

## HISTORY – ANCIENT INDIA – MAURYAN PERIOD

(Videos: 11, 14, 16, 17)

- ✚ **Magadha** – present day Patna, Bihar.
- ✚ First Empire in India.
- ✚ Largest territory in India.

### **Rise of Mauryans**

- ✚ **Chandra Gupta Maurya - 322 BC – Founder.**
- ✚ **Dhanananda was suppressed by Chandragupta Maurya.**
- ✚ Mauryan empire was established by annexing Alexanders territories in India and Nanda provinces.
- ✚ **322 to 185 BC.**
- ✚ Full of Indian subcontinent came under one empire.
- ✚ Eastern Uttar Pradesh – Mauryan empire – annexation.
- ✚ **Shunga then succeeded.**
- ✚ Largest empires in the world.

<b>Territorial expansion</b>
North - Himalaya
East - Assam
West – Baluchistan, Hindukush Mountain
South - whole

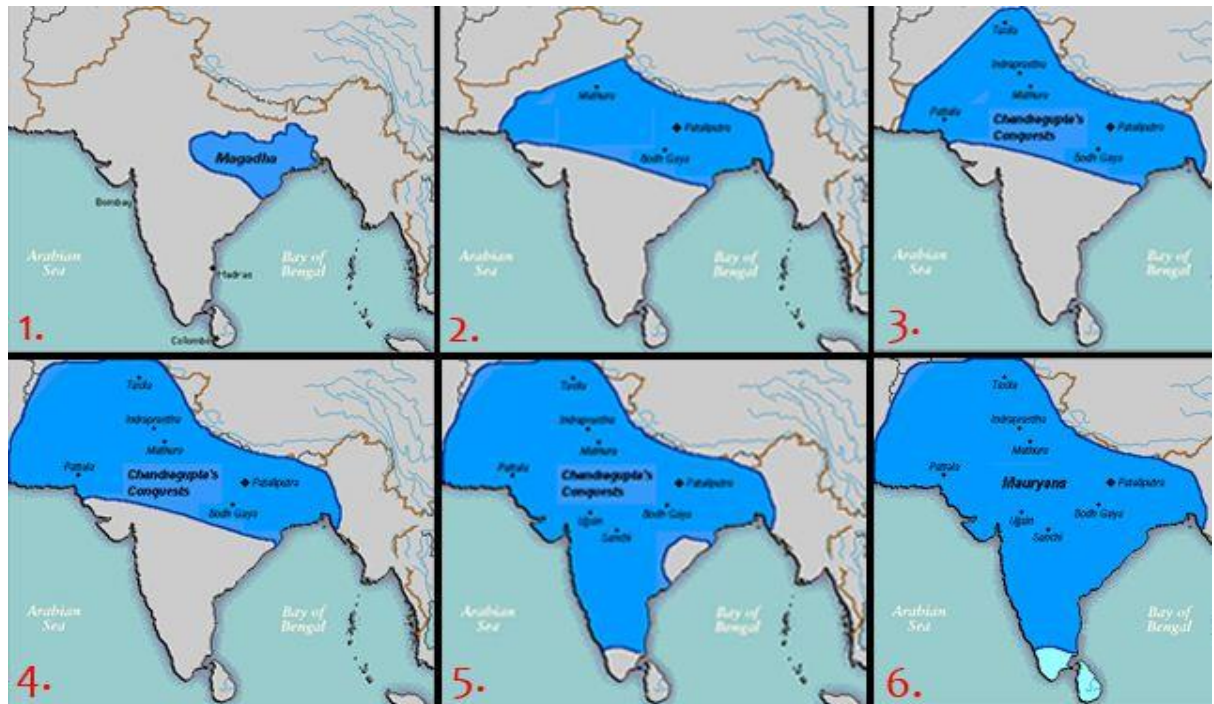
- ✚ Expansion in central and southern region: Vindhya ranges was done by - **Ashoka and Bindusara.**
- ✚ **Kalinga** was not by annexed - Chandragupta Maurya and Bindusara. Whereas, annexed by the **Ashoka.**
- ✚ 50 years after the Ashokan rule – ended the Mauryan empire.
- ✚ Ashoka was the last strong ruler of the empire.
- ✚ Then followed by the weak rulers.
- ✚ Dhanananda was an unpopular Ruler of Nanda Dynasty.
- ✚ Chanakya – is mentioned as Jain monk in Jain traditions and as Buddhist monk in the Buddhist traditions; he is also described as Hindu monk in certain works.
- ✚ Chanakya was in the Dhanananda's court – due to an incident - pledged the destruction of Dhanananda and took revenge by supporting the Taxila ruler Chandragupta Maurya.
- ✚ Chandragupta Maurya was in 20s while he became the ruler – a young figure who supported the Alexander the Great.

- ✚ Young prince formed a group with other princes and high officials to fight Dhanananda.
- ✚ Chandragupta Maurya wanted to capture Pataliputra.
- ✚ When the army of the Dhanananda was attending another war, away from capital – at this time, the people in the Nandan dynasty caused a civil war – Chandragupta Maurya was behind the actions and corrupted the Nanda people – heir to the throne died – Dhanananda resigned and moved.
- ✚ **Rakshasa** – **minister of Dhanananda** – conversation between Chanakya and Rakshasa.
- ✚ **321 BC – Chandragupta Maurya came to throne when he is 21 years old – Chanakya received the position as statesmen and Rakshasa was given the position as the chief adviser.**
- ✚ Chandragupta Maurya as true legitimate ruler – mentioned by various rulers.

