Government of Karnataka

SOCIAL SCIENCE

PART - 2

ENGLISH MEDIUM

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HISTORY

Chapter 12

ANCIENT DYNASTIES OF NORTH INDIA

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Introduction to the Chapter

Mauryan empire was the first historical empire of India. Its contribution to various fields is extraordinary. Chandragupta Maurya and Ashoka were the two outstanding emperors of this dynasty. Their life and achievements have been explained here. The contributions of King Kanishka of Kushanas has also been remembered here. It also describes the victory march of Samudragupta the greatest of Gupta's and the brilliant process made in various fields during the age of Chandragupta II. It introduces the way Harshavardhana saved the kingdom during troubled times and his contribution to the development of Buddhism. Historical, economical, social and literary contributions of the Karkotaka, Ahom and Rajput dynasties, which ruled between 620 C.E and 1200 C.E has also been discussed here. Along with this, there is a brief discussion about the various clans of Rajputs like Gurjara Pratiharas, Chauhans, Palas and Guhilas.

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Competencies

1 Know about Chandragupta Maurya, the founder of Mauryan empire and his preceptor, Chanakya.

2 Understand the life and achievements of king Ashoka.

3 Understand the administrative system of Mauryans.

4 Recognise the achievements of Kanishka, the famous king of Kushanas.

5 Understand the achievements of India during the times of Samudra Gupta and Chandra Gupta II, the great kings of Gupta dynasty.

6 Know the causes that contributed to make Gupta Age a Golden Age.

7 Recall India as depicted by Fahein and Hu-En-Tsang in their works.

8 Understand the achievement and contribution of Harshavardhana.

9 Know the achievement of the Karkota dynasty.

10 Know major achievement of important Rajput kings.

11 Comprehend the contribution of the Mauryans, Kushanas, Guptas and Vardhanas to the field of art, literature, science, architecture and so on.

12 Appreciate the achievement of Ahom dynasty rulers and know about their contributions in the field of art.

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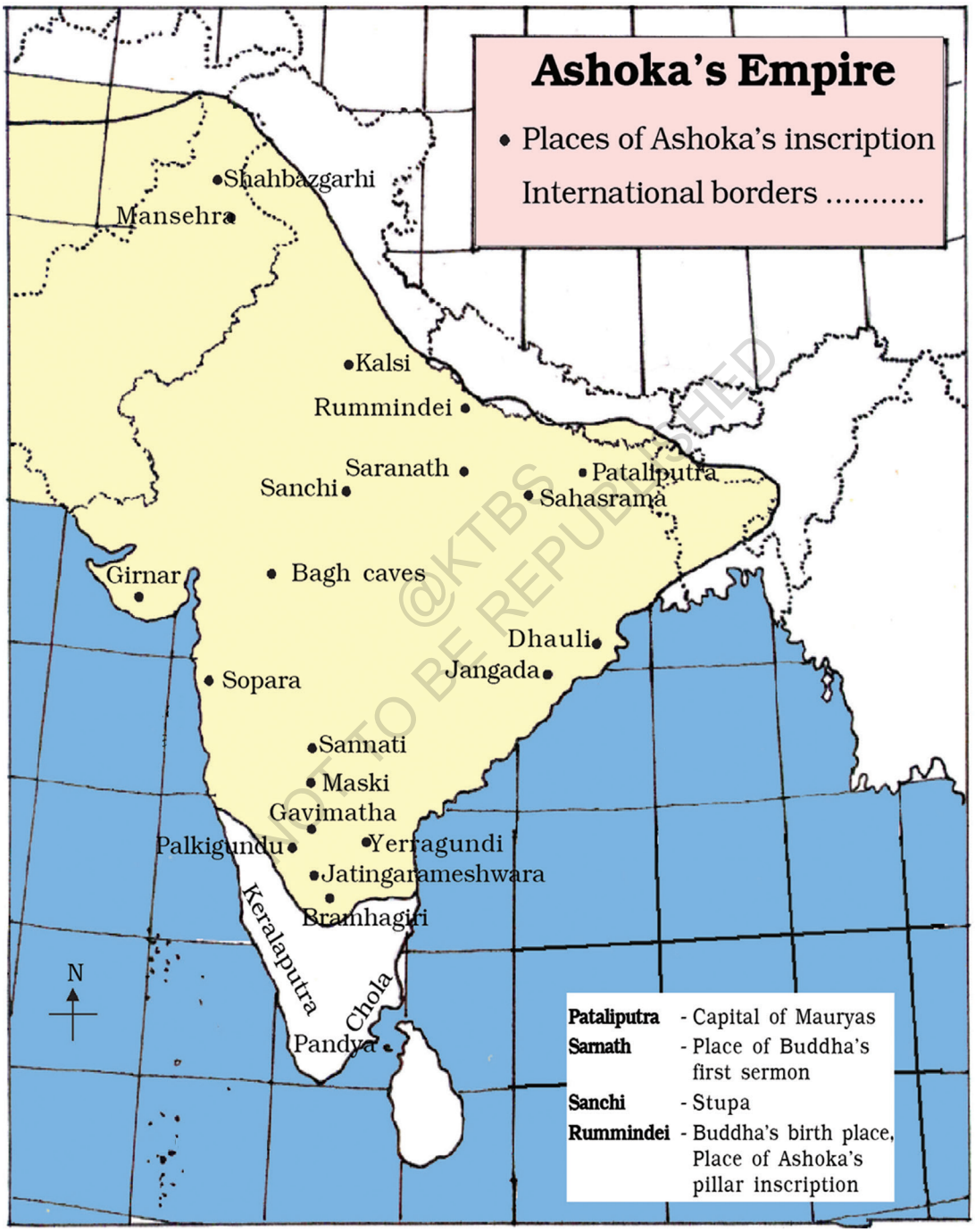
Mauryas

Children there is a wheel in center of our National flag. Do you know its name? That is Ashoka Chakra (wheel). It is incorporated in our National Flag to symbolise progress. Then who is Ashoka? To which dynasty does he belong? What is the history of that family? What are the contributions of Ashoka? Let's know about these.



Indian Flag

The Mauryan empire was the first empire of India. Chandragupta Maurya established the Mauryan empire



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Chandragupta Maurya

Chandragupta Maurya was an adventurous youth. Vishnugupta of Takshashila was insulted by Dhanananda, king of Nanda dynasty. Vishnugupta was wise and an expert strategist, had the names Chanakya and Kautilya. He trained Chandragupta Maurya in the art of warfare and helped him to establish his army. Meanwhile. Dhanananda had lost the confidence of his subjects and Chandragupta Maurya was able to dethrone him easily. Thus, Chandragupta Maurya established the Mauryan empire 2300 years ago and made Pataliputra (now Patna - the capital of Bihar) as his capital.

Later Chandragupta Maurya organised a huge army and marched towards North West India. These territories, previously occupied by Alexander of Macedonia, were overseen by his representative Seleucus. Being defeated by Chandragupta Maurya's army Selecus entered into a peace treaty with him. He surrendered Afghanistan, Baluchistan and Western Sindh territories to Chandragupta Maurya and also gave his daughter in marriage. In return, Chandragupta gifted 500 elephants to Seleucus. Seleucus sent an ambassador named Megasthenes to Chandragupta's court. Megasthenes wrote a book called 'Indica' in which he has recorded his experiences.

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Vishnugupta or Kautilya was the prime minister of Chandragupta Maurya. His work 'Arthashastra' tells many facts related to politics. This world famous work was first found in the manuscript collection of the Oriental Library, Mysuru. It was discovered by a scholar named R.Shamashastri.

Chandragupta Maurya accepted Jainism. During his last days he handed over the throne to his son, Bindusara and followed the Jain monks to Karnataka. He undertook

a severe vow called Sallekhana and sacrificed his body at Shravanabelagola in today's Hassan district. Bindusara reigned for nearly 25 years.

Emperor Ashoka

After Bindusara, his son, Ashoka ascended the throne. He holds a unique place in the world history. He was the first ruler who ruled the subjects saying "subjects are like my children".

Ashoka's Inscriptions: Hundreds of Ashoka's inscriptions have been found across the length and breadth of the subcontinent of India. These inscriptions are basically found in Brahmi script and Prakrit languages. Seventeen inscriptions of Ashoka are found in nine places of Karnataka. Among these the Maski inscription of Raichur district is important as Ashoka's name was found for the first time in these inscriptions. Until then, his inscriptions only had the mention of 'Devanamapriya, Priyadarshi'. 'Devanamapriya Priyadarshi Ashoka' has been written in Maski inscription. From this inscription, we get to know that 'Devanamapriya' and 'Priyadarshi' refers to Ashoka himself. Through his inscriptions we can learn about his life, achievements, expansion of his empire and other aspects.

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Ashoka's relief sculpture, Kanaganahalli



Ashoka's edict at Sannati

You should know

James Princep, a British officer, was the first to read Ashoka's inscriptions 180 years ago. No one had read it before. Before six centuries that the Delhi Sultan Firozshah Tuglaq had made a futile attempt in getting Ashoka's inscriptions read.

The Kalinga war: Ashoka declared war on the state of Kalinga in the eighth year of his accession to power. This was a significant event in his life. Ashoka declared war on the state of Kalinga, a part of present day's Odisha state. Thousands of people lost their lives in the war. One lakh people were injured. One and a half lakh enemy soldiers were captured. Ashoka was moved by the gruesome scenes of death and pain in the battlefield. Ashoka felt painful and decided not to wage wars from then onwards. There is no other emperor in the history of the world who has changed his mind in this way. Ashoka is called Mahashaya out of respect, as he followed the path of Dharma instead of the path of war.

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War scenes in Relief Sculptures, Kanaganahalli

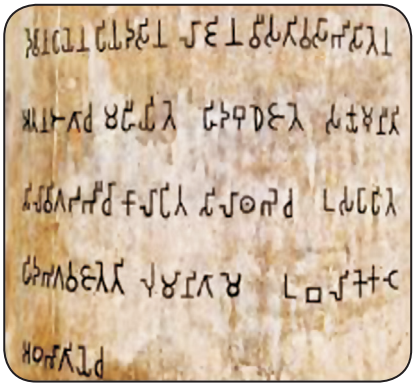
Activity: List out the places in Karnataka, where you find Ashoka's inscriptions.

Propagation of Dharma: Ashoka was influenced by Buddhism and he accepted it. He propagated these religious messages to his subjects. 'One should be obedient to the teachers, elders and parents. One should be filled with compassion, generosity and truthfulness. He said that things like violence, anger and jealously should be abandoned'. Ashoka held the third Buddhist conference at Pataliputra. He built the Buddhist stupas. He sent ambassadors to spread the message of the Buddha, both within the country and abroad.

Mauryan Administrative System: King was the head of the administration. All powers were in his hands. There was a council of ministers to advise the king. There were higher officials to look after the administrative departments. Among them special officers called 'Dharma Mahamatras' were promoting good moral conduct among the people. They were also responsible for looking after the welfare of orphans, widows and the aged. The vast kingdom was divided into many provinces, for the convenience of administration. In the villages, 'Gramika' would carry on the governance with the help of the elders of the village. Villages were given a lot of power. The disputes of the village were settled by the Gram Sabha. Mauryan rule had its influence on many subsequent dynasties.

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Architecture and Sculpture: Some of the architecture and sculptures of the Ashoka period can be seen even today. Stupas and pillars are prominent among them. The Stupa of Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh and the pillars of Sarnath are famous among them. The four headed lion at the top of the pillar of Sarnath is our National emblem.



Ashoka's Inscription



Sanchi Stupa, Madhyapradesh



Ashoka's Monolith pillar



Lion capital - our National emblem

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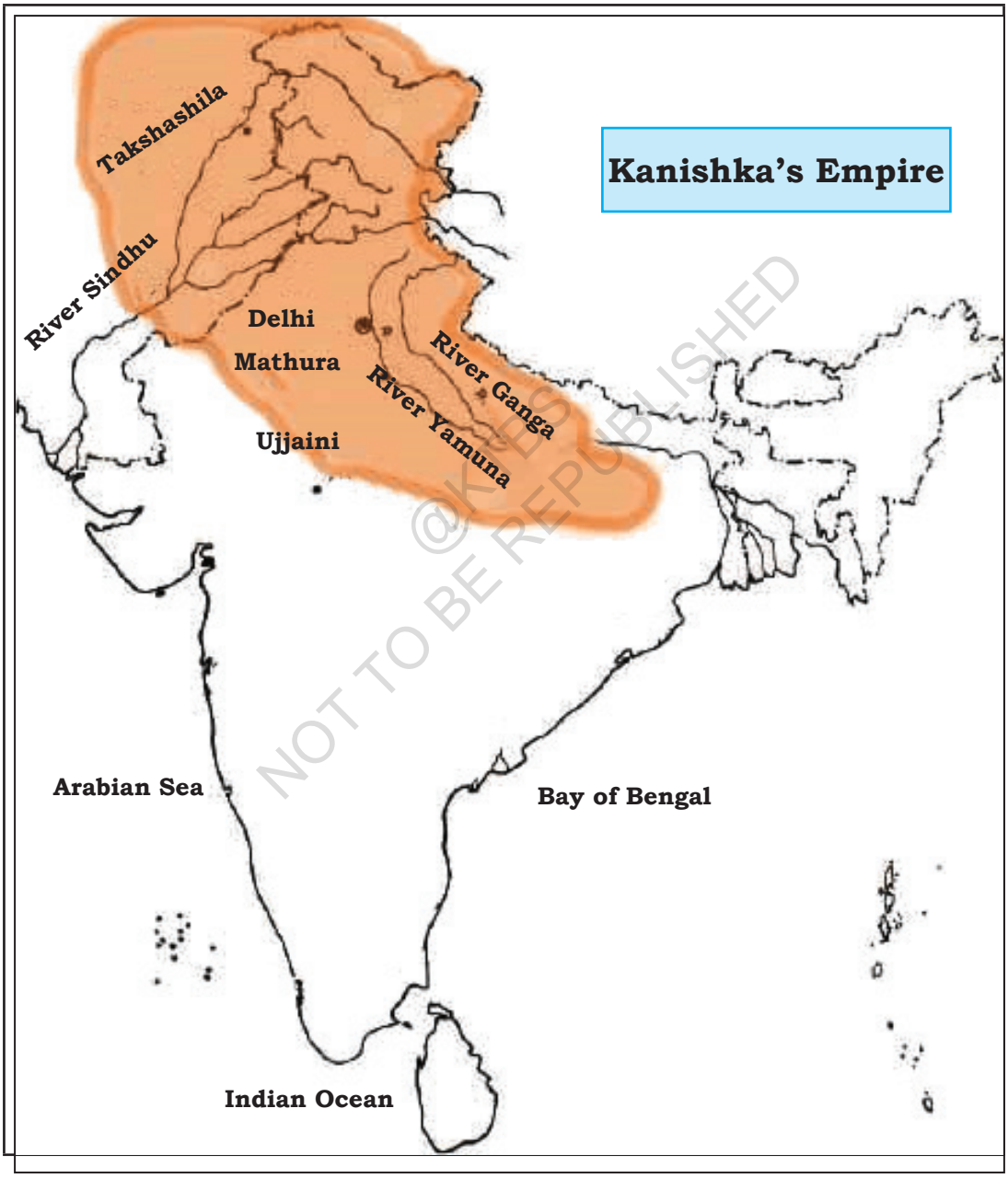
THE KUSHANS

About 2000 years ago Gandhara (now in Afghanistan) was ruled by the Kushan dynasty. In course of time, some parts of India were conquered by the Kushans. Kanishka was the famous king among the Kushans. He waged for long time wars and expanded his empire. The expanse of his empire was spread in North India from Afghanistan to Bihar.

Kanishka : Kanishka, a follower of Buddhism, also built many stupas like Emperor Ashoka. He sent Buddhist missionaries abroad. Also, he held the fourth Buddhist

conference in Kashmir. Kanishka started the Shaka (Shalivahana Shaka) year to commemorate his rise to power. At present, it has become the official calendar year of the Government of India.

MAP

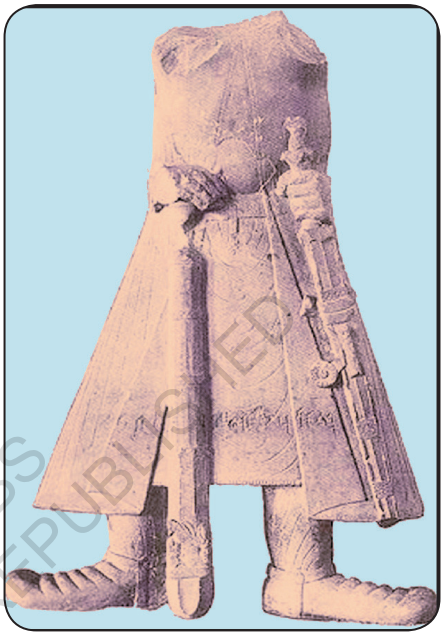


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Architecture and Sculpture: Kaniska built many stupas. The stupa that he built at 'Purushapura' (Present day's Peshawar) had a thirteen storied tower. The tower was 400 ft. tall and was a wonder of the times.



Icon of Buddha - Gandhara style, Peshawar



Stone idol of Kanishka with head destroyed

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Kanishka was a patron of art. He invited artists from various countries outside India. As a result, blending of various art-styles helped to evolve new styles called Mathura style and Gandhara style, during this period.

A stone idol of Kanishka is discovered at Mathura. Its head is destroyed. Kanishka's name is etched on the pedestal. Many coins belonging to the Kushanas have been found. They were the first to circulate gold coins in India.

Literature: Kanishka patronised scholars and writers. Among them Aswaghosha was prominent. He wrote 'Buddha Charita', in Sanskrit.

Nagarjuna was a great philosopher and scientist in Kanishka's court. Vasumitra, a scholar had presided over the fourth Buddhist conference held in Kashmir. Charaka, a physician is said to have been a contemporary of Kanishka. He wrote a treatise called 'Charaka Samhita'.

New words

Ambassador - A king's messenger or representative sent from one country to another.

Empire - A vast kingdom.

Stone Inscription/Edict - writings carved on rocks.

Stupa - A monument with half spherical dome built around the urn. The urn which contains the remains (teeth, bone etc) of Buddha are preserved.

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You should know :

- Ashoka sent his Buddhist ambassadors not only to different kingdoms but also to Burma (Myanmar), Sri Lanka, Egypt, West Asia and Eastern Europe. Ashoka's son Mahendra and daughter Sangamitra went to Sri Lanka. Mahadeva was sent to Mysuru (then Mahishamandala) of Karnataka and Rakshita to Banavasi of Uttara Kannada district as propagators of Dharma.
- Architecture is the art of construction of a building. Sculpture is the art of making idols. During the reign of Ashoka, stones were used instead of wood and bricks for architectural construction. This is the reason why Mauryan architecture and sculpture have survived to this day.

- Ashoka's inscriptions are located in Raichur, Koppal, Chitradurga, Bellary and Gulbarga districts in Karnataka. An inscription at Maski (Raichur district) calls Ashoka, 'Devanamapriya' and 'Priyadarshi'.
- Basic characteristics of Mauryan governance which was more than 2300 years old can be found even in today's Indian administration. The present hierarchy of administration is : Central, States, divisions, districts, taluks, hoblis, and villages.
- Ayurveda is still the most popular system of medicine in India. The UNO has recognised it. The use of this system is increasing in other countries as well.

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Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word :

1. An ambassador sent by Seleucus to the court of Chandragupta Maurya was _____.
2. The emperor who said 'the subjects are like my children' was _____.
3. Our national emblem is _____.
4. Kanishka began a new era called _____, to commemorate his accession to the throne.

II. Answer the following questions.

5. Who founded the Mauryan empire?
6. Which city was the capital of Mauryan empire?
7. Which book did Kautilya write?

8. Which book did Megasthenes write?

9. What were the functions of Dharma Mahamatras?

10. Where did Kanishka hold the 'Boudha Maha Sabha'?

III. Discuss in group and answer:

11. Write about the significance of Kalinga war.

VI. Match the contents of list A with list B

'A'		'B'	
1.	Ashoka	(a)	Kanishkapura
2.	Kanishka	(b)	Buddha charita
3.	Ashwaghosha	(c)	Kala kendra
4.	Gandhara	(d)	Devanamapriya

Activity

- Collect pictures with details of the Mauryan architecture and sculpture prepare an album.
- Make a list of places where Ashokan inscriptions are found in Karnataka.

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GUPTAS

After Mauryans the Guptas built the empire. Gupta dynasty is an important royal family in India. Pataliputra was the capital of Guptas. The most famous kings of this dynasty were Samudragupta and Chandragupta II.

SAMUDRAGUPTA

Samudragupta was a great warrior. An inscription on the pillar at Allahabad gives account of his victory march. This inscription of Samudragupta was written by the court poet Harisena. According to that, Samudragupta defeated nine kings of North India. Realizing his great military power, many kings surrendered themselves. The Kushana rulers of distant Afghanistan and Satraps (Shakas) of Gujarat acknowledged Samudragupta's supremacy.

Later Samudragupta undertook an expedition to Southern India and defeated twelve kings of the South. Among them one of the kings was of Kanchi. He performed the Ashwamedha yaga (horse sacrifice) to commemorate this expedition.

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Coins of Samudra Gupta

Samudra Gupta was a patron of education. Himself a poet and musician, Samudra Gupta was accorded the title 'Kaviraja' (king of poets). Coins have been found depicting him playing the veena. A senior Buddhist monk Vasubandhu was his minister. Samudra Gupta's coins reflects the power, prosperity and glory of Gupta dynasty.

ChandraGupta II

Chandragupta II the successor and son of Samudragupta was an expert in warfare. He defeated Satrapas (Shakas) who were ruling Gujarat for more than three centuries. This was his great military achievement. He had a title 'Vikramaditya'. He issued new types of gold coins. Kalidasa, the great poet and many other famous scholars were there in his court.



Coins of Chandra Gupta II

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The empire prospered well in the field of economy. Literature, iconography, architecture, painting, science and mathematics flourished like never before.

Fa-hein : He was a Buddhist pilgrim from China. He visited India with a longing to see the birth place of Buddhism. That was during the period of Chandragupta II. Fahein has recorded his experiences in India in his book Fo-kwo-ki. According to him crimes were rare, in Gupta empire. Administration was pro-people. Travel around the country was smooth.

Fahein travelled for many years in India visiting Buddhist sites. He returned to his country with many Buddhist scriptures. He translated them into Chinese language.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE GUPTAS

Sanskrit literature

During the Gupta period Sanskrit language developed well due to royal patronage. Kalidasa was a great poet of the Gupta times. He is one of the best playwrights of the world. He was one of the nine Jewels men, the 'Navaratna' who adorned the court of Chandragupta II. Kalidasa had composed four epics and three dramas. 'Abhijnana Shakunthalam' is his great play. He has been hailed as 'Kavikula Guru'.

Shudraka who wrote 'Mricchakatika' and Vishakha Datta who wrote 'Mudrarakshasa' were other famous dramatists of that time. Vishnu Sharma's 'Panchatantra' belongs to this period. Amara Simha's 'Amarakosha' a dictionary is a rare work. It is still in use today.

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Temple Architecture

In our country temple architecture developed during the times of the Guptas. The Sanchi temple in Madhya Pradesh is the oldest temple in India. Other temples of the Guptas are at Bhitargaon and Devgarh in Madhya Pradesh. The idol of Lord Vishnu in the Dashavatar temple at Devgarh is very beautiful.

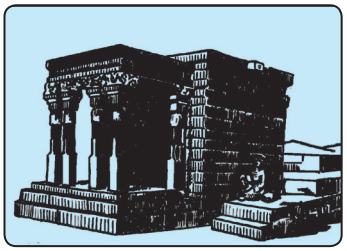
Stupas and Chaityalaya

Dhamek Stupa, 128 ft. tall, at Saranath is a unique construction of the Gupta period.

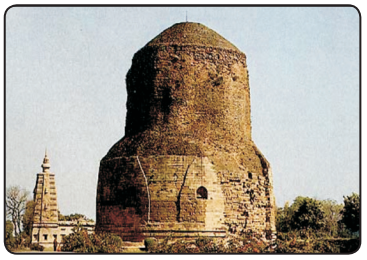
Paintings

Buddhist viharas and cave temples of Gupta times carved out of big rocks are found in Ajanta and Ellora.

The pictures painted on the walls and ceilings of the caves at Ajanta are famous all over the world.



Sanchi Temple



Dhamek Stupa at Saranath



Ajanta caves

Science, Mathematics and Astronomy

Science and technology got tremendous progress during the Gupta period. Aryabhata of Pataliputra was a well-known mathematician of Gupta times. His work is 'Arya Bhateeyam'. Aryabhata founded the reason for eclipses and also contributed to the fields of Algebra and Trigonometry. He achieved all these great heights when he was just twenty three years. Brahma Gupta was another eminent mathematician of that time. Varahamihira, the great astronomer belonged to this period.



Aryabhata

Metallurgy : Metallurgy achieved great progress during the Gupta period. The iron pillar at Mehrouli near Qutub minar in Delhi is an example for this. This pillar, though 1500 years old, has not rusted or suffered wear and tear.



Iron pillar at Mehrouli

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There is an 8 feet tall Buddha statue made of copper, of this time, at Nalanda.

Ayurveda : Vagbhata of the Gupta times prepared a paraphrase of the famous work 'Charaka Samhita'. i.e. 'Ashtanga Hridaya Samhita'. This is an important scripture on Ayurveda. Surgery was also highly advanced in ancient India. Surgeons were using 127 types of surgical instruments. They used to extract iron and stones from the body. The Indian physicians are credited for introducing mercury as medicine for the first time.

New word :

Astronomy : The scientific study of planets, stars and celestial objects.

Know these facts :

1. Gupta dynasty commenced 1,600 years ago; it ruled for more than two centuries.

2. Plays of Kalidasa are: Abhijnana Shakuntalam, Malavikagnimitra and Vikramorvashiya, Poems - Raghuvamsha, Kumarasambhava, Ritusamhara, and Meghaduta.

3. Temples during Gupta times were built on a square plinth. They had a sanctum sanctorum and only a portico.

4. Bhitti means wall. The pictures written on wall are called Murals. They are found on walls of the Buddhist caves temples of Ajanta. They were painted with local available colours and ordinary brushes. These caves were hidden from view for many centuries. They were discovered in 1819.

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5. The weight of the iron pillar at Mehrouli is 6 tonnes, and is 23 feet tall. Until the beginning of the 19th century no European black smith could cast such pillar.

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with appropriate:

1. The capital of Gupta's _____
2. The Gupta king who hailed the title 'Kaviraj' was _____
3. The work Mudrarakshasa was written by _____
4. Mahakavi who had the title of 'Kavikulaguru' was _____

II. Answer the following questions :

5. Which emperor's details are there in the pillar inscription of Allahabad?
6. Who was the Chinese pilgrim who visited India during Gupta period?
7. Name any one play of Kalidasa.
8. Who wrote 'Mricchakatika'?
9. Which dictionary was composed by Amarasimha?
10. Who was the famous mathematician of Gupta period?

III. Discuss in group and answer:

11. Describe the achievements of Samudragupta.
12. Explain the contributions of the Gupta's to Sanskrit literature.

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IV. Match the list of list A with B

	A	B
1)	Kaviraj	a) Fo-kwo-ki
2)	Vikramaditya	b) Astronomy
3)	Fa-hein	c) Samudragupta
4)	Meharouli	d) Chandragupta - II
5)	Varahamihira	e) Iron pillar

Activities

1. Collect pictures of ancient Indian architecture and sculpture with details.
2. Read about the lives of Samudra Gupta, Chandra Gupta, Vikramaditya, Kalidasa, Aryabhata, Varahamihira and Vagbhata.

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VARDHANAS

After the decline of the Gupta empire, many independent dynasties arose in North India. The Pushyabhuti dynasty was the most prominent among them. Prabhakara Vardhana, Rajyavardhana and Harshavardhana were the prominent rulers of this dynasty. Let's know more about Harshavardhana.

Harshavardhana

Harshavardhana was a young man of sixteen when he ascended the throne. By this time many tragedies had happened in his life. After the death of his father Prabhakaravardhana, his brother Rajavardhana came to power. The younger sister Rajyashree was married to Grihavarman of Moukhari family. An evil king of Malwa killed Grihavarman and imprisoned Rajyashree in Kanauj. Then Rajavardhana marched and defeated the Malwa army but was killed by Shashanka of Gowdadesha. In such difficult situation, Harshavardhana came to power.

In the meantime, he found, Rajashree the widow sister who was wandering in the Vindhya mountains after her release from custody. Later his brother-in-law Grihavarman's Moukhari kingdom came under the rule of Harshavardhana. He made Kanauj of Moukhari as his capital.

Then he waged war on Shashanka who had killed his brother Rajavardhana. Later organised enough army and won Kashmir and Sindh provinces. He then invaded South India. In South India he was defeated by Pulikeshi II, a Kannada ruler of Chalukya dynasty on the banks of Narmada. Overall having control of North India, Harshavardhana ruled for nearly 40 years. Harshavardhana had a close relation with Chinese traveller Hu-en-Tsang.

Literature : Harshavardhana was not only a warrior, but also a poet. Harshavardhana himself penned plays in Sanskrit Priyadarshika, Ratnavali and Nagananda. He had patronised

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poets like Banabhatta. Banabhatta wrote 'Harshacharita', a biography of Harshavardhana. A lover of education, Harshavardhana gave munificent endowments to Nalanda University.

Dharma: Harshavardhana was tolerant to all dharmas which means he respected all the religions. Although originally he was a Shaivite, he gave great importance to Buddhism. Organised religious conferences in Kanauj and Prayag.



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Hu-en-Tsang : Hiuen Tsang, was a famous Chinese traveller. He came to India about 1400 years ago. He travelled in India for fifteen years and studied Buddhist literature. He also studied at Nalanda University. He stayed for many years in the court of Harshavardhana. He recorded his experiences in India in 'Si-yu-ki' (Record of Western kingdoms) a travelogue.



Hu-en-Tsang

Nalanda University : Nalanda University in present Bihar state was famous for more than six centuries from the times of Gupta period. It was a famous university in ancient India. Thousands of students from foreign countries like Japan, China etc. used to come here to study. There were eight large schools and three large libraries. Although Buddhism was the main subject of study here Veda, Yoga, medicine and other subjects were also taught. In due course of time, on account of many attacks, books in the University were set on fire. Great scholars died. Nalanda University lost its reputation due to all these reasons. Hiuen Tsang had spent many years in this college.



Nalanda University

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Do you know

In Nalanda University there was no fee for education, shelter or food. The revenue of hundred villages was earmarked to meet all these expenses. Emperor Harshavardhana was one of the patrons of this University. Students led a disciplined life. Great scholars were faculty members.

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with suitable words :

1. The Chinese tourist who was very close to Harshavardhana was _____.
2. Hiuen Tsang's travelogue was _____.
3. Nalanda University was in present _____ state.
4. Harshavardhana was defeated on the banks of river Narmada by the king _____

II. Answer the following questions :

5. Name Harshavardhana's elder brother and younger sister.
6. Which was the capital of Harshavardhana?
7. Who wrote Harshacharita?
8. Mention the plays written by Harshavardhana.
9. Which is the most famous ancient Indian University and where?

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KARKOTA EMPIRE OF KASHMIR



Lalithaditya

The Karkota dynasty of Kashmir was one of the Indian dynasties which had efficient administration, model state and achieved the impossible. The dynasty found by Raja Durlabhavardhana in 625 C.E. was one of the powerful kingdoms of that time in India. The Karkota Empire which existed for 230 years (625 - 855 C.E.) not only extended in the Himalayas and its foothills but also extended into Central Asia. The Karkotas were Sun-worshippers who made Paraspore or Parihasapura as their capital. The famous Marthanda Sun temple in Kashmir, which represents the importance of Kashmir, is their important contribution.

A notable and influential ruler of Karkota dynasty was Lalithaditya who came to power in 724 C.E. During his reign of 36 years the extension of empire included the present day Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Bihar states. This period is important in Karkota dynasty because Lalithaditya gave ample encouragement to art and culture.

The period of Karkota is said to be the most glorious period of Shaivism in Kashmir. Vasugupta's Shaivasutra was composed during this period. Abhinavagupta, a famous philosopher and poet belonged to this period; Trika and Koula of Shaivasutra traditions reached their zenith during this period. The famous poet Kalhana was in the court of Lalithaditya.

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Rajputs

Rajputs were well-known for their adventure and power. They claim to be Kshatriyas belonging to Surya vamsa and Chandra vamsa. The Rajputs ruled in North India for about 500 years. It was a glorious period. These were the ones who

fought bravely against the military march and facing boldly the Arabs, Turks and the Mughals.

