
□ Prehistoric Period (Stone Age)

Prehistoric = period before writing. Divided into **Paleolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic**.

1. Paleolithic Age (Old Stone Age)

 Period: **2 million BC – 10,000 BC**

 Sites: **Bhimbetka (MP), Belan Valley (UP), Kurnool Caves (AP), Didwana (Rajasthan)**

- **Tools:** Hand axes, cleavers, choppers, scrapers → **made of stone** (unpolished).
 - **Lifestyle:** Nomadic, cave dwellers, depended on **hunting & gathering**.
 - **Food habits:** Wild fruits, roots, hunting animals, fishing.
 - **Art:** Rock paintings (Bhimbetka caves).
 - **Fire discovery:** For protection & cooking.
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2. Mesolithic Age (Middle Stone Age)

 Period: **10,000 BC – 6000 BC**

 Sites: **Bagor (Rajasthan), Adamgarh (MP), Langhnaj (Gujarat)**

- **Tools:** **Microliths** (tiny sharp stone tools often fixed on wood/bone handles).
 - **Lifestyle:** Semi-nomadic, began **domestication of animals** (dog, goat, sheep).
 - **Food habits:** Hunting + fishing + beginning of **food gathering & herding**.
 - **Art:** Cave paintings → showed hunting, dancing, domestication.
 - **Transition stage:** From hunting-gathering to food production.
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3. Neolithic Age (New Stone Age)

 Period: **6000 BC – 1000 BC** (in India ~7000 BC onwards)

 Sites: **Mehrgarh (Baluchistan, Pakistan), Burzahom (Kashmir), Chirand (Bihar), Belan Valley (UP), Daojali Hading (Assam)**

- **Tools:** Polished stone axes, blades, sickles, grinding stones, pottery.
- **Lifestyle:** Permanent settlements → **village life** began.
- **Food habits:** **Agriculture** (wheat, rice, barley, lentils) + domestication (cattle, buffalo, goat).
- **Houses:** Mud-brick houses, pit-dwellings (Burzahom).
- **Pottery:** Handmade, later wheel-made.
- **Clothing:** Cotton, wool from domesticated animals.

✓ Key Differences at a Glance:

- **Paleolithic** → Hunting, caves, rough stone tools.
- **Mesolithic** → Microliths, domestication starts.
- **Neolithic** → Agriculture, polished tools, pottery, settled life.

Chalcolithic Age (Copper–Stone Age)

 Period: **around 3000 BC – 1000 BC** (overlaps with late Neolithic & early Harappan)

 Sites:

- **Ahar (Rajasthan)**
- **Kayatha (MP)**
- **Jorwe (Maharashtra)**
- **Malwa (MP)**
- **Ganeshwar–Jakhar (Rajasthan)**

Features

- **Tools:** Stone tools still used + introduction of **copper tools**.
- **Lifestyle:** More advanced village life; **agriculture + cattle rearing**.
- **Food habits:** Cultivation of **wheat, barley, rice, bajra, pulses**; domestication of **cattle, sheep, goats**.
- **Pottery:** Red and black pottery with **geometric patterns & painted designs**.
- **Houses:** Mud-brick houses; some evidence of planned settlements.
- **Burial practices:** Dead buried with food items, ornaments → belief in **life after death**.
- **Ganeshwar–Jakhar culture:** Supplied **copper tools** to Harappans.

✓ Quick Flow Recap (Prehistoric to Chalcolithic):

1. **Paleolithic** → Hunting, caves, rough tools, discovery of fire.
 2. **Mesolithic** → Microliths, domestication starts, cave art.
 3. **Neolithic** → Agriculture, polished tools, pottery, settled life.
 4. **Chalcolithic** → Use of copper, red-black pottery, advanced agriculture, trade link with Harappans.
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Indus Valley Civilization (IVC)



Period: **2500 BC – 1750 BC** (Bronze Age)



Spread: India–Pakistan border areas → Punjab, Sindh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan.



Major sites: **Harappa (Punjab, Pakistan), Mohenjo-daro (Sindh, Pakistan), Lothal (Gujarat), Dholavira (Gujarat)**



Important Sites

- **Harappa** (Punjab, Pakistan)
 - First discovered (1921).
 - Evidence of **granaries, burial practices**.
 - **Mohenjo-daro** (Sindh, Pakistan)
 - **Great Bath** → used for ritual bathing.
 - Granary, assembly hall.
 - **Lothal** (Gujarat, India)
 - Famous for **dockyard** → maritime trade.
 - Bead-making, semi-precious stone industry.
 - **Dholavira** (Kutch, Gujarat, India)
 - **Unique water reservoir system**.
 - Largest signboard with Harappan script.
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Town Planning

- Well-planned **grid system** → streets cut at right angles.
 - **Division**: Citadel (fortified, public buildings) + Lower Town (residential).
 - **Houses**: Baked bricks, multi-room, some with two storeys.
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Drainage System

- Most remarkable feature.
 - Covered drains, connected with soak pits.
 - Each house connected to street drains → advanced sanitation.
-

Seals

- Made of **steatite (soft stone)**.
- Motifs: Bull, Pashupati-like figure, unicorn.
- Used for trade & identity.