### **Chandragupta Maurya**

- ✚ First true emperor in Indian subcontinent.
- ✚ Founder of Mauryan Empire in Magadha.
- ✚ North west frontier – defeated Macedonian straps – consolidated those parts to his empire.
- ✚ Annexed the kingdoms destroyed by the Alexander the great.
- ✚ **Unified empire in Indian subcontinent.**
- ✚ River Indus region – Vindhya ranges – 320BC.
- ✚ **Chandragupta Maurya and relation with Alexander the Great.**
- ✚ Classical sources give information about a prince – **Sandrocottus** – young Indian king – supported the invaders.
- ✚ Alexander' s first invasion was supported by Chandragupta Maurya.
- ✚ **Plutarch** – described that – Sandrocottus advised the Alexander to cross Beas and attack the Nanda ruler.
- ✚ **Justin** – Latin historian – describes that - Sandrocottus and Alexander came into conflict – Chandragupta Maurya boldness become a threat – Alexander wanted to kill Sandrocottus.
- ✚ **Seleucus I Nicator**
- ✚ **Seleucid Mauryan War – 305 BC** – beyond Indus.
- ✚ Seleucus I - fought the war – under Greek controlled area.
- ✚ Seleucus I was the general of Alexander.
- ✚ Babylonia was controlled by him for Alexander.
- ✚ Seleucus then expanded his rule over Eastern part of Alexanders enormous portion.
- ✚ **312 BC – Seleucid empire was established in Babylonia.**
- ✚ Major center for Hellenistic culture.

- ✚ 305 BC – tried to reconquered north-western part of India to expand the Seleucid empire which was once Alexanders provisional area and conquered by the Chandragupta Maurya.
- ✚ Over Indus valley and Gandhara – Seleucus and Chandragupta Maurya – 305 BC – lead a war.
- ✚ Seleucus - lost the war.
- ✚ War was concluded by the [peace treaty in 303 BC](#) and certain other terms.
- ✚ [Matrimonial alliance](#) - Macedonian Greek Princess was married to Chandragupta Maurya.
- ✚ Thus, Macedonian or Greek lineage for the Mauryan rulers.
- ✚ Not only Greek princess but also several lands held in the terms of treaty – [Gandhara, Kamboja – \(satrapies of Paropamisade\), Baluchistan, Gedrosia](#), etc.
- ✚ In return – Chandragupta Maurya gave – [500 war elephants to Seleucus I](#).
- ✚ In addition – [dispatched two ambassador – Megasthenes, Deimakos – into the court of Chandragupta Maurya](#).
- ✚ Ptolemy II Philadelphus – ruler of Ptolemaic Egypt – send ambassador – [Dionysius](#).
- ✚ These ambassadors gave us authentic information about the Mauryan empire.
- ✚ But the book of Megasthenes were lost and their copies of work referred by other scholars are available.
- ✚ After 305 BC – [expanded north west portion](#) - Until [Persian border or Iranian border](#).
  
- ✚ Chandragupta Maurya was a strict [follower of Jainism](#).
- ✚ [Supported Buddhism](#).
- ✚ Observed [Sallekhana](#).
- ✚ Abducted the throne to his son Bindusara.
- ✚ Become a Jain monk and wander in the forest.
- ✚ Great Jaina temple and monastery in [Sravanabalgola – Karnataka Mysore – Death of Chandragupta Maurya](#).



## ✚ Chanakya

- ✚ Other names - [Kautilya](#) and [Vishnugupta](#).
  - ✚ [Hindu statesman and philosopher](#).
  - ✚ Born into [Brahmin family](#).
  - ✚ Educated from [Taxila](#).
  - ✚ Knowledge about [Greek and Persian languages](#).
  - ✚ Knowledge about [Medicine and astrology](#).
  - ✚ [Zoroastrian learning](#) was known.
  - ✚ He had Zoroastrian influence.
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- ✚ His books – (chanakya tantram) - [Science of punishment](#) – political guide of Chandra Gupta Maurya.
  - ✚ Advises the best way to have [elaborative spy system in all levels of society for political and secret assassination](#).
  - ✚ 1905 – the book was discovered.
  - ✚ Chanakya is condemned for his [ruthlessness and trickery](#), sound political wisdom and knowledge of human nature.
  - ✚ It was because of Chanakya that Mauryan empire became the model of an efficient government.
  - ✚ [‘Arthasasthra’](#) – book.
  - ✚ Sanskrit – [science of material gain](#).
  - ✚ Important [Indian manual on art of politics](#).
  - ✚ Based on the evidences we gathered – major portion of Arthashastra is about Maurya empire.
  - ✚ Doubt – whether the work was completely written by Kautilya.

- ✚ Topics discussed in Arthashastra - How minister are to be chosen, how war should be done, how to collect tax, how to control law and order, how to run efficient taxation system, importance of runners, informers, spies, police force, how to deal with external threats and internal disputes.
- ✚ 'Mudrarakshasa' - work
- ✚ Minister Rakshasa and his Signet Ring – 5<sup>th</sup> century AD – Vishakadatta written at the time of Gupta period.
- ✚ Paradox that a ruler has to have complete confidence with the ministers of his empire.