The Rajput character

In Indian history Rajputs have a distinctive place. They felt it was their bounden duty to protect the cows, orphans, weak and women. They defended those who sought protection. They sought inspiration from the songs composed over the heroic deeds of their ancestors.

The Rajput women were very brave. When women lost their husbands in war thinking that death would be better than living in disgrace, they would sacrifice themselves in mass. This pratice is called 'Johar'.

Art and Architecture

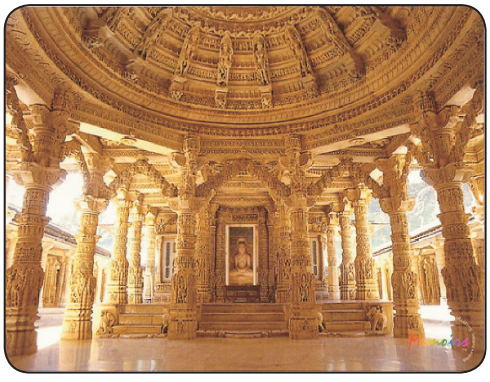
The contribution of the Rajput Age to architecture, literature and art are quite rich. Their beautiful temples, magnificent palaces and formidable forts can be seen even today. Following are some of the structures built by them.

Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh): The world famous Khandoraya Mahadeva temple is at Khajuraho. There were 85 temples here. Today 22 of them remains.

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Kandariya Mahadeva temple, Khajuraho



Dilwara temple, Mount Abu

• *Dilwara (Rajasthan):* The Marble temples at Dilwara on Mount Abu is world famous for its fascinating micro carvings.

• *Konarak (Odisha):* The magnificent Sun Temple at Konarak is one of the grandest and largest temples in India. It is shaped like the chariot of Sun God. The 24 wheels of the chariot are beautifully carved.

Bhubaneswar (Odisha): The Lingaraja temple at Bhubaneshwar is 1000 years old. The Shikhara(the topmost point of the Garbh Gruha) rises to a height of 180 feet.



Sun temple, Konarak



Lingaraj temple, Bhubaneswar

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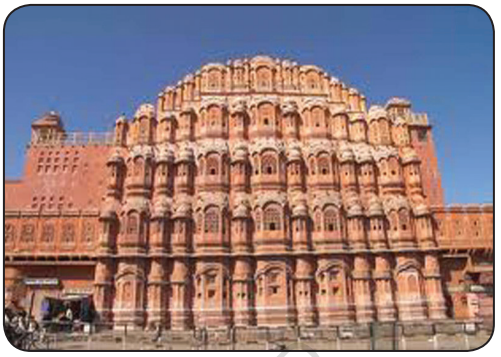
• *Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh):* The gigantic Gwalior fort has been called as the "The pearl among the Indian forts". Within the fort is a two-storeyed palace built by Raja Mansingh for his beloved queen Mriganayane. On the walls of rocks outside the Gwalior fort several huge statues have been carved among them the idol of Vrishabhanath (Adinath), the first Jain Tirthankara is the tallest.

• *Jaipur (Rajasthan):* Jaipur city is popularly known as the 'Pink City'. Because all the buildings of the city have been

painted pink. It is described as one of the beautiful cities of the world. The five-storeyed Hawa Mahal at Jaipur is an attractive structure.



Gwalior fort



Hawa Mahal, Jaipur

• *Udaipur (Raja- sthan):* The palace in the scenic city of Udaipur, India is the largest in Rajasthan.

• *Chikani Paintings:* Rajputs encouraged murals and chikani paintings (Chikani means miniature intricate drawings). The paintings were done on the walls of palaces, temples and forts, and also on the books as decoration by the artists.

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Udaipur Palace



Rajput miniature painting

Literature: Sanskrit literature flourished during the Rajput Age. Gujarati, Hindi and Rajasthani languages developed.

Chand Bardai's '*Prithviraj Raso*' is a famous Hindi work of the period. Many of the Rajput rulers were themselves scholars. They patronished poets. Jayadeva, who wrote *Gita Govinda*, was in the court of the Sena rulers. The Rajput dynasties supported Nalanda, Kashi, Vikramashila, Ujjayini and other ancient higher centres of learning.



Rajputs and contemporary kingdoms (975-1202 C.E.)

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Activity: *Collect more details about the ancient universities of India from the internet and prepare a report.*

Rajput Dynasties

Several Rajput dynasties played an important role in Indian history. Among them the

- Gurjara Pratihara,
- the Pala,
- the Chauhans and
- the Guhila's achievements have been depicted here.

The Gurjara Pratihara: The Gurjara Pratiharas were ruling from Avanti (Ujjaini) in Madhya Pradesh. The greatest ruler of the dynasty was *Nagabhata*. He is credited for having defended India from the Arab invasion. He built a vast empire.

King Bhoja was a great ruler of the dynasty and a writer. He captured Kanauj, the prestigious city of that time. He defeated the Palas of Bengal. The Arab traveller Sulaiman, who visited India during his time, calls him as "a noble king, the enemy of the Arabs, having an efficient cavalry".

The Palas: The Palas ruled for about four centuries. *Dharmapala* was the greatest ruler of the dynasty. His kingdom was one of the great kingdoms of the time in north India. His greatest achievement was the conquering of the famous city of Kannauj. The Pala dynasty was overthrown by Vijayasena, a ruler of Karnataka origin and established *Sena dynasty.*

The Palas were followers of Buddhism. They patronised Hindu Dharma. They showed special interest in the spread

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of education. The educational centres of Uddandapura, Vikramashila were established during their period.

The Chauhans: *Prithviraj III* was the well-known ruler among the Chauhans. Delhi was his capital city.

The fascinating story of Prithviraj Chauhan marrying Samyukta, the beautiful daughter of Jayachandra, the king of Kannauj, has been narrated in several literary works. Samyuktha was very beautiful. There was enmity between Jayachandra and his relative Prithviraj. Jayachandra did not invite Prithviraj for the swayamvara *of Samyukta. In order to insult Prithviraj, Jayachandra placed at the entrance of his palace a statue of the former to appear to be a palace guard.*

Samyuktha who was in love with Prithviraj, setting aside all the princes assembled for the swayamvara *to seek her hand, went to the palace gate and garlanded the statue of Prithviraj. Prithviraj, who was hiding all the time behind the statue, rushed Samyukta to his palace on his horse and married her. This episode, however, further embittered the relations between the two royal houses.*

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Prithviraj opposed the invasions of Muhammad Ghori. He united many Rajput kings. However Jayachandra of Kannauj refused to join him. Prithviraj defeated Muhammad Ghori in the battle but pardoned him. The next year Prithviraj was defeated in a war between them. During this hour of crisis Prithviraj tried to escape on his horse. However he was captured by the enemy soldiers. Muhammad Ghori got him killed. Delhi was captured by Muhammad Ghori. This marked the beginning of the reign of the Delhi Sultans.

Prithviraj was known for bravery and valour. Prithiraj's heroic deeds have been described in the Hindi poem called Prithviraj Raso by Chand Bardai.



Victory Pillar, Chittorgarh

The Guhilas: Among the Rajputs Guhilas (Guhilots) belong to a lineage of great warriors. *Khommana*, a ruler of the dynasty, defended his kingdom from the Arab military expedition and took the title of *Bappa Rawal*. *Rana Kumbha* a warrior of this dynasty fought against the Sultans of Delhi and defended his kingdom. He built 32 forts for the security of the kingdom. The magnificent victory tower (*Vijaya Sthambha*) at Chittorgarh was his creation.

Rana Sanga or Rana Sangrama Simha was another famous ruler of the Guhilas. A hero of a hundred battles. He had 80 scars of war on his body. He constantly fought against the sultans of Delhi.

Economic conditions:

• Since the Gupta period land was granted to those who served in the government. This practice gave rise to *zamindari* system. This system added difficulties to the farmers.

• Towns had craftsmen and traders and the *vaishyas* (merchants) were engaged in business and banking.

• Foreign trade flourished. Mostly the Arab traders traded with India. Spices, cotton and silk clothes, perfumes and diamonds were exported from India. Horses were imported from Central Asia and Arabia.

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• The income of the kingdom was mostly spent on building forts and temples. This provided employment to people.

Social conditions:

• During the period of Rajputs social classes in society were based on their professions.

• Women were held in high esteem in the society. Women were experts in literature, dance, music, painting and embroidery work.

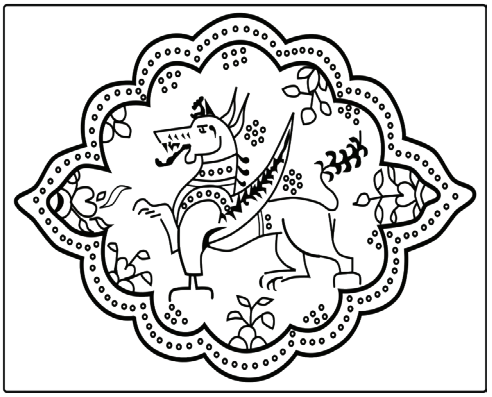
• Rajputs believed that taking bath in holy places was sacred. Pushkar, the centre of worship of Brahma near Ajmer, was an important place of pilgrimage. Every year a huge camel fair was held here and it is famous even now.

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Camel fair at Pushkar

AHOM DYNASTY



Emblem of Ahom Dynasty

Ahom rulers had ruled over the parts of modern Assam for 598 years. (1228-1826 C.E). The dynasty was started by Shan prince Sukapa. His ancestors crossed Patcoy mountains and settled in Assam. The king was called 'Aasam raja' and the citizens were called 'Kavopha'. The King was appointed only with the concurrence of Patra mantris (Council-Burhagohen, Borgohen, Borbarua, Borphukan and Borpatrogohen). The cabinet had the power of removing a king.

In its 600 years of rule, three important rulers Sukapha- the founder of Ahom Dynasty, Suhang Mung - the one who extended the empire, and Supatha - the one who strived for the overall development of the kingdom were identified. Lachit Borphukan became a famous Commander -in-Chief of the army.



Sukapha

The Queens of Ahom: Like the Ahom kings, even the queens took major part in the administration of the kingdom. The chief queen was called Boor kuvari and the other queens as Parvtiya kuvari, Rajdangiya kuvari and Tamuli kuvari. The queens were usually belonged to Ahom dynasty. After the demise of the king, the queens took up the responsibility of administration themselves. Coins were printed with the names of king and the queen on both the sides.

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Fight with the Mughals:

Historians have recognized the fact that the Ahom kingdom was the major obstacle to the Mughals for gaining control over the North East.

They invaded Ahom between 1615-1682 C.E. several times and captured few places. Later King Chakradwaja Singha along with his minister Borphukan defeated Mughuls and captured and took back the conquered places. As a result of the struggle Guwahati became a part of Ahom.

Naval Force of Ahoms:

Ahoms used to keep their naval force to the west of Bhramaputra river and drove the enemies away. They were experts in the naval warfare. They were outstanding in building the naval ships. They knew guerialla warfare. Therefore Mughal rulers could not defeat them easily.

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Chronology

Karkota Dynasty - 625 - 855 C.E

Rajputs - 650 -1200 C.E

Ahom Dynasty - 1228 - 1826 C.E

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with a suitable word:

1 The prominent ruler of Karkota Dynasty was _____.

2 The poet who composed Gita Govinda was _____.

3 Ahom Dynasty ruled over the parts of _____.

4 The Arab traveller who visited the court of King Bhoja, the prominent ruler of Gurjara Pratihara was _____.

II. Answer the following questions :

5 State the qualities of the Rajputs.

6 Name any three famous architectural structures of the Rajput Age. Where are they located?

7 Write a short note on Prithviraj Chauhan.

8 Who was Bappa Rawal?

9 Write a short note on Rana Sangram Singh.

10 Write a note on the social conditions during the Rajput Age.

Activities

1 Collect the photos of Rajput temples, palaces and forts and write a short note on each.

2 Mark the centres of Rajput architecture on the map.

3 List the names of writers and poets of the ancient Kashmir and their works.

4 Read the biography of Lachit Borphukan.

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Chapter 13 — Sultans of Delhi

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Introduction to the Chapter

During the 11th-12th centuries, the Turks repeatedly invaded Indian territories. These invasions finally culminated in the establishment of the rule of the Sultans of Delhi (1206-1526 C.E). This chapter briefly states the policies of the sultans, their administration, socio-economic conditions of the period and their contributions to architecture and literature.

Competencies

1 Understanding how the Turkish invasions during the 11th-12th centuries finally led to the establishment of the rule of the Delhi Sultans.

2 Understanding the impact of the rule of the Sultans on the economic, social and cultural life of the people.

3 Locating places associated with the Sultanate period, on the map.

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Beginning from the 8th century, there were repeated invasions on our country from across the north-western borders. These invasions aimed at looting the wealth, acquiring territories and spreading Islam.

The Arab invasion: The Arabs were the first to invade the Indian territories. Arab army conqured Sindh and Multan in 712 C.E. With this, the Islam started spreading roots in the newly conquered lands. But within a short period of time,conquest by Arabs declined.

The Turkish invasion - Arabs: About three centuries after the invasion of Arabs, Muhammad Ghazni of Turkish origin attacked India. Being the Sultan of Ghazni, a small kingdom in Afghanistan, he attacked India seventeen times. As a result,

several wealthy cities in India were destroyed. Religious centres were destroyed. These include Sri Krishna temple of Mathura and Somnath temple of Gujarat.



Muhammad Ghazni



Muhammad Ghori

After Independence, the destroyed Somnath temple was rebuilt on a grand scale (1951 C.E). It was inaugurated by the first President of India, Dr. Babu Rajendra Prasad.

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Somanath temple, Gujarat

Muhammad Ghori: During the latter part of the 12th century, Muhammad Ghori of Afghanistan invaded India and seized the provinces of Sindh and Punjab. When he made further advances, Prithviraj Chauhan, the king of Delhi,

defeated Ghori in the first battle of Tarain. However, the following year Ghori invaded, defeated and killed Prithviraj in the second battle of Tarain. Delhi came under the control of Muhammad Ghori.

Muhammad Ghori transferred the conquered territories to his general Qutb-ud-Din Aibak. Ever since Aibak started ruling as Sultan of Delhi.

The Slave Dynasty

Ghori transferred the conquered territories to his general Qutb-ud-Din Aibak. After the death of Ghori, Qutbuddin Aibak started ruling Delhi independently. Delhi was ruled by 5 dynasties namly Slave, Khilji, Tughlaq, Sayyid and Lodis.

Qutbuddin Aibak: Qutbuddin was a slave to Muhammad Ghori. Hence his dynasty was called 'Slave Dynasty'. He strengthened the Turkish rule in India by defeating his enemies.To mark his victory he started constructing Qutb Minar at Mehrauli near Delhi. Later, it was completed during the period of Sultan Iltumish. The only female ruler during the Sultanate period was Raziya Sultana. The daring Sultana,would give justice in the royal court. She dressed herself as a man and led army in the battlefield. Intolerant of a woman's rule, the nobles killed her.

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Qutbuddin Aibak



Raziya Sultana



Qutb Minar, Delhi

The Khilji Dynasty

After the Slave dynasty, the Khalji dynasty came to power. Alauddin Khalji was the strongest of all the sultans of Delhi. His rule was based on military power.



Alauddin Khalji

Policies: Alauddin introduced several reforms in administrative, military and economic fields. He regulated the price of commonly consumed goods. He banned consumption of liquor and gambling. The guilty were severely punished.

Military expeditions: Alauddin aspired to conquer the whole of India. In the first instance, he conquered north India by his military strength. To conquer south India, he sent *Malik Kafur*, a slave with a huge army. Malik Kafur invaded the four major kingdoms of south India and looted their capitals.

The kingdoms conquered by Malik Kafur were the Yadavas of Maharashtra (capital Devagiri), the Kakatiyas of Telangana (Warangal), the Hoysalas (Dwarasamudra) and the Pandyas of Tamil Nadu (Madurai).

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Alai Darwaza, Delhi

Malik Kafur, continuing his military march, proceeded upto Rameshwaram. He plundered many temples there. He looted a huge quantity of wealth. Never before had such a huge quantity of wealth of south India flowed to Delhi.

Alauddin patronised *Amir Khusrau*, *Amir Hasan* and other Persian poets. He built a new fort in Delhi known as *Siri. Alai Darwaza* in Delhi, a grand piece of architecture, was his contribution.

Alauddin's last days were tragic. There were several revolts in the palace. Finally, Malik Kafur, out of greed for power, killed Alauddin and declared himself, Sultan. But, he too was killed. Within a short period, the Khilji rule ended and the Tughlaqs came to power.

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The Tughlaq Dynasty



Muhammad bin Tughlaq

Muhammad bin Tughlaq was the most notable sultan of the Tughlaq dynasty. He was a scholar. But he was shrewd, hasty by nature, lacked practical knowledge and had a stange temperment.

Administrative experiments: To improve the functioning of the administration, Muhammad bin Tughlaq did several experiments. One such experiment was the transfer of his capital. It was Muhammad's belief that instead of making Delhi as the capital, Devagiri which was in central part of India would be the centre of an empire. He also thought that if the capital was in the central part of India, it would be easier to attack the Southern kingdoms. He renamed Devagiri, which was

700 miles from Delhi as Daulatabad. He passed strict orders that residents of Delhi should move there. But the migrating people experienced untold misery. Many people died on the way. Realizing that he had committed a great mistake, he ordered people to return back to Delhi. However, only a few people survived and returned to Delhi.

Another experimental reform of Muhammad was that in place of silver coins he issued token coins of copper with the *same* face value. But he failed to pass order that only the government had the authority to mint copper coins. Consequently, people themselves began to mint copper coins. The government could not meet the demand for silver coins in exchange for copper coins. Muhammad soon realized his folly and ordered that old coins should be used. This experiment proved a great failure and weakened the financial condition of the state.

Discontented by Muhammad's rule, people revolted. While he was suppressing the revolt in Sindh province, he died of fever.

After the Slave Khiljis and Tughlaq rule, the Sayyid and the Lodi dynasties ruled from Delhi for a short period. The last Lodi ruler Ibrahim was defeated in the battle of Panipat by Babur who laid the foundation of the Mughal empire.

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Contributions of the Delhi Sultans

- *Administration:* Although the Hindus formed the majority under the sultanate, the administration functioned on Turkish rules. The Military power formed the backbone of the state. The Sultans were despotic rulers. Balban, a notable sultan, declared that he was God's representative and hence was accountable to God alone. The sultans, however, had to face frequent revolts of the local rulers. Sultans were always fearful of losing power.

• *Economy:* The burden of land tax fell heavily on the peasants. Muhammad bin Tughlag further increased the land tax and collected it strictly. Consequently, peasants revolted.

Weaving was a major occupation of the people. The cities provided employment to a large number of workers on account of brisk construction work.

The sultans were mainly importing war horses.

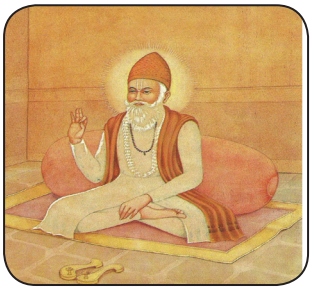
Alauddin Khalji even fixed the price for slaves. Slaves were sold in open markets. The number of slaves under the sultans was indeed shocking. While Alauddin Khalji had 50,000 slaves under him, Firuz Shah Tughlaq owned 1,80,000 slaves.

Architecture and literature: The main structures of the Delhi Sultans were the famous *Qutb Minar* (71 m tall), *Alai Darwaza*, an impressive entrance, *Quwwat-ul-Islam* mosque and the *fort of Siri*.



Amir Khusrau

During the sultanate period, the Urdu language evolved. *Amir Khusrau* and *Amir Hasan* were great Persian poets of the period. Khusrau was a great musician and designed musical instruments such as tabla, sitar and others. The poet Jayasi wrote *Padmavat*, a sufi poem in Urdu. Ramananda, Kabirdas, Raidas and Meerabai were devout saints of this period.



Kabirdas



Meerabai

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Chronology

Arab invasion on Sindh province	-	712 C.E
Mahmud Ghazni's invasions	-	1000-1026 C. E
Battles of Tarrain (Between Muhammad Ghori and Prithvi Raj Chouhan)	-	1191-1192 C.E
Rule of Delhi Sultans	-	1206-1526 C.E
Qutbuddin Aibak	-	1206-1210 C.E
Raziya Sultana	-	1236-1240 C.E
Alauddin Khalji	-	1296-1316 C.E
Muhammad bin Tughlaq	-	1325-1351 C.E
Battle of Panipat and beginning of the Mughal rule	-	1526 C.E

New Word : Minar - A long tower

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Exercises

I. *Fill in the blanks with suitable word:*

1 In the first battle of Tarrain, _____ was defeated by Prithivi Raj Chauhan.

2 Allaudin Khilji built a fort named _____in Delhi.

3 Ibrahim Lodi was defeated in the first battle of Panipat by _____

II. *Answer the following questions in a sentence :*

4 Against whom did Muhammad Ghori win the second battle of Tarrain ?

5 Who built Qutab Minar?

6 Who was the only woman who ruled during the Delhi Sultanate?

7 Who was the general of Allauddin Khilji who attacked South India?

8 From where to where did Muhammad bin Tughlaq shift the capital?

9 Who was the Sultan of Delhi who claimed to be the 'representative of God'?

III. Discuss in groups and answer

10 What were the results of Mahmud Ghazni's invasions?

11 State the achievements of Qutb-ud-Din Aibak.

12 State the policies of Alauddin Khalji and their results.

13 Why did the policies of Muhammad bin Tughlaq fail?

14 What were the social and economic conditions during the rule of the Sultans of Delhi?

15 What were the contributions of the Delhi Sultans to field of architecture and literature?

IV. *Match the contents in List A with List B and write.*

A	B
1. Jayasi	a) Alai-Darwaza
2. Daulatabad	b) Sitar
3. Alauddin Khilji	c) Padmavat
4. Amir Khusrau	d) Devagiri

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Activities

1 Collect the pictures with details of the monuments of the period of Delhi Sultans.

2 Locate historical places of the Sultans of Delhi on a map.

Chapter 14	VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE AND BAHAMANI KINGDOM

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VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE

Introduction to the Chapter

Due to the military campaigns of the Sultans of Delhi, the empires of south India, declined namely, the Seuna (Maharashtra), the Hoysala (Karnataka), the Kakatiya (Telengana) and the Pandya (Tamil Nadu). Without a strong political authority, the culture and social life crumbled. In such troubled times, the Vijayanagara empire emerged to protect the interests of South India and protected and nurtured Hinduism and culture. The empire flourished in great glory for three centuries (1336 -1646 C.E.)

This lesson describes the achievements of the major kings of Vijayanagar and the Battle of Rakkasa Tangadi (1565 C.E.) which led to the downfall of the empier and its effects. It also explains the contribution of the empire to art and literature.

The Bahmani kingdom was founded (1347 C.E.) shortly after the establishment of Vijayanagara empire (1336 C.E.). The river Krishna formed the common boundary for both these kingdoms – the Bahmani kingdom was in the north and the Vijayanagara empire in the south of the river. The fertile land between the Krishna in the north and the Tungabhadra in the south is the *Raichur doab*. The two kingdoms fought constantly to acquire the *doab*. Over a period of time, there arose internal conflicts for power among the sultans of the Bahmani kingdom and it broke down. The kingdom broke into five Shahi dynasties (1489 C.E.). Among them, the Adil Shahi of Vijayapur was prominent.

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In this lesson, the achievements of the Bahmani sultan Firuz Shah and his famous minister, Mahamud Gavan, have been described. In addition, the memorable contributions of the Bahmani dynasty and the Adil Shahis have been explained.

Competencies

1 Understanding the achievements of the Vijayanagara rulers.

2 Appreciating the greatness of the literary works, music, architecture and sculpture of that time, and lending a hand in protecting them.

3 Appreciating the significant work done by the Vijayanagara emperors towards preserving and nourishing Dharma and culture.

4 Locating on the map important places associated with Vijayanagar empire.

5 Understanding the contributions of Firuz Shah and Mahamud Gawan.

6 Appreciating the great contributions of the Bahmani and Bijapur sultans to literature, art and sculpture.

7 Locating on the map important historical places relating to the Bahmani kingdom.

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Varaha- The Emblem of Vijayanagara empire

Look at the map of the Vijayanagara empire. It is really vast, isn't it? It was one of the greatest empires in the world of that time.


THE VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE
DURING KRISHNADEVARAYA
[16th Century]
Ahmednagar
Chaul
Dhabol
Kalyana
Bidar
Warangal
Kalaburgi
Kondapalli
Vijayapur
Talikote
Thangadagi
Raichur
Rakkasagi
Belagavi
Goa
Vijayanagar
Ankola
Thadapathri
Keladi
Lepakshi
Shringeri
Tirupathi
Bengaluru
Mangaluru
Vellore
Srirangapattana
Pandicheri
Madurai
Arabian Sea
Bay of Bengal
Indian Ocean
SKETCH MAP NOT TO SCALE
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As a result of the military campaigns of the Sultans of Delhi many prosperous kingdoms of south India perished. The religious, economic and social lives of the people were declined. At this crucial juncture, the Vijayanagara empire was established and encouraged the Hindu Dharma and culture. It ruled for about three centuries and upheld the principle of *Sarva-dharma-samabhava*. Hampi of Vijayanagar district was the capital city of Vijayanagar empire. It was established in 1336 C.E. on the Southern bank of Tungabhadra river.

Harihara and Bukka

The sons of Sangama, led foundation for the empire on the southern bank of the river Tungabhadra.

*Harihara, Bukka, Kampana, Marappa and Muddappa were the Sangama brothers. The empire was ruled by kings of the Sangama, the Saluva, the Tuluva and the Aravidu dynasties. The boar (*varaha*) was the royal emblem of the Vijayanagara. The family deity was Lord Virupaksha.* The title of the kings was 'Hinduraya Suratrana.

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Harihara and Bukka were the first two kings of Vijayanagara. Harihara started building the new capital at Hampi.

During the reign of Harihara, the Bahmani kingdom was established. Since then, there were frequent wars between the Vijayanagara kings and the Bahmani sultans.

Proudhadevaraya (Devaraya II 1424-1446 C.E.)

The reign of Proudhadevaraya, the well-known king of the Sangama dynasty, was a very significant period. The fame of the empire spread far and wide. Internal peace and prosperity prevailed. Trade and commerce flourished.

Proudhadevaraya suppressed the revolts of the chieftains in the border areas. He fought against the sultans and expanded the empire. He recruited cavalry Muslims to his army. The Persian ambassador, *Abdul Razak*, has recorded thus: "There is no king like Devaraya in the whole of India". Further he stated that the 'king's army had lakhs of soldiers'.

Devaraya II was an able administrator, a brave warrior and a scholar. He got the beautiful temple of *Hazara Ramaswamy* built at Hampi. Religious tolerance was Devaraya's religious policy. He constructed a mosque in the capital. The Jaina and Vaishnava temples were also constructed during his reign. The Veerashaiva sect flourished. A rich literature flourished both in Kannada and Sanskrit.

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Saluva Dynasty (1485-1505 C.E.)

Saluva Narasimha, who came to power in 1485 C.E captured the capital from Virupaksha III the weak ruler of Sangam Dynasty and ruled for 6 years.

Tuluva Dynasty (1505-1567 C.E.)

As Salva Narasimha's sons were minor and were captured by Tuluva Narasanayak, the general. After his death in 1509 C.E. his brother Krishnadevaraya came to the power.



Bronze sculpture of Krishnadevaraya with his wives

Krishnadevaraya (1509-1529 C.E.)

Krishnadevaraya, a ruler of the Tuluva dynasty, was a majestic emperor and a valiant soldier. During his reign, the boundaries of the empire extended upto the river Krishna in the north and the sea coasts.

Achievements: Krishnadevaraya was a capable administrator. He spent a quarter of the revenue of the empire on charity and social welfare. Agriculture and commerce prospered in his time and commodities were inexpensive.

Krishnadevaraya was a scholar well-versed in both Sanskrit and Telugu. He composed dramas "*Amukta Malyada*" in Telugu and "*Jambavati Kalyana*" in Sanskrit. His title was "K*annada-rajya-ramaramana*".

Ramaraya

The Vijayanagara empire, which ruled gloriously for a long time, lost its power after the reign of Krishnadevaraya. But the empire recovered its glory under Ramaraya, he was the son-in-law of Krishnadevaraya. A mighty general and an able administrator.

Battle of Rakkasa-Tangadi

Causes: Mean while, the Bahmani kingdom became weak and split into five kingdoms. The sultans of these kingdoms sought Ramaraya's intervention in their internal conflicts. Ramaraya took advantage of the disunity among the sultans, and extended the borders of his empire upto the north of the river Krishna. This provoked the sultans to engage in battle with him. Moreover, the Shahi sultans were envious of the prosperity of Vijayanagara. The sultans, forgot their political differences and united. The Alliances of Sultans declared war on Vijayanagar. The resultant war was called the *Battle of Rakkasa-Tangadi.* It was the most destructive battle in the history of south India. The battle field was between the villages of Rakkasagi and Tangadagi on the banks of river Krishna.

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Though he was eighty years of age, Ramaraya led the army and faced his enemies with courage. In the first round, the Vijayanagara won. But later, a sudden volley of cannons from the opposite side scattered the Vijayanagara forces. Besides, the two commanders betrayed Ramaraya and joined the enemy forces along with their troops. Ramaraya was killed. Vijayanagara soldiers ran away from the battlefield.

Ramaraya's younger brother, Tirumala, rushed to the capital and, with the immense royal wealth loaded on elephants, escaped to Penugonda in Andhra Pradesh. Without protectors the capital fell into the hands of the enemies. The sultans' armies plundered the wealth of Vijayanagara. Later, the Aravidu dynasty ruled from Penugonda, Chandragiri and Vellore as their capital respectively upto 1646 C.E.

Consequences: Many important political changes took place in south India after the decline of the Vijayanagara empire. The northern areas of the empire became a part of Vijayapura and Golkonda kingdoms. In Karnataka, the Chieftains of Keladi, Mysore and Chitradurga became independent.

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The glory of the capital city as seen by the foreign travellers

Many foreign travellers who visited Hampi the capital city of Vijayanagar have been enchanted by its magnificence and economic prosperity and have praised it heartily.

- The Portuguese traveller, *Domingo Paes*, has this to write about the capital: "There cannot be another city like this on earth which has such an abundance of all kinds of commodities." He has recorded that varieties of pearls, diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires and expensive cloth used to be easily available there.

- The Persian (Iran) ambassador, *Abdul Razak*, who had visited the capital, was full of praise for the noble nature of Devaraya. About Vijayanagara, he exclaimed: "The eyes have not seen nor the ears heard about another glorious city like Vijayanagara on earth."

Society, Economy and Culture

Society: In the *Grama Sabha*, representation was given to members of all castes. In towns, the Muslim organization called *Hanjaman* (Hanjaman is a merchant group of medieval Karnataka) existed whose representatives were given a place among the elite of the city.

Women were employed for writing accounts of the women's quarters of the palace, keeping watch, serving the king and the queen, and so on. There used to be female wrestlers who gave public performances. The popular *Navaratri festival* was celebrated with great pomp in the *Mahanavami dibba* (hillock) of the capital.

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Economy: Agriculture was the main occupation of the people. Vijayanagara was a centre for international trade. Merchants from various parts of the world used to come there. Foreign travellers have described that pearls and diamonds used to be sold in heaps in shop. Goods used to be exported and imported from many harbours along the east and west coasts of the empire.

Religion: All religions received charities from the empire. The rulers had granted freedom to the people to practise their religion without any hindrance. Mosques were built for the Vijayanagara Muslims. They were also recruited into the army. The Vijayanagara emperors had flourishing trade relations with the Portuguese also encouraged Christianity.

Literature: Sanskrit, Kannada and Telugu literature flourished during the Vijayanagara period. The great Kannada poets, *Kumaravyasa, Chamarasa* and *Ratnakara Varni*, were of this period. The Vijayanagara period was a 'Golden Era' of Telugu literature.

Kumaravyasa (Naranappa) was a poet of strong sentiments. He wrote 'Karnata Bharata Katha Manjari'. Chamarasa's 'Prabhulingaleele' *is the biography of Allamaprabhu. It is a remarkable work. Ratnakaravarni's* 'Bharatesha Vaibhava' *is a work written in an attractive style.*

Music: The Vijayanagara emperors patronised dance, painting and music. The name *Carnatic music* became popular from that time. The Saints of the period used music to preach the path of Bhakti. This path came to be called the *Dasa Pantha.* Among the D*asas Purandaradasa* and *Kanakadasa* were prominent.

