiyas 1292-1294	The Travels of Marco Polo
Ibn Battuta (from Morocco)	Reign of Muhammad-Bin-Tughlaq. 1333-1347	“ Rehla” (the travelogue)
Shihabuddin al-Umari (From Damascus)	Around 1348.	'Masalikalbsar fi-mamalik al-amsar': His account of India.
Nicolo Conti (Venetian traveller)	During Sangam Dynasty of Vijayanagar empire. 1420-1421	About Vijayanagara Kingdom.
AbdurRazzaq (Persian traveller)	During Sangam Dynasty of Vijayanagar empire. 1443-1444	About Vijayanagara Kingdom.
Athanasius Nikitin (From Russia)	Visited South India 1470- 1474	During Bahmani kingdom.
Duarte Barbosa (From Portugal)	Vijayanagar Empire	
Domingo Paes (From Portugal)	During Krishnadeva Raya of Vijayanagar Empire	
FernaoNuniz (From Portugal)	Tuluv dynasty of Vijayanagar Empire	

Copyright © by Vision IAS

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of Vision IAS.



QUICK REVISION MODULE (UPSC PRELIMS 2023) ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

IMPORTANT KINGDOMS OF NORTH & SOUTH INDIA

NORTHERN INDIA: AGE OF THE THREE EMPIRES (800–1000CE)

- ▶ After the decline of Harsha's empire in the 7th century, a number of large states arose in north India, the Deccan and south India.
- ▶ Large states arose in north India and the Deccan between 750 and 1000 CE.
- ▶ These were the **Pala empire**, which dominated eastern India till the middle of the ninth century; the **Pratihara empire**, which dominated western India and the upper Gangetic valley till the middle of the tenth century, and the **Rashtrakuta empire**, which dominated the Deccan and also controlled territories in north and south India at various times.



THE PRATIHARAS

NAGABHATTA I (730-760 CE)

- Defended Western India from invasion of Arabs.
- Defeated by Rashtrakuta king Dhruva.

NAGABHATA II (805–833 CE)

- He conquered Kannauj and the Indo-Gangetic Plain as far as Bihar from the Palas.

Bhoja I / Mihir Bhoja (836-885)

- Greatest ruler of Pratiharas.
- Recovered Kannauj (aka Mahodaya) which remained the capital of the Pratihara empire for almost a century.
- Devotee of Vishnu, adopted title 'Adivaraha'.

THE RASHTRAKUTAS

DANTIDURGA (753-756 CE)

- Founder, set up capital at Manyakhet.

KRISHNA I (756- 774 CE)

- Built the Kailasanath temple at Ellora.

DHRUVA (780-793 CE)

- Kannauj expedition - defeated Pratihara king Vatsaraja and the Pala king Dharmapala.

GOVINDA III (793–814 CE)

- Defeated Nagabhata II and Dharmapala.
- Shattered the union of the Ganga, Chera, Pandya, and Pallava rulers in south India.

AMOGHAVARSHA (814-878 CE)

- Follower of Jainism.
- Wrote first Kannada book on poetics Kavirajamarga.
- Called "Ashoka of the South".

THE PALAS

GOPALA (AROUND 750 CE)

- Founder of the dynasty.
- Built Odantpuri University (in Bihar).

DHARMAPALA (770-810 CE)

- The Pratihara ruler was defeated by the Rashtrakuta ruler Dhruva, and Dhruva then returned to the Deccan. It allowed Dharmapala to occupy Kannauj.
- Later Nagabhata II defeated Dharmapala.
- Revived Nalanda University and founded the Vikramshila University.

DEVAPALA (810-850 CE)

- Extended his control over Pragjyotishpur (Assam) and parts of Orissa.

- ▶ **AL- MASUDI**, a native of Baghdad, who visited Gujarat in 915-16, refers to the Gurjara-Pratihara kingdom al-Juzr (a corrupt form of Gurjara), and the king Baura, probably a mispronunciation of Adivaraha.
- ▶ Sanskrit Poet & Dramatist **Rajasekhara** lived in the court of Mahendrapala I (son of Mihir bhoja). His famous work is Karpurmanjari.

- ▶ According to **Al-Masudi** who visited India at that time, the Rashtrakuta king, Balhara or Vallabharaja, was the greatest king of India and most of the Indian rulers accepted his suzerainty and respected his envoys.
- ▶ The great apabhramsha poet **Svayambhu** lived at the Rashtrakuta court.
- ▶ Kannada poet **Ponna** belonged to the court of Rashtrakuta king Krishna III. His famous creation is Shantipurana.

- ▶ Arab merchant Sulaiman, who visited India, refers to the Pala kingdom as Ruhma.
- ▶ The Pala rulers had close cultural relations with Tibet. The Buddhist scholars, Santarakshita and Dipankara (called Atisa), were invited to Tibet.
- ▶ The Pala empire had close relations with the Shailendra dynasty and trade with Southeast Asia was very profitable.

ADMINISTRATION OF PALA & PRATIHARA

BHUKTI (PROVENCE)

- ▶ Governor of Bhukti was called Uparika.
- ▶ Uparika had duty to collect Land Revenue and maintain law and order.

MANDALA OR VISAYA (DISTRICTS)

- ▶ The head of Visaya was Visayapati.
- ▶ Visayapati had same duties like Uparika within their territories.

PATTALA

- ▶ Smaller unit below the Visaya.

BHOGAPATIS OR SAMANTAS

- ▶ They were small chieftain who dominated villages.

ADMINISTRATION OF RASHTRAKUTAS

► The directly administered territories were divided into: **Rashtra** (provience) and **Visaya Bhukti**.

► The head of Rashtra was **Rashtrapati**, and similar functions as the Uparaika performed in Pala and Pratihara.

