



Government of Karnataka

# Indian History

(With Special reference to Karnataka)

## II PUC - Text Book

2016

**Department of Pre-University Education,**

Malleswaram, Bengaluru - 560 012.

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## FOREWORD

The Department of Pre-University Education, Government of Karnataka, entrusted the task of framing the syllabus and writing the text for second year PUC students, to the History text book committee. The Department also issued various instructions and guidelines to the text book committee to be followed in the course of preparing the text. The Review Committee has contributed by suggesting suitable inclusions, deletions and corrections. The committee has followed the directions of the Department and prescribed the syllabus taking into consideration the syllabi of NCERT and that of the neighbouring states.

After due consultations and discussions like the last year, the committee decided to have Indian History with special reference to Karnataka History as the subject matter for Second Year PUC. The Syllabus starts with stone Age and extends upto the Indian Independence and Partition and the Unification of Karnataka.

In the previous years, Indian History and Karnataka History were studied separately in 180 hours but the Committee had the momentous responsibility of blending the two into one year of study for 120 hours. Hence some topics which were studied as separate chapters have formed a part of some major topics.

As in First PUC text book, Box items, pictures and activities have been included in this book also. Since the subject matter is familiar Glossary is not given. Use of BCE and CE continues.

Three Blue prints along with model question papers with suitable instructions are given at the end of the textbook.

Lecturers and students are asked to refer both versions of the text book in case of any doubts.

The Committee held several meetings and met many subject experts. It has put in a lot of efforts to prepare the text and I hope that the text will serve its purpose and be useful to all readers.

**Dr. Gayathri Devi A.H.** .....  
*Chairman*

## Acknowledgements

The History Text book committee owes its gratitude to several people who have directly or indirectly helped in completing the text book. The members of the committee have utilised information collected from various libraries, books of various Indian and Foreign authors, various pictures and information from different internet sites in writing the text book.

The committee held its meetings at Govt. P.U. College, 13th Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru, APMC Yard, Honnali, Sri Chamundeshwari Kshethra, Thavalli, Kokkadu, Kavishaila and Shimoga. Smt N.C. Shobha, Principal, Govt. P.U. College for Girls, 13th Cross, Malleswaram, not only gave us accommodation for our meetings but also voluntarily helped us in proof reading. The cover page and the maps were designed by Sri. S. Santhosh Kumar and Inside layout/designs of text was done by Sri. N. Nagaraj Proprietor of Multi Options, 31, Police Station Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560 004. The Committee expresses its gratitude to all of them.

The committee also extends its gratitude to the Department of Pre-University Education, and many officials of the Department who have been instrumental in bringing out this text book for II PUC.

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# INDIAN HISTORY

**Total Teaching Hours – 120**

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# CHAPTER - 1

## INTRODUCTION

The History of Indian sub-continent at times includes the present Nations, namely, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Bangladesh, China and SriLanka. The exact description of the extent of the subcontinent is found in 'Vishnu Purana'. One of the shlokas reads:

"Uttaram Yatsamudrasya, Himadreschiava Dakshinam Varsham Tadbharatam nama Bharatiyatra santati"

**Meaning:** The country that lies north of the oceans and south of the snowy mountains is called Bharata, there dwell the descendents of 'Bharata'.

The subcontinent is called by different names such as Bharatavarsha, Bharatakhanda, Bharata, Jambudweepa, Hindustan and India. The northern part of the sub continent was called as 'Aryavarttha', the land of Aryans. The southern part was called as Dakshinapatha - the land in the South. Bharatakhanda, Bharatvarsha, and Bharata are named after Bharata, son of Dushyanta and Shakuntala as referred in Mahabharata. It was also known as 'Jambudweepa', according to Hindu, Buddhist and Jain traditions. The southern part of Himalayas was an island continent, which they regarded as one of the seven continents in the world. It resembled 'Jambu' the Blackberry fruit. So it is called Jambudweepa.

The term India is derived from Greek word 'Indos', which stands for Sindhu the most important river of the subcontinent. It should be noted that it includes South India too. 'Hindustan' was widely used during medieval period. Persians called the river Sindhu as Hindu and the land as Hindustan. The abbreviated version 'Hind' refers to the present Republic of India.

## Impact of Geography on Indian History.

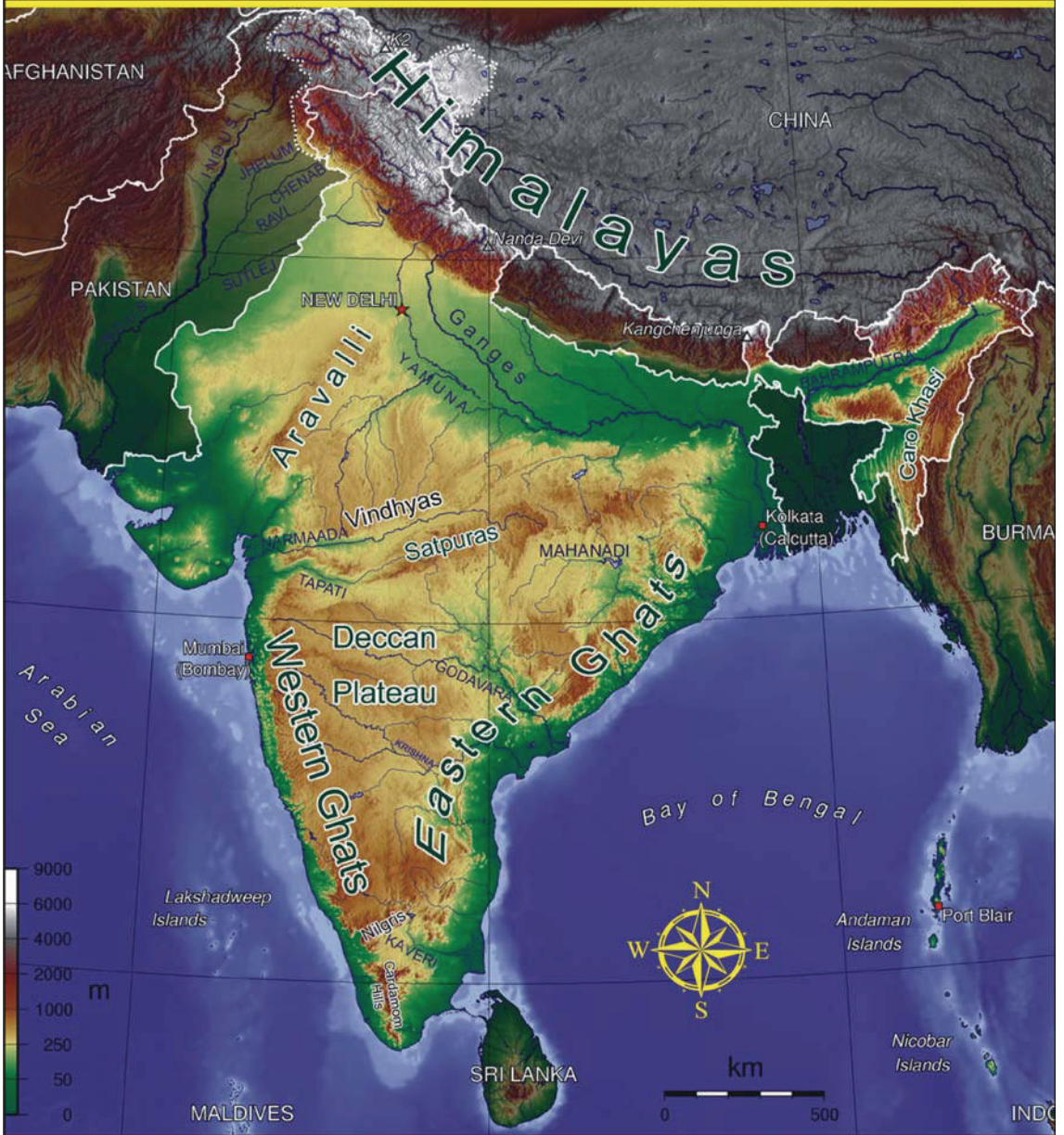
The physical features of India, such as the Himalayas, the Northern plains, the desert, the mountains (the Vindhyas, the Arawalis, the Sahyadris, etc.) the Deccan plateau and the coastline have helped and moulded the development of different political units and cultures.

The Himalayas separate India from the rest of Asia. It forms the natural barrier, protects India from invaders and the cold winds from the North. They have given birth to ever flowing north Indian rivers. These rivers have formed the most fertile northern plains. These plains were the cradles of Civilizations and Empires. The richness and prosperity provided by the fertility of the land, assured availability of basic necessities. It paved the way for the material, spiritual and philosophical development of man. The great Indus valley civilization and Vedic culture developed in this region. The northern passes such as Khyber, Bolan, etc. have helped Indians to have commercial and cultural relations with the West and also posed India to repeated Western attacks.

The Western deserts and the dense forests of the Deccan plateau have turned the people into hard working and warlike. The oceans of the South once stood as barriers, later served as means of connecting the rest of the world. They have helped to develop the commercial and cultural relations with the west. The geographical diversity and zones within the subcontinent and existence of various races like Dravidian, Alpine, Mongolian and different tribes have led to the development of different languages and cultures.

The river basins or valleys of North and South have made the country agrarian from time immemorial. They also influenced the rise and fall of many dynasties and growth of many religious, cultural and commercial centers. Many varieties of minerals and rocks are available in abundance. The rocks and stones like Sandstone, Marble and Granite have helped the development of Architecture like palaces, forts, hill forts etc, and also helped in the development of sculpture. The big rocks in the hills have helped to develop cave temples. Abundance of rain and favourable climate resulted in the growth of rich flora and fauna. Excluding the Himalayas, Hills and desert the whole country falls in tropical climate zone. The atmosphere is conducive for the all round growth of man.

# GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA



## Special Features of Indian History.

India is the seventh largest country in the World in area and the second largest country in population. Even Herodotus has mentioned India as 'the land of largest population'. The special features of Indian history are-

### 1. Continuity of civilization and culture.

India has one of the earliest histories in the world. It has 4000 years of continuous history and continuity of civilization and culture like China.

### 2. Evolution in phases.

Its civilization has developed in various stages and phases with necessary improvements. We find a connecting chain of events from Indus to Vedic, Vedic to Islamic and Christian influences.

### 3. Foreign Invasions.

India in general and North India in particular was often subjected to the influence and invasion of foreigners. Greeks, Persians, Huns, Shakas, Arabs, Turks, Kushans, Afghans etc, infiltrated into India and left deep impact. All these invaders contributed to Indian culture and became a part of it. The English were an exception to it. Though they ruled for a long time, they did not become the part of Indian culture. South India had immunity from such invasions and developed a distinct culture of its own.

### 4. Dominant and tolerant Hindu faith.

India is home for Hindus, Jains, Buddhists, Sikhs, Muslims, Christians, Parsis and several tribal faiths and practices. Indians believe in the concept of 'Vasudaivaka kutumbakam' and 'Sarve Janaha Sukhino Bhavantu' meaning "the whole World is a family and let all the people be happy."

### 5. Contributions to the world.

Indians have given noteworthy contributions in the field of Literature, Philosophy, Music, Dance, Architecture, Sculpture, Science, Yoga, Medicine, mathematics, Astronomy, Education, etc. The architectural and cultural monuments including forts, hill forts, palaces, temples, tombs and caves are the wonderful specimens of human artistic

excellence. U.N.O has recognized more than thirty historical sites as centers of world heritage, such as hill forts of Rajasthan, Khujaraho, Konark, Tajmahal, Jantar-Mantar, Gaya, Sanchi, Ajanta, Ellora, Hampi, Pattadakallu, Madurai, Kanchi, Mahabalipuram, Churches of Goa, etc.

Yoga and Ayurveda are the special contributions of India to the physical and mental health of man in the world. The contribution of Charaka, Sushruta and Patanjali are noteworthy. Hindustani and Carnatic music, Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Kuchupudi, Mohiniattam, etc. are the artistic contributions of India. The great contributions of Indian mathematicians have enriched the world with the concept of zero and the decimal system. When today's developed countries were passing through dark ages, India was at the height of its intellectual and spiritual glory. The Universities of Nalanda, Takshashila, Ujjain, Prayag, Vikramshila, Kashi and Kanchi, attracted the students from different countries of the world.

## **6. India as a country of attraction for foreigners.**

The fertile land and the huge wealth of India attracted the foreign invaders. The Greeks, Persians, Afghans, Mongols, Europeans, etc, attacked India. Places of scenic beauty, hill stations, the Himalayas, Kashmir Valley, the national parks of Kerala, beaches and historical monuments are attracting the tourists from all over the world.

## **7. Unity in Diversity.**

India not only has geographical diversity but also diversity in every sphere of human activity.

### **a. Physical Diversity.**

India possesses diverse physical features. The coldest Siachin, the hot desert of Rajasthan, the snowy mountains of Himalayas and evergreen forests, the plains and the plateaus and the coast line etc, which have added to the variety of flora and fauna.

### **b. Racial and Linguistic Diversity.**

There is racial diversity in India. The people belonging to Dravidian, Negroids, Mongoloids, Alpines etc, inhabit this country. Linguistic

diversity is also another unique feature of Indian history. There are more than 1,600 languages and dialects spoken.

### c. Social and Religious diversity.

India is regarded as museum of religions, castes, cults, faiths, customs, languages, racial types and social systems. India also has variety of food and dress habits. India has both patriarchal and Matriarchal family systems. Monogamy, polygamy and polyandry are also practiced. Four great religions namely Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism have originated in this land. Other prominent religions of the world such as Christianity, Islam, Jews, Parsis and the sub-sects of all these religions co-exist here with great harmony.

### d. Economic diversity.

All through the ages we find economic inequality in India. The resources are unevenly distributed. On one hand we find very rich people, on the other hand very poor. Some regions and places are highly developed and some others are underdeveloped. The urban parts of India are highly developed and can be compared with any city of the world, whereas rural India is comparatively underdeveloped.

In spite of all these diversities there are many unifying forces that have kept India united. Important among them are:

- 1. Geographical unity:** Himalayas in the north and ocean in the south have isolated India from the rest of the world and formed a separate geographical unit.
- 2. Administrative unity:** The administrative system of ancient India was mostly identical and uniform which has been brought out by Chanakya in his 'Arthashastra'. Rulers, administrators and Bureaucrats have tried to bring political unity. Mauryas, Guptas, Rashtrakutas, Kushans, Vardhanas, Chalukyas, Moghuls, Marathas, etc. have tried to bring political unity by expanding their territories.
- 3. Uniform education and literature:** In ancient India, there was uniform education and literature. Sanskrit language and Vedic literature.

including the epics Ramayana, Mahabharata and the Bhagavadgeetha have instilled the feelings of oneness. Sanskrit was the Lingua-Franca for a long time that influenced the regional languages. Pali and Prakrit were the languages of the common people. During the medieval period Persian language played an important role. Later during the British rule English became the Lingua-franca. After independence Hindi assumed that role. A composite culture evolved during Muslim and British rule. Hence Indians have developed the spirit of tolerance and co-existence.

- 4. Religious and Social ceremonies:** Though India is a land of various religions, castes, creeds, and sects, the people lead a life of harmony. They participate in the religious and social ceremonies of each other and often inter-dine. This has inculcated a feeling of oneness.
- 5. Recent Changes:** Our constitution and the policies of the government, the present economic and social conditions, the effects of Globalization, etc. have reduced the differences among different religions and castes. The food habits, dress, customs, traditions, etc. are not much different from each other today. This again has ushered unity among the people.

### **Introduction to Karnataka History.**

Karnataka is a State in South India. It is inhabited dominantly by Kannada speaking people. It is surrounded by Maharashtra and Goa in the North, Arabian Sea in the West, Kerala and Tamilnadu in the South and Andhra in the East. Kavirajamarga of Shrivijaya informs us that Karnataka extended from Cauvery in the South to Godavari in the North.

### **Origin and Antiquity.**

Historians have given different theories regarding the origin of the term Karnataka. Some of them argue that Karnataka derived its name from the land,, others believe that the name of Kula or community was coined for the State and vice-versa. The word Karnataka was first used in the Sabha Parva and Bhishma Parva of Mahabharata. The Tamil work Silappadigaram mentions the people as Karunadar. Velvikudi copper plate refers to the term Karunadagan.

*Different words like Karnada, Kammittunadu, Karunadu found in Tamil classics have been differently interpreted by historians.*

*According to S. B. Joshi, ( Shambha) the sanskritised version Karnataka is derived from Kanna + Nadu = Kannadu. Kanna is the name of the tribe and 'Nadu' the land.*

*Dr. D.R. Bendre opines that there were two tribes namely 'Kannas' & 'Natar' together formed the word 'Kannatar. Its Sanskritised version is Karnataka.*

*Karnadu = Kari + Nadu is interpreted as land of Black soil. Karu+Nadu = Karunadu is interpreted as elevated or highland. Some other scholars believe that the term Karnataka is derived from - Kammittu Nadu that is the land of fragrance (Sandal wood).*

*The accepted view is that Karunadu is the name of the land and Karunadar are the people. But as of today the term Karnataka stands for the land, Kannadigas stand for the people and Kannada stands for the language, -Karnataka, Kannadiga and Kannada.*

The extent of Karnataka was subject to expansion and contraction depending upon the capability of its rulers. The geography of Karnataka includes the coastal region, the Western Ghats (Sahyadris), the Malanad and the Northern and Southern plains. These have played important role in shaping the history. The important dynasties like Kadambas, Gangas, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Hoysalas, Vijayanagara, Mysore Wodeyars, etc. have shaped the history of Karnataka in particular and the history of India in general. These dynasties have made rich contributions to the field of administration, art, architecture, education and religion.

Karnataka has also played important role during the national movement. There were anti-British armed rebellions in Karnataka. Kannadigas also supported Mahatma Gandhi and the national movement. The history and culture of Karnataka form the integral and homogeneous

part of Indian heritage. Kannadigas are proud that their language is recognized as one of the four classical languages of India.

### **Sources of Indian History.**

History is the record of past events and achievements of man through the ages. But these events or achievements cannot be replayed or reproduced. Historians try to reconstruct the past based on the available sources. Hence, "No Sources, No History". Discovery, collection and interpretation of sources are the greatest challenges to the historians. Without sources the historical events will become imaginary or legendary stories. We have a variety of sources for the study Indian and Karnataka histories. But it is also an accepted fact that Indians lacked historic sense. It is very difficult for historians to write Indian history without the perfect knowledge of ancient Indian languages like Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit and many other regional languages and scripts like Brahmi and Kharoshti. The deep knowledge of Indian tradition and culture is also essential.

History is classified into pre historic period and historic period based on the sources available to reconstruct it. The period where the written records are not available is known as pre-historic period and the period when we get written records is known as historic period.

The sources of history can be classified into two groups. 1) Archaeological sources and 2) Literary sources.

#### **1. Archaeological sources.**

Archaeological sources are the remains of past human life and activities. It includes the human relics and artifacts from the earliest stone tools to the manmade objects found in the excavation. They are the only sources when we do not have written records. Many other times they authenticate the information of written records. The important archeological sources are coins, seals, jewellery, tools, inscriptions, remains of buildings, pottery, household articles, terracotta figurines, fossils, weapons, paintings, etc. These provide us with valuable and useful information to reconstruct the history.

##### **a. Excavations:**

Excavation is scientific digging of earth for unearthing Sources.

The pre history of India is written with the help of excavations only. Excavations are the sole sources of Indus valley civilization. The excavation conducted at Chandragiri, Tirunelveli, Madhurai, Archemedu and other places give us information regarding stone age. Other excavations at Ankorvat (Cambodia), Borobudur (Jawa) Takshashila, Gaya, Pataliputra, Hampi, etc have provided an insight into the social, cultural and religious life of the people. The archaeological remains found during excavation are put to scientific tests by carbon 14 and potassium methods to ascertain the age of the remains.

#### **b. Monuments:**

They are the structures or sites of historical importance. Forts, palaces, caves, temples, basadis, statues, stupas etc, are the examples of monuments. The caves of Ajanta, Ellora, Khajuraho, the temples at Konark, Belur, Halebeedu, Hampi, the statues of Gomateshwara, Buddha, etc, help us to understand the cultural heritage of India.

#### **c. Coins:**

The study of coins is known as Numismatics. Coins help us to understand the period (age), dynasty, economic condition, religion, script and languages. They also give information regarding metallurgy, artistic abilities, titles, trade relation and extent of the empires etc. The coins of Guptas, Shatavahanas, Yadavas, Vijayanagara etc, are noteworthy. Availability of coins of one country in other country tells about the commercial relations between them. The coins in India are of gold, silver, copper, etc.

#### **d. Paintings:**

The paintings of various periods give us most vivid picture of cultural, social and religious aspects. For ex : The paintings in Ajanta depict the pictures of royal class, pageants, dance, dress, hair styles, celebrations, etc. At times they also depict the historical events. Ex: The paintings at Ajanta caves has a picture of Pulikeshi-II receiving the ambassador of Khusro-II.

### e. Inscriptions:

Inscriptions are the most valuable reliable, authentic and direct sources in writing history. They are generally contemporary and related to the events, so are more reliable. Inscriptions are engraved on stones, rocks, walls, terracotta seals and iron pillars. Some of them are on copper plates also. More than 75000 Inscriptions have been found in India. They are written in various languages like Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada etc. They contain details regarding events, sale deeds, decrees, donations, chronology, victories of kings, etc. The study of inscriptions is called '**Epigraphy**'.

The writings on the seals of Indus civilization are not yet deciphered to the acceptance of all. That is why Ashoka's inscriptions are regarded as the oldest ones. They are religious in nature. They provide valuable information regarding his administration, and the prevailing political conditions. Hatigumpha cave inscription of king Kharvela of Orissa gives details regarding the expeditions of Kharvela. The Allahabad pillar inscription composed by Harisena gives details regarding the achievements of Samudragupta. Ihole inscription composed by Ravikeerti and Halmidi inscription of Kakutsavarma have their own importance in the history of Karnataka.

## 2. Literary sources.

The written records or books of the past, usually written on palm leaves, barks of trees much later on paper are called as literary sources. Literary sources can be classified into two types,

a. Indigenous Literature and b. Foreign accounts.

### a. Indigenous Literature:

The literature written by native writers is known as Indigenous Literature. It includes both secular and religious literature. It is found in various Indian languages. The religious literature produced by Vedic Rishis, Buddhist and Jain monks are major sources of history. The Vedic or Brahmanical literature includes the Vedas, the Brahmanakas, the Aranyakas, the Puranas, the Epics, etc. They help us to understand the social, religious, spiritual and philosophical life of Aryans. Buddhist monks developed a

rich literature in Pali language. The Tripitakas provide information regarding Mahajanapadas, many cities and Mauryan kings. Jain monks have also produced rich literature in Prakrit and regional languages especially Kannada. Angas and Upaangas are the religious texts of Jainism. Jain scholars like Prabhunandi, Vidyanandi, Gunabhadra, Ajithasenacharya, Poojyapada, etc. have thrown light on social and political conditions in their writings.

Apart from vast religious literature, Indians have also produced secular literature in the form of biography, drama, works on history, polity, science, maths, ayurveda and yoga which focus on the various aspects of the then existing society. Buddhacharita of Ashwagosha, Harshacharita of Banabhatta, Prithvirajraso of Chandbardai, Vikramankadevacharita of Bilhana, Rajatarangini of Kalhana, Raghuvamsha and Malavikagnimitra of Kalidasa, Mudrarakshasa of Vishakdatta, Arthashastra of Kautilya, Mahabhashya of Panini, Astangayoga of Patanjali, etc. throw light on the history of their times. The works on science and maths like Suryasiddhanta and Romakasiddhanta by Aryabhata, Charaka Samhita by Charaka, Shusruta Samhita by Shushruta, etc. provide information to reconstruct the past.

### **b. Foreign accounts.**

The fertile land, wealth, intellectual and philosophical attainments of India had attracted many foreign traders, students, pilgrims, philosophers and invaders. Many of them left their records, impressions and opinions about India. Such accounts have merits as well as limitations. They are the primary sources by first hand informers and help to bridge the gap about important events. But it is very difficult for the travellers and scholars staying for a short time to understand the complexities of Indian culture and polity. Megasthenes, a Greek ambassador, in his book, 'Indica' has given valuable information regarding South and North India during Mauryan period. 'Geography', by Ptolemy, another Greek historian supplies information regarding commercial relations of ancient India. 'The Periplus of the Erithrean Sea', a work by an unknown Greek author mentions many coastal towns, rulers and products of India. 'Natural Historia' by Pliny, a Roman writer gives idea regarding Indo-Roman relations and political conditions of India.

Trio Pilgrims of China - Fahian, Huien Tsang and Itsing have provided most useful information. Fahian visited India in early 5<sup>th</sup> century C.E. and has given vivid picture of many cities and Ashoka's palace. He also gives information of Gupta administration. Huien tsang visited India in seventh century C.E. and stayed for about 18 years, and travelled extensively. He has left valuable information in his book 'Siyuki'. He visited the courts of Harshvardhana and Pulikeshi II. He has given a vivid picture of the education, religion, society, and administration. He has also mentioned the Narmada Battle and the defeat of Harsha. Itsing visited India during the last decade of seventh century C.E. He travelled extensively and gives information regarding various cities of India like Rajagraha, Kasi and Nalanda.