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Purandaradasa, who composed lakhs of songs, is known as the 'Father of Carnatic Music'. Kanakadasa came from an ordinary background. 'Mohana Tarangini', 'Ramadhanya Charitre', 'Nalacharitre' *and* 'Haribhaktisara' *are his important works.*

Activity: *Collect information about the Haridasas who propagated Bhakti Pantha in Karnataka and prepare an essay of about a page.*

Sculpture: During the Vijayanagara period, granite was used in the construction of buildings. Tall towers (*Raya-Gopuras)* and beautiful marriage halls (*kalyana mantapas)* were built for all the existing temples in south India. Construction of hundreds of such structures provided employment to thousands of people.

Hampi : There are many beautiful temples in Hampi like the *Hazara Ramaswami temple*, *Vijaya Vittalaswami temple*, *Krishnaswami temple* and *the Achyutaraya temple etc.* When the short pillars of Vittalaswami temple are tapped the seven notes of music will be released.



Hazara Ramaswamy temple, Hampi

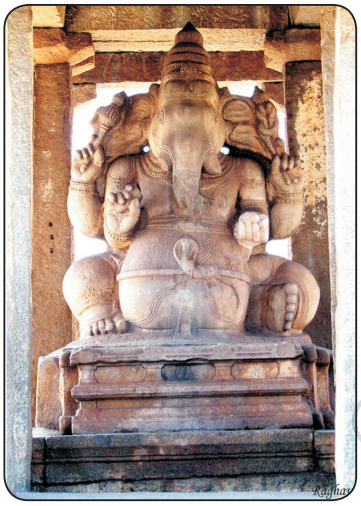
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• The *Vidyashankara temple* of Sringeri, the *Thousand-pillared temple* of Ramaswamy and the *Thousand-pillared basadi* of Mudabidri (*Tribhuvana Tilaka Chudamani*) belong to the Vijayanagara period.



Vidyashankara temple, Sringeri

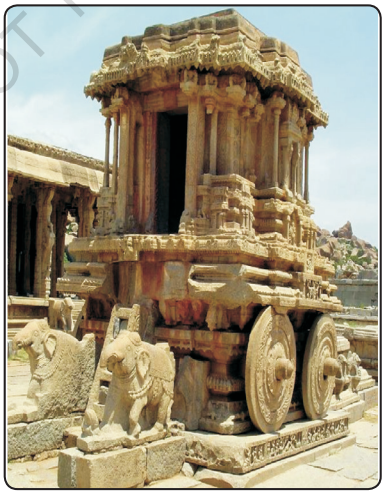
• *Monolithic sculpture* **:** It was in this period that the style of sculpting huge monolithic idols came into practice. The monolithic idols in Hampi are – *Sasivekalu Ganesha, Kadalekalu Ganesha* and *Lakshminarasimha*. The monolithic chariot in front of Vittalaswami temple is immensely beautiful. It is the temple of Garuda. The monolithic statues of Bahubali in Karkala and Venur are a testimony to the exquisite skill of the sculptors.



Sasivekalu Ganesha, Hampi



Lakshminarasimha, Hampi



Stone chariot, Hampi

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BAHAMANI KINGDOM



Fort, Bidar

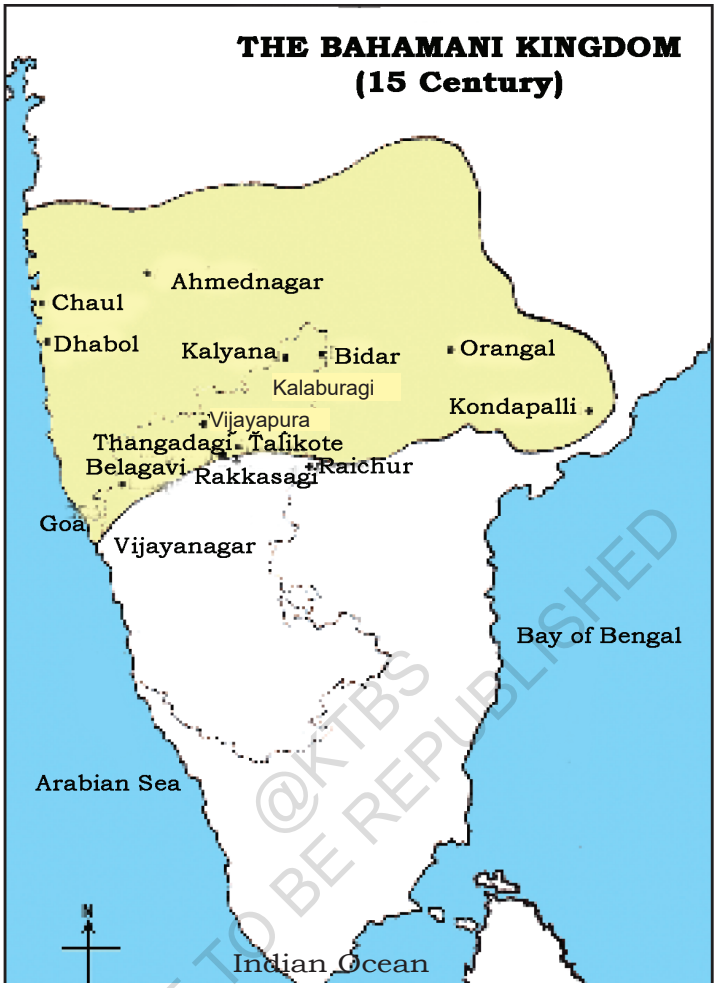
The Bahamani empire, a contemporary of the Vijayanagar empire, established in 1347 C.E. The river Krishna formed its boundary in the South. Initially Kalburgi and later Bidar became their capital. Its founder is Allauddin Hasan Gangu Bahamanshah.

The city of Bidar is a historical place situated in the northern-most part of Karnataka. It flourished as the capital of the Bahmani Sultans for about a century look at the magnificent fort of Bidar given in the picture.

Look at the map of the Bahmani kingdom. It comprised parts of modern Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

The Bahmani kingdom and the Vijayanagara empire were neighbours, and they often engaged in battles with each other.

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Firoz Shah

Firoz Shah was the greatest emperor of the Bahmani Dynasty. He was just, generous and pious.

Firoz Shah was a writer and a polyglot was also an expert in geometry and religious texts. He established an astronomical observatory at Daulatabad(Maharashtra). He enhanced the beauty of the capital, Kalburgi, also built a new city called Ferozabad on the banks of the river Bhima. He gifted a number of villages to the sufi saint Bandenawaz

who had visited him. He developed especially harbours. This gave impetus to foreign trade.

Mahamud Gawan

In the history of Bhamani empire Mahamud Gawan has achieved greater fame than the Bhamani Sultans. Coming from a persian background he has served selflessly as the prime ministers of Mahamud III.

Achievements

- Being an expert in warfare, Gawan expanded the kingdom by his successful conquests.
- He provided a good administration which was based on Muslim law.
- He improved the tax collection and made postal system more efficient.
- He fixed the land revenue, based on the fertility of the soil and irrigation facilities.
- He abolished taxes which proved harsh.
- Being a scholar himself, Mahamud Gawan established a *Madrasa* (college) at Bidar. It encouraged study of the Islamic faith and law.
- Study of astronomy, mathematics, history etc. was also carried on here.
- The students were given free education and hostel facilities.
- There were around 3000 manuscripts in the *Madrasa* library.

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In short, Mahamud Gawan contributed much for the growth and progress of the Bahmani kingdom. In spite of this, the chieftains of the kingdom were envious of his achievements. They hatched a plot against him and got him executed. On his grave are engraved the words: *Innocent Gawan was murdered.*

After Gawan's death, there was internal conflicts for power. As a result the kingdom was divided into five new kingdoms.

These five kingdoms were:

- Adil Shahi of Bijapur;
- Barid Shahi of Bidar;
- Kutb Shahi of Golkonda;
- Nizam Shahi of Ahmadnagar; and
- Immad Shahi of Berar.

Among these, the first two had capitals in Karnataka.

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Society

The administration was carried on according to the Islamic law. The Sultan was not only the head of administration but also the chief justice, the chief of the army and religious head. He was regarded as the representative of God on earth.

Muslims were being appointed to most of the top positions in the administration. The officials were given *jahagirs* (gifts of land). But Hindu *jahagirdars* were small in number.

As per the traditional Hindu custom, the Sultans used to collect one-sixth of the produce of the land as tax. Rice, wheat, maize and pulses formed the staple food.

The members of the royal family and the chieftains led a luxurious life. The conditions of the common people were not good. There were Jain and Christian communities in the kingdom. The Sufi Sect was very powerful.

Cultural contributions of the Bahmanis

Literature: The Bahmani Sultans patronized scholars from foreign countries. As a result, Arabic and Persian literature flourished. Bandenawaz, a famous Sufi Saint and writer, belonged to this period. The language used by foreign scholars came to be known as *Dakhani*. Later, this language led to the development of Urdu.



The Madarasa of Gawan, Bidar

Architecture: Bahmani history is noted for its architectural contribution. Their buildings in Kalaburagi, Bidar and other places combined both Indo - Islamic styles. This style was known as *Dakhani style*. Their first structure was the *Jami Masjid* of Kalaburagi. It was constructed by Mahamud Shah. Its auditorium, with several small minarets is very attractive. There are tombs of the Sultans near Kalaburagi. They are structure of huge domes. The *tomb of Bandenawaz* is another important structure. The Solahkhamb mosque and the beautiful palaces in the fort of Bidar are famous. These buildings have decorative sculptures and delicate wooden carvings. The twelve tombs in Ashtur near Bidar are very impressive. The most important structure of the Bahmani period is the *madrasa* built by Gawan. It is 76 m. (250 ft.) long and has three storeys. The mosque inside the *madarasa* is in good shape even today. The structure of Madarasa proclaims the past glory of more than five centuries.

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THE ADIL SHAHIS OF VIJAYAPURA

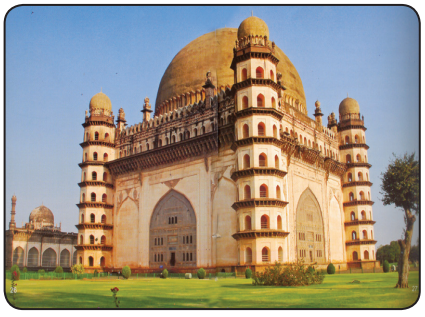
Among the Shahis, the Adil Shahi of Vijayapura is prominent. The Adil Shahis ruled in Karnataka for about two centuries.

Ibrahim II: Ibrahim II was an eminent ruler of Vijayapura. The kingdom not only expanded during his time, it also prospered immensely. Trade and commerce flourished. Being a tolerant ruler, Ibrahim extended his patronage to many Hindu scholars, poets and musicians. He got the Datta temple in his palace fort renovated and made arrangements for regular worship there. He worked towards Hindu-Muslim cultural unity. He wrote a book in Urdu named *Kitab-i-Navras* and attempted to popularize Hindu music among Muslims. The book begins with songs in praise of Hindu gods like Saraswati, Ganapati and Bhairava. He himself was an excellent musician. *Ibrahim Roza,* a magnificent building, was his contribution.



Ibrahim Roza, Vijayapura

Ibrahim's successor Mahamud Adil Shah got the splendid structure of *Gol Gumbaz* constructed at Vijayapura. *Asar Mahal* is another structure built by him.



Gol Gumbaz, Vijayapura

After Mahamud Adil Shah the Vijayapura kingdom declined. The invasions of the Mughals in south India and the harassment given by the Marathas to the Vijayapura kingdom were the causes for this. When Aurangzeb captured Vijayapura, the Adil Shahi rule came to an end.

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Architecture

The Adil Shahi structures occupy an important place in the architectural history of Karnataka. There structures are palaces, forts, mosques and tombs.

• The *Vijayapura fort* is a massive structure with 96 bastions (towers) and six main entrances. Among the palaces, *Gaganmahal* is magnificent. There are rooms with colourful paintings in *Asar Mahal*.

• The *Juma Masjid* in Vijayapura is attractive.

• Mausoleums are the most impressive among the Adil Shahi structures. Among the twin structures of Ibrahim Roza, one building is a mosque and the other one is a tomb. Ibrahim Roza has been described as the *Taj Mahal of the Deccan*. Mohamud wanted to build a structure bigger than the Roza and so he constructed Gol Gumbaz around a tomb. At the centre of the structure is a huge dome. Inside the dome is the 'whispering gallery'. Architectural experts have been astonished at the ability of the dome to repeat the 'whispers'. The Gol Gumbaz is the fourth largest structure in the world and the largest in India. It is one of the architectural wonders of the world.

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Chronology

Vijayanagara

Establishment of the Vijayanagara Empire - 1336 C.E.

Period of rule of the empire - 1336-1646 C.E.

Krishnadevaraya's reign - 1509–1529 C.E.

The Battle of Rakkasa-Tangadi - 23 January, 1565 C.E.

Bahamani

The reign Bahmani kingdom	- 1347–1489 C.E.
Construction of the *madrasa in Bidar*	- 1461 C.E.
The period of reign of the Adil Shahis	- 1489–1686 C.E.
Construction of Ibrahim Roza	- 1626 C.E.
Construction of Gol Gumbaz	- around 1650 C.E.

New words

Fakir **-** Muslim saint.

bastion **-** the structures or towers for soldiers to stand and keep watch on a fort.

Parsi **-** language of Persia.

Dakhan **-** an area in south India (Deccan).

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Exercises

I Fill in the blanks with suitable words:

1 The emblen of Vijayanagar empire _____.

2 Founder of Bhamani kingdom _____.

3 Father of carnatic music is _____.

4 Gol Gumbaz is located in _____.

Discuss in groups and answer

5 Who was the greatest among the Adil Shahi rulers?

6 Why is Gol Gumbaz famous?

7 Who was the greatest emperor of Vijayanagara?

8 Which are the important temples of Hampi?

9 What is the name of Kumaravyasa's work?

10 Name the works of Krishnadevaraya.

11 Name the foreigners who visited Vijayanagara.

Activities

- Collect photographs of the Bahmani Shahi and the Adil Shahi architecture, with explanation and create an album.
- Prepare an album of pictures of the temples, churches and mosques and other monument in India which represent the remains of Hindu, Christian and Muslim cultures.
- Collect few songs of Purandaradasa and Kanakadasa and collect few songs from Gadugina Bharata and sing in group.
- Collect information about Haridasas of Bhakthi Movement in Karnakata and write an essay about a page.
- Collect pictures and information of important monuments of the Vijayanagara period.
- Go on an educational trip to Hampi, and write an essay about your experiences.

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Chapter 15 The Mughals and The Marathas



Introduction to the Chapter

Babur invaded India in 1526 C.E and established the Mughal Empire by overthrowing the Delhi Sultanate. In this chapter introduces the reign of Akbar and Aurangazeb. Along with this the administration and cultural contributions of the Mughals are described. At the end the factors that led to the downfall of the empire are mentioned. Overall, this is a history of rise and fall of the Mughal Empire which flourished as an important political power for two centuries and made special contribution to Art and literature.

There is a narration of Shivaji's childhood, ideals, heroic story of defeating Mughal Empire and Vijayanagar kingdom, establishment of Maratha kingdom, administrative system and his extraordinary personality.

Competencies

1 Understanding Akbar's liberal policies and achievements.

2 Understanding how Aurangzeb's narrow-minded policies led to riots in the country and ultimately to the decline of the Mughal Empire.

3 Appreciating how the Mughal emperors enriched the fields of literature and art.

4 Locate on the map historical places relating to the Mughal era.

5 Understanding the life, adventures, character and achievements of Shivaji.

6 Locate on the map places associated with Shivaji.

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Can you identify this monument?



Taj Mahal, Agra

This is the world-famous Taj Mahal. This architectural wonder in marble is a great contribution of the Mughals.

The founder of the Mughal dynasty was *Babur*. Earlier he was ruling a small region in Afghanistan called Kabul. He was waiting for an opportunity to attack India which was rich and prosperous.

Babur belonged to the Mongol race. The word 'Mughal' comes from 'Mongol'. Babar introduced Rose to India.

Taking advantage of the growing weakness of the Delhi sultans, Babur invaded Delhi and ended their reign, but he was not satisfied because the Rajputs and the Afghans resisted him strongly. Babur, the brave warrior with his powerful weapons, forced the opposing armies to retreat.

Soon Babur conquered Delhi, Agra and the surrounding areas within three wars and established his kingdom. But he died soon. Later his son, *Humayun*, ascended the throne.

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Humayun: Though Humayun managed to overpower his enemies in the beginning, he had to face defeat at the hands of the Afghan chieftain, *Sher Shah Suri*. Having lost his kingdom, he fled to Persia and stayed there for fifteen years. When the Afghan rule in India weakened, Humayun invaded India and conquered Delhi. However, he died within a short period.

Akbar

Humanyun's son Akbar always aspired to build a vast empire in India. In this regard, he tried to persuade the Rajput kings who were known for their might. Some of them sided with Akbar. But Rana Pratap Simha of Mewad did not yield to Akbar. He was a proud and brave warrior. Later a fierce battle took place between them at Haldighat (Rajasthan). Although Rana Pratap Simha was defeated in the battle, he fought bravely till the end.



Akbar

A huge bronze statue of Rana Pratap Simha riding on his favorite horse named Chetak, and fighting in the battlefield, was erected at Haldighat after country's Independence. An ardent patriot, Rana Pratap has become the apple of the eyes of the Indians.



Rana Pratap Simha

Thereafter, Akbar engaged himself actively in military campaigns for many years. As a result, he conquered Gujarat, Bengal, Kashmir, Kabul and other areas, and built a vast empire.

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Akbar's achievements

Administration: Akbar was an able administrator and a broad-minded ruler. He possessed many of the qualities needed for a great king. He was not a despotic ruler. He realized that it was necessary to win the trust of his Hindu subjects who formed the majority. He appointed Hindus to high posts in his court. He withdrew the personal tax called *jasiya* (Jiziya) which was imposed by the earlier Muslim kings on Hindus, and also the tax levied at pilgrimage centres. Akbar banned the slaughter of cows and sati practice. He also opposed child marriage. Akbar's land revenue policy was well received by the people. The land revenue policy was framed by his revenue minister, *Raja Todarmal*.

Religious policy: Akbar was tolerant to other religions. He constructed a prayer hall (*Ibadat Khana*) in his new capital, Fatehpur Sikri. Here he discussed religious matters with leaders of various Islamic sects. He invited Hindu, Jaina, Buddhist, Parsi and Christian religious leaders to discuss their views on religious issues. As a result of such discussions, he evolved a new sect called the *Din-e-Ilahi*. It incorporated best principles of all religions. But only a handful of people became its followers.

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Activity: *Din - e- Ilahi did not take off and become popular as a religion. Organise a symposium and collect reasons for its failure.*

Patronage to arts: Akbar patronised literature and art. *Faizi, Abul Fazl* and *Birbal* were the distinguished poets in his court. The immortal singer, *Tansen*, adorned his court. Akbar's contributions to architecture and painting are also appreciable.



Jahangir and *Shah Jahan,* who succeeded Akbar to the throne, continued his policies to a great extent. Shah Jahan achieved fame by building the famous *Taj Mahal* at Agra, the mammoth *Red Fort* at Delhi and other beautiful palaces.

Aurangzeb

Shah Jahan's son, Aurangzeb, is the last Mughal emperor. He ruled for a long period of fifty years. During this period, the empire expanded further, but at the end it declined rapidly.

Religious policy: Aurangzeb was an orthodox Muslim. He stayed away from drinking wine, gambling, entertainment and music.

Aurangzeb gave up the liberal policy of Akbar. He reimposed the *jiziya*. He banned Hindu religious fairs, religious teaching and celebrations. He ordered to destroy many temples. These actions led to political conflits.

The Sikh rebellion*: The Sikhs, the Marathas and Jats were provoked by Aurangzeb's religious policiy. The Sikh Guru, Tegh Bahadur, was publicly executed in Delhi. His son Guru Govindasimha initiated the whole Sikh community into a militant sect. The members were designated as Singh (lion). They had to possess the five k's at all times. These were: Kesh: (long hair); Kanga: (comb); Kirpan: (sword); Kachcha: (a pair of knicker-bockers); and Kankan: (steel bracelet). This custom is prevalent among Sikhs even today.*

Rebellions: The Sikhs and the Rajputs strongly opposed Aurangzeb in north India. Shivaji rose in revolt in the Deccan. The revolts continued for a long time and as a result Aurangzeb lost enormous wealth, a large part of his army and worst of all, his prestige. Many provinces of his empire became independent. The Deccan wars sapped Aurangzeb's economic power as well as military strength. Being exhausted, he died in the Deccan. With this, the supremacy of Mughals declined drastically.

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Guru Govindasimha



Golden temple, Amritsar

The Mughal Administration

The emperor possessed all civil and military powers. His judicial decision was final in all matters.

The empire was divided into provinces (*subas*), districts (*sarkars*) and taluks (*paraganas*). The *kotwal* looked after law and order in the cities.

Revenue system: Akbar's minister, Raja Todarmal, framed the land revenue system. Under the system, the land revenue was fixed on the basis of the fertility of the soil.

Cultural Contributions

Literature: The Mughals patronized Persian literature in a special way. There were famous historians like Abul Fazl, Nizamuddin and Badauni in Akbar's court. *Akbar-nama* is an important literary work of Abul Fazl. Darashukoh, the Mughal prince, was an extraordinary scholar. He translated the *Bhagavadgita.* Though Hindi literature did not receive royal patronage, it flourished on account of the efforts of the Bhakti saints. *Ramacharitamanas***,** the well-known work of Tulsidas, is of this period.

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Architecture: *Humanyun's tomb* in Delhi was constructed during the early period of Akbar's reign. He built a new capital *Fatehpur Sikri (near Agra)*. The magnificent palaces, mosques and pavilions of this place attract tourists from all over the world. The entrance to the Jami Masjid (*Bulund Darwaza*) is the tallest in India. It is 40 m. tall.



Humayun's tomb, Delhi

Moti Mahal, the palace that Shah Jahan built in Agra fort, is magnificient. The *Taj Mahal* he built at Agra shows Mughal architecture at its best which was built in the memory of his beloved queen, *Mumtaz Mahal*. Shah Jahan also built the famous Red Fort at Delhi.

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Fort, Agra



Red fort, Delhi

Painting: A new school of painting known as 'Chikani painting' emerged during the period of the Mughals. There were more than a hundred painters in Akbar's court. The art of painting reached its peak under the patronage of Jahangir. Aurangzeb, who was orthodox did not encourage painting.

Music: The art of Music received special patronage during Akbar's reign. The large number of musicians in his court were

divided into seven groups. Each day a particular group gave a music concert. Tansen was the most remarkable musician of Akbar's court. Jahangir and Shah Jahan also extended patronage to music. But Aurangzeb banned music. However, music did not decline from the hearts of people.

The Decline of the Mughal empire

The empire began to decline towards the end of Aurangzeb's reign. These are the reasons for the decline:

- The chieftains became corrupt.
- Intense fighting took place among the claimants to the throne.
- The provincial governors took advantage of this situation and declared their independence.
- Above all, Aurangzeb's desire to convert India into an Islamic state met with opposition everywhere.
- The prolonged warfare with the Sikhs, the Rajputs and the Marathas fully exhausted the resources of the empire.
- In the meanwhile, *Nadir Shah*, a Persian invader, raided Delhi. He looted the wealth amassed by the Mughals over a period of two centuries. He carried away the world-famous *Kohinoor Diamond* and the *Peacock Throne* of Shah Jahan. The treasury of the Mughals became empty.

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The Marathas

Chhatrapati Shivaji

During the Mughal era in Northern India, the Marathas rose to power in Deccan Region in opposition to the Mughals. Shivaji was the founder of the Maratha dynasty.



Chhatrapati Shivaji

Shivaji's childhood

Shivaji was born in the fort of Shivner near Pune. His father was Shahaji Bhosle. He was serving in a high position under the Sultan of Vijayapura (Bijapur) so mother Jijabhai shaped his future. She infused his mind with the ideals of protection of Dharma and patriotism by narrating the gallant heroes from the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the Puranas and kavyas. Shivaji's master Dadaji Kondadev and Tanaji Malasure taught him the art of weaponry and awakened the mind of this young hero. Initially Shivaji assembled an army composed of young men including Maratha leaders and the strong tribal men of the Western Ghats called the Mahali.

Early adventures of Shivaji: At the age of 19, Shivaji captured the fort of Torana which was under the Adil Shahis of Vijayapura. Soon he conquered one by one Raigad, Simhagad, Pratapgad and other forts. Enraged by this, the Vijayapura sultan sent a large army under his commander *Afzal Khan* in order to crush Shivaji. Afzal Khan invited Shivaji to negotiate the terms of treaty and plotted to kill him. But Shivaji got an upper hand on Afzal Khan and killed him.

Shivaji and Afzal Khan met while they were embracing. Afzal Khan tried to stab Shivaji on his back with his dagger. Before that Shvaji slashed his body with tiger claws (Vyaghranakha) and killed him.

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Defeat of the Mughal commander: Aurangazeb came to know Shivaji's growth strengthened day by day. Aurangazeb sent Shayista Khan, his officer in Deccan region to suppress Shivaji. But Shivaji defeated Shayista Khan trickily.



Tiger Claws

Shayista Khan emcamped in the palace of Pune. Even after two years he was unable to capture Shivaji. Shivaji disguised himself, entered Khan's residence with his soldiers at dark night and attacked him suddenly. Khan somehow escaped the attack but lost his thumb. Shayista Khan fled to Pune in terror.

Raja Jay Singh sent to the Deccan: A year after, Shivaji besieged the rich city of Surat which was under the Mughals and captured huge wealth. Angered and determined, Aurangazeb sent Raja Jayasimha a powerful soldier to somehow defeat Shivaji. A war broke out between them; Shivaji was defeated and had to surrender many forts to the Mughals. Shivaji was brought to Delhi to conclude a treaty. Aurangazeb arrested and kept him in Agra prison. But Shivaji managed to escape from captivity and returned to his capital.

During the next two years, Shivaji strengthened his position further. He recovered the forts surrendered to the Mughals and besieged Surat and amassed huge wealth.

Coronation of Shivaji: Within a short span, Shivaji crowned himself as king at Raigad with great pomp and splendour. He assumed the title *Chhatrapati*. He called his kingdom *Hindavi Swaraj*. Later he conquered Jinji, Vellore and parts of Mysuru kingdom. He collected enormous wealth from these vast territories. But Shivaji did not live long to see the glory of the Maratha.

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Shivaji's administrative system

For the smooth functioning of the administration, Shivaji was assisted by a team of eight ministers known as *Ashtapradhans*. The prime minister was called the *Peshwa*.

Revenue administration: The government gave loans to the farmers to purchase seeds for sowing and cattle. Irrigational facilities were provided to the agricultural lands. The state collected one-third of the produce as land revenue.

Military administration: Shivaji paid special attention to the military administration. His army composed of infantry, cavalry, navy and artillery. Shivaji's army was known for its discipline. The citizens and animals were not allowed to loot.

Forts: Shivaji employed guerilla method of warfare. The forts were the excellent places of shelter for the guerillas. Out of 240 forts under his command, 111 forts were built by him.



Fort of Shivaji, Raigad

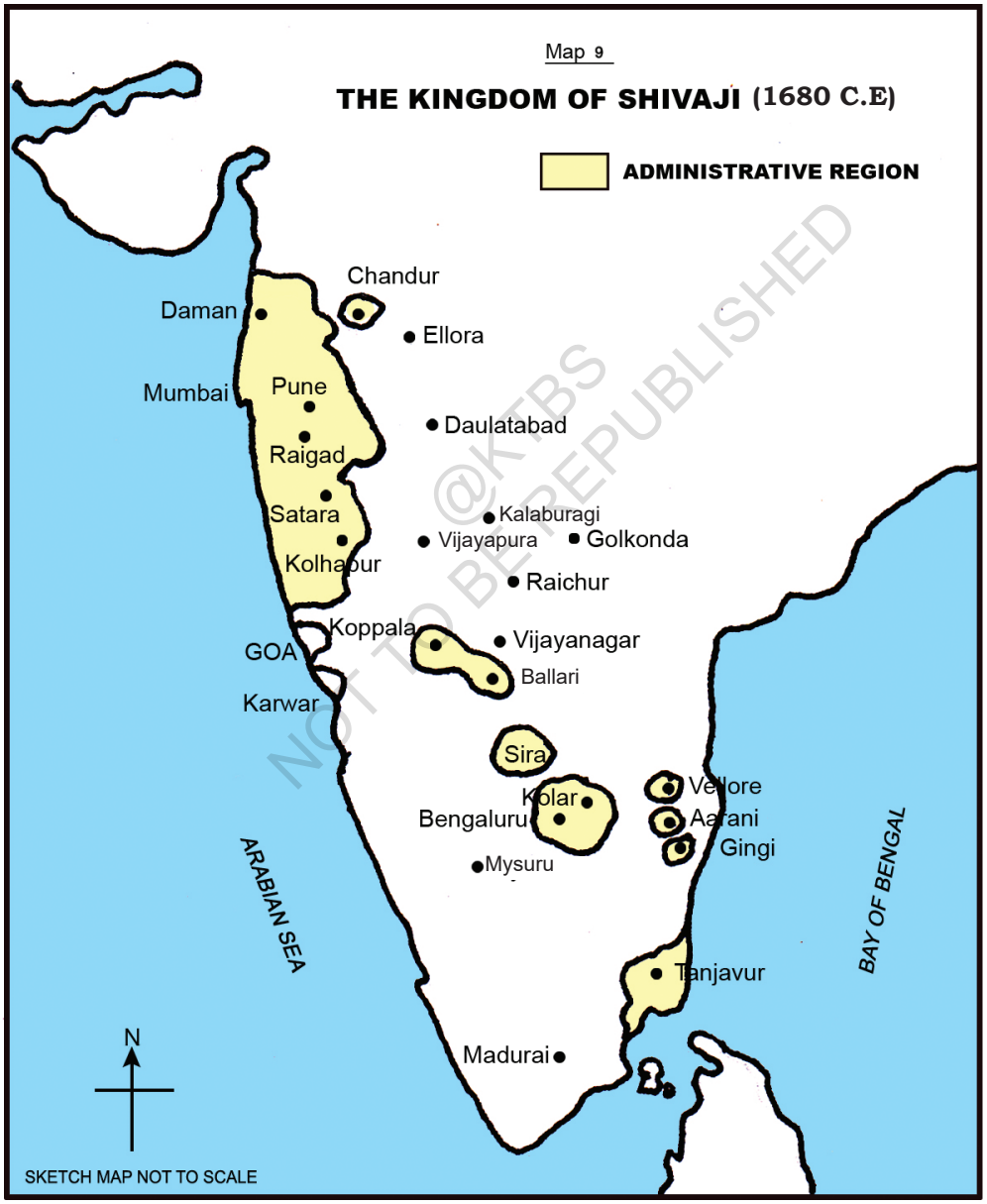
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• Guerilla warfare means a small group of soldiers fighting against regular army by means of surprise attacks. Women captured in the war had to be handed over to their guardians. During the course of the war, the soldiers were not to attack mosques. Copy of the Holy Quran when found was required to be respectfully returned to the concerned.

Shivaji's personality and achievements

- Shivaji's life was marked by a high standard of morality. His religious tolerance was worthy of being imitated.

- Shivaji was a great leader even from his childhood. He fought force with force and deceit with deceit and he had the acuman to deal with fraud.
- Shivaji's military system was remarkable. His guerilla warfare was a proof of his expertise in warfare. In brief, Shivaji was an ideal ruler.



Shivaji's guru Samartha Ramdas once begged for alms from him. Shivaji, without a second thought, offered the kingdom to the guru. Ramdas, after accepting the offer and then returning it and blessed Shivaji and said, "Rule the kingdom on my behalf". With the motivation of saint Ramdas about 1200 gymnasiums had been established in Maharashtra.

