

23. The Inspirational History of India

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ABSTRACT

History is an umbrella term comprising past events as well as the memory, discovery, collection, organization, presentation, and interpretation of these events. It is the study of the human past as it is described in written documents left behind by humans. This paper puts glimpses on the inspirational history of India.

Keywords: History, Past Events

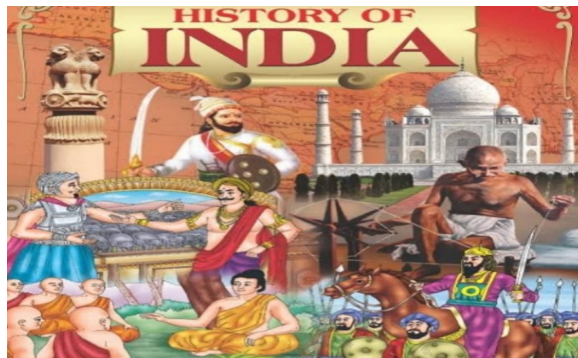
Introduction

History is the study and the documentation of the past. Events before the invention of writing systems are considered prehistory. “History” is an umbrella term comprising past events as well as the memory, discovery, collection, organization, presentation, and interpretation of these events. Historians seek knowledge of the past using historical sources such as written documents, oral accounts, art and material artifacts, and ecological markers.

Stories common to a particular culture, but not supported by external sources, are usually classified as cultural heritage or legends. History differs from myth in that it is supported by verifiable evidence. However, ancient cultural influences have helped spawn variant interpretations of the nature of history which have evolved over the centuries and continue to change today. The modern study of history is wide-ranging, and includes the study of specific regions and the study of certain topical or thematic elements of historical investigation. History is often taught as a part of primary and secondary education, and the academic study of history is a major discipline in university studies.

History is the study of the human past as it is described in written documents left behind by humans. The past, with all of its complicated choices and events, participants dead and history told, is what the general public perceives to be the immutable bedrock on which historians and archaeologists stand. But as purveyors of the past, historians recognize that the bedrock is really quick sand, that bits of each story are yet untold, and that what has been told is colored by the conditions of today. While not untrue to say that history is the study of the past, here is a collection of much more clear and accurate descriptions.

The Indian subcontinent, the great landmass of South Asia, is the home of one of the world's oldest and most influential civilizations. The subcontinent, which for historical purposes is usually called simply “India” is understood to comprise the areas of not only the present-day



Republic of India but also the republics of Pakistan (partitioned from India in 1947) and Bangladesh (which formed the eastern part of Pakistan until its independence in 1971).

- **What is History-Itihasa**

The literal meaning of the itihasa is 'thus it was' and it is translated as 'history'. There was a time when only written records were acknowledged as authentic source of History. Written material could be verified, cited and cross-checked. Oral evidence i.e Myths and folk songs was never considered a valid source. Earlier historians used Myth, fiction and oral traditions in a limited way on account of their lack of verifiability. But today these unconventional sources are being used innovatively. Traditions and cultural traits should be studied in the light of other historical facts.

- **Scale of counting history years-**



- ❖ **Types of history-**

1. Oral
2. written

- ❖ **4 Eras of history-**

- A. Prehistoric
- B. Ancient
- C. Medieval
- D. Modern

Megasthenes is known as the Indian Father of History due to his pioneering work recording ethnographic observations as the first foreign ambassador to India.



- ❖ **The prehistoric Era of india-**

Keywords-

Prehistoric era- Old Stone Age, New Stone Age

The term Prehistoric refers to a time frame before we began to write. Because of this, there is no written proof of its existence. The prehistoric cultures in India are studied through existing artworks, pottery, tools, and other physical things found at archaeological sites.

There are three ages in total namely – Stone Age, Bronze/Copper Age, and Iron Age. The Stone age was 2.6 million ago and lasted till 3300BC. The Bronze and Iron Age eventually followed.

Prehistoric cultures in India have five parts – Paleolithic Period, Mesolithic Period, Neolithic Period, Chalcolithic Period, and Iron Age. The first three are part of the stone while Chalcolithic is another name for the Bronze Age.