Muslim writers and historians have given valuable contributions. Important among them are Firdousi's. (Ibn Hassan) Shahanama and Babarnama by Babar, Jahangirnama by Jahangir, Akbarnama by Abdul Fazal, etc. The Arab travellers, Sulaiman, Alberuni, and Ibn Batuta, have left their records about Indian history. Many other travellers like Nikolo Conti of Italy, Abdul Razzak of Persia, Barbosa and Domingo Paes of Portugal and Niketin of Russia have given lot of information regarding Vijayanagara and Bahamani History.

### Activity

Collect puranic references regarding the origin of the different names of India.

### QUESTIONS

#### I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. From which language is the word 'India' derived?
2. Name the work that mentions the extent of ancient Karnataka.
3. What is Numismatics?
4. What is excavation?
5. Who wrote 'Buddacharita'?
6. Which is the famous work of Pliny?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. Name any two passes that connect India with the west.
2. What was the extent of India according to Vishnupurana?
3. Mention any two names of India.
4. Mention any two physical features of India.
5. Name any two mountains of India.
6. Mention any two dominant religions of Indian origin.
7. Mention any two World Heritage sites of India.
8. Name any two universities of ancient India.
9. What is the extent of Karnataka according to Kavirajamarga ?
10. Name any two important dynasties that ruled Karnataka.
11. Write any two physical features of Karnataka.
12. 'No sources No history'. Why?
13. What is the difference between Pre-Historic and Historic age?
14. Mention any two uses of coins in the construction of history?
15. Why are the Inscriptions the most reliable sources in the construction of history?
16. What are Archaeological sources?
17. Mention the two kinds of Literary sources.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each**

1. Explain briefly the impact of Geography on Indian history.
2. Explain the special features of Indian History.
3. 'Unity in Diversity is the unique feature of Indian history'. Explain.
4. Write a note on the contributions of foreign writers in reconstructing the history of India.
5. Write a note on the importance of Archaeological sources in reconstructing the History of India.

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## CHAPTER 2

### STONE AGE AND METAL AGE (PRE-HISTORIC PERIOD)

Human beings are living in India from time immemorial. We can study the history only on the basis of rude implements they used. This is known as pre history. India is one of the earliest homes of man. But historians have no unanimity of opinion regarding the exact place of origin of the first man in India. Some scholars believe that first man lived in Sivalik hills of Himalayas and others believe it to be in South India (Dandakaranya, the then parts of Karnataka).

The existence of various races Negros, Mongoloids, Dravidians, Alpines, etc. complicate the issue of the origin of man. Present population of India is the result of inter mixing of many races. But the most acceptable view is that Deccan was the first home of man. It is believed that man walked on this earth as early as 150,000 years ago.

The Pre historic period based on the stone implements and metals used is classified into six ages. 1) Paleolithic 2) Mesolithic 3) Neolithic 4) Copper 5) Bronze and 6) Iron ages. There is also difference of opinion among historians regarding the exact time or period of these ages.

#### 1. Paleolithic age.

The word Paleolithic is derived from Greek word '**Paleo**' (old), and '**lithic**' (stone). This is known as Old Stone Age. This period existed between 40,000 to 10,000 BCE. Man used rough and undressed stones fitted to stick or bone handles. They used very hard stone called **Quartzite**. So they were also known as 'Quartzitemen'. They had no idea of the use of fire, pottery and agriculture. They mostly lived on hunting. It is believed that they belonged to the Negro race with short stature, dark skin, wooly hairs and flat nose.

The important sites of Paleolithic man in India are the Sohan river basin in present Pakistan, Narmada, and Tungbhadra valleys, Bhopal and Chota Nagpur areas of Madhya Pradesh, Tirunalveli, in Tamil Nadu and Karnul in Andhra Pradesh and Belan caves of Uttar Pradesh, Lingasugur in Raichur and Ghataprabha river basin in Belgaum district of Karnataka.

## 2. Mesolithic age.

'**Meso**' in Greek means middle and '**lithic**' means stone. Mesolithic age means Middle stone age. This was the intervening period between Paleolithic and Neolithic ages. We are not certain about the duration and age of this period. But commonly accepted age was between 10000 to 8000 BCE. The tools of this period are small compared to that of the Paleolithic Age. They generally varied between half inch to one inch (compared to paleolithic age) The man prepared polished weapons with holes and shapes to the weapons. The Mesolithic man was a hunter, gatherer and fisherman. He also knew the use of fire. He learnt to manufacture pots, became herdsman and buried the dead ones. Important Mesolithic sites in India are found at Ajmer in Rajasthan, Sabarmati basin in Gujarat, Ahmadnagar in Maharashtra, Sangankallu in Bellary District and Brahmagiri in Chitradurga District of Karnataka.

## 3. The Neolithic age.

The word Neolithic is derived from Greek words **Neo** and **Lithic**, which means 'New, and 'Stone'. So Neolithic means new stone age. It is commonly believed that it existed between 8000 to 4000 B.C.E. The man of this age used stones along with quartzite. The weapons were chipped, ground, grooved and polished. They had different forms to serve different purposes.

The man during this period learnt cultivation and domesticated variety of animals like cow, sheep, goat, etc. They lived in caves and decorated them with paintings and carvings. The hunting and dancing scenes are commonly found. They decorated their pottery and built boats to sail into sea. Weaving was known to them. They used wool and cotton to manufacture cloth. Their food included fruits, vegetables, roots, animal flesh, fish, milk products, etc. Cooking was also known to them. They also used ornaments like beads, rings, bangles, armlets,

etc.

The lifestyle of this Neolithic man differed in different parts of the country based on the geographical condition. They worshipped ancestors and spirits, cremated the dead ones and preserved the ashes. The practice of human sacrifice was in vogue. Many human skulls are found during excavation.

The Neolithic sites are Maski, Raichur Doab, Cauvery basin, Bellary in Karnataka, Salem and Tiruanalveli in Tamilnadu, Hyderabad and Karnul in Andhra Pradesh, Kathewar in Gujarat, Sindh and Baluchistan in Pakistan , etc.

## **Metal Age.**

The transition from Stone Age to Metal Age was a gradual process. Metallic implements and stone implements were used side by side. But there was no uniformity regarding the use of metals in different parts of India. In North India new stone age was succeeded by copper age, whereas in South India new stone age was replaced by Iron age. The metal age is classified as Copper age, Bronze age and Iron age.

## **Copper Age.**

Gold was the earliest metal to be used. As it was scarce, soft and shiny, it was only used for ornaments. But the discovery of copper brought a revolutionary change in human civilization and the dawn of a new age. Copper was used to prepare implements, harpoons, swords, axes, spear heads, etc. The implements were used for agriculture, fishing, fighting and hunting. Copper age co-relates with Harappan civilization.

## **Iron Age.**

By this time hunting and pastoral occupations were sidelined by agriculture. Man started the settled life. No doubt some bronze implements and articles are discovered in India, but there is no age as Bronze Age in Indian History. With the copper and Iron age we enter the limits of historical period in India. Iron was extensively used in South India.

**Activity**

Collect information regarding the various sites of Stone Age in Karnataka.

**QUESTIONS****I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.**

1. Name the stone used by Paleolithic man.
2. Which was the first metal used by man in North India.
3. Which was the first metal used by man in South India?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. What is the meaning of the term 'Paleolithic'?
2. Mention any two sites of the Paleolithic age.
3. Mention any two sites of the Mesolithic age.
4. What is the meaning of the word 'Neolithic' ?
5. Name any two sites of the Neolithic age.

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## CHAPTER-3

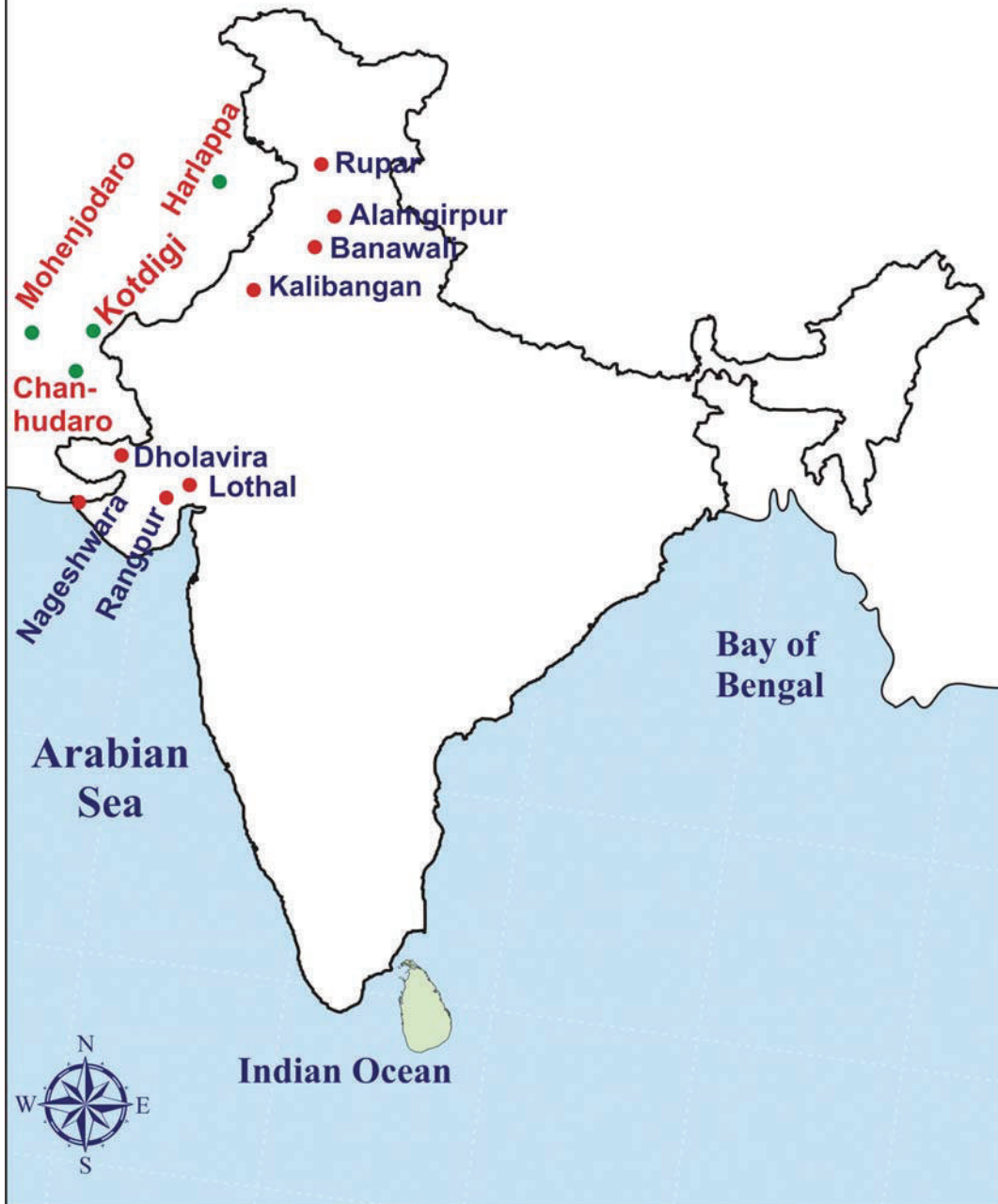
### INDUS CIVILIZATION

The Indus civilization is one of the ancient civilizations of the world. It was a contemporary civilization of Egypt, Mesopotamia and China. In 1856, while laying the railway lines (tracks) in Sindh, some seals and burnt bricks were discovered. The Department of Archaeological Survey of India was established in 1861. Again in 1862, General Cunningham discovered a few more seals. In 1920's Sir John Marshall, the then Director General of Archaeological Department and his colleagues discovered a new civilization. That is the Indus civilization. In 1921 Dr R.B. Dayaram Sahani discovered Harappan site in the Montgomery district of West Punjab which is now in Pakistan. This is situated on the banks of the river Ravi. In 1922 Dr. R.D Banerjee took up excavation in the Larkhan district of Sindh and discovered Mohenjodaro. Mohenjodaro means the 'Mound of the dead' in Sindhi language. Numerous excavations have taken place in the last century at various sites uncovering a lot of information about Indus civilization. With the partition of the subcontinent a number of major sites are now in Pakistan.

#### Important sites belonging to Indus period

Sl.no.	Place of Discovery	Country/state	Name of Archaeologists
1.	Rupar	Punjab	Y.D.Sharma
2.	Lothal	Cambay-Gujarath	Dr.S.R.Rao
3.	Kalibangan	Rajasthan	B.K.Thappar
4.	Dholvira	Kuch -Gujarath	Dr R.S.Bisht
5.	Chanhudaro	Sindh -Pakistan	N.G. Muzumdar
6.	Alamgirpur	Uttar Pradesh	Y.D.Sharma
7.	Surkotada	Gujarath	J.P. Joshi
8.	Rangpur	Gujarath	N.G.Muzumdar
9.	Kotdiji	Pakistan	F.A. Khan
10.	Banawali	Haryana	R.N. Bisht

## SITES OF INDUS CIVILIZATION



Scholars like Sir John Marshall and Dr Mackey are of the opinion that Indus civilization belongs to 3000 BCE, on the basis of similarity between strata of the Indus civilization and Sumerian seals. The extent of the Indus valley civilization covers from Punjab in the West (present Pakistan) to Uttar Pradesh in the East and from Jammu in the North to river Narmada in the South. Historians have expressed different views regarding the race of the people of this civilization. Based on the skeletons and skulls found, it is believed that they belonged to Proto-Australoide, Mediterranean, Mongolian and Alpines.

## **Salient features:**

### **Town Planning.**

Town planning is the unique feature of Indus civilization. Their town planning proves that they lived a highly civilized and developed life. Indus people were the first to build planned cities with scientific drainage system. The Indus cities were built on an uniform plan. Town planning was amazing in nature. A few cities have citadels to the West built on a higher platform and to the east of which is the hub of residential area. Both of them are surrounded by a massive brick wall. The cities without citadel are found on high mounds.

### **Streets.**

The streets were straight and cut each other at right angles. They were 13 to 34 feet wide and were well lined. The streets and roads divided the city into rectangular blocks. Archaeologists have discovered the lamp posts at intervals. This suggests the existence of street lights. Dustbins were also provided on the streets. These prove the presence of good municipal administration.

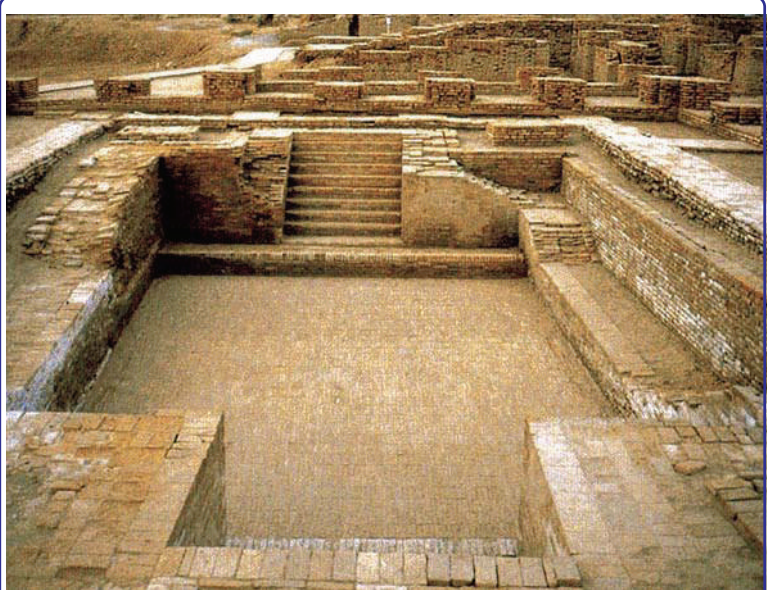
### **Drainage system.**

One of the most remarkable features of this civilization is that the city was provided with an excellent closed drainage system. Each house had its own drainage and soak pit which was connected to the public drainage. Brick laid channels flowed through every street. They were covered and had manholes at intervals for cleaning and clearing purposes. Large brick culverts with corbelled roofs were constructed

on the outskirts of the city to carry excess water. Thus Indus people had a perfect underground drainage system. No other contemporary civilization gave so much attention to cleanliness.

### **The Great Bath.**

The most striking feature in Mohenjodaro is the Great Bath. It consists of a large quadrangle. In the centre is a great swimming pool with the remains of galleries and rooms on all four sides. There were arrangements for hot water bath in some rooms. In the centre is a great swimming pool of 39ft long, 23ft wide and 8ft deep. It has a flight of steps at either end and is fed by a well,



**Great Bath**

situated in one of the adjoining rooms. The water was discharged by a huge drain with corbelled roof more than 6ft in depth. The Great bath had 8ft thick outer walls. This solid construction has successfully withstood the natural ravages for 5000 years.

### **Granaries:**

The largest building in Mohenjodaro is a granary which is 45.71mtrs long and 15.23 mtrs wide. In Harappa there are a series of brick platforms which formed the base for two rows of 6 granaries each. In the Southern part of Kalibangan brick platforms have also been found. These granaries safely stored the grains, which were probably collected as revenue or store houses to be used in emergencies.

### **Buildings:**

People of Indus built houses and other buildings by the side of

roads. They built terraced houses of burnt bricks. Every house had two or more rooms. There were also more than one storied houses. The houses were designed around an inner court yard and contained pillared halls, bath rooms, paved floors, kitchen, well, etc. Besides residential quarters, elaborate structures have also been found. One of these buildings has got the biggest hall measuring 80ft long and 80ft wide. It might have been a palace, or temple or hall for holding meetings. The workmen quarters are also found. There was an excellent system of water supply. There were public wells by the side of streets. Every big house had its own well. They also built a dockyard at Lothal.

### **Political Condition:**

There are no written records. So it is very difficult to assert the kind of administration that existed during this period. Historians have guessed the existence of a strong administration with uniform and strict laws based on the accurate and systematic town planning. There was uniformity in town planning, drainage, water supply, and maintenance of streets. Dr. S.R Rao is claimed to have deciphered the writing on some seals and he opines that these ancient cities had administrators of various grades. It proves the existence of well established administration.

### **Social Condition.**

With the help of the excavations some historians have come to the conclusion that there was a fourfold division of the society based on occupations. They were probably, the Learned class, Warriors, Traders and Workers. The learned class included priests, astrologers and physicians.

Wheat was their principal food. Barley, rice, fruits, vegetables, dates, milk, etc. were used. Fish, beef, pork, poultry, flesh of tortoise, etc. were also used.

They used cotton and wollen clothes. Their dress was simple. Both men and women wore upper garment (shawl) and lower garment (dhoti). The Indus women were fond of ornaments. Ornaments were worn by both women and men. Girdles, nose studs, earrings and anklets were worn only by women. There was variety in the shape and the design

of the ornaments. Ornaments were made of gold, silver and precious stones. Women knew variety of hair styles and they used ivory combs and bronze mirror. Toilet jars made of ivory, metal, pottery and stones have been discovered at Harappa. Face paints, lipsticks and collyrium were also used.

The people had great love for indoor and outdoor games. Dice, hunting, bull fighting, cock fighting, fishing, clay modelling and chess were means of amusements. They knew the art of dancing and music.

A rich variety of earthen vessels made of potter's wheel have been discovered and they were either glazed or painted. Vessels of copper, bronze, silver and porcelain were used. Children's toys such as clay models of birds, animals, men, women, wheeled carts and chair were common. We also come across many weapons like the axes, spears, daggers, maces, slings, bow and arrows. They were made of copper and bronze.

They disposed their dead by cremation or burial. Many urns containing human bones and ashes have been found and a large burial ground has been unearthed at Harappa.

### **Economic Condition.**

Agriculture was the main occupation followed by cattle rearing and dairy farming. They knew the art of irrigation. They grew wheat, barley, peas, sesame and cotton abundantly. They reared fine breed of cattle both for milk and meat purpose. They domesticated animals like the buffalo, bull, sheep, goat, dog, pig, elephant, camel and fowl.

During Indus civilization a number of handicrafts like spinning, weaving, dyeing, pottery, carpentry, metal industry, etc. existed.

Indus people knew the use of weights and measures. A shell scale at Mohenjodaro and a bronze scale at Harappa have been discovered. They also had knowledge of decimal system. Indus people had developed internal and external trade. Harappa, Lothal, Kalibangan, Rupar, Surkotada and Chanhudaro were the main centers of trade. They carried on their trading activity through barter system. Indus seals, art motifs and their articles have been discovered in West Asia, Egypt and Mesopotamia. A dockyard at Lothal in Gujarat shows that Indus people

carried on external trade through ships. Internally they had trade links with South India, Rajasthan, and Gujarat etc. They exported ivory, gold, beads, timber and other goods and imported precious stones, copper and tin. Bullock carts, donkeys, Elephants and Camels were used for road transportation.

### Religious Condition:

Seals, terracotta figurines and images of stones narrate the religious life of Indus people. Mother Goddess was their chief deity. They worshipped Shiva in the form of Pashupati and Linga. They also worshipped trees, animals, birds, serpents and feared demons.

### Art and Sculpture:

Indus people had cultivated aesthetic tastes. The seals, figurines, amulets, pottery and the bronze idol of a dancing girl, a statue of bearded man, figures of Pashupati, attractive designs on pottery, terracotta toys and jewellery are examples of their artistic skill.



*Dancing girl*

*Bearded Man*

### Seals and Scripts:

More than 3000 seals made of terracotta, ivory, stone or steatite are found. Most of them are square or rectangular in shape and small in size. On most of them, there are finely engraved figures of various animals like bull, unicorn, elephant, antelope, human and other pictographic writing. All of them contain pictorial writing which has not been deciphered to the acceptance of all. But it seems that the direction of the writing was right to left. In some cases it was from right to left in the first line and left to right in the second line.

### The End of the Indus Civilization:

Historians have attributed so many reasons for the decline and end of this civilization. The rivers must have changed their course and ruined the cities. The drifting of the river away from the cities might have rendered

the place unfertile. Continuous floods might have led to the erosion of the soil and destruction of life. Over exploitation of the land might have turned it barren. Spread of epidemics must have wiped-out the population. The decreased rainfall must have turned the land into desert. The wealth of the Indus might have attracted barbaric invaders putting the inhabitants to their swords.

Recent researches have shown that the decline of the Indus civilization was not sudden but gradual, may be on account of large scale deforestation leading to frequent floods and consequent ecological imbalance. Aryan invasion also seems to be a plausible reason.

### Activity

Compare Indus civilization with other civilizations of the world.

### QUESTIONS

#### I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. In which year was the Department of Archaeological Survey of India established ?
2. What does the word Mohenjodaro mean?
3. Where is the Greatbath of Indus Valley Civilization located?
4. Where was the dockyard of Indus Valley Civilization discovered?
5. Mention the important diety of Indus people.

#### II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.

1. Who discovered Harappa and Mohejodaro?
2. Name any two cities discovered in Indus Civiliziation.
3. Mention the methods of disposal of the dead by Indus people.
4. Mention any two imports of Indus people.
5. Mention any two exports of Indus people.
6. Mention any two causes which brought an end to Indus Civilization.

#### III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.

1. Explain the town planning of Indus Civilization.
2. State the social and economic conditions of Indus people.

#### IV. Answer the following in 30 to 40 sentences.

1. Enumerate briefly the salient features of Indus Civilization.

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# CHAPTER-4

## ANCIENT PERIOD

### Chapter-4.1

## VEDIC CULTURE

Aryans evolved a distinct culture that developed after the Indus civilization in the Indian subcontinent. It is believed that they came to India from the North West direction in around 2000 BCE. The early Aryans have not left behind any archaeological sources, but they have given very rich Vedic literature, which throws light on their culture. Vedas are the greatest contributions of the Aryans. Hence this culture is called the Vedic Culture.

### Origin.

There is no unanimous opinion regarding the original home of the Aryans. It is believed that the Aryans were pastoral nomads, who originally inhabited the Caspian Sea region of Central Asia. They migrated to the Indian sub continent in search of pastures. Here they met strong opposition from the natives, whom they called Dasyus. However they overcame the resistance and settled on the banks of the river Sindhu (Sapta Sindhu Region). They occupied Aryavarta (the land of Aryans), the greater part of Northern India and the Dravidians who were vanquished migrated to the South. .

**Sapta-Sindhu - Region of seven rivers** 1. Jhelum 2. Chenab 3. Bias 4. Ravi 5. Sutlej 6. Saraswati 7. Drishadvati

### Opinions of Scholars about Aryan Origin

#### Historians

#### Place of origin

- |                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Swami Dayananda Saraswati | – Tibet.         |
| 2. Bal Gangadhar Tilak       | – Arctic Region. |
| 3. Max muller                | – Central Asia.  |

- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4. Prof. Macdonell         | – South East Asia.      |
| 5. Dr.A.C.Das              | – Punjab.               |
| 6. Raj bali Pandey         | – Central India.        |
| 7. Pandit Laxmidharshastri | – Himalayan foot hills. |
| 8. L.D. Kala               | – Kashmir               |

Aryan means noble or master or a person dependent on Agriculture. Aryans were quite different from Dravidians. They were fair in complexion and had a well built body. Vedas, the sacred books of Aryans are the main sources of study for the Vedic Culture. 'Veda' is derived from the Sanskrit word 'Vid', which means knowledge. They composed four Vedas namely, Rigveda, Yajurveda, Samaveda and Atharvanaveda. Rigveda was the first to be composed. This period is called Early Vedic period or the Rig Vedic period. The remaining three Vedas namely Yajurveda, Samaveda and Atharvanaveda were composed later on, which is called Later Vedic period.

