## Kingdoms of North India



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In northern India, the post-Gupta age largely comprised of an age of various small kingdoms. However, among these small kingdoms, there were three big kingdoms (between A.D. 750 and 1,000), namely:

- o Rashtrakutas,
- o Pratiharas, and
- o Palas

All these kingdoms recurrently fought with each other and tried to gain control over northern India; however, none of them succeeded for any length of time. Struggle for Kanauj

- Kanauj was the capital of Harsha and was an important city; hence, many of the campaigns in northern India were fought over the city of Kanauj.
- Kanauj was geographically located in the northern plain; a strategic point from where it was easy to control the Ganga valley.
- Three major kingdoms were involved in this struggle to control Kanauj; Modern Historians prefer to call them 'tripartite (i.e. three parties) struggle for Kanauj.' The three kingdoms were the Rashtrakutas, the Pratiharas, and the Palas. The Rashtrakuta Kingdom



The Rashtrakutas' kingdom was located in the northern Deccan i.e. the region around Nasik and its capital was at Malkhed (as shown in the image given below). Malkhed was not only a beautiful, but also a prosperous city.