These periods are the first part of Ancient Indian History.

Prehistoric Cultures in India Timeline

Paleolithic Age 2 million BC – 10,000 BC

Mesolithic Age 10,000 BC – 8000 BC

Neolithic Age 8000 BC – 4000 BC

Chalcolithic Age 4000 BC – 1500 BC

Iron Age

Paleolithic Period – 2 million BC – 10,000 BC

This was the earliest period of human evolution in India. The man was a hunter at this age. They were dependent on hunting to fill their stomachs. They used sharp tools to hunt and for other activities as well. Agriculture was not a part of this age.

Lower Paleolithic Period – up to 100,000 BC

Bori in Maharashtra is the earliest lower paleolithic site in India. Their habitat was mainly caves and rock shelters. A Bhimbetka rock shelter in Madhya Pradesh is a prominent example of their habitat. It became a world heritage site in 2003.

Another important feature is that they lived near water bodies as the stone was accessible there. Most of their hunting tools like axes made of Limestone and used for skinning, digging, and cutting of animals.

Some of the important Lower Paleolithic Sites in India are – Belan Valley of Mirzapur, Didwana in Rajasthan, Narmada Valley, and Soan Valley.

Middle Paleolithic Period – 100,000 BC– 40,000 BC

Most of the features of this age are similar to the lower paleolithic period. The evidence of using fire was first in this period. The tools for hunting changed from using axes to using flakes. They were more pointed and sharp in appearance.

They were also lighter, thinner, and smaller in size. Some of the important and earliest Middle Paleolithic sites are – Narmada River Valley, Tungabhadra River Valley, and Luni Valley.

Upper Paleolithic Period – 40,000 BC– 10,000 BC

This period saw the emergence of Homo Sapiens. The culture of this period is called the Osteodontokeratic culture which had tools made up of bones, teeth, and horns. This also included fishing tools rather than just hunting tools.

Mesolithic Period – 10,000 BC– 8000 BC

This period is also a part of the Stone Age. Though the hunting and food gathering continued in this period, the domestication of animals was seen for the first time. Major climate took place during this period; the weather became more warm and humid.

Backed blade, core, point, triangle, lunate, and trapeze were some of the microliths of this period. Painting in many of the rock shelters is from this period. Adamgarh, Madhya Pradesh has the earliest evidence of animal domestication.

Langhnaj in Gujarat and Moharana Pahara in Uttar Pradesh have the earliest evidence of burial of the dead. The first human colonization of the Ganga plains is from the Mesolithic period too. Some of the important and earliest sites of the Mesolithic period are – Brahmagiri, Narmada, Vindhya, Gujarat, and UP.

Neolithic Period – 8000 BC – 4000 BC

This is the last period of the Stone Age. This period was the beginning of Agriculture in India. The lifestyle of humans changed from nomadic to a settled one. These people had common right over the property and made circular houses of mud and reed.

These were the food producers, and ragi, horse gram, cotton, rice, wheat, and barley were some prominent crops of this period.

They were interested in Art and Pottery as well. The tools made of bones and stones were present for farming

Some of the important and earliest Neolithic Sites in India are– Mehrgarh, Inamgaon, Hullar, Burzahom, Gufkral, Chirand, and Utnur.

Chalcolithic Period– 4000 BC– 1500 BC

It is the first Metal Age of India. It is part of the Bronze and Copper Age. The tools of this period were of low-grade metals. It was mainly famous for farming communities. Hunting was still an occupation in addition to fishing and farming.

Animals including sheep, buffalo, goats, cattle, and pigs served as food to these people.

Chalcolithic Periods are– Brahmagiri Navada Toli, Chirand, Mahishadal, and more in different regions of the country.

Iron Age– 1500 BC to 600 BC

The Painted Grey Ware culture and the Northern Black Polished Ware were the most prominent culture of this period. This period marked the arrival of the Aryans (Vedic Period). The Janapadas were the realms of this period and gave rise to 16 Mahajanapadas.