## Salient Features

### Political condition.

The Aryan tribes gradually settled in India. The tribes were called 'Janas'. The head of the tribe was called 'Rajan'. The tribes quarelled with each other for cattle and territories. Rajan was assisted by the Purohita, Sangrahatri, Senapati, Vispathis and Gramanis in the administration. Grama was the smallest unit of administration. Gramani was the head of the village and Vispathi was in charge of a group of villages. The primary duty of the king was the protection of his tribe and he received gifts from the people for this. Sabha (group of Elders) and Samithi (group of Experts) also assisted the king in the administration.

During the later Vedic period Janas became powerful and turned into kingdoms. The kingdoms were divided into provinces and sub divided into Gopas, Vishayas and Gramas. Kingship became hereditary. The important kingdoms were Kuru, Panchala, Kashi, Videha, Vidharbha, etc. Imperialism came into existence resulting in hierarchy of kings viz Raja, Maharaja, Rajadhiraja, Ektrat, Virat, Samrat, Chakravarthi, etc. The Kings began to perform yagas like Rajasuya, Ashwamedha and

Vajapeya to establish political supremacy. The King had grown in power and was to perform many administrative duties including the protection of his subjects. The kings were assisted by council of ministers and a number of officers. The Sabha and Samithi continued to exist.

The military was well organized and consisted of infantry, elephant force and cavalry. Navy was in little use. Warfare became complicated in the later Vedic period. The simple weapons of the Early Vedic Age were replaced in the Later Vedic Age by improved war weapons like bows and arrows, swords, spears, maces, axes, etc. Helmets and armours were used for protection. Winning the war became important and they followed the path of deceit for this purpose.

### **Social Condition**

Joint family system was in existence. Aryan society was patriarchal. The eldest male member was the head of the family and was called 'Kulapathi' or 'Grihapathi'. Monogamy was in vogue. Polygamy was confined to royal families. Widow Remarriage was in existence. The status of women was high and they had equal rights with men. Women scholars like Vishwavara, Ghosha, Apala, etc. composed hymns. The social divisions, Chaturvarnas were based on professions. They were Brahamana, Kshatriya, Vaishya and Shudra. The people could change professions and hence change the Varnas. Thus there was mobility among the Varnas.

During Later Vedic period polygamy and polyandry came into existence. The position of women deteriorated. Women continued to participate in religious rites. Only the women of higher class received higher education. But the woman was now under the protection of father or husband or a son. Varnas turned into many Castes. Caste system became hereditary. Brahmanas and Kshatriyas enjoyed a high status compared to the Vaishyas and Shudras. Life of an individual was divided into four stages called Ashramas. They were Brahmacharya (Student Life), Grihastha (married life), Vanaprastha (retirement to forest for meditation) and Sanyasa (ascetism).

Wheat, rice, barley, vegetables, fruits, milk and milk products formed the diet of the people. Fish and meat were also used. Soma and Sura were intoxicating drinks used during religious and festive occasions.

Aryans wore clothes made of cotton and wool. Their dress consisted of Vastra, Adivastra, and Nivi. Both women and men wore ornaments made of gold, silver and flowers. The ornaments used were necklaces, earrings, finger rings, bracelets, anklets, bangles, armlets, etc. Women plaited their hair in different styles.

Gambling, chariot racing, horse racing, music, dancing, etc. were different forms of amusements. Nagari, Dundhubhi, Veena and flute were the important musical instruments of that time.

### **Economic Condition**

In the Rigvedic age Aryans lived in the villages. Agriculture was the chief occupation. Cattle rearing was another important occupation. The cultivated land was called 'Kshetra'. Simple professions like carpentry, pottery, weaving, etc. existed. Trade was carried on to a limited extent. Cattle was considered as wealth. Barter system was in vogue.

In the later Vedic Age, many villages turned into cities. viz Hastinapura, Indraprastha, Kousambi, etc. Agriculture continued to be the chief occupation. Cattle rearing, trade and other professions also continued to exist. Trade and Commerce gained importance. We come across both inland and maritime trade. The main articles of trade were cotton, silk, etc. Barter system continued to exist and Nishka (a piece of gold) was also used.

### **Religious Condition**

Vedic religion is also known as Sanatana Dharama, Hinduism and Brahmanical religion. It is one of the oldest religions of the world which is still practiced. The Early Vedic Aryans were worshippers of nature. They had belief in several Gods. They worshipped Gods like Indra, Varuna, Agni, Vayu, Surya, Pruthvi, Soma, etc. Hence they were polytheists. There was no idol worship. The method of worship was simple. They praised the Gods by composing hymns. Simple rituals and performance of Yajnas and Yagas (sacrifices) were in vogue.

In the Later Vedic period the practice of religion became complex and rigid. The number of Gods increased many fold and Gods were attributed with different shapes and qualities. Idol worship came into existence. Gods were graded. New Deities like Brahma, Vishnu, Maheswara, Ganesha, Kartikeya, Parvati, Laxmi, Kali, Durga, etc. came

into existence. Cow was considered as sacred and its slaughter was prohibited. The procedure of worship also became complex with the use of mantras and elaborate rituals. The performance of Yagas and Yajnas also became elaborate. Hence the practice of Vedic religion became costly. Practices like Evil worship, Black magic and Witch craft came into existence.

Varnas, Ashramas and Purusharthas (Dharma, Artha, Kama, and Moksha) are an integral part of Vedic religion. The entire life of a Hindu is guided by samskaras. Vedic religion believes in the cycle of birth-death-rebirth. It also believes in the concept of the transmigration of the soul. The objective of the soul is to reach God which is called 'Moksha' (Salvation). Many paths like Bhakti, Jnana, Karma and Yoga are prescribed to attain salvation. The sacred books of Hindus are many in number. Some of the important are Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, Smrithis, etc. The epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata are given much importance.

### **Education and Science**

Education was imparted in Gurukulas, Pathashalas, Agraharas and Ghatikas. Temples were also places of education. Higher education was imparted in Universities like Kanchi and Thakshashila. Education commenced with a ceremony called Upanayanam. The position of Guru was high. Both men and women received education. Gargi, Maitreyi, Shashwati, Lopamudra, etc. were important women scholars. Vedas, Puranas, Philosophy, Mathematics, Astronomy, Astrology, Medicine, Logic, etc. were important subjects taught. Sanskrit was the medium of instruction. Aryans achieved great progress in Mathematics, Geometry, Medicine and Metallurgy. Calculations like the distance between the sun and moon, moon and earth and sun and earth were known to them. They also had knowledge of the occurrence of eclipses, comets, etc. They had also achieved great progress in medicine. The cure of diseases was done by using herbs, roots, leaves, oils, salts and mud. They followed the lunar calendar.

### **Activity**

Analyze the differences between Vedic Culture and Indus Civilization

**QUESTIONS****I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.**

1. What do you mean by the term Arya?
2. From which word is the term Veda derived?
3. What is meant by Veda?
4. Name the first Veda.
5. Who was the head of the family during Vedic period?
6. What was the main occupation of the Aryans?
7. What was 'Kshetra'?
8. What was considered as wealth by the Aryans?
9. What was the ceremony performed to send the child to school?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. Name any two Vedas.
2. Which two political institutions assisted the king in the administration during the Vedic period?
3. Name any two Varnas.
4. Name any two Ashramas of Aryans.
5. Mention any two amusements of Vedic people.
6. Name any two women scholars of Vedic period.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.**

1. Give an account of the political condition of Aryans.
2. Explain the social condition of Aryans.
3. Enumerate the Religious condition of Aryans.
4. Write a short note on education and science during Vedic period.

## CHAPTER 4.2

### THE RISE OF NEW RELIGIONS

India in sixth century BCE witnessed a protest against the exploitation in religion and social system. There was a movement against caste system, injustice and rigid practices. The need of the time was simple religion and spiritual order, which were fulfilled to a great extent by Mahavira and Buddha.

Factors responsible for the rise of new religions.

- a) **Complications in Vedic religion:** In the beginning, Vedic religion was very simple without any complexities. Later, due to the influence of priests, a number of rigidities crept into this religion. People got dissatisfied and they wanted a change which they found in new religions.
- b) **Supremacy of the priestly class:** Brahamanas established their supremacy over other castes. It became impossible for the people to perform yajnas without priests. The Brahamanas enjoyed a number of special privileges and regarded themselves as superior to all.
- c) **Animal Sacrifices:** Animal sacrifices formed a part of rituals, which were very costly to practice. So the people lost faith in the existing religion. Rites and rituals of the Rigvedic period became complex in the later vedic period. For worldly attainments like getting children, victory in the war, cure from diseases and also for getting salvation, yagas and rituals were recommended . Rationalists regarded them as waste.
- d) **Chanting of Mantras** (Sanskrit Shlokas): Vedic literature was in Sanskrit, which was mastered by the priestly class. It was not possible for the common people to understand them. In the absence of clear understanding, the people lost faith in chanting of mantras.
- e) **Caste System:** Social system was rigid. There was discrimination among the different castes. Brahmanas enjoyed high status. The people became discontented due to inequality in the society. Shudras had to suffer untold miseries.

- f) **Birth of Great Personalities:** When the people were unhappy and discontented, there arose two great personalities, namely Mahavira and Gautama Buddha. They preached simple principles of life in the language of the common people. The simple path to salvation preached by the new religions attracted the common people towards the new faith.

## JAINISM.

Jainism is one of the oldest religions in India. The Jains believe that there were 24 thirthankaras and Rishabhanatha was the first Thirthankara who founded Jainism. Parshvanatha was the 23rd and Mahavira was the 24<sup>th</sup> of the Thirthankaras. Swastik is the holy symbol of Jainism.

Parsvanatha attained supreme knowledge at the age of 30. He preached four great principles (teachings)

1. Ahimsa – non-violence
  2. Satya – truth
  3. Astheya – not to steal
  4. Aparigraha – non possession of property more than required
- These teachings formed the fundamental doctrines of Jainism.



## Vardhamana Mahaveera (599 – 527 BCE)

### Early Life

Vardhamana was born in 599 BCE at Kundagrama near Vaishali. His parents were King Siddhartha and Queen Trishaladevi. Siddhartha was the head of a Kshatriya clan. Vardhamana married Princess Yashodha at the age of 18. He had a daughter by name Anojja or Priyadarshini. Due to the sudden death of his parents, Vardhamana renounced worldly comforts including clothes. He became an ascetic and went in search of truth of life. For 13 years Vardhamana lived the life of self mortification and deep meditation. On the tenth day of Vaishaka, Vardhamana attained enlightenment at Jrimbhikagrama in Bihar. He attained the highest spiritual knowledge called 'Kaivalya' and became Kevalin (omniscient) or a Jina (the conqueror who had subdued his passions). There after,

Vardhamana came to be known as 'Mahavira'. For the next 30 years he travelled preaching the principles of Jainism in Kosala, Magadha, Videha and Anga. He attained Nirvana at Pava near Rajagruha in South Bihar at the age of 72 in 527 BCE.

Mahavira was the contemporary of Gautama Buddha. But, they never met each other. He established a religious order, which was open to both men and women. He accepted the teachings of Parshvanatha as the basis of Jainism.

### Teachings of Mahavira.

Mahavira preached five vows (Panchasheela) and three Jewels for the attainment of salvation

#### Five Great vows

1. Sathya – Truth
2. Ahimsa – Non-violence
3. Astheya – Non-stealing
4. Aparigraha – Non possession of property more than required
5. Brahmacharya – Chastity

#### Three Jewels or Triratnas.

1. Right knowledge
2. Right Faith
3. Right conduct

Mahavira did not believe in the existence of God but believed in the existence of Soul. He condemned the caste system and sacrificial rituals. He laid stress on non-violence and believed that even animals, plants, stones, mud, water, fire, etc too have life and hence no injury is to be inflicted on any life forms. He advocated severe ascetism and extreme penance for the attainment of Salvation (Nirvana). He had eleven disciples or apostles known as Ganadharas.

### Spread of Jainism.

In the beginning, Jainism was confined to the kingdoms of Kosala, Magadha, Videha and Anga. The patronage of Kings Ajathashatru, Bimbisara and Chandragupta Maurya led to the spread of Jainism all over India. During the last years of Chandragupta Maurya a famine broke out in North India. Chandragupta along with Bhadrabahu migrated

to Shravanabelagola. He settled at Chandragiri hills and died by observing Sallekana. The Kadambas, the Gangas, the Chalukyas and the Rastrakutas patronized Jainism. Hence, Jainism spread to other parts of India like Karnataka, Gujarat and Rajasthan also.

### **Jaina Councils.**

Two Jaina Councils were organized

1. The First Council was held at Pataliputra in 300 BCE. It aimed at collecting and reviving the knowledge of sacred Jaina texts.
2. The Second Council was held at Vallabhi in Gujarat in about 512 CE. Here sacred texts were collected and written systematically.

### **Sects of Jainism.**

Differences of opinion among the followers of Jainism led to the split of the religion into two sects .

1. The Shwetambaras- Followers of Parshvanatha, who wear white clothes.
2. The Digambaras – Followers of Mahavira, who do not wear any clothes.

### **Jaina Literature.**

Agama Siddhanta is the holy text of Jains. It contains 45 to 50 volumes. The 'Purvas' containing the original doctrines of Mahavira are incorporated in 14 texts. Both the Shwetambaras and the Digambaras agree in calling 12 'Angas' as the first and foremost religious work. Religious as well as secular works were written by Jaina Scholars. Kannada literature was also enriched by them.

### **Contributions of Jainism to art and architecture.**

Jainism helped the growth of art and architecture. Jains built caves for the residence of their monks (Bhikshu grihas). Some of their important contributions are;

1. Tiger cave at Udayagiri
2. Indra Sabha cave at Ellora
3. Hathigumpa cave in Orissa etc.

The world famous statue of Gommateshwara at Sharavanabelagola and thousand pillared Basadi at Mudabidre are noteworthy Jaina monuments in Karnataka.

## BUDDHISM

### GAUTAMA BUDDHA - (563 to 483 BCE)

Gautama Buddha was the founder of Buddhism. He was born at Lumbini Garden (now in Nepal) in 563 BCE. His early name was Siddhartha. His parents were King Shuddhodhana and Queen Mayadevi. Shuddhodhana was the chief of Shakya clan of Kapilvastu. Mayadevi died when Siddhartha was a child of seven days. So he was brought up by his aunt Mahaprajapati Gautami. Siddhartha was brought up in great luxury. He was married to Princess Yashodhara at the age of 16. A son was born to them, who was named Rahula. According to a Jataka story, one evening Siddhartha wandered out of the palace and he saw an old man, a sickman, a funeral procession and a sage. Siddhartha saw only sorrows and sufferings in the first three scenes and found happiness in the fourth i.e., a sage who had renounced the worldly life. These four sights profoundly affected the life of young Siddhartha. So he decided to renounce the worldly life. He renounced his wife, child, parents and the kingdom to find out the root cause for all the sorrows. This event is known as **'The Great Renunciation'**.

Siddhartha spent the life of a wandering ascetic. He kept himself away from sensual desires and realized that, mere penance will not bring enlightenment. He attained enlightenment under a pipal tree at Gaya at the age of 35. He then onwards came to be known as 'Buddha' meaning -the enlightened one. He was also called, 'Thathagatha, meaning- one who has realized the truth. The religion he founded, came to be called Buddhism.

Buddha dedicated the rest of his life for the good of the people. He proceeded to the Deer park near Saranath in the neighbourhood of Benaras and delivered his first sermon. This was called the **'Dharma Chakra Pravartana'** or Turning of the wheel of Dharma. **'Dharma Chakra'** is the symbol of Buddhism. For forty five years Gautama Buddha roamed around teaching his principles. His personality and simplicity attracted the



Dharmachakra

people towards Buddhism. Buddha attained Parinirvana at Kushinagara in U.P. at the age of eighty. Edwin Arnold calls him 'The light of Asia'. It is interesting to note that Buddha's birth, enlightenment and death were all on the full moon day (Poornima). His birthday is famous as 'Buddha Poornima'.

## Teachings of Buddha.

Buddha preached his followers four basic principles such as satya (truthfulness) Ahimsa (Non-Violence), Astheya (Non-stealing) and Brahmacharya (chastity). He also preached four Noble Truths (Arya satyas). They are, 1) Worldly Life is full of sorrow. 2) Desire is the root cause for sorrow, 3) When desire ceases, rebirth ceases. 4) Desire can be overcome by following 'Asthangamarga'.

Asthangamarga consists of:

- |                     |                      |                     |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1) Right faith      | 2) Right thought     | 3) Right speech     |
| 4) Right conduct    | 5) Right effort      | 6) Right meditation |
| 7) Right livelihood | 8) Right mindfulness |                     |

Buddha gave importance to conduct and not to rituals and sacrifices. He opposed caste system and advocated equality. He gave importance to Ahimsa. He didn't refer to God. Buddha admitted men and women of all castes into the Sangha.

## Spread of Buddhism

Buddhism spread far and wide in India. It crossed the boundaries of India and spread to China, Tibet, Myanmar, Ceylon, Central Asia and South East Asia.

### Causes for the spread.

- 1. Simple Teachings:** The teachings of Buddha were simple and easy to follow. So it was accepted by the masses.
- 2. Vernacular language:** Buddha preached in Pali and Prakrit, the language of the common people which was easily understood by all and many people accepted Buddhism.
- 3. The principle of Equality:** Buddha opposed caste system and preached social and gender equality.
- 4. Personality of Buddha:** Lord Buddha was a man of dynamic personality. His effective way of preaching through parables and

stories was unique. Love, sympathy and compassion made the religion popular.

- 5. Role of Buddhist Sanghas:** The Buddhist monks and nuns undertook long and arduous journeys to far away countries and rendered yeoman service in spreading the message of Buddha. Sanghas became the preaching centres of Buddhism.
- 6. Royal Patronage:** Great Emperors like Ashoka, Kanishka and Harshavardhana patronized Buddhism and popularized the teachings of Buddha.

### **Buddhist Councils:**

1. The First Buddhist Council was held in about 483 BCE at Rajagruha. It compiled the sayings of Buddha.
2. The Second Buddhist Council was held at Vaishali in 383 BCE. It tried to remove the differences between Buddhist monks.
3. The Third Buddhist Council was held at Pataliputra in 250 BCE.
4. The Fourth Buddhist Council was held at Kundalavana (Kashmir-Shrinagar) in 102 CE. It tried to settle the differences among the monks. But the religion itself came to be divided into two sects namely Hinayana and Mahayana.

**Literature:** The teachings of Buddha are collected in Tripitakas (three baskets). They are – 1. Vinaya Pitaka 2. Sutta Pitaka 3. Abhidamma Pitaka. These are the most important sacred books of Buddhism.

### **Contributions.**

Buddhism also contributed to the development of art and architecture. Buddha's disciples built Stupas, Viharas and Chaityalayas at various places. The statues of Buddha at Amaravati, Nagarjunkonda and Ajanta are famous. The Stupas at Sanchi, Amaravathi, Nagarjunakonda etc., are famous. Viharas and Chaityalayas can be seen at Kanheri, Karle and Nasik. Gandhara art also developed.

#### **Activity**

Compare the sects of Buddhism and Jainism.

**QUESTIONS****I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.**

1. Who was the founder of Jainism?
2. Who was the 23<sup>rd</sup> Tirthankara ?
3. Where was Vardhamana born?
4. Where did Vardhamana attain enlightenment?
5. Where did Mahavira attain Nirvana?
6. Who founded Buddhism?
7. Where was Buddha born?
8. What was the original name of Buddha?
9. What is the meaning of the term 'Buddha'?
10. In which place did Siddhartha attain enlightenment?
11. Where did Buddha deliver his first sermon?
12. Where did Buddha attain Nirvana?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. Who were the parents of Vardhamana?
2. Mention any two among the Trirathnas of Vardhamana.
3. Where were Jain councils held?
4. Which are the sects of Jainism?
5. Who were the parents of Buddha?
6. Mention any two of the Noble Truths preached by Buddha?
7. Name any two kings who patronized Buddhism?
8. Mention any two of the Tripitakas.
9. Name the sects of Buddhism.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.**

1. What were the factors responsible for the rise of new religions?
2. Discuss the life and teachings of Mahaveera..

**IV. Answer the following in 30 to 40 sentences.**

1. Sketch the life and teachings of Buddha.

\* \* \* \* \*



## MAURYAS [324 180 BCE]

The Mauryan empire was the first great empire of India. Under their regime a number of small kingdoms were united and brought under a single rule. India achieved political unity for the first time. The Mauryans not only liberated north western part of India from the foreign rule, but also brought uniform administration, which continued for several centuries. Chandragupta Maurya was the founder of this dynasty. Pataliputra (modern Patna.) was their Capital. Dharmachakra was their Royal Emblem.

### Origin.

There are many theories regarding the origin of Chandragupta Maurya.

1. Vishakadatta's Mudrarakshasa calls Chandragupta Maurya as Mayurasutha.
2. The Jain literature says that he belonged to a tribe of Mayura Poshakas or Peacock tamers
3. The word 'Maurya' is derived from 'Mura' supposed to be the concubine of Nanda king of Magadha.
4. According to the Buddhist literature Mahavamsha, he was of a Kshathriya clan known as 'Moriya', which ruled at Pipalavana. Many historians have accepted this opinion.

### Sixteen Mahajanapadas (some of them were Republics)

	Janapadas	Capitals
1	Anga	Champa
2	Magadha	Rajagriha, Pataliputra
3	Kashi	Varanasi
4	Kosala	Saketha
5	Vajji	Vajji
6	Malla	Kushinagara
7	Chedi	Tisvathirati
8	Vatsa	Kausambi
9	Kuru	Indraprasta
10	Panchala	Kampila
11	Matsya	Viratanagara
12	Surasena	Mathura
13	Asmaka	Potana
14	Avanti	Ujjaini
15	Gandahara	Taxashila
16	Kamboja	Rajapura

## Sources.

The important sources which help us to know about the history of the Mauryas are,

1. Arthashastra of Kautilya
2. Indica of Megasthenes.
3. Mudrarakshasa of Vishakadatta.
4. Ashokan edicts.
5. Monuments.
6. Ceylonese chronicles- Deepavamsa and Mahavamsa.

## Chandragupta Maurya. 324-300 BCE

Chandragupta Maurya is the founder of this dynasty. However, very little is known about him. He had lost his father, was taken away by Chanakya, a Brahmin of Takshashila who gave him the necessary education. He helped Chandragupta Maurya in the establishment of Mauryan Empire.

## Conquest of Punjab and Magadha.

Chandragupta built a strong army under the guidance of Chanakya. He defeated the petty rulers of Punjab and captured it. Thereafter he marched against Magadha. He killed Dhanananda, the last ruler of Nandas and ended his oppressive rule and laid the foundation for the Mauryan Empire.

## War with Seleucus.

Alexander had established his suzerainty over the north western parts of India and had nominated his representatives to rule over them. Chandragupta Maurya defeated them and annexed the territories to his empire. After Alexander's death Seleucus became the master of the Greek empire over Central Asia. In 305 BCE, he crossed the Indus to reconquer Alexander's Indian possessions. Chandragupta Maurya defeated him. Hence, Seleucus had to conclude a treaty with him. Accordingly he gave Chandragupta Maurya a large territory, which included Kabul, Afghanistan, Kandahar and Baluchistan. He also gave his daughter in marriage to Chandragupta Maurya. In return Chandragupta Maurya presented him with 500 elephants trained in warfare. Seleucus maintained friendly relations with Mauryas and sent Megasthenes as ambassador to Pataliputra.

It is said that Chandragupta Maurya undertook many other military conquests and established a large empire. But, we do not have a clear picture of all such conquests. Similarly, the extent of his empire cannot be clearly demarcated.

According to the Jain tradition, in the last days of his reign, Chandragupta abdicated the throne and embraced Jainism under the influence of Jain scholar Bhadrabahu. He spent his last days at Shravanabelagola in Karnataka and died by performing 'Sallekhana' in 300 BCE. The hill on which he stayed is known as Chandragiri and the temple built by him as Chandragupta Basadi.

### **Kautilya (Chanakya).**

Kautilya was a famous statesman of ancient India. He was also known by other names-Chanakya and Vishnugupta. He played an important role in the dethronement of Nandas and the establishment of Mauryan empire. He was also largely responsible for setting up of a well organized administrative system. Kautilya wrote Arthashasthra in Sanskrit. Dr. Shamashastry, the Librarian of Oriental Research Institute, Mysore discovered the text in 1905 and published its English version in 1909. Its contents can be divided into three main parts.

1. The first part deals with the King, his Council and the Government.
2. The second part deals with Civil and Criminal law.
3. The third part deals with Interstate Law, Diplomacy and War.

Arthashasthra outlines the seven limbs of the state (Sapthanga), namely – Raja(Kingship), Manthri (Council), Janapada (Population and Land), Durga (Fort), Kosha (Treasury), Bala (Army) and Mithra (Allies).

### **Bindusara.**

The successor of Chandragupta was his son Bindusara. He ruled from 300 to 273 BCE. Nothing much is known about Bindusara. His son Ashoka became the King after Bindusara.

