
Coming
up

Questions about research assignment Step
#2?

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation
(September 30th): Resources on the course
website

Tutorials next week: Thursday at 10:30 and
Friday at 9:30 in 8-161.



**Pataliputra:
The Maurya and
Gupta Empires
(321 B.C.E to
550 C.E.)**



**Megasthenes,
Ambassador, Seleucid
Empire (4th c. B.C.E.):
Pataliputra**

- 16 km by 3.2 kms
- Wooden walls
- 64 gates
- 570 towers
- 400 000 people





Chang'an:
Han Empire
202 B.C.E. –
220 C.E.

Pataliputra:
Gupta Empire
240-550 C.E.

Constantinople:
Byzantine Empire
300-1453 C.E.

Pataliputra:
Mauryan Empire
(323-184 B.C.E.)

Rome:
Roman Empire
(200 B.C.E.-476 C.E.)

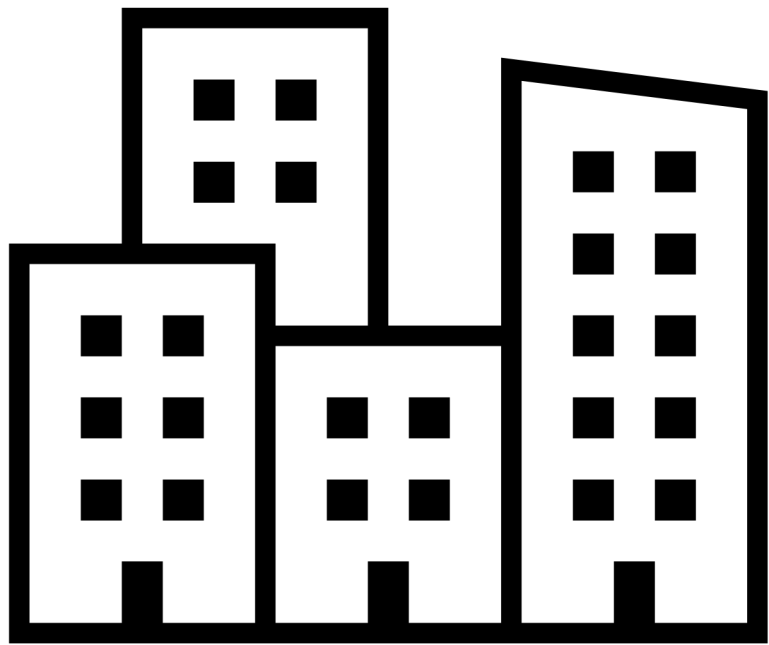
Teotihuacan:
Mayan Empire
250-550 C.E.

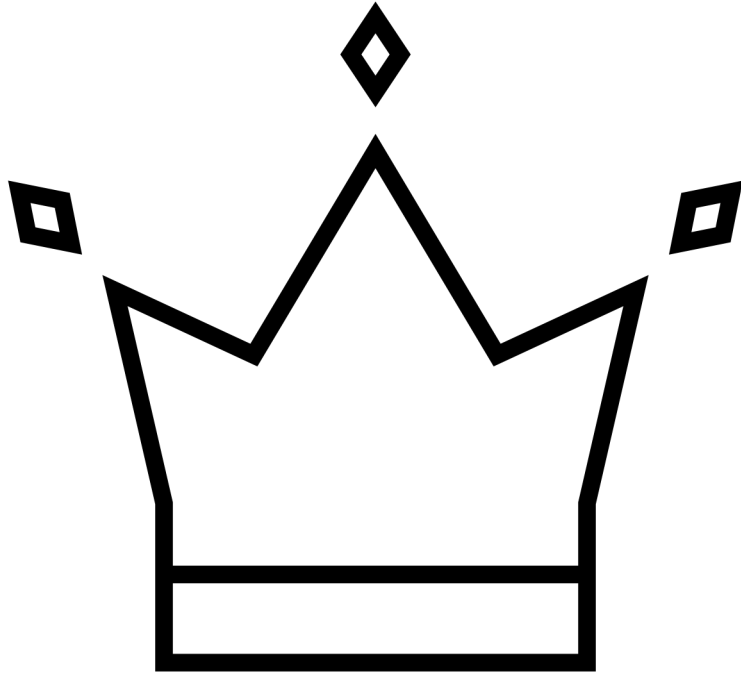
Damascus:
Islamic Empire
661-750 C.E.

In today's class...

- ❖ What are “cities” and “empires”?
- ❖ The Vedic Age (1500-1000 B.C.E.)
- ❖ Pataliputra: Mauryan empire (321-184 B.C.E.)
- ❖ Pataliputra: Gupta empire (240-550 C.E.)

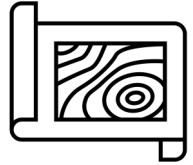
City?





Empire?

