

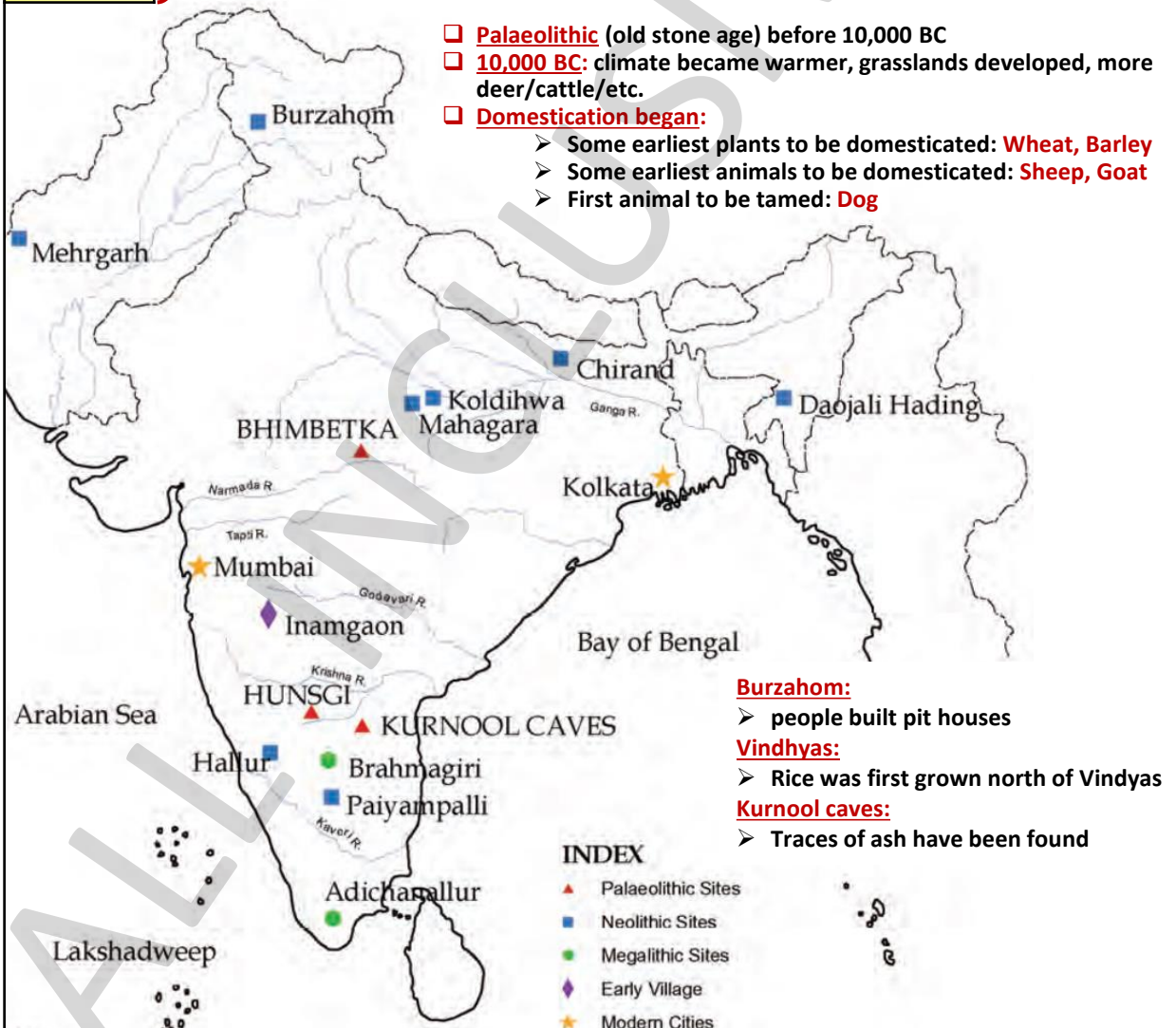
All Inclusive Static Crash Course Prelims 2022

Class-14 : History

PREHISTORY:

