



**GENERAL KNOWLEDGE &
GENERAL STUDIES**

Ancient Indian History (Part-1)

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Ancient Indian History

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| 1. | The rulers of Satvahanas dynasty were the first to make land grants to Brahamanas. |
| 2. | King Vishnugopa (Pallava dynasty) of Kanchi is mentioned in the list of rulers of the South defeated by Samudra Gupta. It is mentioned in the Allahabad Pillar inscription of Samudra Gupta. |
| 3. | The second Buddhist Council took place at Vaishali in 383 BC. It was presided by Sabakami under Kalasoka of Shisunga dynatsy to settle down dispute between two opposing groups of monks of Vaishali and Patliputra and monks of Kausambi and Avanti regarding the code of discipline. |
| 4. | Mauryan administration: Samaharta – chancellor of the exchequer; responsible for the collection of revenue. The Revenue Department had Samharta who was incharge of the collection of all revenues in the empire. |
| 5. | Rajaraja Chola I laid the foundation for the growth of the Chola kingdom into an empire, by conquering the kingdoms of southern India and the Chola Empire expanded as far as Sri Lanka in the south, and Kalinga (Orissa) in the northeast. He conquered Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Sumatra and other places in Malay Peninsula. The naval conquest of the ‘old islands of the sea numbering 12,000’, the Maldives marked one of the conquests of Rajaraja. Rajaraja I built a strong navy with the aim of controlling the sea. |
| 6. | Belan Valley, Allahabad is one of the regions where the earliest evidence of rice cultivation has come. |
| 7. | The Third Buddhist Council was held at Patliputra during the reign of Emperor Ashoka. It was held under the Presidentship of Moggliputra Tissa to revise scriptures. |
| 8. | The sister of Harshavardhan, Rajyasri was married to Grahavarmana, King of Kanauj. He was the last ruler of Kanauj belonging to the Maukhari royal dynasty. |
| 9. | Dashkumarcharitam was composed by Dandin, who was a Sanskrit author of prose romances and expounder on poetics in the 6th-7th century. Both Bharavi and Dandin, the authors of Kiratarjuniyam and Dasakumarcharitam respectively, lived in the Pallava court. |
| 10. | The Magadha Emperor, Ashoka invaded Kalinga in the eight year of his reign in 261 B.C. Nearly one lakh soldiers lost their lives in that war and one and half lakh soldiers were captured. The 13th rock edict of Ashoka throws light on this war. |
| 11. | In the Mauryan empire, Devatadhyaksha was appointed to perform the duties related to religious institutions. |
| 12. | Largest variety of food grains in the Chalcolithic age has been found in Navdatoli. |
| 13. | Begram in Afghanistan was the capital of Kanishka. |



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| 14. | The Pattini cult i.e. The worship of Kannagi as an ideal wife was started by Senguttuvan, the ruler of Chera. |
| 15. | Kujula Kadphises was the first Yueh Chi chief who crossed the Hindukush Mountains and laid down the foundation of the Kushana Empire. He adopted the epithet of Dharma-thida and Sachdharmathida. |
| 16. | The Buddha Charita was the biography of Buddha which was penned by Ashvaghosa probably in the first century C.E. He was a renowned Sanskrit poet. The Buddha Charita is made up of 28 songs recounting events in Shakyamuni Buddha's life up to the time of his great awakening. |
| 17. | The Nitisara of Kamandaka, also known as the Kamandakiya-Nitisara, was composed during the period of Gupta Dynasty. It was based on Kautilya's Arthashastra. |
| 18. | Bharta was also known as "Sarvadamana" in his childhood. Sarvadamana means the subduer of all. India has been called Bharatavarsha after him. |
| 19. | Lord Rishabhdev was the first Tirthankara of Jainism. He was born at Ayodhya in the Ikshwaku Kula or clan. In Hinduism he is known to be an avatara or incarnation of Vishnu. The name of Rishabh's parents has been mentioned in the Bhagvata Purana. |
| 20. | Mehrgarh is the oldest agricultural settlement in the Indian subcontinent Agriculture-based Neolithic settlements. Despite being an agricultural settlement, it used only stone tools, so is why it was placed in the Neolithic Era. It flourished in the seventh millennium B.C. Mehrgarh is located on the Bolan River, a tributary of the Indus, at the eastern edge of the Balochistan plateau overlooking the Indus plain. |
| 21. | Nyāya, literally means "rules", "method" or "judgment". This philosophy is given by sage Gautam. It is also the name of one of the six orthodox schools of Hinduism. The most significant contribution of the Nyaya school to Indian philosophy was systematic development of the theory of logic, methodology, and its treatises on epistemology. |
| 22. | Gayatri Mantra comes from the third Mandala of the Rigveda. This Mandala has 62 hymns, mainly to Agni and Indra. It is one of the "family books" (mandalas 2-7), the oldest core of the Rigveda. This Mandala also mentions Kikats, a non-Aryan tribe, which most scholars agree was resident of somewhere near Magadha in modern Bihar. |
| 23. | The railing of the Sanchi stupa was made during the Sunga dynasty. On the railing decorations at Sanchi stupa is a depiction of worshipers paying homage to a tree, in front of which a platform has been erected. |
| 24. | Saptanga theory of state was given by Kautilya in Arthashastra. The seven limbs are King, Amatya (Bureaucrats) , Janapada (territory), Durga (Fort), Kosa (Treasure), Danda (coercive authority) and Mitra (ally). |
| 25. | The Aihole temples were built in the late 7th century by the dynasty of the Chalukyas. It is the largest of a group of over 120 temples at Aihole. The architecture of the temple is predominantly Dravida with Nagara style also used in certain areas. |