The first civilization on the banks of the river Ganga after the Indus Valley was by Mahajanapadas. This period ended with the rise of the Mauryan Empire. Some of the important Iron Age sites in India are – Malhar, Dadupur, Raja Nala Ka Tila, Lahuradewa, Kosambi and Jhusi, Allahabad.



Indus valley civilization –Indus civilization, also called Indus valley civilization or Harappan civilization, the earliest known urban culture of the Indian subcontinent. The nuclear dates of the civilization appear to be about 2500–1700 BCE, though the southern sites may have lasted later into the 2nd millennium BCE. Among the world’s three earliest civilizations—the other two are those of Mesopotamia and Egypt—the Indus civilization was the most extensive.

- **Ancient history-**

Keywords-

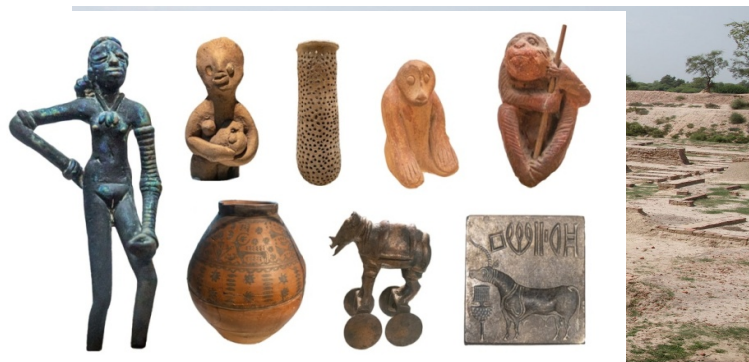
Harappan Civilisation- Harappa, Mehrgarh



Mohenjo-Daro-indus valley Civilisation

Harappan civilization—

The Indus civilisation is also known as the Harappancivilisation, after its type site Harappa, the first to be excavated early in the 20th century in what was then the Punjab province of British India and is now Punjab, Pakistan The discovery of Harappa and soon afterwards Mohenjodaro was the culmination of work that had begun after the founding of the Archaeological Survey of India in the British Raj in 1861. There were earlier and later cultures called Early Harappan and Late Harappan in the same area. The early Harappan cultures were populated from Neolithic cultures, the earliest and best-known of which is Mehrgarh, in Balochistan, Pakistan. Harappancivilisation is sometimes called Mature Harappan to distinguish it from the earlier cultures.

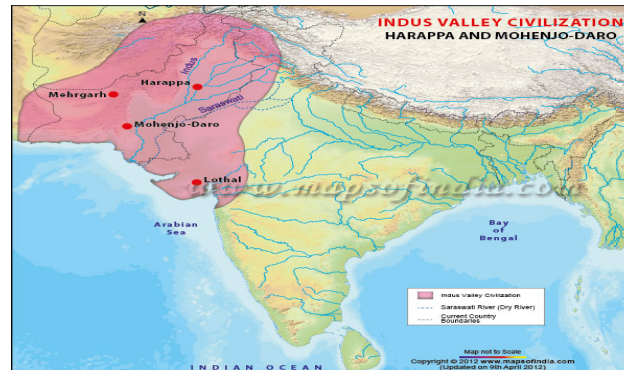


Mohenjodaro-

Mohenjo-daro meaning “Mound of the Dead Men” or “Mohan’s Mound” is an archaeological site in the province of Sindh, Pakistan. Built around 2500 BCE, it was one of the largest settlements of the ancient Indus civilisation or Harappan culture, with features such as

standardized bricks, street grids, and covered sewerage systems. It was one of the world's earliest major cities, contemporaneous with the civilizations of ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, Minoan Crete, and Caral-Supe. Mohenjo-daro was abandoned in the 19th century BCE as the Indus Valley Civilization declined, and the site was not rediscovered until the 1920s. Significant excavation has since been conducted at the site of the city, which was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1980. The site is currently threatened by erosion and improper restoration.