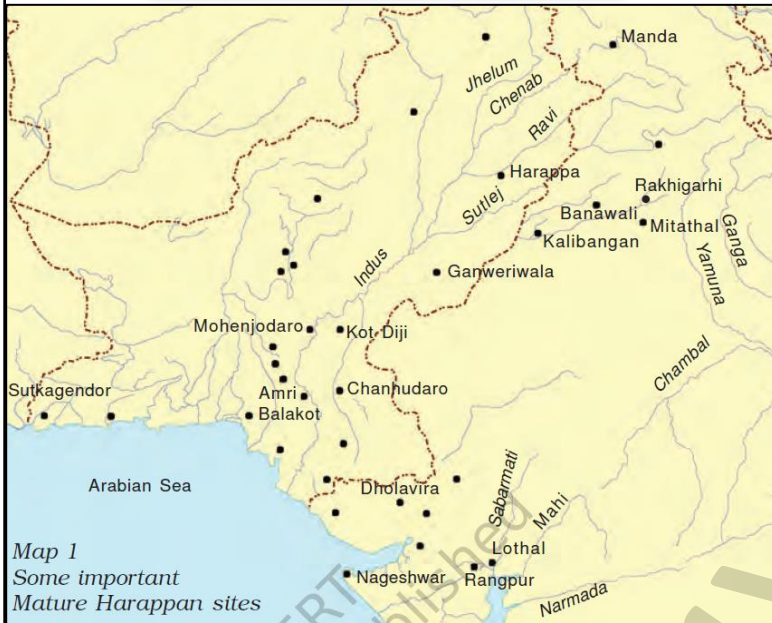
- ❑ Time before recorded history or the invention of writing systems.
- ❑ Source of knowledge: tools, pottery, habitats, bones, cave paintings, etc.
- ❑ 1863: **Robert Bruce Foote** discovered Palaeolithic stone tool (a hand axe) in India (Pallavaram, near Madras)

BC	
0-1000	1,000-600 BC: Later Vedic / Iron age / Megaliths in South India
1000-2000	1,500-1,000 BC: Early Vedic
2000-3000	3,000-1,500 BC: Harappa
3000-4000	
4000-5000	4,000 BC: Copper
5000-6000	
6000-7000	6,000 BC: Beginning of settlement at Mehrgarh (Sulaiman & Kirthar hills); people grew crops (wheat / barley); lived in villages; began rearing animals; in one burial goats are buried with the dead person
7000-8000	
8000-9000	8,000 BC: Neolithic (new stone age) (polished stone tools)
9000-10000	10,000-8,000 BC: Mesolithic (middle stone age) (microliths: tiny stone tools)



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Indus Valley Civilisation



- ❑ **Bronze Age** civilisation in NW regions of South Asia; First **urban** civilization in South Asia
- ❑ aka **Harappan** civilisation because Harappa was the **first site** to be excavated (by **Daya Ram Sahani** in 1921)
- ❑ **Mohenjo-daro** (Mound of Dead) was discovered by RD Banerjee in 1919 but excavations started in 1924 by KN Dikshit

Archaeological Survey of India:

- ❑ est in 1861; HQ in Delhi; comes under Ministry of Culture
- ❑ **Alexander Cunningham** → first DG of ASI; aka Father of Indian Archaeology
- ❑ **John Marshall** → DG of ASI from 1902-1928
- ❑ **Daya Ram Sahani** → first Indian to become DG of ASI (1931-35)

J&K:

- ❖ **Manda**: northernmost site (excluding Shoturgai in Afghanistan)

PUNJAB:

- ❖ **Ropar** - River Sutlej – Dog buried with human in oval pit burials; copper axe; First site to be excavated after independence.

HARYANA:

- ❖ **Rakhigarhi** - largest IVC site; called as provincial capital of IVC
- ❖ **Banawali** - River Saraswati – toy plough, barley grains, lapis lazuli, fire altars, oval shaped settlement, only city with radial streets and oval shaped settlements.