► Village was the smallest unit. The village headman carried out duties with the help of **Grama-Mahajana** or **Grama-Mahattara** (village elders).

► Village also had **committees** to manage schools, tanks, temples etc.

► Law and order in the towns and in areas in their vicinity was the responsibility of **Koshtapala** or **Kotwal**.

► **Nad-gavundas** or **Desa-Gramakutas** were the hereditary revenue officers.



THE PALLAVAS

- ▶ Before the 7th Century, in South India, we observe, main powers as Satvahanas in Deccan and Tamil (Sangam) kingdoms Tamil Nadu region. By the beginning of the 7th Century, the Pallavas of Kanchi, the Chalukyas of Badami and the Pandya of Madurai emerged to be the three major states.
- ▶ The Pallavas came to power by supplanting the Ikshvakus. The authority of Pallavas extended over both southern Andhra and northern Tamil Nadu. They setup their capital at Kanchi (modern Kanchipuram).



- ▶ Pallavas granted numerous villages free of taxes to the brahmanas.
- ▶ Land charters found - earlier ones are on stone in Prakrit, later ones on copper plate in Sanskrit.
- ▶ Pallavas and their contemporaries i.e. Kadambas, Chalukyas of Badami were great champions of Vedic sacrifices like asvamedha and vajapeya.
- ▶ The main struggle of this time in the peninsular region was between Pallavas and Badami Chalukyas for the supremacy over the fertile doab between Krishna and Tungbhadra.

IMPORTANT RULERS OF PALLAVAS



**MAHENDRAVARMAN I
(600-630 CE)**

- ▶ Chalukya King Pulkeshin II defeated him.
- ▶ He was a versatile genius.
- ▶ He had many titles i.e. Vichitrachitta, Gunabhara, Chettakari, Chitrakarapuli etc.
- ▶ He wrote Mattivilasa Prahsana (a satire in Sanskrit).

- ▶ Defeated Pulkeshin II.
- ▶ Captured Badami (or Vatapi), assumed the title 'Vatapikonda'.
- ▶ Took the title of 'Mamalla' and founded city of Mamallapuram.
- ▶ Hieun Tsang visited Kanchi during his reign.



**NARASIMHAVARMAN I
(630–668 CE)**

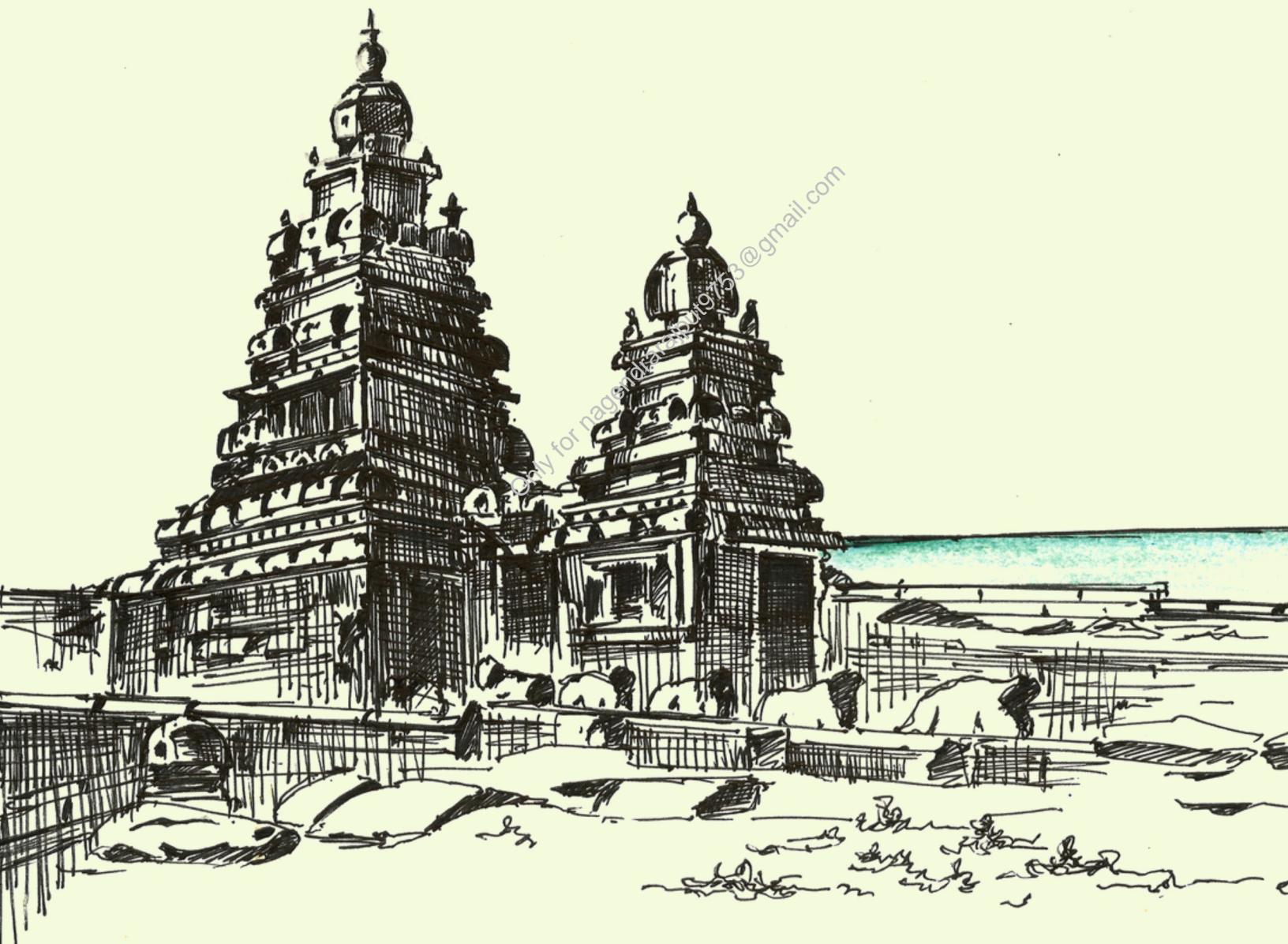


**NARASIMHAVARMAN II
(700-728 CE)**

- ▶ Also known as Rajsimha.
- ▶ His rule is marked by peace and prosperity.
- ▶ Constructed temples like Shore temple (Mahabalipuram), Kailashnath temple (Kanchi).
- ▶ Sanskrit scholar Dandin lived in his court.
- ▶ Sent ambassadors to China.