Characteristics of Empires



Much larger territories



Armies with variety of weapons and manpower



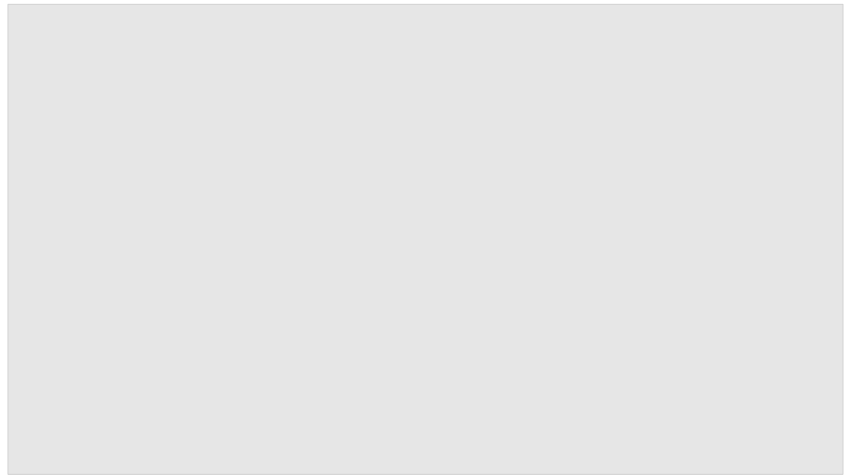
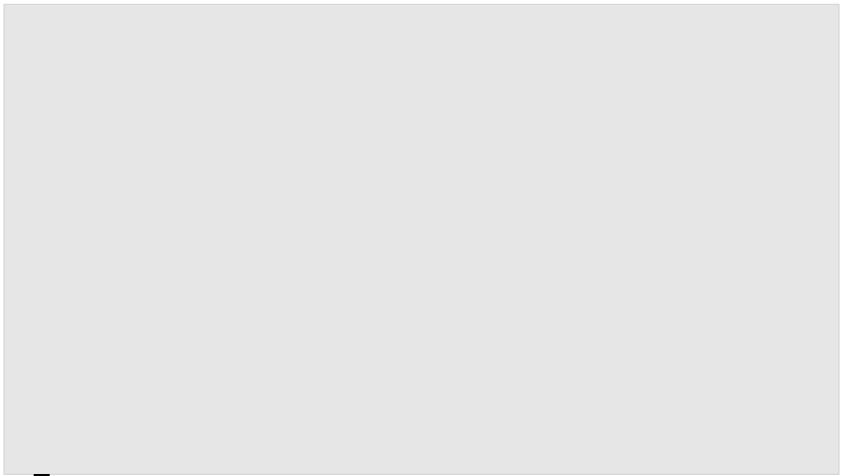
Centrally controlled administration



Cultural management

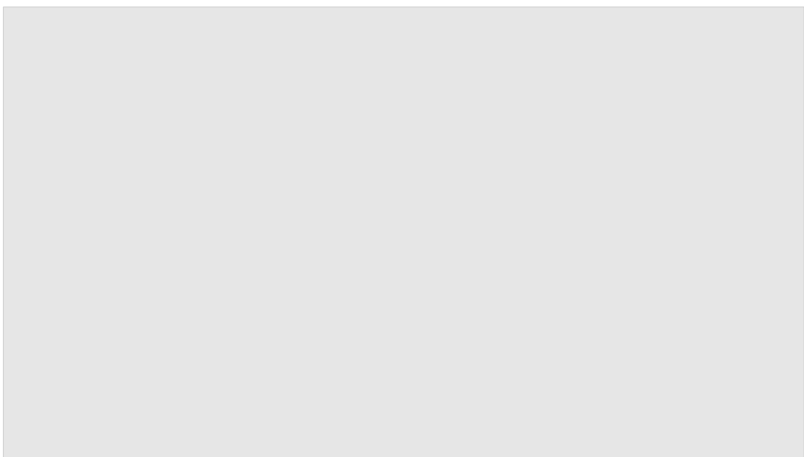
Classical Period and Philosophical/Religious Traditions

- China: Confucianism and Daoism
- India: Hinduism and Buddhism
- Mediterranean: Greek Rationalism
- Middle East: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