RAJASTHAN:

- ❖ **Balathal & Kalibangan** - bangle factory, toy carts, bones of camel

MAHARASHTRA:

- ❖ **Daimabad**: southernmost site

PAKISTAN:

- ❖ **Kot Bala** - earliest evidence of furnace.
- ❖ **Harappa** - River Ravi; granaries; copper scale and mirror; bronze sculpture of dog chasing deer; red sandstone male torso
- ❖ **Mohenjo-daro** - River Indus; citadel, great bath, great granary, post cremation burial, sculpture of bearded priest, bronze statue of Dancing Girl, Pashupati Seal.
- ❖ **Mehrgarh** - considered precursor to IVC
- ❖ **Chanhudaro** - Lancashire of India; only Indus city without a citadel. Bead making factory and use of lipsticks

GUJARAT:

- ❖ **Dholavira** - stadium, dams, inscription comprising 10 large sized signs like an advertisement board.
- ❖ **Surkotada** - first remains of horse bones.
- ❖ **Desalpar** - in Kutch region; remains of a fort
- ❖ **Lothal** - Manchester of Indus Valley Civilisation; dockyard for naval trade; rice husk, chess, terracotta figures of horse and ship, instruments for measuring 45, 90 and 180 degree angles, practice of burial of cremated remains; Bead making factory
- ❖ **Kerala-no-dhoro** - salt production centre during IVC

Prelims 2011

Regarding the **Indus valley civilization**, consider the following statements ?

1. It was predominantly a secular civilization and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene.
2. During this period, cotton was used for manufacturing textiles in India.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Prelims 2013

Which of the following characterizes the people of **Indus Civilization**?

1. They possessed great palaces and temples
2. They worshipped both male and female deities
3. They employed horse-drawn chariots in warfare

Select the correct statements:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None of the above

Town:

- ❑ Roads in **grid** pattern in east-west and north-south
- ❑ **Upraised citadel in western part** had granaries, administrative buildings, residence of aristocrats, etc.
- ❑ Lower part of city had houses for working class; each house had **drain**

Buildings:

- ❑ Use of **burnt mud bricks** joined by **gypsum**
- ❑ **No large temples** or palaces. Public baths for ritualistic cleansing
- ❑ Houses had private wells, ventilated bathrooms, stairs (double storied houses)

Ornaments: Worn by both men and women; made of precious metals, gemstones, bones, baked clay

Food: Wheat, barley, rai, peas, sesame, lentil, chickpea, mustard, etc were produced. (Rice? Yes but less)

Pottery: Plain and painted

Cloth: cotton and wool



International trade:

IVC traded with Mesopotamia
They called India/IVC as Meluha

Raw materials:

Gold from Karnataka
Copper from Rajasthan/Oman
Tin (for Bronze) from Afghan/Iran
Precious stones from Gujarat/Afghan/Iran



Terracotta figures:

- ❑ **Made by** – pinching fire baked clay hence crude in shape
- ❑ **Mother Goddess** – at many sites; standing female; wearing necklace, loincloth and fan shaped headgear



Seals: (for trade / amulets / education)

- ❑ Various shapes and materials (steatite, terracotta, ivory, gold, silver (first evidence), copper, but not Iron!)
- ❑ **Script** - pictographic, not yet deciphered; mostly written right to left, but some also bidirectional
- ❑ **Animals** – unicorn (not horse), bull, rhinoceros, tiger (not lion), elephant (not camel), goat, crocodile, buffalo (not cow)
- ❑ **Pashupati seal** – at Mohenjodaro; made of steatite; cross-legged human figure; elephant, tiger, rhino, buffalo, two antelopes



Bronze figures:

- ❑ **Lost wax technique or Cire Perdue**
cover wax figure with clay; heat it to drain out wax via hole and fill with molten metal.
- ❑ **Dancing girl at Mohenjodaro;**
four-inch-tall; naked girl with only ornaments like bangles, amulets, bracelet.