The archaeological importance of the site was first recognized in 1922, one year after the discovery of Harappa. Subsequent excavations revealed that the mounds contain the remains of what was once the largest city of the Indus civilization. Because of the city's size-about 3 miles (5 km) in circuit-and the comparative richness of its monuments and their contents, it has been generally regarded as a capital of an extensive state. Its relationship with Harappa, however, is uncertain-i.e., if the two cities were contemporaneous centres or if one city succeeded the other. The city of Mohenjodaro, now 2 miles (3 km) from the Indus



❖ Empires of India-

Keywords-

Chalukyas, Pala, Rashtrakuta, Cholas, Maurya, Asoka Empire



Chalukyas Dynasty-



It Was a Classical Indian dynasty that ruled large parts of southern and central India between the 6th and the 12th centuries. During this period, they ruled as three related yet individual dynasties. The earliest dynasty, known as the “Badami Chalukyas”, ruled from Vatapi (modern Badami) from the middle of the 6th century. The Badami Chalukyas began to assert their independence at the decline of the Kadamba kingdom of Banavasi and rapidly rose to prominence during the reign of Pulakesh II. After the death of Pulakesh II, the Eastern Chalukyas became an independent kingdom in the eastern Deccan. They ruled from Vengi until about the 11th century. In the western Deccan, the rise of the Rashtrakutas in the middle of the 8th century eclipsed the Chalukyas of Badami before being revived by their descendants, the Western Chalukyas, in the late 10th century. These Western Chalukyas ruled from Kalyani (modern Basavakalyan) until the end of the 12th century.

Pala Empire

The Pala Empire was an imperial power during the post-classical period in the Indian subcontinent, which originated in the region of Bengal. It is named after its ruling dynasty, whose rulers bore names ending with the suffix Pala. The empire was founded with the election of Gopala as the emperor of Gauda in 750 CE.

Rashtrakuta Empire

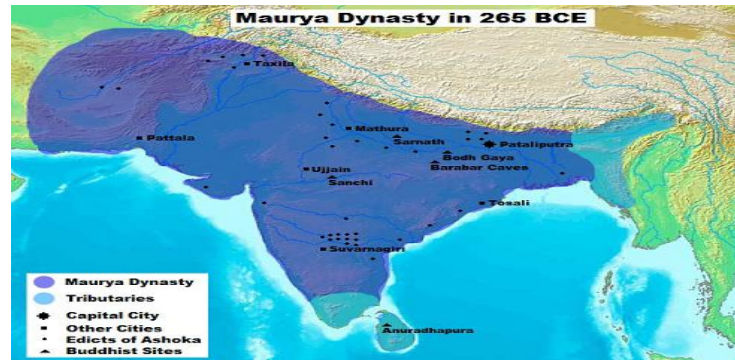
It was a royal Indian dynasty ruling large parts of the Indian subcontinent between the sixth and 10th centuries. The earliest known Rashtrakuta inscription is a 7th century copper plate grant detailing their rule from Manapura, a city in Central or West India. Other ruling Rashtrakuta clans from the same period mentioned in inscriptions were the kings of Achalapur and the rulers of Kannauj. Several controversies exist regarding the origin of these early Rashtrakutas, their native homeland and their language the capital is badami

Cholas dynasty

The Chola Dynasty was a Tamil thalassocratic empire of southern India, one of the longest-ruling dynasties in world history. The earliest datable references to the Chola are in inscriptions from the 3rd century BCE left by Ashoka, of the Maurya Empire. As one of the three crowned Kings of Tamilakam, along with the Chera and Pandya, the dynasty continued to govern over varying territory until the 13th century CE. Despite these ancient origins, the period when it is appropriate to speak of a “Chola Empire” only begins with the medieval Cholas in the mid 9th century CE. the capital is 'gangaikondcholpuram’

Maurya Dynasty

The Maurya Empire, or the Mauryan Empire, was a geographically extensive ancient Indian



Iron Age historical power in South Asia based in Magadha, having been founded by Chandragupta Maurya in 322 BCE, and existing in loose-knit fashion until 185 BCE. The Maurya Empire was centralized by the conquest of the Indo-Gangetic Plain, and its capital city was located at Pataliputra (modern Patna). Outside this imperial center, the empire's geographical extent was dependent on the loyalty of military commanders who controlled the armed cities sprinkling it. During Ashoka's rule (ca. 268–232 BCE) the empire briefly controlled the major urban hubs and arteries of the Indian subcontinent excepting the deep south. It declined for about 50 years after Ashoka's rule, and dissolved in 185 BCE with the assassination of Brihadratha by Pushyamitra Shunga and foundation of the Shunga Empire in Magadha.

