



Madhya Pradesh

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Madhya Pradesh Public Service Commission (MPPSC)

Volume - 1

(Paper 1)

History, Geography, Polity and Economy of Madhya Pradesh



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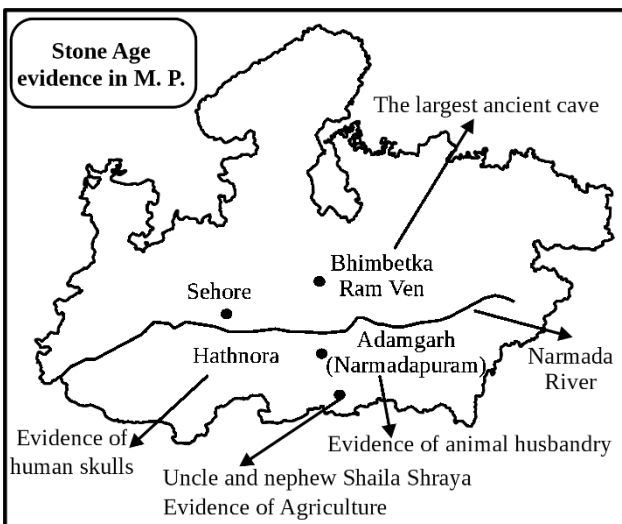
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CHAPTER

Ancient History of Madhya Pradesh



- The discovery of a 65-million-year-old fossil in Ghughua National Park of Dindori has proved that the land of Madhya Pradesh is as ancient as the world itself.
- More than 100 dinosaur egg fossils have been found in the Bagh area of Dhar district.
 - ✓ Scientists estimate that these fossils are approximately 70 to 65 million years old. Along with eggs, dinosaur nest fossils have also been discovered in this region.
- In the year 2003, an American scientist identified the fossil of a gigantic dinosaur, which was named “Rajasaurus Narmadensis.”
- In 1930, Professor Ladkar proved that Madhya Pradesh is a land of the Jurassic period. Earlier, in 1877, he discovered a Titanosaurus dinosaur fossil near Jabalpur.
- East India Company officer William Sleeman found thousands of bones in the Jabalpur cantonment area.
- In 1933, Matley discovered human-sized dinosaur fossils near Jabalpur and named them “Jabalpuria.”
- Geologically, Madhya Pradesh is a part of the Gondwana landmass.



Stone age in Madhya Pradesh (4 Million Bce – 4000 Bce)



Prehistoric Period

- The prehistoric period has no written records.
- The main source of information is archaeological excavation.
- Based on geological age, types of stone tools and technology, and subsistence patterns, the Stone Age in Madhya Pradesh is divided as follows:
 - ✓ Palaeolithic Age (Old Stone Age): Period – 10,00,000 BCE to 10,000 BCE
 - ✓ Mesolithic Age (Middle Stone Age): Period – 10,000 BCE to 6000 BCE
 - ✓ Neolithic Age (New Stone Age): Period – 6000 BCE to 1000 BCE

Palaeolithic Age

- The term “Palaeolithic” was coined by John Lubbock in 1865.
- Due to the discovery of quartzite stone tools, early humans in India were called “Quartzite Man.”
 - They were food gatherers and hunters.
 - They had no knowledge of houses, pottery, or agriculture.
 - In the later phase, they discovered fire.

Palaeolithic Sites in Madhya Pradesh

- The oldest Palaeolithic tool of Madhya Pradesh was found near Bhutera village in Narsinghpur district.
- Quartzite hand-axes were found in the Betwa and Narmada river valleys.
- Ancient fossils were discovered during the Narmada Valley Survey at Hoshangabad.
- The skull of “Narmada Man (Homo Narmadensis)” was found at Hathnora.
- Mandsaur in the Chambal Valley.
- Bhimbetka (Raisen): Discovered by Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar

Mesolithic Age (Middle Stone Age)

- Derived from Greek words - 'Meso' and 'Lithic'. Also known as the 'Middle Stone Age'.
- Belonged to the Holocene epoch.
- The first domesticated animal was the wild ancestor of the dog.
- Sheep and goats were the most common domesticated animals.
- People lived in semi-permanent settlements, caves, and open areas.
- They believed in life after death and buried the dead with food and goods.
- People began wearing clothes made of animal skins.

Mesolithic Sites in Madhya Pradesh

- Adamgarh (Hoshangabad): Cave paintings discovered by R. B. Joshi.
- Bhimbetka (Raisen): About 500 caves discovered by Vishnu Wakankar.
- Singrauli: Mara Caves and Bagh Caves (Dhar)

Neolithic Age In Madhya Pradesh

- In India, the Neolithic Age existed between 7000 BCE and 4000 BCE.
- It is divided into three phases:
 - ✓ Phase I – No metal tools found.
 - ✓ Phase II – Limited use of copper and bronze tools.
 - ✓ Phase III – Characterised by the use of iron.
- The beginning of the Holocene epoch saw several cultural changes occurring in some parts of the world, leading to the development of Neolithic cultures.
- After the end of the Ice Age, during the transition from the Pleistocene to the Holocene epoch, major climatic changes occurred in many parts of the world.
- A warmer climate began worldwide, leading to changes in the nature and distribution of animal and plant populations.
- These environmental changes influenced Neolithic cultures and, to a certain extent, determined the lifestyle of the Neolithic people.

- The term “Neolithic” is derived from Greek words “Neo” (new) and “Lithic” (stone)
- coined by Sir John Lubbock in 1865.
- Neolithic cultures were rural and agricultural, but metal tools were unknown.
- People used polished stone tools, implements, and pottery.
- Humans began agriculture and animal domestication.
- They began to effectively modify, control, and manage natural resources for their own benefit.
- These measures increased their food security, but at the same time, brought about changes in their ways of life.

Neolithic Sites in Madhya Pradesh

- Kunjun (Sidhi): Copper and bronze tools found.
- Mama-Bhanja Rock Shelter (Pachmarhi).
- Hatta-Sangrampur (Damoh).

Chalcolithic (Copper) age in Madhya Pradesh

- During this period, metals such as copper and low-grade bronze were commonly used.
- The Chalcolithic or Stone-Copper phase is defined as a culture based on the use of stone and metal tools, mainly copper.
- At that time, most people lived near hills and rivers.
- Agriculture developed during this period.
- This period coincided with the Indus Valley Civilization (2700 BCE – 1900 BCE).
- During that period, copper and stone were used to make tools.
- Agricultural implements were also used during that time.
- People were familiar with weaving and spinning.