Script

- **Undeciphered.**
- Written in **pictographic symbols** (around 400 signs).
- Mostly found on seals, pottery, copper tablets.



Decline of Civilization

(Not sudden, but gradual around **1900–1750 BC**)

Causes (theories):

- **Natural:** Floods, drought, earthquake, river shifting (Indus changed course).
- **Environmental degradation:** Deforestation, decline in agriculture.
- **Foreign invasion:** Aryan invasion theory (now less accepted).
- **Internal decline:** Breakdown of trade & urban life.



Essence Recap:

- **Harappa** → Granaries
- **Mohenjo-daro** → Great Bath
- **Lothal** → Dockyard
- **Dholavira** → Water reservoirs & signboard
- **Features** → Town planning, drainage, seals, undeciphered script
- **Decline** → Environmental + natural + socio-economic causes



Vedic Age (1500 BC – 600 BC)

Divided into **Early Vedic Period (Rigvedic, 1500–1000 BC)** & **Later Vedic Period (1000–600 BC)**.



Vedic Literature

- **Rigveda** → Oldest (1028 hymns, mainly prayers to natural forces).
- **Samaveda** → Hymns of Rigveda set to music → basis of Indian music.
- **Yajurveda** → Rituals, sacrifices.
- **Atharvaveda** → Magical spells, charms, folk traditions.
- **Brahmanas** → Ritual explanations.
- **Aranyakas** → Forest texts (philosophical).

- **Upanishads** → Highest philosophical thought (soul, Brahman, moksha).
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Religion

- **Early Vedic:**
 - Nature worship (Indra – war, Agni – fire, Varuna – water, Surya – sun).
 - Sacrifices (yajnas), hymns, no idol worship.
 - **Later Vedic:**
 - Importance of **Prajapati (creator), Vishnu, Rudra–Shiva**.
 - Sacrifices became more elaborate.
 - Rise of philosophy → Upanishads (concept of Brahman & Atman).
-



Society

- **Early Vedic:**
 - Family = main unit.
 - **Women enjoyed better status** (could attend sabhas, education allowed).
 - Varna system based on **profession** (flexible).
 - **Later Vedic:**
 - Patriarchal society strengthened.
 - **Women's position declined** (no sabha participation, child marriages start).
 - Varna became **rigid & birth-based** → caste system formed.
-



Polity

- **Early Vedic:**
 - Tribal polity, king = **rajan** (not absolute).
 - Assisted by **Purohita (priest), Senani (army chief)**.
 - Assemblies: **Sabha, Samiti, Vidatha, Gana** important.
 - **Later Vedic:**
 - Monarchy strengthened → king became powerful.
 - Rituals like **Rajasuya, Ashvamedha** to prove supremacy.
 - Assemblies lost importance.
-



Economy

- **Early Vedic:**
 - Pastoral → cattle main wealth.
 - Agriculture secondary, barter system.

- Use of copper & bronze.
- **Later Vedic:**
 - Agriculture became **primary occupation**.
 - Use of **iron tools** → ploughing advanced.
 - Trade increased, coins (**Nishka, Satmana**) in use.

16 Mahajanapadas (6th Century BC)

- Emerged during Later Vedic period due to **agriculture, trade, iron use, urbanization**.
- Mentioned in **Buddhist text Anguttara Nikaya**.

List of 16 Mahajanapadas:

1. Anga (Champanagar, Bihar)
2. Magadha (Rajgir, later Pataliputra)
3. Kasi (Varanasi)
4. Kosala (Ayodhya)
5. Vajji (Vaishali, republic)
6. Malla (Kusinara, Pava, republic)
7. Chedi (Bundelkhand)
8. Vatsa (Kausambi, UP)
9. Kuru (Hastinapur, Indraprastha)
10. Panchala (Ahichhatra, Kampilya)
11. Matsya (Viratnagar, Rajasthan)
12. Surasena (Mathura)
13. Assaka (on Godavari, Maharashtra)
14. Avanti (Ujjain, Mahismati)
15. Gandhara (Taxila)
16. Kamboja (Afghanistan/Punjab)

 **Magadha** later became most powerful (due to fertile land, iron mines, elephants, strong rulers).

Religious Movements

Jainism

- **Founder:** Not Mahavira → credited to **Rishabhanatha (1st Tirthankara)**.
- **Mahavira (24th Tirthankara):**
 - Born at Kundagrama (Bihar).
 - Contemporary of Buddha.

- Attained **Kaivalya (enlightenment)** at 42 years in Jrimbhikagrama.
- Preached in **Prakrit (Ardhamagadhi)**.
- Died at Pavapuri (Bihar).