### **Ashoka the great. [273– 232 BCE]**

Ashoka was the greatest ruler of the Mauryas and one of the renowned rulers of the world. He is mentioned in his edicts as 'Devanampriya' and 'Priyadarshi'. They indicate his great personality.

He came to power in 273 BCE, but his coronation was celebrated in 269 BCE. The history from 273-269 BCE is not clear. Historians believe that during this period there was a struggle for succession between Ashoka and his hundred brothers.

### **The Kalinga war: 261 BCE**

During the reign of Ashoka, Kalinga was a powerful kingdom. Ashoka wanted to extend his imperialism over Kalinga. So he marched upon Kalinga. A fierce battle was fought between them. XIII Rock Edict gives us details about the conquest of Kalinga and its results. It tells that about 1,00,000 soldiers were killed and 1,50,000 were captured as prisoners of war. Ashoka was so filled with sorrow at the sight of bloodshed that, this became his last war as he decided not to wage wars in future. Ashoka changed his foreign policy. Instead of 'Digvijaya' (military conquests), he adopted the policy of 'Dharmavijaya' (winning the hearts of the people). Thus, the war of Kalinga became a turning point in the life of Ashoka. He embraced Buddhism under the influence of Upa Gupta, a Buddhist saint.

Ashokan Empire extended from Kashmir and Afghanistan regions in the North to Karnataka (Suvarnagiri) in the South, and from Bengal in the East to Sindh and Baluchistan in the West.

### **Edicts of Ashoka**

Ashoka was the first to issue edicts in India. They have been found throughout the length and breadth of the empire. The edicts help us to know about his ideals and outlook besides throwing light on the religion, society and administration of the Mauryas. The language of the edict is Prakrit, Pali and Greek and the script used is Brahmi and Kharoshti. Brahmi script, which was a riddle for a longtime was deciphered by James Princep in 1837. The edicts are classified into major rock edicts, minor rock edicts, pillar inscriptions and cave inscriptions.

### **Edicts in Karnataka**

A number of Ashokan edicts have been discovered in Karnataka. They have been found at

1. Maski in Raichur district.
2. Gavimatha and Palkigonda in Koppala district.



3. Brahmagiri, Siddapura and Jatingarameshwara in Chitradurga district.
4. Nittur and Udayagollam in Bellary district
5. Sannathi in Kalaburagi district.

The edicts referred to the King as 'Devanampriya' or 'Priyadarshi', which created doubts among the historians regarding the King who issued them. The Maski edict, along with Calcutta edict refers to the king as 'Devanampriya Ashokasa'. This confirmed that Devanmpriya and Priyadarshi Raja was none other than Ashoka himself.

## Religion

Ashoka made a great contribution to religion. According to him the law of piety consisted of the following virtues.

1. Parents must be obeyed and teachers must be respected.
2. Everyone should speak the truth.
3. Servants, Youngsters and dependents must be treated with love.
4. No injury should be caused to men and animals.
5. One must suppress anger, cruelty and extravagance.

## Measures adopted for the spread of Buddhism

Ashoka was responsible for the spread of Buddhism not only in India but also outside India. He took many measures for the spread of Buddhism. They are,

1. He visited the Buddhist holy places such as Lumbini Garden, Kapilavastu, Gaya, Saranath and Kushinagar and arranged discourses on religion.
2. He built a large number of monasteries all over the empire and spent large sums of money in endowing them.
3. He spread the doctrines of Buddha by engraving them on rocks, pillars and on the walls of the caves throughout the vast empire.
4. He appointed officers called Dharmamahamathras, Yukthas and Rajjukas to spread Dharma among the people. He also appointed Sthree Adhyaksha Mahamatra to take care of women and bring religious awareness among them.

5. He organised the third Buddhist Council at Pataliputhra in 250 BCE to settle the internal differences among the monks.
6. Ashoka sent missionaries to preach Buddhism in Afghanistan, Burma, Srilanka, and Europe. He sent his son Mahendra and daughter Sanghamithra to Srilanka with a Bodhi sapling as a symbol of peace.
7. He undertook many welfare activities. He dug wells, built rest houses, planted fruit bearing trees along road sides, constructed hospitals for men and animals and established schools. He made arrangement to feed the poor and physically unfit people. He was like a father to his subjects. His motto was 'Service and sacrifice'.

Ashoka established a large empire in India. He is the only king in the history of the world to renounce war even after victory. The effects of Kalinga war moved him to such an extent that he gave up Digvijaya and adopted Dharmavijaya and dedicated his entire life for the peace and welfare of his subjects. H.G. Wells states that "Amidst the tens of thousands of names of monarchs that crowd the columns of history, their majesties and royal highness and the like, the name of Ashoka shines and shines almost alone like a star".

## Contributions

### 1. Mauryan Administration.

The Mauryans established an efficient system of administration. They were the first to establish an uniform administrative system throughout their empire. Arthashastra played an important role in the administration of the Mauryas.

### The Central Government.

**King:** The king was the head of the state. He was the chief source of legislative, executive, judicial and military powers. The King was bound by the Dharma. The main duty of the king was to work for the welfare of the people.

**Manthri Parishad:** There was a council of ministers called 'Manthri parishad' to assist the king in the administration. The ministers were

appointed by the king after considering the merits and abilities. The number of ministers varied from 4 to 12. Each minister was in charge of one or more departments. All the matters were considered and discussed in Manthriparishad. The King could supersede the advice of the Mantriparishad.

**Secretariat:** Administrative matters of the central government were divided into 30 departments, each under a superintendent. They dealt with activities of state such as irrigation, market, education, famine relief, etc.

**Administration of justice:** In the Mauryan Empire, the king was the highest court of appeal. The Mauryan empire had two types of courts called – Dharmastheyas which dealt with civil cases and Kantakashodana which dealt with criminal cases. These courts existed in all towns and cities. Village assemblies and its headmen were responsible for justice in their areas. Megasthenes observed that punishments were severe, which included beheading and amputation of limbs.

**Revenue administration:** Land revenue was the main source of income of the state. 1/6 of the produce was fixed as the tax. Taxes were collected both in cash and kind. They were collected by local officers. Taxes were also levied on professions, houses, cattle, livestock, forest products and sales tax, etc.

**Provincial government:** Mauryan Empire was divided into five provinces with their capitals at Girnar, Takshashila, Ujjain, Tosali and Suvarnagiri. Each province was put under the charge of a governor belonging to the royal family or one of the relatives of the king. The provinces were further divided into districts that were governed by 'Sthanikas'. Gramika was the head of the village. The official in charge of ten villages was called 'Gopa'. Ashoka appointed Dharmamahamathras both at the centre and in the provinces.

**City administration:** The Greek ambassador Megasthenes gave a very detailed description about the administration of Pataliputra. The administration of the city was entrusted to a committee of thirty members divided into six boards of five each. They looked after roads, markets, hospitals, temples, schools, water supply, etc.

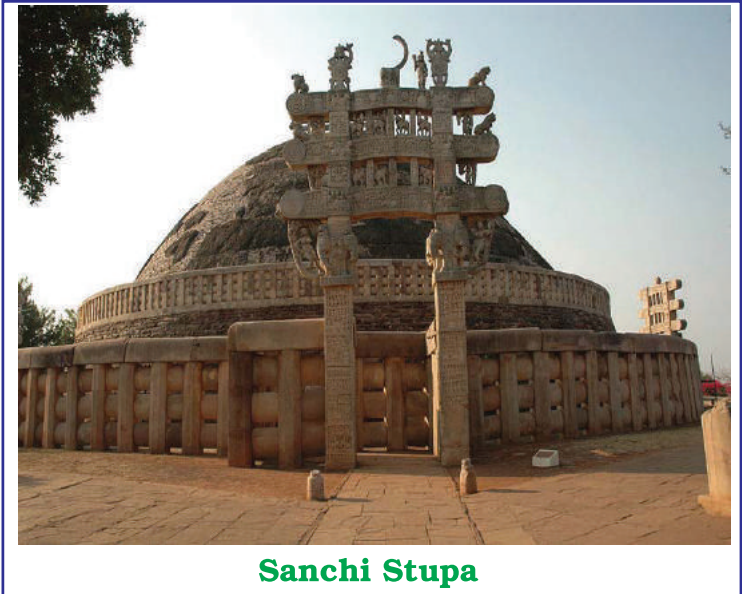
**Military administration:** The military administration of Chandragupta was very efficient and well organized. The king personally led the army

during wars. The army of Chandragupta consisted of 6,00,000 infantry, 30,000 cavalry and 9,000 elephants. The war office was administered by six boards, each consisting of five members. They were 1. Navy, 2. Transport, 3. Infantry, 4. Cavalry, 5. Chariots and 6. Elephant force.

## 2. Art and Architecture.

Mauryas built various buildings, palaces and monuments. The buildings prior to Ashoka were built of wood. Ashoka gave up the use of wood and brick and started using stone.

**Stupas:** The Stupas were dome like mounds of brick or stone, built in honor of Buddha or over the relics of Buddha. It is believed



**Sanchi Stupa**

that Ashoka built about 84,000 Stupas all over his empire. They have perished in course of time. The only surviving stupa is at Sanchi in Madyapradesh. It is the biggest stupa.

**Palaces:** Chandragupta Maurya's palace at Pataliputra was famous. The Chinese pilgrim Fahien who came to India gives us a vivid description of the foundation of the palace. He exclaimed that it was created by God.

**Caves:** Ashoka and his grandson Dasharatha built caves for meditation of the Buddhist monks. The caves in Barabar mountains near Gaya and Nagarjuna hills belong to this age.

**Pillars:** The stone pillars in various designs were built during the reign of Ashoka. It is believed that Ashoka built more than 30 pillars. Each stone pillar weighs 50 tons and measures 30 feet in height. The most important among them is the pillar at Saranath. It consists of

an inverted lotus, the Dharmachakra and on the abacus four lions are seated back to back. The Capital of Saranath pillar is the national emblem of India.

## SHATAVAHANAS.

After the decline of the Mauryas the Shatavahanas, who were the feudatories of Mauryas, declared independence. Their kingdom lasted for about 400 years. It is very difficult to determine the exact date of the establishment of the Sathavana kingdom.

Simukha was the founder of this dynasty. Prathisthana (modern Paithan in Maharashtra) was the capital of the Shatavahanas. Some of the important rulers of Sathavahana kingdom were- Hala, Gautamiputra, Satakarni, Vashistiputra Pulamayi and Yajnashri. The seventeenth king of Sathavahana dynasty was Hala. He himself was a great scholar and he wrote 'Gathasapthashati' in Prakrit language.

## Gautamiputra Sathakarni - 106 -130 CE

The Sathavahana power received a set back at the hands of the weak successors of Hala. Gautamiputra Sathakarni re-established the power and prestige of the Shatavahanas. He is described as the destroyer of Saka, Yavana and Pahalvas. He defeated Saka king Nahapana and restructed the silver coins with his emblem. His achievements are recorded by his mother Gautami Balashri in the Nasik cave inscription. She claims Gautamiputra Sathakarni to have performed 'Ashwamedha'. His important titles were 'Tri samudra toya peetha vahana' and 'Shaka-Yavana-Pahlava Nisudhana'.

The contribution of Shatavahanas in the field of Art and architecture was enormous. They constructed several Buddhist Stupas, Viharas and Chaityas. These are found in Amaravathi, Nagarjunakonda, Karle, Nasik, Kanheri, etc.

### Activity

Mark the extent of Ashokan Empire on the outline map of India- Mark the places of Edicts of Ashoka.

**QUESTIONS.****I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.**

1. Who founded the Mauryan dynasty?
2. Name the capital of Mauryas.
3. Which was the Royal emblem of Mauryas?
4. Who wrote Mudrarakshasa?
5. Who wrote Arthashastra?
6. Who wrote Indica?
7. Who helped Chandragupta to establish the Mauryan empire?
8. Who was the Nanda ruler defeated by Chandragupta Maurya?
9. Who sent Megasthenes as ambassador to the court of Chandragupta Maurya?
10. Name the Greek ruler defeated by Chandragupta Maurya.
11. Name the Mauryan ruler who followed Jainism.
12. Where did Chandragupta Maurya spend his last days?
13. Who was the greatest ruler of Mauryan dynasty?
14. Which Ashokan edict speaks about Kalinga war?
15. Name the Mauryan ruler who accepted Buddhism.
16. Where was the Third Buddhist council held?
17. Which is the biggest Stupa built by Ashoka?
18. Which is the National emblem of India?
19. Who was the founder of Shatavahana dynasty?
20. Which was the capital of Satavahanas?
21. Who wrote 'Gathasaptasati'?
22. Which was the inscription issued by Gautami Balashri?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. Name any two important sources which help to know about Mauryan dynasty.

2. Name any two places where Ashokan inscriptions have been found in Karnataka.
3. Which were the two types of courts that existed in the Mauryan period?
4. What is the importance of Maski edict?
5. Who was Megasthenes? Name his work.
6. Who was Kautilya? Which is his famous work?
7. Which ruler appointed Dharmamahamatras? What was their duty?
8. Name any two important rulers of Sathavahanas.
9. Name any two architectural centres of Sathavahanas.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.**

1. Write about the achievements of Chandragupta Maurya.
2. What were the measures taken by Ashoka for the spread of Buddhism?
3. Describe the administration of Mauryas.
4. Explain the contributions of Mauryas to Art and Architecture.

**IV. Answer the following in 30 to 40 sentences.**

Explain the life and achievements of Ashoka.

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## CHAPTER 4.4

### KUSHANAS

The Kushanas were originally a nomadic race known as 'Yueh-chi' and they lived in China. This race was driven out of their homeland by powerful tribes like the Huns. The Kushanas occupied Bactria and then moved into the Kabul valley and seized Gandhara. They replaced the Sakas, the Greeks and others and established hold over the Indus and greater part of Gangetic plains around the year 40 CE. The Kushana period was not only an era of political unity, but it also marked a new era in the cultural development of India.

#### Political history:

The first Kushana ruler was Kujula Kadphesis or Kadphesis I. He was followed by Kadphesis II, who was also known as Wema Kadphesis. Kanishka was the third King of the Kushana dynasty.

#### Kanishka.

Kanishka was the greatest King of the Kushanas. We do not have definite information about his early life. Similarly there are controversies about the date of Kanishka's accession. Dr. V.A. Smith opines that Kanishka came to the throne in 120 CE. There is also another school of thought (Rapson and Thomas) which project Kanishka as the founder of Saka Era. This would place the date of his accession at 78 CE. Purushapura (modern Peshawar in Pakistan) was his capital.

#### Conquests.

Kanishka was a great warrior who extended the boundaries of his empire in all directions very rapidly, after his accession. His Empire consisted of Bactria, Persia, Afghanistan, Punjab and a large portion of Sindh. Kanishka extended his empire by his conquests.

**Kashmir:** Kanishka conquered Kashmir, where he built many monuments. He laid the foundation of a town 'Kanispura'. It was also known as Kanishkapura. Today it is known as Srinagar.

**Magadha:** Kanishka is claimed to have waged a war against Magadha and captured it. But many scholars opine that he captured only some parts of Magadha.

**War against Saka-Sathrapas :** In Northern India the Saka Sathrapas were still powerful. Kanishka waged a series of battles against Saka Satrapas of Punjab and Mathura and finally established his supremacy.

**War with China:** After the conquest of the Northern India Kanishka turned his attention towards China. Kadphises II had suffered a defeat at the hands of the Chinese general Pan-chao and as a result of this defeat the Kushanas had to pay annual tribute to the Chinese King. Kanishka stopped paying the tribute and invaded China. But, the Chinese general Pan-chao defeated him. This was a setback to the political ambitions of Kanishka for some time. However, after making preparations, Kanishka made a fresh attack on China. At this juncture, the great Chinese general Pan-chao had died and his son Pan-chiang was the new general. Kanishka registered a victory over the Chinese forces and annexed three Chinese provinces into his empire. These three provinces were– Kashgar, Yarkhand and Khothan. Kanishka was the first Indian ruler who established territories outside the Indian subcontinent. The boundaries of his empire touched Kashgar in the North to Sindh in the South and Benaras in the East to Afghanistan in the West.

## Religion:

The Kushanas, who belonged to the Yueh-chi tribe followed the tribal religious customs. After their settlement in India they adopted Indian culture and Hinduism. They primarily worshipped the Sun god along with other deities. Kujula and Wema Kadphises were the followers of Hinduism.

Kanishka was also a follower of Hinduism. His early coins bear the images of Persian, Greek and Hindu gods. In course of time, he embraced Buddhism under the influence of Ashwaghosha. After this, like Ashoka he took many measures for the spread of Buddhism and it was due to his efforts that Buddhism spread into China, Tibet, Japan and Central Asian countries. The measures undertaken by Kanishka for the spread of Buddhism were:

1. Buddhism was given Royal patronage and it was also extended to the Buddhist monks.

2. Viharas and Monasteries were built for the use of the monks.
3. A large number of missionaries were sent to foreign countries like Japan, Tibet and parts of Central Asia for the spread of Buddhism.
4. He conducted the fourth Buddhist council at Kundalavana in Kashmir in 102 CE. It was presided over by Vasumithra. The main purpose of this council was to settle the disputes existing in Buddhism at that time. A commentary on the Holy books, (Pitikas) was prepared. These were later brought together in the form of a book called 'Mahavibhasa'. It is one of the authoritative works on Buddhist Philosophy.

## **Gandhara Art**

Kanishka was a great patron of art. His important buildings and constructions of art are found mostly at Gandhara, Mathura, Kanishkapura and Takshashila. The Kushana period is important for the growth of Gandhara art or otherwise known as the Greeco-Buddhist style. With close contact between two civilizations – the Indian and the Greek, there arose a new school of art called- “the Gandhara School of art”. This school represented a blending of Indian and Greek art. It is called as Gandhara art because, this style originated in Gandhara region. This region is situated in the present Afghanistan.

### **Chief Characteristics of the Gandhara school of art:**

1. In this school of art the life size statues of Gautama Buddha were carved. Until then, the Buddhist existence was shown in the form of symbols like lotus, umbrella, etc..
2. While carving the statues utmost care was given to the symmetry of the body including the muscles and moustaches which were shown in a natural setting.
3. In the specimens of the craftsmanship of this art-the folds and turns of the clothes were exhibited with minute care and skill.
4. In this art the ornaments that were carved on the statues received much attention which added to the physical beauty of the statue.
5. Polishing the statues is an important feature of this art.
6. The specimens were mostly prepared in stone, terracotta and clay.

7. The technique used in making the statues was Greek but, the idea, inspiration and personality all were Indian.

In the words of Dr. R.C. Muzumdar- “The Gandhara artist had the hand of a Greek but, the heart of an Indian”. It is for this reason that in the statues and images made under this art, an attempt was made to carve Lord Buddha like the Greek God Appolo.

### Activity

Compare the Gandhara Art with Mathura, Greek and Roman Styles of Arts.

### QUESTIONS.

#### I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. Which was the original home of the Kushanas ?
2. Who was the first ruler of the Kushanas?
3. Who was the greatest king of the Kushanas?
4. Name the Chinese general who defeated Kanishka.
5. Which was the capital of Kanishka?
6. Who influenced Kanishka to embrace Buddhism?

#### II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.

1. Why was the fourth Buddhist council held? when?
2. Write any two measures of Kanishka for the spread of Buddhism.

#### III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.

1. Explain the achievements of Kanishka.
2. Describe chief characteristics of the Gandhara School of art?

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## CHAPTER 4.5

### GUPTAS (300-600CE)

After the fall of the Mauryan Empire, there was no strong political authority in North India for nearly a century. The whole of North India was divided into petty principalities. There were some monarchical kingdoms such as the Vakatakas, the Nagas, Maukharis and Guptas. There were also a few Republican states like Lichchavis, Yaudheyas, Malvas, etc. They were engaged in mutual struggle until the Guptas emerged as a strong state around 300 CE. Guptas were the powerful monarchs. They ruled a large part of India and achieved political unity for the second time after the Mauryas. There was tremendous progress in the fields of religion, literature, science, art and architecture. The Gupta age is known as the 'Golden age' in the history of India.

Some important sources which help us to study the Gupta history are,

1. Allahabad pillar inscription of Samudra Gupta.
2. Works of Kalidasa.
3. Mudrarakshasa and DevichandraGuptam of Vishakadatta.
4. Kavyamimamse of Rajashekara.
5. Writings of Fa-hien and Itsing.

#### Political history:

Sri Gupta was the founder of this dynasty. His son was Gatothkacha Gupta. 'Gupta Era' commenced with the accession of ChandraGupta I, who- ruled from 320 to 335 CE. He was the first important king of the Gupta dynasty. Pataliputra was his capital. He strengthened his position by marrying Princess Kumaradevi of the Lichchavi clan. He was succeeded by his son Samudragupta.

#### Samudragupta:- 335 to 375CE

Samudragupta was the greatest king of the Gupta dynasty who ruled for 40 years. He was an ambitious ruler and wanted to be a 'Chakravarthi' (emperor).

## Conquests:

Samudragupta is known for his military conquests. He had to wage many wars in order to establish a vast empire. He followed a policy of expansion and aggression.

The Allahabad pillar inscription is a reliable source to know about Samudragupta's conquests and great qualities. The composer of this inscription was Harisena, the court poet and commander in chief of the army of Samudragupta. The conquest of Samudra Gupta may be divided into four groups.

1. North Indian campaign.
2. Conquest of forest kingdoms.
3. South Indian campaign.
4. Conquest on Border States.

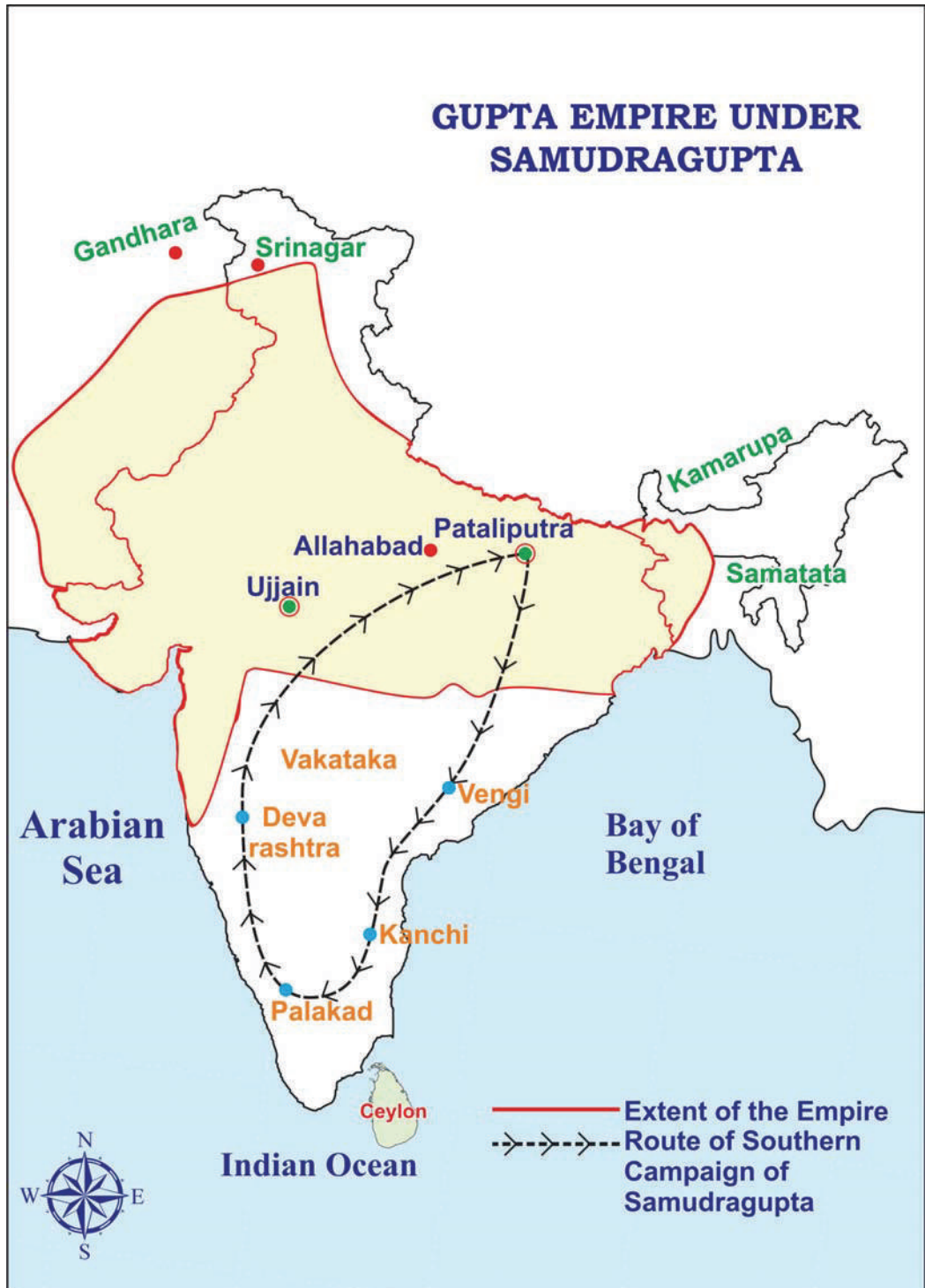
**1. North Indian Campaign:** The early years of his regime were spent in subduing the provinces of Gangetic plain called 'Aryavarttha'. According to the Allahabad inscription he defeated 9 kings in his northern campaign and annexed them into his empire. He called it as 'Digvijaya'. The nine kings of Aryavarttha defeated by Samudragupta were Nandin, Balavarman, Chandravarman, Nagadatta, Nagasena, Ganapathinaga, Achutha, Mathila and Rudradeva.