Bronze Age Sites in Madhya Pradesh

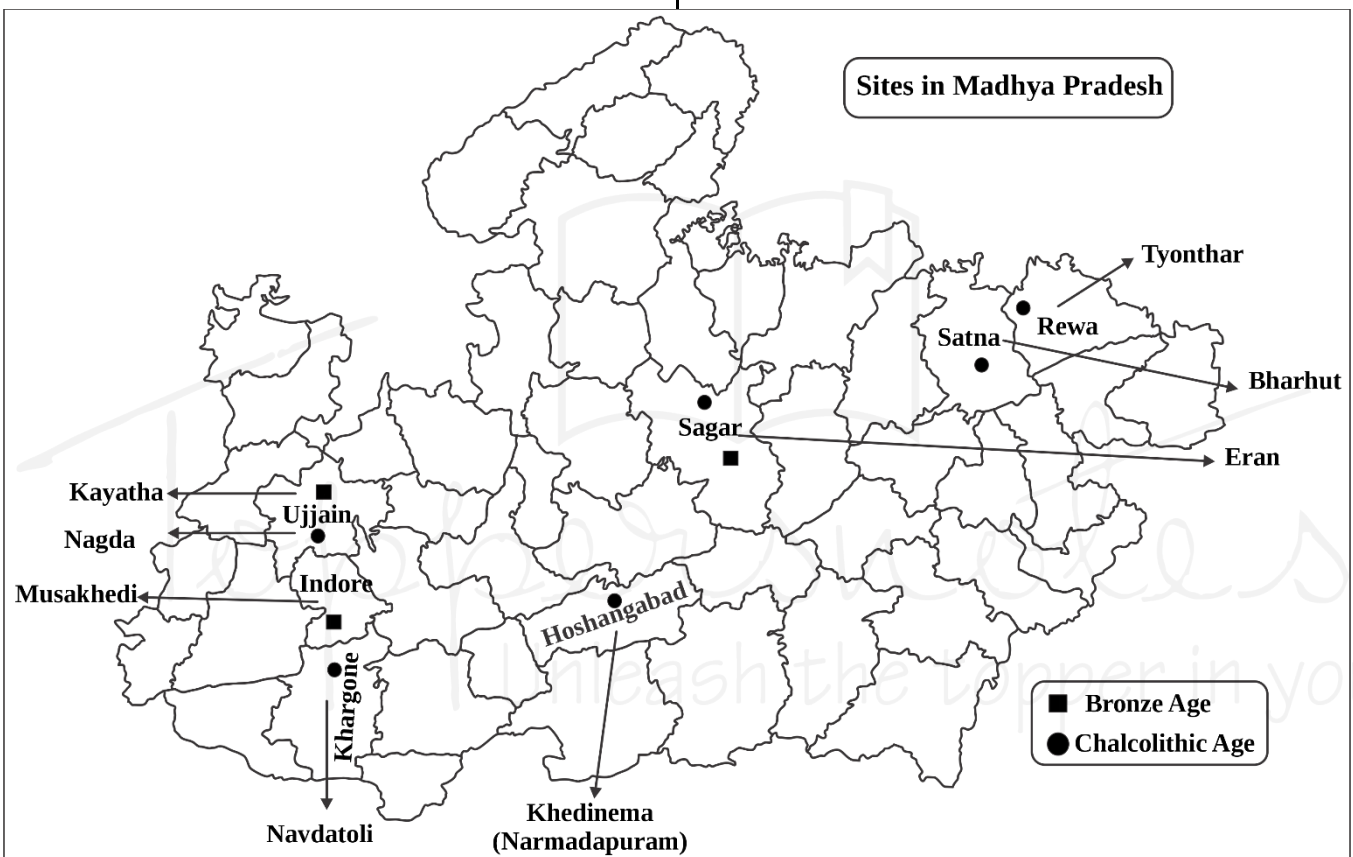
- Eran (Sagar): Bronze Age tools dated from 2000 BCE to 700 BCE.
- Kayatha (Ujjain): The first known Bronze Age site.
- Khedi-Nema (Hoshangabad): A Bronze Age site about 3500 years old.
- Akura and Nagda (Ujjain).

- Maheshwar–Navdatoli (1660 BCE – 1440 BCE): These two prominent Bronze Age sites are mentioned in Buddhist texts.
- Teonthar (Rewa) and Bharhut (Satna): Evidence of urban civilisation from the 3rd–4th centuries BCE.

Chalcolithic Age

- Kayatha (Ujjain): Copper axes dated to 1800–1300 BCE; birthplace of the astronomer Varahamihira.
- Eran (Sagar): Ancient name Arikini; the earliest Sati inscription found here; Black-and-Red Ware and Painted Ware discovered.

- Navdatoli (Maheshwar): Circular mud huts, rectangular hearths, cultivation of wheat and gram.
- Awara (Mandsaur): Similar to Navdatoli; red-black and grey-white painted pottery found.
- Azad Nagar–Musakhedi (Indore): Chalcolithic site.
- Dangwada: Located 32 km from Ujjain; identified through excavations in the last century.
- Nagda: Situated on the banks of the Chambal River in Ujjain district; pottery and small stone tools found.



Iron age / Prehistoric Period

- The arrival of the Aryans occurred during this period, marking the beginning of the Vedic Age.
- Jain and Buddhist cultures expanded.
- The Mahajanapadas emerged during this time.
- After the Indus Valley Civilization, this was the first major civilisation found along the Ganga River.

Vedic Age

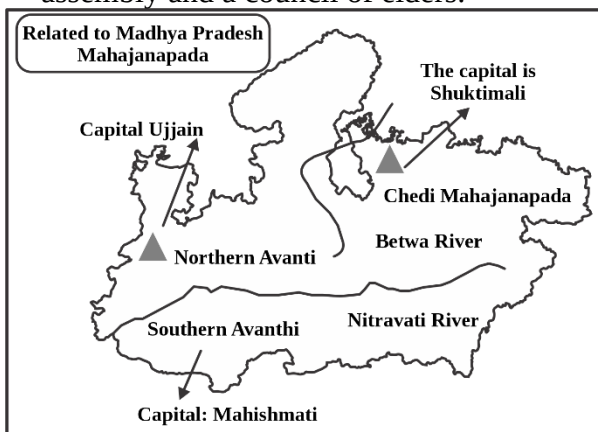
- In fact, Aryan culture during the Rigvedic period (1500–1000 BCE) was confined only to northern India.
- In the Later Vedic period (1000–600 BCE), it crossed the Vindhya range and entered Madhya Pradesh.
- Among the ten sons of Manu, Karusha established the Karusha dynasty in Baghelkhand.
- Chandra Dynasty: Manu's daughter Ila married Soma, and they founded the Chandra Dynasty. Soma ruled over Bundelkhand.

Ikshvaku Dynasty

- This dynasty was founded in the name of Ikshvaku, the son of Manu, and its administrative region was Dandakaranya.
- The powerful king Mandhata of this dynasty sent his son Purukutsa to assist the Naga kings of central India against the Gandharvas.
- Another ruler of the same lineage, Machakunda, founded the city of Mandhata (Omkareshwar–Mandhata) on the banks of the Narmada between the Riksha and Paripatra mountain ranges, named after his ancestor King Mandhata.
- Vidisha was ruled by Shatrughati, the son of Shatrughna.
 - ✓ According to Kalidasa's Raghuvamsha, Shatrughna defeated the Yadavas and established his son Shatrughati as the ruler of Vidisha.
- During the Mahabharata war, princes Binda and Anuvinda of Ujjain and King Neela of Mahishmati fought on the side of the Kauravas.
- Tewar near Jabalpur is described in the Mahabharata as Tripuri.

Mahajanapada Period

- The Mahajanapadas were sixteen states or aristocratic republican clans that flourished in ancient India from the 6th to the 4th century BCE during the Second Urbanisation.
- They are mentioned in the Anguttara Nikaya and the Jain text Bhagavati Sutra.
- They represent a transition from semi-nomadic tribal societies to agrarian societies with organised administrative systems.
- Many of these "states" were republics led by elected rulers and governed by a general assembly and a council of elders.



Avanti (Ujjain) Mahajanapada

- According to the Dipavamsa, King Achyutagami founded the city of Ujjain.
- The Chinese traveller Xuanzang mentioned Ujjayini (U-she-yen-na) in his 7th-century travel account.
- During the reign of Chandrapradayota Mahasena (a contemporary of Buddha), Ujjain served as the capital and Avanti and Mahishmati were part of the Mahajanapadas.
- Bimbisara sent his physician Jivaka to cure Chandrapradayota.
- Shishunaga of Magadha defeated Nandivarman, the king of Ujjain, and annexed Avanti to the Magadhan Empire.

Regions under Avanti Mahajanapada

- Vatsa – Gwalior
- Chedi – Khajuraho
- Anupa – Nimar (Khandwa)
- Analapura – Narwar (Shivpuri)