Teachings of Mahavira

- **Five vows:** Ahimsa (non-violence), Satya (truth), Asteya (non-stealing), Aparigraha (non-possession), Brahmacharya (added by Mahavira).
 - Believed in **strict asceticism**.
 - No creator God, universe is eternal.
 - **Salvation** through penance & non-violence.
 - Divided followers into **Shvetambaras (white-clad) & Digambaras (sky-clad)**.
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Buddhism

- **Founder:** Gautama Buddha (Siddhartha).
 - Born at Lumbini (563 BC).
 - Enlightenment at Bodh Gaya under Bodhi tree.
 - First sermon at Sarnath → **Dharmachakra Pravartana**.
 - Died at Kushinagar (483 BC).

Teachings of Buddha

- **Four Noble Truths:**
 1. Life is full of suffering (Dukkha).
 2. Cause of suffering = desire (Tanha).
 3. End of desire ends suffering (Nirodha).
 4. Path to end suffering = **Eightfold Path**.
 - **Eightfold Path:** Right view, intention, speech, action, livelihood, effort, mindfulness, concentration.
 - Rejected caste system, rituals, and sacrifices.
 - Believed in **ahimsa, karma, rebirth, nirvana**.
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Buddhist Councils

1. **First Council (Rajgir, 483 BC)**
 - After Buddha's death.
 - Presided by **Mahakassapa**, patron → Ajatshatru.
 - Compilation of **Vinaya Pitaka & Sutta Pitaka**.
2. **Second Council (Vaishali, 383 BC)**
 - Patron → Kalashoka.
 - Resulted in division: **Sthaviras & Mahasanghikas**.
3. **Third Council (Pataliputra, 250 BC)**
 - Patron → Ashoka, presided by Moggaliputta Tissa.

- Compilation of **Abhidhamma Pitaka**.
 - Spread of Buddhism to Sri Lanka, Central Asia.
4. **Fourth Council (Kashmir, 1st century AD)**
- Patron → Kanishka (Kushan ruler).
 - Division into **Hinayana & Mahayana**.
 - Compilation of commentaries.
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✓ **Essence Recap:**

- **16 Mahajanapadas** → Early republics & kingdoms, Magadha strongest.
 - **Jainism** → Mahavira, 5 vows, strict asceticism, two sects.
 - **Buddhism** → Buddha's Four Noble Truths, Eightfold Path, equality, non-ritualistic.
 - **Councils** → 1st (Rajgir), 2nd (Vaishali), 3rd (Pataliputra – Ashoka), 4th (Kashmir – Kanishka).
-

 Mauryan Empire (322–185 BC)

◆ **Chandragupta Maurya (322–298 BC)**

- Founded empire with help of **Chanakya (Kautilya)**.
- Defeated Nanda dynasty (Magadha) & Seleucus (Greek general).
- Signed treaty with Seleucus (gave NW territories, received **500 elephants**).
- Capital: **Pataliputra**.
- Adopted Jainism, died at Shravanabelagola (Karnataka).

◆ **Bindusara (298–273 BC)**

- Son of Chandragupta.
- Expanded empire southwards (except Kalinga & far south).
- Called **Amitraghata (slayer of foes)** by Greeks.

◆ **Ashoka the Great (273–232 BC)**

- Most famous ruler.
 - Fought **Kalinga War (261 BC)** → massive bloodshed → adopted **Buddhism & Dhamma policy**.
 - Sent missionaries to **Sri Lanka (Mahendra, Sanghamitra)**, SE Asia.
 - Promoted **ahimsa, tolerance, social welfare**.
 - Known for **rock edicts & pillar inscriptions**.
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 Mauryan Administration

- Source: **Arthashastra (by Chanakya)** & Megasthenes' *Indica*.
 - **Central administration:** King supreme; assisted by council of ministers.
 - **Provinces:** Ruled by princes or governors.
 - **Army:** Largest in ancient India; 6 lakh infantry, elephants, cavalry.
 - **Economy:** State control on agriculture, trade, mining, weights & measures.
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□ Ashokan Edicts

- Written in **Prakrit (Brahmi script)**, also Kharosthi, Greek, Aramaic.
 - **Major rock edicts** (14): Dhamma principles.
 - **Minor rock edicts:** Personal messages.
 - **Pillar edicts:** Moral & administrative orders.
 - Important sites: **Girnar, Kalsi, Dhauli, Sarnath, Sanchi**.
 - **Major Rock Edict XIII** → describes Kalinga war & remorse.
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Post-Mauryan Period

◆ Sangam Age (Tamil Nadu, 300 BC–300 AD)

- Sangam = assemblies of poets at Madurai.
- **Literature:** Sangam poems (ethical work *Tirukkural*).
- **Politics:** Cholas (Uraiyur), Cheras (Vanji), Pandyas (Madurai).
- **Economy:** Agriculture, trade with Rome (Roman coins found).
- **Society:** Position of women respectable, love & war themes in literature.

