

POST MAURYAN DYNASTIES





- Last ruler of Mauryan Dynasty: Brihadratha killed by Pushyamitra Sunga

Sunga Dynasty (185 BC-73 BC)

- **Founder:** Pushyamitra Sunga
- **Capital:** Vidisha (presently in Madhya Pradesh)
- Followed Hinduism
- Patronised Buddhism → Bharhut Stupa built during his reign
- Son: Agnimitra → Malvikagnimitra by Kalidasa (tells story of love of Agnimitra and Malvika)

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Kalidasa's Play

- **Patanjali:** book → Mahabhasya

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Performed two Ashwamegha Yagya for Pushyamitra

- **Last ruler:** Devbhuti

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Killed by Commander: Vasudev → Kanva Dynasty (73 BC-28 BC)

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Capital: Pataliputra

Satvahana Dynasty (60 BC-225 AD)

- **Present day:** Maharashtra region
 - **Capital:** Paithan/Pratisthan (Maharashtra)
 - **Founder:** Simuka Satvahana
 - **Greatest ruler:** Gautamiputra Satkarni (defeated Ksatrap Nahapana → one of the rulers from Saka)
 - This dynasty embraced Brahmanism
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Both Patriarchal and Matrilineal society
- Started the practice of donating the land to Brahmins and Buddhist Monks
 - They started Lead Coins
 - Many Chaitya, Viharas were cut out from rocks, eg: In Nasik, Kanheri, Karle (Maharashtra)

- Ajanta and Ellora caves were first built during their reign
- **Stupas built:** Amravati and Nagarjunakonda (Andhra Pradesh)
- **Language:** Prakrit

Invasions from Central India

- 1st to cross Hindu Kush mountain: Greeks
- **Most famous ruler:** Meander/Milinda



Greek rulers:

- They were the 1st to introduce Gold coins
- Coins attributed to King (coins had picture of the King)
- Introduced Hellenistic art in North Western region
 → Seen in Gandhara Art

Sakas → Ruled North West and North India

- Also known as Scythians
- **5 branches:** one branch settled over Western part of India that ruled until 4th Century AD (400 AD)

Vikramaditya Parmar

- In 57 BC defeated Sakas → Started **Vikram Samvat** (Hindu Calendar)
- Vikramaditya becomes coveted title
- Ruler of Ujjain
- Not followed by Govt. of India

Kshatrapa Dynasty

Rudradaman I (most famous Saka ruler)

- **About him:** in Junagadh Rock Inscriptions (also known as Girnar inscriptions) → Gujarat
- Repaired Sudarshan Lake
 - ↳ **Constructed by:** Pushyagupta Vaishya (present during Chandragupta Maurya)
- Parthians after Sakas

Kushans (1st Century AD–3rd Century AD)

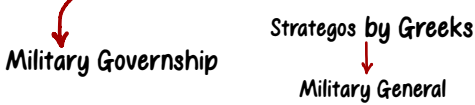
- Also known as Yuezhis/Tocharians
- **Capital:** Peshawar (first) and later Mathura
- They called themselves “Sons of Gods/King of Kings”
- **1st Dynasty:** Kadphises
 - ↳ I kujula
 - ↳ II Vima
 - ↳ Saka Era started (Saka Calendar followed Govt. of India)
- **Most powerful ruler:** Kanishka (78 AD–101 AD)
 - ↳ Also known as: 2nd Ashoka
 - ↳ Patronised 4th Buddhist Council
- Kanishka patronised Mahayana Buddhism
 - ↳ Started purest form of Gold Coins
- Controlled Silk Route

Impact in Indian Society

- Completely immersed themselves in indigenous culture
- **Pottery:** Red Ware
- Horseman technique, introduced Turban wearing, Sherwani wearing

Polity

- **Introduced:** Satrap system of govt.



Culture

- They worshipped Shiva and Lord Buddha

Literature

- **Buddhacharitra:** Ashvaghosha
- **Mahavatsu and Divyavadana**
- **Kamasutra:** Vatsayana

Science

- **Medicine:** Charaksamhita → By Charak → Father of Medicine
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Book that mentions about different medicines
- **Sushruta:** Father of Surgery

One Liners (MCQs)

- King who gave up his traditional professions and took arms, successfully established a kingdom in Karnataka: Kadamba Mauryasharman
- Kushana Dynasty rulers: Vasishka, Vasudeva, Huvishka