Chedi Mahajanapada

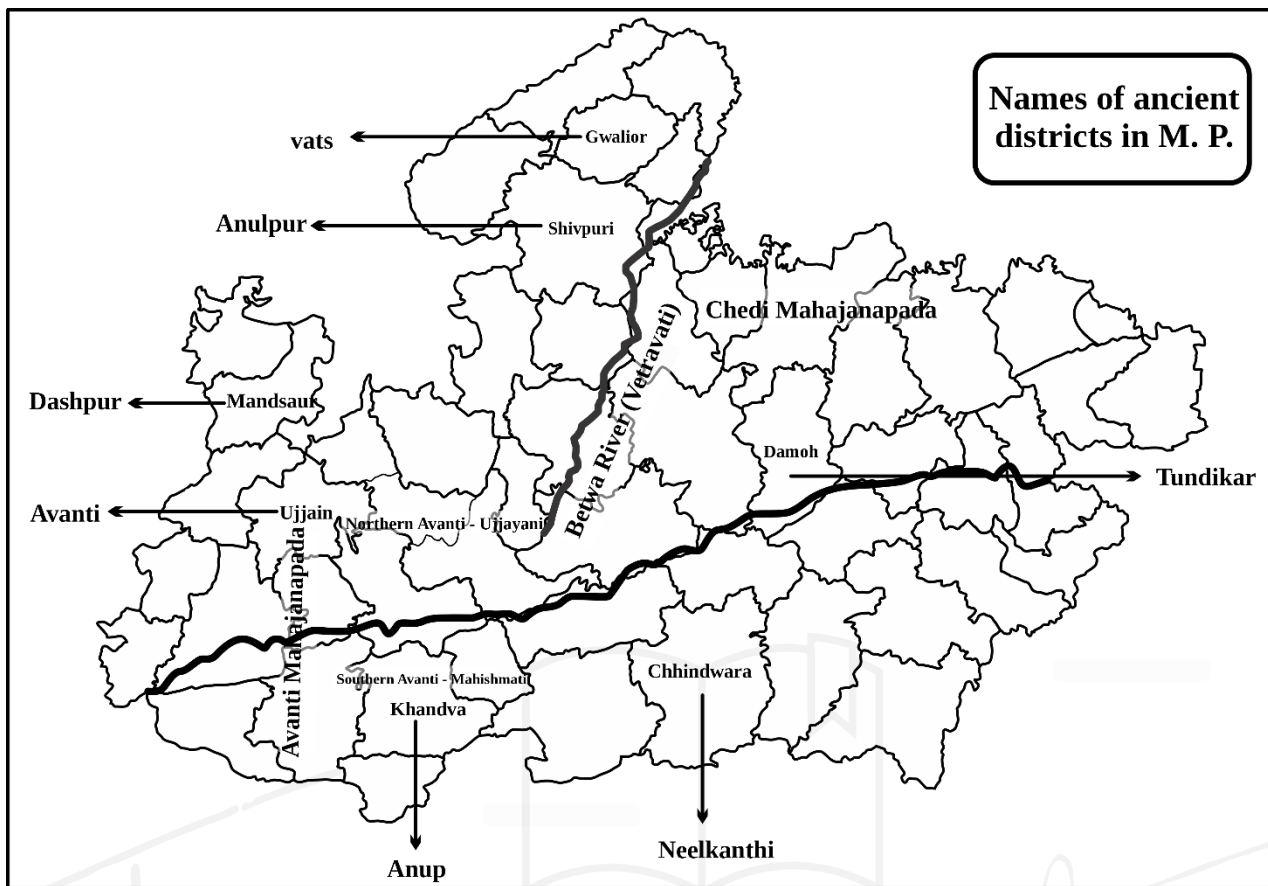
- Capital: Suktimati or Sothivati; it was part of Bundelkhand and a branch of Kalinga under Kharavela. Later, Magadha annexed Chedi.
- Shishupala was the king of Chedi, who was killed by Shri Krishna. His son Dhrishtaketu later ruled Chedi.
- In the Mahabharata war, Dhrishtaketu supported the Pandavas.
- The Vetravati (Betwa) River formed the boundary between the Chedi and Avanti Mahajanapadas.

VEDIC CLOCK

- The world's first Vedic Clock was installed in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, on 2 April 2022.
- Along with time, it provides information on ascendants (lagna), eclipses, auspicious timings (muhurta), and festivals.
- The 24 hours of the present Greenwich system are divided into 30 muhurtas (ghatis) in the Vedic Clock.
- The Vedic Clock also retains the traveller-hour, minute, and second format of the modern Greenwich system.
- Each ghata (muhurta) has a distinct name.
- For example, 12 noon is named Aditya.

Other Regions During The Mahajanapada Period

- Dasharna – Vidisha
- Tundikar – Damoh



Maurya Dynasty

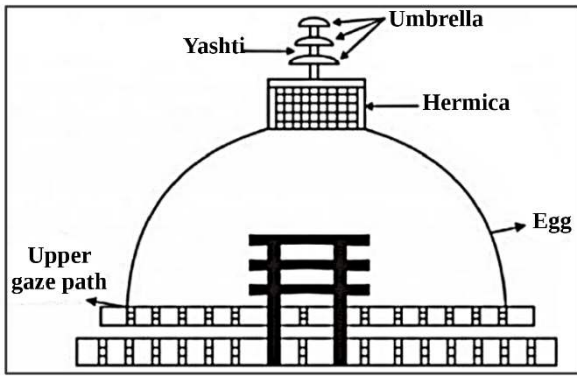
- Purugupta served as the governor of the Malwa region during Chandragupta Maurya's reign.
- Ashoka was appointed governor of Avanti by Bindusara.
- Ashoka governed Ujjain for 11 years as governor.
- Inscriptions from Gurjara (Datia), Rupnath (Jabalpur), Sanchi (Raisen), and Panguraria (Sehore) prove Ashoka's rule over these regions.
- The Gurjara inscription records Ashoka's name as Devanampriya Raja Ashoka.
- Ashoka married Shridevi/Mahadevi of Besnagar (Vidisha).
- Kunala, one of Ashoka's four sons, ruled Ujjain for eight years.



- Even after Ashoka's death, Kunala continued as provincial governor, after which his son Samprati became the governor of Ujjain.
- Samprati gradually conquered and annexed the regions around the southern frontier.

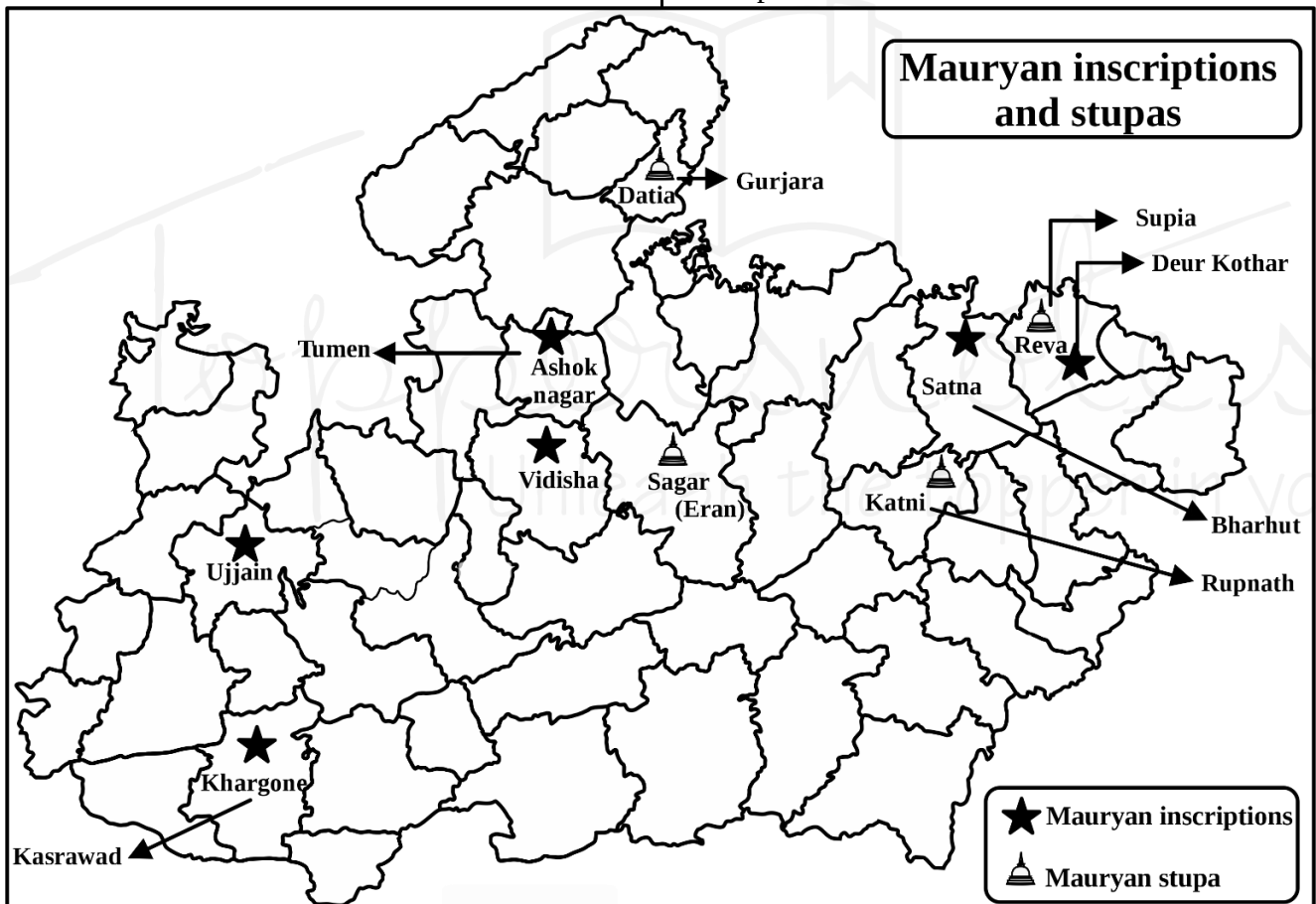
Stupas In Madhya Pradesh

- Ujjain Buddhist Stupa: Built on Vaishya Tekri after Avanti's annexation following Buddha's Mahaparinirvana; it is the largest stupa discovered so far.
- Sanchi: Contains three main stupas and several smaller ones. In the 3rd century BCE, it was known as Vedagiri or Chaityagiri, and in the 2nd century BCE as Kakanam or Kakaniya.
 - ✓ Sir John Marshall restored the Sanchi Stupa between 1912 and 1920 CE.
 - ✓ Stupa No. 1 houses the relics of Sariputra and Mahamogallana.