Prelims 2021

Consider the following pairs:

- Historical place : Well-known for
1. Burzahom : Rock-cut shrines
 2. Chandra-ketugarh : Terracotta art
 3. Ganeshwar : Copper artefacts

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 (c) 3 only (d) 2 and 3

Faience

Unlike stone or shell, that are found naturally, faience is a material that is artificially produced. A gum was used to shape sand or powdered quartz into an object. The objects were then glazed, resulting in a shiny, glassy surface. The colours of the glaze were usually blue or sea green.

Faience was used to make beads, bangles, earrings, and tiny vessels.



Lapis lazuli:

Deep-blue metamorphic rock
Used as a semi-precious stone
Sar-i Sang mines in Shortugai
Beads found at found at
Neolithic burials in Mehrgarh



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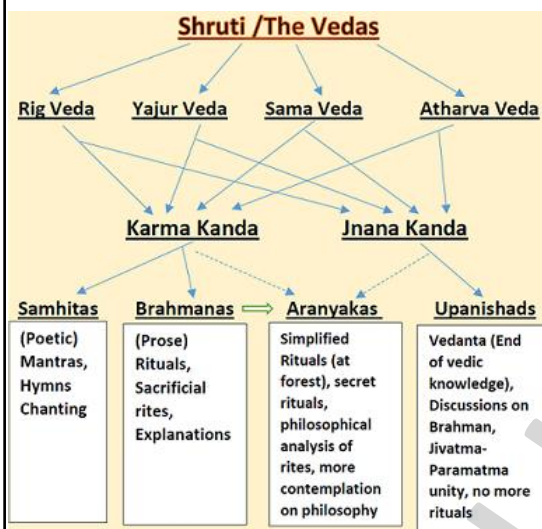
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Vedic period

- With the coming of Aryans in **1500 BC**, began the Vedic period.
- The term Aryan denotes a speech/linguistic groups speaking Indo-European language
- Non-Aryans were called **Dasas** and **Dasyus**

- Early Vedic period 1500 BC - 1000 BC
- Later Vedic period 1000 BC - 600 BC

Original home of Aryans		Boghazkoi inscription	The Arctic Home in the Vedas
Central Asia	Max Muller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1,400 BC, Turkey ➤ Proves that Aryans came from Central Asia ➤ Mentions peace treaty between Hittite and Mitanni kings in presence of Vedic gods Indra, Mitra, Nasatya, Varuna 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ by Bal Gangadhar Tilak ➤ 1898 written; 1903 published ➤ In 8,000 BC, Aryans migrated from North Pole to northern parts of Europe and Asia. ➤ Inspired by the book, Golwalkar claimed that 10,000 years ago North pole was in India
Europe	William Jones		
Turkistan	Hun Feldt		
Arctic	Tilak		
Tibet	Dayanand Saraswati		



- Rigveda** → collection of hymns/prayers; 10 mandals (books)
- Samveda** → collection of songs/music mostly from Rig Veda
- Yajurveda** → collection of sacrificial acts and rituals
- Atharvaveda** → collection of spells and charms

Each Veda has four subdivisions:

1. **Samhitas** (mantras without any explanation)
2. **Brahmanas** (rituals, ceremonies and sacrifices)
3. **Aranyaka** (forest books)
4. **Upanishads** (to sit near)
 - Religious books about philosophy, not about rituals/laws
 - Satyameva Jayate is taken from Mundaka Upanishad
 - Upanishads are known as Vedanta
 - Vedanta = end of Vedas
 - culmination of Vedic thought
 - taught at last in Brahmacharya