### Bindusara

- ✚ Son of Chandragupta Maurya.
- ✚ Durdara – mother.
- ✚ 320 – 270 BC
- ✚ 297 BC – become king.
- ✚ He is not a Jain belief.
- ✚ Greek sources refer – **Amitrochates.**
- ✚ **Amitra ghata – destroyer of foes.**
- ✚ Name refer – success in campaign of Deccan.
- ✚ Present day Karnataka – expansion.
- ✚ Macedonian Princess was married by Chandragupta Maurya.
- ✚ **Chanakya served as his adviser.**
- ✚ Buddhism got prominence – Ashoka.
- ✚ Jainism got prominence – Chandragupta Maurya.
- ✚ Bindusara was **neither the follower of Buddhism nor Jainism.**
- ✚ Textual reference is not documented.
- ✚ **16th century books give us idea about Bindusara – Taranatha.**
- ✚ Several books give us diverse idea about Bindusara.
- ✚ **Sources**
- ✚ Less information about him from sources.
- ✚ Buddhist literature – **Divyavadana, Deepavamsa, mahavamsha.**
- ✚ **Taranatha**
- ✚ Jain text - **Parishistiparvan of Hemachandra, Rajavallikadha of Devachandra – 19<sup>th</sup>.**
- ✚ Puranas – genealogy of Bimbisara
- ✚ Amitrochates – referred in Greek books.
- ✚ Give us mutually conflicting information.
- ✚ Greek influence – Greek mother.
- ✚ **Simhasena – birthname – Rajavallikadha.**
- ✚ Bindusara – got name: rulers were give poison and killed so in order to build up immune : small amount of poison was provided to rulers – when Durdara was carrying Bindusara in womb – they shared food with king – Chanakya took out child from the womb and mother of the child died – child was kept in

the womb of different pregnant goats. Bloodstains of goat – Buddhist and Jain literature.

- ✚ Expansion – southern and central India.
- ✚ Brought 16 states under his control.
- ✚ Pandya, Chola and Chera – expelled from expansion – friendly terms with Mauryans.
- ✚ Kalinga – was also avoided.
- ✚ Persian to Himalaya – Assam – Karnataka region.
- ✚ Expanded empire into Deccan plateau – 290 BC.
- ✚ Antiochus I – Seleucid empire at Syria had contact with Bindusara.
- ✚ Diemachos of plateia – ambassador.
- ✚ Presented a wine and figs.
- ✚ Greek scholars were wanted by the Bindusara to learn Greek philosophy but the plea was rejected by the Greek rulers.
  
- ✚ Ajivika School was supported.
- ✚ Nasthika system - Does not support Veda.
- ✚ Gosala – contemporary of Buddha and Mahavira.
- ✚ Ascetic way of live.
- ✚ No escapism
- ✚ Niyati – cosmic force of universe.
- ✚ Cosmic force.
- ✚ Individual faiths are already decided.
- ✚ After Mauryan sect – Bindusara – Ajivika declined.
- ✚ Existed until 14<sup>th</sup> century.
- ✚ Gosala as divinity.
- ✚ Aesthetic philosophy.
- ✚ Tenet of niyati developed into doctrines.
- ✚ Some sources says that Chanakya was Ajivika follower.

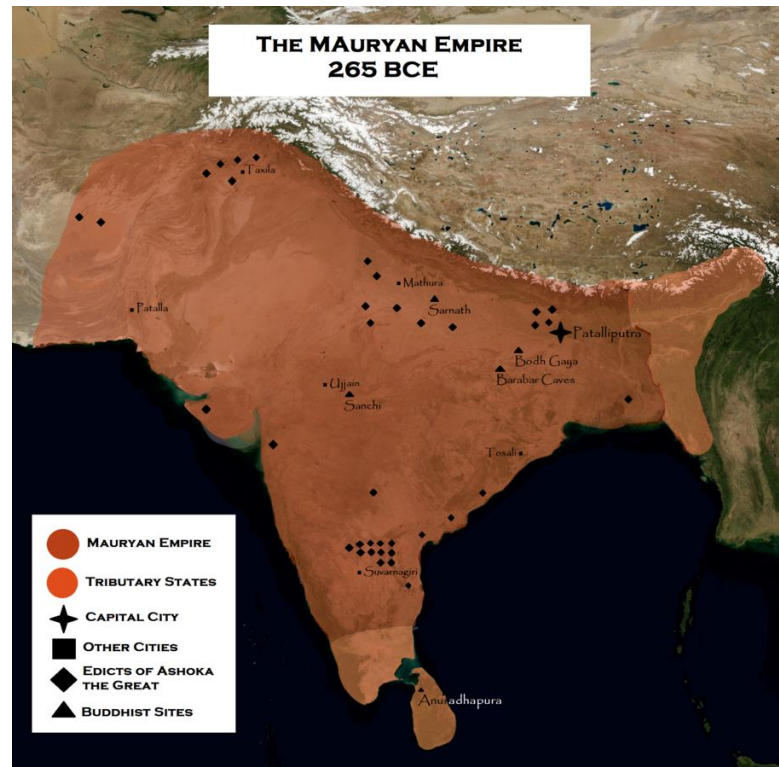
### Emperor Ashoka

- ✚ Bindusara died in 272 BCE, and was succeeded by his son, Ashoka the Great (304-232 BCE).
- ✚ As a young prince, Ashoka (272-232 BCE) was a brilliant commander who crushed revolts in Ujjain and Taxila.
- ✚ Ashoka birth - 304 BCE.
- ✚ Birth place - Pataliputra in the Mauryan empire reign - present day, Patna, India.
- ✚ Empire was ruled for many years from 268 BCE- 232 BCE.
- ✚ Works - Edicts of Buddhism across south Asia and European sub-continent.
- ✚ Death - 232 BCE, Pataliputhra.
- ✚ According to Buddhist texts Janapadas Kalyani or Subadrangi was his mother who named him A – shoka (without sorrow).