- Satdhara Stupa: Near Sanchi; discovered by Cunningham in 1853 CE. Forty stupas and seventeen viharas have been found.
- Andher Stupa: Remains of three stupas found 12 km from Vidisha.
- Sonari Stupa: Located 9 km from Sanchi; eight stupas found, with Stupa No. 1 being the largest, within a 240-ft square courtyard.
- ✓ Bhojpur Stupas: 37 remains found 10 km from Vidisha.

- ✓ Kharwai (Raisen): Remains of two stupas and viharas discovered.
- Bharhut Stupa: Located near Nagod, Satna; discovered in 1873 CE.
- Deur Kothar: Located in Rewa district; built in the 3rd century BCE during Ashoka's reign.
- Tumain Stupa: Located in Ashoknagar, on the trade route between Vidisha and Mathura; formerly known as Tumbavan.
- Kasrawad Stupas: Eleven stupas found in Kasrawad, Khargone district.
- Maheshwar and Navdatoli: Maheshwar identified as ancient Mahishmati, capital of southern Avanti.
- ✓ It lay on the southern route between Pratihthan and Ujjain.
- Panguraria: A stupa with a circumambulatory path has been discovered.



Post-Maurya Period Shunga Dynasty

- According to Malavikagnimitram, Agnimitra ruled Vidisha as a representative of his father Pushyamitra Shunga.



- The ancestors of the Shungas came from Ujjain.
- During the reign of King Bhagavata, Heliiodorus (the envoy of the Yavana king Antialcidas of Taxila, c. 140–130 BCE) came to Vidisha and erected the Garuda Pillar, locally known as Khamba Baba.

- The Bharhut Stupa (Satna) was constructed during the Shunga period.
- During this time, the outer railing wall of the Sanchi Stupa was also constructed.

Satavahana Dynasty

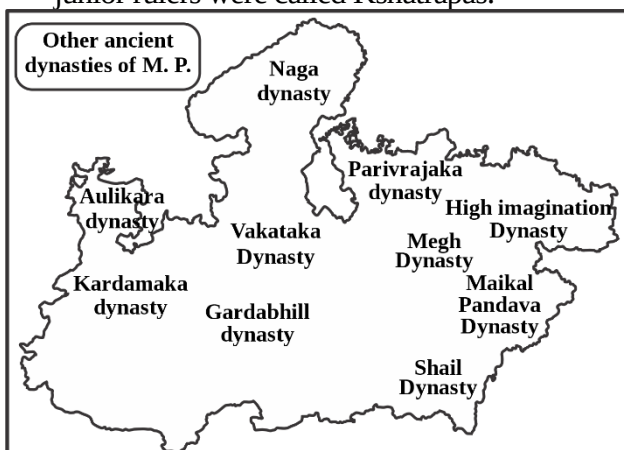
- The Satavahanas began ruling around 27 BCE after ending the Kanva dynasty.
- An inscription engraved on the vedika of the Sanchi Stupa provides information about Malwa before the rule of Shatakarni.
- Some Satavahana coins have been found from Dewas, Ujjain, Jamulia, Tewar, and Bhedaghat.
- According to the Puranas, Simuka founded the Satavahana dynasty after ending the power of the Kanvas and Shungas who ruled eastern Malwa (Vidisha).
- The territories of Shatakarni included Anupa (Nimar), Akara (eastern Malwa), and Avanti (western Malwa).
- A Satavahana inscription has been found at Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh.
- His son Pulamavi was defeated by the Kardamaka (Scythian) dynasty.
- Shatakarni I is regarded as the most powerful ruler of the Satavahana dynasty.

Indo-Greek Rulers (200 Bce – 50 Bce)

- Menander (Milinda), successor of Demetrius, invaded Madhya Pradesh; evidence comes from coins found at Balaghat.
- Nagasena converted him to Buddhism.

Shaka Rule

- The Shakas replaced Indo-Greek rule in western India and established four Kshatrapas—Punjab, Mathura, Ujjain, and Nasik.
- In their joint administrative system, the senior ruler held the title of Mahakshatrapa, while the junior rulers were called Kshatrapas.



Ujjaini Kshatrapas (Kardamaka Dynasty)

- Founded by Chashtana and later ruled by Rudradaman.
- Nahapana was the most powerful ruler of the Kardamaka dynasty.
- He was a contemporary of the Satavahana ruler Gautamiputra Shatakarni.
- The last Kardamaka ruler, Rudrasena, was killed by Chandragupta II (Vikramaditya)

Gardbhilla Dynasty

- Gardbhilla ruled Ujjayini in the 1st century BCE and founded the Gardbhilla dynasty.
- The Gardbhillas ruled Ujjain as feudatories of the Andhra Satavahanas.
- Gardbhilla is regarded as the father of the great ruler Vikramaditya of Ujjain.
- According to the Vishnu Purana and Vayu Purana, seven Gardbhilla rulers formed a contemporary ruling family.
- According to the Bhavishya Purana of Hinduism, the name of King Vikramaditya's father was Gandharvatsena.
- According to the Bhavishya Purana, the father of Gardabhilla was Devraj Indra. In the 2nd century BCE, Malwa was ruled by King Gandharvatsena; at that time, Malwa was an independent kingdom.
- Gardbhilla's commander was Veerbhadra, and his minister was Vishnudatta.
- His wife was Veermati, and his sons were Bhartrihari and Vikramsen (Vikramaditya).
- Bhartrihari was the eldest son of Gardabhilla, who had embraced asceticism (Sanyas).
- The Bhartrihari Caves are located in Ujjain, which is a major center of faith in Hinduism.
- According to the Shvetambara Jain tradition, Gardbhilla became famous either as a substitute name for Gandharva or because he mastered Garbhi Vidya.
- "According to a folklore, the credit for inviting the Shakas to India goes to Acharya Kalaka II (a Jain monk). This Jain Acharya was a resident of Ujjain; distressed by the atrocities of the local King Gardabhilla, he had moved to the distant Parthian kingdom in the West."

- It is also believed that Gardbhilla abducted the sister of Acharya Kalaka II.
- According to Merutunga's Vicharasreni, Gardabhilla came to power in 74 BCE and was defeated by the Shakas in 61 BCE.
- However, Merutunga's works are generally considered to be of inferior quality compared to those of his contemporaries and modern historians.
- The Shaka King Nahapana attacked and captured Malwa, and during the course of the war, King Gardabhilla (the father) was killed.
- Another view considers Gardbhilla to be a Shaka ruler who controlled Mauryan-era Bundelkhand.