◆ Kushanas (1st–3rd Century AD)

- Ruler: **Kanishka (78 AD)**, started **Shaka Era**.
- Patron of Buddhism → **4th Buddhist Council at Kashmir** (Mahayana Buddhism).
- Capital: **Peshawar, Mathura**.
- Promoted Gandhara & Mathura art (Greco-Buddhist influence).
- Famous scholar in court: **Charaka (medicine)**, **Ashvaghosha (Buddhist writer)**.

◆ Satavahanas (1st Century BC–2nd Century AD)

- Founder: **Simuka**.
 - Important ruler: **Gautamiputra Satakarni**.
 - Capital: **Pratishthana (Paithan, Maharashtra)**.
 - Trade with Rome, Buddhist stupas at Amaravati, Sanchi.
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✧ Gupta Empire (320–550 AD) → Golden Age of India

◆ Chandragupta I (320–335 AD)

- Founded dynasty.
- Married Lichchhavi princess → strengthened rule.

◆ Samudragupta (335–375 AD)

- Called **Napoleon of India** (by historian Vincent Smith).
- Expanded empire with conquests (Prayag Prashasti inscription).
- Patron of music & arts (played veena).

◆ Chandragupta II (Vikramaditya) (375–415 AD)

- Expanded empire to western India (defeated Shakas).
- Promoted trade with Romans & SE Asia.
- Court had **Navratnas (Nine gems)**: Kalidasa (poet), Aryabhata (astronomer), Amarasingha, Varahamihira, etc.

✧ Features of Gupta Age (Golden Age)

- **Economy**: Prosperity, use of gold coins (*dinars*).
- **Literature**: Kalidasa (*Abhijnanashakuntalam*), Bhasa, Vishakhadatta.
- **Science & Maths**:
 - Aryabhata → zero, pi, rotation of earth.
 - Varahamihira → astronomy.
- **Art & Architecture**: Ajanta cave paintings, iron pillar (Meherauli).
- **Religion**: Hinduism revived, but tolerance towards Buddhism & Jainism.

☑ Essence Recap:

- **Maurya**: Chandragupta (founder), Bindusara (expansion), Ashoka (Buddhism & edicts).
 - **Sangam Age**: Tamil literature, Chera–Chola–Pandya.
 - **Kushanas**: Kanishka, Shaka Era, Gandhara art.
 - **Satavahanas**: Gautamiputra Satakarni, Amaravati.
 - **Guptas**: Samudragupta (Napoleon of India), Chandragupta II (Vikramaditya), Golden Age → art, science, literature flourished.
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1. Early Tamil Dynasties (Sangam Age)

◆ Cholas

- Capital: **Uraiyur, later Kaveripattinam.**
- Famous king: **Karikala Chola** → victory at **Battle of Venni**, built **Kallanai (Grand Anicut dam).**
- Economy: Trade with Rome (Roman coins found).

◆ Cheras

- Capital: **Vanji (Karur).**
- Famous ruler: **Senguttuvan Chera.**
- Known for trade in **spices (black pepper, cardamom).**
- Symbol: **Bow and arrow.**

◆ Pandyas

- Capital: **Madurai.**
 - Patronized **Sangam assemblies (poetic gatherings).**
 - Trade with Romans (pearls, spices).
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2. Pallavas (6th–9th Century AD)

- Capital: **Kanchipuram.**
 - Famous rulers:
 - **Mahendravarman I** → cave temples (rock-cut architecture).
 - **Narasimhavarman I (Mamalla)** → defeated Chalukyas; built **Shore Temple & Pancha Rathas at Mahabalipuram (UNESCO site).**
 - Patronized **Bhakti saints** (Appar, Sambandar).
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3. Chalukyas (6th–12th Century AD)

- **Badami Chalukyas** (capital Badami).
 - Famous ruler: **Pulakeshin II** → defeated Harshavardhana (north).
 - Known for **rock-cut caves at Badami, Aihole, Pattadakal** (Pattadakal = UNESCO site).
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4. Rashtrakutas (8th–10th Century AD)

- Capital: **Manyakheta (Karnataka)**.
 - Famous ruler: **Amoghavarsha** (patron of literature, Kannada text *Kavirajamarga*).
 - Built **Kailasanatha temple at Ellora (rock-cut monolithic temple)**.
 - Engaged in tripartite struggle for **Kannauj** with Palas & Gurjara-Pratiharas.
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5. Later Cholas (9th–13th Century AD)

- Re-emerged as a powerful empire.
 - Famous rulers:
 - **Rajaraja Chola I** → conquered Sri Lanka & Maldives; built **Brihadeshwara Temple (Tanjore, UNESCO site)**.
 - **Rajendra Chola I** → naval expeditions to **Sri Lanka, Malaya Peninsula**; built **Gangaikonda Cholapuram**.
 - Strong **naval power** → controlled Bay of Bengal trade.
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Temples & Architecture