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| 26. | The Jivaka which is mentioned in Buddhist literature was the name of a doctor during Buddha's time. |
| 27.. | Kumarasambhava, is an epic poem by Kalidasa written in the 5th century CE. The work describes the courting of the ascetic Shiva, who is meditating in the mountains, by Parvati, the daughter of the Himalayas; the conflagration of Kama (the god of desire)—after his arrow struck Shiva—by the fire from Shiva's third eye; the wedding and lovemaking of Shiva and Parvati; and the subsequent birth of Kumara (Skanda), the war god. Kumara is the son of Shiva Kartikeya. |
| 28. | Madurai was the capital city of Pandyas. The Pandyas were ousted from Madurai by the Chola dynasty during the early 9th century. The city remained under the control of the Cholas until the early 13th century, when the second Pandyan empire was established with Madurai as its capital. |
| 29. | During the reign of the Shungas, some Yavans' or Greeks were converted to the Vaishnava Cult. |
| 30. | As per the Chinese sources, the Kushanas (mentioned in Chinese texts as <i>Guishuang</i>) were one of the 5 tribes of Yueh-Chi or Yuezhi. Kushanas were also known as Tocharians. They were nomadic tribes and easternmost speakers of the Indo-Europeans Languages which were called "Tocharian languages". |
| 31. | Kavi Vatsal was a title assumed by a king belonging to the Satavahana dynasty. |
| 32. | Samudragupta granted permission to Buddhist king of Ceylon Meghavarman to build a monastery at Bodh Gaya. Samudragupta was a ruler of the Gupta Empire of Ancient India. As a son of the Gupta emperor Chandragupta I and the Licchavi princess Kumaradevi, he greatly expanded his dynasty's political power. |
| 33. | Kalibangan site is known for its unique fire altars and "world's earliest attested ploughed field". |
| 34. | Qin Shi Huang was the founder of the Qin dynasty and the first emperor of a unified China. Around 220 B.C., Qin Shi Huang ordered that earlier fortifications between states be removed and a number of existing walls along the northern border be joined into a single system that would extend for more than 10,000 li (a li is about one-third of a mile) which is the great wall of china. |
| 35. | The beginning of the Saka Era by Kanishka happened in 78 AD. Rest of the events happened in BC. |
| 36. | The first description about the Bhils , a tribe of Rajasthan was found in Aitareya Brahmana. |
| 37. | Yijing or I-tsing, was a Tang-era Chinese Buddhist monk famed as a traveler and translator. His account of his travels is an important source for the history of the medieval kingdoms along the sea route between China and India. He gave account of the first Gupta ruler Srigupta. |



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| 38. | Kacha is a prince from the gupta dynasty. He is known for issuance of gold coins of very high quality similar to that of gupta king samudragupta. |
| 39. | The silver coins issued by the Guptas were called Rupaka. The silver coin was called Rupaka based on Sakas of Ujjaini weighing 32-36 grains. The Gupta gold coins are known as Dinars. |
| 40. | Greeks, Kushanas & Shakas had entered India through the North West side. Accepting the local religion would provide them the easiest way to achieve legitimacy of their rule. Since Buddhism was prevalent in the area at that time and it provided the easiest entry (Hinduism had strict caste based structure) so, they embraced Buddhism. |
| 41. | The Kadambas were an ancient royal family of Karnataka, India, that ruled northern Karnataka and the Konkan from Banavasi in present-day Uttara Kannada district. It is founded by Mayursharman. |
| 42. | The Prashna Upanishad is an ancient Sanskrit text, embedded inside Atharva Veda, ascribed to Pippalada sakha of Vedic scholars. Rest 3 are correctly matched. |
| 43. | Vindhyashakti (c. 250 – c. 270 CE) was the founder of the Vakataka dynasty. His name is derived from the name of the goddess Vindhya. |
| 44. | Senabhaktam was a punitive tax imposed on people of a region by the army when it passed through the region. Kantaka Shodhana means the suppression of criminals and other anti-social elements. Rupadarsaka was the examiner of punch-marked coins during the Mauryan period. |
| 45. | Jain philosophy rejected the existence of created god. They denied the authority of vedas. They accepted the doctrine of Karma and rebirth. They separate the body from the soul. |
| 46. | The term Palaeolithic is derived from the Greek word ‘palaeo’, which means old and ‘lithic’ meaning stone. Therefore, the term Palaeolithic age refers to the old stone age. |
| 47. | Inamgaon is a Chalcolithic site of Maharashtra has shown evidence of an irrigation canal and an embankment. |
| 48. | Gavisthi, Gaveshana and Gavyat are the forms of battle fought between the Aryans and the Panis. Panis were considered enemies as used to hide the cattle of Aryans in the forest. |
| 49. | During the Rig Vedic period indigenous inhabitants were called “dasyus” or “ dasas”. They were also referred as a-vrata which means those who do not obey the ordinances of the gods and akratu which means those who do not perform sacrifices. |
| 50. | During the Rig Vedic period there was no regular revenue system. The kingdom was maintained by the voluntary tribute known as bali and the bounty won in battles. |