Chronology

Babur - 1526–1530 C.E

Akbar - 1556–1605 C.E

Aurangzeb - 1659–1707 C.E

Shivaji - 1627-1680 C.E

New words

statue - idol

kotwal - the person who guards the fort

jiziya - the tax that the Muslim kings levied on every Hindu

Sardar - The main officer

Haindavi Swaraj - Hindu Swaraj

Chhatrapati - emperor

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Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

1 A famous Raja of Mewad who opposed Akbar was _____.

2 Fatehpur Sikri was built by the Emperor _____ .

3 Ramacharitamanas was written by _____.

4 Shivaji was born in _____ .

5 Shah Jahan's son was _____ .

II. Answer the following questions:

6 What were the cultural contributions of the Mughal period?

7 Explain the administration of Akbar.

8 Mention one of the causes for the decline of the Mughal empire.

9 How did Mother Jija Bai mould the future of Shivaji?

10 Why did the Bijapur sultan oppose Shivaji?

11 Who was Shayista Khan? What was the result of his conflict with Shivaji?

12 Where was the coronation of Shivaji held? What was the title he assumed on the occasion?

13 What are the qualities you appreciate in Shivaji? Why?

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Activities

1 Collect pictures of the Mughal architecture with details.

2 Locate on the map the historical places of the Mughal period.

3 Discuss the contradictions in the policies of Akbar and Aurangzeb, and prepare a report on it.

4 Locate on the map historical places associated with Shivaji.

Chapter 16	Indian Ideology and Bhakti cult

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Religious and social reform movements

Introduction to the Chapter

- Many religious and social reformers were born in the period of 8th century to 16th century. They were thinkers who revived the religion and society on an ideological basis.
- In this Chapter the life, teachings and reforms of Shankaracharya, Ramanujacharya, Basaveshvara and Madhvacharya, who were in the forefront of the reform movements, have been briefly stated.
- Don't you know about Purandaradasa and Kanakadasa? What were their contribution to the society? Like them the saints of north India also awakened the people through their teachings.
- The purpose, meaning and features of Bhakti cult are stated. Sri Chaitanya, Guru Nanak, Meerabai and Sufi saints have been introduced. In addition, the harmony that the Bhakti cult established among different religious cults, and the contribution it made to the growth of the regional languages have been dealt with.

Competencies

1 Understanding the thoughts and reforms of religious reformers.

2 Understanding the extent to which there thoughts are relevant.

3 Understanding the contributions of the teachings of Bhakti saints to social harmony.

4 Understanding the teachings of the saints, and imbibing generosity.

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Many great men were born in India. They not only guided the people through their teachings but also undertook active social reforms. Their reforms eradicated ignorance and evil practices among the people. Their impact is spread even today

Sri Shankaracharya

Shankaracharya was born in a village Kaladi in Kerala. Being a genius, he understood the four Vedas at the age of eight.



Sri Shankaracharya

Shankara's parents were Shivaguru and Aryamba. The philosophy propounded by Shankara is called Advaita

Shankaracharya's reforms



Badrinath temple, Badarinath

1. Shankara brought many reforms in the Hindu society of that time and led the people on the path of knowledge.
2. Through Advaita Philosphy he preached that all mankind are one and equal.
3. Shankara became a social reformer by stopping the conflicts between the castes
4. Shankara established Peethas (*mathas*) at Badarinatha (Uttarakhand), Dwarake (Gujarat), Puri (Odisha) and Sringeri (Karnataka). These served as emotional and religious centres for uniting Indians.

Shankara wrote many scriptures. His work Bhaja Govindam is popular even today. It is surprising that Shankara achieved so much within his 32 years of life span.

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Sri Ramanujacharya



Sri Ramanujacharya

Ramanujacharya was born at Sriperambudur near Chennai. He studied religious *shastras* at Kanchi.

Ramanujacharya's father was Keshava Dikshita and mother Kantimati. The philosophy he propounded is called Vishishtadvaita

Ramanujacharya travelled all the four directions of India and spread *Srivaishnavism.* He declared that salvation may be attained through devotion and surrendering to God. Vishnuvardhana, the Hoysala ruler of Karnataka welcomed him.

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Reforms of Ramanujacharya

1. Ramanuja encouraged caste harmony.
2. By condemning casteism, he preached the principle of Bhakti to all castes.
3. He said that devotion and surrendering are very important for salvation.
4. He told to surrender to God without any desires.
5. He asserted that one can attain salvation through the path of devotion.
6. Ramanuja was responsible for building several grand temples in Melukote and south India.



Cheluvanarayana temple, Melukote

Sri Basaveshwara



Sri Basaveshwara

The role of Basaveshwara in the social and religious reforms in Karnataka was indeed revolutionary. He hailed from Basavana Bagewadi in Vijayapura (Bijapur) district. During his childhood instead of Upanayana he received linga diksha. He studied at Kudalasangama.

Basaveshwara's parents were Madarasa and Madalambika. They belong to the Basavana Bagevadi Agrahar of Shaiva Brahmins. Basava's philosophy is called Shaktivishisthaadvaita.

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Basaveshwara was appointed as the treasurer by Bijjala, the Kalachuri ruler who ruled from Kalyana. Basavanna began to preach progressive ideas in Kalyana. The traditionalist opposed these ideas. Disappointed by this he left Kalyana and moved to Kudalasangama. It is believed that he later united in Kudalasangama.

Reforms of Basaveshwara

- Basavanna aimed at building a casteless and classless society.
- 'Work is Worship' (*Kayakave Kailasa*) was one of his main teachings.
- Basaveshwara condemned casteism, idol worship and *sacrifices*. He stated, 'one's body itself is a temple'.

- His words 'woman is a mother, she is everything' gave confidence to women who had lost their voice.
- He established 'Anubhava Mantapa' at Basavakalyana. It was a platform for the Vachanakaras.
- Basaveshwar had composed more than thousands of Vachanas. They end with a pen name 'Kudala Sangamadeva'.

The message of Sri Basaveshwara, the leader of the vachana movement for the wefare of mankind is timeless. In this background, the government of Karnataka has declared Vishwaguru Basavanna as the cultural leader of Karnataka on 13-02-2024.

Activity : *Collect three vachanas of Basavanna that you find important. Understand the spiritual principles found in them and write ten sentences about it.*

Kayaka means work done in devotional way. Sharing the fruits of Kayaka with everybody in an equitable way is dasoha. The aim of Basaveshvara was to instil work culture (Kayaka) among the people.

Vachana literature: The 'Vachana' is a distinct literary genre. The vachana literature could be read like prose or sung like a poem. There were Vachanakaras (one who write vachanas) like Jedara Dasimayya, Allamaprabhu, Chenna Basavanna, Akka Mahadevi and others. They belonged to all castes and class. The thoughts expressed in the vachanas are relevant even today.

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Sri Madhvacharya



Sri Madhvacharya

Madhvacharya was born at Pajaka (Belle) village near Udupi.

After accepting sanyasa. Madva travelled thoughtout India twice to spread his-teachings. Lord Vishnu was his adorable diety.

Madhva's parents were, Tulu Brahimin's Madhyagheha Bhatta and Vedavati. He propounded Dvaita *philosophy.*

Reforms of Madhvacharya

- Madhvacharya composed many works in Sanskrit relating to Madhva philosophy.
- He appointed eight pontiffs to perform regular pujas of Lord Sri Krishna at Udupi.
- He preached the simple path of *Bhakti (devotion).*



Sri Krishna temple, Udupi

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Madhvacharya set up a system under which each pontiff would worship Lord Krishna for a period of two months in rotation. Later saint Vadiraja extended the period of rotation (paryaya) to two years.

Apart from the *Ashtamathas*, the Uttaradi, Vyasaraya and Raghavendra *Mathas* are also religious centres of the Madhva principles.

The people of Karnataka, Andhra, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra were influenced by the teachings of Madhvacharya.

Bhakti Movement

Our country is a land of saints and sages. Hundreds of saints have taken birth here from time to time. They brought about social harmony and encouraged the people to walk on the right path. They also exposed the social ills.

The saints preached the path of *bhakti* or devotion towards God. They believed that Bhakti is the only way to earn God's grace. This approach to God is known as the *Bhakti cult*.

Features of the Bhakti cult

- The Bhakti cult condemned discrimination between superior and inferior and preached equality.
- The Bhakti saints opposed and ridiculed outdated customs.
- The Sufi saints proclaimed that religion meant love of all and service to mankind. They maintained that there is only one God, not many.
- The saints took up the task of uniting the hearts of the people.

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The Bhakti saints

Sri Chaitanya : He was born in West Bengal. Chaitanya condemned caste discrimination. He preached that *Bhakti* was the only path to the realization of God (*mukti*).

His teachings were rooted in love, brotherhood and charity. He went on sacred piligrimage through out India spreading the message of love.



Sri Chaitanya

Guru Nanak: Guru Nanak was the founder of Sikhism. He was born in Punjab of present Pakistan. He emphasized the religious common points of Hinduism and Islam. His songs called *Japji* are in the Guru *Granth Sahib*, the holy book of the Sikhs. Sikhism emphasises the importance of chanting God's name and doing good deeds. It also stresses equality between men and women. Nanak questions: "How can a woman, who gives birth to kings and prophets, be inferior to men?" He declared: "Even if I have a lakh tongues, I will chant the name of one God on all those tongues". Nanak had visited Karnataka during his travel throughout the country. The place in Bidar where he stayed is called the *Nanak Jhira*.



Guru Nanak

Meerabai: Saint Meerabai, who is revered as the 'Radha of Kaliyug', was also a great composer of songs. She was born in a royal family of Rajputs in Rajasthan. She was very fond of playing with the idol of Lord Krishna given to her by her grandfather. She considered Lord Krishna as her diety. Her mother-in-law strongly objected to her worshipping of Krishna. Meera could not withstand this and left the palace forever and went to Brindavan, the holy place associated with Lord Krishna. The feelings of *bhakti* and love are prominent in her compositions. *Giridhar Gopal* is the deity she worshipped. Through her *bhajans,* Meera finds a permanent place in the hearts of millions.



Meerabai

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Other prominent Bhakti saints

- *Kabirdas: Kabir condemned the injustice of the caste system, idol worship, pilgrimage, fasts, vows and all other religious rituals. He declared that he was the 'child of Allah and Rama'.*
- *Tulsidasa: His famous epic poem is 'Ramcharitamanasa'.*
- *Surdas: He was another saint-poet. He was born blind. 'Sur Sagar' is his famous work.*

Sufi Movement: The Sufi cult originated in Arabia and entered into India. The sufi saints wore coarse woollen clothes (*suf*) as a badge of poverty. Hence they were called the sufis. Gradually the sufis were influenced by Yoga, Vedanta and thoughts of Buddhism. Many sufi saints (for example, Baba Budan) were worshippers of Dattatreya. The sufi saint of Vijayapura, Budan-al-din wrote songs in praise of Lord Krishna.

The sufis preached that religion means love and service to mankind. They expressed their *bhakti* by means of singing and dancing. Both these practices were forbidden by the traditionalist. There were even women sufis. The sufi women disciple Rab*iha* is revered even today.

Nizamuddin Auliya: India's major sufi saint. He settled in Delhi and lived a life of poverty. A mosque with a thatched roof was the centre of his activities. He rejected a village donated by the Delhi sultan. He remained away from politics. He preached the message of good conduct and compassion to the devotees who came to see him.



Nizamuddin Auliya

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Bandenawaz is a famous sufi saint of Karnataka. His attractive *darga is* in Kalaburgi. The Hindus considered Bandenawaz as *Keshav Chaitanya* and worshipped him.

Chisti : The Chisti is an important sufi sect. Its founder, *Moyinuddin Chisti*, came to Ajmer and established his centre. The qualities of his followers are piety, service to one's guru and walking the right path. The Chistis were concerned about the harmony between the Hindus and the Muslims. They wrote in regional languages. *Salim Chisti* of Fatehpur in Agra is a well-known Chisti.



Salim Chisti's tomb, Agra

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The influence of Bhakti Movement

- The Bhakti saints were responsible for creating harmony between the Hindus and the Muslims.
- The Bhakti saints composed literature in the regional languages. As a result, Indian languages were enriched.

Chronology

Shankaracharya	-	8-9th century
Ramanujacharya	-	11-12th century
Basaveshvara	-	12th century
Nizamuddin Auliya	-	1238-1325 C.E.
Madhvacharya	-	13-14th century
Moyinuddin Chisti	-	13th century
Guru Nanak	-	1469-1538 C.E.
Sri Chaitanya	-	1486-1534 C.E.

Meerabai	-	1498-1546 C.E.
Bandenawaz	-	15th century
Salim Chisti	-	16th century

New words

Diksha - initiate with ceremony

Zhara - sweet water spring.

piety - devotion towards God.

Know

Sri Chaitanya's birthplace - Navadweep (Nadiya) in West Bengal. Guru Nanak's birthplace: Talawandi in Pakistan. Meerabai was the only daughter of Ratansingh of the Rathod family of Jodhpur.

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Exercises

I Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.

1 Guru Nanak's song are called as _____

2 The holy book of Sikh is _____

3 The birth place of Ramanujacharya is _____

4 Saint _____ is known as 'Radha of Kaliyug'.

II Answer the following questions.

5 What were the reforms made by Shankaracharya?

6 What are the teachings of Basaveshvara?

7 What is the importance of *vachana* literature? Name some *vachanakaras*.

8 What did the Bhakti saints preach?

9 Who were the major Sufi saints of India?

10 State the effects of the Bhakti Movement.

11 Where is the Darga of Bandenawaz?

12 Which is the famous work of Tulasidas?

13 What is the famous quotation of Guru Nanak?

14 What is the gist of Bhakti Cutt?

III. Discuss in groups and answer:

15 The relevance of the teachings of the Bhakti saints.

16 Discuss the changes brought by Social Reformers.

Activities

1 Read the biographies of Shankaracharya, Ramanujacharya, Basaveshvara and Madhvacharya.

2 Collect any ten vachanas of Basaveshvara.

3 Collect the names of vachanakaras and their pen-names.

4 Dress yourselves as Acharyas, saints and Sharanas and narrate their teachings on the stage during celebrations in the school.

5 "Do not steal, do not kill, do not lie, do not rage, do not loathe the other, do not brag of yourself, do not revile the opponent. This itself is inner purity. This itself is outer purity. This alone is the way to win our Koodalasangamadeva" (ಕಳಬೇಡ, ಕೊಲಬೇಡ .....) What are the values found in this vachana? Do we find these values being practised in our society? If not collect the reason and discuss.

6 Collect and write the teachings of Shankaracharya, Ramanujacharya and Madhvacharya.

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7 Collect the pictures of the Bhakti saints with details.

8 Read the biographies of Sri Chaitanya, Guru Nanak, Meerabai, Tulsidas, Kabir, Surdas and the Sufi saints.

9 Listen to Meera bhajans.

10 Collect more details about sufism from the internet. Discuss their influence on India's multi-religious society and their relevance in the present context, and prepare a report of one page.

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Famous Royal Families of North India

Order No.	Royal Families	Founder	Prominent Ruler	Capital
1	Mauryas	Chandra gupta Maurya	Ashoka	Pataliputra
2	The Kushans	Kujula Kadphises	Kanishka	Purushapura
3	The Guptas	Srigupta	Samudragupta / 2nd Chandra gupta	Pataliputra
4	Vardhana	Pushyabhuti	Harsha Vardhana	Kanauj
5	Karkota	Durlabha Vard-hana	Lalithaditya	Parihasapura
6	Rajputs			
(a)	Pratiharas of Gurjara	Harichandra	Nagabhata / Mehirabhoja	Ujjaini
(b)	Chauhanas	Vasudeva Chauhan	3rd Prithviraja Chauhan	Delhi
(c)	Palas	Simharaja	Dharmapala	Mudagagiri
(d)	Guhilas	Bappa Rawal	Rana Kumbha / Rana Sanga	Mewar
(e)	Paramaras	Uppendra Krishnaraja	Siyakha	Dhara
(f)	Solankis	1st Moolaraja	1st Bhimaraya	Anahilavada
(g)	Chandela	Nannuka	Danga	Khajuraho
7	Ahom	Sukapha	Supatfa	Chirai Doi
8	Delhi Sultants			
(a)	Slave dynasty	Qutb-ud-Din Aibak	Iltamash	Delhi
(b)	Khilji Dynasty	Jalaluddin Khilji	Alauddin Khilji	Delhi
(c)	Tughlaq dynasty	Ghiyas-uddin Tughlaq	Muhammad bin Tughlaq	Delhi
(d)	Sayyid dynasty	Khizr Khan	Khizr Khan	Delhi
(e)	Lodi dynasty	Bahlul Khan Lodi	Sikandar Lodi	Delhi
9	The Mughals	Babar	Akbar	Delhi
10	The Marathas	Shivaji	Shivaji	Rayagada

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CIVICS

Chapter 17 DEMOCRACY

S8C5S5

Introduction to the Chapter

In olden days, Kings would rule our country. Gradually, rule of Kings disappeared and made way for the rule of the people's Democracy. In this lesson a bird's eyeview of the reasons for the changes that took place, the greatness of democracy, the role of election, the election process and few other details are given.

Competencies

1 Understand the differences between rule of Kings and rule of the people (democracy).

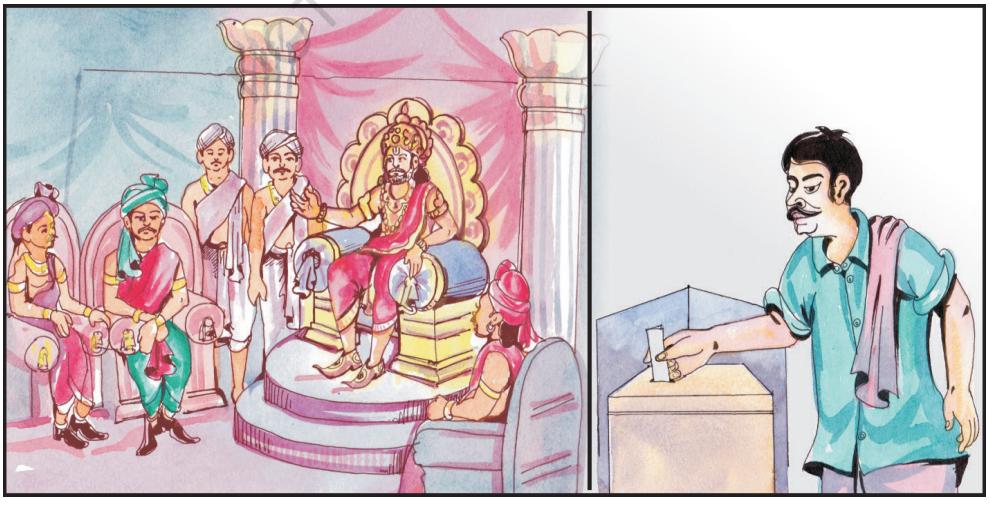
2 Comprehend the importance of democracy.

3 Understand the role of elections and importance of voting in democracy.

4 Know the process of election.

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Entry into the Chapter



1. Look at the picture on the left. Who is the person sitting on the throne?
2. Who are sitting on the either sides of that person?
3. Can you tell me what is the person on the right side doing?
4. Have you ever cast your vote?

Once upon a time King Chandrashayana was ruling over Ratnapura. His queen died after giving birth to a son. Later, the King married his court dancer. She also gave birth to a son. In course of time. The brothers joined a gurukula and learned many things and became highly educated. When the King grew old, he made his first son the heir apparent (Yuvaraja). The dancer queen became angry because her son could not be the king. She poisoned her son's mind. The brothers began to fight for the power. The King died of worry.

The administration of the Kingdom worsened due to the quarrel between the brothers. People were uncared for murders and anarchy increased. They became unhappy. They assembled and decided to rule their kingdom themselves. They framed essential laws. Everyone agreed to obey the rules that they had framed. Thus, the King's rule ended in Ratnapura. People's rule came into force.

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1. Who did the King bring to the throne?
2. Who should naturally come to the throne after the King's death, according to Indian tradition?
3. What are the ill effects if there is a dispute for power in rule by Kings?
4. What is your opinion about dynastic rule?

Rule by Kings : We can point out two types of administration in the story we studied just now. They are, rule by the King and the rule by the people. If all the powers of State is held by one person - usually the King - it is Rule by Kings. In this type, everything runs according to his wish. There is no limit to the duration. If the king is clever and brave, people will be happy. But rule by a king will come to an end if the ruler is weak.

Democracy - meaning : Rule of a state by the elected representatives of the people is democracy. It is a political system. This is a government by the people. Welfare of the people is its main aim.

Importance : This is a pro-people system of political governance. This has some good points.

1. Government will be run by the representatives elected by the people.
2. All the people are equal before the law.
3. Elections will be held regularly and the representatives will govern.
4. Issues will be discussed and people-friendly decisions will be taken.
5. In Democracy, the people need to take wise decisions.

Challenges of democracy.

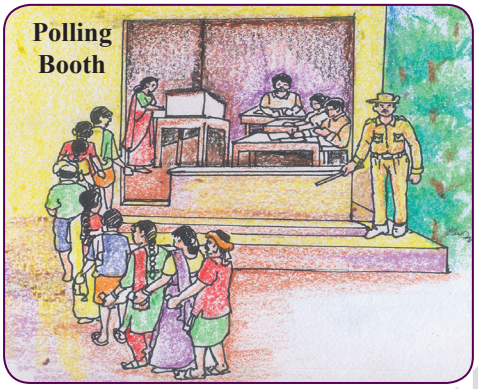
1. Money and muscle power may be used to get votes.
2. Caste, community, language, religion, etc., may influence voting.

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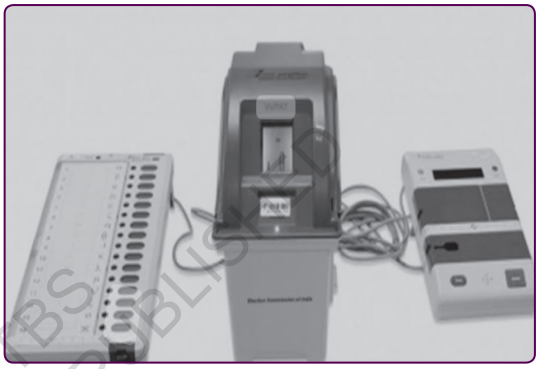
3. Elected members may go from one party to the other for selfish motive. Government may become unstable due to defection.

4. There is a possibility of anti-social elements getting elected.

ELECTION



Voting



Electronic voting machine

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1. Why are people moving in a line?
2. Have you seen any such situation?
3. Why do they print symbols on ballot papers and ballot boxes?

Election

The process of choosing people's representatives is election. Voting is an important part of the election process. Persons aged 18 years and above have the right to vote and contest election. Electors elect candidates through a secret ballot.

Each candidate is given a symbol. Even illiterates can vote with the help of the symbol.

Importance of voting : In an election, citizens express their choice of representatives by voting. It provides scope for the representation of all groups of people.

Election processes : Election is held according to a calendar of events (Time-table).

1 Election Notification is issued.

2 Filling of nomination by the candidates.

3 Scrutiny of the nominations.

4 Withdrawal of nominations by those who do not want to contest.

5 Canvassing by candidates and their supporters.

6 Seeking Voting on a specified date.

7 Counting of votes voting announcement of results

8 Publication of the list of successful candidates.

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New words

Polling - Voters go to the polling booth and record the choice of their candidates voting.

Hereditary (dynasty) rule - Members of the same family come to power by succession.

Ballot paper - A paper containing list of candidates' name and their symbols.

Secret ballot - Secrecy about the voter's choice maintained even after election results are announced, by a citizen.

Polling booth - Place where voters cast their votes.

Know this

1. Electronic voting machines are recently in use to record the voter's choice.
2. The responsibility of conducting elections in India rests with Election Commission of India. It functions independently.

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with suitable words:

1. If all powers are controled by one person it is called _____ government.
2. In order to vote, a person should be_____ years.
3 The place where you cast vote is called _____ .

II. Answer the following questions :

4. What is democracy?
5. What is the importance of democracy?
6. What are the challenges of democracy?
7. What is the importance of voting ?

III. Discuss in groups and answers:

8. The methods candidates follow while canvassing.
9. Our role in the success of democracy.

Activity

Collect the election symbols of various political parties and prepare an album.

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Chapter 18 Directive Principles of State Policy

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Introduction to the Chapter

Articles 36 to 51 of the fourth part of our Constitution proposes the directive principles of state policy. These are guiding principles for the elected government to implement the objectives of the Constitution. This lesson includes their explanation and detailed discussion.

Competencies

1 Understanding the objectives of the Directive Principles of State policy.

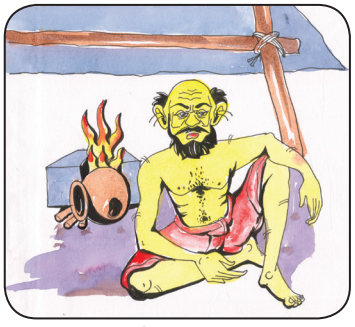
2 Understanding how the Directive Principles are helpful in achieving the ideal of a Welfare State.

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The directive principles of the state policy are the guidelines given to the state for the implementation of Gandhian, socialist and liberal intellectual principles in the fourth part of the Constitution. It is the ethical directive of the Constitution that any government that comes to power, should follow these principles. These are the sign ports for the overall development of India.

Importance of directive principles of state policy:

The Directive principles of state policy are the directions given by the Constitution to the Central and State governments. It is necessary to adopt these principles while making laws, formulating and implementing policies. State directive principles are important in achieving liberty,equality, fraternity and also in establishing a welfare state.



Social Justice - a house to live in

The following principles to be followed by the Republic India, are included in the directive principles of state policy.

1. *Social Justice:* To achieve public welfare by providing social, economic and political justice to the citizens.
2. *Social Justice to the weaker sections:* Weaker sections should be provided means of livelihood. Their economic exploitation should be avoided; educational and economic progress and free legal aid should be given.
3. *Women and child welfare:* Equal pay for men and women for similar work should be given, maternity facilities for women, prevention of child exploitation, providing opportunities for children's healthy growth and free and compulsory primary education should be provided.



Women and child welfare



Free and compulsory primary education

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4. *Labour welfare:* The State has to promote the welfare of workers provide right to work and conducive atmosphere for work; fix of minimum wages to the workers; and give opportunities to participate in the management.



Labour welfare



Help to the needy

5. Help to the needy: Assistance by the government to the aged, disabled, sick and unemployed for survival.

6. Uniform Civil Code: Enforcing a Uniform Civil Code for all the citizens of India.

7. Prohibition of consumption of liquor: The consumption of liquor affects the health. It destroys the economic conditions of the family and increases the exploitation of women. For this, our Constitution has directed the governments to implement prohibition of liquor.



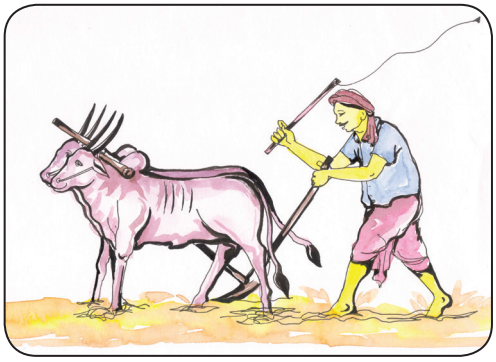
Prohibition of consumption of liquor



Cattle - the wealth of our nation

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8. Organisation of agriculture and animal husbandry: "The state shall endeavour to organise agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific bases and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds, and prohibiting the slaughter of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle" States have been thus directed in the Constitution. In this regard, Karnataka has enacted the Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Act-2020



Development of agriculture



Modern agriculture

9. Environment: The government has to protect and develop the Environment. eg, Protection of Environment from Mining and Industrial pollution.

10. Protection of historical Monuments: Protecting and maintaining of historical monuments is the bounden duty of the government. Example: Badami, Bidar, Belur, Halebidu, Shravanabelagola, Sannati, Mysuru, Hampi, Pattadakallu, Vijayapura, etc.

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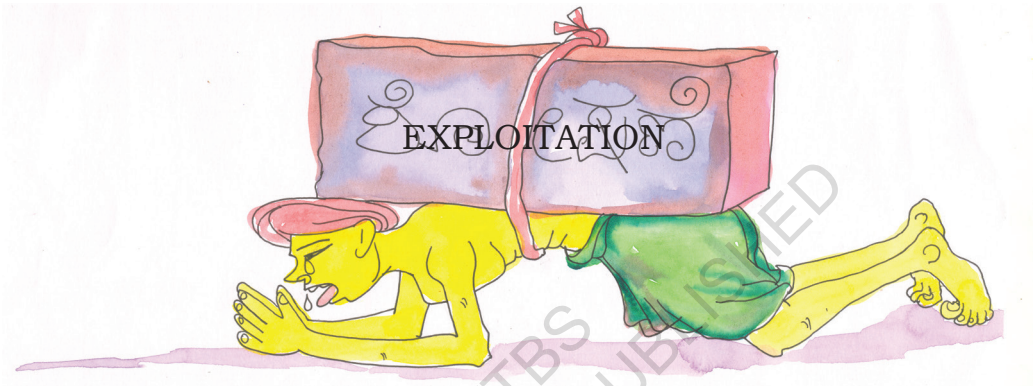


Protection of Environment

11. Promotion of international peace and amity The country also participates in the protection of International Peace and Amity.

What is Social Justice?

Social Justice means assuring protection to all the citizens without discrimination of caste, religion, gender, language, colour, region and status and treating everyone as equal. Social Justice includes welfare of backward classes, fixation of wages, abolition of slavery, eradication of child exploitation, equal rights and respect for women etc.



Exploitation

The constitution has given several directions and suggestions to the state. But if they are violated, citizens cannot file a complaint in the court. (For example, although seven decades have elapsed, the government has not brought a law to ban the consumption of liquor. In this regard, we cannot appeal to the court.)

Activity: *To what extent have the Directive Principles been put into practice in our State? Today, various kinds of exploitations are taking place. Organise a debate on the subject and make a list of opinions which come out of the debate.*

Exercises

I. Answer the following questions:

1 What is meant by Directive Principles of State Policy?

2 What directives has the constitution given to the state for establishing women and child welfare?

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3 Why has the directive principles and state policy emphasized the agriculture and animal husbandry?

4 Why have the states been given directives to ban the consumption of liquor?

Discuss in groups and answer:

5 Social Justice to the weak.

6 Prohibition of consumption of liquor.

7 Protection of historical monuments.

8 What can be done to make right to education for childern more effective ?

Activities

1 Observe the persons in your locality who are socially and economically weak. Discuss with your classmates why they happen to be weak.

2 Conduct a seminar on the topic, "Ill effects of consumption of liquor and drug on the youth" and collect the opinions.

3 Child right is necessary for all round development of child. Did you know that you can call child helpline 1098 when they are violated? Arrange a discussion on this issue and collect opinions.

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Chapter 19

Human Rights, Fundamental Rights and Duties

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Introduction to the lesson

This lesson introduces the meaning and importance of human rights, and also introduces Fundamental Rights and Duties given to the citizens of India in our constitution.

Competencies

1 To understand the meaning and importance of human rights.

2 To differentiate between Natural Rights and Fundamental Rights.

3 To become aware of the importance of child rights.

4 To comprehend the Fundamental Rights given to citizens of India in the constitution.

5 To know and follow the eleven Fundamental duties in day to day life as stated in the constitution.

6 Finding the different ways to enjoy their rights given in constitution, when they are denied their rights, they find ways to regain them.

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What are Rights? A 'right' means 'an authority' that a citizen is given. It may be a 'Natural Right'. (Example- right to live, right to life protection) or it could be a 'legitimate right'. (Example- right to equality, right to education).

Human Rights

Every human being is naturally endowed with certain rights by birth. No one can be excluded from these rights,

regardless of race, caste, language, religion, gender or any other quality or character. As a part of human existence these rights are embedded in our lives. By calling such rights and opportunities as human rights, human rights are given universal recognition.

The origin of the concept of human rights:

All the philosophies of the world have proclaimed the superiority of man. Man is a child of nature. He has created a unique way of life by living with all the creatures. On the earth Sarvagnya has propagated about human rights as "If you treat your neighbour as yourself, that itself is heaven." (Thannante parara bagedode kailasa binnanavakku) As human being started progress with new inventions led to selfishness. In this backdrop the Human Rights Declaration came up with an aspiration to provide freedom, equality and a life free from discrimination for all human beings. According to Harold J Laski, "Human rights are legal humane and social conditions."

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Universal Declaration of International Human Rights:

A large number of human beings have been killed due to conflicts between different races and religions in human history. In the 20th century millions of people have been burnt to ashes, due to two world wars. To overcome such inhuman acts, conflicts and to remove inequality amoung people of the world, the United nations organisation came to be established. It is an irony that a larger number of people lost their livelihood too. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was made on December, 10th 1948 by the UN in order to create opportunities for the people of the

world to live on a humanitarian ground. This declaration established with an aim to eliminate such conflicts, violence and discriminations.

Importance of Human Rights:

1. It supplements the all-round development of the individual.
2. It lays foundation for a dignified life.
3. They have become a inspiration for building a humane and fair society.
4 It bridges harmonious relationship between individual and the State.
5 This has become the essence of global living.

Child Rights:

Child rights are included under Human Rights. Naturally, every child is benefitted with certain facilities. Every child has the right to spend their childhood with father and mother, have physical protection, food, education and health facilities.