- **Dravidian Style** → Tall *vimanas*, massive *gopurams*, intricate carvings.
 - Early examples: **Pallava rock-cut & shore temples (Mahabalipuram)**.
 - Chalukya contribution: **Aihole & Pattadakal temples**.
 - Rashtrakutas: **Ellora Kailasa temple**.
 - Cholas: **Brihadeshwara (Tanjore), Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Airavateswara (Darasuram)** → UNESCO World Heritage temples.
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Administration (esp. Cholas)

- **Central:** King = supreme authority.
 - **Local self-government:** **Village assemblies (sabhas/ur/nadu)** managed irrigation, tax, justice.
 - **Revenue:** Mainly land revenue; irrigation system highly advanced.
 - **Military:** Strong navy (especially under Cholas).
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Essence Recap:

- **Sangam Age:** Cholas (Karikala), Cheras (Senguttuvan), Pandyas (Madurai).
- **Pallavas:** Kanchipuram, Mahabalipuram temples.
- **Chalukyas:** Pulakeshin II, Badami–Aihole–Pattadakal temples.

- **Rashtrakutas:** Amoghavarsha, Ellora Kailasa temple, tripartite struggle.
 - **Later Cholas:** Rajaraja (Brihadeshwara), Rajendra (naval expeditions, Gangaikonda Cholapuram).
 - **Temples:** Dravidian style flourished; UNESCO sites.
 - **Administration:** Efficient, village self-rule (esp. Cholas).
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a. Early Medieval Period (750–1200 AD)

Rajput Kingdoms

- Emerged after fall of Guptas & Harsha.
- Major dynasties: **Pratiharas, Chauhans, Chandelas, Paramaras, Solankis.**
- **Prithviraj Chauhan** → defeated Ghori in **First Battle of Tarain (1191)**, lost in **Second Battle of Tarain (1192).**
- Rajputs valorous but lacked unity → led to invasions.

Arab & Turkish Invasions

- **Arabs:** Muhammad-bin-Qasim invaded Sindh (712 AD).
 - **Mahmud of Ghazni** (1000–1027): 17 raids, plundered **Somnath temple (Gujarat).**
 - **Muhammad Ghori:** Defeated Prithviraj (1192, Tarain) → laid foundation for Delhi Sultanate.
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b. Delhi Sultanate (1206–1526)

Dynasties (in order)

1. **Slave (Mamluk) Dynasty (1206–90)** – Qutbuddin Aibak (built **Qutb Minar, Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque**).
2. **Khilji Dynasty (1290–1320)** – Alauddin Khilji expanded empire, defeated Mongols, controlled markets, fixed prices.
3. **Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414)** –
 - **Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq:** ambitious but failed policies → transfer of capital to Daulatabad, token currency, failed taxation.
 - **Firoz Shah Tughlaq:** built canals, promoted agriculture.
4. **Sayyid Dynasty (1414–51)** – weak rulers.
5. **Lodi Dynasty (1451–1526)** – Ibrahim Lodi defeated by Babur in **First Battle of Panipat (1526).**

Administration & Features

- Centralized monarchy.
- **Iqtadari system:** Land given to nobles for revenue collection.
- **Architecture:** Qutb Minar, Alai Darwaza, Tughlaqabad fort, Lodi tombs.



c. Vijayanagar & Bahmani Kingdoms

Vijayanagar Empire (1336–1565)

- Founded by **Harihara & Bukka (Sangama dynasty)**.
- Peak under **Krishnadevaraya (1509–29)** → patron of Telugu poet Allasani Peddana; built **Vitthala temple, Hampi**.
- Strong administration & trade with Arabs, Portuguese.
- Defeated in **Battle of Talikota (1565)** by Deccan sultanates.

Bahmani Kingdom (1347–1527)

- Founded by **Alauddin Bahman Shah**.
- Capital: Gulbarga, later Bidar.
- Rival of Vijayanagar.



d. Mughal Empire (1526–1707)

Rulers

- **Babur (1526–30)** → founded empire after 1st Battle of Panipat.
- **Humayun (1530–56)** → lost to Sher Shah Suri (who introduced **Rupiya, Grand Trunk Road**).
- **Akbar (1556–1605)** → greatest ruler; **Din-i-Ilahi**, Mansabdari system, efficient administration.
- **Jahangir (1605–27)** → justice, married Nur Jahan.
- **Shah Jahan (1628–58)** → peak of architecture: **Taj Mahal, Red Fort, Jama Masjid**.
- **Aurangzeb (1658–1707)** → expanded empire to largest extent; imposed **jizya** tax; faced Marathas, Sikhs, Rajputs.

Administration

- **Mansabdari system** → officials ranked by **zat (personal rank) & sawar (cavalry maintained)**.
- **Zabti system (Todar Mal)** → land revenue assessed based on measurement of land & crop yield.