**2. Conquest of Forest Kingdoms:** Samudragupta conquered the forest kingdoms of Jabbalpura, Reva, Nagapura and Bhaghelkhand in the Vindhya region (central India).

**3. South Indian Campaign:** After firmly consolidating his authority in the north, Samudragupta turned his attention towards the south and he launched an expedition and his army travelled for about 3,000 miles. Samudra Gupta defeated the Twelve Kings of South India. But they were reinstated in their respective positions. These Kings became his vassals and they accepted to pay tributes. He called this as – 'Dharmavijaya'.

### **Twelve South Indian kings defeated by Samudragupta:**

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mahendra of Kosala    | 2. Vyagraraja of Mahakanthara |
| 3. Mantharaja of Kowrala | 4. Mahendra of Pistapura      |



- |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 5. Swamydatta of Kottura  | 6. Damana of Yarandapalli     |
| 7. Vishnugopa of Kanchi   | 8. Hasthivarman of Vengi      |
| 9. Neelaraja of Avamuktha | 10. Ugrasena of Palakkad      |
| 11. Kubera of Devarasthra | 12. Dhananjaya of Kustalapura |

**4. Conquests of Border States:** The boundary states conquered by Samudragupta were Kamarupa in Assam, Samatata in Bengal, Karthripura in Punjab and Rohilkhand.

After these conquests, Samudragupta performed 'Ashwamedha sacrifice' to commemorate his victory. He took the title 'Ashwamedha Parakrama'. He issued gold coins with the figure of horse on them. They were one among the eight types of gold coins issued by him.

His empire extended from Kashmir in the North to Tamilnadu in the South

and Punjab in the west to Bengal in the East. Samudragupta was not only a conqueror but also a musician, poet, scholar and a patron of literature. He had the title 'Kaviraja'. Harisena was a great scholar and his court poet.



Coins of Samudragupta

### Chandragupta II 375-415 CE

ChandraGupta II ascended the throne after the death of Samudragupta. The notable achievement of Chandragupta II was that he defeated the Shaka ruler Rudrasena and annexed his kingdom. He strengthened his empire by matrimonial alliance with Nagas and Vakatakas. He was also known as Vikramaditya. He was a great patron of scholars and poets. Nine great scholars (Navarathnas) adorned his court. Ujjain became the second capital during his regime.

## Fahien's visit 399-414 CE

Fahien was a Chinese traveller. He visited India during the reign of Chandragupta II. He came to India to study Buddhism, in the land of its birth. He has recorded his observations in his book- 'Gho-ko-ki'. The book throws light on religious, economic and social conditions of those times.

## Golden Age.

Gupta period has a unique position in the history of India. Due to the all-round development in this age, the European writers have compared it with the age of Pericles of Greece, Augustus Caesar of Rome and queen Elizabeth of England. The achievements in the fields of Religion, Education, Literature, Art and Architecture, Science and Technology were extra-ordinary.

**Revival of Hinduism:** Revival of Hinduism is one of the outstanding features of the Gupta age. The Gupta emperors were the followers of Hinduism. Yet, they were tolerant towards other religions like Buddhism and Jainism.

The Hindu religion received great encouragement. It became the State Religion of Guptas. The worship of Vishnu, Shiva and Durga became very popular. The Gupta rulers performed vedic rites and sacrifices. The vedic rituals like Ashwamedha, Vajapeya and Rajasuya yagas were performed with all splendor. Many Vishnu temples were also constructed during the Gupta age. They assumed the title- 'Paramabhagavatha' which indicates their devotion to Lord Vishnu. Shaiva and Shakthi cult were also popular.

**Education:** Education greatly flourished under the Guptas. The kings themselves were great scholars and educationalists. They paid special attention to education. There were a number of universities during the Gupta age. The universities attracted not only Indians but also foreign students. Takshashila, Nalanda, Ajantha and Saranatha were well known Gupta universities. Pataliputra and Vallabhi were great centres of education. The important subjects taught were Puranas, Literature, Philosophy, Arithmetic, Astrology and Science.

**Literature:** Religious literature, including the Vedas which were in the form of hymns were brought into writing during the Gupta period. The Gupta age is called 'The Golden age of Sanskrit literature'.

Samudragupta has been described as a King among poets in Allahabad inscription. He was also a gifted musician and a great scholar of the Vedas. There were 'Navarathnas' in the court of ChandraGupta II. Among them, Kalidasa was the greatest Poet and Dramatist of Ancient India. He wrote famous dramas like Malavikagnimithra, Vikramorvasiya and Shakunthala, great Epics like Raghuvamsha and Kumarasambhava and lyrical poems like Meghaduta and Rithusamhara.

### Names and works of Navarathnas

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Kalidasa     | - Shakunthala        |
| 2. Varahamihira | - Brihathsamhithe    |
| 3. Ghatakarpara | - Gatakarparakavya   |
| 4. Vararuchi    | - Vyakarana          |
| 5. Amarasimha   | - Amarakosha         |
| 6. Dhanvanthri  | - Ayurvedha Nighantu |
| 7. Shanku       | - Shilpashasthra     |
| 8. Kshapanaka   | - Jyothishyashasthra |
| 9. Vethalabhata | - Manthrashasthra    |

### Important scholars and their works

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. Shudraka     | - Mrichakatika                         |
| 2. Bharavi      | - Kiratharjuneeyam                     |
| 3. Dandi        | - Kavyadarsha and Dashakumara charithe |
| 4. Vishakadatta | - Mudrarakshasa and Devichandraguptam  |
| 5. Vishnusharma | - Panchatantra                         |
| 6. Bhavabuthi   | - Uttararamacharithe                   |
| 7. Charaka      | - Charakasamhithe                      |
| 8. Shushrutha   | - Sushruthasamhithe                    |
| 9. Shanku       | - Shilpashasthra                       |
| 10. Amarasimha  | - Amarakosha                           |

**Science and Technology:** Tremendous progress was achieved in the fields of Science, Mathematics, Astronomy, Medicine and Metallurgy. Aryabhatta was the greatest Mathematician and astronomer of this period. He discussed in his book – 'Suryasiddhantha' as to how the earth revolves on its axis and as to how lunar and solar eclipse occur. 'Aryabhatia' was his another book. He has described about the decimal system in this work.

Brahmagupta was another Mathematician. He showed the importance of Zero. Varahamihira was one of the greatest scientists of this age. He wrote- 'Panchasiddhantika', 'Brihat Jataka' and 'Brihat Samhite'. He was an authority on Astronomy, Botany, Mathematics and Geography. 'Brihatsamhite' deals with the movements of heavenly bodies. In the field of medicine, Charaka and Sushruta wrote 'Samhithes'. Dhanwanthri was regarded as the 'Father of Indian medicine' (Ayurvedha). Vagbhata wrote 'Asthangasangraha'. The Meharauli Iron pillar discovered near Delhi is an outstanding example of their metallurgical skill. It is a miracle that even after being exposed to sun and rain for centuries, the iron pillar has not rusted or lost its strength.

**Art and Architecture:** The basic structural features of Indian temple architecture were developed during the Guptas. Mathura, Benaras, Patna, Udayagiri, Devgarh, etc. were the centers of their artistic activity. Dashavatara temple of Devagarh was the first temple of the Gupta period. Shiva Temple of Bhumara and Brick temple of Bittirgaon were the other temples of the Guptas. A number of statues of Lord Buddha were also erected. The fine Sulthanganj Buddha statue of 7 ½ feet height is now preserved in the museum of Birmingham.

The Guptas gave special encouragement to painting. The finest examples of Gupta paintings are on the walls of Bagh near Gwalior. Gupta rulers built many cave temples in Ajantha. The Gupta painters painted the scenes from the life of Buddha. The painting of 'Mother and child' in cave XVII is quite realistic and beautiful among the Ajantha Paintings.

### Activity

Prepare an album of Gupta Art and architecture

### QUESTIONS.

#### I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. Who was the founder of the Gupta dynasty?
2. When did the Gupta Era commence?
3. Who composed the Allahabad pillar inscription?
4. Which inscription of Samudragupta reveals his expeditions?
5. Who is the author of Kavyamimamse?

6. Who was the greatest king of the Gupta dynasty?
7. Which Gupta ruler performed Ashwamedha sacrifice?
8. Who had the title 'Kaviraja'?
9. Who wrote Shakunthala?
10. Who wrote Aryabhatia?
11. Who had the title Vikramaditya?
12. Who wrote Amarakosha?
13. Who wrote Brihatsamhite?
14. Who wrote 'Gho-ko-ki'?
15. Name the author of Kiratarjuniyam.
16. Who is called 'The Father of Indian Medicine'?
17. In which place is the Iron pillar of the Gupta age found?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. Which were the two capitals of the Guptas?
2. Which inscription describes the conquests of Samudragupta? Who composed it?
3. Name any two poets of the Gupta period.
4. Mention any two works of Kalidasa.
5. Who was Fa-hien? Why did he come to India?
6. Name any two sources which help us to know about Gupta History.
7. Name any two North Indian rulers defeated by Samudragupta.
8. Name any two South Indian kingdoms defeated by Samudragupta.
9. Name any two well known universities of the Gupta period.
10. Name any two works of Varahamihira.
11. Name any two architectural centers of Gupta period.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences.**

Explain the conquests of Samudra Gupta.

**IV. Answer the following in 30 to 40 sentences.**

Why is Gupta age called 'The Golden Age' in Indian History?



## CHAPTER 4.6

### CHOLAS

#### SANGAM AGE

Chola dynasty was the most ancient among the South Indian Dynasties. The History of Cholas begins with the Sangam Age. Sangam refers to Tamil 'Literary Union' 'The three literary unions'. between 200 BCE to 500 CE is called the Sangam age. The Pandays of Madurai patronized Sangam literature. 'Tirukkural', 'Silappadigaram' and 'Manimekhalai' are the famous works of Sangam Age.

The Sangam literature and Ashoka's inscriptions help us to know the political history of Cholas. Ilain Chola was the first king of Cholas. Uraiyyur was his capital. Karikala Chola (190 CE) was a valiant king. He defeated the Cheras and Pandyas. He went on a conquest upto Ceylon with a powerful Navy. He built the Kalhane Dam for irrigational purpose. After him there was political chaos. Sengunnian was the last ruler of the Sangam Age. The Sangam age came to an end by 3rd C CE when the Pallavas came to prominence.

Among the Medieval Cholas, Vijayala Chola was the most prominent. He killed the Pallava king Aparajitha Varma in 850 CE and established the supremacy of the Cholas. Tanjore became the capital of the Cholas. After him, Aditya Chola I and Paranthaka I came to power respectively. Uttarameruru Inscription of Paranthaka-I issued in 919 CE and 921 CE help us to know the village administration of the Cholas. The 'Takkolam' battle was fought between the Cholas and Rastrakutas in 949 CE. The Cholas were defeated in this battle. This led to the collapse of the Chola empire. Rajaraja Chola and Rajendra Chola who came to power later extended the Chola Empire.

**Rajaraja Chola I : (985-1014 CE):** Rajaraja Chola I, the son of Paranthaka II was the greatest ruler of the Cholas. He strengthened the Chola Empire which had been weakened by the invasions of Rastrakutas.

## **Military achievement:**

**Southern Conquests:** Rajaraja Chola I took an expedition to the South of the Kingdom and fought with the kings of Pandyas, Cheras and Ceylon. He defeated the Pandya king Amarabhujanga and arrested him. He destroyed the powerful navy of the Cheras. He occupied the northern portion of Ceylon. To commemorate this victory, he constructed Shiva temple at Polennaru.

**Northern Conquests:** In 1011CE, he conquered the prominent areas of Gangas, Gangawadi and Nolambawadi. He named Talakadu as 'Rajarajapura'. Later he faced Sathyashraya, the Kalyani Chalukyan ruler. But we do not get definite information about his victory.

**Victory over the Chalukyas of Vengi:** Rajaraja Chola interfered in the internal politics of Vengi Chalukyas and made Shaktivarma, the ruler of Vengi and gave his daughter Kundevva in marriage to his brother Vimaladithya. This matrimonial alliance strengthened the relationship between Chalukyas and Cholas. He donated much of the wealth that he got from the Vengi Chalukyas to Rajarajeshwara Temple at Tanjore. Later he went on a campaign as far as Kalinga and won it.

Rajaraj Chola I took an expedition and won Lakshadweep and Maldives islands. He had good relation with the Shailendra (Srivijaya) empire, of Sumatra. He gave permission to Srimara Vijayottungavarman, the king of Shailendra to build Choodamani Buddhist vihara at Nagapattanam. Thus the credit for expanding the Chola empire goes to Rajaraja Chola. His empire extended upto Ceylon in the South, Orissa in the North, Coorg and Konkan in the West and many Islands in the East. He had many titles. They were 'Shivapadashekhara', 'Cholendra Simha', 'Mummadi Choladeva', 'Jayagonda', 'Chola Martanda', etc. He was a patron of art. He built the famous Rajarajeshwara temple at Tanjore and made donations to many other temples.

## **Rajendra Chola I (1012-1044 CE):**

He was the son of Rajaraja Chola I and was crowned Yuvaraja in 1012 CE. He took over the power in 1014 CE after the death of his father. As ambitious as his father, he raised the dignity and honour of the Chola empire.

**Achievements:** Rajendra Chola I defeated Mahendra V (Mohinda), the Ceylonese king in 1018 CE. and imprisoned him. He took the

Royal Emblem and Kings crown of the Pandya King which was in his possession. After the death of Mahendra V in prison at Tanjore, Ceylon became the part of Chola empire.

He declared a war on Jayasimha II of Kalyani Chalukyas in 1021CE and defeated him in Masangi (Maski). Vijayaditya of Vengi who came to the support of Jayasimha was defeated and expelled from the empire. Rajendra Chola placed Rajaraja Narendra on the throne of Vengi and gave his daughter Ammangadevi in marriage to him. Then he rushed towards Orissa and defeated Mahipala I of Bengal.

The Chola army continued till the Ganga River under the leadership of the commander in chief and brought the holy Ganga water to the empire. In memory of this victory, Rajendra Chola took the title 'Gangaikonda Chola' (Conqueror of Ganga Area) and built a new capital, Gangaikonda Cholapuram. He built a tank named Cholagangam and it is learnt that he mixed the holy Ganga water in it.

In 1025 CE Rajendra Chola took an expedition to Shailendra (Srivijaya) in South East Asia with his powerful navy and army. Crossing the Bay of Bengal he conquered Jawa, Sumatra and defeated Sangrama Vijayottunga Varman, the king of Shailendra. In memory of this victory, he constructed the Gangaikonda Chola Shiva temple at Shailendra.

Rajendra Chola I was an able administrator and also a patron of learning. He established a higher education centre at Ennayiram (South Arcot District) in 1025CE. Free boarding and lodging facility was arranged for 340 students who were studying in this education centre. Rajendra Chola I had many titles like 'Pandita Chola', 'Gangaikonda Chola' and 'Kedarakonda Deva' etc., He increased his dignity and honour by sending his ambassadors to China in 1033 CE.

### **Chola administration:**

Cholas had good administrative system. They had a centralised administrative system. King was not absolute. The practice of crown prince becoming the king was in vogue. A council of Ministers assisted the king. The intimate group of the King was called 'Udanakootam'. The empire was divided into many divisions (Mandala). During the time of Rajaraja Chola I there were eight Mandalas. Mandalas were divided into Nadus (Kottam), Nadus in turn were divided as 'Olanadus'. Village administration was looked after by Grama Sabha.

**Village administration:** An important feature of the Chola administration was village autonomy. People of the village looked after the administration through their own elected representatives. This administrative system became famous during the Chola period. Uttarameruru inscription of Paratanka I gives us clear information about the village administration. According to this inscription, Uttarameruru village was divided into thirty parts (Kudumbu). One representative from each unit was elected for a period of one year. The members were elected through Kuduvalai (Lucky Draw) system. Villagers assembled in the temple on the day of election. The names of candidates to be elected were written on palm leaves and put in a pot. Then a small boy was asked to pick leaves one after the other in the presence of everybody and thus the representatives were elected.

Elected representatives had to work in the Annual Committee, Garden Committee and Tank Bund Committee. These committees were called 'Variyam'. The representatives were called 'Variya Perumakkal'. These committees worked for 360 days. The village committees performed duties like the protection of village property, collection of taxes and the protection of temples, lakes, groves and forests etc. The resolutions of the Committee were written. The central administration did not interfere in the village administration unnecessarily.

### **Minimum Qualifications of members.**

1. The candidate should possess a minimum of  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre of taxable land.
2. Should reside in his own house built in his own site.
3. Should be more than 35 years and less than 70 years of age.
4. Should possess knowledge of Vedas, Brahmanakas and Commerce.
5. Should possess good character.

### **Disqualifications**

1. Disqualified for re-election if he is a member of any committee continuously for the previous 3 years.
2. Those in the committee who do not submit accounts and his close relatives.
3. Wicked, cheat, alcoholic, thieves, accused of murdering Brahmins and committing adultery.

This way certain minimum qualifications and disqualifications were

followed in the village administration. Scholars have termed the Chola villages administration as 'Small Democratic States'.

### Art and Architecture of the Cholas:

Cholas have given the best contributions to art. They followed the Dravida style of Pallavas and built many temples. Building of huge and grand temples and Shikharas are specialities of Chola art.

The special features of Chola art can be seen in their temples at



**Brihadeshwara Temple, Tanjore**

Tanjore and Gangaikonda Cholapuram. Their temples have Garbhagriha, Mahamantapa, Ardhmantapa, Nandi Mantapa and Vimanas. The Rajrarajeshwara (Brihadeshwara) temple was built by Rajaraja Chola I in 1009 CE at Tanjore. This temple has the biggest and tallest Shikhara in India. The Shikhara on the Garbhagriha is 200 ft high. The Shivalinga in the Garbhagriha is attractive. The Nandi Sculpture is in front of it. The sculptures of Dwarapalakas attract the attention of the onlookers.

The temple at Gangaikonda Cholapuram was built by Rajendra Chola I. This temple has a Shikara of 150 ft high. The 50 pillared Sabhamantapa of the temple is artistic.

*Other temples of Cholas - Ramaeshwara at Honnehalli, Kolaramma at Kolar, Koranganatha at Srinivasa Nalluru, Nonabeshwara at Nonavinakere, Airavatheshwara and Nandi Mantapa at Darashuram etc.,*

**Sculpture:** The Cholas sculpture has a special place in the Indian art. The metal idols of Shiva, Brahma, Vishnu, Kalingamardhana, Nataraja Sreedevi etc., in different temples are very attractive . The bronze statue of Nataraja is their best contribution to art.

### Activity

Compare the local self-Government of Cholas with that of present village administration.

### QUESTIONS

#### I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. What is meant by Sangam?
2. Who was the first Chola king of Sangam age?
3. Who built the Rajarajeshwara temple at Tanjore?
4. Which inscription tells about the Chola village administration?
5. What is meant by 'Kuduvai'?
6. What is meant by 'Varriam'?

#### II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.

1. Name any two famous works of the Sangam age.
2. When and between whom did the battle of Takkolam take place?
3. Mention any two titles of Rajendra Chola I.

#### III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.

1. Sketch the achievements of Rajaraja Chola I.
2. Describe the achievements of Rajendra Chola I.
3. Describe the village administration of the Cholas.

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## CHAPTER 4.7

### VARDHANAS AND EARLY CHALUKYAS - PALLAVAS

**Vardhanas:** After the Guptas, there was political disunity in North India. Some small kingdoms became independent because of the invasions of Huns. One such independent state was that of Vardhanas of Pushyabhuthi lineage. Sources like 'Si-yu-ki' of Hieuntsang, 'Harshacharite' of Banabhatta and the copper plate inscription of Harshavardhana help us to know the history of Vardhanas. It is learnt that Pushyabhuthi was the originator of the Vardhanas. Harshavardhana of this dynasty united the small kingdoms of North India and achieved political unity.

**Harshavardhana (606-647 CE) :** Harshavardhana was the greatest ruler of the Vardhanas. He came to power in 606CE. Prabhakara Vardhana and Yashomathi were his parents. He had an elder brother Rajavardhana and an younger sister named Rajashri. He was also called 'Shiladitya'. Thaneshwar was his capital.

Yashomathi, pained by the death of her husband, committed Sati in 605 CE. Devagupta of Malwa killed Rajashri's husband Gruhavarma and imprisoned her at Kanauj. Raja Vardhana who went to get her released was killed by Shashanka of Gaudadesha. Harshavardhana came to power under such painful circumstances. The release of Rajashri and revenge on Shashanka were his main aims.

**Achievements:** Rajashri escaped from prison and went towards Vindhya mountains. Harshavardhana who came to know of this, searched her with great difficulty and prevented her from jumping into the pyre. Then he added Kanauj to his empire and made it his second capital.

Harshavardhana, with the help of Bhaskara Varma of Kamarupa attacked Shashanka of Guadadesha (Bengal) and took revenge. But as long as Shashanka was alive, he couldn't defeat him completely. Then he defeated Devagupta of Malwa and annexed it to his kingdom. By

612 CE, he achieved complete control over Pancha Sindhus of Punjab. Kanauj, Bihar, Orissa and other places were added to his kingdom. He defeated Dhruvasena II of Vallabhi. Later he gave his daughter in marriage to him and established a good relationship with him.

After the death of Shashanka of Gaudadesha, Harshavardana won Orissa, Magadha, Vodra, Kongonda (Ganjam) and Bengal (Gaudadesha). Later he defeated the ruler of Nepal and received tributes from him. He established his supremacy by defeating North-Indian Kingdoms. In commemoration of these achievements he took the title 'Uttarapatheswara'.

**War with Pulakeshi II:** Harshavardhana tried to extend his empire in the South beyond the river Narmada. The battle of Narmada took place between Harshavardhana and Pulakeshi II in 634 CE. Harshavardhana was defeated in this battle. Pulakeshi, who won, took the title 'Parameshwara'. Aihole inscription says that Harsha's Harsha (joy) flew away seeing his war elephants falling in the battle field. Hieuntsang also mentions about Harsha's defeat. Narmada river became the border between these two empires.

Harshavardhana called himself the king of Maghadha in 641 CE. His fame spread in foreign countries also. He exchanged ambassadors with China. The credit for uniting North India after the Guptas goes to Harshavardhana. His empire extended from Punjab in the West to Bengal and Orissa in the East and Himalayas in the North to Narmada river in the South.

**Harshavardhana and Buddhism:** Harshavardhana, a devotee of Lord Shiva later embraced Buddhism. He prevented animal sacrifices in the empire and prohibited the practice of non vegetarian food. He built stupas in the prominent places of Buddhism. The opponents of Buddhism and characterless people were punished by him. He brought the remains of Buddha's teeth from the king of Kashmir and keeping it inside built a stupa over it at Kanauj.

**Religious council at Kanauj 643 CE:** Harshavardhana conducted a huge Buddhist council at Kanauj for religious debate and to felicitate Hieuntsang. Hieunthsang presided over this council. 20 kings, 1000 Scholars, more than 3000 Buddhist monks, 3000 Brahmins and Jains participated in this council. A golden statue of Buddha, as tall as the

king was installed in the Auditorium. This council went on for 23 days. Hieuntsang explained the philosophy of Mahayana in this council.

**Prayag (Allahabad) Buddhist Council - 643 CE :** Harshavardhana organised a conference known as Mahamoksha Parishat at Prayag which comes once in five years. Hieuntsang was invited to this council. The council went on for 75 days. He gave donations to poor people of all religions. In this council the procession of Buddha's idol along with that of Shiva and Surya were taken.

Among the Vardhanas of Thaneshwar, Harshavardhana occupies a high position. Harshavardhana is one of the achievers of Ancient India. He was an able administrator, a valiant soldier, a patron of literature and cared for the welfare of the people. He himself was a scholar. He wrote dramas 'Ratnavali', 'Priyadarshika' and 'Nagananda' in Sanskrit. He patronised famous poet Banabhatta who wrote an invaluable work called 'Harshacharita' about Harshavardhana. A patron of learning, he gave lot of donations to the Nalanda University.

### **Nalanda University**

*Nalanda University was the most famous university of ancient India. It was established by the Gupta king Kumara Gupta I. Later Gupta rulers built many buildings for this university. This university spread Mahayana Buddhist philosophy. This university became very famous during Harshavardhana's period. He gave land revenue of 700 villages as donation to this university. There were 10,000 students and 1500 teachers here. Hieuntsang and Itsing studied in this university. The library area was called 'Dharma Ganj'. The library buildings were called Rathnodhadhi, Rathnaranjaka and Rathnasagara. This university was destroyed by Mohammed Baktiar khilji's invasion*

**Hieuntsang** - A Buddhist pilgrim from China, he was born in 600 CE at Tahin-Likan. He became a Buddhist monk at the age of 20. Buddhist ideas in Chinese language did not give him satisfaction. So he came to India to collect the original Buddhist religious texts and to visit the original places connected with Buddha's life.