• Medieval history-

Keywords-

Delhi sultanate, vijaynagara empire, krushnadevray, Amuktamalyada, bahamani empire, mughal empire, babar, Akbar, Maratha empire, chatrapatishivaji Maharaj, Chatrapati Sambhajimaharaj, Peshwa empire

Delhi sultanate-



Vijaynagar Empire-

It was the capital city of the historic Vijayanagara Empire. Located on the banks of the Tungabhadra River, it spread over a large area and included the modern era Group of

Monuments at Hampi site in Vijayanagara district, Bellary district and others in and around these districts in Karnataka, India. A part of Vijayanagara ruins known as Hampi has been designated as a UNESCO world heritage site. Vijayanagara is in the eastern part of central Karnataka, close to the Andhra Pradesh border the king of Vijaynagara- Krishnadevray wrote the book on based on 'Rajniti' is Aamuktamalyada.



Bahamani Sultanate-

The Bahmani Sultanate was a Persianate Sunni Muslim empire of the Deccan in South India. It was the first independent Muslim kingdom of the Deccan, and was known for its perpetual wars with its Hindu rivals of Vijayanagara, which would outlast the Sultanate. The Sultanate was founded in 1347 by Ala-ud-Din Bahman Shah. It was Furth divided into 5 sultanates-

1. *Varhad'semadshahi*
2. *Bidar's baridshahi*
3. *Bijapur's aadilShahi*
4. *Ahmadnagar'sNijamShahi*
5. *Govalkonda'skuthubshahi*

Mughal Empire-

- **Babar-** Also spelled Bābar or Bāber, original name Zāhīr al-Dīn Muḥammad, (born February 15, 1483, principality of Fergana [now in Uzbekistan] died December 26, 1530, Agra [India]), emperor (1526–30) and founder of the Mughal dynasty of northern India. Bābur, a descendant of the Mongol conqueror Genghis Khan and also of the Turkic conqueror Timur (Tamerlane), was a military adventurer, a soldier of distinction, and a poet and diarist of genius, as well as a statesman. He was the founder of Mughal Empire.
- **Humayun-** Humāyūn, also called Nāṣir al-Dīn Muḥammad, (born March 6, 1508, Kabul [Afghanistan] died January 1556, Delhi [India]), second Mughal ruler of India, who was more an adventurer than a consolidator of his empire. The son and successor of Bābur, who had founded the Mughal dynasty, Humāyūn ruled from 1530 to 1540 and again from 1555 to 1556.
- **Shershahsuri-** Sher Shah Suri, born FarīdKhān, was the founder of the Suri Empire in India, with its capital in Sasaram in modern-day Bihar. He introduced the currency of rupee. An ethnic Afghan ruler, Sher Shah took control of the Mughal Empire in 1540. After his accidental death in 1545, his son Islam Shah became his successor.

