



INDIAN WARFARE TACTICS OF ANCIENT TIMES

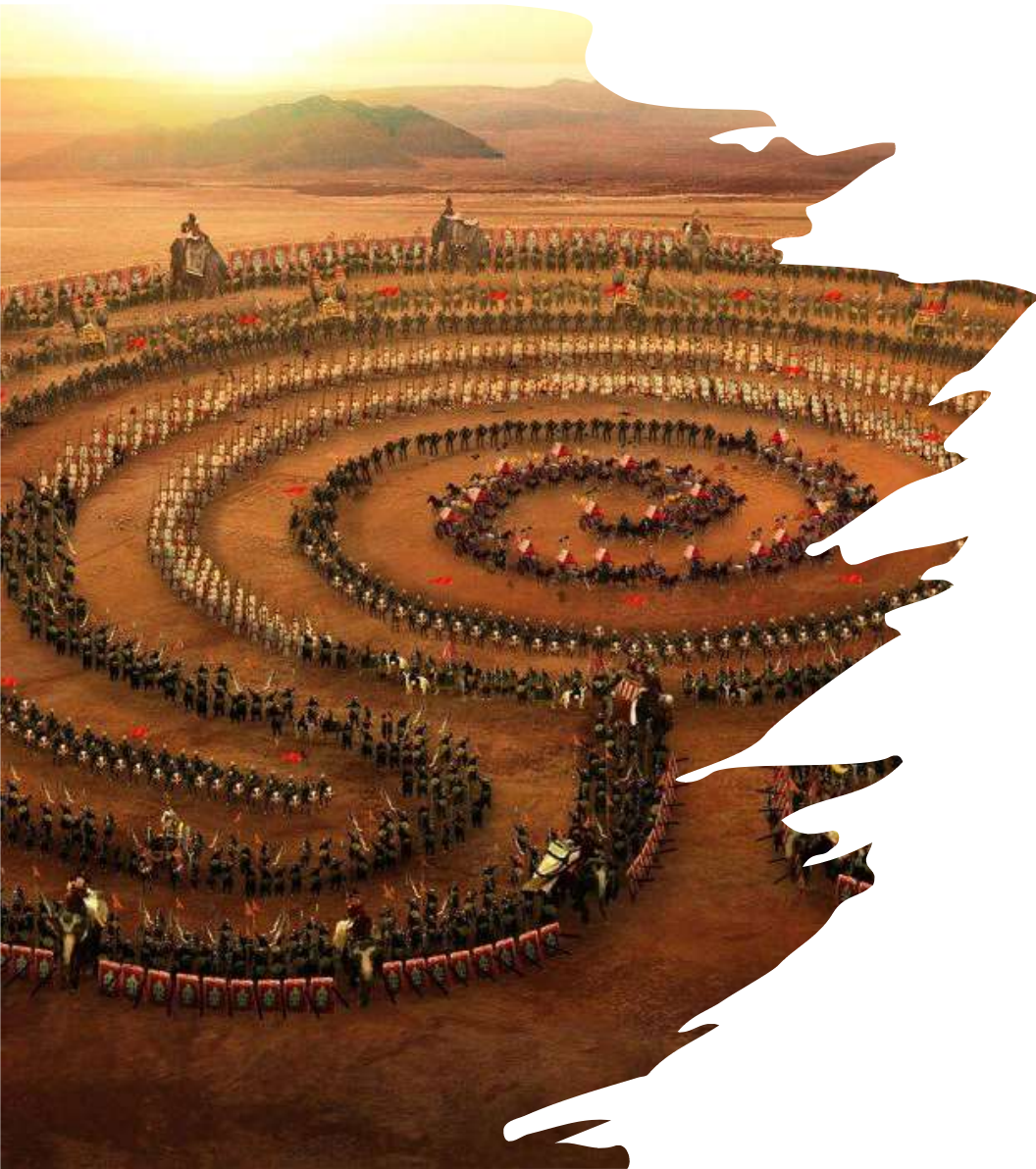
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INTRODUCTION

- ❑ Indian warfare tactics have evolved over thousands of years, influenced by the country's diverse geography, cultures, and the many empires and kingdoms that have ruled the subcontinent.
- ❑ Many kings fought the battle, used various tactics, defeated the enemy, and ruled the kingdom.





Tactics of Mahabharata

- ❑ The *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana* are epic tales of India, both featuring monumental battles. These epics highlight various strategies and tactics used in warfare.
- ❑ The *Mahabharata* began around 5,000 years ago and the use various tactics in warfare.
- ❑ Many tactics were used in the *Mahabharata*, but the best one was **Vyuhas** tactics.
- ❑ In the *Mahabharata*, the **Chakravyuh** formation was used by the **Kauravas** to trap **Abhimanyu**. This was a complex military strategy, a circular formation, designed to confuse and overpower the enemy.