Early Vedic period	Later Vedic period
<input type="checkbox"/> Rig Veda (1500 BC)	<input type="checkbox"/> Samveda, Yajurveda, Atharvaveda
<input type="checkbox"/> Aryans were based around Indus <input type="checkbox"/> Area called as Sapt-Sindhav (land of seven rivers) <input type="checkbox"/> Sindhu mentioned most; Saraswati holiest <input type="checkbox"/> No reference to Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Aryans moved east (up to Bengal) using fire and iron tools <input type="checkbox"/> Acquired knowledge of Eastern and Western Sea and also of Narmada and Vindhyan Mountains
<input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral economy; cattle main form of wealth	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture grew in importance
<input type="checkbox"/> Wars fought for cows <input type="checkbox"/> No standing army	<input type="checkbox"/> Wars fought for territory (Rashtra term appeared) <input type="checkbox"/> No standing army
<input type="checkbox"/> Caste system was flexible; based on profession, not birth	<input type="checkbox"/> Caste system rigid; based on birth
<input type="checkbox"/> No Child marriage, no Purdah, no Sati	<input type="checkbox"/> Present
<input type="checkbox"/> Sabha (elites) and Samiti (folks) were important <input type="checkbox"/> Sabha performed judicial functions <input type="checkbox"/> Vidhata assembly most important, many functions	<input type="checkbox"/> Assemblies lost importance <input type="checkbox"/> Vidhata completely disappeared <input type="checkbox"/> Women no longer participated in assemblies
<input type="checkbox"/> Kings position not hereditary	<input type="checkbox"/> Kings position was hereditary
<input type="checkbox"/> Yajnas and nature worship sun, wind, earth, etc <input type="checkbox"/> Indra was most important god <input type="checkbox"/> No temple or idol worship	<input type="checkbox"/> Brahma, Vishnu, Shiv became important <input type="checkbox"/> Indra, Agni, Varuna lost importance <input type="checkbox"/> Idol worship became prominent

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Some **Brahmavadinis** who composed some hymns of Vedas:
Lopamudra, Vishwawara, Sikta, Ghosha, Nivavari, Maitreyi

Two types of marriages discussed in Upanishads:

Anulom → High caste man + Low caste woman (tolerated)
Pratilom → Low caste man + High caste woman (condemned)

Ashvamedha, Vajapeya, Rajasuya

These were later Vedic period rituals performed by Kings, increased King's power and prestige.

- Ashvamedha** → control over area where royal horse ran
- Vajpeya** → royal chariot made to win race against kinsmen (blood relatives)
- Rajasuya** → sacrifice to gain power

VEDANGAS

(Limbs of Vedas; not part of Vedas)
Shiksha - pronunciation
Chanda - poetic meters
Vyakaran - grammar
Nirukta - word meanings
Kalpa - rituals & duties
Jyotish - auspicious times

ASHRAMS

- Four stages of life, were not well established in Vedic times.
- Brahmacharya (student)
Grhastha (householder)
Vanaprastha (forest walker)
Sannyasa (renunciate)

UNESCO

In 2008, tradition of Vedic chanting was included in UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

Some post Vedic ritual literature:

- Srautasutras** laid down the big public sacrifices meant for prince and other three higher varnas (Brahmin, Vaishya and Kshatriya). Shudras were not allowed to perform sacrifices.
- Grihyasutras** laid down the all domestic rituals connected with birth, marriage and funerals.
- Sulvasutras** prescribe various kinds of measurements for the construction of sacrificial altars.

Prelims 2011

The '**dharmā**' and '**Rita**' depict a central idea of the ancient Vedic civilization of India. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Dharma was a conception of obligations and the discharge of one's duties to oneself and others.
2. Rita was the fundamental moral law governing the functioning of the universe and all it contained.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only **(c) Both 1 and 2** (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Prelims 2017


With reference to the difference between the culture of **Rigvedic Aryans** and **Indus Valley people**, which of the following statements is/are correct?

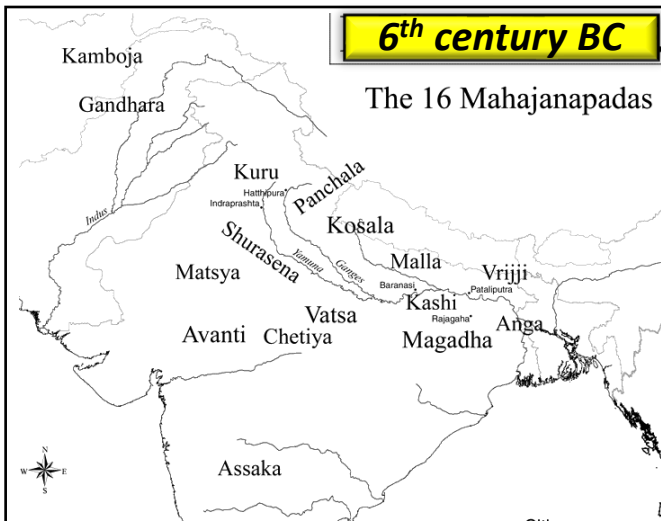
1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.
2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.
3. Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated the horse whereas there is no evidence of Indus Valley people having aware of this animal.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only **(c) 1 and 3 only** (d) 1, 2 and 3