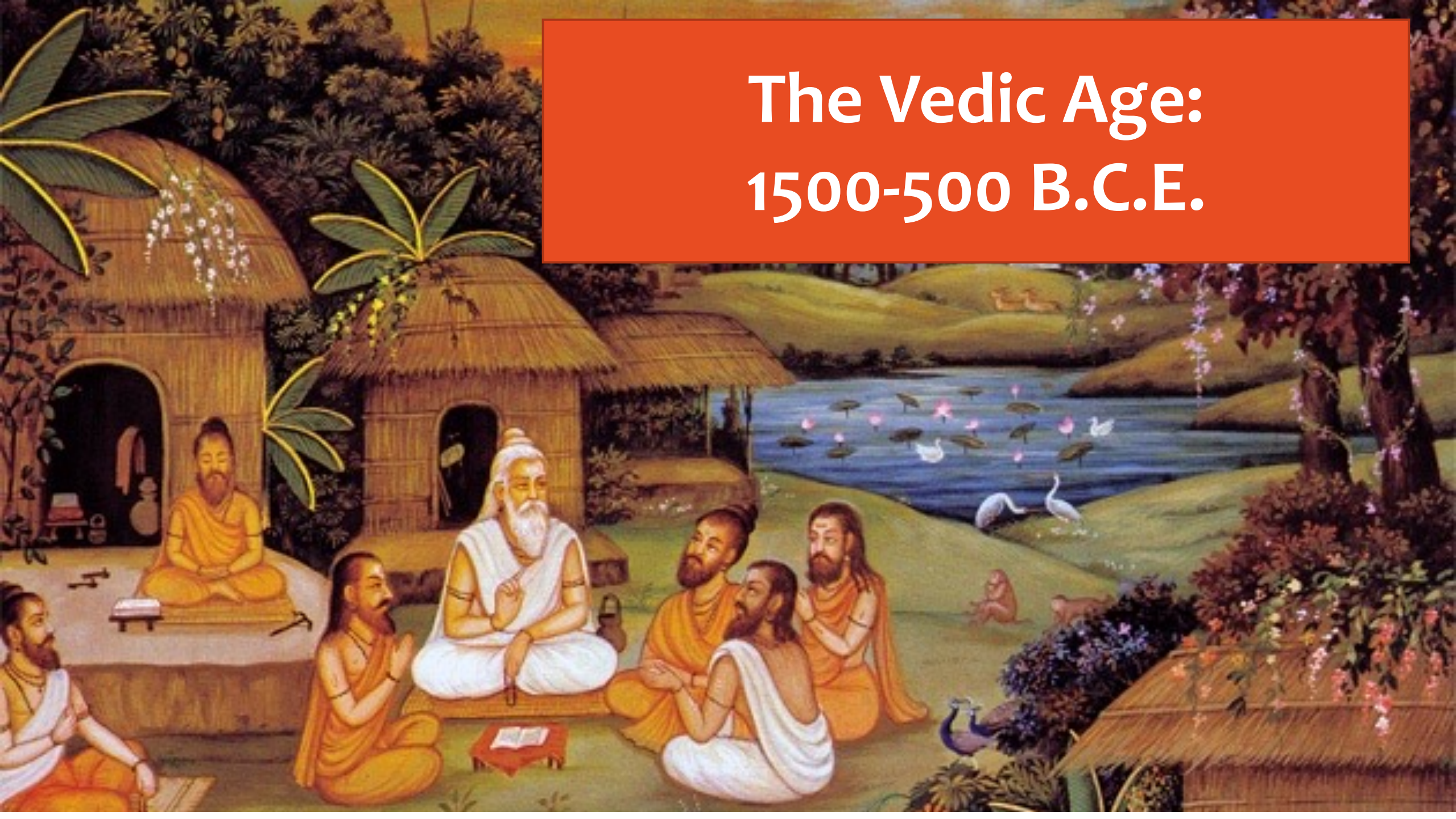


1500 B.C.E.

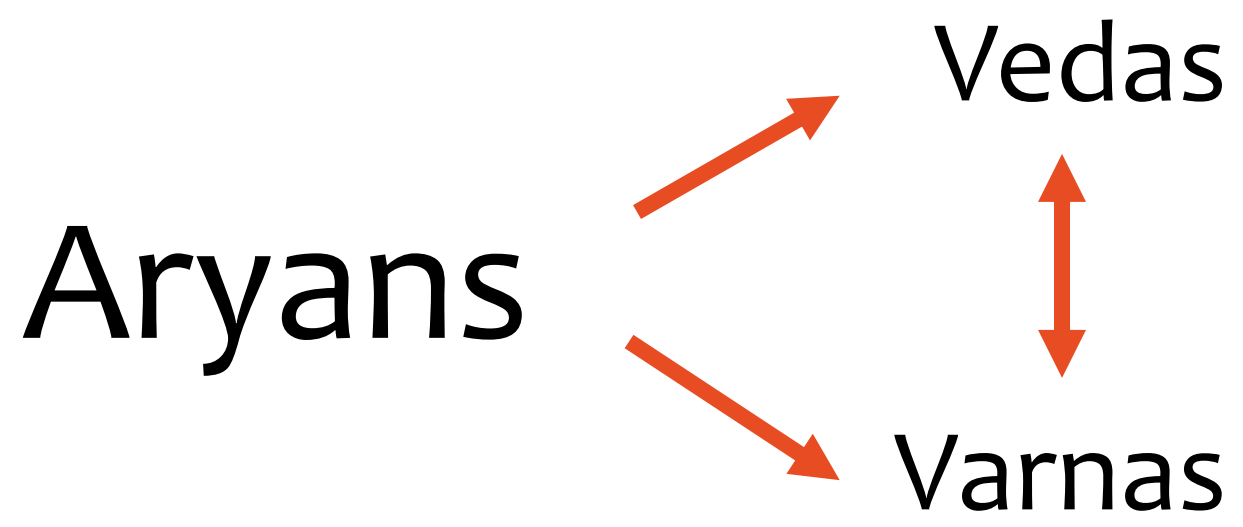
600 C.E.



The Vedic Age: 1500-500 B.C.E.



श्रीदुर्गाजादिषु पंचाशत्तु गणपतिभ्यो नमः ॥ ३० ॥ अग्निमीळेपुरोहितं यत्स्यदे
वमृत्विजो होतारं रत्नधातमं । अग्निः पूषति रूषिभिरीडो नृतनैरुत । स देवो एह
वक्षति ॥ अग्निना रयिमश्नवत्पोषमेव दिवे । देवा यशसं वीरुतमे । अग्नेयं यज्ञमध्व
रं विश्वतः परिभूरसि ॥ स इ देवेषु गच्छति । अग्निर्होता कविक्रतुः सत्यश्चित्रश्रव
स्तमः । देवो देवेभिरागमत् ॥ १ ॥ यद्गदाश्रुषेत्तमग्नेभद्रं करिष्यसि । तवेत्तत्सत्यमे
गिरः । उपत्वान्नेदिवेदिवेदोषावस्तर्धियावयं ॥ नमो भरंत एमसि । राजंतमध्वरा