- ✚ After the death of Bindusara, there was a **war of succession between the sons of him for four years.**
  - ✚ It is said that - **Ashoka eliminated 99 of his brothers to attain throne.**
  - ✚ Susima Maurya was the first son of Bindusara and half elder brother of Ashoka - was assassinated by Ashoka in the succession war.
  - ✚ Even though **Ashoka was not appreciated by his father**, as a young prince, Ashoka (r. 272-232 BCE) was a brilliant commander who crushed revolt in Ujjain and Taxila.
  - ✚ As monarch, he was **ambitious and aggressive**, reasserting the Empire superiority in **southern and western India.**
  - ✚ Thus, he was first to be called as **Chakravarthy (king of king)** or **Chakravarthy Samrat.**
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- ✚ But it was his **conquest of Kalinga (262-262 BCE)** that proved to be the pivotal event of his life.
  - ✚ Although Ashoka' s army succeeded overwhelming Kalinga forces of royal soldiers and civilian units.
  - ✚ An estimated **1,00,000 soldiers and civilians** were killed in the furious warfare, including over **10,000 of Ashoka' s own men.**
  - ✚ **Hundreds of thousands of people were adversely affected** by the destruction and fallout of war.
  - ✚ When he personally witnessed the devastation, Ashoka began feeling remorse.
  - ✚ Although the **annexation of Kalinga** was completed - **Ashoka embraced the teachings of Buddhism**, and **renounced war and violence.**
  - ✚ He **sent out missionaries to travel around Asia and spread Buddhism** to other countries.
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- ✚ Ashoka accepted Buddhism by the teaching of **Upagipatha.**
  - ✚ Extent of Maurya Empire at its height in 265 BCE.
  - ✚ Ashoka the Great extended into Kalinga during the Kalinga war c. 265 BCE, and established superiority over southern kingdoms.
  - ✚ As ruler, Ashoka **implemented principles of ahimsa** (the principle of not injure and harm others).
  - ✚ **Banned hunting and violent sports activities.**
  - ✚ **Ended indentured and forced labour** (many thousands of people in war-revenged Kalinga had been forced into hard labor and servitude).
  - ✚ While he **maintained a large and powerful army to keep the peace**, Ashoka **expanded friendly relations with states across Asia and Europe**, and **sponsored Buddhist missions.**
  - ✚ He **undertook a massive public works building campaign** across the country.
  - ✚ Among these works were the **constructions of stupas** - a Buddhist religious structures which contain relics.

- ✚ One notable stupa created during the reign of Ashoka was the **great Stupa**.
- ✚ **Ashoka** one of the most successful and famous monarchs in Indian history.
- ✚ He remains an idealized figure of inspiration in modern India.
- ✚ His reign name, was adopted by many kings - that is different from their birth name.
- ✚ **Priyadasi** which means – **beloved** - one who regards amicably.












<u>Stupas credited to Ashoka</u>
1.Sanchi Stupa - Madya Pradesh, India
2.Dhamek stupa, Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh, India
3. Mahabodhi temple, Bihar, India
4.Barabar caves, Bihar, India
5.Nalandha Mahavihara (some portions like Sariputta Stupa), Bihar, India
6.Taxila university (some portions like Dharmarajika Stupa and Kunala stupa) Taxila, Pakistan
7.Bihar Mound (reconstructed), Taxila, Pakistan
8.Bharhut Stupa, Madhya Pradesh, India



9. Deorkothar Stupa, Madhya Pradesh, India
10. Butkara Stupa, Swat, Pakistan
11. Sannati Stupa, Karnataka, India

<u>Buddhist missionaries of Ashoka</u>
1. Mahinda to Sri Lanka
2. Majjhantika to Kashmir and Gandhara
3. Mahadeva to Mahisa-mandala (possibly modern Mysore region)
4. Rakkhita to Vana vasa
5. Dhammarakkhita the Greek to Aparantaka (western India)
6. Maharakkhita to the Greek country
7. Majjhima to the Himalayas
8. Sona and Uttara to Suvannabhumi (possibly Lower Burma and Thailand)
9. Maha- dhamma-rakkhita to Maharashtra