- Bharata** was a **Vedic tribe** in North-west (mentioned in Rigveda).
- Later this word was used for the country.
- Rig Veda** is the earliest composition in Sanskrit (3500 years ago)
- The word India comes from the **Indus**, called **Sindhu** in Sanskrit.
- 2500 years ago Iranians & Greeks came to North-west.
- They called **Indus** as **Hindos**, and land to its east as **India**.

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6th century BC

The 16 Mahajanapadas

6th century BC:

- Widespread use of iron helped in second urbanisation
- Cleared forests, made agri tools, better weapons, etc.

Mahajanapadas:

- 16 kingdoms in 4-6 century BC during second urbanisation
- Some were monarchies, some republics
- ❑ Magadha, Vatsa, Avanti, Koshala were four powerful Mahajanapadas.
- ❑ They fought amongst themselves for years and ultimately Magadha emerged victorious under Bimbisara (Haranyak dynasty) in 6th century BC.

Ajatsatru:

- He killed his father Bimbisara
- He defeated Prasenajit
- He married Prasenajit's daughter Vajira
- Buddha died during his reign
- He patronised 1st Buddhist Council

Mauryas:

- After Ashoka's death in 232 BC, empire was divided into two parts western (by Kunala) and eastern (by Dasratha)
- Last ruler was Brihadratha, he was killed by commander Pushyamitra Sunga

BC	AD
1000-900	0-100
900-800	100-200
800-700	200-300
700-600	300-400
600-500	400-500
500-400	500-600
400-300	600-700
300-200	700-800
200-100	800-900
100-0	900-1000

Mahanandin was killed by Mahapadma, his illegitimate son from a Shudra wife
Dhananand insulted Chanakya. Chanakya vowed to destroy him.

Prelims 2005

Who among the following was not a contemporary of the other three?

- (a) Bimbisara
- (b) Gautama Buddha
- (c) Milinda
- (d) Prasenjit

545-412 BC : HARYANKA dynasty Bimbisara → Ajatsatru → Udayin → Anurudha → Munda → Nag-Dasak	←
412-344 BC : SHISUNAG dynasty Shisunaga → Kalashoka → ... Mahanandin	←
344-323 BC : NANDA dynasty Mahapadma → ... Dhananand	←
322-185 BC : MAURYA dynasty Chandragupta Maurya → Bindusara → Ashoka	←
185-73 BC : SUNGA dynasty Pushyamitra Sunga → Agnimitra → ... Devabhuti	←
73-28 BC : KANVA dynasty (capital at Patliputra) Vasudeva → ... Susarman	←

CHETI / CHEDI DYNASTY OF KALINGA (rose in 1st century BC)

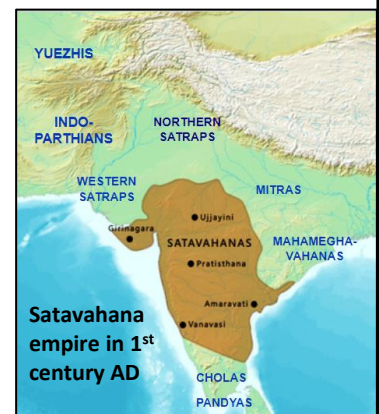
Info about this dynasty is derived mainly from Hatigumpha inscription (near Bhubaneswar) of 3rd ruler Kharavela. He was follower of Jainism. He constructed caves on Udaygiri hill (near Bhubaneswar) for monks.

