

GUPTAS, CHALUKYAS



Guptas (310 AD-540AD)

- **Founder:** Gupta → Ghatotkach (son)
↳ Sri Gupta

Chandragupta-I (319-334 AD)

- **Title:** Maharajadhiraja
- **Married to:** Kumaradevi (Lichhvi Princess)
- **Started Gupta Era in 320 AD/319 AD**
- **Gold coins:** Dinars
- **Most no. of gold coins** → Guptas

Samudragupta (335-380 AD)

- **Greatest and most powerful king of the dynasty**
- **Record of his reign in** → Prayag Prasasti (Allahabad Pillar Inscription)

↓
Never defeated

↓
Composed by Harisena (poet)

- **Napoleon of India:** said by VA Smith
- **Titles:** Kaviraja, Param Bhagavat, Sarva-raj-ochchetta (uprooter of all King)

↓
King of poets

- He has been shown playing Veena on Coins
- He performed Ashwamedha Yajna



Lyrist type Coin
Kumaragupta - I
(backside: Playing Veena)



Asvamedha Coin
Samudragupta



Marriage Coin
Chandragupta-I
(Issued by Samudragupta)



Lion Slayer
Chandragupta-II



Rhino Slayer
Kumaragupta-I



Battle Axe type
Samudragupta

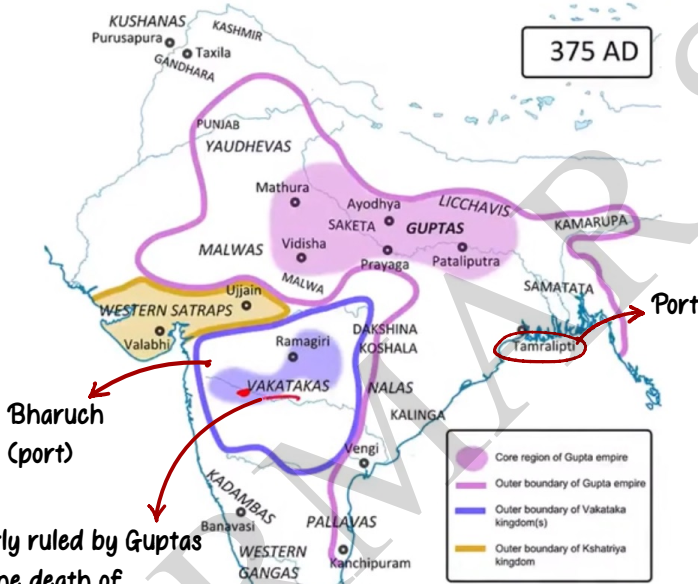
Gupta Gold Coins

1st to introduce

→ Copper coins

Chandragupta II (380-414 AD)

- Achieved power by assassinating his brother (Ramgupta) and Saka invader
- Married brother's wife: Dhruvadevi
- During his reign → Watermark, formed matrimonial alliance (married his daughter → Prabhavati Gupta with Vakataka Prince Rudrasena II)



Indirectly ruled by Guptas
after the death of

Rudrasena II → Wife ascended the throne

- 1st Gupta to issue Silver coins, after the victory over Sakas
- Mehrauli: Iron Pillar Inscription

Navratnas:

- Amarsimha
- Dhanvantri
- Harisena
- Kalidas
- Sanku
- Varahamihira
- Vararuchi
- Vetalbhata
- Kahapanaka

↳ Shakespeare of
India



Mehrauli Pillar

- **Fa-Hein**: 1st Chinese traveller visited during his reign
 - **Title**: Vikramaditya
- ↓
Journey from Bengal to China
(back to China)

Books of Kalidasa

- Abhigyan Shakuntalam
- Malvikagnimitra
- Raghuvamsa
- Meghaduta
- Kumar Sambhavam
- Ritusamhara

Book by Sudraka

- **Mrichchhakatika** (also known as: The little clay art)
 - ↳ Love story Charudatta and Vasantasena