Vikramaditya and The Gardbhilla Dynasty

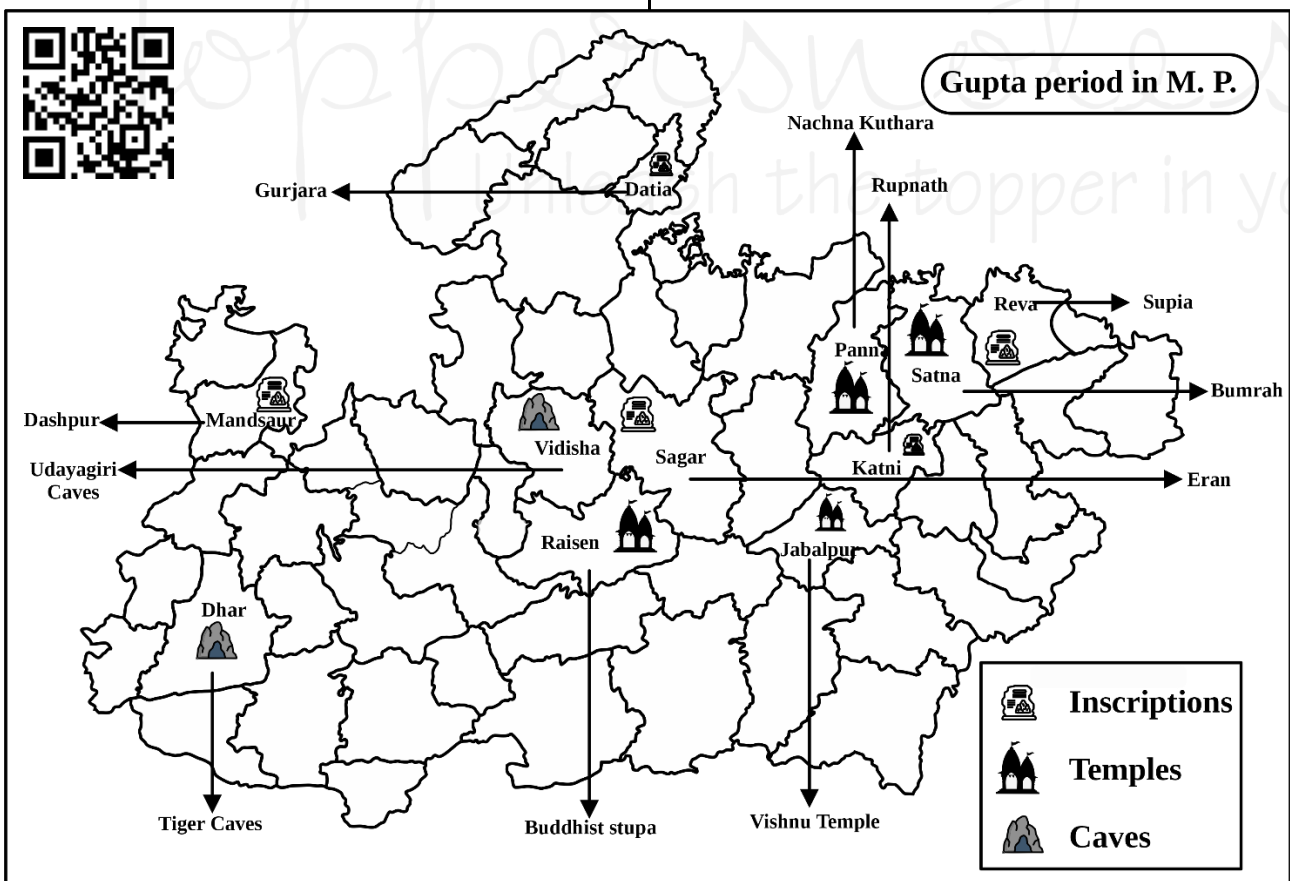
- After Gardabhilla (Gandharvasena), his successor Vikramaditya became the King of Ujjayini, who was a great ruler.
- After twenty years of Shaka rule in Malwa, Vikramaditya defeated the Shakas and liberated Malwa. He gradually built a large army to eliminate Shaka dominance.
- Ultimately, after defeating the Shakas, he began the Vikram Samvat in 56 BCE.

Literary References to Emperor Vikramaditya

- Kalidasa has mentioned Emperor

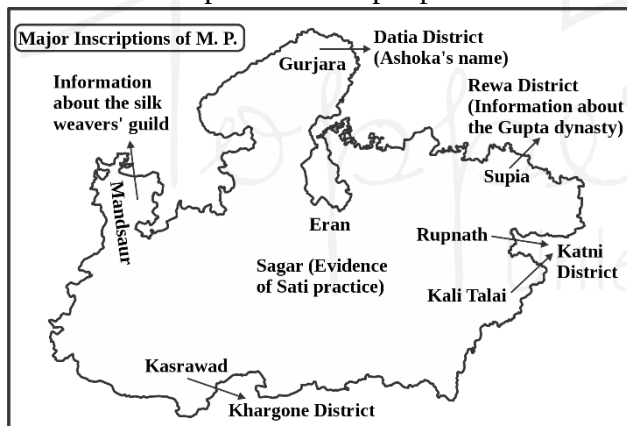
Vikramaditya in a book titled "Jyotirvidabharanam." He wrote this book in 33 BCE.

- Shri Krishna Mishra, in his book Jyotishaphala-Ratnamala (14th century AD), stated: "That Emperor Vikramarka, famous among men, who protected me and my kin for seventy years, has given me ten million gold coins that flourish forever with success and prosperity."
- In the 'Third Taranga' of Rajatarangini, written by Kalhana.
- The legendary accounts of Vikramaditya mention that he established Matrigupta with sovereignty over his vassal state, Kashmir. Simultaneously, the council of ministers in Kashmir sent a message to their overlord, Maharaja Vikramaditya, requesting him to make a deputation.
- Two famous Sanskrit story cycles associated with Vikramaditya are:
 - ✓ Vetala Panchavimshati (Twenty-Five Tales of the Vetala)
 - ✓ Simhasana-Dvatrimshika (Thirty-Two Tales of the Throne)
- Numerous Sanskrit and regional versions of these works exist.



Gupta Period

- During the Gupta period, Samudragupta advanced southward through Sagar, Damoh, and Jabalpur, defeated the Shaka ruler Sridharavarman, and issued the Eran inscription.
- References to Maharajadhiraja Ramagupta appear in the Jain cave inscription at Udayagiri; copper coins have been found at Vidisha and Eran.
- Three 4th-century sculptures from Durjanpura near Vidisha bear the name Maharajadhiraja Ramagupta in Brahmi script.
- Chandragupta II defeated the Shakas and made Ujjain his second capital.
- the primary capital was Pataliputra.
- The Udayagiri inscription mentions Virasena, the minister of war and peace of Chandragupta II.
- The Udayagiri caves were built during the Gupta period, with the Varaha avatar being prominent.
- The Bagh Caves of Dhar are also associated with the Gupta dynasty.
- Tigwa, located in Jabalpur, is an important Vishnu temple of the Gupta period.



Gupta Inscriptions

Yashodharman's Mandasor Inscription

- "The inscriptions were found on a pair of pillars near Mandasaur in Madhya Pradesh, which was then a small village called Sondani."
- Found on two sandstone pillars near Mandasor (ancient Sondani).
- Written in Sanskrit in the early 6th century CE.
- Records Yashodharman's victory over the Hun ruler Mihirakula.

- "According to the inscription, Yashodharman's dominion extended from the Brahmaputra River (Assam) to the Western Ocean (Arabian Sea, Sindh), and from the Himalayas (Kashmir) to the Mahendra Mountains (located either in Odisha or somewhere in the Western Ghats)."

Tumain Inscription

- Located in Ashoknagar district.
- Provides information about Kumaragupta.

Supiya Inscription

- Located in Rewa.
- Describes the Gupta genealogy from Ghatotkacha onwards.

Eran Inscription

- Located in Sagar district.
- Mentions Hun invasions.

Kumaragupta's Mandasor Inscription

- This inscription related to the Gupta Emperor Kumaragupta II has been recovered from Mandasaur (Dashpur)
- Written in Sanskrit.
- Considered the world's first advertisement.

Sanchi Inscription

- Mentions donations made by Hari Swamini to the Arya Sangha.

Temples of the Gupta period

- Tigawa Vishnu Temple – Jabalpur
- Bhumara Shiva Temple – Nagod (Satna)
- Nachna Kuthara Parvati Temple – Ajaygarh (Panna)
- Bodhi Temple – Sanchi (Raisen)
- Khoh Shiva Temple – Nagod

Later Dynasties

Vakataka Dynasty (150 Ce – 450 Ce)

- established at Vidisha by Vindhyaashakti (250–270 CE).
- An important ruler was Pravarasena, who performed four Ashvamedha sacrifices and established matrimonial relations with the Naga dynasty of Pavaya (Gwalior).
- Another ruler, Pravarasena II, composed the epic Setubandha.



HUN INVASIONS

- In the 5th century CE, the Hun leader Mihirakula launched invasions from Punjab to Sagar to conquer Madhya Pradesh.
- Inscriptions from the first regnal year of Toramana are found on the massive Varaha sculpture at Eran near Sagar.
- Mihirakula, the son of Toramana, ruled in the region around Gwalior.
- The Aulikara dynasty of Mandasor defeated Mihirakula and expelled the Huns from Malwa.

Aulikara Dynasty of Mandasor

- founded by Jayavarman at Dashapura
- Another ruler, Bandhuvarman, accepted the supremacy of Kumaragupta.
- The earliest inscription of Naravarman has been discovered.
- Yashodharman defeated the last Hun ruler Mihirakula and ended Hun rule in India.
- The name “Malwa” was given to the region by the Aulikaras.