SATVAHANA DYNASTY (60 BC - 225 AD)

- Most important successors of Mauryas in Deccan and central India.
- They are considered identical with **Andhras** mentioned in Puranas.
- Capital at Pratisthana/Paithan in Maharashtra and Amravati in Andhra
- Donated land with fiscal/administrative immunities to Brahmanas and Buddhist monks, which weakened their authority.
- Made Stupas near Ellore, Amravati, Nagajunakonda, etc.
- Issued coins with image of their rulers.
- Formed cultural bridge between north and south.

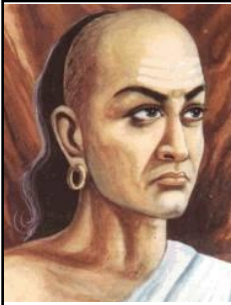
Rulers:

- 01 - **Simukha was the founder**
- 17 - **Hala** wrote Gathasaptasati / Sattasai in Prakrit. Theme: love
- 23 - **Gautamiputra Satakarni (106-130 AD)**
→ His achievements were mentioned in Nasik Inscription, by his mother Gautami.
→ He defeated the Saka Ksatrap Nahapana
- 30 - **Pulumavi-III** was the last. Succeeded by the Ikshvakus



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Chanakya / Kauṭilya / Vishnugupta (375–283 BCE)

- Felt insulted by Nanda king, vowed to destroy him
- Played crucial role in establishing Maurya Empire.
- Was PM during reign of Chandragupta Maurya
- Was chief advisor of Chandragupta and his son Bindusara
- Was once a teacher at Taxila university (Pakistan, not Bihar)
- Wrote Arthashastra: It is the first Indian text to define state

Seven Limbs	
Svami	The king
Amatya	The minister/official
Kosa	The treasury/Tax
Danda	The Judiciary
Durga	The fort/army
Mitra	The ally
Janapada	The territory

Arthashastra:

- The book was rediscovered in 1905 by R. Shamasastri, who published it in 1909.
- Many topics** like govt, laws, courts, economics, diplomacy, war, etc.
- Emphasized on **realism**, rather than morality and idealism.
- Mentions the **Saptanga** Theory.
- Contains ideas of a **welfare** state.
- Favoured a centralised state** with a strong Ruler.
- Corruption** can be difficult to avoid, but recommends strictest punishment
- In the happiness of his subjects lies the king's happiness, in their welfare lays his welfare.

Prelims 2012

With reference to the guilds (Shreni) of ancient India that played a very important role in the country's economy, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Every guild was registered with the central authority of the state and the king was the chief admin authority on them
2. The wages, rules of work, standards and prices were fixed by the guild
3. The guild had judicial powers over its own members.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only **(c) 2 and 3 only** (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ashoka's inscriptions

- Minor edicts predate major edicts
- Names him as Devanampriya / Priyadarshi / Devanampiya Piyadasi
- **Maski** inscription (minor)(Karnataka) was the first edict with his personal name **Ashoka** (association with Devanampriya confirmed)
- India → Prakrit in Brahmi script
- Pakistan → Prakrit in Kharosthi script
- Afghan → Greek or Aramaic in their script
- **Kandahar** Bilingual Rock Inscription is in both Greek and Aramaic
- Deciphered by **James Prinsep in 1837 (Brahmi & Kharosthi)**

Direction of scripts:

- ← Harappan:
Right to left, or Boustrophedon
- Brahmi:
left to right
- ← Kharosthi:
right to left

Major Rock Edict 1	Prohibition of festivals and animal sacrifice
Major Rock Edict 2	Mentions the Chola, Pandyas, Satyapuras, Keralaputras, Greek kings, etc
Major Rock Edict 5	About Dhamma mahamatras (special officers to spread dhamma)
Major Rock Edict 8	Ashoka's first visit to Bodh Gaya and Bodhi tree (his first Dhamma Yatra)
Major Rock Edict 9	Morality rather than ceremonies
Major Rock Edict 10	Strive for merit, not glory
Major Rock Edict 12	Respect other sects and not take pride in one's own
Major Rock Edict 13	Mentions victory over Kalinga followed by remorse

Sohgaura copper plate: (Rapti river, Gorakhpur)

- It is of Mauryan period
- It is the oldest Indian copper plate inscription
- It is written in Prakrit in Brahmi script
- It is the earliest royal order to preserve foodgrains to be utilized during famines.