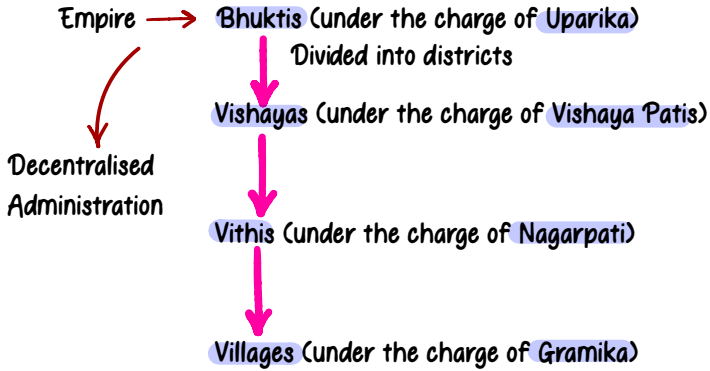
Kumaragupta I (415-455 AD)

- Son of Chandragupta II
- Attacks by Hunas (tribe from Central Asia)
- Founded Nalanda University

Skandagupta I (455-461 AD)

- Successfully resisted "Huns"
- **Title**: Vikramaditya (source: Bhitari Pillar Inscription)

Administration



Important Officers

- Kumaramatyas: Provincial Officer
- Mahadanda Nayaka: Officer responsible for punishment (Mr. of Justice)
- Sandhivigrahika: The officer of War and Justice

Economy

- Issued large no. of gold coins

Taxes:

- Bhaga: 1/6th of the produce to be paid by cultivators
- Bhoga: periodic supplies of fruit, flowers to the King
- Bali: oppressive
- Uparikara: Extra tax

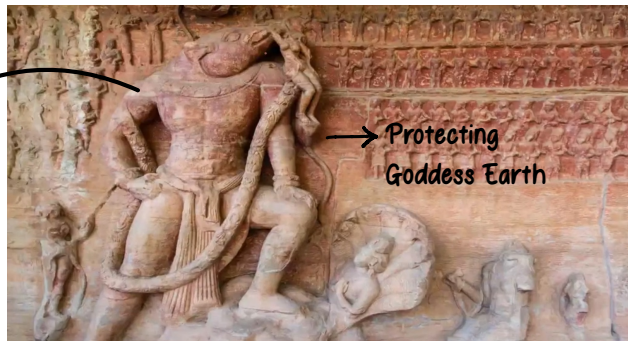
- Senabhakti: The army was to be fed by people whenever it passed through a countryside (village)

- Vishti: form of forced labour

Culture

Idol of Varah: the great boar

- Built by: Chandragupta II
- Avatar of Vishnu
- In Udaygiri, Vidisha, MP



Protecting Goddess Earth



Dasavatara Temple, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh



Bhitargaon Temple, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

- Dedicated to Lord Krishna
- Also known as Brick Temple (one of the oldest)

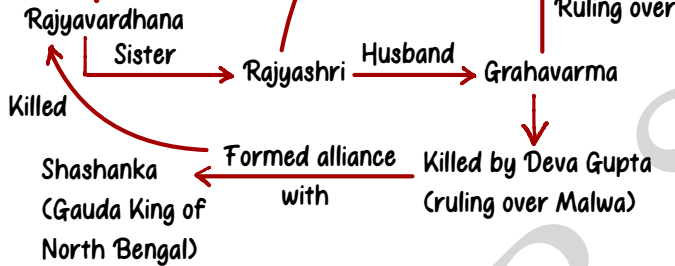
Post Gupta Era

- Pushyabhuti/Vardhana Dynasty

Founder: Pushyabhuti

- In Thaneshwar, Haryana

- **Son:** Prabhakarvardhan



Son: Rajyavardhana (eldest), Harshavardhana (youngest)

Harshavardhana (606-647 AD)

- **Capital:** Kannauj
- **Defeated:** Dhruvasena II (Vallabhi ruler, Gujarat)
- **Traveller visited by:** Hiuen-Tsang (Xuang-Zang) → 1400 yrs
- **Assemblies organised:**
 1. **Kannauj:** to honour Hiuen-Tsang
 2. **Prayag:** organised every 5 yrs (confluence of Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati)