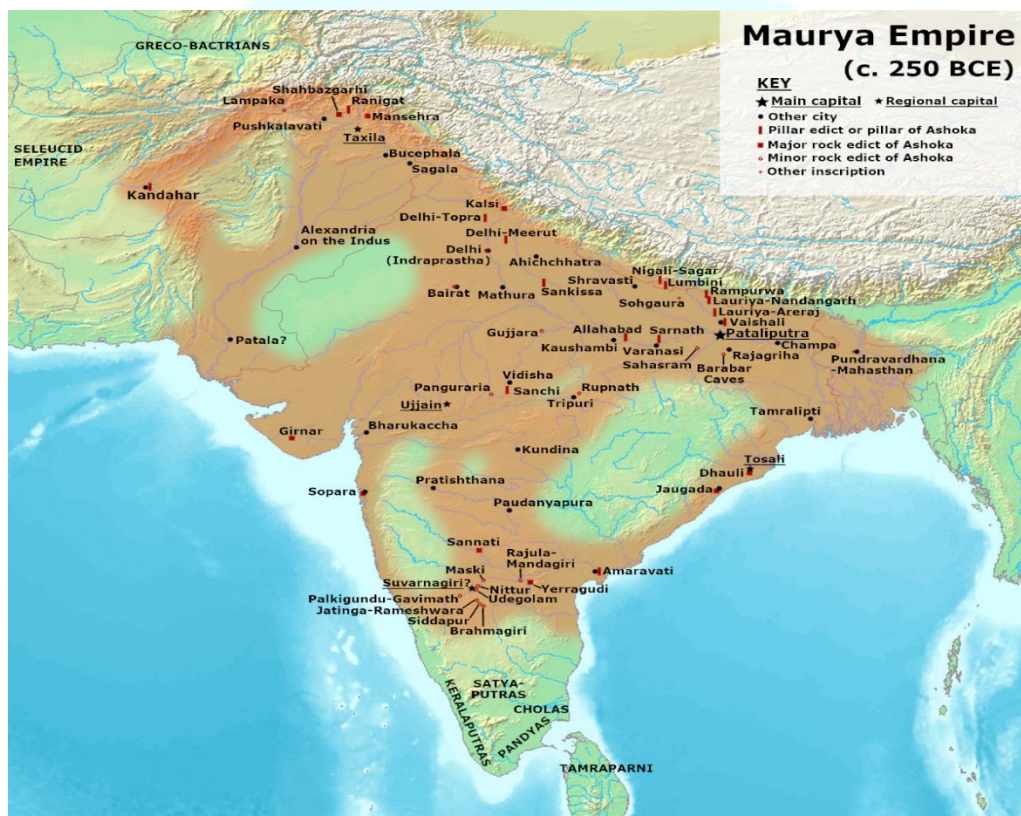
### **Edicts**

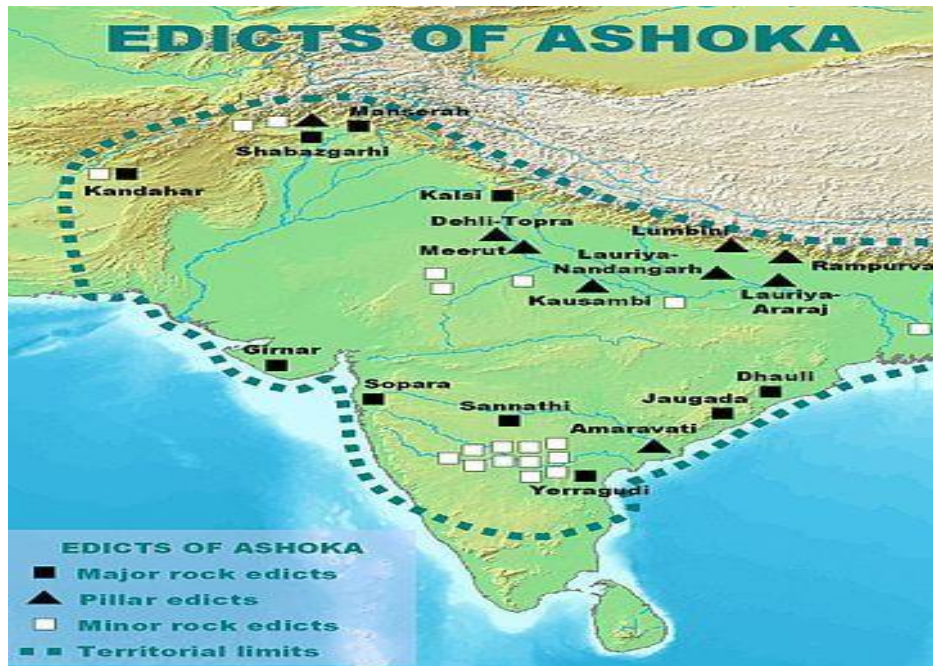
-  Perhaps one of the greatest known accomplishments of Ashoka was his creation of his **edicts**, which were **erected between 269 BCE and 232 BCE**.
-  The Edicts of Ashoka, set in stone, are found throughout the subcontinent.
-  Ranging from as far **west as Afghanistan** and as far **south as Andra** (Nellore district).
-  Ashoka's edict - stated his **policies** and accomplishments.
-  Although predominantly **written in Prakrit**, two of them were **written in Greek**, and other one in both **Greek and Aramaic language**.
-  Ashoka's **edicts refer** to the **Greeks, Kamboja, and Gandhara as peoples forming a frontier region of his empire**.
-  They also attest to Ashoka's envoys travel to the Greek rulers in the west as far as the Mediterranean.
-  Edicts also **mentioned social and cultural attributes of his empire**, **emphasizing Buddhism**, though not condemning other religious.
-  For this, the **edicts of Ashoka are known as an early document that promoted religious tolerance**.

- ✚ 1837, James Prinsep succeeded in **deciphering** an ancient inscription on a large stone pillar at Delhi.