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Ashoka with his Queen, at Sannati (Kanaganahalli Stupa), 1st-3rd century CE. [3][4]

Kanaganahalli (Karnataka)

- inscription in Brahmi script reads "Ranyo Ashoka" (Raja Ashoka)
- It is the first-ever sculpture of Asoka with his name inscribed.



Kalinga (adjacent to the Bay of Bengal) and the Maurya Empire (blue) before the invasion of Ashoka

Kalinga:

- ❑ Ashoka annexed Kalinga in 261 BC
- ❑ Kalinga controlled the land and sea routes to South India.
- ❑ Though Ashoka abandoned military expansion of Empire, in favour of policy of cultural conquest, yet he retained Kalinga after its conquest.

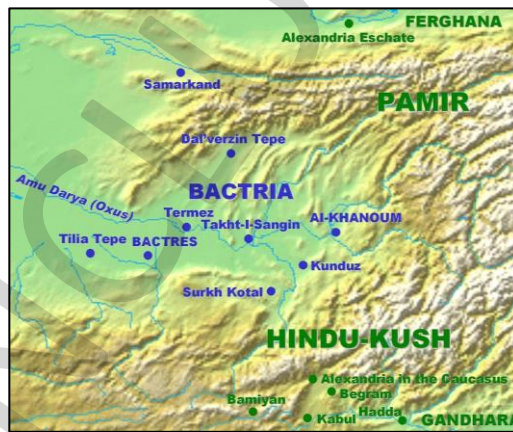
Foreign successors of Mauryas

- Indo-Greeks → 2nd century BC
- Sakas → 1st cent BC to 4th cent AD
- Parthians → 1st cent BC to 1st cent AD
- Kushans → 1st cent AD to 3rd cent AD

India's national calendar, adopted on 22 March 1957 (1 Chaitra 1879), is based on **Saka Era** (Kanishka, 78AD). Along with Gregorian calendar, it is used in Gazette, AIR news, govt communications to public, etc. It has permanent correspondence with Gregorian calendar, i.e. its first day (1st Chaitra) falls on **22nd March** every year (21st March in leap year)

Greeks:

- ❑ Introduced practice of appointing military governors (**Strategos**)
- ❑ They were aka **Yavanas**. They liked pepper, so pepper aka **Yavanapriya**
- ❑ **Yavana Kingdom** (Indo-Greek / Graeco-Indian kingdom) was in 2nd century BC in **Bactria**

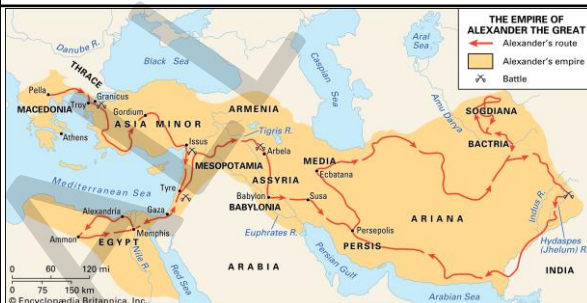


Megasthenes: (3rd century BC)

- He was an ambassador of Seleucus Nicator I
- He visited court of Chandragupta Maurya
- He described India in his book Indica

Milind / Menander I

- Indo-Greek King in Bactria in 2nd century BC
- Milinda Panho ('Questions of Milinda') book has his dialogue with Buddhist monk Nagasena.



Battle of Hydaspes (326 BC)

- Between Alexander and Porus
- Fought on banks of Indus (**Hydaspes**)
- Alexander defeated Porus, allowed him to govern
- Army unrest made him not invade further into India
- Nandas (Dhananand) was in power at that time
- Alexander was king of Greek kingdom of Macedonia
- Conquered from Greece to NW India

Correction: It was fought on banks of Jhelum (Hydaspes), and not Indus

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