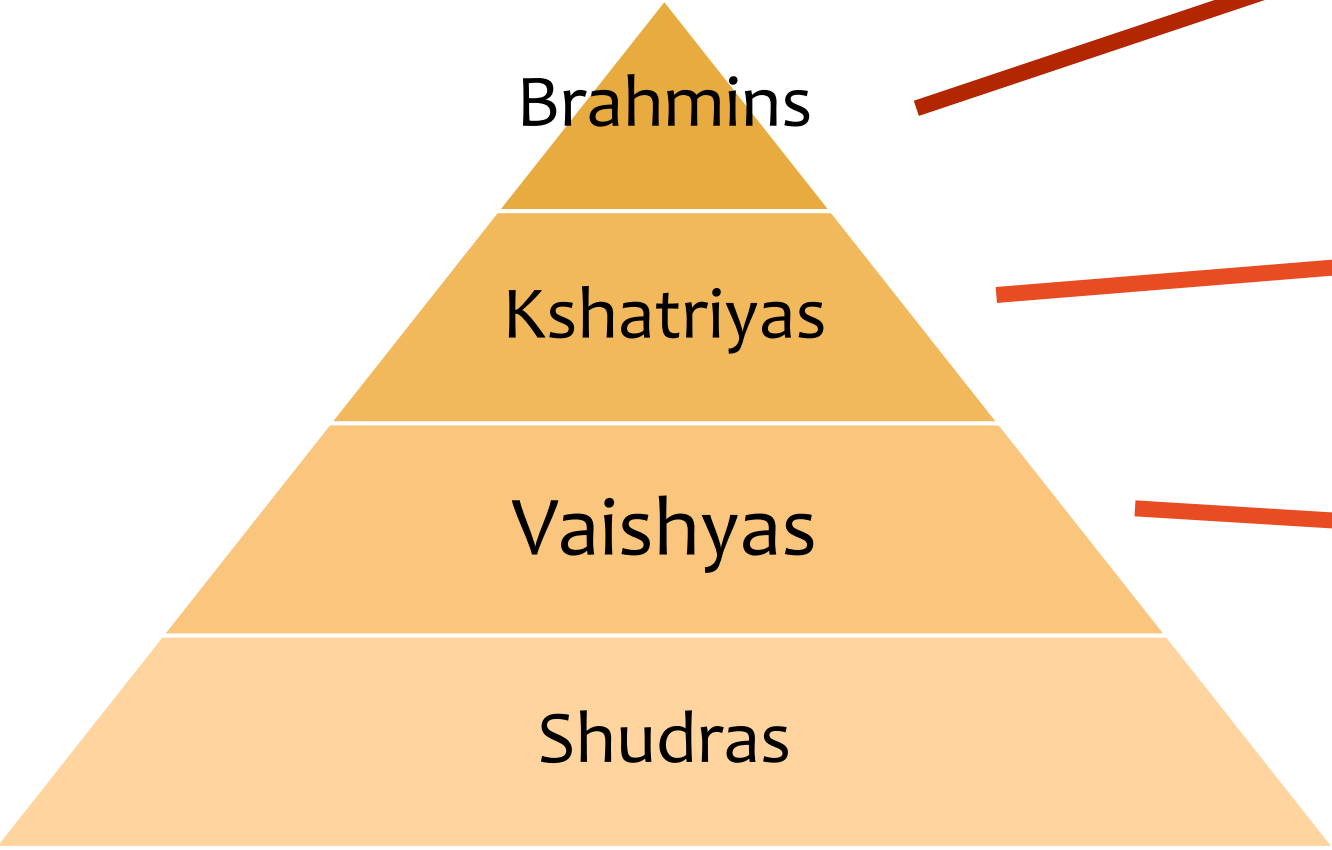
Varnas =
Caste
System

Brahmins=
Priests

Kshatriyas=
warriors and
aristocrats

Vaishyas= cultivators,
artisans, and merchants

Shudras= landless peasants and
serfs

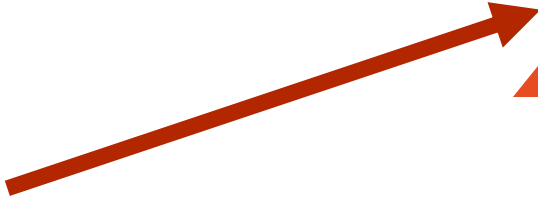


Brahmin
JATI

Kshatriya
Jati

Vaishya
Jati

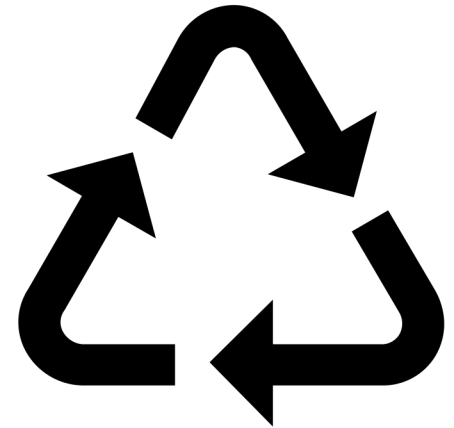
Shudra
Jati



Vedas and Upanishads

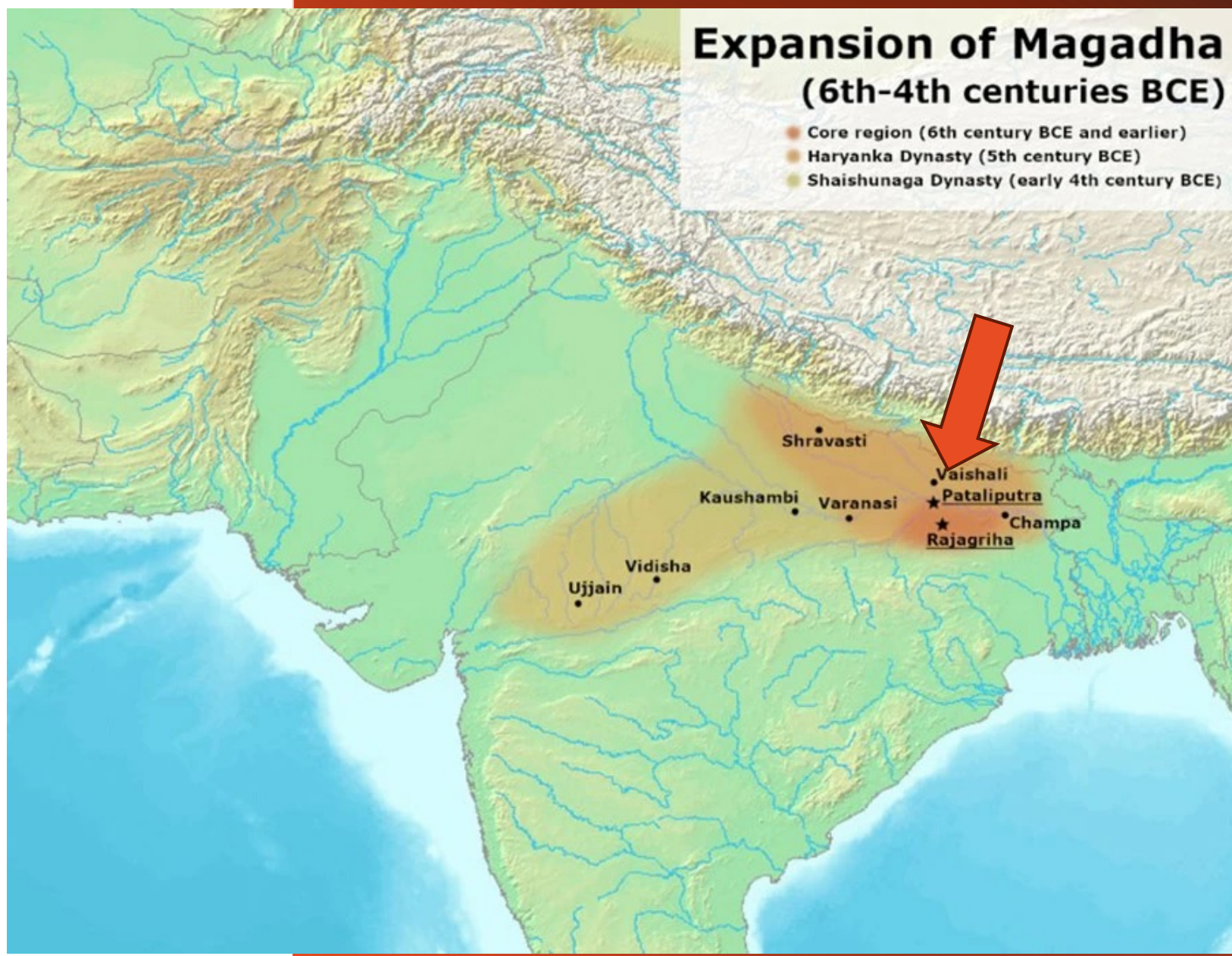


- Reincarnation
- Karma
- dharma



Expansion of Magadha (6th-4th centuries BCE)