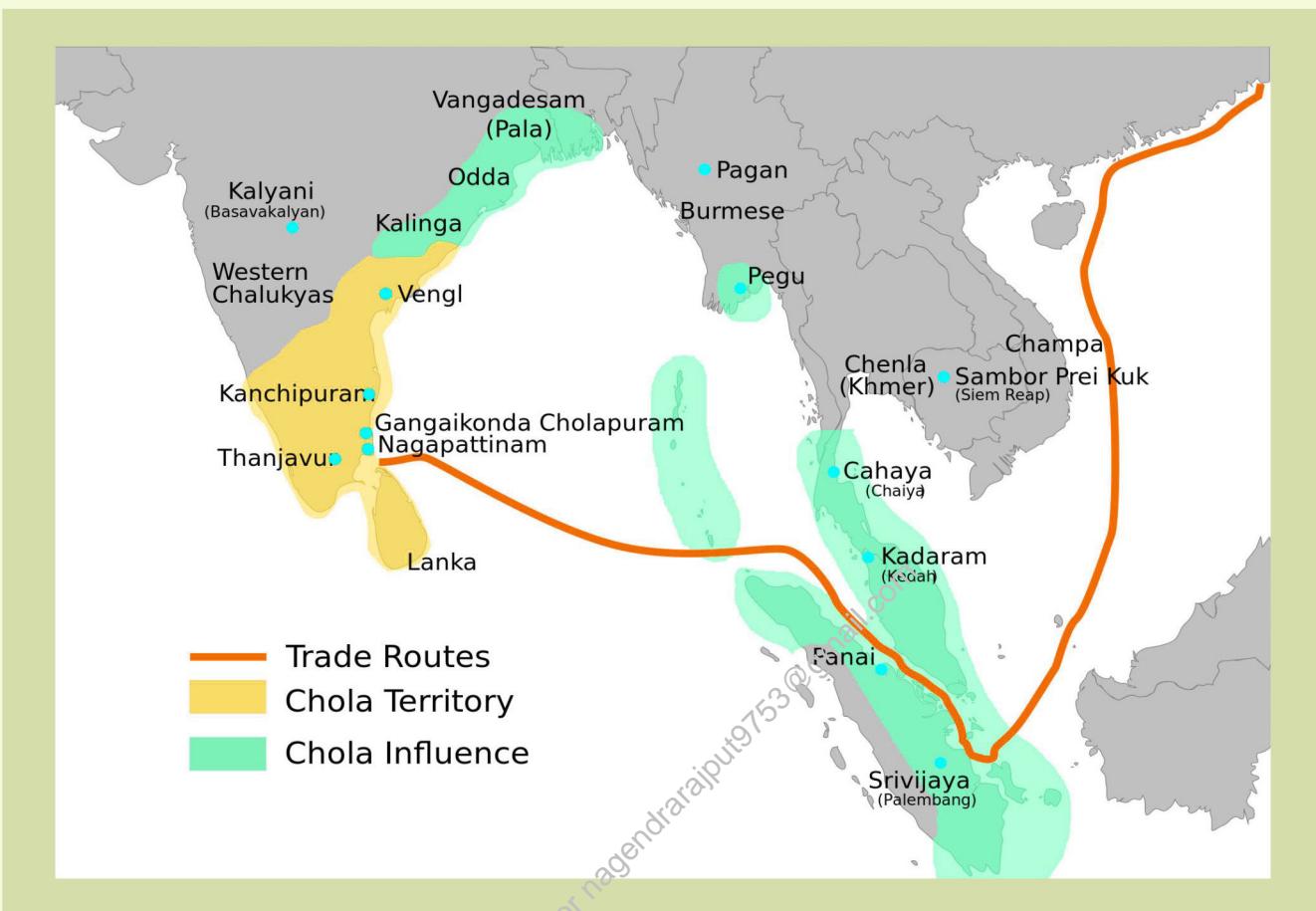
ADMINISTRATION DURING PALLAVAS

- Pallava kingdom administrative units - **Mandalam** (rashtra) > **Kottam** (district) > **Nadu** (group of villages) > **Ur** (village).
- Land grants were given to Brahmins (**Brahmadeya**) and to temples **Devadhana**.
- Land charters found - earlier ones are on stone in Prakrit, later ones on copper plate in Sanskrit.
- The village administration was run by various local autonomous assemblies i.e. **Sabha**, **Ur** etc.
- Villages had a court of justice, viz. **Dharamasasana**.



THE CHOLA KINGDOM (850 – 1279 CE)

The Chola empire which arose in the ninth century brought under its control a large part of the peninsula. It was founded by Vijayalaya in Tanjore. The Cholas developed a powerful navy which enabled them to conquer Sri Lanka and the Maldives. Its impact was felt even by the countries of Southeast Asia. The Chola empire may be said to mark a climax in south Indian history.