- **Samrat Akbar-** Abu'l-Fath Jalal-ud-din Muhammad Akbar, popularly known as Akbar the Great, and also as Akbar I, was the third Mughal emperor, who reigned from 1556 to 1605. Akbar succeeded his father, Humayun, under a regent, Bairam Khan, who helped the young emperor expand and consolidate Mughal domains in India.
- **Chandbibbi-** Sultana Chand Bibi was an Indian ruler and warrior. She acted as the Regent of Bijapur Sultanate during the minority of Ibrahim Adil Shah II in 1580-1590, and regent of Ahmednagar Sultanate during the minority of her great nephew Bahadur Shah in 1595-1600.
- **Jahangir-** Akbar was succeeded by his son Salim with the title Nur-ud-din Jahangir. He was Akbar's son by Rajput wife. His ascension was challenged by his eldest son Prince Khusrau who staged a revolt with the blessings of Sikh Guru Arjun Dev.
- **Nurjahan-** Nur Jahan, born Mehr-un-Nissa was the chief wife and empress consort of the Mughal emperor Jahangir. She was the twentieth and last wife of Jahangir. Nur Jahan was born Mehr-un-Nissa, the daughter of a Grand Vizier who served under Akbar. Nur Jahan was a powerful and influential woman in the court.
- **Shahjahan-** Shihab al-Din Muhammad Khurram, better known by his regnal name Shah Jahan I, was the fifth emperor of the Mughal Empire, reigning from January 1628 until July 1658. Under his emperorship, the Mughals reached the peak of their architectural achievements and cultural glory.
- **Aurangzeb-** Muhi al-Din Muhammad, commonly known as Aurangzeb and by his regnal title Alamgir, was the sixth emperor of the Mughal Empire, ruling from July 1658 until his death in 1707. Under his emperorship, the Mughals reached their greatest extent with their territory spanning nearly the entirety of South Asia



Maratha Empire –

The Maratha Empire, or the Maratha Confederacy, was an early modern Indian confederation that came to dominate much of the Indian subcontinent in the 18th century. Maratha rule formally began in 1674 with the coronation of Shivajimaharaj as the Chhatrapati

➤ **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj-**

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was an Indian ruler and a member of the Bhonsle Maratha clan. Shivaji carved out his own independent kingdom from the declining Adilshahi sultanate of Bijapur which formed the genesis of the Maratha Empire. In 1674, he was formally crowned the Chhatrapati of his realm at Raigad Fort

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was the founder of the Maratha Empire in western India. He is considered to be one of the greatest warriors of his time and even today, stories of his exploits are narrated as a part of the folklore. With his valor and great administrative skills, Shivaji carved out an enclave from the declining Adilshahi sultanate of Bijapur. It eventually became the genesis of the Maratha Empire. After establishing his rule, Shivaji Maharaj implemented a competent and progressive administration with the help of a disciplined military and well-established administrative set-up. Shivaji Maharaj is well-known for his innovative military tactics that centered around non-conventional methods leveraging strategic factors like geography, speed, and surprise to defeat his more powerful enemies.

➤ **Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj-**

The second Chhatrapati of the Maratha Empire, ruling from 1681 to 1689. He was the eldest son of Shivaji, the founder of the Maratha Empire. Sambhaji's rule was largely shaped by the ongoing wars between the Maratha Empire and the Mughal Empire, as well as other neighbouring powers such as the Siddis, Mysore and the Portuguese in Goa. After Sambhaji's death, his brother Rajaram I succeeded him as the next Chhatrapati.

Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj is a Maratha warrior king who was the son of the iconic ruler Shivaji Maharaj. The Maratha kingdom had risen from scratch, built brick by brick by the sons of the Indian soil who wished to overthrow the powers that swore allegiance to descendants of Turkish, Persian and Mongol aggressors. Sambhaji Maharaj ruled for a short span of 9-10 years before his death at the hands of Aurangzeb but the Maratha subjects never forgot his sacrifice.

Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj was the eldest son of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj – the great Maratha warrior king. Shivaji Maharaj belonged to the Bhonsle clan and was born on 19th February 1627. Shivaji Maharaj built the Hindawi Swaraj – the Self-rule of Indians as against that of the Mughals who identified themselves as descendants from Tamerlane of Mongolia and also of Turcik– Central Asian (Chagtai) bloodline. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj died on 3rd April 1680 but in his lifetime, he laid the foundation for the genesis of the Maratha Empire – a solid bulwark against invaders. His son Sambhaji Maharaj had a huge task cut out before him – to defend the Maratha empire against the might of the Mughals in Delhi who were later subdued and decimated by the Maratha armies) and to carry on the vision and policies of Shivaji Maharaj

➤ **Maharani Tararani-**

Tarabai came from Mohite clan. She was daughter of Commander-in-Chief Hambirrao Mohite of Shivaji, the founder-king of the Maratha Empire. Hambirrao's sister Soyarabai was the queen of Shivaji and mother of his younger son Rajaram I. Tarabai married Rajaram at the age of 8 in 1682, becoming his second wife.