### ✚ Rock Inscriptions

- ✚ Ashoka - First Rock inscription at Girnar.
- ✚ Bilingual inscription (Greek and Aramaic) by king Ashoka, from Kandahar, Kabul Museum.
- ✚ Fourteen rock inscriptions.
- ✚ First rock inscription - Ashoka brought ban on animal slaughter and sacrifice.
- ✚ Thirteenth rock inscription - most important - at Dauli (Odisha), the details of Kalinga war and policy of dhamma.
- ✚ Three minor rock edicts
- ✚ Seven pillar edicts
- ✚ Three minor pillar edicts
- ✚ Lumbini pillar edicts





- ✚ Devanam piyadasi – beloved of Gods.
- ✚ Visited the birth place of Buddha.
- ✚ Declared the region as tax free.
- ✚ Ashoka died in 232 BCE.

### Decline of the Maurya Empire

- ✚ The Sunga dynasty usurped the Maurya Dynasty.
- ✚ Parts of the empire were incorporated into the Indo - Greek kingdom.
- ✚ A fifty-year succession of weak kings followed the reign of Ashoka the great, the Indian emperor of the Maurya Dynasty.
- ✚ As Ashoka's highly centralized government lost power, the Maurya empire lost control over its territories.
- ✚ The different cultures and economies began to break apart, although the kings-maintained Buddhism as the state religion.
- ✚ None of the sons of Ashoka seemed to have ascended to throne.
- ✚ In west - the rulers were Kunala – Samprata.
- ✚ In east - the rulers were Dasharatha-Brihadratha.
- ✚ Brihadratha, the ruler of the Maurya Dynasty, was assassinated in 185 BCE.
- ✚ The commander - in- chief of his guard - Brahmin General - Pusyamithra Sunga - killed Brihadratha.
- ✚ During the military parade he ascended the throne.
- ✚ Thus, the mighty Mauryan Empire came to an end.
- ✚ 155BC – Pushyamitra shunga ascended the throne - end of Mauryan empire.

## Analysis of Mauryan Empire

- ✚ Administration
- ✚ Centralization
- ✚ Centralized polity
- ✚ Encouraged economy prosperity through political ability.
- ✚ Trade and commerce were supported by the kings.
- ✚ Maintained security.
- ✚ Bureaucratic system.
- ✚ Mainly agricultural society.
- ✚ Powerful military – for peace keeping.
- ✚ Unification of military - Indian sub-continent into one unified empire.
- ✚ Before Mauryans – fragmentation of various small kingdoms.
- ✚ Clash between these kingdoms.
- ✚ Local powerful armies which were controlled by rulers or bandits.
- ✚ Peace keeping system by military means.
- ✚ Largest standing army of its time.
- ✚ 6 lakh – infantry, 30,000 – cavalry, 9,000 – war elephants.
- ✚ Vast espionage system – spy system - helped in internal and external security purposes.
- ✚ Ashoka maintained army even though he has given up violence – gave up war extension.
- ✚ Maintained large standing army – southern western area – to keep the territory peaceful.
- ✚ Ashoka did not give up military.
- ✚ **Administration**
- ✚ Total empire was - Divided into four provinces – Pataliputra.
- ✚ Edicts of Ashoka give information on the division of provinces.

<u>Four Provinces</u>
Tosali – east area – until Myanmar
Ujjain – west area – Madhya Pradesh
Suvarnagiri – south – Andhra Pradesh
Taxila – north – Afghanistan

- ✚ In North east and south – Ashoka didn't have direct control – certain chieftains – under their control – with the suzerainty of King Ashoka.

- ✚ **Organizational structure**

- ✚ Council of ministers at the top of the polity – imperial level.
- ✚ Ujjain governed by Ashoka during time of Bindusara - Suvarnagiri was also controlled by Ashoka.
- ✚ Large step of or **sophisticated system of bureaucracy** – from municipal hygiene to international trade – emperor governed.

<b>Mantriparishad</b>	emperor with council of ministers
<b>Kumara</b>	prince controlled the provinces
<b>Mahamatyas</b>	provincial prime minister.

<b><u>Saptanga Theory</u></b>
Swamin – king, state or empire
Amatya - ministers
Durga – fort, head capital
Kosh - finance and treasury
Bala - army
Mitr – ally, the Hellenistic rulers
Shatru - enemy

- ✚ Saptanga - **seven limbs of state** or seven organs for the smooth functioning of state.
- ✚ A theory put forward by Kautilya.

<b><u>Ruling based on four principles</u></b>
Dharma - duty
Charitavyavahara - legal course
Rajashasan - royal command
Danda - punishment

### Head of various department

- ✚ Purohita – Chief priest
- ✚ Senapati – commander of army
- ✚ Samaharta – revenue collector
- ✚ Pratihara – gate keeper
- ✚ Durgapala – governor of the forest
- ✚ Nyayadish – chief justice
- ✚ Prasasta – head pf the police
- ✚ Vamisika – leader of the harem guard
- ✚ Guptature – spy
- ✚ Bitasaj – head of doctors.