- Core region (6th century BCE and earlier)
- Haryanka Dynasty (5th century BCE)
- Shaishunaga Dynasty (early 4th century BCE)



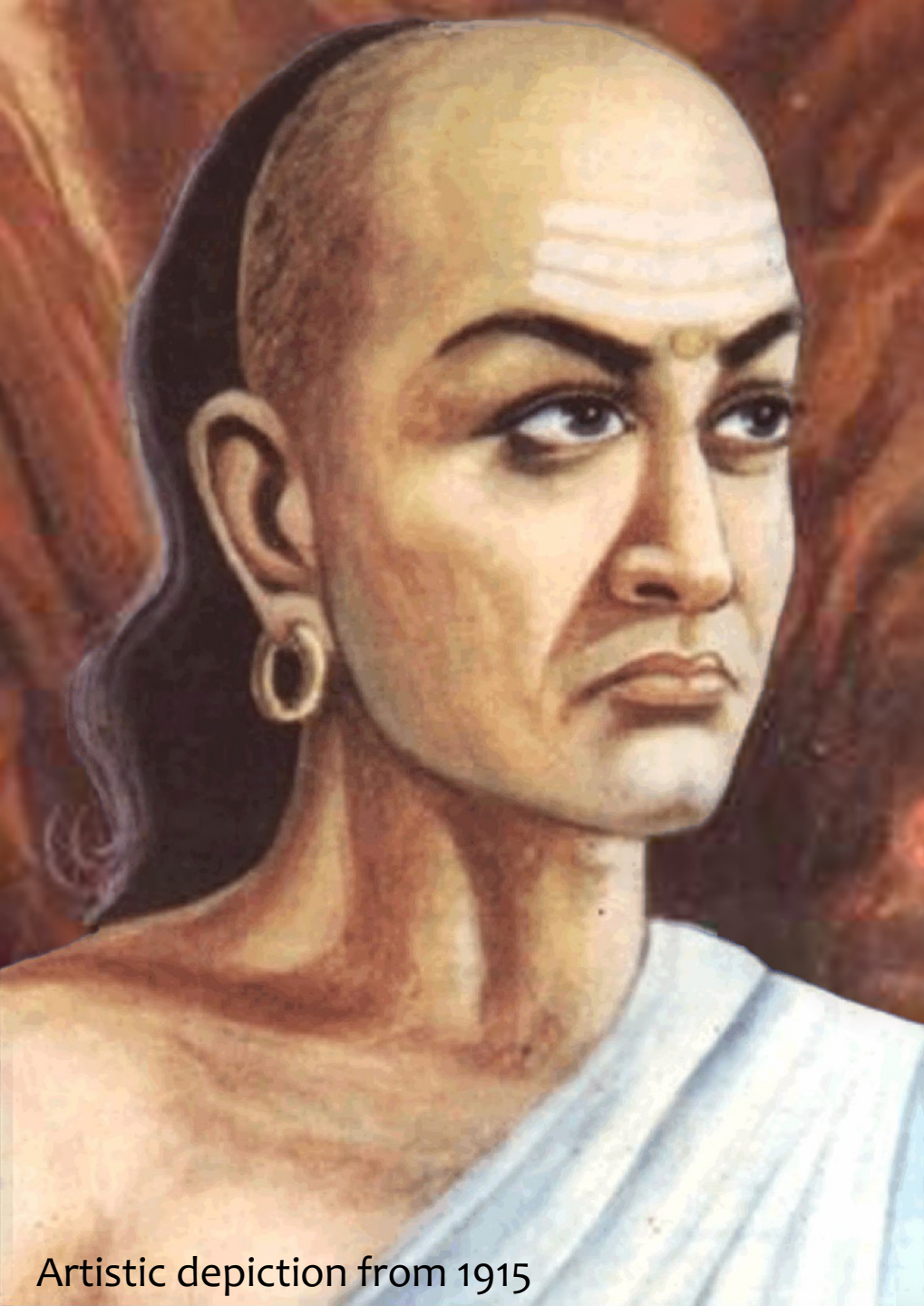


Maurya Empire
(321 B.C.E.
to 185 B.C.E.)

