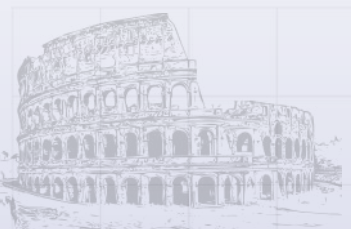


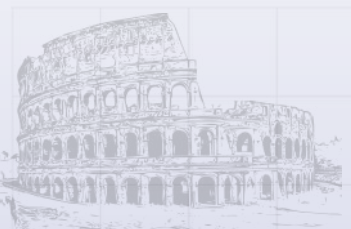


# The Satvahanas

- The Satvahanas succeeded the Mauryas in the Deccan and central India after a gap of **100 years**.
- The Satvahanas are considered identical with the **Andhras** mentioned in the Puranas.
- The name Andhra does not occur in Satvahana inscriptions.
- Early Satvahana kings appeared in **north Maharashtra**, not Andhra.
- Satvahana power was restored by **Gautamiputra Satkarni**.
- Gautamiputra Satkarni ruled from **ADE 106–130**.
- Gautamiputra called himself the **only Brahmana**.
- He defeated the **Shakas** and destroyed many Kshatriya rulers.
- He destroyed the **Kshahrata lineage** of Nahapana.
- More than **8,000 silver coins of Nahapana** near Nasik show restriking by Satvahana king.
- Gautamiputra occupied **Malwa** and **Kathiawar**.
- He is mentioned as **Ekbrahman** in Nasik and Nanaghad inscriptions.
- His title **Kshatriya Darpa Mardana** is found in the Nasik inscription.
- **Vashistiputra Pulumayi** ruled from **AD 130–154**.
- Pulumayi set up his capital at **Paithan / Pratishtan** on the Godavari.

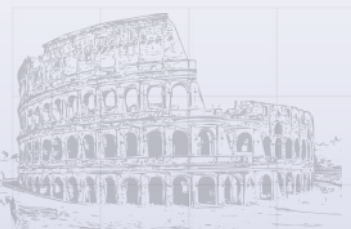


- Rudradaman I defeated the Satvahanas twice but did not destroy them due to matrimonial relations.
- Pulumayi's marriage with Rudradaman's daughter is mentioned in the **Junagarh inscription**.
- Pulumayi repaired the old **Amravati Stupa**.
- **Yajnashri Satakarni** ruled from **AD 165–195**.
- Yajnashri Satakarni recovered **north Konkan** and **Malwa** from the Shakas.
- Satvahanas obtained iron from **Karimnagar** and **Warangal**.
- Satvahanas did not issue gold coins like the Kushanas.
- They issued coins mainly of **lead, potin, copper and bronze**.
- They knew the art of **paddy transplantation**.
- They also produced **cotton**.
- According to Pliny, the Andhra kingdom had **100,000 infantry, 2,000 cavalry and 1,000 elephants**.
- Peddabankur shows use of **fire-baked bricks** and **flat, perforated roof tiles**.
- Gautamiputra claimed to have restored the **four-fold Varna system**.
- Satvahanas were first rulers to make land grants to **Brahmanas**.
- More land grant examples are found for **Buddhist monks**.
- **Gandhikas**, or perfumers, are repeatedly mentioned as donors.





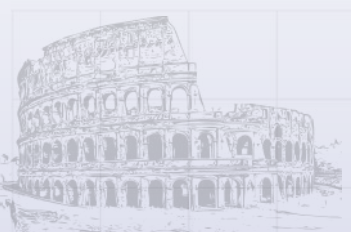
- Satvahana district was called **Ahara**.
- Officials were called **Amatyas** and **Mahamatras**.
- **Senapati** was appointed provincial governor.
- Rural administration was handled by **Gaulmika**.
- **Kataka** and **Skandhavaras** were military camps and administrative centres.
- Satvahanas granted tax-free villages to Brahmanas and Buddhist monks.
- Satvahana rulers were **Brahmanas**.
- They performed Vedic sacrifices such as **Ashvamedha** and **Vajapeya**.
- They worshipped Vaishnava gods such as **Krishna** and **Vasudeva**.
- They promoted Buddhism by granting land to monks.
- Mahayana Buddhism had considerable following among artisans.
- **Nagarjunakonda** and **Amravati** became important Buddhist centres.
- **Chaitya** means Buddhist temple.
- **Vihara** means monastery.
- The most famous chaitya was **Karle Chaitya** in Maharashtra.
- Karle Chaitya was about **40 m long, 15 m wide and 15 m high**.
- At Nasik, three viharas carry inscriptions of Nahapana and Gautamiputra.







- Amravati Stupa began around **200 BCE**.
- Amravati Stupa was reconstructed in the second half of the **2nd century AD**.
- Amravati dome measured **53 m** across the base and about **33 m** in height.
- Nagarjunakonda contains Buddhist monuments and early Brahmanical brick temples.
- The official language of the Satvahanas was **Prakrit**.
- Satvahana inscriptions were written in **Brahmi script**.
- **Gatha Saptasati** is attributed to Satvahana king **Hala**.
- Gatha Saptasati contains **700 verses** in Prakrit.



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