<b>Parishad</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Democratic body</li> <li>Ruling bodies</li> <li>Continuation of Sabha and samiti.</li> <li>High exclusive dignitaries.</li> <li>Provincial rulers – ruling class members.</li> <li>Third Ashokan edict says – <u>main duty of parishad – to control the observance of Dharma - the polity of violence.</u></li> </ul>
<b>Sabha</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ashokan edicts did not mention about Sabha.</li> <li>Megasthenes works did mention about Sabha – existed at Mauryan time.</li> <li>Directed under Chandragupta Maurya – Sabha maybe under his time.</li> <li>Vijitha – territory he controlled – direct control of Chandragupta Maurya.</li> </ul>

### Society and culture

- Well classified.
- Megasthenes describes about **seven classes of society** in his work *Indica* – philosopher, farmers, soldiers, herdsman, artisans, magistrates, counsellors – professional classification.
- His classification was not given much importance – as he was **less aware** about the **caste system or chatur varna** system prevailed in the society.
- Confused about caste and Varna system.
- Jainism and Buddhism – did not intensively opposed Charthurvarna system.
- Buddhist monasteries** – developed as **educational institutions** which was worldly accepted – Taxila, Ujjain, Varanasi.
- Followed the **joint family system**.
- Early refer to dowry** – Maurya time.
- Married women** were provided with **property as bridal gift**.
- If they become widows – women had complete control over their bride gifts - **Sthreedana**.
- Penalties for officials who failed in their jobs**.
- Megasthenes describes as **no slavery in India**.
- Shudra – forced labourer** – were present at that time
- Village based – agriculture-based society**.

## Economy

- ✚ Chandragupta Maurya – produced single currency across in India.
- ✚ Network of regional governor, administrators.
- ✚ Civil servants – to provide justice and security for merchants, farmers, trades.
- ✚ Disciplined central authority – farmers were freed of taxes and crop collecting burdens by the regional rulers.
- ✚ They paid – national administrated system of taxation – strict but fair.
- ✚ The tax was collected based on the crop, production of crops, nature of people and crop.
- ✚ The system of collecting tax was followed as per the Arthasastra.

## Traders

- ✚ Political unity and internal peace – in the Mauryan empire – helped in the development of trade.
- ✚ During Ashoka's reign – Indo- Greek friendship treaty relations – Mauryan international network developed and the Indian trade got expanded.
- ✚ Suppressed local traders and thugs.
- ✚ Khyber Pass – present day Pakistan and Afghanistan – entrance to the outer world - strategically important point of trade and communication with the outer world.
- ✚ Hellenistic world of kingdoms of West Asia become the trading partners.
- ✚ Export items –high quality silk, textile, spices, exotic foods.
- ✚ Outside world gained scientific knowledge through Indian trade.

## Mauryan Architecture

- ✚ Divided into court art and popular art.
- ✚ **Court art** – government architecture, initiative of king- palace, pillars, stupas.
- ✚ Stupas - Buddhist religious structure.
- ✚ Commissioned by the Mauryan rulers for - Political as well as religious reasons.

### Palace

- ✚ Made up of wood – trapezium shape – palace of Pataliputhra.
- ✚ Fa Hien - Chinese traveler at the time of Gupta – he visited the Pataliputhra palace – God gifted monuments.
- ✚ Destroyed in forest fire.
- ✚ One of the greatest creations in mankind – Megasthenes about Pataliputhra palace.

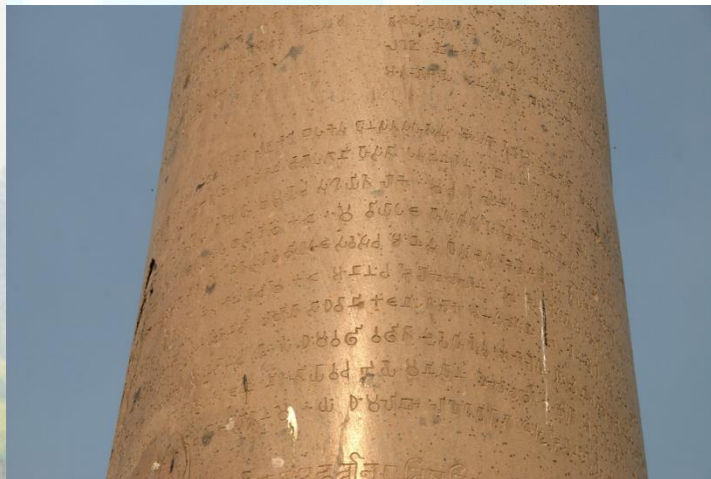
### Pillars

- ✚ Ashokan pillar are made up of chunar and sandstone – symbol of state.

## ENTRİ



- ✚ Pillars had great significance in Mauryan period.
  - ✚ The Greeks used single wood materials to make or build pillars. Greeks – just erecting a pillar.
  - ✚ Pillars were used to – disseminate the Buddhists ideologies and court orders.
  - ✚ Inscription in pillars – Pali, Prakrit language and also in Greek and Aramaic languages.
- ✚ **Mauryan pillar architecture comprises of four parts:**
- ✚ **Shaft – capital - abacus – capital figure.**
  - ✚ Pillars were influenced by the Greek and Persian models.

Shaft	long shaft – formed the base- single stone or monolith.
Capital	above the shaft – lay capital – lotus shaped or bell shaped.
Abacus	above capital – a rectangular or circular shape.
Capital figure	animals - are vigorous and carved standing – on the abacus – elephant, lion, bull, horse, etc.