*He started his journey to India through Siyam in 629 CE and reached Gandhara in 630 CE. Then he visited Kashmir, Kanauj, Nalanda, Andhra, Kanchi, Badami and other places.*

*He visited Nalanda again in 643 CE and met Harshavardhana. He started his journey back to his country in 644 CE. While going back from India, he took 150 of Buddha's mortal remains, Gold, Silver, Sandalwood Idols of Buddha and manuscripts of Buddhism on 20 horses. But on the way, he was looted by dacoits. He wrote Si-yuki, in which he describes his experiences in India.*

### **Early Chalukyas:**

**Background:** Kadambas of Banavasi and Gangas of Talakadu, two small kingdoms of Karnataka preceded the Chalukyas of Badami, who were the first Imperial rulers. Kadambas were the first to establish a Kingdom in Karnataka and they ruled from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> century C.E. Mayuravarma was the founder and famous ruler of the dynasty. The first Kannada Inscription Halmidi was issued during the Kadamba period. It was during their period that Education was encouraged and Agraharas, Brahmapuris and Ghatikas became the centres of Education. Talagunda, Balligave, Bankapura and Kapatturu Agraharas were famous during this period. They were also the forerunners of temple architecture in Karnataka.

Gangas of Talkadu ruled for 6 centuries and made notable contributions to Karnataka culture. Durvinitha was the most distinguished ruler of this dynasty. The Gangas have contributed to the growth of Literature, Art and Architecture. Jainism saw its hey day during this period. Their contributions in the fields of Art and Achitecture are noteworthy. The Kapailleswara (Manne), Mahalingeswara (Varuna), Pataleswara and Maruleswara (Talakadu), Bhoganandishwara (Nandi) and other temples are the examples of their Architecture. Beautiful pillars called 'Manasthambas' and 'Brahmasthambas' are the unique contributions of Gangas. Atakuru stone inscription and Doddahundi stone inscription reveal their sculptural excellence. The colossal monolithic statue of Gommateswara at Shravanabelagola in Hassan distret

is the most beautiful sculpture and has immortalized their name in the art history. It was erected by Chavundaraya the famous Ganga minister in 983 C.E.. It is 58 feet high and one of the largest monolithic statues in the world.

Chalukyas of Badami are called Early Chalukyas. They rose to power in the Kannada region during 6th century CE. Badami (Vatapi) in Bagalkot District was their capital. Varaha was their royal emblem. Jayasimha was their originator. His son was Ranaraga. They have called themselves as Haritiputras of Manavyagotra in their inscriptions. Pulakeshi I was the first historical personality of Badami Chalukyas. He was the son of Ranaraga. He started his independent rule at Badami and built the Badami fort. Badami inscription informs that he performed Ashwamedha yaga. He had two sons named Keerthivarma and Mangalesha.

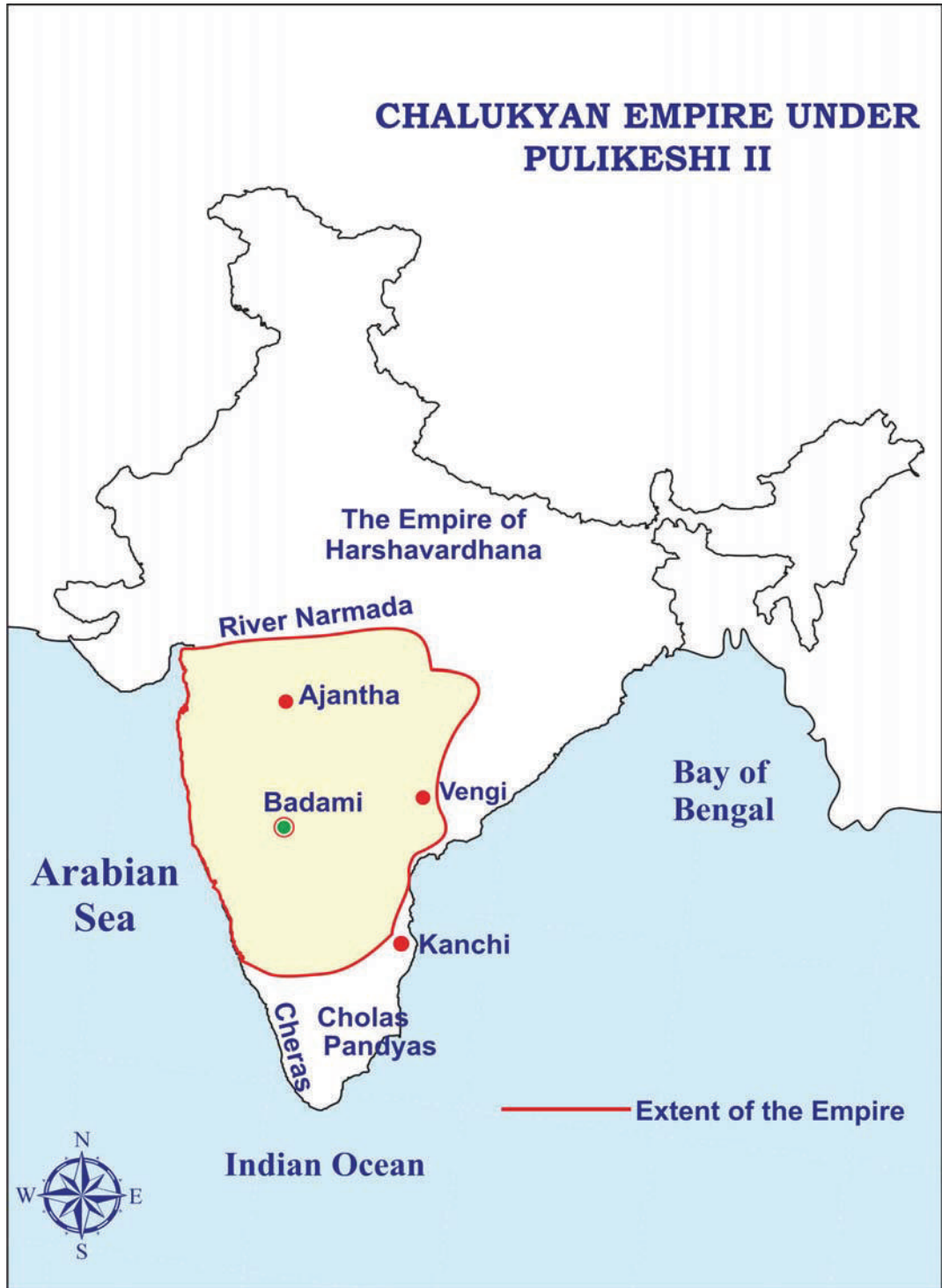
**Pulikeshi II (609 -642 CE):** He was the greatest of the rulers of Chalukyas of Badami. The son of Keerthivarma, he was a minor when he came to power. Hence his uncle Mangalesha looked after the administration. Hieuntsang's 'Si-yu-ki', Banabhatta's, 'Harshacharite' Aihole inscription, etc., give us information about Pulikeshi II.

**Achievements:** Even after Pulikeshi II came to proper age, Mangalesha did not transfer power to him, but tried to bring his own son to power. Enraged by this, Pulakeshi killed Mangalesha in the Elapattusimbige war and came to the throne in 609 CE.

When Pulikeshi II was in a civil war with Mangalesha, Rastrakuta chiefs Appayika and Govinda attacked the Chalukyan areas. Pulakeshi defeated them on the banks of river Bhima. Frightened Appayika ran away from the battle field and Govinda surrendered to Pulakeshi II.

Then he won Banavasi, the capital of Kadambas. He defeated Mauryas of Konkana, Alupas of South Canara and Gangas of Talakadu. After winning over smaller kingdoms in the South he went towards the North and defeated the rulers of Lata (Gujarath), Malwa and Gurjaras. He appointed his brother Jayasimha as the head of the Gujarath Branch.

**War with Harshavardhana - 634 CE:** Harshavardhana along with his army started from Kanauj and camped on the banks of the river Narmada. Pulakeshi II prepared to face Harshavardhana who was famous as 'Uttarapatheshwara'. A fierce battle was fought between the two in 634 CE. Harshavardhana was defeated in this battle. Pulakeshi who won, took the title 'Parameshwara'. Then a friendly relation developed



between the two and Narmada river became the border of their respective empires.

Pulikeshi II proceeded towards the East where the rulers of South Kosala and Kalinga surrendered to him. Later he won Pistapura and conquered Vengimandala. He appointed another brother Kubja Vishnuvardhana as the king of Vengi province. This laid the foundation for the Vengi Chalukya dynasty.

Pulikeshi invaded Kanchi and defeated the Pallava ruler Mahendra Varman I at Polliluru. He camped at Kanchi for a few days and performed pooja in the temples. This invasion of Pulikeshi II was the beginning of Pallava-Chalukya conflicts. Then he defeated Chola and Chera rulers and received tributes from them and returned to his capital.

During the last days of Pulikeshi II, he invaded Kanchi to conquer it, but Narasimhavarman-I defeated Pulikeshi in the battles at Pariyala, Manimangala, and Suramara in 642 CE. It is believed that Pulikeshi II died in this battle. After this, Narasimhavarman conquered Badami and took the title 'Vatapikondan', Badami was looted by the Pallavas. Chalukyas were under the control of the Pallavas for the next few years.

Pulikeshi II was one of the greatest rulers of Ancient India. Hieuntsang has called Pulikeshi as a very valiant Emperor. His empire extended upto the Narmada in the North, Mysore in South, Bay of Bengal in the East and Arabian sea in the West. Persian king Khusru II and Pulikeshi II exchanged ambassadors. The painting of the ambassador giving gift to Pulikeshi-II can be seen in cave No. 1 at Ajantha. He had titles like 'Dakshinapatheswara', 'Maharajadhiraja', 'Parameshwara', 'Pruthvivallbha', 'Satyashraya', etc.,

**Chalukya-Pallava conflict:** The Chalukya-Pallava conflict went on for about a century. Pandyas played an important role in this conflict. A long drawn conflict went on between the two to establish control over the Krishna-Tungabhadra Doab region.

The conflict which began during Pulikeshi II's period went on till the period of the last Chalukyan ruler. In the first stage, Pulakeshi II defeated Mahendravarman I. But later, he lost to Narasimhavarman I, son of Mahendravarman. Therefore Badami went into the hands of Pallavas for a few years.

Vikramaditya I, the son of Pulakeshi II conquered Badami which was under the Pallavas for 12 years. He defeated the Pallava rulers Narasimhavarman I, Mahendravarman II and Parameshwaravarman I. Later, his son Vinayaditya defeated Mahendravarman II and conquered Kanchi. His grandson Vijayaditya who came to power later defeated the Pallava. Since he had peace with Narasimhavarman II, many temples were built at Kanchi.

Pallava-Chalukya conflict started again during the time of Vikramaditya II, the son of Vijayaditya. He invaded Kanchi thrice. He defeated the Pallava ruler Parameshwara Varman II at Vilanda in 731 CE. He invaded Kanchi again in 735 CE and conquered it by defeating Nandivarman. He donated immensely to the Rajasimha temple at Kanchi and got an inscription composed about his victory. By 740 CE Pallavas lost completely. After the Rashtrakutas reduced the influence of the Chalukyas, the continuous conflict between the Chalukyas and Pallavas ended. This Chalukya-Pallava conflict which went on for nearly 100 years led to the downfall of both the empires.

### **Cultural contributions of the Chalukyas:**

**Religion:** Chalukyan kings were tolerant towards all religions. Though they were staunch devotees of Vishnu, they patronised Shaivism, Jainism and Buddhism. The cave temples at Badami reflect their religious tolerance. They built many temples and gave donations to them. They gave patronage to priests and respected them. They encouraged yagnas and yagas. Hieuntsang informs us that Buddhism existed during the Chalukyan period.

**Literature:** Badami Chalukyan rulers gave patronage to many scholars. Many inscriptions in Kannada and Sanskrit have been composed during their period. Mahakuta pillar inscription describes the achievements of Keerthivarman-I. Vijayamahadevi (Vijjika, Vijayabhattacharika), the daughter-in-law of Pulakeshi-II wrote 'Kaumudi Mahotsava'. Ravikeerthi, the court poet of Pulakeshi-II composed the Aihole inscription. It describes the achievements of Pulakeshi-II. Hence it is called 'Aihole Prashasthi'. Badami inscription of Pulakeshi-I, Kappe Arabhatta's Badami inscriptions, Mangalesha's Mahakuta inscription etc., denote the literary development of Chalukyas.

**Art and Architecture:** The Chalukyas of Badami have given marvellous contributions to Indian Art and Architecture. Building of Sthambha

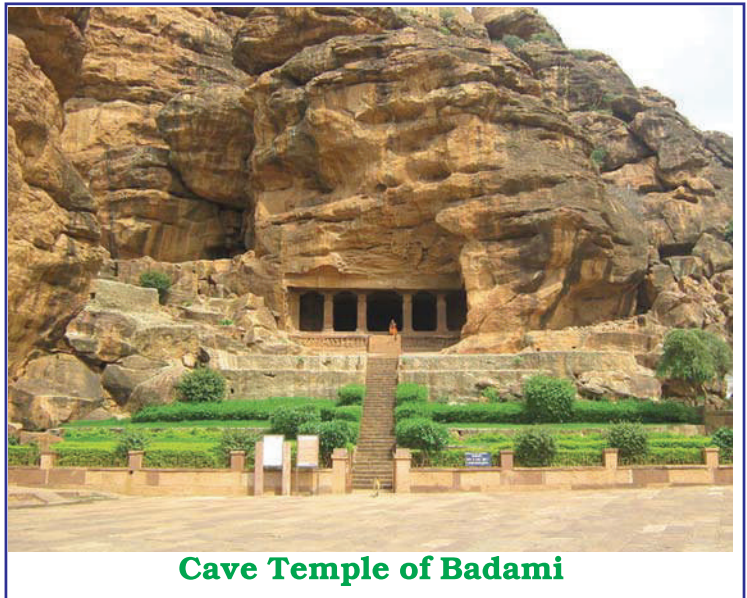
Mantapa (Navaranga) and Sukhanasi along with the Garbhagruha was a unique contribution of the Chalukyas. They built many temples following the Nagara or North Indian Style and Dravida or South Indian style. They built their temples using red sandstone. They experimented many things in temple building. They built small models of temples and based on that, built the main temples. The Chalukyan art took its birth at Aihole and developed in Badami and Pattadakallu. In this background, Percy Brown has called their architecture as 'cradle of Indian temple architecture'. Badami, Aihole and Pattadakallu were the centres of their art.

### Important Characteristic features of Chalukyan architecture.

(i) Small base design, (ii) horse shoe base, (iii) Square Garbhagriha, (iv) Inner pradakshinapatha, (v) Mukhamantapa, Navaranga, Sukhanasi and Pyramidal Shikhara on the Garbhagruha (vi) Ekakuta, Dwikuta, Trikuta temples.

**Cave temples of Badami:** Chalukyas have built four rock cut cave temples at Badami, which attract the attention of the visitors. They have Mukhamantapa, large Rangamantapa and Garbhagriha. Cave No 1 belongs to Shaivism. The sculptures of Ardhanareeshwara and Nataraja here are very attractive. Cave

No. 2 and 3 belong to Vaishnavism. Varaha and Vamana bas-reliefs in cave No. 2 are noteworthy. Cave No. 3 is the biggest of all and was built by Mangalesha. The Earth Goddess, Vishnu sitting on Shesha and Narasimha, Vamana, Balarama, Harihara sculptures attract the attention of the onlookers. Cave No. 4 is the smallest. It is a Jain cave. Here we can see the sculptures



**Cave Temple of Badami**

of Mahaveera, his disciple Goutama and Parshvanatha, the 23rd Tirthankara. In course of time the above Basadi came to be called Melana or Mena Basadi.

Though Badami is famous for cave temples, we can see a few artistic temples here. Among them, Malagitti Shiva, B h u t h a n a t h a , Lakumeesha and Virupaksha temples are important.

**Aihole:** Another centre of Badami Chalukyan art, Aihole was once a famous trading centre. We can see a number of temples of Chalukyan art here.



**Durga Temple, Ihole**

**Ladhkhan temple:** It is the first of the temples of Chalukyan art. It has a Mukhamantapa, Garbhagruha with a Nandi idol in front of the temple. Garbhagruha on top of the Garbhagruha is a special feature of this temple. Henry Cousins, the art critic called it a Vaishnava temple, because of the sculpture of Garuda on the door of the Garbhagriha. But the Nandi Idol shows that the Garbhagriha had Shivalinga. Since a Muslim saint by name LadhKhan lived here for a number of days people called it Ladh Khan temple.

**Durga temple:** Is a very special temple among the temples at Aihole. This is a Sun temple designed on the model of Horse shoe and Buddhist Chaityalaya. The Shikara of this temple resembles the sikhara of Orissa temples. Rangamantapa with two rows of pillars and the Verandah on the two sides go till the Garbhagruha and merge in a semicircle, which amazes the onlookers. Since the temple is surrounded by the fort wall, it is called the fort (Durga) temple.

A group of Konthi temples are seen in front of the fort temple. They are also the ancient temples of Badami Chalukyas and were model temples built as an experiment.

**Huchchimalligudi:** Is a small temple with simple style. It has square pillars.

**Meguthi Jain temple:** Which is situated on a small hill near Aihole was built by Ravikeerthi. On the eastern wall of this temple is written the Aihole inscription. This temple which has a Mukhamantapa, Madhyarangamantapa and Garbhagruha is built in the Dravid style. It is called Melagudi as it is built on the hill. According to scholars, gradually Megudi became Meguthi.

Shivalinga, Varaha, Kali and Nataraja bas-reliefs in the Ravalgudi cave at Aihole attract our attention. The other important temples of Aihole are Jyothirlinga, Mallikarjuna and Siddheshwara etc., The Ramalinga temple, half a mile away from Aihole has three Garbhagrihas.

**Pattadakallu:** The ancient name of Pattadakallu was 'Kisuvolalu'. Many temples of Badami Chalukyas are here. Kasi Vishwanatha, Papanatha, Jambulingeshwara temples etc., are in Nagara style and Sangameshwara, Virupaksha, Mallikarjuna temples are in Dravida style.

**Virupaksha Temple (Lokeshwara temple):** It is the most important among the temples at Pattadakallu. In memory of 3 victories over the Pallavas by Vikramaditya II, his queen Lokamahadevi built this temple. The architect of this temple was Anirvathachari Gunda. It is 224 ft long and 105 ft broad. The temple looks like being held by lions and the elephants holding the beams. There is a huge sculpture of Nandi in the Nandi mantapa in front of the temple. This temple which has a Mukhamantapa, Mahamatapa and Garbagriha has a Shikhara in Dravida style. The idol of Surya murthy in the Ardhamnantapa is the most beautiful.



**Virupaksha Temple, Pattadakallu**

**Mallikarjuna (Trailokeshwara):** Mallikarjuna temple, which resembles this temple is situated next to it. This temple was built by Trailokamahadevi another queen of Vikramaditya-II.

Mahakuteshwara temple at Mahakoota also shows the Chalukyan art.

## **Pallavas:**

Pallavas came to power after the Satavahanas. The history of Pallavas begins with Shivaskanda Varma. Kanchi was their capital and 'Nandi' was their Royal Emblem. The History of Pallavas is clear from the time of Simhavishnu who came to power in about 3rd C CE. His successors were- Mahendravarman I, Narasimhavarman I, Mahendravarman II, Prameshwaravarman I, Narasimhavarman II, Prameshwaravarman II, Nandivarman, Dantivarman, Nandivarman III and Aparajithavarman.

The most important contribution of Pallavas was in the field of Art and Architecture.

**Pallava art and architecture:** Pallavas occupy a prominent place in the history of South Indian art and architecture. Dravida style of art blossomed during their period. Pallava kings loved and patronised art. We can see the proficiency of their art in Kanchi and Mahabalipuram.

**Important Features of Dravida (Pallava) style.** (i) Pillared hall, (ii) Creation of Lion structure at the base of the pillars, (iii) Pyramidal Shikhara (iv) Square shaped enclosure (compound) surrounded by wall (v) creation of stone chariots.

**Kanchi:** Kanchi has been called a city of temples. The prominent temples here are Kamakshi, Ekambaranatha, Varadaraja, Mahakaleshwara, Kailasanatha. etc. Kamakshi was the family deity of Pallavas. Kanchi is called Shivakanchi, Vishnukanchi and Jaina Kanchi. Shiva temples at Shiva Kanchi, Vishnu temples at Vishnu Kanchi and Jain temples at Jaina Kanchi are in large numbers.

**Mahabalipuram:** It is near the river Parla. It was the capital of Narasimhavarman I. Many temples, mansions and palaces here attract the lovers of art. Ten rock cut Mantapas and chariots, carved in rockhill are world famous for their beauty and artistic talent. The mythological sculptures carved on the walls of the mantapas, attract attention. Varaha mantapa, Mahishasuramardhini mantapa sculpture are very attractive. The sculptural bunch carved on the big stone boulders is the special contribution of Pallava art. It was at first called the stone bunch of Arjuna's penance. But it was called the scene of Devagange coming down to earth. The stone chariots, world famous as seven Pagadas is

the greatest contribution of Pallava art. There are eight stone chariots. Each chariot is carved in the style of a temple. These chariots are named after Pandavas and Draupadi. 'Draupadi chariot is small, Dharmaraya chariot is big. The sculptures in the chariot are known for their beauty.

### Activity

Compare Dravida style with Hoysala style

### QUESTIONS.

#### I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. Who was the greatest ruler of the Vardhanas?
2. Which was the capital of Harshavardhana?
3. Who was the sister of Harshavardhana?
4. Who wrote Harshacharita?
5. Who was famous as 'Uttarapatheshwara'?
6. Who presided over the religious conference at Kanauj?
7. When was the Buddhist Council at Prayag held?
8. Who was the founder of Kadamba dynasty?
9. Which is the first Kannada inscription?
10. Who was the famous ruler of Gangas?
11. Which was the capital of Early Chalukyas?
12. Who was the famous ruler of Badami Chalukyas?
13. Which was the Royal Emblem of Badami Chalukyas?
14. Who was famous as 'Dakshinapatheshwara'?
15. Who composed the Aihole inscription?
16. Name the work composed by Vijayabhattacharika.
17. Which was the work of Hieuntsang?

#### II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.

1. Who were the parents of Harshavardhana?
2. Name any two literary works of Harshavardhana.
3. Who erected the Gommateshwara statue and where?

4. Name any two titles of Pulikeshi II.
5. Name any two temples of Aihole.
6. Name any two temples of Pattadakallu.
7. Name any two important architectural centres of Pallavas.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.**

1. Describe the achievements of Harshavardhana.
2. Explain the Chalukya - Pallava conflict.
3. Write about the contributions of Chalukyas of Badami to art and architecture.

**IV. Answer the following in 30 to 40 sentences.**

1. Describe the achievements of Pulikeshi II

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## CHAPTER 4.8

### RASHTRAKUTAS

Rashtrakutas established a large empire in South India and ruled for a long time. They ruled from 753 to 978 CE. In the beginning they were the feudatories of Chalukyas of Badami. The word 'Rashtrakuta' denotes power. 'Rashtra' denotes country and 'Kuta' means head. They called themselves 'Lattaluru puravaradheeshwaras' in their inscriptions and hence it is said that they belonged to Lattaluru (Laturu) in Maharashtra. Garuda was their Royal Emblem. Manykheta (Malakheda) in Gulbarga district was their capital.

Dantidurga was the first ruler of Rashtrakutas. He defeated the Chalukyas of Badami. Krishna-I succeeded him. He completely defeated the Chalukyan king Keerthivarman. He built the monolithic Kailasanatha temple at Ellora. Govinda-II, who came to power after him, was weak and hence Dhruva dethroned him and came to power.

#### **Dhruva (780-793 CE):**

Dhruva was prominent among the early Rashtrakuta rulers. He spread his fame in North India. When he came to power, the political condition in North India was chaotic. The rulers of Pratihara and Bengal had an eye on the throne of Kanauj. Vathsaraja of Pratihara attacked Kanauj and defeated Indrayudha. During the same time, Dharmapala of Bengal went to conquer Vathsaraja but was not successful. Under these circumstances, Dhruva went on a conquest of North India with his children, Indra and Govinda-III and defeated Vathsaraja and Dharmapala. As a result of this Ganga and Yamuna basin came under the control of Dhruva.

After his victory over North India, he invaded Vengi. But Vishunavardhana-IV, the Vengi ruler did not fight, but gave his daughter Sheelabhatarika in marriage to Dhruva. Dhruva defeated the Ganga ruler Shivamara at Mudugundura and imprisoned him. He appointed his elder son Sthambha as the head of Gangawadi province. He defeated

Nandivarma II, the Pallava ruler of Kanchi and received many elephants as tribute. He had titles like 'Dharavarsha', 'Sri Vallabha', 'Narendrasena' and 'Kalivallabha'.

### **Govinda-III (793-814 CE):**

After Dhruva, his son Govinda-III came to power in 793 CE. But his brother Sthambha opposed it. Gangas and Pallavas helped Sthambha. Angered by this, Govinda-III defeated Sthambha and imprisoned him. But later released him and made him the head of Gangawadi. He had released Ganga ruler Shivamara who was in prison. But since he helped Sthambha, he was sent back to jail again.

Political chaos continued in North India even during the time of Govinda-III. Nagabhatta, the Pratihara ruler, Dharmapala of Bengal and Chakrayudha of Kanauj were trying to extend their supremacy.