Decline of Mughals

- After Aurangzeb → weak rulers, court intrigues, foreign invasions (Nadir Shah, Abdali), rise of Marathas, Sikhs, British.
-

e. Bhakti & Sufi Movements

Bhakti Saints

- **Kabir** → Nirgun bhakti (without form), criticized caste & rituals, promoted unity of Hindus & Muslims.
- **Tulsidas** → wrote *Ramcharitmanas* in Hindi.
- **Mirabai** → devotee of Krishna, composed devotional songs.
- **Guru Nanak (1469–1539)** → founder of Sikhism, preached equality, one God.

Sufi Saints

- Orders: **Chishti, Suhrawardi, Naqshbandi, Qadiri.**
 - Famous saints: **Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti (Ajmer), Nizamuddin Auliya (Delhi), Sheikh Salim Chishti.**
 - Believed in **love, devotion, equality, service to mankind.**
-

✓ Essence Recap:

- **Early Medieval** → Rajputs resisted, but Ghazni & Ghori paved way for Delhi Sultanate.
 - **Delhi Sultanate** → 5 dynasties, Alauddin's reforms, Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq's failures.
 - **Vijayanagar** → Krishnadevaraya, Hampi temples; **Bahmani** rivalry.
 - **Mughals** → Akbar's administration, Shah Jahan's architecture, Aurangzeb's decline.
 - **Bhakti-Sufi** → Social reform, equality, unity, devotional literature.
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Advent of Europeans

- **Portuguese**
 - Vasco da Gama arrived at Calicut (1498).
 - First to establish trade monopoly in India.
 - Important governors: **Albuquerque** (introduced *permanent settlements, intermarriages, naval power*).
 - Lost dominance after 17th century.
- **Dutch**
 - Established first factory at Masulipatnam (1605).
 - Strong in spice trade (Malabar, Coromandel).
 - Defeated by English in the *Battle of Colachel (1741)*.
 - Later confined to Indonesia.
- **British (English East India Company)**
 - Chartered in 1600 by Queen Elizabeth I.
 - First factory at **Surat (1613)** with Jahangir's permission.
 - Later spread to Madras, Bombay, Calcutta.

- Became dominant after defeating other Europeans.
 - **French (French East India Company)**
 - Founded in 1664.
 - Settlements: Pondicherry, Chandernagore, Mahe, Karaikal.
 - Governor **Dupleix** tried to expand.
 - Defeated by British in **Carnatic Wars (1746–1763)**.
-

Important Wars

- **Anglo-French (Carnatic Wars)**
 - 1st (1746–48): inconclusive.
 - 2nd (1749–54): Dupleix defeated.
 - 3rd (1756–63): British victory in **Battle of Wandiwash (1760)** → French confined to small pockets.
 - **Anglo-Mysore Wars (Hyder Ali, Tipu Sultan vs British)**
 - 1st (1767–69): British defeated.
 - 2nd (1780–84): Tipu fought bravely, ended with Treaty of Mangalore.
 - 3rd (1790–92): Tipu defeated by Cornwallis → lost half of territory.
 - 4th (1799): Tipu killed at **Srirangapatnam** → Mysore annexed.
 - **Anglo-Maratha Wars**
 - 1st (1775–82): Treaty of Salbai (status quo).
 - 2nd (1803–05): Marathas defeated.
 - 3rd (1817–19): Marathas completely defeated → British supremacy in India.
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British Rule and Policies

- **Subsidiary Alliance (1798, by Lord Wellesley)**
 - Indian rulers had to:
 - Accept British army in their state & pay for it.
 - Not maintain their own army.
 - Keep British Resident at court.
 - If unable to pay → part of territory taken.
 - Ex: Hyderabad, Awadh, Mysore, etc.
 - **Doctrine of Lapse (1848, by Lord Dalhousie)**
 - If a ruler died without a natural heir → territory annexed by British.
 - Ex: Satara, Jhansi, Nagpur, Awadh.
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Economic Impact of British Rule

- **Deindustrialization** → Indian handicraft industry destroyed due to machine-made British goods.
- **Drain of Wealth** → export of raw material, import of finished goods, heavy taxation.