↳ Kumbh origin

- Was a Shaivite
- Patronised Buddhist religion
- **Author of 3 books:**

> Ratnavali

> Nagananda

> Priyadarshika

> **Biography:** Harshacharitra → **By his court poet:** Banabhatta

- He was defeated by Pulakesin II (Chalukyan King)

On the banks of Narmada river

Land of North India

- **"Sakalottarapathanatha":** title given to Harshavardhana in Chalukyan inscription

↳ Wrote: Kadambari

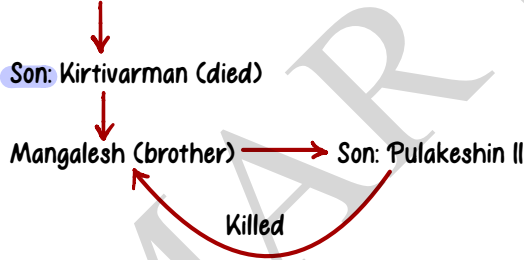
Chalukyas

3 distinct dynasties:

- Badami Chalukya
- Western Chalukya
- Eastern Chalukya

Badami Chalukya

- 1st ruler: Jayasimha (Founder)
- Capital: Vatapi
- Most powerful ruler: Pulakeshin I (543-566 AD)



Pulakeshin II (610-642 AD)

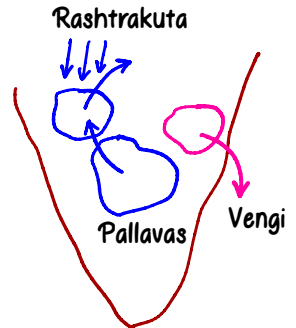
- Greatest of his dynasty
- Defeated Harshavardhana
- Defeated Mahendravarman I (Pallava ruler)

Visited by: Hiuen-Tsang

Son

Was defeated by Narasimhavarman I

Title taken: Vatapikonda (conqueror of Vatapi)



• Vikramaditya I → Kirtivarman II (great grandson) → Defeated by: Rashtrakuta

• **Aihole Pillar Inscription:** description about Pulakeshin II

↓
• **Composed by:** Ravikriti (court poet)

Chalukyan Architecture

• **Style:** Vesara style (Nagara + Dravida style)

- **North Indian style:** Nagara
- **South Indian style:** Dravida



Ravana phadi caves, Aihole



Ladh khan temple, Aihole



Durga temple

- Made on an Apsidal plane

- Huchimalligudi Temple: Aihole temple



Pattadakal temple

- UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Total: 10 temples seen

4

(Nagara style)

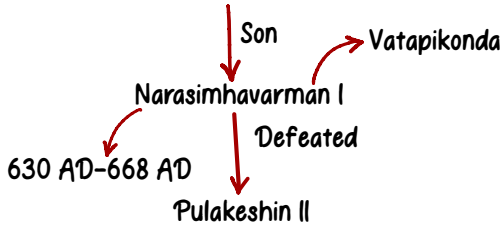
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(Dravida style)

- Virupaksha temple (Dravida style)
- Sangameshwar Temple: (Dravida style)

Pallavas

- **Founder:** Simha Vishnu
- **Greatest ruler:** Mahendravarman I



- **Capital:** Kanchipuram

Architecture



Shore Temple, Mahabalipuram

Rashtrakutas (753-982 AD)

- **Founder:** Dantidurga

↓
 Son: Krishna I → Built: Kailasha Temple at Ellora

Built of only one stone

↑
 Monolithic stone temple

↓
 Amoghavarsha (814-878 AD)

He was converted to Jainism

↓
 Capital: Manyakheta

→ Temples from Hindu, Jainism and Buddhism

- Ajanta and Ellora (Aurangabad, Maharashtra)

↓
Satvahanna

↓
Rashtrakuta

One liners (MCQs)

- Offices held by Harisena: composed Prayag Prasasti Pillar
- Nalanda University → Bihar (Xuang Zang and other pilgrims spent time studying there)