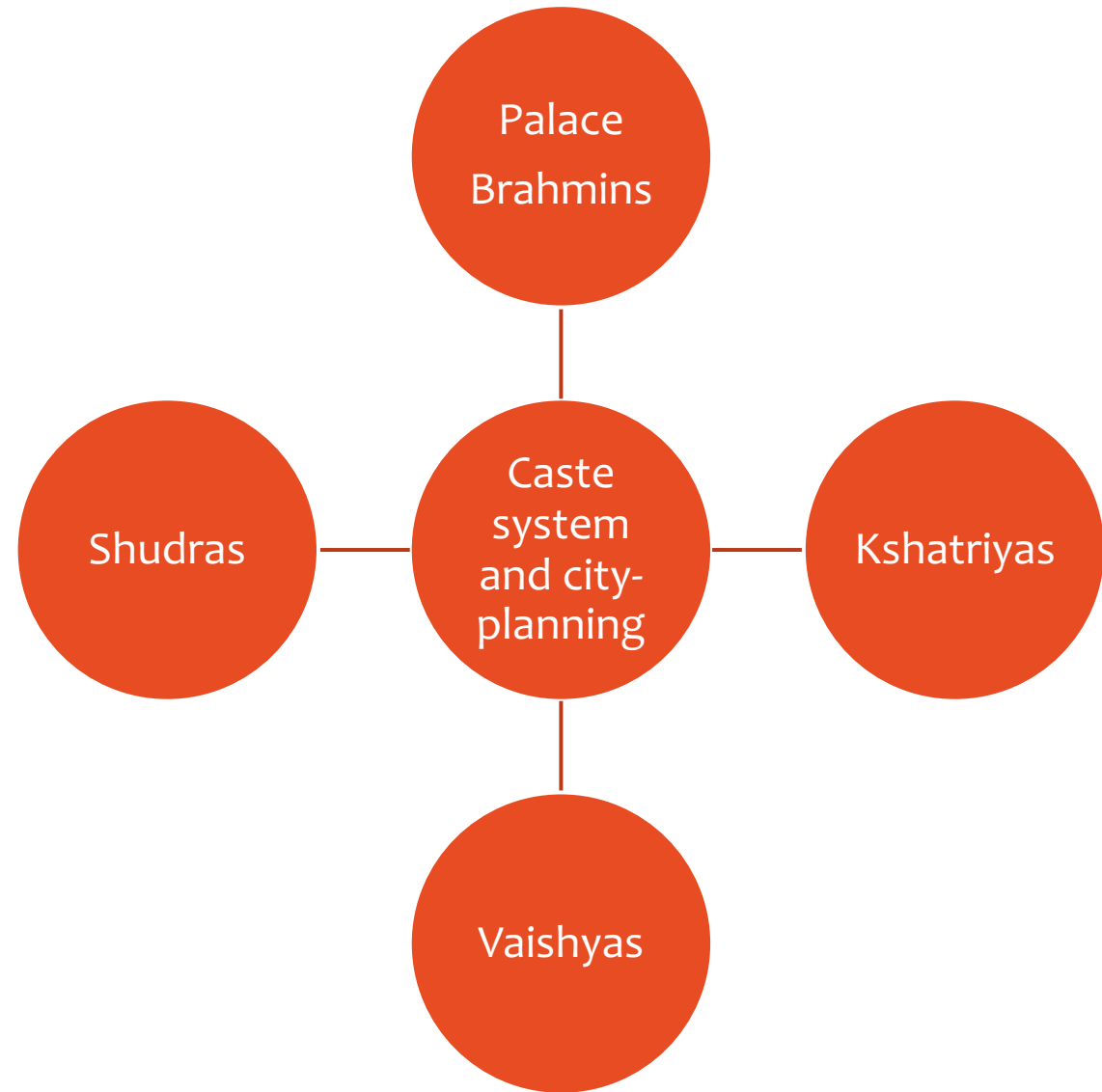
**Chandragupta
Maurya**
Ruled 321-297
B.C.E.

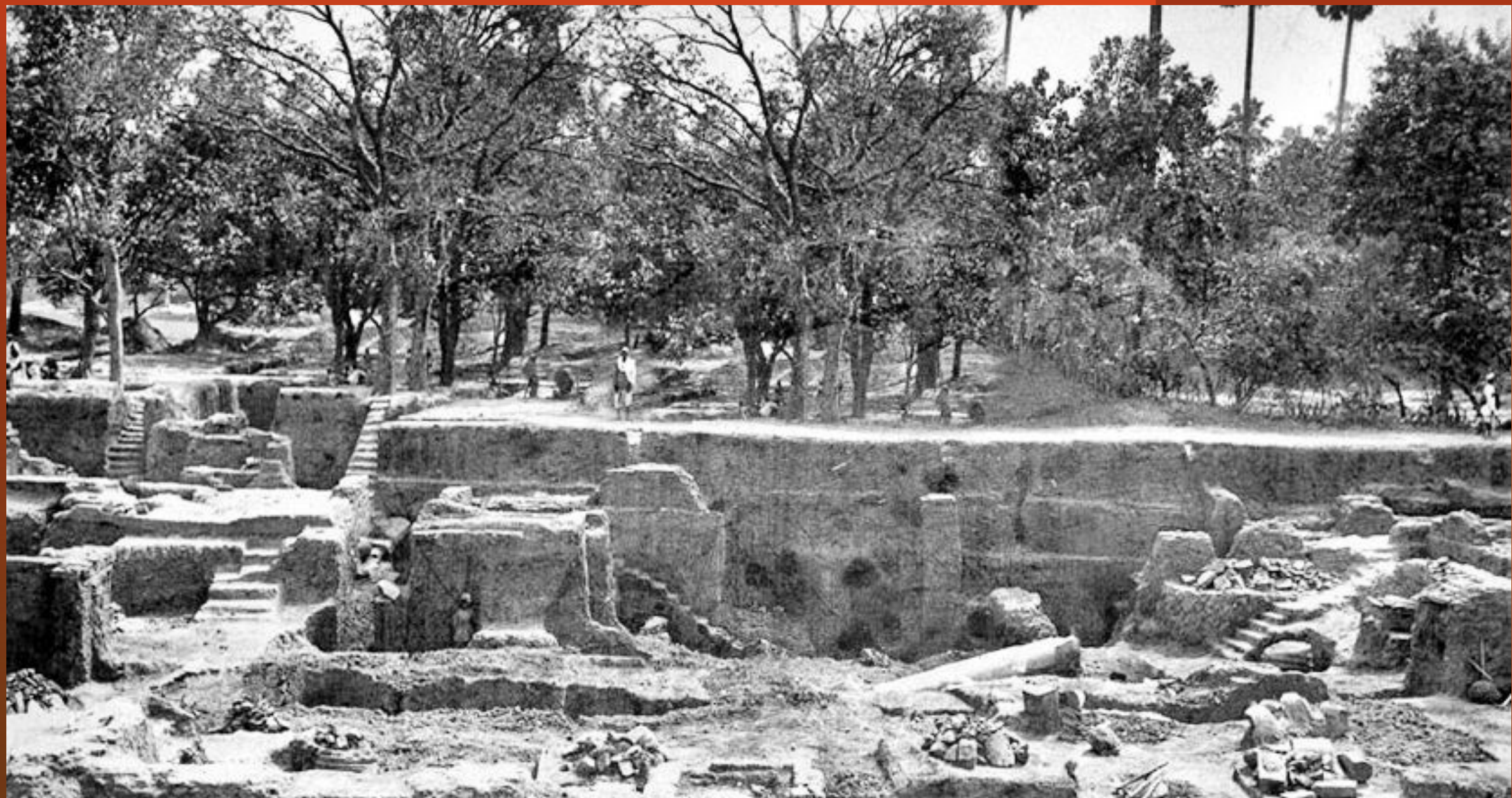


Kautilya, *Arthashastra* (4th c. B.C.E.)