RAJARAJA I (985- 1014 CE)

- ▶ Rajaraja destroyed the Chera navy at Trivandrum, and attacked Quilon. He then conquered Madurai and captured the Pandyan king. He also invaded Sri Lanka and annexed its northern part to his empire. These moves were partly motivated by his desire to bring the trade with the Southeast Asian countries under his control.
- ▶ One of his naval exploits was the conquest of the Maldives.
- ▶ Rajaraja, annexed the northwestern parts of the Ganga kingdom in Karnataka, and overran Vengi.
- ▶ In 1010 CE, he constructed the Rajarajeshwara or Brihadeswara temple in Tanjore.

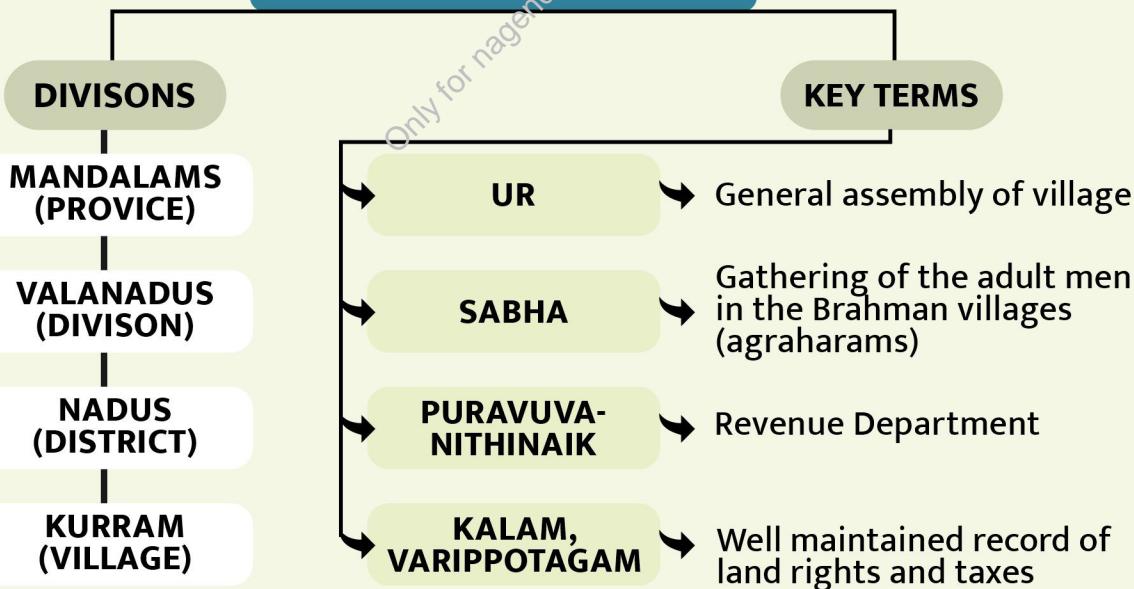


RAJENDRA I (1014- 1044 CE)

- ▶ He carried forward the annexationist policy of Rajaraja by completely overrunning the Pandya and Chera countries and including them in his empire.
- ▶ The conquest of Sri Lanka was also completed. Sri Lanka was not able to free herself from the Chola control for another 50 years.
- ▶ In a remarkable exploit he sent naval expeditions against the revived Sri Vijaya empire (SE Asia). The Chola navy was strongest in the area and for sometime the ‘Bay of Bengal’ was converted into a ‘Chola Lake’.
- ▶ He undertook a march across Kalinga to Bengal in which the Chola armies crossed the river Ganga, and defeated two local kings. To commemorate this, he assumed the title of Gangaikondachola.
- ▶ He built a new capital near the mouth of the Kaveri river and called it Gangaikondacholapuram.



CHOLA ADMINISTRATION



KAKATIYA KINGDOM

- ▶ Established by **Rudradeva (Prataparudra)** in 1158 CE.
- ▶ Warangal was the capital of Kakatiyas.
- ▶ They faced Islamic invasion from 1310 (by Alauddin Khilji) and ultimately came under control of Delhi Sultanate in 1323 (invasion by Sultan Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq).
- ▶ **Ganapatideva's** (longest reign, 1199-1262 CE) during which he expanded his kingdom from the coastal Bay of Bengal in the east to Kanchipuram in the south.
- ▶ **Rani Rudrama Devi (1262-89 CE)** was one of the few queens in Indian history who belonged to the Kakatiya dynasty.
- ▶ **Motupalli** was the famous trading seaport of the Kakatiyas.
- ▶ **Marco Polo**- the famous Venetian traveler visited Kakatiya kingdom through this port and wrote about the prosperity and power in Andhras in his travelogue.
- ▶ Kakatiya dynasties were famous for the construction of large tanks and used the sluice-weir device in it to boost crop production.
- ▶ The **Koh-i-noor diamond** was mined during Kakatiya rule from the Golconda mines
- ▶ Architecture - Rudreswara Temple (also known as **Thousand pillars temple**), **Rammappa Temple** (Telangana), **Warangal Fort** - all three have been added to the **tentative list of UNESCO's World Heritage sites**.



THE VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE (1336 -1646 CE)

It was founded in 1336 CE by Harihara and Bukka of the Sangama dynasty (at the instance of their Guru Vidyaranya).



FOUR DYNASTIES THAT RULED VIJAYANAGAR

SANGAMA
(1336-1485)

HARIHARA I
(1336-56)

— He was the first ruler of the Sangam dynasty.

BUKKA I
(1356-77)

— The struggle between the Vijayanagar and Bahamani kingdoms started in his reign for control over three areas-Krishna-Godavari Delta, Tungabhadra doab, and Marathwada region.

HARIHARA II
(1377-1404)

— Assumed the title of Maharajadhiraja.

