

Chapter 4 – Ancient India

Section 4 – Empires of Ancient India Notes

The Rise of Maurya Asoka's Leadership Gupta Empire

<p>India was made up of warring states before Chandragupta Maurya overthrew kingdoms and created the Maurya Empire</p> <p>Chandragupta believed in Absolute Power</p> <p>Huge army consisted of thousands of foot soldiers and 9,000 war elephants</p> <p>Empire enjoyed great economic success, most of which came from farming and trade</p> <p>Chandragupta became fearful for his life and eventually left the throne to his son</p> <p>Chandragupta used his own wealth to improve his empire</p> <p>Irrigation systems brought water, forests were cleared for farms, artisans made crafts, and roads were built</p>	<p>In 273B.C. Chandragupta's grandson further expanded the Maurya Empire</p> <p>Asoka was warlike as his grandfather had been and conquered new territories for the empire</p> <p>He won a bloody battle at Kalinga which was a turning point in his life</p> <p>Asoka gave up war and violence, freed his prisoners, restored their land, and converted to Buddhism</p> <p>Asoka thought of his people as his children and cared about their well-being</p> <p>Under Asoka the message of Buddhism grew as missionaries were sent throughout Asia</p>	<p>After Asoka's death, the Maurya Empire eventually split back into warring kingdoms</p> <p>In 320 A.D. the Gupta dynasty rose to power and built an empire across Northern India</p> <p>Gupta's enjoyed a rich culture and invented a technique for printing cloth, advanced philosophy, the decimal system, and the numbers we use today</p> <p>Invasions from central Asia weakened the Gupta empire and India once again split into smaller warring kingdoms</p>
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