Artistic depiction from 1915



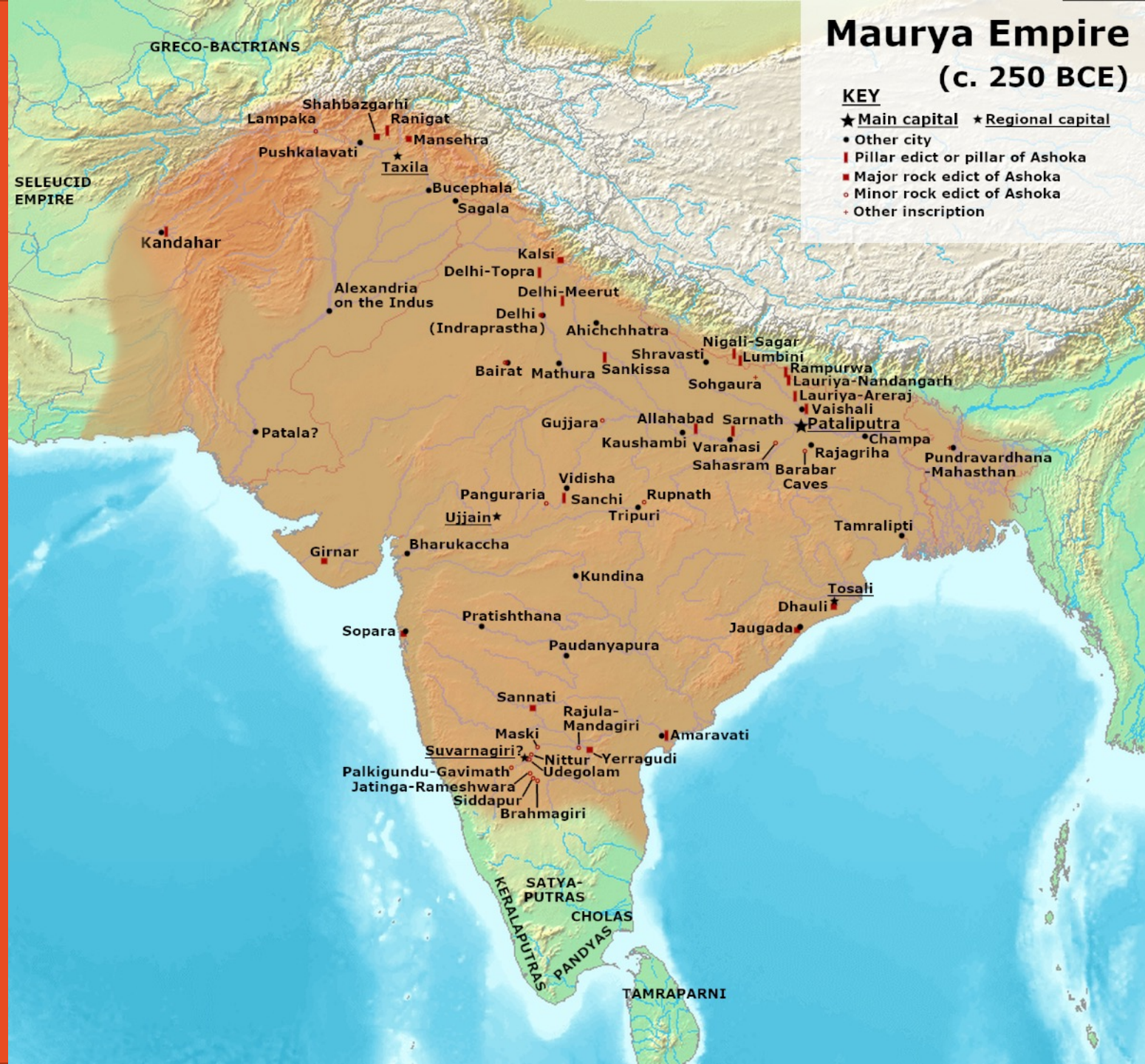


Maurya Empire

(c. 250 BCE)

KEY

- ★ Main capital
- ★ Regional capital
- Other city
- | Pillar edict or pillar of Ashoka
- Major rock edict of Ashoka
- Minor rock edict of Ashoka
- Other inscription





Ashoka

Ruled 273-231 B.C.E.

Battle of Kalinga
(268-265 B.C.E.)

Ashoka

Conversion to
Buddhism:
260 B.C.E.

Buddhist Holy Cave with Ashokan carvings





Ashoka, Rock and Pillar Edicts

- Centrality of Dharma: Moral Code
- “Not slaughtering living beings, not injuring creatures, proper regard towards relatives, proper regard towards Sramanas and Brahmins, obedience to mother and father, and obedience to the elderly.”



Gupta Empire
(late 3rd century
to 543 C.E.)