Children also have the civil rights not based on the race, sex, colour, religion and disability. The constitution of India provides free and compulsory education to children below the age of fourteen. If a child is denied education or is engaged in labour, it becomes a violation of child rights. Whether the labour is paid or unpaid it is considered to be child labour. Child labour is against the Child Rights. So Child Labour Prohibition Act of 1986 was enforced. Violators of this act shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of 3 months to 1 year or a penalty or both can be imposed.

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Protection of Human Rights:

Thus, the Human Rights Commission has been established and functioning from local level to international level, fulfilling the purpose of human rights and child rights. A helpline 1098, has been opened to protect child's right.

In addition to this, The United Nations declared in 2012 that, all living beings need a good and sustainable environment to lead a better life. It is said protection of good environment along with security of good health, housing, food, water and sanitation is also the protection of human right. It insisted that implementing is also an important responsibility and accountability of the countries of the world.

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Fundamental Rights:

The Fundamental Rights are the rights enshrined and protected in the Constitution. These are the constitutional rights given to citizens. No one can violate these fundamental rights.

Certain amount of individual freedom is essential for national development So the constitution has given six fundamental rights to all the citizens of the country.

The fundamental rights given to the citizens by the constitution are:

1. Right to equality
2. Right to freedom
3. Right against exploitation
4. Right to freedom of religion
5. Cultural and educational rights
6. Right to constitutional remedy

1) Right to equality: All are equal before the law. No one is above the law; and the right to equality includes that all should have equal protection of the law.



All are equal before the law

The state should not discriminate on the basis of religion, caste, gender and place of birth. There should be no restrictions imposed on using hotel, shops, public wells, lakes, roads and recreational places. All citizens have rights to join government service. A person of a particular religion cannot be prevented from entering and offering prayers at public places of worship. With respect to right to equality, the laws have been implemented to respect

the gender minority. Example, The government of India has executed the Transgender persons Protection of Right Act, 2019 and the government of Karnataka has implemented the State Policy on Transgender 2017.

2) Right to freedom: This is how the right to freedom in the constitution is given,

1. Freedom of speech and freedom of expression.
2. Freedom to assemble peacefully without arms
3. Freedom to form Associations.
4. Freedom to move throughout the territory of our country.
5. Freedom to reside in any part of India.
6. Freedom to practice any profession, trade, industry or service.

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Freedom of Speech

Activity: *Organize a discussion and collect the opinions on the topic, 'Importance of freedom of speech in a democratic system.'*

Although freedom is a fundamental right, it cannot be exercised as per ones will. The constitution itself states that the state can impose restrictions on individual

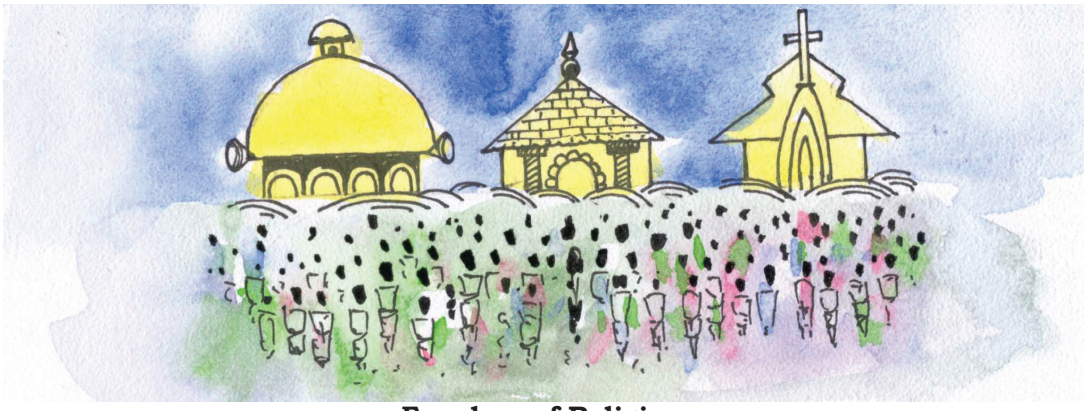
freedom under certain circumstances. Eg: Though there is freedom of speech. One cannot speak words that disrespect others dignity.

3. Right against exploitation: The purpose of this right is that the poor, women, children and the vulnerable should not be exploited. Central and State governments have enacted many laws to prohibit exploitation. For example - bonded labour is prohibited; Involving child labour in hazardous work like mining, beedi making, firecracker making is prohibited. The government has banned child labour. They should receive compulsory education till the age of fourteen years. Trafficking of women and children is prohibited.



Child labour has been prohibited

4. Right to freedom of religion: Citizens of India have the freedom to accept and practice a suitable religion they like. Everyone has the right to practice their religion without disturbing public peace and order, health and hygiene keeping in mind the rules. The constitution states that conversion should not be done by coercion, fraud and inducements.



Freedom of Religion

5. Cultural and educational rights: The purpose of this fundamental right is to protect the interest of religious and linguistic minorities. People have the right to protect their language, script or culture. Minorities have the right to establish and manage educational institutions. But linguistic and religious minority educational institutions have to abide by the state rules.

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Cultural and educational rights

6. Right to constitutional remedy: A citizen can file a compliant in court when fundamental rights are violated. This right is called 'Right to Constitutional remedy.'

When the fundamental rights are violated, the affected person can directly approach the High Court or the Supreme Court for remedy. Petitions filed before the High Court or the Supreme Court regarding fundamental rights are called 'Writ Petitions.'

Fundamental Duties:

Fundamental rights and duties are like two faces of the same coin. 'Duty means the responsibility a person has to perform for his country. It is easy for a country to prosper if citizens perform their fundamental duties with self-motivation.

Eleven Fundamental Duties are included in the Constitution. They are as follows:

1. To respect the Constitution, National Flag and National Anthem.
2. To Follow the lofty ideals of the freedom movement.
3. To Protect unity and diversity of India.
4. Advancing for the defence of the country.
5. To develop the feeling of brotherhood among Indians.
6. To protect our rich cultural heritage and historical monuments.
7. To preserve and develop the natural environment.
8. To develop scientific attitude and rationality.
9. To Protect public property and renounce violence.
10. To strive for the progress of the country by becoming proficient in individual and collective development at activities.
11. Parents or guardians should allow children between 6 to 14 years of age to get education.

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Respecting the Constitution, National Flag and National Anthem



Defence of the country



We are all Indians



Protection of environment

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Activity: *Organize a seminar on 'Role of students today, in environmental protection' and collect opinions.*

If a citizen does not perform his fundamental duties, the government cannot challenge it in court. However, all the citizens of the country should perform their fundamental duties voluntarily.

Exercises

I. Fill up the blanks with a suitable word.

1 Right means _____.

2 There are _____ fundamental rights.

3 The child labour prohibition Act was enforced in the year _____ .

4 The Right that provides opportunity to protect ones language and culture is _____.

II. Answer the following questions:

5 What are human rights?

6 List out the child rights.

7 What are Fundamental Rights? Name them

8 Why should we fulfil fundamental duties voluntarily?

9 What is right to equality?

10 How does social and economic exploitation take place? Give examples.

11 State any three fundamental duties.

III. Discuss in groups and answer the following:

12 Importance of Fundamental Rights.

13 Duties to be performed by students in school premises.

14 Importance of Human rights.

15 Importance of child rights.

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Activities

1 Student should give a speech for a few minutes on fundamental rights and fundamental duties.

2 Students narrate incidents of non-observance of fundamental duties by citizens. (Eg: Throwing waste materials in a public lake;, Stealing of the stones of an ancient fort, not voting.

Chapter 20 National Integration

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Introduction to the Chapter

This lesson introduces national integration, Indian diversity, unity in diversity and national unity and discusses about the factors which encourages hinders the growth of national integration.

Competencies

1 Understanding the concept of national integration
2 Admiring the significance of national integration.
3 To understand and feel proud about Indian diversity.
4 Knowing the necessity of unity in diversity.
5 Identifying the factors that contribute to national integration and development.

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Meaning of National Integration: National integration means when the people of a country feel that they are one without being subject to hatred, jealousy and prejudice against one another or one race against another.

Respect others and be in harmony with each other. To feel that we are all members of the same family called Nation. National Integration is to create a feeling that all the people of a country are one without the discrimination of caste, creed, sect, tribe, religion, gender etc.

It is necessary to create such a feeling in everyone to build a strong nation. National integration is to strengthen the feeling that all Indians are one.

Importance : Integration is necessary to create unity among the people of a nation. Integrity is necessary to develop

a sense of belonging among the people of the nation to achieve national interest and development. Integration is the main inspiration for the country's integrity, fraternity and equality.

Indian Diversity

India is a country of diversity. Indian diversity is manifested in the form of geographical diversity, biodiversity and human diversity.

• *Geographical Diversity:* There are high mountain ranges, very long rivers and vast plains in India. Some regions are too cold and some are too hot. Besides, there are scorching deserts, thick forests, cool lakes, cascading waterfalls, lovely sea coasts and hundreds of small islands. These are the gifts of nature to us.

• *Bio-diversity:* India's bio-diversity is immense. Only a few countries of the world have been endowed with such a diversity.

To date, 47,000 plant species have been identified and described. There are about 90,000 species of animals. This figure includes 1,232 species of birds and 2,546 species of aquatic animals. Bio. diversity is the precious asset of India.

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• *Human diversity:* In this vast land, there are people belonging to different communities. They differ in their appearance, physique, language, clothing, food habits, customs and traditions, castes and religions varied. One has to travel thoughout India to see and experience the variety of our people's life.

Unity in Diversity

Multiculturism or pluralism is a way of life of people who believe in different languages, culture and religion. India

is a country of diversity. According to the United Nations Population Fund report published on 21 April 2023 C.E. by mid of 2023 C.E, India will overtake China as the most populous country in the world. Our country is a geographically diverse country. Every citizen can follow the religion of his choice. One can speak the regional language and mingle in social life. Therefore, in India can see unity in diversity as people live unitedly with many differences. People with multicultural beliefs live here with different languages, culture, religion. Every citizen can follow the religion of his choice because there are different religions in our country. With these many differences in a country, people live unitedly. Hence, one can see unity in diversity. Our constitution sanctions pluralism. Pluralism has never been fatal to humanity but is complementary to it.

Factors encouraging unity in India

1 Secularism: India is a secular country having harmony with all religions. Since it provides equal opportunities to all religions, it encourages national unity.

2 Democracy: India is a democratic country. People Should not be discriminated on the basis of caste, creed and religion. The constitution has accepted that, irrespective of male or female, one has the right to vote. This fact has been complimentary to the country's unity.

3 National Festivals: As we all Indians celebrate national festivals together, it helps to promote national unity.

4 Our National Emblem: Our national symbols like National Emblem, National Anthem, National Flag, National Flower, National Bird and National Animal are helpful in making us feel oneness.

5 Mutual understanding: Central and State Governments work through common objectives. Every part of the

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country is dependent on the other part. This fact also indicates that we all belong to one nation.

Apart from this, though there are differences in other factors such as natural factors, communication network, mass media, different cultures, regionalism, religion, languages, etc, there is unity of the people of the entire nation.

Factors affecting national integration and unity:

1 Casteism: Casteism means upholding one's caste against other castes. Casteism is the supremacy that one's caste is superior and other castes are inferior. Casteism is fatal to unity. Today casteism is prevailing in all fields. Narrow mindedness is developing due to this. So, casteism is harmful to the unity of the country.

2 Communalism: Communalism or sectarianism is a conviction that one's religion is superior to all others or fighting for one's religion. Communalism destroys peace. It also brings harm to life and property of individuals. It also destroys the friendship between people. Communalism leads to no adjustment among people of different faiths and affects the progress of the country.

3 Regionalism: Regionalism is another factor which is threat to national integration. The individuals sense of one sided loyalty and his concern for region is narrow regionalism. According to Constitution ours is a federal system with different states, So the existence of regional language, cultures and administration is important. Hence, narrow minded regionalism is not healthy and it threatens the national integrity. We have to realise that we are 'Indians first and then belong to a state or region.' Regionalism should not become Separatism. Then it will be a serious threat to national unity. Constitution has

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provided opportunities to overcome regional disparity. It is in this background that we have given 371(J) recognition for Kalyana Karnataka for eliminatation of regional disparity and declared Telengana as a separate state.

National Integration can be enhanced by overcoming casteism, communalism, sectarianism and regionalism which hampers national integration.

Exercises

Answer the following questions.

1 What is national integration?

2 What is meant by pluralism or multiculturalism?

3 Make a list of factors which promote unity in India.

4 Regionalism is sometimes problematic. Discuss.

Discuss in groups and answer

1. What are the measures that can be taken to promote national integration?

Activities

Make a list of the problems in your area which prevent unity among the people, and find solutions to them.

We all know that today, in India we are facing several problems relating to national integration. What are reasons for this?

How to overcome them? How to really promote integration in the country? Organise a debate and prepare a list of suggestions offered.

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Chapter 21 National Symbols and National Day Celebration

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Introduction to the Chapter

This lesson introduces National Symbols, our National Flag, speciality of the National Flag, National Flag Code, National Anthem, our National Song, our National Emblem, National Animal, Bird and Flower, National Festivals and celebration of impotant days.

Competencies

1 Understanding the uniqueness of the National Flag.
2 Comprehending and appreciating the details and importance of National Emblem.
3 Understanding the background and importance of the National Anthem.
4 Comprehending the importance of National Festivals and Celebrations of important days.

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National symbols: Usually a country uses some special symbols that reflects the uniqueness of its culture and heritage. They are called National Symbols.

National Flag and National Emblem are the main National Symbols of a country. Every country has its own national anthem. India also has its own national anthem. India has a national animal and national bird. These help to inculculate patriotism and feeling of integration in the citizens.

Our National Flag

Flag is a symbol of a nation. The national flag is a symbol of freedom, patriotism, unity and loyalty. Every citizen's heart swells with pride when the national flag is hoisted.

Description of Tricolour Flag of Independent India: Ours is a Tricolour flag. Saffron is on top, white is in the middle and green is at the bottom. There is a blue coloured wheel in the centre of the white colour. There are twenty four spokes in the wheel. The diameter of the wheel is equal to the width of the white stripe.

The flag is rectangular in shape. Its aspect ratio is 3:2. The three coloured bands are in equal proportions. The fabric of the flag should be cotton or silk. And it should be hand woven. Its thread must be handmade.



National Flag

Speciality of the National Flag:

What do the colours of our national flag indicate? Saffron symbolizes selflessness and sacrifice, while White symbolizes truth, peace and purity. Green symbolizes the green earth; a sign of prosperity in agriculture and industries. The wheel is a replica of the wheel on the Ashoka pillar at Saranath. Ashoka chakra signifies 'Dharmachakra'. Ashoka Chakra is also a symbol of continuous movement and progress.

National Flag Code:

- National Flag should not be dirty or torn.
- Always the saffron colour should come on top, while hoisting the flag.
- No other flag should be placed higher than the national flag.
- Flag should be lifted up to tip of the pole and then hoisted.
- Always national flag should be hoisted after the sunrise and brought down before sunset. It should be kept folded.

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- During the time of National mourning, the flag has to be hoisted halfmast.
- While walking, the flag has to be held in right hand.
- National Flag should not be touched to the ground.
- Plastic flags should not be used.

Our National Anthem

'Jana gana mana' is India's National Anthem. This was written by Rabindranath Tagore in Bengali language in 1911 C.E. The constituent assembly that was held on 24th January 1950 C.E accepted one stanza of the song, out of five stanzas, as the National Anthem. The time duration to sing the anthem is 52 seconds. Only first and last lines are sung, in some occasions. This might take around 20 seconds.

Every Indian's duty is to pay homage(respect) to National Anthem. Disrespecting and causing interruptions to singing, results in severe punishments as per rules. We should stand upright while singing the National Anthem. The pronunciation should be error free.

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Our National Song

According to our constitution, 'Vande Mataram' which is given as much respect as our National Anthem is considered as our National song. The song 'Vande Mataram' was written by a famous writer Bankim Chandra Chatterjee. Before independence, this song was considered as the National Anthem, which was extracted from his novel 'Anandamath'. The people who sacrificed their lives to protect this nation sang this song 'Vande Mataram' till their last breath.



National Emblem

Our National Emblem: Once take a look at our National Emblem. It is an other version of the capital (head) of Ashoka's stone pillar at Saranath. Since there are lions in this capital its called 'Lion capital'. The Lion capital of Saranath is our national emblem or seal. In the original sculpture, there are four lions set back to back, facing four directions, standing on a circular pedestal. The pedastal is having wheels, one on each direction. Between those wheels there are images of an elephant, a bull, a horse and a lion. The wheel on the pedestal is also called 'Dharmachakra'. Our national flag also has this wheel symbol placed in the centre of the white stripe.

The Government of India accepted this as our national emblem on 26th January 1950 C.E. In the picture, we see only three lions. There is a quote from Mundaka Upanishad, seen at the bottom of the pedestal in Devanagari script, "Satyameva Jayate" (Truth alone triumphs).

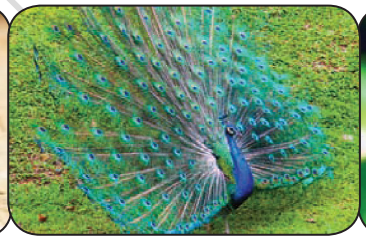
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National Animal, Bird and Flower

Tiger is our national animal. Peacock is India's national bird. Lotus is our national flower.



National animal Tiger



National bird Peacock



National flower Lotus

National Almanac (panchanga): There are many types of almanacs in use all over India. The Government of India launched the 'National Almanac' on 22nd March 1957 to

have a uniform almanac applicable to the nation for daily use. The famous scientist late Meghnad Saha played a vital role in preparing this almanac. The National Almanac has adopted the 'Shaka era. This Shaka era begins 78 years after the Common Era. The first month in National Almanac is Chaitra masa. The year starts on March 22nd and in a leap year it starts on 21st March. The Government of India uses dates of both the National Almanac and Christian Calendar for its correspondence and documents.

National Festivals

The festivals that are universally celebrated all over the nation is called National Festivals.

Republic Day: The constitution of the Republic of India came into effect on 26th January 1950. To commemorate this event, 26th January is celebrated as Republic Day every year, all across India. On that day, those who have served the nation in various fields are given awards. The President, in the presence of the chief guests, hoist the flag and then the procession starts. The procession, organized in New Delhi, the capital of our nation, will be very grand. Major programs are held on this occasion in all the state capitals.

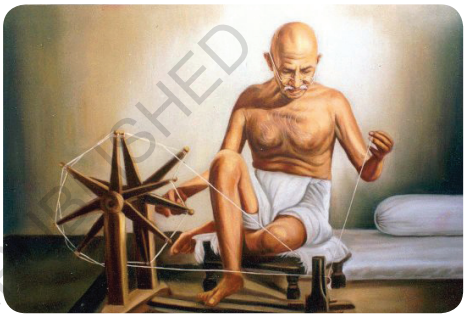


Republic Day Parade

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• Independence Day: Independence Day is celebrated in our country on 15th August, every year. A special function will be organized at Red Fort in Dehli. This is where the tricolour flag was hoisted when India was declared Independent. Every year on 15th of August Prime Minister of our country hoist the flag on the Red Fort. The Prime Minister addresses the whole nation and also those who come to be a part of the function. Independence Day is a festival celebrated all over the nation. People hoist the National Flag and salute it.

• Gandhi Jayanthi: Mohandas Karamachand Gandhi, is known as 'Mahatma' across nations. India's Independence Movement gained new strength under his leadership. In his memory, Gandhi Jayanthi is celebrated throughout the nation on October 2nd. The United Nations has declared October 2nd, Gandhi's Birthday, as International Day of Non-Violence. On the same day, we also celebrate the birthday of Lal Bahadur Shastri.



Mahatma Gandhi

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Celebrations

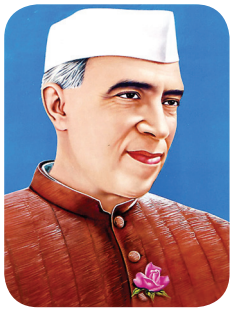
Ambedkar Jayanthi: Dr. Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar's birthday is celebrated on 14th of April, every year. He was the person who was the chairman of the drafting committee of the constitution of Independent India. Ambedkar strongly believed that political freedom without social freedom is meaningless. He studied caste discrimination and led many agitations to abolish it. He headed the movements called, 'Mahad' and 'Kalaram'. He participated in three round table conferences and gave valuable suggestions.



Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



Dr. S. Radhakrishnan



Jawaharlal Nehru



Swami Vivekananda

Teachers' Day Celebration: The second President of India, Dr. Radhakrishnan was a great scholar. Since, Radhakrishnan was a great teacher and philosopher, we celebrate his birthday on 5th September as Teacher's Day. He worked at Mysore University in Karnataka.

Children's Day Celebration: Children's Day is celebrated on 14th of November on the birthday of India's First Prime Minister, Jawaharalal Nehru. Nehru was a nature lover. Red rose was his favourite flower.

Pandit Jawaharalal Nehru entered the freedom struggle with the Home Rule Movement. He was the President of Lahore Session in 1929 C.E. First Prime Minister Nehru is considered as the architect of modern India and industrialization. After Independence he became the proponent of Panchasheel, the non-alignment policy a foreign policy and the five year plans.

Swami Vivekananda: National Youth Day Celebration: Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902 C.E) became indomitable spirit and inspiration to Youth and took the entire nation in a new direction. He tried to get rid of superstition in the name of religion, propagated revolutionary ideas and founded

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the Ramakrishna Mission. It was Swami Vivekananda who gave a new dimension of social service to monastic life. " Let the poor, the ignorant, the illiterate and the sick be your God. Know that serving them is the greatest religion", Swami urged. The central government has declared his birthday (12th January) as "National Youth Day". The government of Karnataka has announced a new policy to encourage the youth on this occasion.

Karnataka Rajyotsava Day November 1: Karnataka was formed on November 1st, 1956 by unifying the Kannada regions of Bombay, Madras, Hyderabad and Kodagu provinces with Mysore province. It was called the Mysore State. In commemoration of this event, November 1st of every year is celebrated as Karnataka Rajyotsava with great enthusiasm. On November 1st 1973, the then Chief Minister, Devaraj Urs renamed the Mysore State as Karnataka.

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Exercises

I Fill in the blank with a correct word.

1. The white colour in our National Flag symbolizes _____.
2. Our National Song was written by _____.
3. Mysore state was named as Karnataka in the year _____ .
4. The one who hoists our national flag on the Red fort is _____ .

II Answer the following questions:

5. Which are our National Symbols?
6. What are the features of the national flag code?
7. Which are our national festivals?
8. Name some commemorative days celebrated in schools.

Activities

1 Collect national flags of different countries.

2 Listen to the National Anthems of different nations.

3 Memorize the National song and sing.

4 Know the local festivals celebrated in your village.

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GEOGRAPHY

Chapter 22 CONTINENT OF ASIA

Introduction to the Chapter

This chapter introduce the location, extent and physical setting - Regional divisions of Asia - Physiography - Major rivers and agriculture - Climate and natural vegetation - Important minerals - Population growth, distribution and density.

Competencies

1 Understanding the location, extent, physical setting and contrasting features of Asia.
2 Understanding the regional divisions and highlights of their contransting features.
3 Gathering the information on the major physical divisions of Asia.
4 Understanding the relationship between the rivers and agricultural activity.
5 Knowing the relationship between climate and natural vegetation of Asia.
6 Understanding the major minerals and its distribution, population growth, distribution and density of population.

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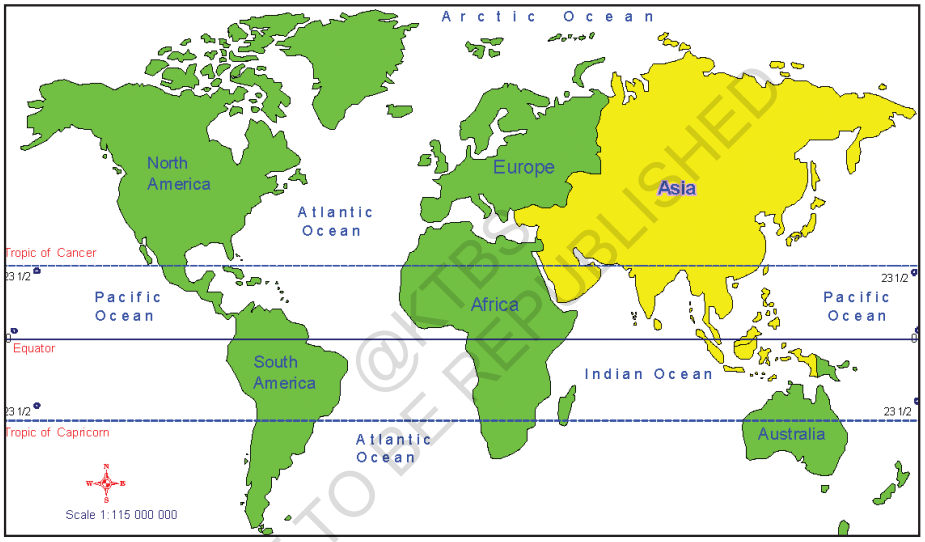
1. Location, Extent and Physical Setting

Introduction: Asia is the largest of the continents of the world. Hence it has the greatest variety in terms of physical features, climate, vegetation, wild life, soils, etc. It has the highest mountains, plateaus, vast fertile plains, deserts, river systems and lakes. There is diversity in languages, religions, distribution of population and density of population. That is why it is often called as "*Continent of diversity*".

Activity: *Discuss the reason why the continent of Asia is called as Continent of Diversity. Discuss with the map of Asia in front of you.*

Location: Asia lies between 1°.16' North to 77°.41' North latitudes and 26°.04' East to 169°.40' West longitudes. The Equator is slightly to the south of Malaysia. The Tropic of Cancer passes through India and Arabia.

Extent: Asia's total geographical area is approximately 44 million km^2. It covers 33% of the land surface of the world. Asia almost wholly lies in the northern hemisphere.



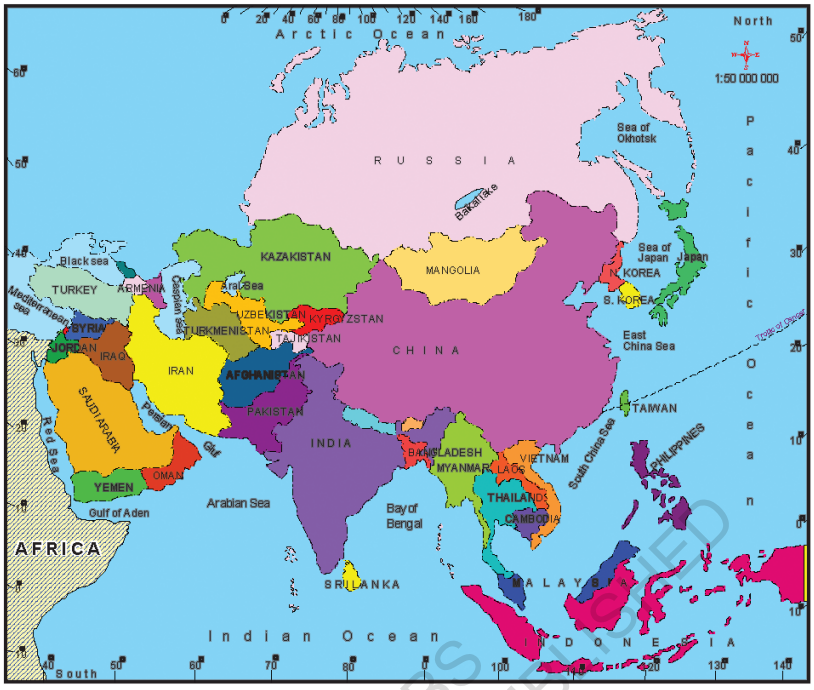
Location of Asia in the world

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Physical setting: The continent of Asia is bounded by oceans on three sides and by land on one side. It is bounded by the Arctic Ocean in the north, the Pacific Ocean in the east and the Indian Ocean in the south. The continent of Europe lies to the west.

The border between Asia and Europe is traditionally imaginary line, drawn zig zag line passing down the spine of the Ural mountains, and through the Caspian Sea, Caucasus mountain and the Black Sea.

Europe & Asia together are known as 'Eurasia'



Location and Physical Setting of Asia

The boundary separating Asia and Africa is along the Suez canal and the boundary between Asia and Australia passes between the island of New Guinea and Australia.

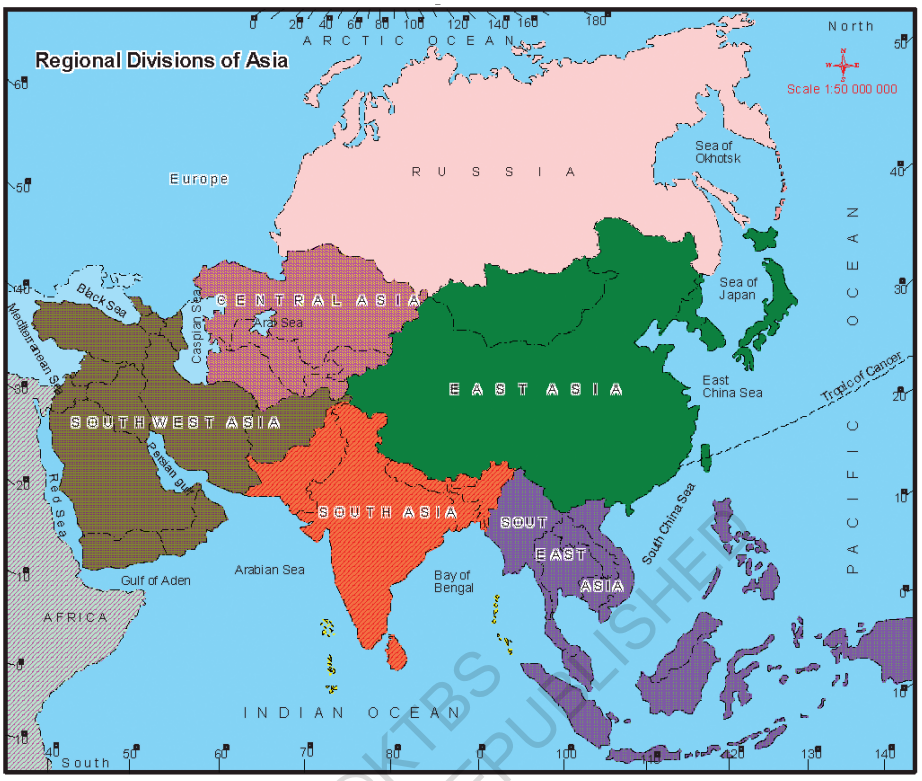
2. Regional Divisions Of Asia

Today, there are 48 countries in Asia. They are grouped into following five major regional divisions.

1. East Asia It includes the countries of China, North Korea and South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mongolia. It stretches between vast Russia in the North and South Asia and South-East Asia in the South.

2. South-East Asia It includes the countries of Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei and Philippines. It is a peninsular. That is an area of cluster of Islands. Eg. Sumatra, Java, Sulawesi, Borneo, Papua etc. To its west the Indian Ocean and to the east is the Pacific Ocean.

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Regional Divisions of Asia

3. South Asia It includes India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Srilanka and the Maldives. India is the biggest among these countries. It is bounded by the Indian ocean in the South and its sub-division such as Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. To the north are the Himalayan mountain ranges, Myanmar to the east and Afghanistan to the west.

4. South West Asia In this division it includes the countries like. Afghanistan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Syria, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) Yemen and Turkey. This division is to the south of the Black Sea with the Mediterranean Sea to the west and India to the east. Although it is largely covert by desert and semi-desert it is rich in petroleum and natural gas.

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5. Central Asia: It extends from Caspian sea to China and from Kazakhstan to Iran-Afghanistan. Major countries of this region are Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Siberia (Russia).

3. Physical features

High mountain ranges are the major landforms in the physical features of Asia. It also has various plateaus, alluvial plains and cluster of islands.

Major Physical Divisions: On the basis of structure and alluvial soil plains relief features the continent of Asia can be divided into five major physical divisions.

1 The North-Western Lowlands.
2 The Central Highlands.
3 The Southern Plateaus.
4 The Great Plains of Rivers.
5 The Island Groups.