Govinda-III started his conquest of North India in 800 CE. Nagabhatta-II, who feared Govinda-III ran away from the battle field. Chakrayudha surrendered to Govinda. Dharmapala backed away from the battle and paid tributes.

The army of Govinda III marched upto Himalayas. The inscriptions tell that Govinda's horses drank the water flowing at the foot hills of Himalayas and his elephants bathed in the Ganges.

The Gangas along with Pandyas and Kerala rulers attacked the Rashtrakutas in 803-04 CE. Govinda III defeated them and captured their Royal Emblems.

Govinda III defeated Pallava ruler Dhantivarma and secured tributes from him. At the same time the Simhalan ruler surrendered to Govinda III by sending his statue.

During the time of Govinda-III the Rastrakuta empire extended from Himalayas in the North to Kanyakumari in the South and Saurashtra in the West to Bengal in the East. The whole of India came under the influence of the Rashtrakutas. He had titles like 'Jagattunga', 'Prabhuthavarasha', 'Sri Vallabha' and 'Tribhuvanadhavala'.

### **Amoghavarsha I (814-878CE):**

The son of Govinda-III, Amoghavarsha came to power in 814 CE. He was called Sharva. He was a minor when he took over the reins.



Hence his uncle Karka looked after the administration for a few years (814-821). Amoghavarsha is considered the greatest among the Rashtrakuta kings. His cultural achievements are greater than his military achievements.

**Achievements:** Amoghavarsha defeated the Vengi Chalukayan ruler Gunaga Vijayaditya-III at Vingavalli in 830 CE and forced him to retreat.

The Northern parts of Ganga empire were under the control of Bankesha, the commander of Amoghavarsha. Though the Ganga king Rachamalla tried to conquer these places, he was not successful. Bankesha had his influence till Kaidala (Near Tumkur).

Neethimarga Ereyanga, who came to power after Rachamalla defeated Amoghavarsha in the Rajaramudi battle (near Kolar) in 856 CE.

Amoghavarsha gave up conflicts with the Ganga and other kings and developed matrimonial alliances. He gave his daughter Chandralabbe in marriage to Ganga Bhutuga (son of Ereyanga), Sheela Mahadevi was married to Vishnuvardhana, the son of Vijayaditya of Vengi and another daughter Sankha was married to Nandivarma III, the Pallava ruler of Kanchi.

The Neelagunda and Shirur inscriptions tell us that Amoghavarsha was respected by the rulers of Anga, Vanga, Magadha, Malwa, Vengi and neighbouring states.

During his last days Amoghavarsha had to face the rebellion of Yuvaraja Krishna. His commander Bankesha faced this rebellion ably and made Krishna to repent and change. In memory of this victory Amoghavarsha built 'Bankapura' in the name of Bankesha and made him the governor of Banavasi.

Amoghavarsha was tolerant to all religions, peace loving and a scholar himself. Sanjan inscription says that he cut off his left thumb as a sacrifice to Kolhapur Mahalakshmi to protect his subjects from famine. Himself a poet, he wrote 'Prashnottara Ratnamala' in Sanskrit. He patronised scholars like Jinasenacharya, Mahaveeracharya, Shaktayana, Srivijaya and others. 'Kavirajamarga' is the first known Kannada work written by Srivijaya. Manyakheta, the capital became very famous during his period. Sulaiman, the Arab traveller visited his capital in 851 CE. He says that the Rashtrakuta empire is one of the four great empires of the world (Baghadad, China and Constantinople being the other three).

Amoghavarsha had titles like 'Athishayadhavala', 'Nrupatunga', 'Veeranaryana', 'Sri Vallabha', 'Rattamartanda', etc.,

Successors of Amoghavarsha - Krishna-II, Indra III, Amoghavarsha-II, Govinda-IV, Amoghavarsha-III, Krishna-III and Karka II.

### Cultural Contributions:

**Religion:** Rashtrakuta rulers had the great quality of religious tolerance. Though they were followers of Vedic religion, they patronised Jainism and Buddhism also. Amoghavarsha was a staunch devotee of Kolhapur Mahalakshmi. Brahmanas were engaged in performing Yagas and yagas. The kings gave donations and respected them. It is learnt that there was a Buddhist Sangha in Kanheri near Mumbai.

**Literature:** Rashtrakuta kings were patrons of literature. Some Kings were writers themselves. The number of Kannada inscriptions increased. 'Kavirajamarga', the first Kannada work was composed by Sri Vijaya. Kavirajamarga informs us that Kannadanadu extended from Cauvery to Godavari.

Literature developed immensely during their period. Ponna, who lived in the court of Krishna-III, wrote 'Shantinathapurana' and 'Bhuvanaikya Ramabhyudaya'. He had the title 'Ubhayakavi Chakravarti'. Pampa, who was in the court of Arikesari-II, the feudatory of Rashtrakutas at Vemulavada, wrote 'Vikramarjuna Vijaya' (Pampa Bharatha) and 'Adipurana', He is called 'Adikavi' of Kannada. Shivakotyacharya wrote 'Vaddaradhane', It is called the first prose work of old Kannada. Sanskrit literature also developed well.

Shaktayana - Shabdanushasana.

Mahaveeracharya - Ganithasarasangraha.

Amoghavarsha - Prashnottararatnamala.

Trivikrama - Madalasachampu.

Jinassenacharya - Adipurana, Parshvabhyudaya.

Asaga - Vardhamana Purana.

Halayudha - Mruta Sanjeevini, and Kavirahasya etc were the important Sanskrit works of this period.

**Art and Architecture:** Rashtrakuta rulers have given wonderful contribution to Art and Architecture. They built structural temples, cave temples and Basadis. Ellora, Ajantha and Elephanta are the centres of their art.

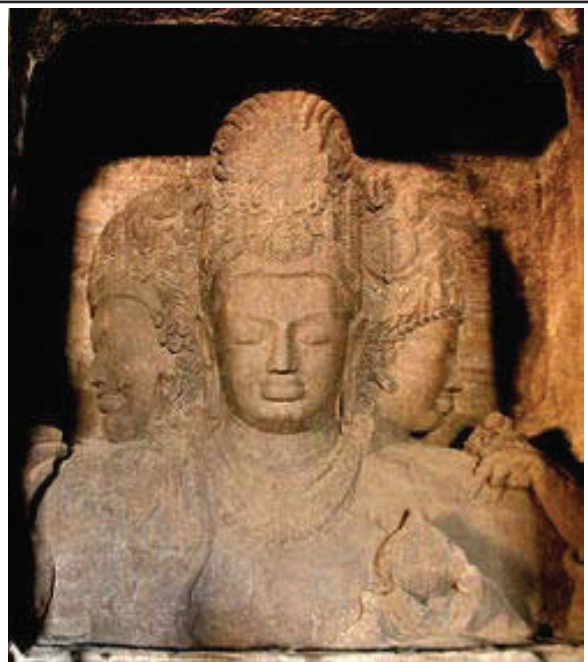
### Ellora - Kailasanatha temple:

There are 34 cave temples at Ellora in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra and 5 of them belong to Hinduism. The monolithic stone temple of Kailasanatha is world famous. This temple was built by Krishna-I in 770 CE. The temple is 164 ft long, 109 ft wide and 92 ft high. The temple which has a Mahadwara, quadrangle, shikara and Linga is in Dravida style. The sculpture of Shivaleela in this temple attract the attention of the tourists. Two pillars and two huge elephants have been carved near the temple. There is Nandi mantapa in front. There are five temples of subordinate deities around the Garbhagruha. Sculptures of Asthadikpalakas, Ganga-yamuna, Saraswati have been carved. Ravana holding the Kailasa mountain is attractive and hence the temple gets the name Kailasanatha. Dr.V.A. Smith has called this temple as one of the greatest artistic works of the world.

The other Hindu temples at Ellora are Ravana's cave, Dasavathara, Rameshwara, Dumarlena caves etc., Apart from them, Neelakantha cave, Indra Sabha, Jagannatha Sabha cave temples are also here.



**Kailasanatha Temple, Ellora**



**Thrimurthy Sculture, Elephanta**

**Elephanta:** Elephanta, which is an island 6 miles from Mumbai, has 7 caves. Its ancient name was Goravapuri. The Portuguese called the huge elephant here as Elephanta and hence the name. The Trimurthy sculpture in the central cave is related to the three incarnations (Creation, Protection and destruction) of God. The idol which is 18 ft high is carved between two half pillars. Dwarapalaka, Ardhanareeshwara, Shiva-Parvathi and other bas-reliefs have been beautifully carved.

The paintings in the cave temples of Ellora are a witness to the fact that they patronised painting.

*The other important temples of Rashtrakuta period were - Savadi-Brahmadeva and Narayana temple, Rona-Someshwara temple, Kukkanuru - Navaligeshwara temple, Manyakheta-Shiva, Vishnu and Jain temples, Sannati - Chandralamba temple, Sanduru-Kumaraswamy temple.*

### Activity

Collect information about the dynasties with which Amoghavarsha had matrimonial alliances.

### QUESTIONS.

#### I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. What was the royal emblem of the Rashtrakutas?
2. Which was the capital of the Rashtrakutas?
3. Who was the first king of the Rashtrakutas?
4. Who was the greatest ruler of the Rashtrakutas?
5. Who was the foreign traveller who visited the court of Amoghavarsha ?
6. Which was the first literary work in Kannada?
7. Who was called 'Ubhaya Kavichakravarthi'?
8. Who patronized Ponna?
9. Who is called Adikavi of Kannada?
10. Who patronized Pampa?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. Who built the Kailasanatha temple? Where was it built?
2. Name any two titles of Dhruva.
3. Write any two titles of Govinda III.
4. Write any two titles of Amoghavarsha.
5. Name any two works of Ponna.
6. Name any two works of Pampa.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.**

1. Describe the achievements of Govinda III
2. Describe the achievements of Amoghavarsha.

**IV. Answer the following in 30 to 40 sentences.**

1. Describe the cultural contributions of Rashtrakutas.

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## CHAPTER 4.9

### LATER CHALUKYAS AND HOYSALAS

#### Later Chalukyas.

Later Chalukyas were the feudatories of the Rashtrakutas. They were also called Chalukyas of Kalyana. Tailapa II was the founder of this dynasty. Manyakheta was their first capital. Someshara I shifted the capital to Kalyana.

#### Vikramaditya VI (1076-1126 CE).

Vikramaditya VI was the greatest ruler of this dynasty. He ruled for 50 years. He suppressed the revolt of his brother Jayasimha at Banavasi. Later he had to face revolts of Hoysala rulers Ballala I and Vishnuvardana. He foiled Kulottunga Chola's attempt to capture Vengi and defeated the Paramaras.

He was successful in suppressing the revolts of the Kadambas of Goa and Shilaharas of Karaada. Later he established matrimonial relations with them. He sent his ambassador to the court of Ceylonese King Vijayabahu. His empire stretched from Narmada in the North to Kadapa in the South and the two seas in the East and West. The Lakshmeshwara inscription gives details of all his achievements. He had the titles 'Permadideva', and 'Tribhuvanamalla'. He started a new era—called '**Chalukya Vikrama Era**' in 1076 CE to commemorate his accession. Vikramaditya VI was succeeded by Someshwara III. The other rulers of this dynasty were Jagadekamalla, Tailapa III, Tribhuvanamalla and Someshwara IV.

#### Cultural Contributions.

The Chalukyas of Kalyana followed the great tradition of the Chalukyas of Badami and made rich contributions to the culture of Karnataka, especially in Literature, Art and Architecture.

## Literature

Kannada and Sanskrit literature developed during this period. Jain writers composed scholarly literature in Kannada. The famous Kannada poet Ranna was patronized by Sathyashraya. His famous works are 'Ajitanatha Purana' and 'Sahasa Bhima Vijaya' (Gadhayuddha). He was honoured as 'Kavichakravarthi' by his patron. The other important authors and works of this period were:

- Chavundaraya II - Lokopakara deals with astronomy, astrology, sculpture and Medicine.
- Sreedharacharya - Jaatakatilaka. This is the first authentic astrological Work in Kannada.
- Bilhana - A Kashmir poet was the court poet of Vikramaditya VI. He wrote 'Vikramankadeva Charitham'
- SomeshwarIII - Wrote 'Abhilashithartha Chintamani' or 'Manasollasa', which is considered as the first encyclopedia in Sanskrit.
- Nagavarma-II - Who was Jagadekamalla's tutor, has written 'Kavyavalokana', (work on poetics,) 'Bhasha Bhushana' (a work on Grammar) and Abhidhanavastukosha, (the first dictionary in Kannada),
- Durgasimha - Panchatantra.
- Chandraraja - Madanatilaka.
- Shatinatha - Sukumara Charithe.
- Kirthivarma - Govaidya.
- Nayasena - Dharmamrutha.
- Vignaneshwara - 'Mitakshara-Samhita' (a work on Hindu law) etc.

## Art and Architecture

Chalukyas of Kalyana were great patrons of art and architecture. They continued the architectural styles of the Chalukyas of Badami. The important temples of their period are:

<u>Place</u>	... <u>Temple</u>
Kukkanur	... Kalleshwara
Abbaluru	... Brahmeshwara
Kuruvatti	... Mallikarjuna
Lakkundi	... Bramha-Jinalaya, Kashi Visheshwara
Laxmeshwara	... Shankhabasadi, Someshwara
Dambala	... Doddabasaveshwara
Hirehadagali	... Kalleshwara
Haveri	... Siddeshwara
Hanagal	... Tharakeshwara, Ganapati
Balligavi	... Kedareshwara, Thripurambaka
Itagi	... Mahadeva.

Chandralekha, the Queen of Vikramaditya VI was an expert in dance, music and other fine arts. Hence she had the title 'Nrutyia Vidyadari' and 'Abhinaya Saraswathi'.

## HOYSALAS OF DWARASAMUDRA

Hoysalas were the feudatories of Chalukyas of Kalayana. Dwarasamudra (Halebeedu) was their capital. Shashakapura or Sosevuru (Angadi in Chikmagalur district) and Belur were their capitals at different times. Sala was the founder of this dynasty. Sala killing a tiger was the royal emblem of the Hoysala dyanasty.

*A Jain saint Vardhamana Sudattacharya was meditating in the Vasanthika Devi Temple at Shashakapura. The temple was surrounded by a dense forest. A tiger appeared from the forest and created fear among the devotees of the temple. The Jainamuni gave an Iron weapon to Sala and orderd him to kill it as 'Poi-Sala' (Sala kill it).He killed the tiger. The saint blessed Sala and Sala is said to have established the kingdom. Hence the dyanasty was called Hoysala dyanasty and the emblem was 'Sala killing a Tiger'.*

He was succeeded by Vinayaditya and Ballala-I. Ballala-I was instrumental in the rise of the Hoysala power. He was one of the important feudatories in the court of Vikramaditya VI. He attempted to revolt against Vikramaditya VI to gain independence, but failed.

### **Vishnuvardhana (Bittideva) (1108-1152 CE).**

Vishnuvardhana was the greatest among the Hoysala kings. He had taken part in many wars during his brother Ballala's regime. He gained a lot of experience in administration as the Governor of Nanjangud province. By his ability and might he became the most powerful king in South India. He had many titles. They throw light on his victories. He completely routed the Cholas from Gangavadi in the battle of Talakadu in 1114 CE. and took the title 'Talakadugonda'. In commemoration of this victory he built the Kirtinarayana temple at Talakadu and the Channakeshava temple at Belur (Velapura). The coins issued by him after this victory contain the title 'Sri Talakadugonda'. Later he conquered Kongu, Nangali, Nolambavadi and Hanagallu. The Malavalli inscription tells us that he uprooted the Cholas from Kolar. Later he drove the Cholas upto Kanchi and earned the title Kanchigonda. He invaded Madurai and defeated Pandyas. He also defeated Pandyas of Uchchangi and marched upto Rameshwaram. In all these campaigns of Vishnuvardhana his commander Gangaraja played an important role.

Vishnuvardhana attained fame by driving away Cholas out of Karnataka. He later defeated Kongalvas and the Cholas who were ruling at Nidugal. The Kongalva King gave his daughter Chandaladevi in marriage to Vishnuvardhana. He also defeated the Alupas of Alwakheda. Vishnuvardhana tried to overthrow the overlordship of the Chalukyas of Kalyana. But he was defeated by Vikramaditya VI in 1118 CE in the Battle of Kannegala. The Chalukyan suzerainty continued till the death of Vikramaditya VI. After the death of Someshwara III, the successor of Vikramaditya VI, Vishnuvardhana invaded upto River Tungabhadra in the North. In 1140 CE he won over Hanagal, Uchchangi, Bankapura and Banavasi. In 1142 CE he won over Lakkundi. He died in 1152 CE. Vishnuvardhana had titles like 'Mahamandaleshwara', 'Chalukya-mani-Mandalika Chudamani', 'Tatpada Padmopajivin', 'Maleparolganda', etc.

## Cultural Contributions of Hoysalas

The Hoysala rulers have given rich contribution to the fields of religion, literature, art and architecture. A unique style of architecture and sculpture was developed during this period. Their period is known as 'The Golden Age of Temple Architecture' in Indian History.

**Religion :** Hoysalas patronised Shaivism, Vaishnavism and Jainism. Many kings followed Jainism. Bittideva (Vishnuvardhana) was a Jain. He was influenced by Shri Ramanujacharya and converted to Shrivaisnavism. He changed his name from Bittideva to Vishnuvardhana. His Queen Shantala devi and many of his generals were jains. This shows the religious tolerance of Vishnuvardhana.

**Literature :** Kannada and Sanskrit literature developed during this period. Important literary works of the Hoysala period were,

### Kannada works.

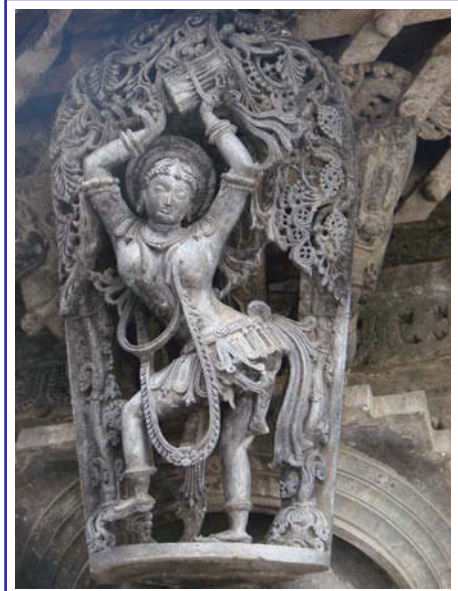
- Nagachandra : Mallinathapurana, Ramachandra Charitha Purana and Pampa Ramayana.
- Rajaditya : Kshethra Ganitha, Vyavahara Ganitha, and Leelavathi.
- Nayasena : Dharmamrutha.
- Raghavanka : Harischandrakavya, Siddaramapurana.
- Harihara : Girijakalyana, Pampashataka, and Shivaksharamale.
- Janna : YashodraCharitre and Ananthanatha purana.
- Keshiraja : 'Shabdamanidarpana.

### Sanskrit works.

- Thrivikrmapanditha : Ushaharana.
- Narayanapanditha : Madhava Vijaya and Manimanjari.
- Sakala Vidyachakravarthi III : Rukminikalyana.

**Art and Architecture :** Hoysalas combined Vesara and Dravida styles and developed a new style of Architecture called 'Hoysla style'. The main features of this style are:

1. Star shaped base.
2. A star platform (jagati) of about 4 feet high.
3. The Jagati around the temple is the open pradakshinapatha.
4. Polished pillars with variety of designs.
5. Elaborate carvings and beautifully carved Madanika figures
6. Spacious Navaranga (Central hall)
7. The Bhuvaneshwari (carved ceiling)
8. The Vimana (Shikara) in a pyramidal shape.
9. Garbhagruhas ranging from one to five (Ekakuta, Dwikuta, Thrikuta, Chathushkuta and Panchakuta.)



**Madanike**

They have built more than 100 temples. Important among them are, Channakeshava (Ekakuta) at Belur, Hoysaleshwara (Dwikuta) at Halebeedu, Keshava (Thrikuta) at Somanathapura, Lakshmi (Chathuskuta) at Doddagaddavalli, Panchalingeswara (Panchakuta) at Govindanahalli, Keerthinarayana at Talakadu, Harihareshwara at Harihara, Shiva at Bankapura, Amrutheshwara at Amruthapura, Veeraballala temple at Arasikere



**Channakeshava Temple, Belur**

etc. They renovated many Jain Basadis and built new ones. Vishnuvardhana's queen built the Savathi Gandhavarana Basadis at Shravanabelagola.

Both instrumental and vocal music along with dance developed during the Hoysala period. Many Queens were dancers. Shantala, the Queen of Vishnuvardhana was famous as 'Natya Saraswathi'.

**Activity**

Collect information about important temples of Hoysalas and Later Chalukyas

**QUESTIONS****I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.**

1. Who was the founder of Chalukyas of Kalyana?
2. Which was the first capital of Chalukyas of Kalyana?
3. Who was the patron of Ranna?
4. Who had the title 'Kavichakravarthi'?
5. Which work is considered as 'The First Encyclopaedia' of Sanskrit?
6. Who was the founder of Hoysala kingdom?
7. What was the Royal Emblem of Hoysalas?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. Who started 'Vikrama Era' and when?
2. Mention any two titles of Vikramaditya VI
3. Name any two works of Ranna.
4. Who was the court poet of Vikramaditya VI? Name his work.
5. Name any two capitals of Hoysalas.
6. Mention any two titles of Vishnuvardhana.
7. Name any two famous temples of Hoysalas.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.**

1. Explain the cultural contributions of Chalukyas of Kalyana.
2. Describe the achievements of Vishnuvardhana.
3. Illustrate Hoysala contributions to Religion and Literature.
4. Explain the main features of Hoysala Architecture.

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**CHAPTER 5****MEDIEVAL PERIOD****Chapter-5.1****DELHI SULTANATE**

After the death of Harshavardhana, North India underwent a great change. The absence of a strong political power gave rise to many independent principalities like Tomars in Delhi, Chauhans in Ajmer, Rathors in Kanauj, Chandelas in Bundelkhand, Paramaras in Malwa, Sisodiyas in Mewar, etc. There were about 70 independent principalities in North India during the 8th to 12th centuries C.E. These states were very rich but were quarrelling among themselves. This disunity led to foreign invasion.

Arabs were the first among Muslims to invade India. They extended their power upto Sindh. Mohammad-bin-Quasim, the Governor of Basra, invaded India in 712 C.E. The Turks were the second among the Muslims to invade India. Mohammad of Ghazni led 17 expeditions to India between 1000 to 1027CE. His repeated attacks were to plunder the wealth of the big towns and the rich temples. The 15th expedition was carried on the famous Somanath temple in Gujarath. Alberuni, a Persian Scholar accompanied him in one of the expeditions. He wrote the famous book Kitab-Ul-Hind.

After the death of Mohammad Ghazni in 1030 C.E. India was free from any invasions for about one and half centuries. In 1175 C.E. Shahab-ud-din Mohammad Ghori invaded India. In 1191 C.E. Mohammad Ghori was defeated by Prithviraj Chouhan in the first battle of Tarain. In the second Battle of Tarain in 1192 C.E. Prithviraj Chouhan was defeated and captured. After this war Ghori captured Ajmer and Delhi and established Muslim rule in India. The Turkish rule extended over the Ganga-Yamuna Doab after the defeat of Jayachandra, the Gahadvala King of Kanauj. Mohammed Ghori entrusted the administration of his Indian possessions to his trusted slave and general Qutub-ud-din-Aibak.

Mohammad Ghori died in 1206 C.E. After this Qutub-ud-din Aibak secured from the Caliph of Baghdad Manumission and declared independence. Therefore, Qutub-ud-din Aibak is known as the founder of the 'Mamuluk' or Slave dynasty. Mamuluck means 'slave'. Qutub-ud-din-Aibak was famous for the construction of Qutub Minar at Delhi.

**The Sultanate of Delhi was ruled by 5 dynasties viz,**

1. The Slave dynasty (1206 - 1290 C.E)
2. The Khilji dynasty (1290-1320 C.E)
3. The Tughalak dynasty (1320-1413 C.E)
4. The Sayyid dynasty (1414-1451 C.E)
5. The Lodhi dynasty (1451-1526 C.E)

***Important Sultans of Slave Dynasty:** (1) Qutub-ud-Din-Aibak, (2) Iltumish (3) Razia Begum (Sultana) was the first Muslim woman ruler of Medieval India. (4) Balban(5) Kaiqubad.*

**Khilji Dynasty: (1290-1320 CE)**

The term, Khilji in Turkish language means 'Swords men'. Jalaluddin Khilji was the founder of Khilji Dynasty. He came to power in 1290 CE. He was murdered and succeeded by his ambitious nephew Alla-Ud-din Khilji in 1296 CE.

**Alla-ud-din Khilji (1296 to 1316 CE)**

Alla-ud-din Khilji's early name was Aligurshap. He lost his father at a very young age. Jalal-ud-din brought him up with affection. Alla-ud-din married the daughter of Jalal-ud-din. Jalal-ud-din appointed him as the governor of Khara province. In 1292 CE Alla-ud-din invaded Malwa and captured the town of Bilsa. He proceeded against Devagiri in the Deccan without taking the permission of the Sultan. Ramachandradeva of Devagiri was defeated by him. Alla-ud-din Khilji returned to Khara with heavy amount of booty of gold, silver, pearls and precious stones. The aged Sultan came hurriedly to Khara to receive the victorious Alla-ud-din. Alla-ud-din killed his uncle Jalal-ud-din Khilji and proclaimed himself as the Sultan of Delhi.

