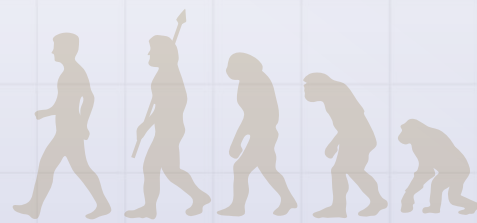
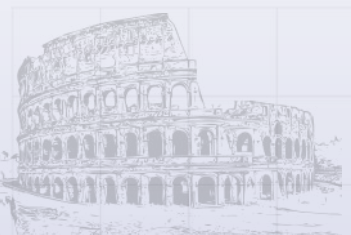


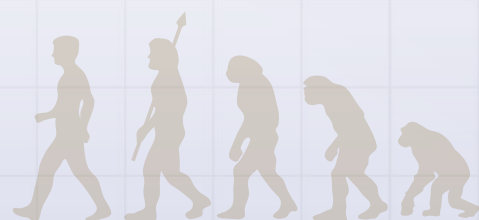
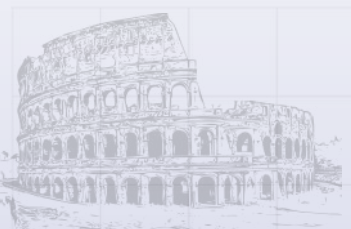


The Mahajanapadas

- From the **6th century BCE**, iron use helped create large territorial states.
- There were **16 Mahajanapadas** in the age of Buddha.
- **Magadha, Kosala, Vatsa and Avanti** were powerful Mahajanapadas.
- **Magadha** became the most powerful Mahajanapada.
- Magadha had access to rich **iron deposits**.
- Iron weapons helped Magadha defeat enemies.
- Iron agricultural tools helped clear forests and expand agriculture.
- Magadha's first capital was **Rajgir**.
- Magadha's second capital was **Pataliputra**.
- Rajgir was surrounded by **five hills**.
- Pataliputra was situated at the confluence of the **Ganga, Gandak and Son**.
- The **Ghagra** joined the Ganga not far from Pataliputra.
- Magadha benefited from fertile alluvial soil and heavy rainfall.
- Magadha benefited from towns, metal money, trade and commerce.
- Magadha first used **elephants** on a large scale in war.
- Magadhan society was **unorthodox**.
- Magadha rose under **Bimbisara** of the Haryanka dynasty.



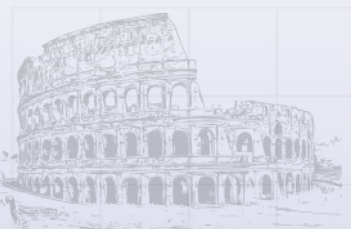
- Bimbisara was a contemporary of **Buddha**.
- Bimbisara strengthened his position through marriage alliances.
- Chellana was a Lichchhavi princess from Vaishali and mother of Ajatashatru.
- Magadha's serious rival was **Avanti**, with capital at **Ujjain**.
- Bimbisara sent physician **Jivaka** to Ujjain when Pradyota had jaundice.
- Ajatashatru pursued an aggressive policy of expansion.
- Udayin built a fort at Patna near the Ganga-Son confluence.
- Shishunag founded the Nag dynasty and shifted the capital temporarily to Vaishali.
- The Nag dynasty destroyed the power of Avanti.
- Kalashoka conducted the Second Buddhist Council at Vaishali.
- Mahapadmananda founded the Nanda dynasty.
- Nandas conquered Kalinga and brought an image of the Jina.
- Mahapadmananda claimed to be **Ekarat**.
- Dhanananda was ruling when Alexander invaded India.
- Nandas were extremely rich and powerful.
- Chandragupta Maurya founded the Maurya dynasty.
- Chandragupta overthrew Dhanananda and occupied Pataliputra.
- Seleucus Nicator ceded territories to Chandragupta in **303 BCE**.





- Megasthenes and Dionysius resided at the Mauryan court.
- Chandragupta is called **Sandroccotus** in Greek texts.
- Bindusara is called **Amitrochates** in Greek texts.
- Deimachus visited India during Bindusara's tenure.
- Bindusara joined the **Ajivika sect**.
- Ashoka propagated **Dhamma** in India and outside.
- Ashoka organized the Fourth Buddhist Council at Pataliputra according to the PDF.
- Ashokan inscriptions numbered **39**.
- Ashokan inscriptions appeared at **47 places** and their total number was **182**.
- Ashokan inscriptions were mostly in **Prakrit** and **Brahmi**.
- In the north-west, inscriptions used **Aramaic** and **Kharoshti**.
- In Afghanistan, inscriptions used **Aramaic and Greek**.
- Ashoka converted to Buddhism after the **Kalinga war**.
- Ashoka appointed **Rajukas** and **Dhamma Mahamatras**.
- Ashoka's Dhamma focused on social order, compassion and proper conduct.

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