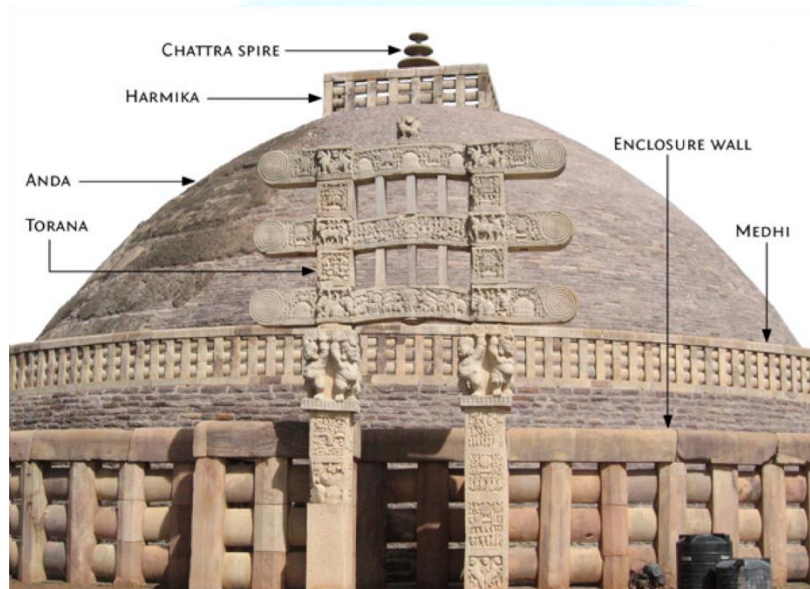
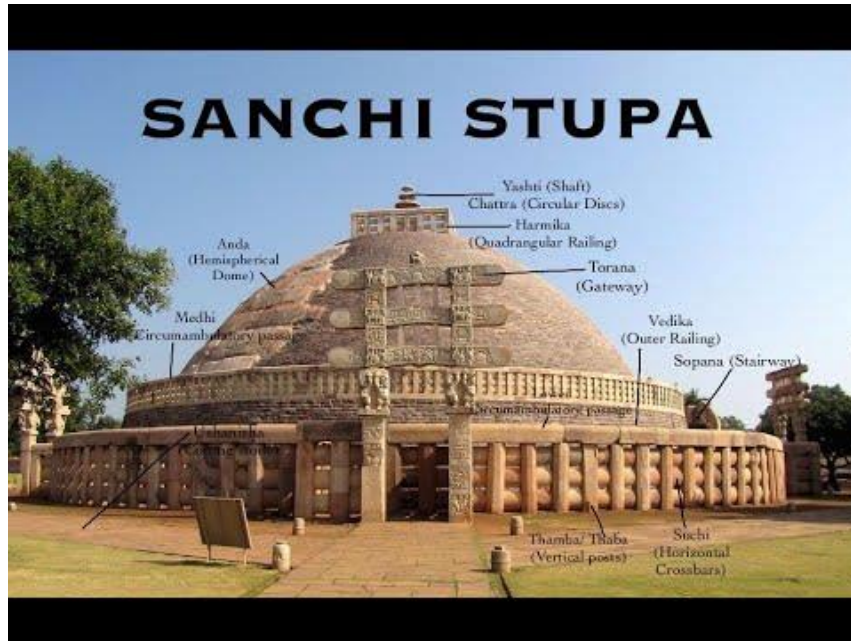
### **Stupas**

-  **Burial mounds** – specially to keep Buddhist remains.
-  Symbolic mound of the dirt – to cover Buddhist relics or remains.

Anda	inverted hemisphere – dome.
Harmika	square railing on the top of the mound.
Torana	four directions – entrance – Gateway.
Chhatras	central pillar – supporting triple umbrella form.

Sanchi stupa - Madhya Pradesh
Piprahwa stupa – Uttar Pradesh – oldest one.
Stupas build after the death of Ashoka – Rajagriha, Kapilavastu, Vaishali, Allakappa, Ramagrama, Vedapitha, Pava, Kushinagar and Pippalivana.
Stupa at Birat, Rajasthan – grand stupa with circular mound – circumambulatory path.





- ✚ Popular art – individual initiative – caves, pottery, sculptures.
- ✚ Apart from court art or royal patronage.
- ✚ People's effort.
- ✚ Cave arts was extensive.
- ✚ Cave used as Vihara.
- ✚ Place where Buddhist monks lived.
- ✚ Highly polished and finished.
- ✚ Decorative gateway.
- ✚ Wood structure carved in rocks.
- ✚ Decorative walls.



CAVES
Seven caves or Satgarva – Makhdumpur region – Jehanabad district– Bihar – made by Ashoka for Ajivika sect.
Barabara Caves – four caves – Karna Chaupar, Sudama Cave, Lamarshi Cave or Lomas Rishi, Vishwamitra Cave or Vishva Zopri.
Nagarjuna Cave – three caves – Bihar- Dasharat : grandson of Ashoka – Gopi Cave , Bahayak Cave, Vedantika Cave.

## Sculptures

- Two important sculptural architecture – Yaksha and Yakshi.
- Deities – male and female.
- Object of worship for both three religions – Jainism, Buddhism and Ajivika.
- Silappathikarama* – Evidence of Yakshi – Tamil text.
- Torso of the male nude figure – Lohanipur, Patna.
- Didargunj Yakshi – Didarkunj Village, Patna.