## Achievements of Alla-ud-din Khilji.

### I. Conquest of North India:

#### Conquest of Gujarat: (1297 CE)

Gujarat was ruled by Rajput King Karnadeva. In 1297 CE. Ulugh Khan and Nazarath Khan, the generals of Alla-ud-din attacked Gujarath and captured Anhilwada, Somanatha and Cambay and looted the wealth. King Karnadeva fled to Devagiri along with his daughter Devaladevi. The generals captured Kamaladevi, the queen of Karnadeva. Alla-ud-din Khilji married her. During this expedition an eunuch named Malik-Kafur was purchased for one thousand dinars. Hence he was popular as 'Hazar Dinari'.

#### Conquest of Ranathambore (1301 CE):

Raja Hamira Deva was the ruler of Ranathambore. He had given shelter to some 'Neo Muslims'. This offended Alla-ud-din. Ulugh Khan and Nazarath Khan invaded Ranathambore. It was captured after a siege of 11 months. Hamirdeva lost his life in the battle.

#### Conquest of Mewar (Chittor) (1303 CE):

The Sisodias of Mewar enjoyed great respect among the Rajputs. Their fort of Chittor was considered unconquerable. Tradition maintains that the immediate cause of Alla-ud-din's attack was his desire to carry away Padmini, the beautiful wife of Rana Ratan Singh. When defeat seemed certain, Padmini and other Rajput women committed 'Jauhar'. Chittor was captured and Sultan's eldest son Khizer Khan was made the governor of Chittor (capital of Mewar).

*Jauhar: Rajput women, to protect their honour from the enemies, jumped into the fire and sacrificed their lives. This was known as Jauhar*

#### Other Conquests:

Malwa, Ujjain, Mandu, Dhar, Chanderi and Jolur were conquered and by 1305 CE Alla-ud-din completed his Northern conquests.

## The Mangol Raids:

Alla-ud-din had to face more than six Mangol invasions between 1296 and 1308 CE. Frequent raids by the Mangols were a constant threat to the empire. Neo Muslims were also helping the Mangols. Alla-ud-din took a series of measures like building roads and forts and garrison at regular intervals, stationing sufficient trained soldiers, mercilessly massacring Neo Muslims, etc., to face the Mangol raids.

*Neo Muslims: A group of Mangols had been allowed to settle near Delhi after embracing Islam by Jalal-ud-din Khilji. They were called as 'Neo Muslims'. They plotted to take the life of Alla-ud-din Khilji. But it failed. Hence Alla-ud-din massacred 30,000 Neo- Muslims near Delhi.*

## II South Indian Campaign

Alla-ud-din Khilji was the first Muslim ruler to attempt the conquest of South India. He deputed his able general Malik Kafur for the South Indian campaign. The enormous wealth of South India and his ambition to conquer it were the causes for his campaign.

### Expedition to Devagiri (1307 CE):

Ramachandradeva, the king of Devagiri had given shelter to Karnadeva and his daughter Devaladevi and had also not paid the annual tribute for three years. Alla-ud-din sent Malik Kafur against Devagiri with an army of 30,000 soldiers. He defeated Ramachandradeva and captured Devaladevi. She was married to Khizer Khan, the eldest son of Alla-ud-din Khilji. Ramachandradeva agreed to pay an annual tribute.

### Warrangal Expedition: (1309 CE)

Malik Kafur marched towards Warrangal via Devagiri and besieged the fort. King Prataparudradeva of Warrangal was forced to surrender and he sued for peace. Golden statue of King Prataparudradeva, 100 elephants, 7000 horses and large quantities of gold and silver jewels and money were carried away to Delhi by Malik Kafur. Amir Khusru says "Malik Kafur proceeded to Delhi with booty on a thousand camels, groaning under the weight of treasure".

### **Conquest of Dwarasamudra (1310 CE):**

Malik Kafur attacked Dwarasamudra (Halebidu) which was ruled by Vira Ballala III. The Hoysala King was surprised by the sudden attack of the Muslim army and could not defend his capital. It was looted. A number of temples were axed by Malik Kafur. Veera Ballala III surrendered some elephants, horses and treasure and offered to pay annual tribute to the Sultan.

### **Conquest of Madhurai (1311 CE) :**

There was a civil war at Madhurai, between the brothers Sundara Pandya and Veera Pandya. Malik Kafur marched towards Madhurai and plundered all the important towns and temples on the way to Pandya Kingdom. He reached as far as Rameshwaram and destroyed the great temple and built a mosque there. He came back to Delhi in 1311 CE with rich spoils.

### **Second Expedition on Devagiri : (1312 CE)**

The last war of the South Indian expedition of Malik Kafur was against Shankaradeva of Devagiri. Shankaradeva had withheld the tribute and tried to reign independently. So Malik Kafur marched against Devagiri and defeated and killed him. Devagiri was annexed to the Delhi empire.

Alla-ud-din's empire extended from Lahore in the North to Madhurai in the South and Bengal in the East to Gujarat in the West. By 1312 CE Alla-ud-din had become the master of the whole of India. He had an ambition to conquer the whole world. But had to be satisfied in conquering the entire India. Even then he issued the coins with the title 'Sikandar' (Alexander II).

## **III. Reforms of Alla-ud-din Khilji.**

### **Administrative Reforms :**

Alla-ud-din Khilji was a strong and efficient ruler. He set up a strong central government. He was the highest authority of the state and he believed in the theory of divine right. Hence, the Sultan considered himself a representative of God or 'Shadow of God' on earth. He took various measures for the prevention of rebellions, such as restricting matrimonial relations among nobles and officers, prohibiting secret meetings and parties, appointing spies to keep an eye on them,



confiscating their excess wealth, prohibiting wine and gambling and himself refraining from them and preventing the interference of Ulemas in administration.

### **Military Reforms:**

- (a) Alla-ud-din maintained a strong and huge standing army to safeguard his empire.
- (b) He introduced the system of branding of horses (dagh) and maintenance of descriptive register of soldiers to prevent false musters and corrupt practices.
- (c) He abolished the Jagir system and paid the salaries in cash.
- (d) He fixed the pay of soldiers at 234 tankas a year, with an additional 78 tankas for a soldier maintaining two horses.
- (e) Ariz-i-Mumalik was in charge of the appointment of soldiers.

### **Revenue Reforms:**

- (a) Alla-du-din Khilji introduced scientific method of measurement of land for the assessment of land revenue.
- (b) He imposed heavy taxes on the Sardars, Jagirdars and Ulemas.
- (c) Jazia was imposed on non-Muslims. They had to pay it along with other taxes like pilgrim tax, octroi etc.,
- (d) In order to check bribery and corruption among revenue officials the salaries were increased.
- (e) The post of a special officer called 'Mustakhraj' was created to collect land revenue from the peasants.
- (f) He took steps to safeguard the peasants from the demands of corrupt revenue officials by imposing strict punishments even for petty offences.

### **Economic Reforms : (Market Regulation)**

Alla-ud-din introduced the market regulation to help soldiers and to make ends meet. Prices of all articles of common use were fixed. Separate department and special officers were appointed to regulate the market. The price fixed in the capital was applicable to all towns.

**Price List**

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (1) Wheat per mana 7½ jitals      | (2) Rice per mana 5 jitals        |
| (3) Pulses per mana 5 jitals      | (4) Barley per mana 4 jitals      |
| (5) Sesamum per 3 sers 1 jital    | (6) Ghee per 2½ sers 1 jital      |
| (7) Sugar per 1½ sers 1½ jitals   | (8) One horse 100 To 200 Tankas   |
| (9) One Cow 4 to 5 Tankas         | (10) Male slave 100 to 200 Tankas |
| (11) Female slave 40 to 50 Tankas |                                   |

Grains were stored in government granaries. The storage was meant for emergencies like times of scarcity and famine. Any trader or vendor who cheated in weights and measurements were punished with cutting of an equal weight of flesh from his body (thigh).

The last days of Alla-ud-din were unhappy. He was poisoned by his trusted general Malik Kafur and the Sultan died in 1316 CE.

**Successors of Delhi Sultanate:** *Shihab-ud-din Umar, Kutub-ud-din Mubarak Shah and Nasir-ud-din Khusro Shah.*

## The Tughalak Dynasty

Ghiyasuddin Tughalak founded the Tughalak dynasty in 1320 CE. He was an experienced warrior, statesman and an able administrator. He liberated various harsh measures imposed by Alla-ud-din and restored peace and order in the Kingdom.

### Muhammad-bin-Tughalak (1325-1351 CE)

In the year 1325 CE Prince Jaunakhan, the son of Ghiyasuddin Tughalak ascended the throne with the title Muhammad-bin-Tughalak. He was an outstanding ruler of Tughalak dynasty. He is known for his military, economic and administrative experiments.

### Military campaign

Muhammad bin-Tughalak led a successful campaign against Nagarkot in 1337 C.E. Though his expedition of Karajal on the foot hills of Himalayas was successful his army suffered heavy losses because of severe cold.

He also led a campaign against Kampili Raya and Veeraballala III of Hoysalas. During his rule there were rebellions by Hindu chiefs and Muslim provincial governors who were ruthlessly suppressed.

## **Administrative Experiments (Reforms)**

### **Increase of taxes in the Doab:**

The area between the river Ganges and Yamuna (Doab) being very fertile, Muhammad-bin-Tughalak decided to increase the taxes in this area to enhance the revenues of his empire. Although it was a practical decision, the tax hike was too steep and introduced at a time when lack of rainfall had already created much unhappiness. When the farmers were unable to pay, they were ruthlessly punished. This measure made Muhammad-bin-Tughlak very unpopular.

### **Transfer of Capital (1327 CE):**

To safeguard the capital from the Mangol invasions, the Sultan decided to shift the capital from Delhi to Devagiri. He built a new city near Devagiri and named it as Daulatabad. The other causes for shifting the capital were the proximity of Delhi to the border and the new capital being in the centre of the empire. He desired to shift the entire population. Barani says "Not a cat or a dog was left". Ibn Batuta says "a blind man and a cripple who were unwilling to move were dragged to the new Capital." The reasons for the move were very practical, but the method adopted was impractical. The entire population of Delhi was made to travel to Daulatabad (1120 km). The tiresome journey passing through the dense forest, heavy rains, diseases, dacoits attacks, hunger, etc, resulted in death and sufferings of the people. Realizing that he had made a mistake Sultan ordered all the people to march back to Delhi again causing many more casualties. The entire incident made him highly unpopular.

### **Token Currency Reforms (1329-32 CE)**

Muhammad-bin-Tughalak carried out experiments on coinage and currency. His main aim was to save precious metals like gold and silver and introduce more money in circulation. For this reason Copper coins were issued which had the same value as the silver tanka. Minting the copper coins was not retained as a monopoly of the government.

Hence the empire was flooded with thousands of counterfeit copper coins. People paid taxes with these counterfeit coins. Copper coins lost their value as a medium of exchange. Trade suffered a lot. The Sultan therefore, recalled copper coins. The people were asked to exchange their copper coins with silver and gold coins. Hence the royal treasury became empty. Thus the currency reform of the Sultan utterly failed.

His character traits and achievements have elicited much discussion and controversy. Dr.V.A Smith says that he was a “compound of contradictions”. He was a learned scholar, an excellent speaker, a talented calligraphist and a devout Musalman. He possessed sound knowledge of mathematics, astronomy, philosophy and logic. But his policies, though well meant, were ill planned and badly executed. They made him very unpopular, giving him the reputation of being ‘A mixture of opposites’.

Muhammad-bin-Tughalak died at Tatta (in Sindh) in 1351 CE. The nobles chose Firoz Shah Tughalak as his successor. The sultanate had slowly begun to decline. The Tughalaks were followed by the Sayyids and the Lodhis. The last Lodhi ruler Ibrahim Lodhi was defeated in the first Battle of Panipat in 1526 CE by Babur the founder of Mughals.

**Sayyid Sultans (1414-1451 CE):** Khizar Khan, Mubarak Shah, Syed Mohammad Shah and Alla-ud-din Alam Shah.  
**Lodhi Sultans (1451-1526 CE):** Bahalal Lodhi, Nizam Khan, Sikandar Lodhi and Ibrahim Lodhi.

## Contributions of the Delhi Sultanate

**1. Administration:** The Kingdom of Delhi sultanate was a theocratic state. ‘Shariat’ (Islamic law) were the rules of the state. The ‘Ulema’ (a body of Islamic scholars) controlled the state and administration. The sultans called themselves Naib (deputy) of Kalifa (head of the Islamic state and religion of the world.)

### Central Government:

Sultan was the fountain-head of administration. He exercised the legislative, executive and judicial powers. He was often guided by the Ulemas. However, Alla-ud-din Khilji kept the Ulema away from the state

affairs. The Sultan carried the administration with the help of a number of ministers. They were in charge of departments like foreign affairs, revenue, royal correspondence, agriculture, markets, military, justice, finance etc.

### Important Central officers

1. *Wazir* - Prime Minister, next to the Sultan in charge of revenue and finance.
2. *Ariz-i-Mamluk* - Head of the military department.
3. *Amir-i-Mazlis* - Officer in charge of Royal forts and conferences.
4. *Barid-i-Mumalik* - Head of the state news agency.
5. *Dabir-i-Mumalik* - Head of the royal correspondences.
6. *Sadar-us-Sadur* - Dealt with the religious matters and endowments.
7. *Kazi-ul-Qazat* - Chief Justice.

**Revenue:** Land revenue, the war-booty, annual tributes, house, water, religious and poll taxes (Jaziya), etc. were the various sources of income to the state. Land revenue could be paid either in cash or kind.

### Justice:

The Sultans administered justice with the help of Kazi-Ul-Qazat (The chief justice). The chief Kazi was helped by a Mufti (interpreter of Islamic law). The towns and cities had courts headed by Kazis and assisted by Muftis. Kotwal was the police officer in charge of law and order.

### Army:

The Sultans maintained a strong army. It consisted of cavalry, infantry and elephant forces. The sultanate was primarily a military state. The Sultan was the supreme commander. All ministers and officers except the chief justice and the Khazis were to render both civil and military duties. Diwan-I-Ariz was in charge of army organization and administration.

### **Provincial Administration:**

The Sultanate was divided into a number of provinces called 'Iqtas'. Each was under a governor called 'Naib sultan'. The governor enjoyed absolute powers in his province. He looked after the administration, collected the revenue and maintained law and order in his province. He maintained an army of his own. Some sultans had the habit of transferring the governors and punishing them very severely if they revolted against the sultan.

Each province was divided into 'Shiqs' and 'Paragans'. They were looked after by 'Shiqdars' and 'Amils' respectively. Village was the primary unit of administration. It had traditional officers such as the Chaudhari, the Patwari, the Chaukidar etc.

### **2. Literature:**

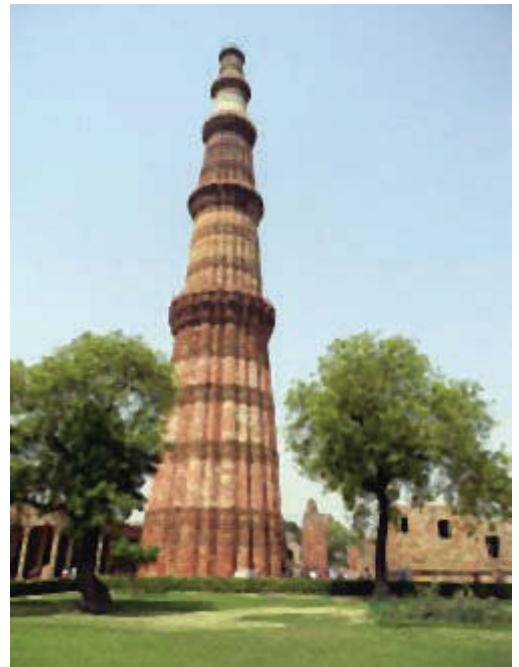
This period witnessed the growth of Persian and Vernacular literature. Persian poets of Central Asia sought shelter in the court of the sultans of Delhi. Amir Khusru was the most outstanding writer. He was called the 'Parrot of India'. Khazyan-ul-Futuh and Tarkish-i-Alai were his works. Amir Hasan Dehalvi wrote sonnets. Badr-ud-din, Maulana Muiyyin-ud-din, Umrani and Hassan Nizami were some of the great Persian writers. Muhammad-bin-Tughalak and Firoz Shah Tughalak were great scholars. Zia-ud-din Barani and Ibn Batuta were great historians of the Tughalak period. 'Shams-i-Siraj Afif completed the work Tarik-i-Firoz-shahi which had been left incomplete by Barani.

The Bhakthi movement provided scope for the development of vernacular literature (Hindi, Bengali, Punjabi, and Gujarati). Chand Bardai wrote 'Prithviraja Raso' and Malik Mohammad Jaysi wrote 'Padmavati'. There was encouragement for translating works from Sanskrit to Persian.

### **3. Art and Architecture:**

The heritage of Indian architecture was enriched by the Sultans of Delhi. They caused the development of a new style of architecture called 'Indo-Islamic'. It represents a synthesis of the two religious ideals, viz, Hinduism and Islam. The important features of the Indo-Islamic monuments are minarates, arches, domes, Hazaras, large gate ways, etc. Quwat-ul-Islam Mosque at Delhi and Adai-dinka-Jhampara mosque

at Ajmer were earliest creations. The Qutub Minar was a great achievement of the early period. It was commenced by Qutub-ud-din Aibak and completed by Iltumash. Iltumash built Hauz-i-Shamsi, Jami Masjid and Shamsi Idgah. The Jami Masjid is one of the largest and most beautiful of his buildings. Alla-ud-din Khilji built the palace of Hazar situm (palace of thousand pillars), the fort of Siri, the Jamait Khan Masjid and the Alai Darwaza at Delhi. The Tughalaks showed keen interest in building of cities and forts. Firoz Shah was the greatest of the builders. He laid out the cities of Firozabad, Fatehbad, Hissar and Janpur.



*Kutub Minar, Delhi*

### Activities

- (1) Make a list of Administrative experiments of Muhammad Bin-Tughlaq.
- (2) Collect the pictures on art and architecture of Indo-Islamic monuments of Delhi Sultanate.

### QUESTIONS.

#### I. Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. Who were the first among the Muslims to invade India?
2. Name the famous book of Alberuni.
3. Who was the founder of the Slave dynasty?
4. Who was the founder of the Khilji dynasty?
5. Who was the commander of Alla-ud-din Khilji who led the Southern expedition?

6. Who was called 'The Parrot of India'?
7. Who was the founder of the Tughlak dynasty?
8. Who was the famous Sultan of Tughlak dynasty?
9. Who shifted the capital from Delhi to Devagiri?
10. Who introduced token Currency?
11. Who commenced the construction of Qutub Minar at Delhi?

**II. Answer the following in two words or two sentences each.**

1. In which year did the second battle of Tarain take place? Between whom was it fought?
2. Name any two dynasties of Delhi Sultanate.
3. Name any two important monuments constructed by Alla-ud-din Khilji.
4. Why did Alla-ud-din Khilji call himself as 'Sikandar'?
5. Name any two generals of Alla-ud-din Khilji.
6. Give any two causes for the transfer of capital by Mohammad bin Tughlak.
7. Name two historians of Tughalak period.
8. Who started the writing of 'Tarik-i-Firozshahi'? Who completed it?
9. Name two books of Amir Khusrau.

**III. Answer the following in 15 to 20 sentences each.**

1. Write a note on the South Indian expedition of Alla-ud-din Khilji.
2. Explain the reforms of Alla-ud-din Khilji.
3. Why is Mohammad bin Tughalak called a 'Mixture of Opposites'?

**IV. Answer the following in 30 to 40 sentences each.**

1. Describe the achievements of Alla-uddin Khilji.
2. Critically examine the administrative experiments of Mohammad-bin-Tughalak.
3. Give an account of the contributions of Sultanate of Delhi.

## CHAPTER 5.2

### THE MUGHALS

During the later medieval period, there was another invasion on India from Central Asia. In the first battle of Panipat in 1526 CE Babur defeated, killed Ibrahim Lodhi and established the Mughal rule in India.

Babur was a great poet, and prose writer. His autobiography is 'Babur Nama'. His son and successor was Humayun. He lost his authority to Shershah Sur and could regain it after 15 years. He died suddenly in 1556 CE and was succeeded by his son Akbar.

#### **Akbar the great (1556-1605 CE)**

Jalal-ud-din Mohammad Akbar was the son of Humayun and Hamida Banu Begum. Humayun had lost his kingdom and was wandering from place to place along with his wife and very few followers. At this juncture Akbar was born at Amarkot in 1542 CE under the shelter of the Rana. His childhood was spent in great miseries pestered by Humanyun's enemies and untrustworthy followers. Hence Akbar was deprived of education and political training. He was forced to acced at an early age of 14 years after the death of his father. As he was a minor, Byram Khan became the regent.

#### **Military achievements of Akbar:**

##### **The Second Battle of Panipat (1556 CE)**

Hemu, the prime minister of Mohammad Adil Shah of Bengal, attacked and captured Delhi and Agra from the Mughal governor Tardi Baig and assumed the title Raja Vikramaditya. Akbar was in Punjab and his political condition was critical. Byram Khan helped Akbar to fight against Hemu in the second battle of Panipat in 1556 CE. When Hemu was on the verge of victory he was struck in the eye by an arrow and became unconscious. The leaderless army of Hemu fled away.

Byram Khan killed Hemu. After this battle Akbar reoccupied Delhi and Agra.

### **Conquest of Gondwana:**

Akbar Sent Asaf Khan to subdue the Kingdom of Gondwana. Rani Durgavati was ruling over this kingdom as the regent of her son Veeranarayana. She died fighting and Gondwana was annexed to the Mughal Empire.

### **Conquest of Gujarat:**

The wealth and prosperity of Gujarat and its importance for sea trade made Akbar to attack Gujarat. Its ruler Muzaffar Shah was defeated and Gujarat was occupied. Akbar built a new capital called Fathepur near Sikri in memory of this conquest.

### **Conquest of Bengal and Orissa:**

The governor of Bengal Daud Khan declared independence. Therefore Akbar sent his army to suppress him. Bengal and Orissa were occupied and they became a part of the Mughal Empire.

### **Annexations of Kabul and Kashmir:**

Akbar's step brother Hakim Mirza was ruling over Kabul. After his death in 1585 C.E. Akbar annexed Kabul into his Empire. Later he conquered Kashmir also.

### **Rajput Policy:**

Rajputs were the powerful enemies of the Mughals. Akbar realized that the valour and loyalty of Rajputs were essential for the consolidation of the Mughal empire. Therefore he tried to win their support by adopting measures like friendly relations, co-operation, entering into matrimonial alliances and appointing many of them as Mansabdars. Akbar married Jodha Bai, the daughter of Biharimal of Ambar (Jaipur). Raja Surjan Rai of Ranathambore voluntarily accepted the overlordship of Akbar. Ramachandra, the ruler of Kalinjar surrendered to Akbar in 1569 CE. The rulers of Jodhpur and Bikaner also accepted the sovereignty of Akbar.

The only Rajput state which refused to accept Akbar's overlordship was Mewar. Akbar captured Chittor, the capital of Mewar by defeating its ruler Uday Singh in 1568 CE. But Uday Singh continued to fight against the Mughals till his death. His son Rana Pratap Singh also continued to fight after the death of his father. The most important battle fought between the Mughals and Rajputs was the battle of Haldighat in 1576 CE. Ranapratap Singh suffered heavy losses in this battle. Mewar was completely occupied by Akbar only after the death of Ranapratap Singh. Rajput Kings were allowed to retain internal autonomy. The important Rajput commanders of Akbar were Raja Todarmal, Raja Mansingh, Raja Baghavandas and others.

### **Conquests of South India:**

After his North-Indian conquest Akbar sent political missions to South Indian states like Bidar, Khandesh, Ahmed Nagar, Golkonda and Bijapur to accept his suzerainty. Except Khandesh, the remaining states rejected his proposal. Hence he followed the path of war to conquer them. In 1595 CE Chand Bibi, ruler of Ahamednagar, bravely fought against the Mughal attack, but failed. Thus Akbar conquered Bidar and Ahmed Nagar.

Akbar's empire extended from Himalayas in the North to the Godavari in the South and Bengal in the East to Kabul in the West.

### **Akbar's Administration:**

Akbar provided a very good system of administration. This continued all through the Mughal period with very few changes. Mughal administration under Akbar was centralized. He was the fountain head of all the powers. The Mughal emperor was called 'Padishah' or 'Badshah'. He was considered as 'Shadow of God' and he ruled in accordance with Islamic principles. Emperor had a cabinet of ministers, who helped him in the matters of administration. Some of the important ministers were:

- (a) Vakil - Chief Minister
- (b) Diwan-i-Ali - Finance Minister
- (c) Mir Bakshi - Official for the distribution of salaries.
- (d) Sadar-us-sadar - in Charge of charities.
- (e) Khan-i-Saman - Home minister
- (f) Dewan - Revenue Minister etc.,
- (g) Qazi - Chief justice.

### MUGHAL EMPIRE UNDER AKBAR