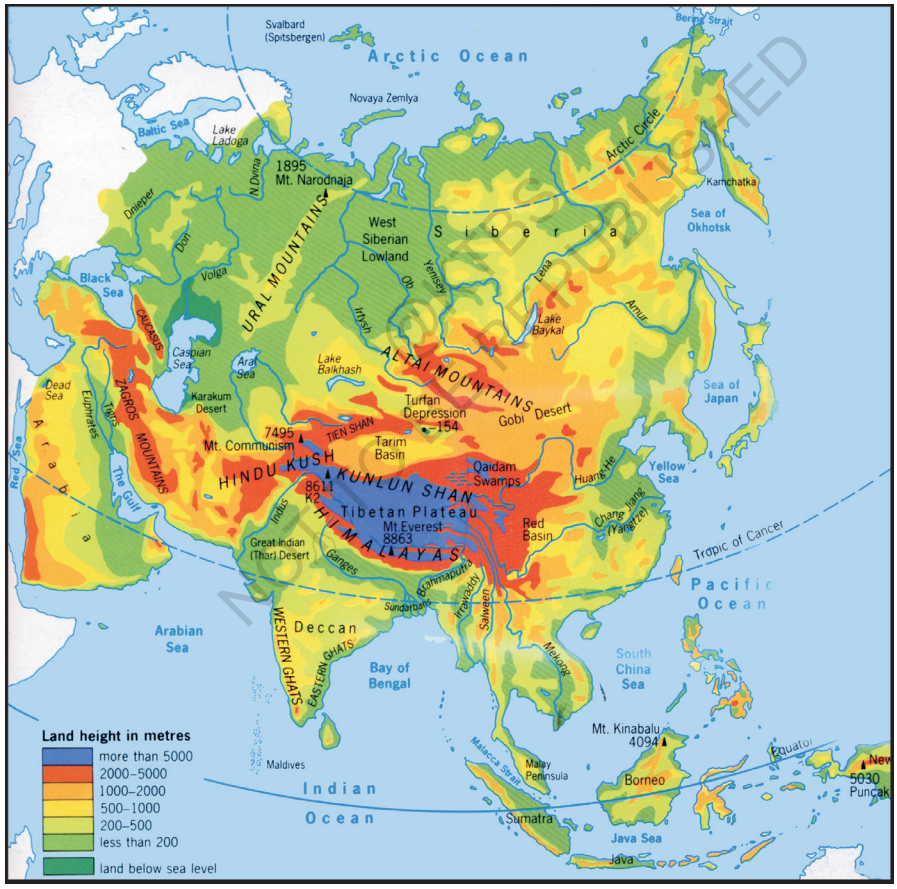
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1. The North-Western Lowlands: This division is the outstanding relief features of Asia. They extent from Bering strait to the Caspian sea. They are seen between the central highlands and the Arctic Ocean. The vast triangular lowlands is called the 'Siberian plain'. There is general slope towards the north. Some rivers flow through these plains. For example: Rivers like Thelana, the Ob and Yenise. They flow northwards into the Arctic Ocean.



Mt.Everest

2. The Central Highlands: They form the second great physical division. They lie to the south of the North-western lowlands. The mountain ranges in Central Asia are called 'Central Highlands'. It stretch from Asia Minor to Bering Strait. Various mountain ranges radiate from the Pamir Knot in all directions. The eastern ranges include important mountains the Himalayas, the Kunlun, the Karakoram, the Tienshan, the Altai, the Sayan, the Yablonovy, the Khingan and the Stanovoy. The western ranges comprise of the Hindukush, the Sulaimans, the Kirthars, the Elburz, the Zagros, the Caucasus, the Pontine and the Taurus mountains.



Physical Divisions

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The Himalayan ranges are fold mountains which extend south-west from the Pamirs. They are the loftiest mountains in the world. Here Mt. Everest is the highest peak in the world.

There are many plateaus in between mountain ranges. Examples: Tibet, Mangolia, Iran, Anatolia plateau etc. Many rivers of Asia originate in these highlands.

3. The Southern Plateaus: They are the old plateaus made of hard and quartz rocks. The most important of them are the Plateau of Arabia, the Deccan plateau (India) and the Plateau of Yunnan (Indo-China) and Shan (Myanmar) Plateau.

The Plateau of Arabia is a peninsula and a dry region

The Deccan Plateau occupies a large part of the Indian peninsula. It lies between the central mountains, the Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats. It slopes towards the east and many rivers flow through it.

The Yunnan Plateau is situated to the South-West of China. This is a high lime-stone region. The Shan Plateau is a continuation of it.

4. The Great Plains of rivers: This region consists of plains of the rivers of Asia which either flow into the Indian Ocean or the Pacific Ocean. The rivers flowing here form fertile plains by depositing alluvial soil. The major plains in this division are the Tigris-Euphrates in Syria and Iraq, the Indo-Gangetic plain in India and Pakistan, the Irrawady plain in Myanmar, the Menam and the Mekong in Indo-China, the Si-Kiang, the Chiang-Jiang (Yang-tse-Kiang) and Hwang Ho Plains of China. These plains are densely populated.

5. The Island Groups: Numerous islands are found in South-East Asian and the Pacific coast of the Asian continent.

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They extend from Kamchatka peninsula in the north to Philippines and Borneo in the south and are arranged in festoons. They are enclosed by five seas.

Namely, the Sea of Okhotsk, the Sea of Japan, the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea and the South China Sea.

The island festoons are - (i) the Kurile Islands, (ii) the Japanese Islands, (iii) the La Chu Islands and (iv) the Borneo and Philippines Islands. Most of these islands are of volcanic origin It also has fertile soil, deep valleys and conical mountains.

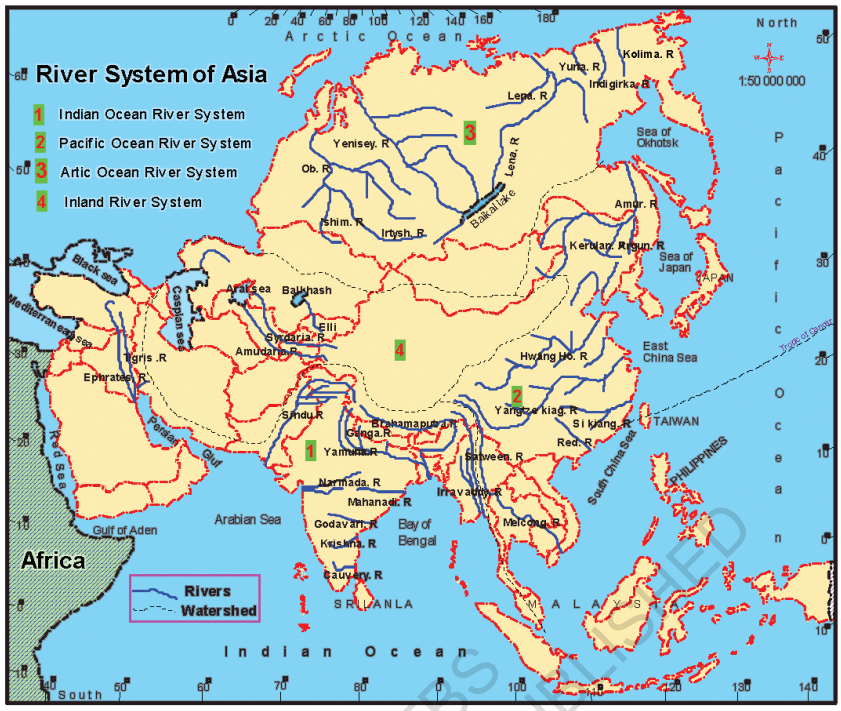
4. Major Rivers and Agriculture

Rivers of Asia: Asia is a land of mighty rivers. The river system of this continent is influenced by natural features and surrounding water bodies. Asia is surrounded by the Arctic, the Pacific and the Indian Oceans. The majority of rivers of this continent flow into these oceans. Thus the rivers of Asia can be divided into four groups based on where the rivers join the ocean.

1. Rivers flowing into the Indian ocean: The major rivers belonging to this groups are: the Tigris and the Euphrates of Syria and Iraq, flow into the Persian Gulf. The Sindhu, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra of India and Pakistan, rises in the Himalayas and flow southward into the Indian Ocean. Rivers Sittang, Salween and Irrawadi of Myanmar flow into the Bay of Bengal.

2. River flowing into the Pacific Ocean: It includes the rivers of Amur (Russia), Hwang Ho, Chiang Jiang (Yangtse Kiang) and Sikiang of China, which drain eastward into the Sea of Okhotsk, the Yellow Sea and the China Sea respectively. Menam and Mekong of Indo-China flow into South China Sea.

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Rivers system of Asia

3. Riverse flowing into Arctic Ocean: Ob, Yenisei and Lena are the major rivers of this group. These rivers rises in the Central Highlands, flow northwards, and flow into the Arctic Ocean.

4. Inland Rivers: The rivers which does not belong to these group flow into Inland seas. For example the Volga and the Ural flows into the Caspian Sea, the Amu Darya and Syr Darya flows into the Aral Sea.

Agriculture of Asia

Agriculture is the most important occupation of Asia. About three forth of the people are engaged in agriculture. Most of the goods exported from Asia are agricultural products.

There is a close relationship between farming and the river systems in Asia. Agriculture is largely practiced in river basins except in Siberia. The main reasons for this are the fertile soil here and water supply through irrigation.

In many Asian countries, most of the farmers use hand tools and animals for cultivation. They follow the intensive farming.

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The other types of farming which are in practice; irrigation farming, dry farming, plantation farming, mixed farming, shifting cultivation, etc. In recent years modern implements, fertilizers, high-yielding varieties of seeds etc. have become widespread in some of the Asian countries. Yet there are many countries which have low-yield per hectare due to many reasons.

Crops: A variety crops cultivated in Asia. Paddy and wheat are the chief staple food crops. China and India are the leading producers of paddy and together they produce more than 90% of the world paddy. Japan, Bangladesh, Thailand and South East Asian countries are other major producers of paddy. China, India, Pakistan and Asian Russia are the leading wheat producing countries.



Rice Crop

Asia leads in the production of world's natural rubber and tea. Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand are the major natural rubber producers. The major tea producing countries are China, Indonesia, India, Malaysia and Thailand.



Tea estate



Coffee estate

The other important crops grown in Asia are cotton, jute (fibre crops) and sugarcane. China, India, Pakistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are the major cotton producing

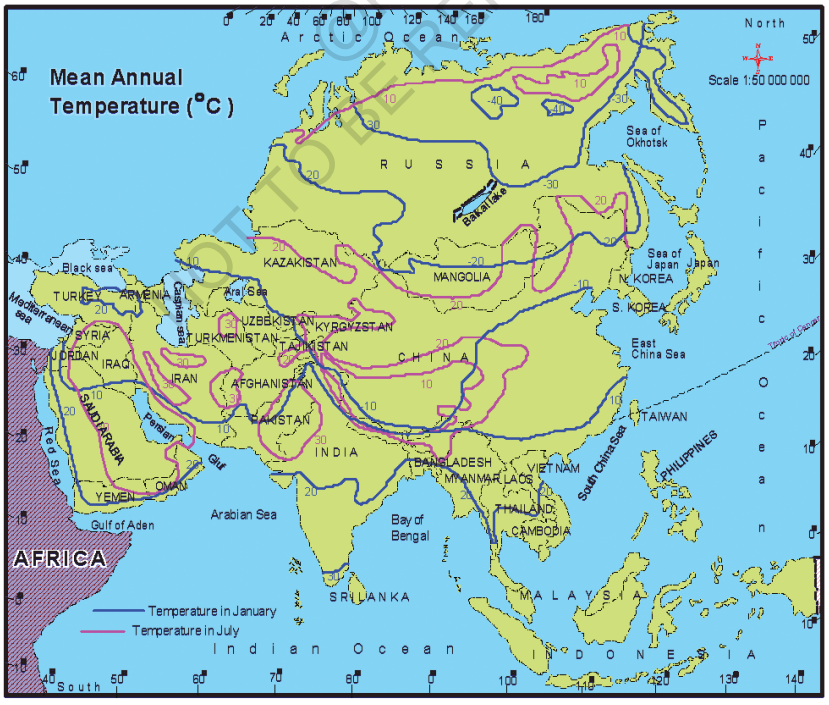
countries. Jute is produced by Bangladesh, China and India. The sugarcane producing areas are mainly found in India, Indonesia, Philippines and Bangladesh. India is the 2nd major sugarcane producer in the world.

Asia is also famous for the production of coffee, cocoa, various cereals (Navane, Sajje, Sawe) oil seeds, spices etc.

5. Climate and Natural Vegetation

Climate: As mentioned earlier, Asia is a vast continent. It extends from the Equator in the South upto to the Polar regions. As a result, different region of this continent has different climatic conditions. For example: Asia has some of the coldest lands in the world (Polar), as well as some of the hottest areas (Central and Southwest). Also very dry and high rainfall areas are found here. The varied climate of the continent is due to several factors. Eg: size, latitudinal extent, physical features, monsoon winds etc.

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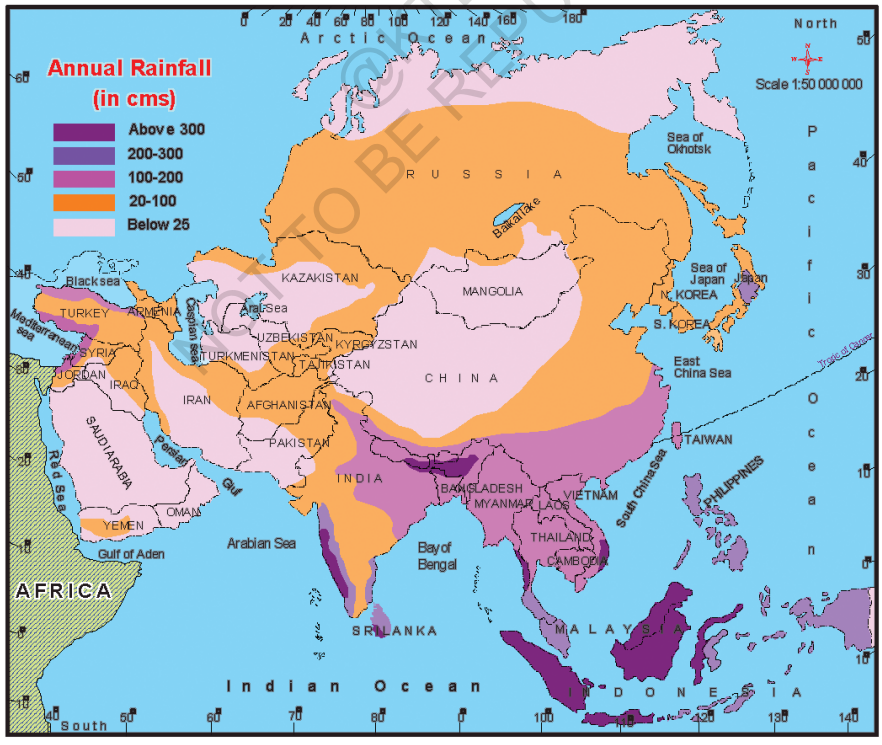


Distribution of Annual temperature

Temperature: It naturally varies from one region to another and from one season to another. In January, the southern countries are less cold, but the northern countries experience bitter cold. Verkhoyansk in Siberia is the coldest place. In July, a greater part of the continent is hot, with the exception of northern Siberia and the high mountains and plateaus of Central Asia. Most of the regions in Asia has highest temperature. In some places the temperature rises beyond 40° c.

Distribution of Rainfall: Most of the rainfall in Asia is caused by the summer southwest monsoon winds. But the monsoon winds do not reach the central part of Asia. That part is dry condition throughout the year. In winter the Westerlies cause rainfall in the Western Asian countries and Eastern parts of China and the Philippines, Malaysia etc. receive rainfall from tropical cyclones.

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Distribution of Annual rainfall

Winter Season: Most of Asia experiences winter from October to March. A greater part of Asia lies in the northern hemisphere. During this season, oblique rays of the sun are transmitted to the Northern hemisphere. So, most of Asia experiences very low temperature and very cold climate.

The atmospheric pressure is high in central Asia and low over the Indian Ocean. Winds, therefore, blow from the land to the sea. They are dry and do not cause rainfall. Rainfall is rare in winter.

Summer Season: The situation is opposite to winter. It starts in April and ends in September. The sun shines directly in the northern hemisphere. So most of Asia has high temperature and it causes low pressure in Central Asia. Winds blow from the sea towards the land. They rain more or less all over the continent.

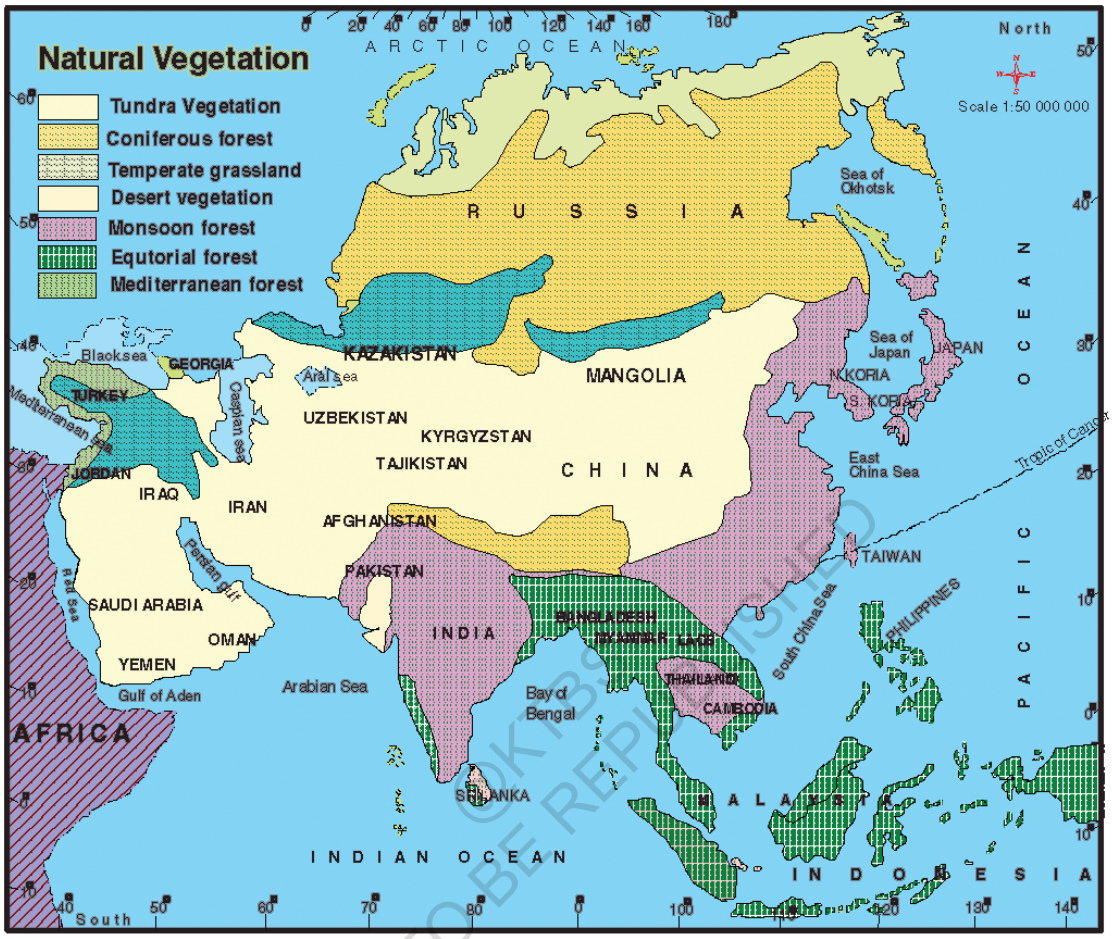
- *Verkhoyansk in Siberia has - 51° c and Omyakni has -71° c recorded minimum temperature in January.*
- *Mawsynram in the state Meghalaya of India receives highest rainfall in the world (1187 cm).*

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Natural vegetation

Natural vegetation of Asia is closely associated with climate. But other factors such as landforms, soils and interference of human beings also have influence on types of vegetation and its distribution. There is great diversity in the vegetation of Asia. It can be divided into seven major types as follows:

1 The Tundra vegetation This vegetation is found in a narrow belt along the Arctic coastal areas. This belt is mostly covered by snow and ice. So plant growth is limited and restricted to mosses and lichen.



Natural vegetation

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2 Line shaped trees (Coniferous forests)

Distributed in the Tundra region. It is also known as 'Taiga forests'. Fir, spruce, larch and pine are the major trees grown here. They are soft wood trees.



Taiga forest

3 Temperate grasslands (steppes) They are found mainly to the west of Central Asia and in a fringe of deserts and semi-deserts. Due to low rainfall, short grass are grown.

4 Desert vegetation It occurs in tropical and temperate deserts of Asia, e.g., Arabia, Iran, Thar desert etc. Only some thorny plants, bushes and poor grass grow here. Near the oasis date and palm trees are found.

5 Monsoon forests They are found in the South, South-West and East Asia. Since this region has high temperature and sufficient rainfall, forests grow here. Teak, sal, banyan, bamboos, sandal and many varieties of hardwood trees are found here. They shed their leaves in autumn.



Monsoon forest

6 Equatorial forests are mainly found in the East Indies and heavy rainfall areas of the monsoon lands. They are evergreen and trees are quite tall. Mahogany, ebony, rubber, bamboo, rosewood are the main trees.



Equatorial forest region

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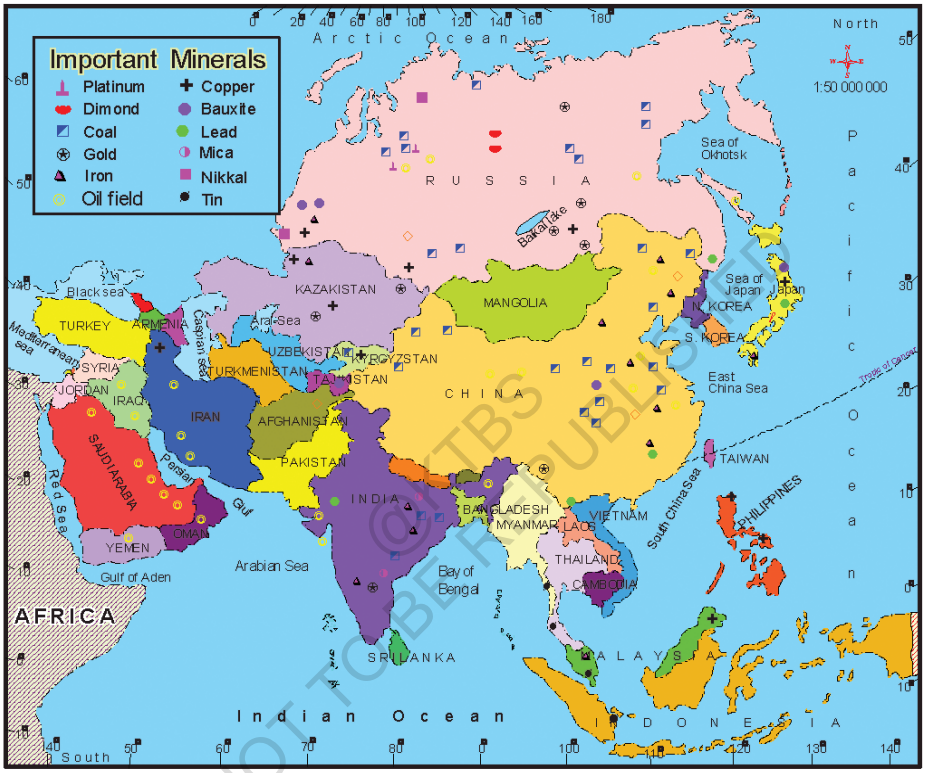
7 Mediterranean vegetation

It is found in South-Western parts of Asia. Olive, figs, oak and shrubs grow here. Trees grow to a shorter height.

6. Major Minerals

Iron ore It is the main raw material for the production of iron and steel. Asia is rich in iron ore reserves and has about 30% of world's reserves are located in this continent.

China is the leading producer of iron ore. India, Turkey, Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Myanmar, Vietnam, Kazakhstan and Pakistan are the other important producers. Small amount of iron ores are found in South Korea, Taiwan, Sri Lanka, Japan, and the countries of South-West Asia.



Meyore minerals

Manganese: An important allaying mineral. It is essential for the production of good quality steel. The Continent of Asia has a large amount of manganese deposits. It is mainly distributed among Transcaucasia, Central Asia, Siberia, China and India. China is a leading producer.

Bauxite: Asia is a continent with huge deposits of Bauxite. It is mostly found in Kazakhstan and South Central Siberia. Also a large amount of Bauxite is available in India, Indonesia, Turkey, Malaysia and China.

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Coal: It is a fossil fuel mineral. It is an important source of energy. Asia is rich in coal reserves. But they are not uniformly distributed. The largest reserves are found in China, India, Indonesia, Siberia and the Central Asian countries.

China is the largest country in both coal deposites and production of coal in the world. Coal is available in all provinces of China. India is the second largest producer of coal in Asia. Recently the Kuznetsk Basin in South Central Siberia has become the largest producer of coal. Smaller deposits of coal are found in the countries of Uzbekistan, Kyrgystan, Tajikistan, Pakistan and Japan.

Petroleum It is a mineral oil. It is a source of power for automated vehicles, railways, ships and aeroplanes. Southwestern Asia has the largest petroleum reserves. It is mostly found in Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Iran, Bahrain, Qatar and United Arab Emirates (UAE). These countries have about half of the world's petroleum deposits and produce nearly 25% of the world's petroleum.

Some countries of Eastern and South Eastern Asia also have petroleum reserves, eg: Indonesia, Malaysia, China, Taiwan, Myanmar, Saravak, India, Vietnam etc.

Recently Siberia has increased the production of petroleum.

- *The term 'petroleum' is derived from two Latin words: 'Petra' means 'rock' and 'oleum' means oil.*
- *Saudi Arabia is the largest producer of petroleum in the world.*

Central Asia also posseses considerable deposits of petroleum, in Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakstan, etc.

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Major Industrial Regions

Continent of Asia is a vast region. Despite its large size and rich mineral and agricultural resources, the continent of Asia has not industrialized like Europe. The main reasons for this situation are lack of technology, lack of capital, conservative attitude and large population engaged in agriculture.

An area dominated by industries and industrial activities is called "Industrial Region". They are found in few areas which are favourable for setting up of industries.

Major industrial regions of Asia are as follows:

Japan: There are four major industrial regions in Japan.

1 *The Keihin Region* is a large industrial region that includes Tokyo, Kawasaki and Yokohama cities. The important industries here are textiles, engineering, shipbuilding, paper and cement.

2 *The Hanshin Region* includes the metropolitan cities of Osaka, Kobe and Kyoto. It is dominated by textiles.

3 *The Ise Bay Region* spreads around Nogoya city. Here textiles and engineering are major industries.

4 *The Kita Kyushu Region* consist of the cites of Yawata, Moji and Kokura are famous for steel, ship building, machinery and textiles industries.

China: Agriculturally dominant and industrially advanced country. After the maoist government came to power, the priority was towards industrialisation.

The major industries of the country are:

1 *Manchuria* region: Here the major industries are iron, engineering and chemicals.

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2 *Beijing* region : Engineering, ship building, textile and chemical industries are important.

3 *Shanxi-Baotou* region: has Iron and Steel and agricultural equipments.

4 *Chang-jiang:* Implements by Textiles, ship building and steel manufacturing are found in this regiion.

5 *Wuhan* region is famous for the metallurgical and heavy Industrial goods manufacturing..

India: Major Industrial regions:

(1) Hooghly-Kolkata region,

(2) Mumbai Pune region,

(3) Ahmedabad- Vadodara region,

(4) Madurai-Coimbatore-Bengaluru region,

(5) Chotanagpur region,

(6) Delhi-Meerut,

(7) Vishakapatnam region,

(8) Kollam-Thiruvananthapuram region.

(9) The other Asian industrial regions are located in South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia.

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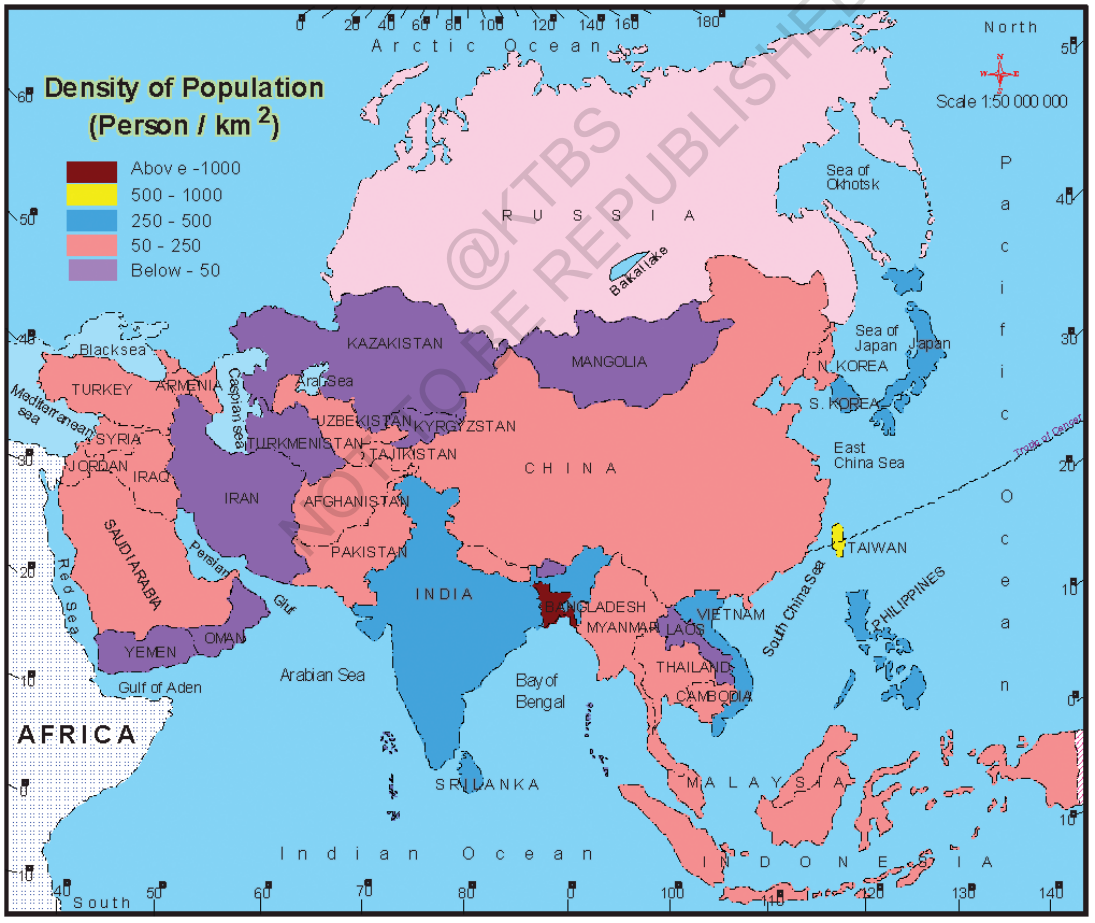
7. Population of Asia

Growth: Asia has a population of around 476 crores. It is 60% of the world's population. Today's population has increased five times over the last three decades. In 1950 the population of Asia was 140 crores. The rate of growth was high until recently. Now it has been decreasing.

Distribution and density: The distribution of population in Asia is not uniform. You will find most part of Asia is sparsely populated and some areas are very densely populated.

The average density of population of Asia is 153 persons per Km^2. The sparsely populated areas are the northern and eastern parts of Siberia which are very cold, the deserts of Arabia, Iran and Thar(India) and the highlands of Central Asia.

The densely populated parts of Asia include the great plains of India, Bangladesh, China, Japan, Korea and Java island (Indonesia). Most of these are fertile flat plains, or river basins. Also high density of population is found in Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Malaysia and Cambodia.



Density of Population in Asia

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New Terms

autumn, billion, coniferous forest, fossil fuel, fold mountains, knot, limestone, lichens, mosses, oasis, raw materials, taiga, tundra.

Do you know?

- *The highest peak in the continent of Asia is Mt. Everest (8,848 m).*
- *The lowest point of Asia is the Dead Sea*
- *The Karakoram Range contains the largest glaciers of the world.*
- *Tibet is the highest plateau in the world. It is often called as the 'Roof of the World'.*
- *Caspian Sea is the world's largest inland water body.*
- *Lake Baikal in southern Siberia is the world's deepest lake.*
- *Maldives is the smallest country in Asia both in terms of area and population.*

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Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with suitable words.

1 The continent of Asia is in _____ hemisphare.

2 The highest mountain of Asia is _____ .

3 The leading country in rubber production in Asia is _____ .

4 The temperate grasslands are called _____ .

II. Discuss in groups and answer

5 Asia is called 'Continent of Diversity'. Why?

6 What is the physical setting of Asia?

7 Which are the major physical divisions of Asia?

8 In which season are the rains plentiful in Asia?

9 Which are the major staple food crops of Asia?

10 Which is the most important fossil fuel in Asia?

11 Which parts of Asia are very sparsely populated? Why?

Activities

1 Study the map of Asia from your Atlas and identify and list out the mountains, plateaus, plains and rivers. Locate them on the map.

