

8. Guptan Empire

Shree Gupta — Founder

Chandragupta I (319 - 335AD)

- He has provided Gupta dynasty fame.
- He took a title of 'Maharajadhiraj'.
- First great ruler was Chandragupta I. He introduced Gupta Era in 319 A.D.
- He started a new calendar - 'Gupta Era' Gupta Era is having 241 years gap from Shaka Samvata.

Samudragupta (335 - 375 AD)

- He was son of Chandragupta I.
- Gupta dynasty expanded most during his period.
- Vincent Smith titled him as "Napoleon of India"
- The details of his victories described in 'Prayaga Prashasti' written by Harishena.
- He was a triumphant as well as a poet & Lyricist cum conservator of education.
- He has marked playing lute (veena) on the coins.
- He has also titled as 'Dharma Prachar Bandhu' in Allahabad pillar inscription.
- Buddhist Saint - Vasubandhu has given shelter him.
- Samudragupta is called the 'Napoleon of India' because of his India's victory.
- Samudragupta is called the 'Kaviraj'.

Chandragupta II (380 - 412AD)

- Udayagiri cave edict tells about his victories.
- Patliputra and Ujjaini rose as centres of education and culture.
- Ujjaini was his second capital.
- Fahien (Chinese Traveller) came to India during his period. He says Madhyapradesh as 'Nation of Brahmins'.
- This period was peak for Brahmins.

Kumargupta (415 - 454 AD)

- Maximum edicts during Gupta period found of this king.
- Nalanda University established during his period.
- Vilsad edict gives list of Gupta's family Succession up to Kumargupta.

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- Silver coins were came in use in middle India during his period.
- He has taken titles like - Mahendraditya .

Skandgupta (455 - 467AD)

- Hun's were attacked during his rule.
- He has repaired lake Sudarshana which was established on Mt. Girnar.

Important Points

- He transferred his capital to Ayodhya.
- Gupta period was called the golden phase due to cultural progress.
- Chandragupta II launched the coins of silver after getting the victory on Shaka.
- Kumargupta reconstructed Sudarshan Lake
- Hun's attack started at the time of Skandagupta.
- Ujjain was the most important trade center in Gupta's period
- Bhanugupta was the last Gupta ruler.
- Gupta ruler launched more gold coins than others
- Gold coins were called Dinara.
- Erana inscription describes Sati System in 510 A.D (first time). This inscription is of Bhanugupta.
- Most land grant given in Gupta period

ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS OFFICER

1. Desh	Gopta
2. Bhukti	Uprika
3. Vishaya	Vishayapati
4. Petha	Pethapati
5. Gram	Grampathi / Mahatar

OFFICER

POST

1. Mahabaladhikari	Force captain
2. Mahadandnyak	Chief justice
3. Sandhivigrahak	Defence minister/ war minister
4. Dandpashik	Police officer
5. Mahakshapattalika	Chief of account

		department	• Taxes were in the form of either in cash or in the form of Grain.
6.	Sarthwah	Trade chief	• Forms of Lands
		<u>Taxation</u>	
1.	Bhag —	1/6 of the total production	1. Kshetra - Farming land
2.	Bhog —	Gift which given to king in the form of fruits, flowers & vegetables	2. Vastu - Land for Residence
3.	Udrang—	Land Tax from permanent Farmers.	3. Khila - Land which were not cultivated
4.	Uprikara—	Land tax levied on all Temporary Farmers.	4. Aprahata - Non cultivated forest land.