DEVA RAYA I
(1404-1422)

— He was defeated by the Bahamani ruler Firoz Shah.

— Italian Nicholas Conti (1420) visited Vijayanagar empire in his region

DEVA RAYA II
(1425-1446)

— Greatest ruler of Sangam dynasty

— Also known as Immadi Devaraya or Proudha Devaraya.

— Took the title of Gajabekara (elephant hunter), **Dakshinapathada Chakravarthi**.

— Wrote two Sanskriti books- Sudhanidhi & Commentary on Brahm Sutras.

— Persian ambassador Abdur Razzak (1442) visited during his reign.

SALUVA
(1485-1505)

SALUVA NARSIMHA

— Only ruler of this dynasty.

TULUVA
(1505-1570)

KRISHNA DEVA RAYA (1509-1530)

— Best ruler of Tuluva dynasty.

— Babur mentions him as ruler of Vijayanagar in Baburnama.

— Also known as Andhra Bhoja, Abhinav Bhoj.

— He captured the whole of Raichur doab and invaded Gulbarga and Bidar.

— He freed Muhammad Shah and installed him on the throne of Bidar and assumed the title **Yavanrajya Sthapanacharya**.

— He was contemporary of Portuguese Governor Albuquerque.

— Portuguese traveller **Domingo Paes** visited in his reign.

— **Ashtadiggajas** lived in his court.

— He wrote Amuktamalyada (Telugu) and **Jambavati Kalyanam** (Sanskrit).

— Founded the city of **Nagalapuram**.

— He built Hazara Ramaswamy Temple, Vittalaswami temple.

ARAVIDU
(1570-1650)

FOUNDED BY TIRUMLA

VIJAYANAGAR ADMINISTRATION

- Administrative units: **Mandalams** (province), **Nadus** (district), **Sthalas** (sub-district) and finally into Gramas (village).
- **Nayankar System** - The chiefs known as Nayaks/Poligars were given Amaram (territory with fixed revenue) in lieu of their services. They had to maintain an army of fixed size.
- **Ayagar System** - A body of 12 functionaries known as Ayagars in each village, to conduct village affairs.
- Women occupied a high position and took an active part in the political, social and literary life of the empire. They even went to battles. It was the only empire in Medieval India which employed women in state services.
- Gold coins minted were called Varaha. Foreign travellers referred to it as **panam** or **pardaos**.
- Slavery and sale and purchase of human beings existed.

FOREIGN TRAVELLERS TO VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE

Ibn Batuta (Book-Rihla) from Morocco (Visited during Harihara I)

Nicolo de Conti from Italy (Visited during Devaraya II)

Abdur Razzaq from Persia (Visited during Devaraya II)

Athanasius Nikitin from Russia (Visited during Virupaksha Raya II)

Ludvico de Vortherma from Italy (Visited during Krishna Deva raya)

Duarte Barbosa from Portugal (Visited during Krishna Deva Raya)

Dominigo Paes from Portugal (Visited during Krishna Deva Raya)

Fernao Nuniz from Portugal (Visited during Achyuta Deva Raya)

BAHAMANI KINGDOMS (1347-1526 CE)

**Ala-ud-Din Bahman Shah
(aka Hasan Gangu)
(1347-58 CE)**

- ▶ Founded the Bahmani kingdom in 1347 CE with Gulbarga as its capital.
- ▶ Divided the kingdom into 4 Tarafs (provinces) - Gulbarga, Daulatabad, Berar and Bidar (each under one Tarafdar).

**Muhammad Shah I
(1358-71 CE)**

- ▶ He was an able general and administrator.
- ▶ He entered into deadly conflict with the Hindu rulers of Warangal and Vijayanagar.

**Taj ud-Din Firuz Shah
(1397-1422 CE)**

- ▶ The most remarkable figure in the Bahmani kingdom.
- ▶ He was well-acquainted with the religious sciences, that is, commentaries on the Quran, jurisprudence, etc., and was particularly fond of the natural sciences such as botany, geometry, logic, etc.
- ▶ He inducted Hindus into the administration on a large scale.
- ▶ Astronomy - Built an observatory near Daulatabad.
- ▶ He developed the principal ports of his kingdom, Chaul and Dabhol, for trade with the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea.
- ▶ He founded Firozabad, near Gulbarga.
- ▶ In early stages he defeated Vijayanagar but later he was defeated by Deva Raya I. After this his brother Ahmad Shah succeeded him.

**Ahmad Shah
(1422-1435 CE)**

- ▶ Also called a saint (wali) on account of his association with the famous sufi saint, Gesu Daraz.
- ▶ He defeated Warangal, and to consolidate new territory, shifted the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar.