Parivrajaka Dynasty

- The Parivrajakas ruled Bundelkhand near present-day Panna.
- First ruler: Devadaya
- Prominent ruler: Hastin
- Inscriptions of Hastin have been found at Khoh, Jabalpur, and Majhgawan.

Uchchakalpa Rulers

- The modern region of Uchchakalpa corresponds to Unchehra (Satna).
- They were neighbours of the Parivrajaka rulers.
- Important rulers of this dynasty included Oghadeva, Kumaradeva, Vyaghradeva, Jayanatha, and Sarvanatha.

Pushyabhuti Dynasty / Vardhana Empire

- King Rajyavardhana was killed by Devagupta, the ruler of Malwa. But next ruler Harshavardhana avenged the death and defeated Devagupta on the southern bank of the Narmada River.

Shaila Dynasty

- The Shaila dynasty was established in the western part of Mahakaushal in the 8th century CE.
- A copper plate inscription found at Radholi (Balaghat district) provides the genealogy of the Shaila dynasty.
- First ruler: Shrivardhana
- His son Pathu Vardhana defeated the Gurjaras.

Maukhari Dynasty

- A copper seal inscription of Maharaja Sarvavarman from Asirgarh Fort in eastern Nimar district has been found. In this regard, some scholars believe that the Maukharis ruled up to eastern Nimar.

Mekal Pandava Dynasty

- The region around Amarkantak and present-day Anuppur district was known as Mekal.
- Information about the Pandava dynasty rulers is obtained from the Basani copper plate of King Bharatabala.
- First ruler: Jayabala; his son was Vatsabala.
- With the decline of Gupta power, the rulers took advantage of the situation and became independent.
- Last ruler: Bharatabala

Kalachuri Dynasty

- The Kalachuris were a branch of the Haihaya dynasty and hold an important place in the ancient history of Madhya Pradesh.
- There were two major Kalachuri branches in Madhya Pradesh - Kalachuris of Mahishmati and Kalachuris of Tripuri

Kalachuris of Mahishmati

- The ancient capital of this branch was Mahishmati.
- The region included Maheshwar, Omkareshwar-Mandhata, and Mandla.
- The names of major rulers include Krishnaraja, Shankaragadha, and Buddhraja.

Kalachuris of Tripuri

- After being defeated by the Chalukyas, the descendants of Buddhraja abandoned Mahishmati and migrated to Chedi country, establishing Tripuri as their capital.

- Capital: Tripuri
- Administrative region: Katni, Jabalpur, and Mahakaushal
- Founder: Vamraj / Vamanraj (some sources consider Kokalla I as the founder)
- Important rulers: Kokalla I, Mugdhatunga, Yuvarajadeva I, Gangeyadeva, Lakshmikarna
- In the late 7th century CE, Vamraj founded this branch near Dahaldesa (Jabalpur).
- Kokalla I married the Chandela princess Nattadevi / Hattadevi.
- One of Kokalla I's 18 sons, Kalingaraja, founded a Kalachuri branch at Ratanpur (Chhattisgarh) in Dakshin Kaushal.
- Yuvarajadeva I was also known by the title Keyuravarsha.
- Yuvarajadeva I constructed the Chausath Yogini Temple (Golaki Temple) and Golaki Math at Jabalpur.
- His queen Nohala built the Nohaleshwar Shiva Temple at Nohata (Damoh).
- His capable ministers included Bhakamishra and Gollaka.
- Sanskrit dramatist Rajshekhar referred to Yuvarajadeva I as Ujjayini Bhujanga (Conqueror of Malwa).
- Gangeyadeva was defeated by King Bhoja.
- Al-Biruni mentioned Gangeyadeva as the ruler of Dahala with Tripuri as his capital.
- Gangeyadeva issued gold coins bearing the image of Goddess Lakshmi.
- The most powerful ruler of this dynasty was Karna, son of Gangeyadeva, who built the Karna Temple at Amarkantak.
- Karna, also known as Lakshmikarna, founded the city of Karnavati near Jabalpur.
- By the early 13th century, this dynasty declined and Gond rulers rose to power in Tripuri.

Rashtrakuta Dynasty

- Two branches of the Rashtrakuta dynasty existed in Madhya Pradesh between the 7th and 10th centuries CE.
- **First Branch**
 - ✓ This branch ruled the Betul–Amravati region.

- ✓ Four sub-branches: Durgaraja, Govindaraja, Swamiraja, and Nannaraja.
- ✓ Two copper plates of Nannaraja have been found at Titar Khedi and Multai (Betul).
- ✓ Dantidurga likely annexed this branch during his reign.
- **Second Branch**
 - ✓ The most powerful ruler was Dantidurga (744 CE).
 - ✓ He fought several wars near the Mahanadi and Narmada rivers.
 - ✓ The Gurjara rulers of Ujjain defeated the Rashtrakutas and ruled the region.
 - ✓ Around 750 CE, Dantidurga performed the Hiranyagarbha sacrifice at Ujjain to legitimise his rule.
 - ✓ His successor Krishna captured the entire Marathi-speaking region of Madhya Pradesh.

Gurjara-Pratihara Dynasty

- The founder of the Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty was Harishchandra, who laid its foundation near Jodhpur.
- A branch of this dynasty ruled near Ujjain in Malwa under Nagabhata I.
- Capital: Kannauj
- Important rulers: Nagabhata, Ramabhadra, Mihir Bhoja, Mahipala, Vatsaraja, Nagabhata II, Yashapala
- Mihir Bhoja is mentioned in the Gwalior (Sagartal) inscription.
- Arab traveller Sulaiman visited Madhya Pradesh during Mihir Bhoja's reign.
- Mihir Bhoja was a follower of Vaishnavism.
- He is referred to as Prabhasa in the Daulatpur inscription, Adhivaraha in the Gwalior inscription, and Mihira in the Sagartal Prashasti.
- Mahendrapala fought against the Palas in the Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj.
- Court poet Rajshekhar served in their court.
- Rajshekhar called the Pratiharas Raghukul-Muktamani.
- The Chaturbhuj Temple inside Gwalior Fort was built during Mihir Bhoja's reign by the official Alla.
- The Nareshwar Temple group in Morena was also built by the Gurjara-Pratiharas.

- In the 10th century CE, Pratihara feudatories established independent states.
- Thus, the Chandela dynasty arose in Bundelkhand, the Paramaras in Malwa, and the Kalachuris in Tripuri.

Naga Dynasty

- The Naga dynasty emerged in the Gwalior–Vidisha region.
- The Puranas mention Naga rulers of Vidisha such as Shesha, Bhogin, Sadachandra, Dhanadharmā, Bhutanandi, Shishunandi, and Yashonandi.
- In the late 2nd century CE, a new Naga dynasty emerged in the Vidisha–Gwalior region.
- Founder: Vrishanaga, whose coin has been found at Vidisha.
- After Vrishanaga, Bhimanaga shifted the capital from Vidisha to Padmavati (Gwalior).
- The last ruler, Ganapatinaga, was defeated by Gupta ruler Samudragupta, ending Naga rule.

RAJSHEKHAR

- Rajshekhar initially served as a court poet under Pratihara rulers Mahendrapala and Mahipala at Kannauj, and later at Tripuri under Kalachuri ruler Yuvarajadeva.

- He was the preceptor of Pratihara rulers Mahendrapala I and Mahipala.
- He referred to Kalachuri ruler Yuvarajadeva I as Ujjayini Bhujanga.
- Major works of Rajshekhar include Kavyamimamsa, Karpuramanjari (describes the Kalachuri dynasty), Bala Ramayana and Bala Bharata
- Rajshekhar described the Narmada as the greatest river, Vedi as the greatest land, and King Shankaragadha as the greatest ruler.

Bodhi and Megha Dynasties

- During the 2nd–3rd centuries CE, the Bodhi dynasty ruled the Tripuri region around present-day Tewar (Jabalpur).
- Clay sealings recovered from excavations at Tripuri mention four rulers: Shri Bodhi, Vasu Bodhi, Chandra Bodhi, and Shiva Bodhi.
- Around the same period, the Megha dynasty ruled the Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh.
- The first ruler of this dynasty was Bhimasena.
- Coins, seals, and inscriptions of the Megha dynasty have been found at Kaushambi, Bhata, and Umariya in Bandhavgarh district.

