

04 July 2023 20:36  
The Kushanas

(1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Century AD)

↓  
one of the five Yevchi clans of Central Asia.

North West frontiers.

Lower Indus basin

middle Gangetic basin

Kushanas controlled the Silk route

↓  
China,

Iran, Western Asia

Founder - Kadphises I / Kujul Kadphises

Kushanas issued gold coins.

↓  
Second king → Kadphises II / Vema Kadphises

ushana king → Kushanses II / Kushanses

Most famous Kushana king → 'Kanishka' [Second Ashoka]

(78 AD - 101 AD)

Saka era

empire included → 5 countries

- Russia
- Afghanistan
- Iran
- Pakistan • India

Capital city → Peshawar

Kanishka followed Mahayana Buddhism.

↓

4<sup>th</sup> Buddhist Council. Kundalavana [Kashmir]

## 4th Buddhist Council, Kundalavana [Kashmir]

Kanishka followed the footsteps of important scholars!:-

1 > Nagarjuna

3 > Vasumitra

2 > Ashragosha

4 > Parsava

5 > Chakra

6 > Mathura

Large size

Headless statue of Kanishka is found at

Mathura.

Last great Kushana ruler - Vasudeva I.

Religion and Society

Varnasankaras

- revolt

varna  
order

- ⇒ widow remarriage was not allowed
- ⇒ women were denied property rights.

The foreign ruling class (Greek Kings, etc...)  
↓  
Kshatriyas

Avatars of Gods

Economy

In 46 - 47 AD Hippalus discovered a sea route to India from West Asia.

## Important ports :-

Barygaza (Bharoch)

Barbaricum (Western Coast)

Arīcamedu

Pandhichei .

## School of sculpture :-

1. Amravati School. — Satrahana
2. Gandhara School — Kushanas /  
Sakas
3. Mathura School. — "

Sunga dynasty ruled from Vidisha in Madhya  
Pradesh.

Sunga dynasty ruled from Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh.

Kanvas ruled from Pataliputra

Indo Greek rulers ruled over the north western part of the country.

Satrahans became dominant in Deccan and Central India. Capital city - Paitan.

The Chedi Dynasty ruled over Kalinga.

Gupta Empire

---

Archaeological Sources

- Gold, silver and copper coins which were issued by Gupta rulers.
- Allahabad Pillar Inscription from

- Allahabad Pillar Inscription from  
Samudragupta's  
reign

- Mehrauli <sup>Iron</sup> Pillar Inscription.

- Udaygiri Cave Inscription, Mathura Stone  
Inscription ,

Sanchi Stone Inscription - Chandragupta II'  
reign.

- Bhitari Pillar Inscription of Skandagupta.
- Gadhuwa Stone Inscription .
- Madhuban Copper Plate Inscription
- Sonpat Copper Plate Inscription
- Nalanda Inscription on clay seal

## Literary Sources

- Vishnu , Matsya , Vayu , Bhagvata Puranas , Niti Shashtriyas .
- Devichandraguptam → Vishakadatta.
- Mudrarakshasha
- Harshacharita → Banar
- Dramas of Kalidasa
- Accounts of Chinese Buddhist monk Fa Hien during his visit to India during the reign of Chandragupta II.
- Ratnavali° — Harsha  
Nagananda //  
Pratishodhan //



# Pratyadharshika

- Hiuen Tsang's Si-Yu-Ki

## Founder of Gupta Dynasty

Si Gupta (present day Bihar & Bengal)

↓  
↳ featured on coins.

son → Ghatotkacha

Chandragupta I (c. 319 - 335 AD (CE))

↳ married Kumradevi

↳ powerful Lichchavi family.

Coins featured images of Chandragupta I, Kumaradevi and Lichchavi family.

Lichchavi family [old gana - sangha]

Territory lay between Ganges and the Nepal Terai.

Samudragupta (c 335 - 380)

↳ one of the greatest rulers.

Allahabad Pillar Inscription -

Prayag Prashasti

written by Harisena

↓  
Sanskrit  
word.

'in Sanskrit'

'in praise of'