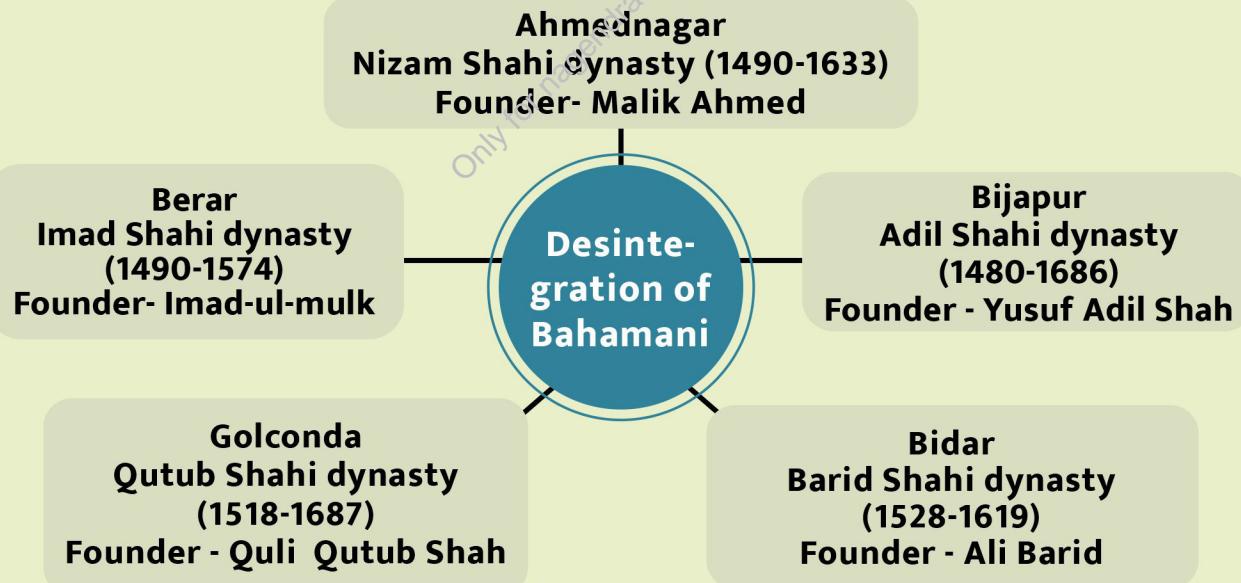
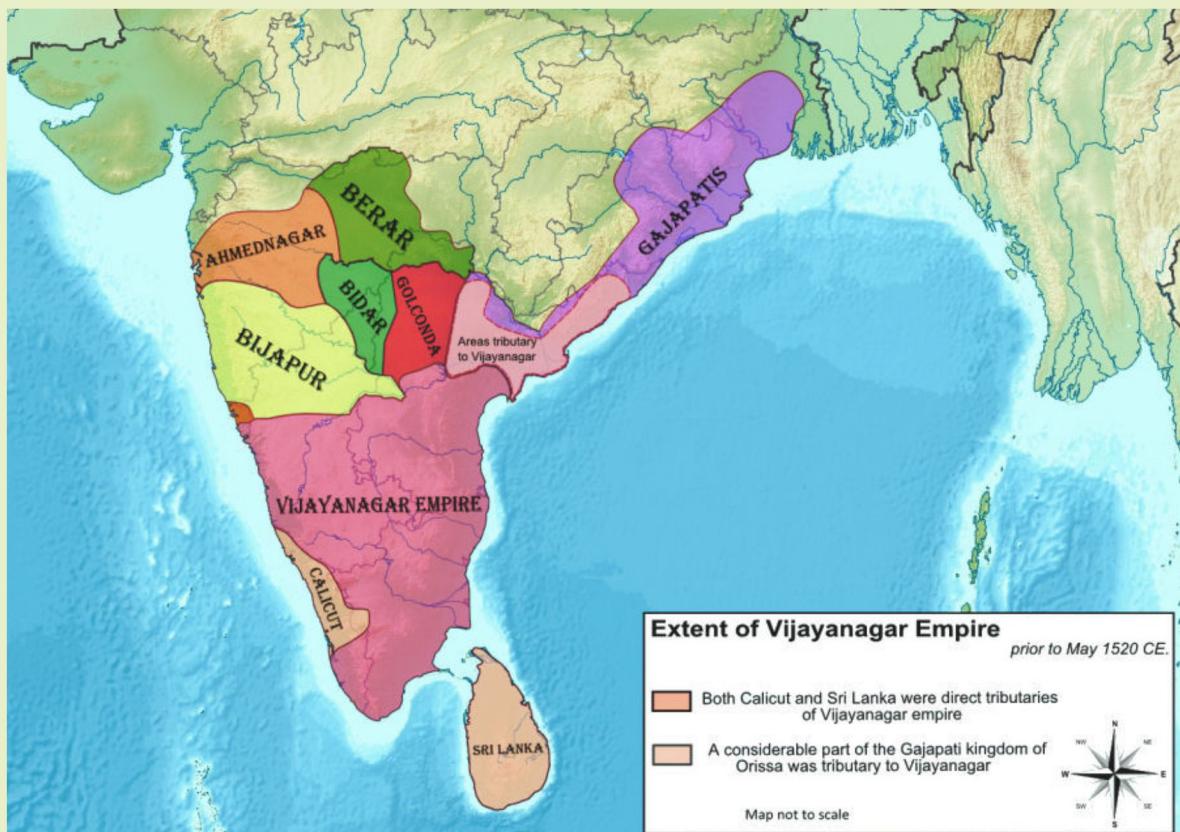
Mahmud Gawan

- ▶ He was Iranian by birth and was a trader. He was granted the title of Malik-ut-Tujjar (Chiefs of Merchants) by the Sultan.
- ▶ He was an able administrator. His military conquests included Konkan, Goa and the Krishna-Godavari delta.
- ▶ He divided the kingdom into 8 provinces called Tarafs. Each Taraf was governed by the Tarafdar. The salary was paid in cash or by assigning a Jagir.
- ▶ A tract of land called Khalisa was set apart for expenses of the Sultan.
- ▶ The nobles in Bahmani kingdom were divided into the long-established Deccanis and the new-comers who were foreigners (afaqis, also called gharibs).
- ▶ Since Gawan was an Afaqi, the Deccanis hatched a conspiracy against him and he was executed.



DECCAN STATES: AHMADNAGER, BIJAPUR, GOLCONDA, BERAR AND BIDAR

Mahmud Gawan's execution started the process of disintegration of Bahamani empire. Kalimullah was the last king of the Bahmani dynasty. He was deposed by his Wazir Amir Ali Barid in 1526 CE who laid the foundation of the Barid Shahi dynasty of Bidar.