- **Commercialization of Agriculture** → shift from food crops to cash crops (indigo, cotton, opium).
 - **Famines** increased due to exploitative policies.
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Land Revenue Systems

- **Zamindari System (Permanent Settlement, 1793 by Lord Cornwallis)**
 - Implemented in Bengal, Bihar, Orissa.
 - Zamindars = middlemen; collected revenue from peasants & gave fixed amount to British.
 - Peasants heavily exploited.
 - **Ryotwari System (by Munro & Read, Madras/Bombay)**
 - Direct settlement between govt & ryot (peasant).
 - Revenue demand high, but no zamindars.
 - **Mahalwari System (by Holt Mackenzie, NW provinces & Punjab)**
 - Revenue fixed collectively with *village (mahal)* community.
 - Burden still heavy on farmers.
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Revolt of 1857 – First War of Independence

Causes

1. **Political** –
 - Doctrine of Lapse (Lord Dalhousie).
 - Annexation of Awadh (1856) angered nobles and soldiers.
 2. **Military** –
 - Discrimination in pay, ranks, promotions.
 - Indian soldiers formed majority but were treated poorly.
 - Use of **greased cartridges (cow & pig fat)** hurt religious sentiments.
 3. **Economic** –
 - Heavy taxation, destruction of handicrafts.
 - Land revenue systems exploited peasants.
 4. **Social & Religious** –
 - Fear of forced conversion to Christianity.
 - Laws like abolition of *Sati*, Widow Remarriage Act, seen as interference in customs.
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Leaders & Centres

- **Delhi** – Bahadur Shah II (symbolic leader).
- **Kanpur** – Nana Saheb, Tantia Tope, Azimullah Khan.
- **Jhansi** – Rani Laxmibai.
- **Bareilly** – Khan Bahadur Khan.

- **Awadh** – Begum Hazrat Mahal.
 - **Bihar** – Kunwar Singh.
 - **Faizabad** – Maulvi Ahmadullah.
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Results

- Revolt **suppressed by 1858** (superior British resources & lack of unity among rebels).
 - **End of East India Company rule** → Direct rule by British Crown.
 - **Queen's Proclamation (1858):**
 - No further annexations.
 - Religious tolerance assured.
 - Indians could enter civil services.
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Why it Failed?

- Poor planning & lack of coordination.
 - Limited to North & Central India.
 - Modern arms & organized army with British.
 - Many Indian rulers (Hyderabad, Mysore, Punjab, Kashmir) sided with British.
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Significance

- First large-scale anti-British uprising.
 - Unity among Hindus & Muslims.
 - Inspired later freedom movements → Called "**First War of Indian Independence**" by V.D. Savarkar.
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Social & Religious Reform Movements in India

1. Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772–1833)

- Known as **Father of Modern India**.
 - Founded **Brahmo Samaj (1828)** → monotheistic reformist movement.
 - Key Reforms:
 - Abolition of **Sati (1829)**.
 - Promoted **women's education** & widow remarriage.
 - Opposed caste discrimination & idol worship.
 - Advocated **modern education** combining Indian & Western knowledge.
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2. Swami Vivekananda (1863–1902)

- Disciple of **Ramakrishna Paramahansa**.
 - Emphasized **Vedanta & practical spirituality**.
 - Famous for **speech at Chicago World Parliament of Religions (1893)** → “India’s spiritual heritage”.
 - Founded **Ramakrishna Mission (1897)** → social service, education, healthcare.
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3. Arya Samaj (Dayananda Saraswati, 1824–1883)

- Founded in 1875.
 - Key Principles:
 - Promote **Vedic knowledge & monotheism**.
 - Oppose **idolatry, caste discrimination, child marriage**.
 - Promote **education for girls & widow remarriage**.
 - Famous campaigns: **Shuddhi movement** (reconversion to Hinduism).
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4. Aligarh Movement (Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, 1817–1898)

- Aim: Modern education for **Muslims** to adapt to British rule.
 - Founded **Aligarh Muslim University (1875)**.
 - Promoted **Western science & English education**.
 - Advocated **loyalty to British** to secure Muslim interests.
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5. Brahmo Samaj

- Founded by **Raja Ram Mohan Roy**, reformed later by **Debendranath Tagore & Keshab Chandra Sen**.
 - Beliefs:
 - Monotheism, **no idol worship**.
 - Against **Sati, child marriage, caste discrimination**.
 - Promoted **education & social reforms**.
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6. Theosophical Society

- Founded in 1875 by **Madame Blavatsky & Colonel Olcott** (foreigners).
- Leaders in India: **Annie Besant**.
- Goals:
 - Promote **universal brotherhood & spiritual knowledge**.

- Revival of **Hindu culture & philosophy**.
- Supported **Indian national consciousness** (Annie Besant → Home Rule Movement).

1. Formation of Indian National Congress (INC)

- Founded in **1885** by **A.O. Hume**, along with Indian leaders.
- Aimed to **express Indian grievances to British government peacefully**.
- Early membership mainly **moderate, educated elite**.

2. Moderates vs Extremists

Aspect	Moderates	Extremists
Leaders	Dadabhai Naoroji, Gopal Krishna Gokhale	Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai
Methods	Petitions, debates, resolutions	Boycott, Swadeshi, strikes, protests
Aim	Gradual reforms, more Indian participation	Swaraj (self-rule), direct action

- **Revolutionaries:** Bhagat Singh, Chandrashekhar Azad, Surya Sen → used armed struggle.