Weapons

- In ancient Time of India in warfare use bows and arrows, swords, double-handed broadswords, oval, rectangular or bell-shaped shields (often of hides), spears, javelins, lances, axes, pikes, clubs and maces.
- Bows were the primary weapon for the infantry, chariot and elephant warriors and even the commanders.
- In the time of Shivaji Maharaj, with a cunning hand, The Baghnakh struck down Afzal Khan



Naval Warfare

- The navy was used to transport troops to distant battlefields, participate in actual warfare and was primarily meant for protecting the kingdom's trade on sea and navigable rivers and the maritime trade routes by destroying pirates.
- That the ships or boats carried warriors who were equipped with the standard-issue weapons of the period like swords, javelins, maces and spears. The archers would have been more heavily involved in the fighting, especially by shooting fire arrows. As soon as the enemy ships or boats would have come in range, soldiers of both the sides would have engaged in hand-to-hand combat and attempted to jump onto the enemy vessel in order to kill as many of the enemy and destroy it, and then return (if still alive) to their own ship/boat
- The main aim was to destroy the enemy ships, accomplished by breaking the ships or setting fire to them.



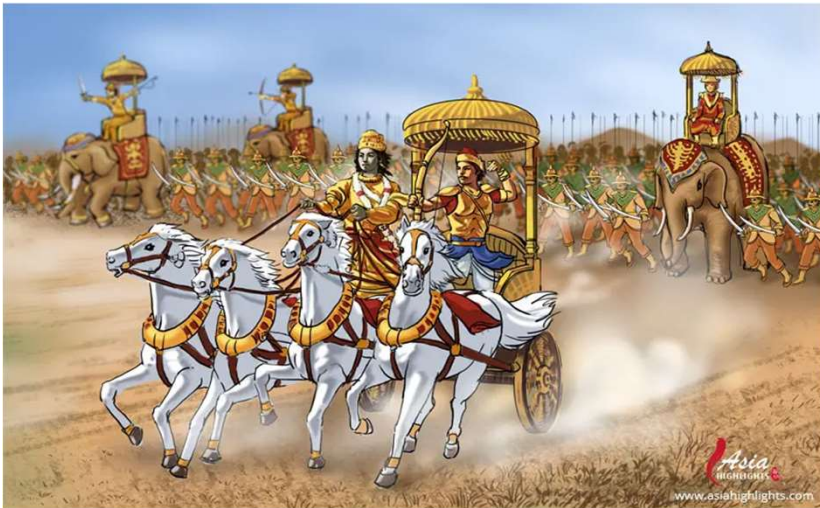
Elephants In Ancient Indian Warfare

- **War elephants** played a prominent role in Indian warfare
- Elephants were used in the ancient Indian army, irrespective of regions, dynasties, or points in time
- . King **Bimbisar** (c. 543 BCE), who began the expansion of the Magadhan kingdom, relied heavily on his war elephants.
- In Mahabharata Elephant is use and in some other battle elephant is use very highly.



Chariots in Ancient Indian Warfare

- The tactics of chariot warfare in ancient India were integral to both military strategy and battlefield formations.



- Chariots were designed to be fast, and one of their primary advantages was speed. They allowed warriors to quickly move across the battlefield, maneuvering to attack the enemy or retreat. The speed enabled the chariot to break through enemy lines and disrupt their formations.
- In some battles, chariots were used to create shock and awe, charging into enemy formations at full speed. The force of a chariot's impact could cause significant damage, disrupt the enemy, and break their lines. In ancient Indian epics like the Mahabharata, chariot charges are depicted as overwhelming assaults against tightly-knit enemy units

CONCLUSION

In ancient times, India used many different tactics in war, like:

Elephants: War elephants were powerful and used to crush enemies and carry soldiers into battle.

Chariots: Chariots helped in moving quickly across the battlefield and provided support for archers and warriors.

Infantry & Archery: Soldiers on foot, armed with swords, spears, and bows, made up the main force in battles.

Modern Warfare Tactics:

- Today, wars are fought with high-tech machines like fighter jets, drones, and advanced weapons. India has also adapted modern tactics for combat. For example, in **2016**, India conducted a **surgical strike** across the border in Pakistan. This was a precise military operation carried out with careful planning and modern tactics, showing how warfare has evolved from ancient methods to today's high-tech strategies.



Thank you