➤ **Balaji Vishwanath-**

Balaji Vishwanath Bhat (1662–1720) was the first of a series of hereditary Peshwas hailing from the Bhat family who gained effective control of the Maratha Empire during the 18th century. Balaji Vishwanath assisted a young Maratha Emperor Shahu to consolidate his grip on

a kingdom that had been racked by civil war and persistently intruded on by the Mughals under Aurangzeb. He was called the Second Founder of the Maratha State. Later, his son Bajirao I became the Peshwa.

Balaji Vishwanath was the 6th Peshwa and the first in a series of hereditary Peshwas of the Maratha Empire.

For his exemplary service to Chhatrapati Shahu in consolidating an empire and setting right many things in the kingdom, he is called the 'Second founder of the Maratha State'.

Balaji was born on 1 January 1662 in Shrivardhan in the present Raigad district in Maharashtra. His father was Vishwanathpant Bhatt and the family were the hereditary Deshmukhs of Shrivardhan.

Balaji entered the Maratha administration and served as an accountant for a Maratha general Dhanaji Jadhav. He then worked as the sarsubedar at Pune and Daulatabad.

As an administrator under Jadhav, Balaji was sent to check the credentials of Shahu (son of Sambhaji) who had been released by the Mughals from captivity after the death of Aurangzeb. Balaji influenced his master Dhanaji Jadhav to support Shahu as the rightful claimant to the Maratha throne. Balaji Vishwanath died of ill-health on 12 April 1720. His son Baji Rao I succeeded him as the Peshwa.

➤ **Peshwa Bajirao I-**

Baji Rao I, born as Visaji, also known as Bajirao Ballal, was the 7th Peshwa of the Maratha Empire. During his 20-year tenure as a Peshwa, he defeated Mughals and their vassal Nizam-ul-Mulk at several battles like the Battle of Delhi and Battle of Bhopal.

Baji Rao succeeded his father, Balaji Vishwanath Bhat, as peshwa in 1720, establishing hereditary succession for the post. His tenure oversaw the expansion in power and influence of the peshwa as well as of the dominion of the Marathas, especially into Malwa (now in Madhya Pradesh) and Gujarat. Upon Shahu's death in 1749, Baji Rao's son and successor, Balaji Baji Rao, became the virtual ruler of the Maratha confederacy.

Baji Rao's success was achieved through military conquest and effective diplomacy, including the formation of alliances with Rajput princes, the ability to defeat and extract compromises from the Nizam al-Mulk of Hyderabad, and the implementation of a tax regime over a vast area of former Mughal territory. At the same time, the large territorial holdings under the Marathas allowed rival chiefs to assert a certain amount of independence, setting up the peshwas for setbacks later. The most notable instance was Baji Rao's appointment of Malhar Rao Holkar as his chief general in Malwa in 1724.

➤ **Nana Saheb Peshwa-**

Nana Saheb Peshwa all details. Peshwa Shrimant Balajirao Bhat, generally acknowledged as Nana Saheb Peshwa was the Maratha Empire's eighth Peshwa. Nana Saheb Peshwa was born on December 8, 1720 and then became Peshwa in 1740 after his legendary father, Peshwa Bajirao I, died.

The Chhatrapati was reduced to a mere figurehead through his reign. At the same time, the Maratha Empire began to disintegrate into a confederacy, with individual chiefs gaining influence, such as the Holkars, Scindias, and Bhonsles of Nagpur. The Maratha territory reached its pinnacle during Balaji Rao's reign. Individual chiefs of the Maratha Empire, on the other hand, led a substantial portion of this growth.

➤ **Raghunathrao Peshwa-**

Raghunathrao Bhat was the 11th Peshwa of the Maratha Empire for a brief period from 1773 to 1774. Also the Governor of Delhi in the year 1769

➤ **Samsherbahaddar (Krishnarao)-**

Shamshe Bahadur I was a ruler of the Maratha dominion of Banda in northern India. He was the son of Bajirao I and Mastani.