Medieval History of Madhya Pradesh



Malwa Under the Paramara Dynasty

- According to Paramara inscriptions, the origin of the Paramaras is traced to a **sacrificial altar (yajna-vedi)** organized by sage Vashistha on **Mount Abu**.

Upendra

- He was appointed as a ruler by the Rashtrakuta emperor Govinda III.
- His praise is mentioned **in the Udaipur Prashasti**.
- Taking advantage of the political conditions of the late eighth century, he became the ruler of Avanti.
- After the death of Govinda III in 814 CE, he expanded his power and **established control over Malwa**.

Vair Singh

- Vair Singh, the son of Upendra, became his successor.
- The initial capital of the Paramaras was Ujjain, but during the reign of Vair Singh II, the capital was shifted from Ujjain to Dhar.
- The name of Siyaka I of the Malwa Paramara dynasty is mentioned in the Udaipur Prashasti.
- After Siyaka I, no Paramara ruler is mentioned in the Udaipur Prashasti until 893 CE.

Krishnaraja or Vakpati I

- He was a contemporary of Pratihara ruler Mahendrapala (892–908 CE), Bhoja II, and Mahipala (912–942 CE).
- His name is mentioned in both **the Udaipur Prashasti and Navsahasankacharita**.
- Vakpati I assumed **the imperial title of “Parama Bhattaraka Maharajadhiraja Parameshvara.”**

Harsha / Siyaka II

- He was also known as **“Sinh Datta Bhatt.”**
- **Siyaka II** was the first independent ruler of the Paramara dynasty.

- At that time, the Rashtrakutas were concentrated in the south and were engaged in conflicts with the Cholas.
- In 949 CE, Siyaka II assumed the titles: Maharajadhirajapati and Mahamandalika Chudamani
- The Navsahasankacharita provides a detailed account of the victories of Siyaka II. He also defeated the Hunas.
- The Huna-Mandalika region was located between the territories of the Paramara and Chedi dynasties, north of the Narmada River, between modern Hoshangabad and Mhow.
- **The Khajuraho inscription of the Chandela ruler Yashovarman (956 CE)** indicates that he defeated the Malwa ruler.
- During this period, the Chandela Empire expanded up to Vidisha, entering the boundaries of Malwa.
- In his later years, Siyaka II captured the Rashtrakuta capital, Manyakheta.

Vakpati II / Munja / Utpala (974–994 CE)

- **Sindhuraja (997–1000 CE)** was the younger brother of Munja. However, Munja was more affectionate towards Bhoja, the son of Sindhuraja, and therefore appointed him as the crown prince.
- **Sindhuraja assumed several titles, including:** Navsahasanka, Navina Sahasanka, Kumara Narayana, Avantishvara, Paramara Mahabharata, Malava Raja
- Sindhuraja defeated the Hunas, which is specifically mentioned in the Badnagar Prashasti (1151 CE).
- Other important inscriptions include: Udaipur Prashasti, Nagpur Prashasti, Vasantgarh Inscription, Pat Narayan Inscription, Jain Inscriptions

Raja Bhoja (1000–1055 CE)

- He was a great patron of art and culture.
- He constructed **the Bhojpur Shiva Temple**.

- **He established the Bhojshala at Dhar for the study of Sanskrit.**
- He attacked the Chandela ruler Vidyadhara, but was defeated in 1008 CE.
- Bhoja supported the Hindu Shahi ruler Anandapala against Mahmud of Ghazni.
- In 1047 CE, Chalukya prince Someshvara I defeated Bhoja and plundered Dhar, though it was soon recaptured.
- **He constructed the Bhojtal Lake in Bhopal.**
- According to Ferista, Raja Bhoja organised Bhoja festivals twice a year, each lasting 40 days.
- Rohak was his Prime Minister, and Kulchandra, Shahad, and Suraditya were his three prominent generals.
- The poet Dhanapala lived during the reign of Raja Bhoja.

Other Key Note:

- **Literary Works of Raja Bhoja:** Tattva Prakasha, Samargadha-Sutradhara & Siddhanta Sangraha
- The last Paramara ruler was Mahladeva, who was defeated by Ain-ul-Mulk in 1305 CE.
- **After Raja Bhoja, the rulers included:** Jayasimha I, Udayaditya, Lakshmadeva, Narmadeva, Yashovarman, Jayavarman & Paramara Mahakumar, among others.
- Eventually, the Paramara Empire fragmented into several smaller units.
- The last ruler was Bhoja II, after whom 1305 CE is recorded as the year of Mahladeva's rule in Malwa.
- Sultan Jalaluddin Khalji invaded Malwa and annexed it into the Delhi Sultanate.

Literature, Art, and Architecture

- Vakpati II (Munja) was a poet-hearted ruler.
- Dhanika's Yashorupavaloka, Padmagupta's Navsahasankacharita, & Dhananjaya's Dasharupaka lived in his court.
- **Raja Munja was also known as "Kavivrish".**
- A comprehensive list of works attributed to Raja Bhoja was recently published in Bhagwati Lal Rajpurohit's book Bhojaraj, which includes:

1. **Poetics (Sahitya Shastra):** Saraswati Kanthabharana & Shringara Prakasha
2. **Literature:** Champu Ramayana, Shringara Manjari Katha, Subhashita Prabandha, Vidya Vinoda, Shalika Katha, Avani kurmasataka. Kodandakavya, Mahakali Vijaya, Vagyadevi Stuti
3. **Grammar:** Prakrit Grammar & Saraswati Kanthabharana
4. **Lexicons (Koshas):** Nammalika, Amkhyakhya & Anekarthakosha
5. **Music:** Gita Prakasha
6. **History:** Sanjivani
7. **Philosophy:** Nyayavartika–Tattva Prakasha, Siddhanta Sangraha, Siddhanta Sara Vidhi, Rajamartanda, Yoga Sutra Vritti, Shiva Tattva Ratna Kalika, Tattva Chandrika
8. **Astronomy and Astrology:** Aditya Pratap Siddhanta, Rajamartanda, Rajamriganka, Vidvajjanavallabha (Prashna Shastra)

Kachchhapaghata Dynasty

- The Kachchhapaghata dynasty was an important dynasty of the northern part of Madhya Pradesh.
- Its place of origin is the Gopachal region, which includes the districts of Gwalior, Morena, Bhind, Shivpuri, Guna, Ashoknagar, and Datia in Madhya Pradesh.
- In the past, the Kachchhapaghata served as feudatories (vassals) of the Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty.

Gwalior Branch

- Laxman or Vajradaman is considered the founder of the Gwalior branch.
- The initial capital of Vajradaman was Sihoniya; later, he made the Gwalior Fort his capital.
- In history, Vajradaman has been honored with the title of 'Kshonipati'.
- Other prominent rulers of the Gwalior branch include Mangalraj, Kirtiraj, Muldev, Devpal, Padmapal, Suryapal, and Mahipal.

Special Features

- The Kakanmath Temple is located in Sihoniya, Morena, and was built by Kirtiraj, a ruler of the Kachchhapaghata (Kachhwaha) dynasty.

- Situated on the banks of the Asan River, the Kakanmath Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati.
- The Chausath Yogini Temple located in Morena was also constructed by Devpal, a ruler of the Kachchhapaghata dynasty.
- **Devpal was also conferred with the title of 'Aparajit Virud'.**
- The ruler Suryapal has also been referred to as 'Suryanrip'.
- King Mahipal built the Sahastrabahu Temple (Sas-Bahu Temple) in the Gwalior Fort; this temple is dedicated to the Padmanabha form of Lord Vishnu.

Dovkund Branch

- The Dovkund branch of the Kachhwaha dynasty was located in Sheopur district.
- Its founder is considered to be Yuvaraja.
- In the early period, this branch of the Kachhwaha dynasty functioned as feudatories of the Chandelas.
- Other prominent rulers of the Dovkund branch were Arjuna, Abhimanyu, Vijayapala, and Vikram Singh.

Special features

- Yuvaraja, the first ruler of Dovkund, was known as **Kachchhapaghatakulabhushana**.

- Ruler Arjuna defeated the Paramara ruler Raja Bhoja.
- Ruler Vijayapala assumed the title of Adhiraja Vijaya.

Narwar Branch

- **The founder of the Narwar branch of the Kachhwaha dynasty was Sumitra.**
- This branch was located at Narwar in Shivpuri, on the banks of the Sindh River.
- Other prominent rulers of the Narwar branch were Gagan Singh, Sharad Singh, and Vir Singh Dev.