2 Collect information and pictures on major rivers of Asia and their details: sources, length, tributaries, dams, deltas etc., and mark them on the outline map.

3 Observe your surroundings and list the crops, vegetation and water bodies.

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Chapter 23 — Continent of Europe

M5L7L5

Introduction to the Chapter

The chapter introduces location, extent and physical setting, physiographic and Climatic divisions, Natural vegetation, farming, dairying and fishing. Mineral and industries; Population growth, distribution and density of Europe are introduced.

Competencies

1 Understanding the location, size and physical setting of Europe.

2 Understanding the physical and climatic divisions of Europe.

3 Co-relating the influence of climatic regions with the natural vegetation.

4 Knowing how the minerals determine the industries of Europe.

5 Understanding the factors affecting the uneven population distribution, population factors density and controlling migration.

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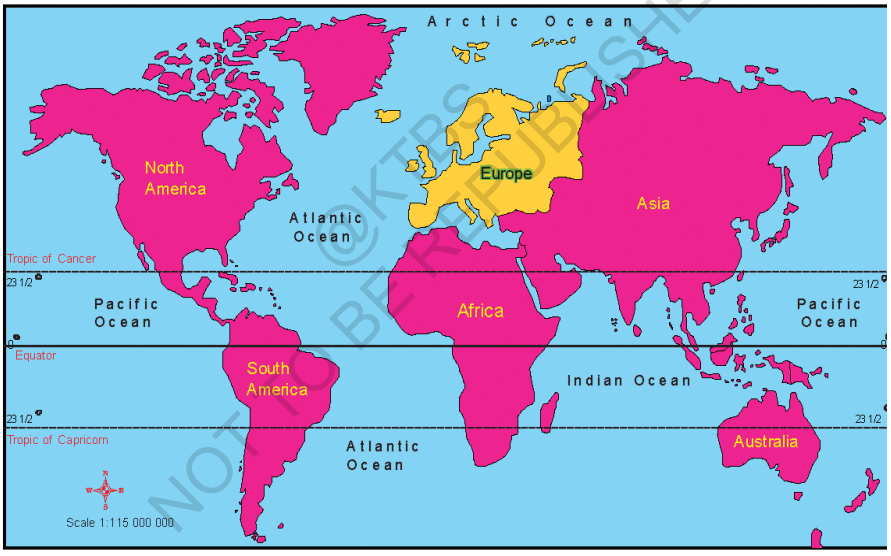
Introduction: Europe is one of the most densely populated and urbanized continents of the world. It is also a prosperous and highly industrialized continent. It ranks sixth among the continents with respect to its area. It has a complex and diverse physical setting, socio-cultural and political system. It has many large and small countries and their total number is 56.

1. Location, Extent and Physical Setting

Location: Europe lies between 10° West and 60° East longitude and from 36° North to 72° North latitude.

Extent: Europe is the second smallest continent with a total area of 10.4 million Km^2. It is about three times the area of India. This continent occupies about 7% of the Earth's surface, but it has a 1/4th part of the world's total population.

Physical Setting: Europe is a peninsula of Asia. This continent is surrounded by water on three sides. It is surrounded by Barents sea to the north, Atlantic ocean to the west and the Mediterranean Sea to the South.



Location of Europe in the world

Europe lies to the east of the continent of Asia and the Ural mountains the Caucasus mountains and the Caspian sea separates them.

The above mentioned physical forms are not secure borders between the Asia and Europe. Hence together they are known by a common name, 'Eurasia'.

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Location, extent and physical setting

2. *Physical features*

The physical features of Europe is unique. The western and southern parts are mountainous, characterized by snow covered peaks, gorges, valleys, and small plains. But most of the eastern part of the continent is covered by stable plateau. There are topographical changes here and there.

The highest point of Europe is Mt. Elbrus (5633 mt.) in the Caucasus mountain range. The lowest place on the continent is the Caspian Sea. It is 28 meters below sea level.



Mount Elbrus

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In fact, Europe is a large peninsula of the Asiatic land mass. There are many peninsulas, in this continent. For example the Scandinavian, the Iberian, the Jutland, the Balkan etc. Hence Europe has been known as the 'Peninsula of Peninsulas'.

Europe has a highly indented irregular coastline of 80,500 km. It is longer than the coasts of Asia. Thousands of islands lie off the coast of the continent. Among them, the largest islands are Britain and Ireland. Other important islands are Shetland, Faroe, Orkneys, Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica, Crete and Channel island.

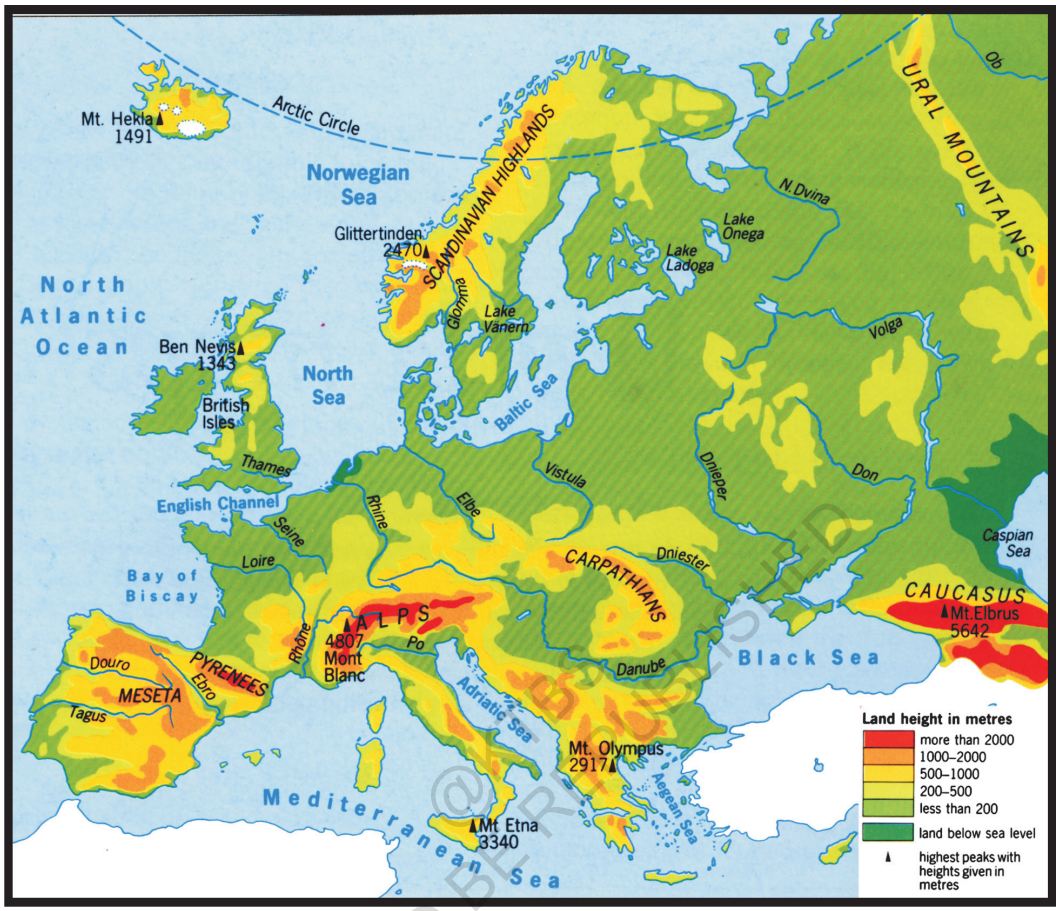
Physical Divisions

On the basis of topography the continent of Europe is generally divided into four divisions. They are -

1 The Northwestern uplands
2 The North European Plains.
3 The Central Uplands.
4 The Southern Mountains.

1 The Northwestern uplands: This region includes the oldest mountains located in Finland, Sweden, Norway and extends to Britain and Iceland. These are fossil mountains. They have undergone glacial erosion and become low mountains. They are made of ancient rocks. The general elevation is 2000 m. in Scandinavia and 600 m only. In Ireland and Scotland. Galdho Piggen (2469 m) in Norway is the highest peak in this division. The Ben Nevis (1343 m) in Scotland and Snowdon (1085 m) of Wales are the other peaks. This region has a gradual slope in the north and many rivers flow through it.

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Physical divisions

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2 The North European Plains: It is also known as the Central Lowlands. It extends from the Ural Mountains in the east to the Atlantic Coast in the west. Greater part of Europe lies in this region. It includes European Russia, Poland, Northern Germany, the Netherlands (Holland), Denmark, Belgium, Northern France and the eastern parts of England.

It is broad in the east and narrow down as one moves towards the west. In the Netherlands and Belgium, some plains are below sea level. It is a depositional plain formed by the flow of various rivers.

This region is not flat like the Indo-Gangetic plain of India. In certain places there are gradual slopes and at other places it gets separated by low mountain ranges and hills. It has some of the world's most fertile agricultural lands

3 The Central Uplands: This upland consists of old rocks, eroded old mountains, hills and high plateaus. Their average height is not more than 600 mt. above sea level.

The uplands extend from Ireland in the west to Russia in the east. They include the Meseta plateau in Spain and Portugal, the Massif Central and Vosges in France, the Black Forests in Germany and several low ranges in Czech and Slovakia Republics.

Some parts of this region are forested. Most of the land is rocky. The soil here is infertile and not good for farming. But river valleys provide the best farm lands.

4 The Southern Mountains: They are also known as the 'Alpine Mountain System'. It includes several mountain ranges, the Sierra Morena in Spain as well as the Pyrenees which form the boundary between France and Spain.

These mountains run parallel to one another from the Atlantic Coast in the west to the Caspian Sea in the east. They are fold mountains like the Himalayas.

In this region, the famous Alps are the most important. mountains Mount Blanc is the highest



Mount Blanc

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peak (4807 m) here Alps. The Alps stretches across parts of Southeastern France, Northern Italy, most of Switzerland and a part of Germany, Austria and Slovania. The Apennines, stretch much of Italy, the Dinaric Alps stretch through Croatia, Bosnia and Yugoslavia and the Balkan mountains of Bulgaria, the Carpathian mountains are in Northern Slovania.

3. Climatic Regions and Natural Vegetations

Before discussing the climatic regions of Europe let us know its general climatic conditions. Most of the continent of Europe has 'Temperate Climate'. It is also know as 'Tepid climate'. It is the result of the interaction of major climate control units. These are latitude, relief, winds and position. However, the winds that blow across the continents from the Atlantic Ocean have great effects on the climate of the continent. This is because of a warm ocean current of the Gulf stream and also the strong westerlies.

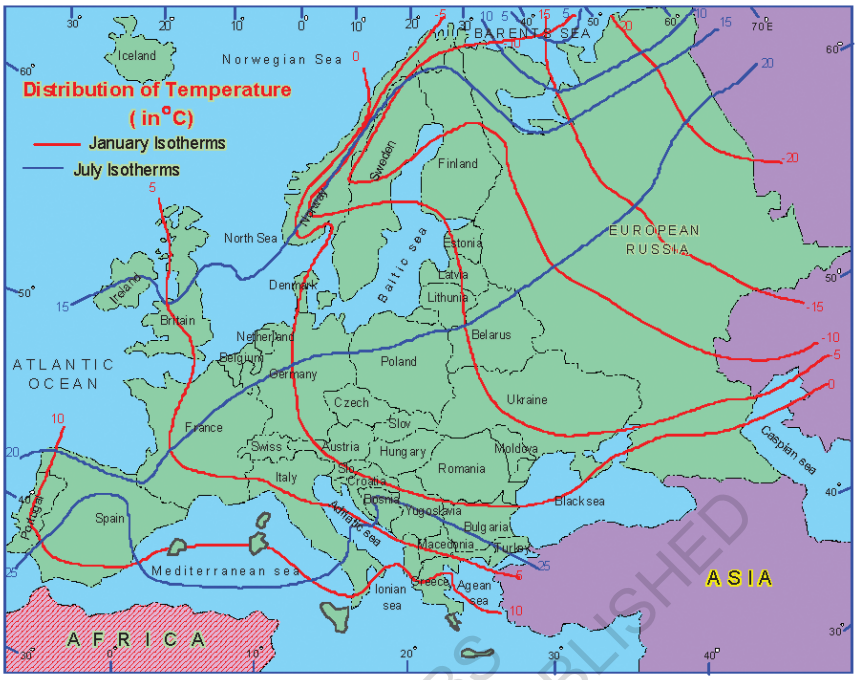
In general, Northern Europe has longer, but colder winter and shorter, but cooler summers than Southern Europe. The winters are also longer and colder and the summers are shorter and hotter in the east than in the west.

Climatic regions

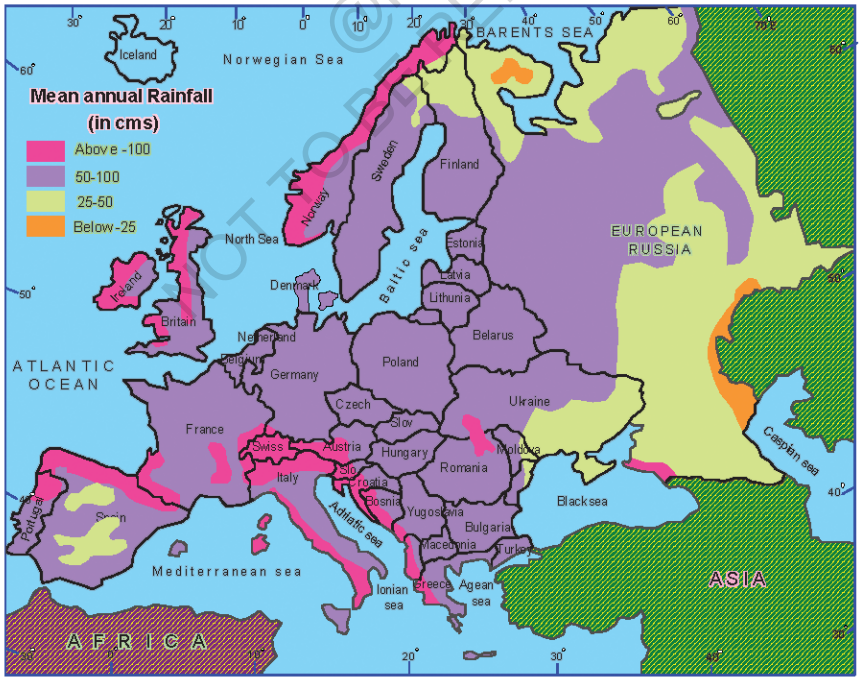
Europe can be divided into four climatic regions:

1. North West - European maritime climatic region: This climatic region extends from the coast of Norway to northern Spain and inland of Central Europe. The mild winters, cool summers, ample rainfall, cloudy and foggy days are the main characteristics of this type of climate. There is moderate temperature in both winter and summer (10˚C and 18˚C) and distribution of rainfall is around 75 cm.

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Distribution of temperature



Distribution of Annual rainfall

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2 Trans - Continental climatic Region: It is mostly found in Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria. This climate is characterized by cold winters and warm summers (-12˚C and 10˚C). and an average annual rainfall of 50 cm. There is maximum convectional rainfall in early summer.

3 Mediterranean climatic Region: This type of climate is characterized by hot, dry, sunny summers and mild winters with some rain. There is unequal distribution of rain. The average winter temperature is 8˚C and summer temperature is 22˚C. The average annual rainfall varies from 75 to 100 cms. This type of climate is mainly found in southern-most part of Europe adjoining the Mediterranean Sea.

4 Mountainous climatic Region: The Alps and Caucasus mountains have this type of climate. It is controlled by altitude, angle of the sun rays, and winds. The average winter temperature is - 4ºC and summer temperature is 16ºC. The average rainfall is 50 cm on the leeward side and above 200 cms on the windward side of the mountains. At high altitudes the temperature is below freezing point.

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Natural Vegetation

Since a long time man has settled in Europe and it is very densely populated. Hence, the natural vegetation has been totally destroyed, except in the higher altitudes and in places unfavourable for living. There are six types of vegetation in Europe as given below.

1 Tundra vegetation consists of lichens and mosses. It occupies a narrow zone in Ireland and northern Norway, Sweden and Finland. Vegetation of similar type is found at higher altitudes in the mountains of Alps and northern Urals.

2 Taiga forests It is seen mainly in polar regions of Norway, Sweden and Finland. It is also called Coniferous forests. Only a few varieties of trees are found here, e.g., Scots pine, spruce and larch. They are cone - shaped trees and have needle-shaped leaves.

3 Mixed forests are found in the south central regions. Deciduous and coniferous trees grow here. The important trees are oak, ash, elm, poplar, willow, beech etc.

4 Mediterranean vegetation is usually found along the Mediterranean Sea coast of here, there are bread leaved evergreen types of trees which do not shed their leaves in autumn. Trees like cork oak, olive, laurel etc., grow here.

5 Grasslands are found in the areas south of the deciduous forests, e.g. in Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania and European Russia. It is sparsely wooded and has steppe type of grass.

6 Alpine vegetation is distributed in the highlands of Southern Europe such as the Alps, Pyrenees, Balkan, Carpathian and the Dinaric mountains.



Natural vegetation

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4. Farming, Dairying and Fishing

Farming : Agriculture is still a very important occupation in Europe even after industrialization. The continent is fortunate in having a vast plain, fertile and well irrigated land. The climatic condition is also favourable for agriculture.

Most of the countries have more than 50% of agricultural land except the Scandinavian countries. The average size of land holdings in Europe is 10 hectares.

Mixed farming is practised in West European countries. It includes the cultivation of crops and the keeping of livestock. The cultivable land is used for growing fodder crops for cattle, poultry farming, piggery and the growing of a variety of fruits and vegetables.

In southern Europe the type of farming is different because of Mediterranean climate. There is a combination of cereals, fruits, vegetables and livestock farming.

Depending upon a vast market, specialized type of farming has developed. The agriculture is commercial and well-organised near densely populated urban areas. On the whole, less than 10% of Europeans are engaged in agricultural activities.

Depending upon relief, soil, climatic conditions, the availability of market and farm labour, a great variety of crops are grown in different parts of Europe.

Wheat is the important staple food crop of Europe. The Paris basin, the great plains of Europe, the plains of Hungary, the lowland countries and the Po river basin in Italy are the main wheat producing areas of Europe.

Maize is the second major cereal crop of Europe. France, Italy, Hungary, Germany and Spain are the major producers of maize. *Rye* is another food crop, which is largely used for making bread and liquor. The leading producers of rye are

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Poland, Germany, Czech and Slovakia Republics. Europe is an important producer of types in itaties. It is used as food grain, fodder for cattle and for producing liquor. *Oats* is also grown in some nations. Rice is grown to a small extent as a summer crop.

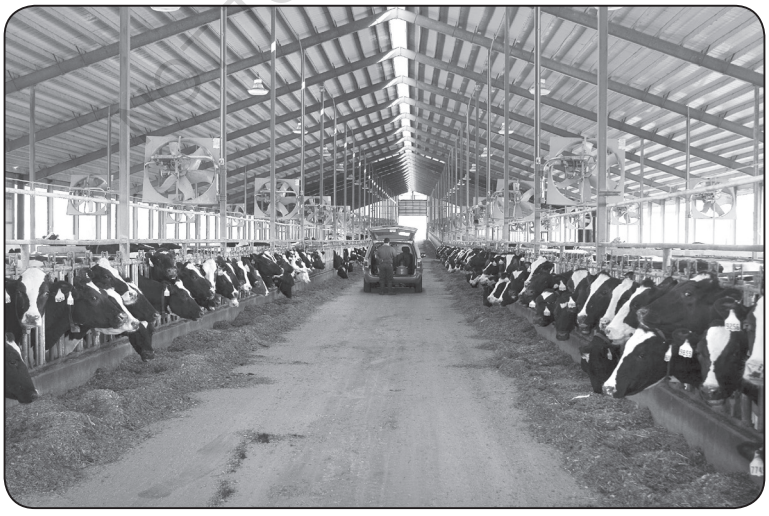
Sugar beet and *potatoes* are the two root crops of Europe. Sugar beet is used both for the production of sugar and as fodder for cattle.

Potatoes grown mainly in the plains of Central and Eastern Europe. Europe is leading producer of potatoes in the world. Flax is the fibre crop of Europe.

Fruits such as grapes, apples, figs, oranges, lemons, plums, pomegranates, chestnut etc. are grown on Europe's hilly slopes. Bulgaria is famous for roses, vegetables and horticultural crops.

Dairying: It is a highly organised system of occupation within Europe's mixed farming. The cool humid climate, dense urban population, good means of rail and road transportation, excellent bio-technological development, refrigeration, mechanization of commercial dairying and ample pastures have encouraged the development of dairying in Europe.

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Dairying

Dairying is highly developed in Denmark, Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany and Britain. But, Denmark is the most important of them all. The European countries export their dairy products, e.g., cheese, condensed milk, butter, chocolate. etc.

Fishing: Throughout history, the European continent has practised fishing as source of its food economy Fishing is particularly done in the shallow seas. The main fishing grounds are near North-West Europe. They extend from the north of Arctic circle to the Mediterranean sea. North sea region is the region with intensive, fishing practices. Countries Norway, Britain, Denmark, Sweden and Germany are also involved. The two most famous fishing grounds of the North Sea are the Dogger Bank and the Great Fisher Bank. The people of Norway are expert in fishing.

Seals and whales are caught in the polar regions. Norway is the largest producer and exporter of fish.

The shortage of farm land and food grains have encouraged fishing in Europe.

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Fishing grounds of Europe

5. Minerals

Minerals : The Continent of Europe has a variety of minerals and energy resources.

Iron ore is produced in large quantity in this continent. Iron ore is distributed in many European countries. 5% of World's iron ore reserves are available in this continent. France, Germany, Britain and Sweden are iron ore producing countries.

Copper is mainly produced in Bulgaria and Poland. Europe has scant petroleum and natural gas wealth. The major petroleum producing areas of Europe are the North Sea, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Germany.

Coal is the main source of electric power in Europe. Coal reserves are distributed across the continent except in Scandinavia and Mediterranean countries. High grade bituminous coal is distributed in Europe, Russia, Germany and Britain. Bauxite and potash are also found in some places.



Distribution of Important minerals

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Important Industries

Iron and Steel Industry: The Modern Age is the Age of Iron and Steel. This heavy industry produces iron and steel which is required for a large number of sub-industries. The important iron and steel producing areas are -

(1) Germany: Ruhr, Saar, Weser river basins and Berlin area;

(2) Britain: Black country, Sheffield, North-eastern Coastal and South Wales area; and

(3) France: Lorraine, North Western and Eastern border areas, and upper Silesia of Poland, Po Valley and Lombardy plain of Italy.

Cotton Textile: Europe has developed many agro-based industries. Cotton textile industry is one of them. Cotton mills are found throughout Europe. Raw cotton is imported from other countries. Britain is the birth place of modern cotton textile industry. Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire are important centres of cotton textile mills. Germany and France are other major producers of cotton textiles.

Britain, Germany, France, Belgium and Italy are famous for high quality silk and woollen textiles and synthetic fibres.

Ship - building industry: This is a branch of heavy engineering and essentially an assembling industry. The main favourable factors for ship - building are: technological excellence, good harbour sites, industrial progress etc.

Germany is Europe's leading ship - building country. Sweden, Britain, and France are the other ship - building countries of Europe.

Automobile Industry: The industry includes manufacturing of cars, trucks, buses, scooters and any other vehicles which are run with a motor engine. It is an assembling industry. It is a highly technical and expensive industry. Germany, France, Italy and Britain are the major producers of automobiles in Europe.

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6. Major Industrial Regions of Europe

There is a sort of triangle in which the major industries of Europe are located. It is known as the *Industrial Heart of Europe.* This triangle extends from the North Sea to the middle of Poland and from the Po valley of Italy in the South to Sweden in the north.

Following are the industrial regions of Europe:

1 The Industrial Regions of Britain.
2 The Western Triangular Industrial Region.
3 The Paris Industrial Region known as the Industrial Heart of Europe.
4 The Lorrain-Saar Industrial Region.
5 The Upper Rhine Region.
6 Upper valley zone of Silesia.
7 The southern Scandinavian region includes Stockholm.
8 Eastern Germany to North West Czech and Slovakia zone.
9 The Po river basin in the industrial zone of northern Italy.

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7. Population

The population of Europe is quite large as compared to its size. It has 11% of the world's land area excluding Russia. But it has one fifth of the world's population. Its total population is 742 million (2023) of which the urban population is more.

Distribution: The pattern of population distribution in Europe is not uniform. The most populous countries are Germany, Britain, Italy and France. Northwest Europe has low density of population. The Alps, Caucasus and the semi - dry land of the South Eastern parts are also sparsely populated.

The densely populated European countries are Belgium, Luxemburg, the Netherlands etc. This is due to industrialization, transportation facilities, natural resources and technological progress.

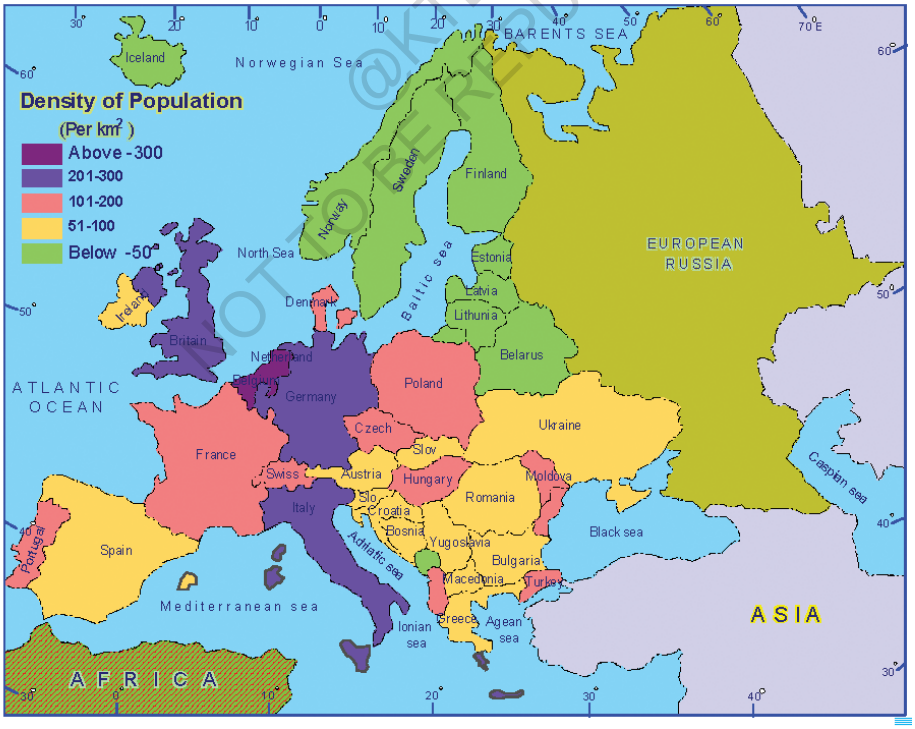
Growth: European countries are characterized by low and declining growth of population. The growth rate of population varies from place to place.

Migration: During the last 200 years, some Europeans have migrated to other countries and people of other countries have migrated to Europe for various reasons and have settled here.

After the Second World War people from other continents and countries started immigrating to Britain. Most of the immigrants have been Italians.

Germans had migrated to many countries before the Second World War. Germans can be seen as a minority in Poland, Hungary, Romania, Czech and Slovakia Republics and Yugoslovakia.

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Density of population

Density of population: The density of population is varied in Europe. While the highly developed Netherlands has 950 people per sq. km, Iceland has 3 people per sq. km. The Northern lowlands of Europe has the highest population density.

The most densely populated areas in Europe are - the industrial districts, Belgian and German coal fields, the Greater London, the Netherlands, the Rhine river Valley, North Italy and the coastlands of Spain.

The sparsely populated areas are Central France, mountainous areas, Balkan belt and the highlands of Scotland.

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New terms

Alpine, Alps, automobiles, flax, foggy, fold mountains, maritime, Massif, Meseta, migration, peninsula, Taiga textiles.

Let's know

- *Scandinavia: region of North Europe, is consisting of Norway, Sweden and Finland.*
- *River Britain or Great Britain is the largest island in Europe comprising of England, Scotland and Wales. With Northern Ireland, it constitutes the United Kingdom (UK).*
- *For more than 500 years Europe was called the heart of the world.*
- *Black Forest is not a forest. It is a mountain region located in southwestern Germany. It gets its name because its interior is dark due to thick forests.*

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with a suitable word:

1 Europe is a _____ of Asia.
2 The important mountain of Europe is _____ .
3 The strong ocean current which influences the climate of Europe is _____.
4 The major crop of Europe is _____ .

II. Discuss in groups and answer

5 Mention the geographical location of Europe.
6 Name the physical divisions of Europe.
7 What are the major climatic regions of Europe?
8 Mention the major types of natural vegetation of Europe.
9 Name the countries which are famous for dairying in Europe.
10 What are the staple food crops of Europe?
11 Mention the major fishing grounds of Europe.
12 Mention the important minerals of Europe.

Activities

1 On the outline map of Europe mark the physical divisions of Europe.
2 With the help of your teacher locate the important mountains and peaks of Europe.
3 Observe your surroundings and list out the land forms, vegetation and crops cultivated.
4 On an outline map of Europe locate the capital cities of European countries, places of tourism and Industrial areas.

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Chapter 24 CONTINENT OF AFRICA

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Introduction to the Chapter

In this lesson you learn about the location, extent and physical setting of Africa - Physiography of the continent - River system - Climate, natural vegetation and animal life - Agriculture and industries - Precious minerals - Growth, distribution and density of population.

Competencies

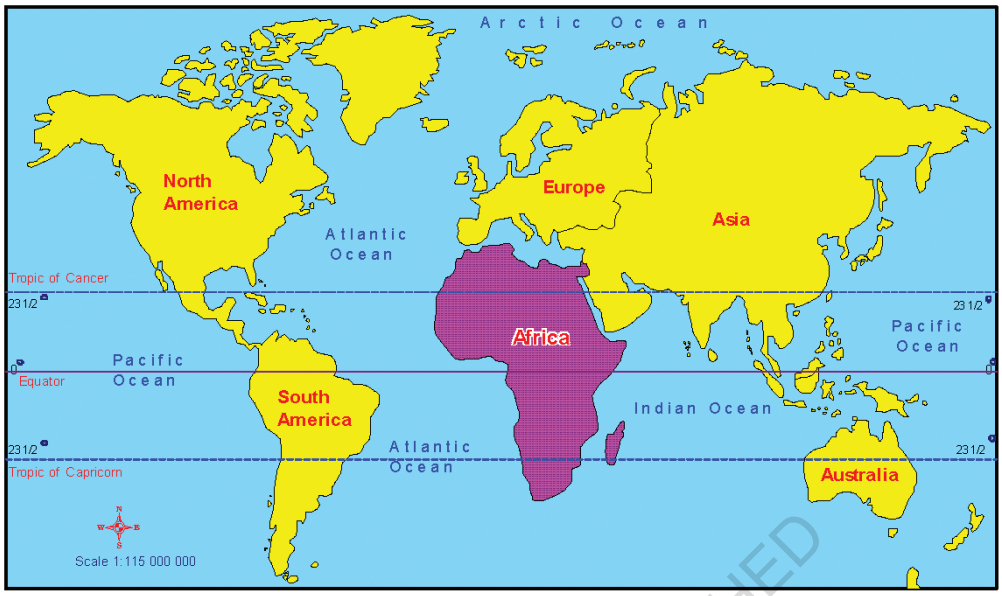
1 Understanding the location, area, physical setting and natural features of Africa.
2 Understanding the major river system, climate and climatic regions, natural vegetation and animal life of Africa.
3 Knowing about the agriculture, industries and precious minerals.
4 Knowing the population of Africa, its growth, distribution and density of population.

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Introduction: Africa is the second largest continent after Asia. It is also second in respect to population. Until recent years, the African continent was known as the dark continent. This is not because the continent is predominantly of black people, rather its plateaus extended to the coast and the Sahara desert in the north which remained unexplored by the outside world for a very long time. Africa continent has 54 countries.

1. Location, Extent and Physical Setting

Location: Africa lies between 37° North and 35° South latitude and 17° West and 50° East longitude. In the Western part of Africa, the prime longitude runs North-South. The special fact is that both the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn pass through this continent. The equator almost passes through the centre of the continent. Hence it is called as the 'Central Continent'.



Location of Africa in the world



Location, physical setting of Africa

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Extent: The total area of Africa is 30.4 million km^2. The continent measures about 8000 km from north to south and about 7400 km from east to west. Its northern extremity is Al-Ghiram point (Tunisia) while its southern-most point is Cape Agulhas (South Africa).