➤ **Peshwa Madhavrao-**

Peshwa Madhavrao bhat I was the 9th Peshwa of the Maratha Empire. During his tenure, the Maratha Empire partially recovered from the losses they suffered during the Third Battle of Panipat, a phenomenon known as Maratha Resurrection.



❖ **Pre Independence Era –**

Keywords-

India under influence of foreign ruler, Mohan Das Gandhi

India had been under the influence of a foreign ruler for its entire history. It was never in control of its own political destiny, nor was it ever considered a legitimate country. By the time the British took over the area, the citizens of India were beginning to grow restless with having no say in any political decisions. There was turmoil beneath the surface that the British were not really aware of, nor threatened by. This turmoil was evident in the minor rebellion of 1857, which was led by Indian soldiers. However, not until Mohandas Gandhi arrived in 1914 did the masses unite in their unhappiness and show Britain that they were capable of an uprising. Britain did not willingly accept this disloyalty, and it passed many legislative acts to try to suppress the masses and, more importantly, Gandhi. The spirit of the Indian people and its leader was not crushed, however, and they continued on in their search of independence. Not until only about 1957 did their perseverance pay off, and it was a long and hard battle against their oppressors to finally achieve freedom.



It is only natural for a nation of people who have been oppressed for their entire history to have an uprising and demand freedom. The Indians were no different in this aspect. They dealt with British rule for decades and slowly built up a strong sense of nationalism. The rebellion of 1857 was symbolic of how the country was feeling and showed that the natives of India did hope to have political freedom one day. The reorganization of the Indian National Congress after the First World War was a breakthrough for the people of India. It gave them a chance to express their political goals and find more efficient ways to achieve political freedom. World War I also led to the ascendance of Mohandas Gandhi, who showed the masses what needed to be done to show the British that the Indians were capable of achieving political freedom. Despite the many legislative acts that were passed by the British to try to repress this rebellion, the natives were persistent in their struggle and eventually came out on top. They survived two World Wars and many empty promises for freedom. Eventually, all this hard work and belief in their cause paid off. The Indian Independence Movement shows that determination and faith can help achieve goals, which is why it has been called by historians one of the most important and significant advances of an oppressed people in modern history.

❖ **Post Independence Era – (1947 to present)-**

Keywords-

British, soviet union, Demonitisation

The history of independent India began when the country became an independent nation within the British Commonwealth on 15 August 1947. Direct administration by the British, which began in 1858, affected a political and economic unification of the subcontinent. When British rule came to an end in 1947, the subcontinent was partitioned along religious lines into two separate countries India, with a majority of Hindus, and Pakistan, with a majority of Muslims. Indian National Congress leader Jawaharlal Nehru became the first Prime Minister of India.

The nation has faced religious violence, casteism, naxalism, terrorism and regional separatist insurgencies. However, it made a loose alliance with the Soviet Union from 1971, when Pakistan was allied with the United States and the People's Republic of China.

India is a nuclear-weapon state, having conducted its first nuclear test in 1974, followed by another five tests in 1998. From the 1950s to the 1980s, India followed socialist-inspired policies. The economy was influenced by extensive regulation, protectionism and public

ownership, leading to pervasive corruption and slow economic growth. Beginning in 1991, Opening of Indian economy have transformed India into the third largest and one of the fastest-growing economies in the world despite following dirigisme economic system. India has sometimes been referred to as a great power and a potential superpower given its large and growing economy, military and population.

Main key changes-

- Demonitisation
- Implementation of GST
- Removal of 370 clause
- Result on Ayodhya temple and Babri Masjid



Reference Books-

1. Maharashtra state Books
Prachin Bharata chaitihas (Marathi) 6th std (old Syllabus)
Madhyayug in Bharata chaitihas (Marathi) 7th std (old Syllabus)
Adhunik Bharata chaitihas (Marathi) 8th std (old syllabus)
Aapanaseghadlo (Marathi) 5th std (new Syllabus)
2. Other Books (E-Books)
India's ancient Past (Ram Sharan Sharma)
History of Medieval India
A Concise History of South India