Special features

- The Dholamaru song is associated with the Kachhwaha dynasty.
- The Dholamaru song describes the love story of Prince Dhola and Princess Maru.

Chausath Yogini Temple

- The Chausath Yogini Temple of Morena is an ancient temple located at a place called Mitaoli.
- It is a circular temple constructed during the rule of the Kachchhapaghata dynasty.
- Its purpose was to promote Shaiva worship practices in this region.
- Its design served as a source of inspiration for the Indian Parliament House.

| Major Dynasties of Madhya Pradesh and Their Regions | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Dynasty | Region | Dynasty | Region |
| Chandela Dynasty | Bundelkhand | Naga Dynasty | Vidisha – Gwalior |
| Tomar Dynasty | Gwalior | Bodhi Dynasty | Jabalpur (Tripuri/Tevar) |
| Paramara Dynasty | Malwa (Dhar) | Magha Dynasty | Baghelkhand |
| Bundela Dynasty | Bundelkhand | Amir Dynasty | Ahishwash (Vidisha/Jhansi) |
| Holkar Dynasty | Malwa (Indore) | Vakataka Dynasty | Vindhya Pradesh |
| Scindia Dynasty | Gwalior | Aulikara Dynasty | Dashpur (Mandsaur) |
| Karush Dynasty | Baghelkhand | Maukharis Dynasty | Malwa (Dashpur, Mandsaur) |
| Chandra Dynasty | Baghelkhand to Bundelkhand | Parivrajaka Dynasty | Bundelkhand |
| Yadava Dynasty | Middle region of the Chambal–Betwa rivers | Shaila Dynasty | Mahakaushal |
| Shunga Dynasty | Vidisha | Pandya Dynasty | Mekal region (Amarkantak) |

Chandela Dynasty

- **Capital:** Khajuraho
- **Foundation:** 871 CE
- Descendants of Rishi Chandrodaya
- **First ruler:** Nannuka
- The dynasty came to be known as Jejakabhukti after Jayasingha, the grandson of Nannuka.

- **Harshadeva was the first important ruler of the Chandela dynasty**, during whose reign the Chandelas were counted among the powerful dynasties of North India.
- After **Harshadeva (905–925 CE)**, his son Yashovarman ascended the throne, who ended the rule of the Pratiharas of Kannauj and captured the fort of Kalinjar from the Rashtrakutas.

- Yashovarman (Lakshmanavarman) constructed the famous Vishnu Temple at Khajuraho.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Jayashakti | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Jayashakti was also known as Jeja or Vijayashakti. ➤ The dynasty was also called Jejakabhukti after his name. ➤ The Chandelas established marital relations with the Kalachuris; Jayashakti's daughter Hattadevi/Nattadevi was married to Kokkala I. |
| Rahila | He was the son of Jayashakti. According to some historians, the town of Rehli in Sagar district was named after this Chandela ruler. |
| Harshavarman | The Matangeshwar Temple was constructed by Harshavarman. |
| Yashovarman / Lakshmanavarman | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chandela ruler Yashovarman constructed the Chaturbhuj Temple and laid the foundation of the Lakshman Temple at Khajuraho. ➤ Yashovarman defeated Pratihara ruler Mahipala, Paramara ruler Siyaka II, and Tripuri Kalachuri ruler Yuvarajadeva I. ➤ In the Lakshman inscription, Yashovarman is described as a sword for the creeper-like sports of Gauda. ➤ He constructed the Belasagar (Bela Tal) lake at Mahoba. |

Dhanga Deva (950–1007 CE)

- With the weakening of Pratihara power, he declared an independent kingdom and assumed **the title “Maharajadhiraja.”**
- His kingdom extended from Kalinjar to the Malav River (Betwa), from the Malav River to the Kalindi, from Kalindi to Chedi, and from Chedi to Goparadi (Gwalior).
- Initially, he made Kalinjar his capital and later shifted it to Khajuraho.
- He sent military assistance to Shahi ruler Jaipal of Bhatinda against Subuktigin.
- Dhanga constructed most of the temples of Khajuraho and also permitted the Jain community to build temples there.
- Two major temples at Khajuraho are Parshvanath Temple and Vishvanath Temple.
- During his reign, the Vaishnava Jagadambi Temple and the Surya (Sun) Temple named Chitragupta were constructed at Khajuraho.
- He relinquished his body at the holy confluence of the Ganga and Yamuna at Prayag.

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Raja Ganda | Ganda, the son of Dhanga, constructed the Chitragupta Temple and Jagadamba Temple at Khajuraho. |
| Vidyadhara | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vidyadhara, the son of Ganda, constructed the largest Kandariya Mahadeva Temple at Khajuraho (approximately 31 metres in height). ➤ Like Samudragupta, Vidyadhara composed poetry and wrote the Lughat-e-Hindvi poem. ➤ He successfully resisted the ambitions of Mahmud of Ghazni. ➤ Paramara ruler Bhoja and Tripuri Kalachuri ruler Gangeyadeva were also defeated. |
| Kirtivarman | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kirtivarman constructed the Kirtisagar (Kirat Sagar) lake at Mahoba, ➤ which was formed by damming the Chandrawal River and its tributary Chandanor. |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He also constructed the Buddha–Buddhi tank at Kalinjar. ➤ In his court lived the dramatist Krishna Mishra, who composed Prabodhachandrodaya. |
| Paramardideva | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paramardideva was also known as Parmal, who made Kalinjar and Mahoba his capitals. ➤ In 1182 CE, Paramardideva was defeated by Prithviraj Chauhan and had to hand over the Mahoba region. ➤ The famous poet Jagnik lived in his court and composed Parimal Raso. ➤ Alha and Udal were his chief generals, in whose honour Jagnik composed the heroic Alha-Khand. ➤ Alha-Khand is considered the longest poem in the world, mentioning 52 battles of Alha and Udal. ➤ He assumed the title Dashain Dahapati. |
| Hamiravarman | During his time, Qutbuddin Aibak attacked Kalinjar in 1203 CE, marking the beginning of the decline of the Chandela dynasty. |

- ✓ Several Tomar rulers ruled after him, but Man Singh Tomar achieved the greatest fame.
- ✓ Vir Singh Dev constructed the Chaturbhuj Temple, Jeet Mahal, and Jeet Stambh at Gwalior.
- **Kalyanmal (1480–1486 CE)**
 - ✓ He was known as Bhup Muni.
 - ✓ He composed the work Sumelchit.
- **Man Singh Tomar (1486–1516 CE)**
 - ✓ Man Singh Tomar was the most powerful ruler of this dynasty.
 - ✓ He constructed the Man Mandir, Sas-Bahu Temple, and Gujari Mahal in the Gwalior Fort.
 - ✓ He composed the famous musical treatise Man Kutuhul.
 - ✓ He constructed several lakes for irrigation.
 - ✓ In 1500 CE, Man Singh sent his representative Nihal Singh to the court of Sikandar Lodi.
 - ✓ In 1517 CE, Ibrahim Lodi attacked Gwalior and captured the fort; Man Singh died a heroic death in this battle.
 - ✓ The famous novelist Vrindavan Lal Verma depicted Man Singh and his queen Mrignayani in his novel Mrignayani.
 - ✓ After Man Singh's death, his son Vikramaditya ascended the throne and became the last ruler of the Tomar dynasty.
 - ✓ Vikramaditya was killed in the First Battle of Panipat (1526 CE).
 - ✓ Thus, the Tomar dynasty of Gwalior came to an end after 125 years.

Tomar Dynasty

- The original homeland of the Tomar rulers of Gwalior was Tanwarghar (the region around Morena).
- Foundation of the Tomar dynasty of Gwalior: 1394 CE
- **Founder:** Vir Singh Dev
- **Vir Singh Dev**
 - ✓ Vir Singh Dev composed the works “Vir Singh” and “Vir Lok.”
 - ✓ He was appointed the administrator of Gopachal Fort (Gwalior) by Sultan Alauddin Sikandar Shah.

List of Tomar Rulers of Gwalior

| Ruler | Reign Period |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Vir Singh Dev | 1375–1400 CE |
| Uddharan Dev | 1400–1402 CE |
| Viram Dev | 1402–1423 CE |
| Ganapati Dev | 1423–1425 CE |
| Dungarendra Dev (Dungara Sinha) | 1425–1459 CE |
| Kirtisingh Dev | 1459–1480 CE |
| Kalyanmal | 1480–1486 CE |
| Man Singh | 1486–1516 CE |
| Vikramaditya | 1516–1523 CE |