UPSC TOPPERS PREPARATION APPROACH & STRATEGIES

Insights from Toppers' Talk and Answer Scripts



Ishita Kishore
Rank 1, 2022

Ishita Kishore, the UPSC topper of 2022, serves as a remarkable inspiration for her unwavering determination and relentless efforts making her as a beacon of motivation for aspiring candidates. Through her methodical preparation approach, she emerged triumphant in the esteemed Civil Services Examination securing top rank. Ishita extensively relied on VisionIAS Mains test series to refine her answer writing abilities. To gain further insights into Ishita's answer writing approaches, kindly scan the QR code provided.

TOPPER'S COPIES



+91 8468022022, +91 9019066066



UPSC CSE TOPPERS 2022



**Waseem
Ahmad Bhat**

7
RANK
2022

Waseem Ahmad Bhat, an exceptional achiever who secured an All India Rank 7 in his third attempt in the UPSC Civil Services Examination 2022. He also achieved All India Rank 225 in his first attempt in 2020 and currently, he is training as an Assistant Commissioner Income Tax.

Waseem was a student of the **VisionIAS Foundation Course**, Batch in 2019.

Hailing from Doru Shahabad, Anantnag, Jammu & Kashmir, he completed his schooling in Anantnag and holds a degree in Civil Engineering from NIT Srinagar.

Waseem opted for **Anthropology** as his optional subject. His topper's talk covers vital topics such as preparing for the **changing pattern of Prelims**, essay writing and strategy, writing **quote-based essays**, utilizing topper's answer scripts for preparation, and **effective revision strategies**.



**Aniruddh
Yadav**

8
RANK
2022

Aniruddh Yadav, a remarkable achiever who secured an All India Rank 8 in his fourth attempt in the UPSC Civil Services Examination of 2022.

Aniruddh opted for **Anthropology** as his optional subject. He completed his dual degree course in Biochemical Engineering & Biotechnology from IIT Delhi.

His topper's talk covers crucial aspects such as **creating a schedule** and **subject-wise timetable**, honing answer writing skills through topic-based **practice**, **mastering the structure** and format of answers (Introduction, Body, Conclusion), **managing time effectively** during answer writing practice, and preparing **topic-wise notes** with the help of syllabus analysis and previous year questions.



**Siddharth
Shukla**

18
RANK
2022

Siddharth Shukla, belongs to Uttar Pradesh. He completed his BA in History (H) from Delhi University, which was also his optional subject.

He displayed exemplary resilience by appearing in the exam for the fourth attempt and secured AIR 18 in 2022.

The preparation strategy reflected in his talk and answer scripts include the strategy for Essay, **efficient use of PYQs, notes making**, among others.

Additionally, he has also focused upon **non-academic aspects** such as **stress management, habit formation, and role of meditation** which are critical for this examination.



**Anoushka
Sharma**

20
RANK
2022

Anoushka Sharma hailing from Madhya Pradesh completed her graduation from City University, New York with a bachelor's degree in Economics. She gained job experience through a three-month internship with the United Nations prior to taking the civil service examination.

She passed her CSE with AIR 20 in 2022 on her third attempt. **Economics** is her optional subject.

She has a very good command over ethics paper and she has shared her **insights on time management and strategy for attempting questions** in CSE Mains.





UPSC CSE TOPPERS 2021



**Gagini
Singla**

3
RANK
2021

Gagini Singla, hailing from Punjab, completed her graduation in Computer Science Engineering from Punjab Engineering College Chandigarh. Thereafter, she honed her skills through a five-month internship as a finance analyst at JP Morgan.



TOPPERS' TALK



4
RANK
2021

**Aishwarya
Verma**



Aishwarya Verma hails from Madhya Pradesh. After graduating in Electrical Engineering, he opted for Civil Services as a career of choice.

He chose **Geography** as his optional subject and achieved an All-India Rank 4 in UPSC CSE 2021 in his fourth attempt.

Apart from the hard work, determination and resilience shown by Aishwarya, his success can also be attributed to his **short and enriched self-made notes, advanced answer writing skills, and smart preparation strategy, including S&T.**



**Utkarsh
Dwivedi**

5
RANK
2021

Utkarsh Dwivedi, hailing from historic town of Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, a graduate in Mechanical Engineering from VIT Vellore, displayed resilience by attempting the exam for the third time and succeeding with remarkable achievement with the optional subject, **Political Science and International Relations**.

He displayed **exemplary command over Ethics Paper**, specially Case Studies and **quotation-based questions**. With his deep understanding of the demand of the UPSC Examination and excellent time management skills, he not only optimized his efforts, but also maximized his performance at all stages of the UPSC CSE.



TOPPERS' TALK



6
RANK
2021



**Yaksh
Chaudhary**

Yaksh Chaudhary, a resident of Amroha, Uttar Pradesh, through unwavering determination secured an All India Rank 6 in the prestigious exam on his third attempt in 2021. With his passion for Sociology, Yaksh opted for it as his optional subject and devised a winning strategy for his preparation.

Yaksh's **exceptional expertise in answer writing** and adeptness in attempting question papers during the mains exam provided him an edge. Moreover, his skill in crafting **well-structured diagrams** for General Studies, Ethics, and Sociology further enriched the quality and visual appeal of his responses. Yaksh's achievements serve as an inspiration to aspiring candidates nationwide, exemplifying the significance of perseverance, dedication, and strategic planning.





UPSC CSE TOPPERS 2020



**Shubham
Kumar**

1
**RANK
2020**

Shubham Kumar, hailing from Katihar District in Bihar, completed his graduation in Civil Engineering from IIT Bombay. He achieved the remarkable feat of securing All India Rank 1 in the UPSC examination of 2020 in his third attempt.

