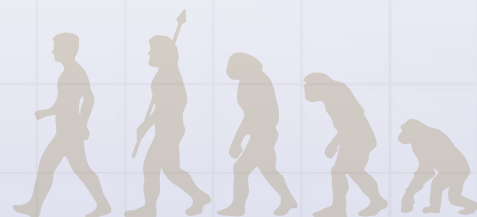
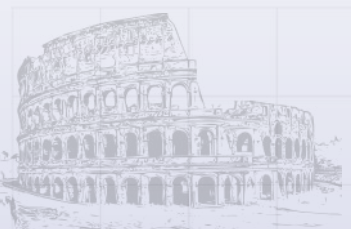




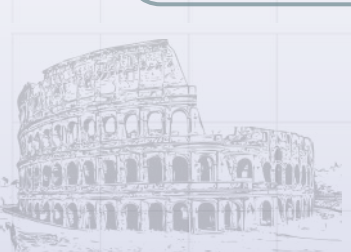
The Guptas

- The Gupta Empire arose on the ruins of the **Kushana Empire**.
- The Guptas may have been of **Vaishya origin**.
- They kept north India united from **AD 335 to AD 455**.
- Their original kingdom included **U.P. and Bihar**.
- Their centre of power was probably **Prayag**.
- The founder of the dynasty in the chapter is **Srigupta**.
- **Ghatotkacha** succeeded Srigupta.
- **Chandragupta I** was the first important king.
- Chandragupta I married a **Lichchhavi princess**.
- **Samudragupta** ruled from **AD 335–380**.
- Samudragupta expanded his empire through conquest.
- Harisena wrote about Samudragupta's military achievements.
- The inscription is engraved on the **Allahabad Pillar**.
- Samudragupta conquered Ganga-Yamuna Doab princes, frontier states, Atavika kingdoms, eastern Deccan and South Indian rulers, and Shaka-Kushana territories.
- Samudragupta followed **Kautilya's Arthashastra** in administration.
- Meghavarman of Sri Lanka sought permission to build a Buddhist temple at **Gaya**.



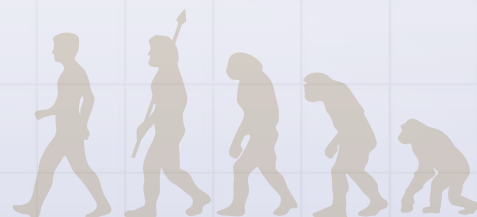
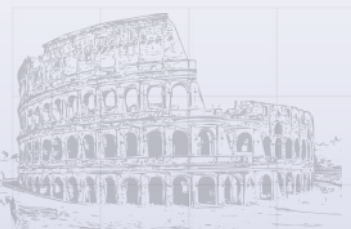


- Samudragupta is called the **Napoleon of India** in the chapter.
- Samudragupta was a **Veena player** and poet.
- **Chandragupta II** ruled from **AD 380–412**.
- Chandragupta II was the son of Samudragupta.
- Mehrauli Iron Pillar describes his victory over **Vangas** and **Vahilkas**.
- Chandragupta II married his daughter **Prabhavati** to a Vakataka prince.
- Chandragupta II conquered **western Malwa and Gujarat** from Shaka Kshatrapas.
- Chandragupta II adopted the title **Vikramaditya**.
- Chandragupta II's court at Ujjain included **Kalidasa** and **Amarasimha**.
- Amarasimha wrote **Amarkosha**, also called **Trikanda**.
- Harisena composed the **Prayag Prashasti / Allahabad Pillar Inscription**.
- Kalidasa wrote **Abhigyan Shakuntalam, Kumar Sambhav, Ritusamhar and Meghdootam**.
- Varahamihira wrote **Panchasiddhantika, Brihat Samhita and Brihat Jataka**.
- Vanuruchi wrote **Prakrit Prakash**.
- Gupta kings used titles like **Parameshvara, Maharajadhiraja and Parambhattaraka**.





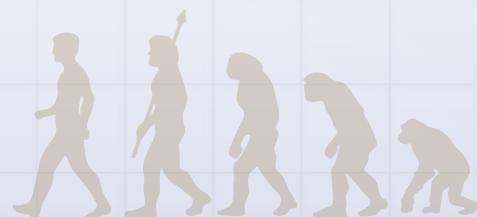
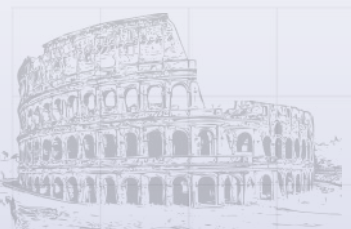
- Kingship was hereditary but primogeniture was not firmly fixed.
- Cavalry became more important than horse chariots.
- Horse archery became prominent.
- Forced labour was called **Vishti**.
- Civil and criminal laws were clearly separated for the first time.
- Important officers were called **Kumaramatyas**.
- Provinces were called **Bhuktis**.
- Districts were called **Vishayas**.
- Bhuktis were under **Uparikas**.
- Vishayas were under **Vishayapatis**.
- The village headman became more important.
- Artisans, merchants and scribes participated in urban corporate bodies.
- Silk-weavers had guilds at **Mandasor** and **Indore**.
- Gupta gold coins were called **Dinaras**.
- Gupta charters carried the **Garuda Seal**.
- Long-distance trade declined under the Guptas.
- Brahmana supremacy continued due to large-scale land grants.
- Shudras were allowed to listen to Ramayana, Mahabharata and Puranas.
- Shudras could worship **Krishna**.





- Chandalas increased in number.
- Women could listen to Ramayana, Mahabharata and Puranas.
- Katyayana allowed women to sell and mortgage immovable property with Stridhana.
- Fa-hsien says Buddhism was flourishing.
- Nalanda was constructed by **Kumaragupta**.
- The Gupta age is called Golden Age because of its contribution to **art and literature**.
- Ajanta paintings are the greatest specimen of Buddhist art in Gupta times.
- Gupta brick temples are found at **Bhitargaon, Bhitari and Deogarh**.
- Bhasa wrote **13 plays**.
- Shudraka wrote **Mrichhakatika**.
- Aryabhata wrote **Aryabhatiya**.
- A Gupta inscription of **AD 448** suggests decimal system was known in India.
- Aryabhata is credited in the chapter with zero, decimal system, algebra and geometry.
- The Delhi Iron Pillar was manufactured in the **4th century AD**.

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