**Chandragupta I
and Queen
Kumaradevi
Ruled 319-
335/350 C.E.**



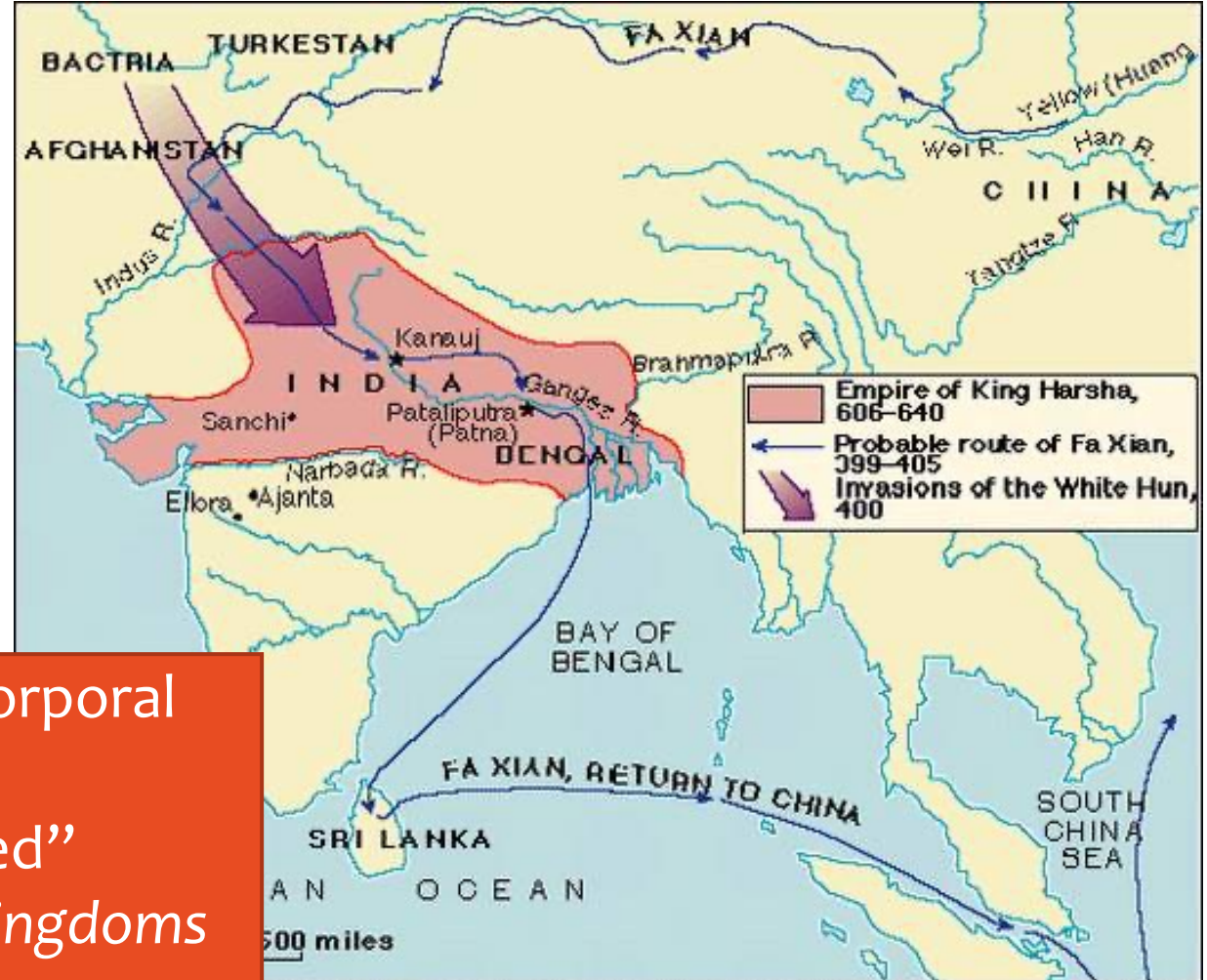
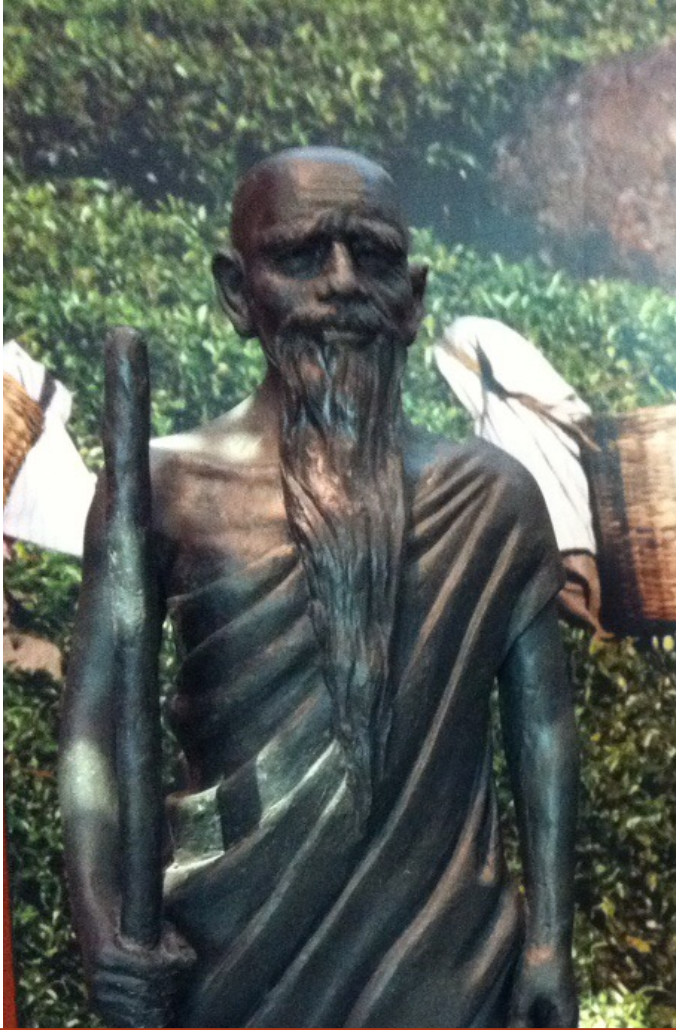
Gupta Sources: Pillars and Coins



Gupta
Sources:
Hindu Art
(Brahmism)



Faxian (337-422 C.E)



“governs without decapitation or corporal punishment”

“destitute, crippled, and diseased”

--from Faxian, *A Record of Buddhist Kingdoms*
(circa 400 C.E.)