3. Key Movements Before Gandhi Era

Swadeshi Movement (1905–08)

- Trigger: **Partition of Bengal (1905)** by Lord Curzon.
- **Methods:** Boycott British goods, promote indigenous products.
- **Significance:** Rise of nationalist feeling, strengthening of extremist ideas.

Home Rule Movement (1916–18)

- Leaders: **Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Annie Besant**.
 - Aim: Self-government within British Empire.
 - Spread political awareness, youth participation.
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4. Mass Movements under Gandhi

Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–22)

- Trigger: **Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919)**, Rowlatt Act.
- Methods: Boycott schools, courts, foreign goods, titles, elections.
- Withdrawn due to **Chauri Chaura incident (1922)**.

Civil Disobedience Movement (1930–34)

- Trigger: **Salt March (Dandi March, 1930)**.
- Methods: Refusal to pay taxes, breaking salt laws, boycott.
- Mass participation including peasants, women, students.

Quit India Movement (1942)

- Leaders: **Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru**.
 - Demand: Immediate British withdrawal from India.
 - British **arrested leaders**, movement turned underground & violent in some areas.
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5. Role of Leaders

- **Mahatma Gandhi**: Non-violence, Satyagraha, mass mobilization.
 - **Jawaharlal Nehru**: Socialist ideas, leadership in INC, first PM.
 - **Subhas Chandra Bose**: Indian National Army (INA), armed struggle against British.
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6. British Commissions & Missions

Commission / Mission	Year	Purpose / Outcome
Simon Commission	1927	All British members, protested by Indians → “Simon Go Back”
Round Table Conferences	1930–32	Discuss constitutional reforms; Gandhi attended 1st → failed to reach consensus
Cripps Mission	1942	Offer of Indian dominion status post-WWII → rejected by Congress

7. Indian National Army (INA)

- Led by **Subhas Chandra Bose**.
- Allied with **Japan** during WWII.
- Fought against British in **Burma & northeast India**.
- Inspired Indian soldiers & youth → morale boost for independence struggle.

Key Points Recap:

- **INC** → from elite moderate to mass-based party.
 - **Moderates vs Extremists** → gradual reform vs direct action.
 - **Major movements:** Swadeshi, Home Rule, Non-Cooperation, Civil Disobedience, Quit India.
 - **Gandhi** → non-violence; **Bose** → armed struggle (INA).
 - **British responses:** Commissions, missions, arrests, repression.
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1. Mountbatten Plan (June 3, 1947)

- Proposed by **Lord Louis Mountbatten**, last British Viceroy of India.
 - Key Points:
 1. **Partition of British India** into **India and Pakistan**.
 2. **Provinces with Muslim majority** (Punjab, Bengal) to decide by **referendum**.
 3. **Transfer of power** by **August 15, 1947**.
 4. **Princely States** allowed to **join India or Pakistan**.
 5. Boundary commissions to demarcate borders (**Radcliffe Line**).
 6. British **leave India immediately**; armed forces divided.
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2. Indian Independence Act 1947

- Passed by **British Parliament** on **18 July 1947**.
 - Key Provisions:
 1. **End of British sovereignty** over India.
 2. **Two dominions created:** India & Pakistan (August 15, 1947).
 3. **Governor-General** appointed in each dominion.
 4. **Princely States** allowed to join either dominion.
 5. **Partition of Punjab & Bengal**, transfer of civil & military powers.
 6. **Constitutional continuity** till each dominion made its own constitution.
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3. Role of Major Leaders

Indian National Congress (INC)

- **Mahatma Gandhi:** Advocated unity, opposed partition, promoted peace.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru:** First Prime Minister, negotiated with British, led India post-independence.
- **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Integration of princely states, ensured smooth transition.

Muslim League

- **Muhammad Ali Jinnah:** Leader of Muslim League, demanded separate homeland → Pakistan.

Other Leaders/Organizations

- **Abul Kalam Azad:** Opposed partition, advocated Hindu-Muslim unity.
 - **Subhas Chandra Bose & INA:** Inspired armed resistance spirit; symbolic influence on morale.
 - **Princely States' rulers:** Decided to join India or Pakistan (except Hyderabad initially).
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4. Partition of India

- **Date:** August 15, 1947.
 - **Muslim-majority areas** → Pakistan (East Pakistan = Bangladesh later, West Pakistan = Pakistan).
 - **Mass migration:** 10–15 million displaced; communal riots → ~1–2 million deaths.
 - **Radcliffe Line:** Boundary demarcation between India & Pakistan.
 - **Kashmir:** Initially undecided; accession to India post-invasion (Oct 1947).
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Key Points Recap:

- **Mountbatten Plan** → blueprint for partition & transfer of power.
- **Indian Independence Act** → legal framework for India & Pakistan as dominions.
- **Leaders' roles:** Nehru, Gandhi, Patel (India); Jinnah (Pakistan); Azad (unity).
- **Consequences:** Partition, mass migration, communal violence, birth of two nations.