His success can be attributed to his **unique approach and meticulous preparation**. Shubham emphasized the importance of **regular mock tests** for prelims and carefully analyzing previous years' UPSC prelims questions.

Shubham was a student of the **VisionIAS Foundation Course**.

He also **utilized topper's copies to enhance his skills in ethics answer writing** and emphasized the **use of diagrams and graphs** in GS papers.



**Jagrati
Awasthi**

2
**RANK
2020**

Jagrati Awasthi, from Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, completed her graduation in Electrical Engineering from NIT Bhopal. She gained two years of valuable work experience at BHEL.

With **Sociology** as her optional subject, she achieved an outstanding All India Rank of 2 in the UPSC examination of 2020.

She has emphasized the **importance of a well-structured daily routine** and shared a **detailed booklist** and recommended sources. Jagrati stressed the significance of thorough reading and utilizing previous years' questions to grasp the exam's demands.

Along with refined **note-making techniques**, she has provided insights on determining the optimal number of questions to attempt in the prelims and leveraging previous year's question papers for **Ethics case studies'** preparation.



**Praveen
Kumar**

7
**RANK
2020**

Praveen Kumar, achieved an impressive All India Rank 07 in the UPSC Civil Services Examination 2020. Hailing from Jammui, Bihar, Praveen holds a degree in Civil Engineering from IIT Kanpur.

His remarkable journey includes clearing the GATE examination with an AIR 5 and securing AIR 3 in the Indian Engineering Services (IES) exam, all while working for the Indian Railway Service.



Praveen's toppers talk provides invaluable insights, covering motivations for pursuing the IAS, **effective booklists and sources for exam preparation, strategies for newspaper reading and content extraction, note-making techniques for mains, and utilizing flow charts and diagrams** in answers.



**Satyam
Gandhi**

10
**RANK
2020**

Satyam Gandhi, an exceptional achiever, secured an All India Rank 10 in the UPSC Civil Services Examination 2020. Hailing from Bihar, Satyam graduated in Political Sciences (H) from Dayal Singh College, University of Delhi.

With **Political Science and International Relations** as his optional subject, he cleared the exam on his first attempt, displaying remarkable determination.

In addition, Satyam achieved an impressive AIR 242 in the NDA Exam. His toppers talk offers invaluable insights into **time management strategies** for a first attempt success, the **significance of flowcharts and diagrams** in mains answers, **effective essay structuring**, and his experience in obtaining a remarkable 201 marks in the interview.



News Today is **Daily Current Affairs bulletin** that simplifies newspaper reading and keeps you updated with daily events. It helps aspirants in:



Understanding the development in any news.



Developing an eye for identifying the kind of news that should be read in the newspapers.



Understanding the different technical terms, complex phenomenon appearing in news.



Key Features of News Today Document

- ④ **Sources:** It covers multiple sources like the Hindu, Indian Express, PIB, News on Air, Economic Times, Hindustan Times, the Mint etc.
- ④ **Segments:** It covers primary News of the day, Also in News and special focus on Personalities and Places in News in 4 pages.
- ④ **Primary News of the Day:** It covers main news of the day in less than 180 words. The main focus of this news is to cover the recent development in detail.
- ④ **Also in News and Places in News/Personality in News:** It covers in 80 words sections like important terms appearing in the news, Protected areas & Species in News etc.



Key Features of News Today Video

- ④ **Key Headlines:** We encapsulate the six most important news stories of the day, ensuring you get a quick overview of the key events without overwhelming details.
- ④ **Places in News/Personality in News:** Every day, we delve deeper by highlighting a significant place or a notable personality in the news.
- ④ **Quick Updates:** In this section, we cover trending topics quickly, keeping you in loop with what's happening around the world.
- ④ **Test Your Learning:** At the end of each News Today Video Bulletin, we test your understanding with an MCQ section. This interactive feature makes learning not just informative but also fun, ensuring that you retain the knowledge effectively.
- ④ **Resources:** You'll find links in the description to the "News Today" PDF document, which complements your video experience, and an MCQ quiz with questions and answers to solidify your learning.



Watch News Today Video Bulletin every day at 9 PM



Scan the QR code to download the News Today document



Scan the QR code for News Today Quiz

Heartiest
Congratulations
to all Successful Candidates

**39 in Top 50
Selection
in CSE 2022**



ISHITA KISHORE



GARIMA LOHIA



UMA HARATHI N

**8 in Top 10
Selection
in CSE 2021**



ANKITA AGARWAL



GAMINI
SINGLA



AISHWARYA
VERMA

5
AIR



UTKARSH
DWIVEDI

6
AIR



YAKSH
CHAUDHARY

7
AIR



SAMYAK S
JAIN

8
AIR



ISHITA
RATHI

9
AIR



PREETAM
KUMAR



SHUBHAM KUMAR
CIVIL SERVICES
EXAMINATION 2020



DELHI

HEAD OFFICE

Apsara Arcade, 1/8-B,
1st Floor, Near Gate-6,
Karol Bagh Metro
Station, Delhi

MUKHERJEE NAGAR CENTRE

Plot No. 857, Ground Floor,
Mukherjee Nagar, Opposite
Punjab & Sindh Bank, Mukherjee
Nagar, Delhi

FOR DETAILED ENQUIRY

Please Call:
+91 8468022022,
+91 9019066066



ENQUIRY@VISIONIAS.IN



/VISION_IAS



WWW.VISIONIAS.IN



/C/VISIONIASDELHI



VISION_IAS



/VISIONIAS_UPSC



AHMEDABAD



BENGALURU



BHOPAL



CHANDIGARH



GUWAHATI



HYDERABAD



JAIPUR



JODHPUR



LUCKNOW



PRAYAGRAJ



PUNE



RANCHI