Physical Setting: Most of the land mass of Africa is surrounded by seas or oceans. Africa is bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, on the north by the Mediterranean Sea, on the east by the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. In the northeast, Africa is joined to Asia by Sinai Peninsula, though it is now separated by the Suez Canal. Africa is separated from Europe by the Strait of Gibraltar and the Arabian Peninsula by the Red sea. The coast line of Africa is 30,500 Km. long.

2. Physical Features

The physical features of Africa is largely a reflection of its Internal structure. The whole continent can be considered as a vast plateau. It is made of ancient crystalline rocks. It rises steeply from narrow coastal fringe to form a highland. Hence it is difficult to enter the interior of the continent. The plateau is higher in the southeast and slopes gently towards northeast. When compared to its size Africa has fewer high mountains and fewer lowlands than any other continents.



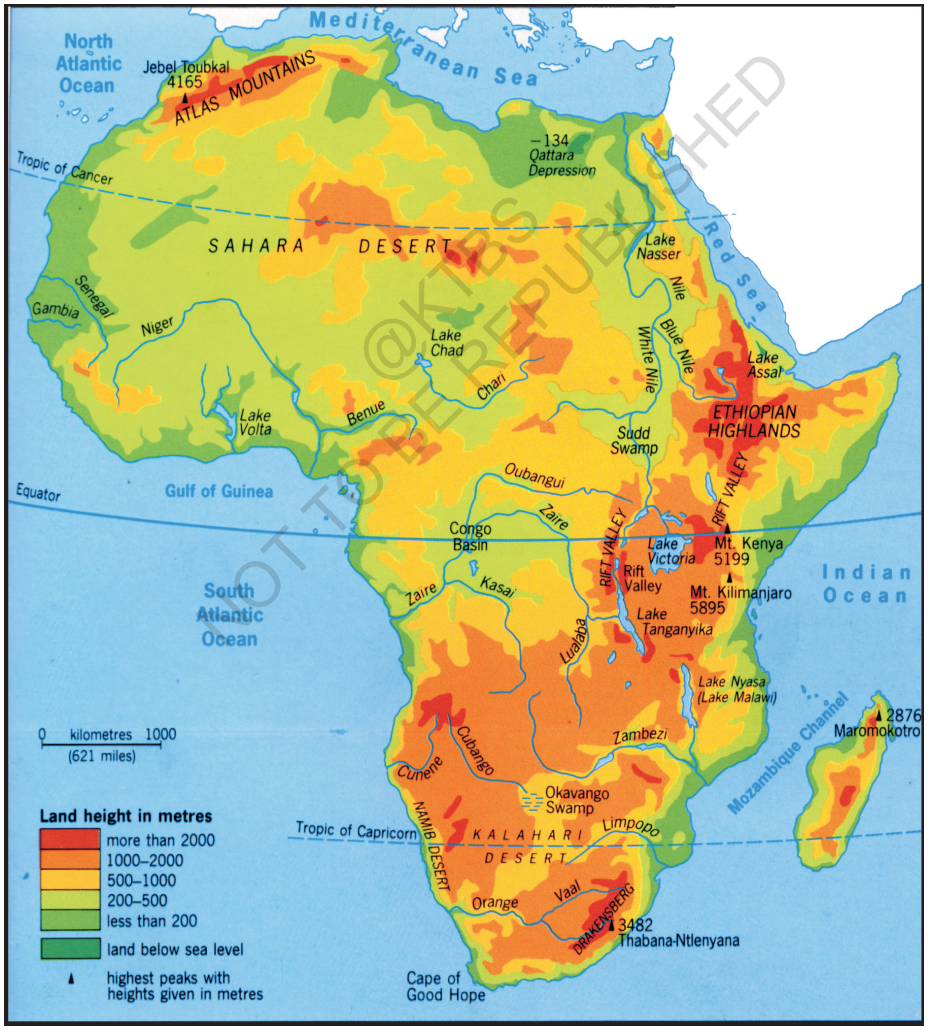
The Great Rift Valley

The coast line of Africa is almost straight. It has a few large basins, estuaries and natural harbours. There are no bays and inlets. Also the interior of the beach is deeply indented.

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The Great Rift Valley : A flat-bottomed valley formed by the sinking of the land between two normal faults or deep slopes is called Rift Valley. The rift valley of Africa is long (6900 km.) and therefore, known as the 'Great Rift Valley'.

It is in Y-shaped and is one of the most striking and distinct topographical features of Africa. It stretches from Mozambique in the south, through Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia into the Red Sea, Gulf of Aquaba, the Dead Sea, the Sea of Galilee and ends in the Valley of Jordan in Syria.



Physiography of Africa

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The Basins of Africa: There are five important basins in Africa. They are as follows:

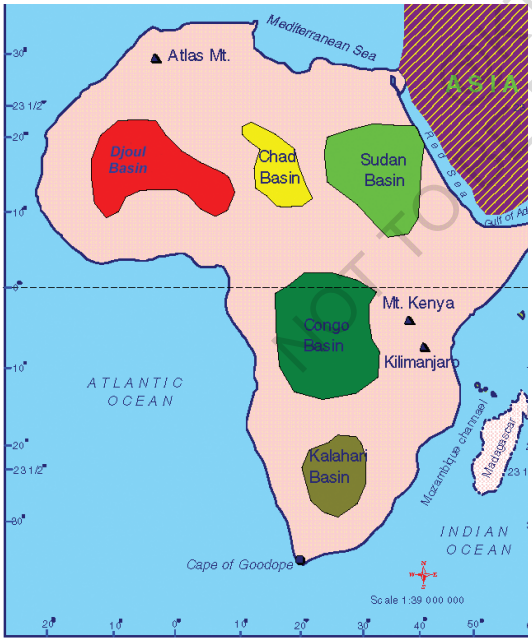
1 The *Sudan basin* is filled by the White Nile and Blue Nile rivers. This is world's most extensive marshland known as 'Sudd'.

2 The *Chad basin* is occupied by Lake Chad. This basin is a swampy area and the Sahara desert encroaches upon it.

3 The *Djouf basin* consists of Western Sahara Desert and is found along Mauritania-Mali boundary. It is filled by River Niger.

4 The *Congo* (Zaire) basin is a great structural basin and occupied by a plateau. River Congo and its tributaries flows across it. It is a forest area.

5 The *Kalahari* basin is mostly a desert and Steppe grassland and area. It is surrounded by plateau rims.



Major basins of Africa

Lakes: Africa has numerous lakes of great economic potential. There are eight large lakes. The largest and deepest lakes are found in East Africa. These lakes are generally associated with the Great Rift Valley. Lakes Albert, Edward, Kivu, Tanganyika and Nyasa lie to the west of the rift valley. And lakes Rudolf (Turkana), Natron and Eyasi are to the east of the rift valley.

Lake Tanganyika is the second deepest lake in the world. It is about 1,436 m deep. Lake Victoria, which lies between the two limbs of

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the Great Rift Valley, is the largest lake of Africa. It is about 69,481 km^2 wide. The river Nile originates from here.

Mountains: The continent of Africa has many mountains. However some small hill ranges break the monotony of the flat plains of Africa. Among them the major mountains are Atlas Range, Drakensberg and Kilimanjaro range.

Atlas range: These are fold mountains like the Himalayas and are a continuation of the mountains of southern Europe. Its highest peak is Mt. Toubkal. They stretch across parts of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

Drakensberg mountain: They are spread along the southeastern coast of Africa. They are not true mountain, but the tilted edge of the plateau.

Kilimanjaro range: This mountain range is in East Africa. It has the highest peak of Africa. Its height is 5,895 m. Although situated close to the Equator its peak is always snow covered. This is because of its great height.



Mt. Kilimanjaro

Besides these the Ahaggar, the Tibesti, the Ruwenzori, the Cape range and the east African mountains are other mountain ranges in Africa.

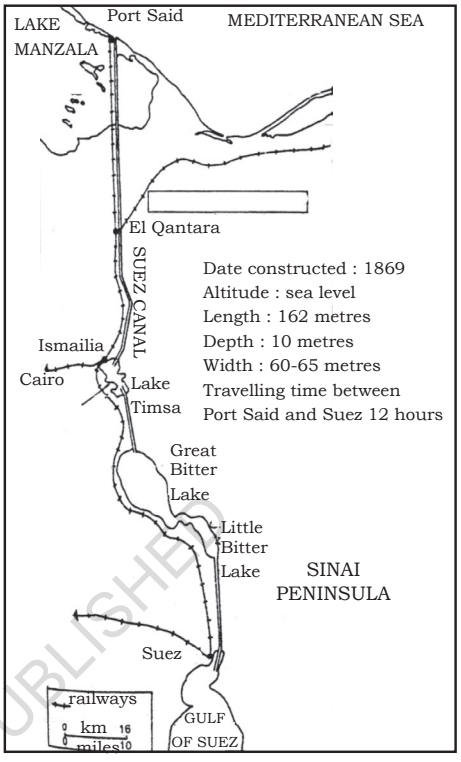
The highest point of Africa is Mt. Kilimanjaro and lowest point is Lake Assal (Djibouti).

Isthmus of Suez: A narrow strip of land that joins two vast land masses and separates different bodies of water is 'Isthumus'. The Isthumus of Suez is very famous.

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Isthmus of Suez



Suez Canal

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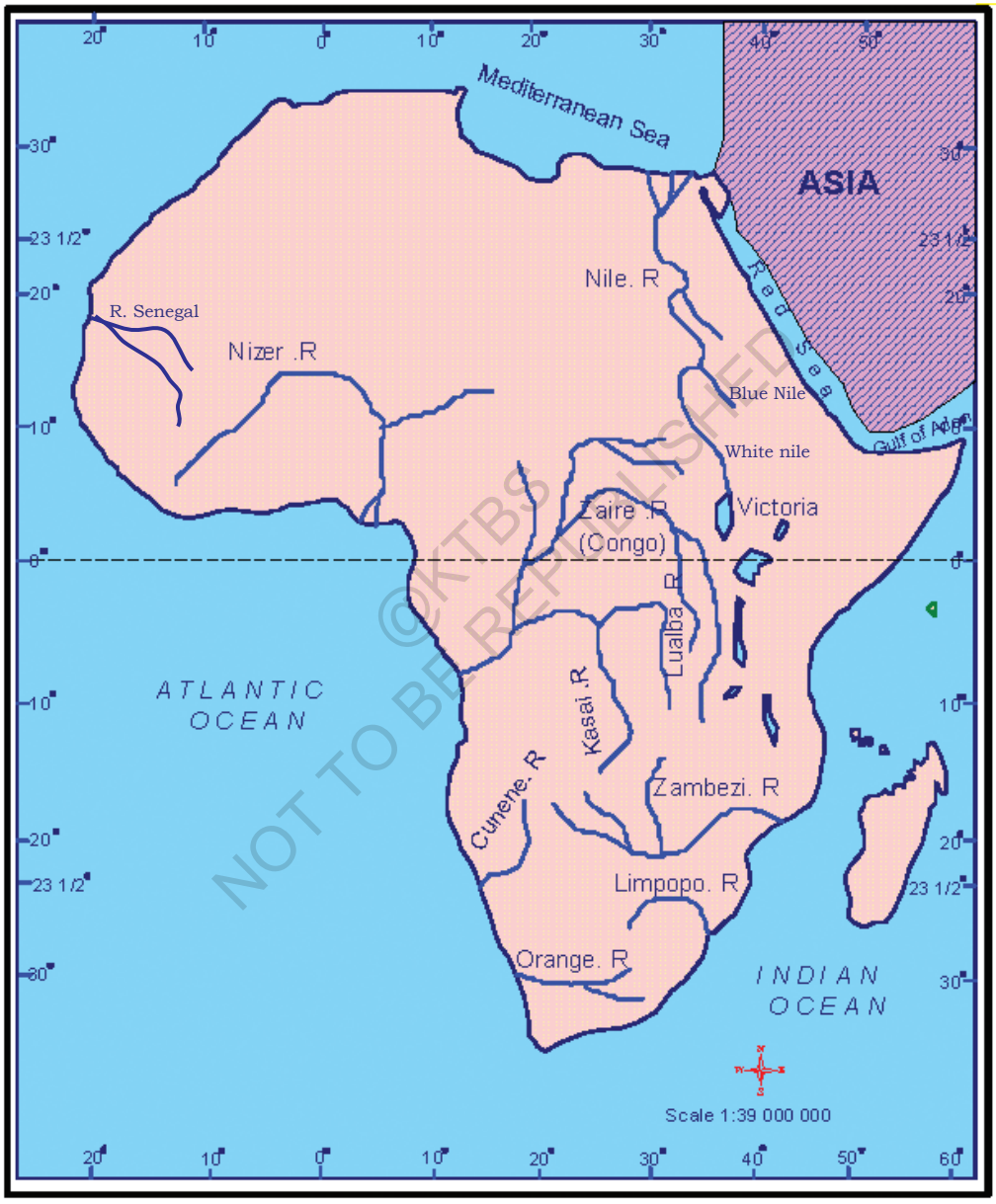
The Isthumus of Suez is a narrow strip of land between the Mediterranean Sea and Red seas. It joins the continent of Africa and Asia. It belongs to one of the nations of African continent and lies to the North east of Africa. It was dug to build the Suez canal. It is an extraordinary human made canal that connects Mediterranean and Red Sea. The world's busiest shipping lanes connecting Europe and Asia at a short distance.

3. Water Resources

Rivers of Africa

The river systems of Africa have their own peculiarities. Most of the rivers have cut deep gorges in their upper courses. They have water falls and rapids. Many rivers are non-perennial due to seasonal variations in rainfall. It is not appropriate for navigation. Few rivers are perennial. Inland rivers are many.

The continent of Africa has four major rivers. They are the Nile, the Congo (Zaire), the Niger, and the Zambezi. The Senegal, the Orange and the Limpopo are the other important rivers of Africa.



Rivers of Africa

The Nile: The Nile is the longest river in the world. It flows for 6,650 km long. It originates in Lake Victoria as Nile river

and flows northwards through the Sahara Desert to join the Mediterranean Sea. The Nile plain is very fertile. It provides life for millions of people, they use its water for irrigation and lead their lives. Its major left bank tributary is the Al-Ghazal and the largest right bank tributaries are the Sobat, Blue Nile and Atbara.

The Blue Nile originates in Lake Tana (Ethiopia) and joins the White Nile at Khartoum. The Nile forms the world's famous delta. Among the dams constructed across river Nile, the Aswan dam is the longest dam.

The Congo: Congo or Zaire is the second longest river of Africa. The people of Africa call it by different names. The river is called Luapula at its and origin it is known as Lualaba in other places.

The Congo river rises near the equator and flows first north, then south west for 4,640 km to join the Atlantic Ocean. It flows through the equatorial forests of Central Africa. It builds the famous Livingstone falls. But the river has no delta.

The Niger: It is the third longest river in Africa. The source of this river is in the highlands on the West Coast. It also empties into Atlantic Ocean. It is non-perennial river. It is about 4000 km. long.



Victoria Falls

The Zambezi: It is the fourth longest river in Africa and one of the major rivers in the southern part of Africa. It rises in central Africa and flows southeastwards. It empties into the Indian Ocean. It has numerous rapids and waterfalls along its course. The most spectacular of which is the Victoria Falls. The river

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flows through many deep gorges. The Kariba Gorge is the most famous one. This river is about 3500 km. long.

The Senegal river : It originates rises in the Fouta Djallon plateau of Guinea. Then it flows towards northwest for about 1640 km. and joins the Atlantic Ocean. It flows as a border between Mauritania and Senegal regions.

4. Climate, Natural Vegetation and Animal Wealth

Climate

Africa is the longest and widest continent which extends both in the Northern and the Southern hemisphere. Hence Africa is called Central Continent. The equator passes through the middle of the continent and the sun rays falls perpendicular. Because of this, the climate of Africa is predominantly tropical. Along with these a number of factors influence the climatic condition of Africa, for example the absence of high mountains, ocean currents, the extent in east-west and location. The cold ocean currents that flow along the western Sahara (Canaries current) and on the western coast of the Kalahari (Benguela currents) will lower the temperature of the adjoining coastal lowlands. As these are two cold currents they do not bring up much moisture. But the southeast coast which flows by the warm Mozambique current, would carry more moisture and causes rainfall.

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The absence of high mountains and lack of other climatic dividers allow the free circulation of tropical air. Hence change in climate is very slow.

Rainfall also plays a dominant role in Africa's climate. Rainfall is heaviest along the Equator. The annual average rainfall in this region exceeds 200 cm. and decreases with distance from the Equator. The rainfall is only 15 cms In the Sahara, the Kalahari and the Namibia deserts. However Cameroon is the wettest place of Africa, with an average annual rainfall of 1016 cm of rainfall.

Climatic Regions

On the basis of climatic condition, Africa can be divided into eight climatic zones as follows

1 The Wet Equatorial Climatic Region.
2 The Savanna Type of Climatic Region
3 The Tropical Desert Climatic Region.
4 The Mediterranean Climatic Region.
5 The Temperate Grassland Type
6 The Highland Climatic Region.
7 Humid Sub-tropical Climatic Region.
8 Dry winter Subtropical Region.

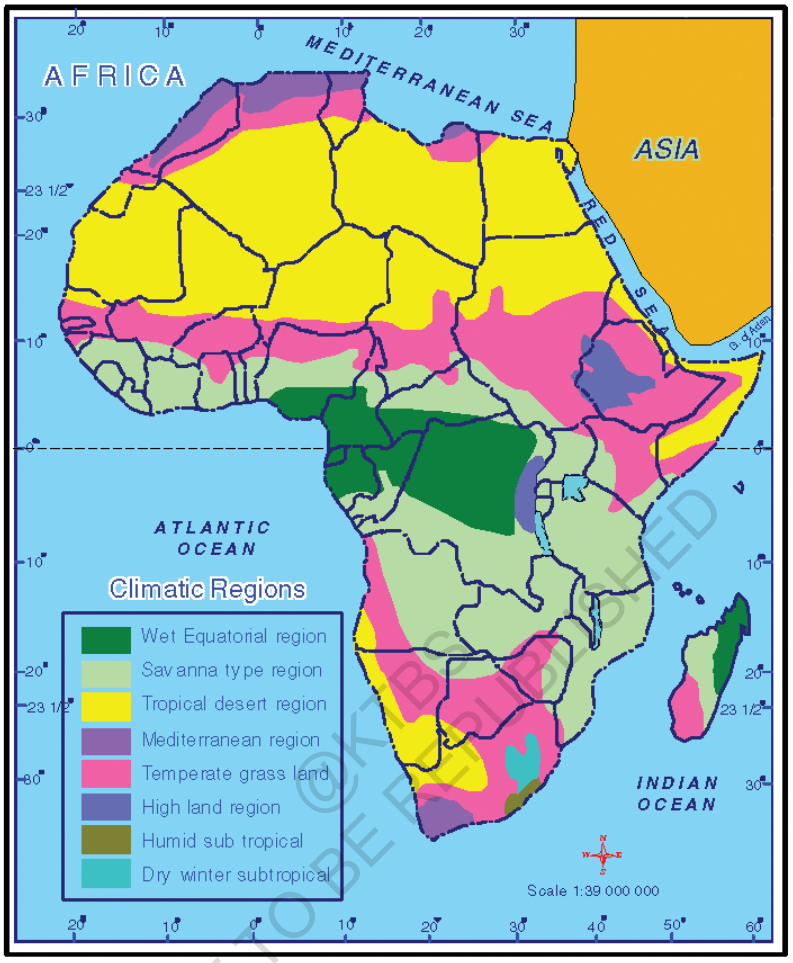
1 The Wet Equatorial Climatic Region: It is found in the low lands, on either side of the Equator and extends from the Congo basin to Guinea. The climate of this region is hot and wet throughout the year. There is heavy downpour of rain every afternoon. Rain is of convectional type. Hot and humid conditions result in unpleasant climate.

2 The Savanna Climatic Region: It covers parts of Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Chad and Niger. It is largely found in Sudan region. Hence it is also known as 'Sudan model climate'. It has high temperature. Temperature is lower in the eastern highlands than in the lowlands, rainfall is high in summer.

3 The Tropical Desert: Both Northern and Southern parts of African continent have deserts. In this region, summers are very hot and winters are cold. There is great difference of temperature between day and night than in summer and winter seasons. Rainfall is scanty. There are rarely any formation of clouds in the sky

4 The Mediterranean Climatic Region: This type of climate is found in Northern coastal and southern tip of Africa. It includes Morocco, Northern Algeria and Cape Province. The main feature of this climate is extreme hot and dry in summer and humid and gets rainfall in winter. This is the only climatic region which gets rain during winter.

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Climatic Regions of Africa

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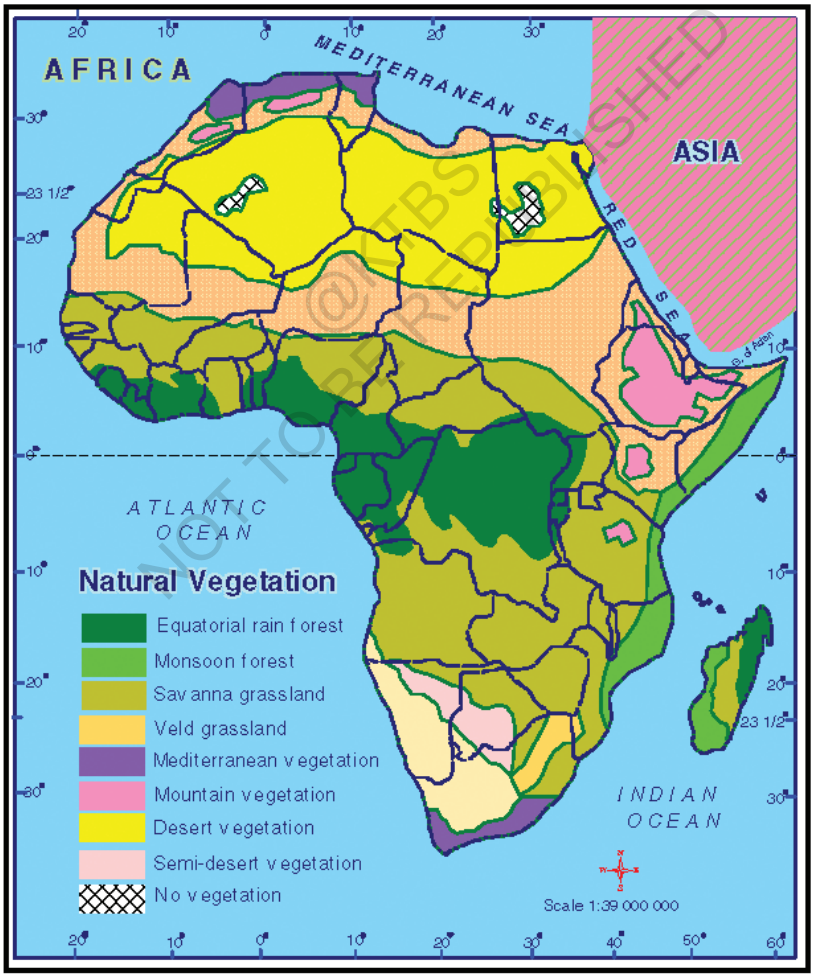
5 The Temperate Grassland Region: It is also known as 'High Veldts'. In Dutch, Veldts means field. It is found in the interior of South Africa. It is far from the sea coast, so it experiences great difference of temperature between the summer and the winter. Summers are hot and winters are cold. Rainfall is low in both the seasons.

6 The Highland Region: This region includes the Ethiopian highland and parts of East Africa. This region is high above sea level so the climate is cooler in this region. The distribution of rainfall is sparse and falls only in summer.

7 Humid Sub - tropical Region: This region extends along the Drakensberg mountains and extends upto the east coast, including Madagascar. During summer the weather is too hot and it rains and during the winter it is cold and dry.

8 Dry Winter Sub - tropical Region: It covers the South eastern part of Africa. The main features of this climate is Summers are hot and wet whereas winters are mild and dry. The distribution of rainfall is similar to that of the Wet Equatorial Climate. But because of altitude and dense fog there is a change in distribution of temperature

Natural Vegetation



Natural Vegetation

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Africa's natural vegetation is diverse. Because of the complementary influence of climate, soil, topography and interference of human beings is directly found on flora and fauna. In many parts of the continent natural vegetation has been modified by human interference. Most of the forests and grasslands have been cleared and burned for many purposes. So, at present, in Africa natural vegetation is not all 'natural'.

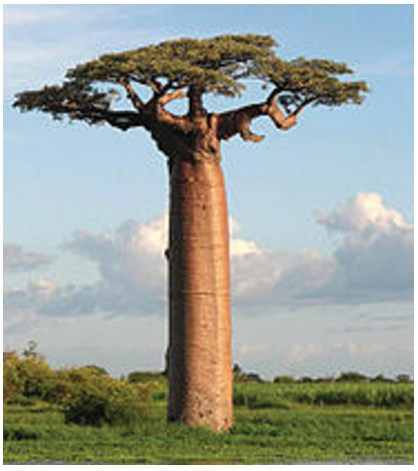
The hot and wet climatic conditions of the Equatorial region has allowed dense forest to grow. Trees grow to great heights. The salient characteristics of Equatorial evergreen forests is that they have broad leaves and epiphytes.

Trees with special characteristics are very rare. However valuable tropical hardwood grows here such as rubber, rose wood, ebony, cinchona, teak, palm and blackwood, etc. Mangrove plants also grow in the swampy areas of the seabeds.

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To the north and south of the Equatorial evergreen forests are the Savannas with their Acacia trees and Baobabs. In areas with less rainfall, the Savannas give way to thorn bushes and grasslands. Thorns and pines, juniper, cork, cedar, fig and olive trees are found in areas with Mediterranean climate.

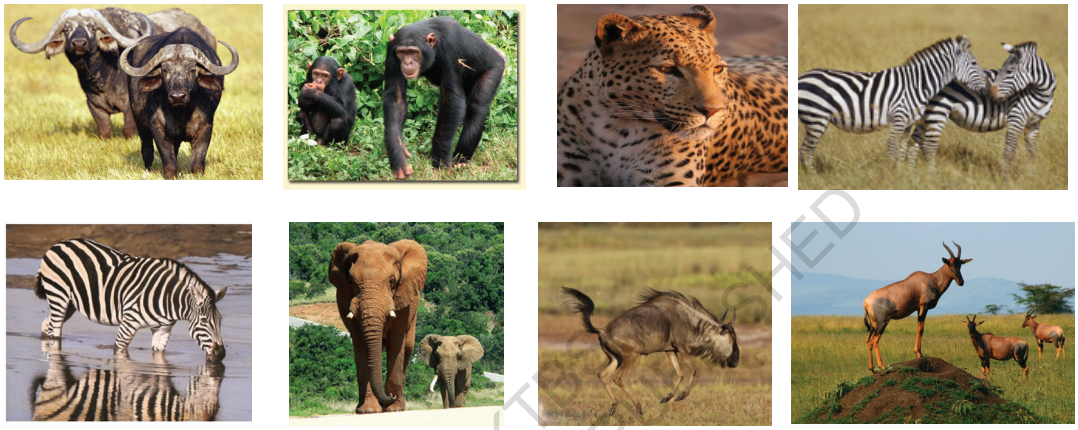
Mountain vegetation is found in the higher parts of the plateau and desert vegetation is mainly found in the Sahara and the Kalahari deserts. The Karoo area of South Africa is famous for shrub land. A special type of vegetation called 'Sudd' (means barrier) is found in the river valleys of the Nile.



Bottle - shaped tree (Baobab)

Animal Wealth

Africa is best known for the enormous diversity and richness of its wild life. This is due to the great variation in climatic conditions, soils, relief features, forests and land connections with Asia and Europe. The rain forest is the home of many animals. Chimpanzee, a variety of monkeys, Gorillas, Bison, Leopard and other hoofed animals are found here.



Important wild animals

Crocodiles and Hippopotamus are found in rivers and swamps. Bright colourful birds, e.g., kingfishers, ostrich, shoebill, eagles, etc. are commonly found here.

The zebras, wild cats, giraffes, rhinoceros, elephants, impala, cheetahs, and African lions are found in the tropical grassland and savannah areas.



Impala and Addax

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In desert areas scorpions, lizards, desert fox, various kinds of insects are found. Along with these animals belonging to the deer species such as donkeys, horses and adders are also found. The camel is the most important and the best known desert animal. It is often called the *ship of the desert.*

Ostrich

This is the native species of South Africa found in the southern plains and the Kalahari desert, and is the largest living bird. It lays the largest egg in the world. It cannot fly. But, it is the fastest running bird. It is the only bird in the world that has only two toes on each foot.



Ostrich

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5. Agriculture and Industries

Agriculture is one of the most important economic activity in many African countries. Nearly 75 per - cent of people are engaged in agriculture.

Other than the Equatorial region, in most of the African countries has subsistence type of agriculture. The use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides is limited. Most of the agricultural activities are done by manual labour. The yield per hectare is also low.

The staple food crops occupy an important position in most of the cultivated areas. The major crops are Maize, paddy, cassava, sweet potato and yam, peanuts, peas and starch crops. Plantation agriculture is important in the reasons of with Equatorial climate. Coffee, is grown as major export item of Burundi, Cocoa of Cote-D-Ivoire and Ghana and pulses such as peas in the Gambia. Other major crops grown in Africa includes sugarcane, banana, tea, oil-palm, tobacco and citrus fruits. These are grown on large estates and irrigated lands.

The countries of (Sahel) Funder Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad, Northern Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia frequently suffer from droughts and people suffer due to starvation.

Africa has large varieties of fruit crops. In the tropical and Mediterranean regions citrus fruits like olives, lemon, orange, grapes are common. In East Africa cashew trees are grown. Zanzibar islands and Tanzania are famous for growing cloves.

Maize is the only cereal which is important here. Rice and sugarcane are grown in small areas. Cash crops like coffee, palm tree, groundnut are grown in Central, Eastern and other parts of Africa. Coffee has been cultivated in Ethiopia for thousands of years. Egypt is famous for good quality cotton.

Commercial cattle rearing is most advanced in the areas of European settlements, such as Kenya, South Africa and Zimbabwe. Africa possesses about 15% of the total cattle population.

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Reasons for the backwardness of agriculture : In Africa old methods of farming, which is purely subsistence in nature, outdated implements, illiteracy, tribalism, lack of capital and foreign investment are the main reasons.

Reasons for slow development of industries

* Many African countries are rich in water, forest and mineral resources. The distribution of these natural resources is not equal. The economy of most of the countries has an agriculture dependent character.

* Until the middle of the last century, the natural wealth of Africa continued to be plundered by Europeans. This has led to slow industrialisation there. Along with this the inadequacy of infrastructure facilities for industrialisation, insufficient capital, lack of technology, lack of skilled labour, low purchasing power and political turmoil has hindered the industrial development in African countries.

* Countries undergoing industrialisation in the last few decades includes Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Egypt, Algeria and South Africa. After independence many African countries have shown interest in light industrial development. Textile industry, pharma-centred and food processing and beverage industries are coming into effect.

* The countries which have been industrializing from the last few decades are Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Egypt, Algeria and South Africa. After achieving independence, most of the African countries have shown interest in small industrial development-since independence. Textile, pharmaceuticals, and food processing and beverages industries are being setup.

* Large industries like iron and steel, rubber, cement and petrochemicals manufacturing is being centralised in South Africa. The iron and steel industries are distributed in the countries of Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt and Zimbabwe. The other important industries of Africa are electrical machinery, transport equipment, manufacturing tractors and assembly of military aircraft.

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6. Precious Minerals

Diamond and Gold

Africa is very rich in minerals. It is the world's largest producer of diamond, gold and platinum.

Diamonds: Nearly 80% of the world's total diamond reserves are found in Africa alone. Botswana, Zaire and South Africa are the highest producing countires of Diamonds. Angola, Namibia and Ghana are the other producers. Diamonds are divided into two types - crystal diamonds and industrial diamonds. Industrial diamonds are mainly used for abrasive purposes and cutting tools.

Gold: South Africa alone has about half of the world's gold reserve. The main distribution states are Witwatersrand (Transvaal) and in orange free state. More than 50% of the continents total gold production comes from South Africa, Zimbabwe and the Democratic republic of Congo (Zaire).



Important minerals

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7. Population

Growth, Distribution and Density

It has been considered that Africa was the place where man appeared first and learned to use the tools here. According to anthropologists and scientists, the Homoesapiens appeared for the first time near the Eastern lake in Kenya and Ethiopia in Africa.

Composed mainly Negroid race and its sub-groups. Today Africa contains many different races and clans. This continent is a union of different people, languages and cultures.

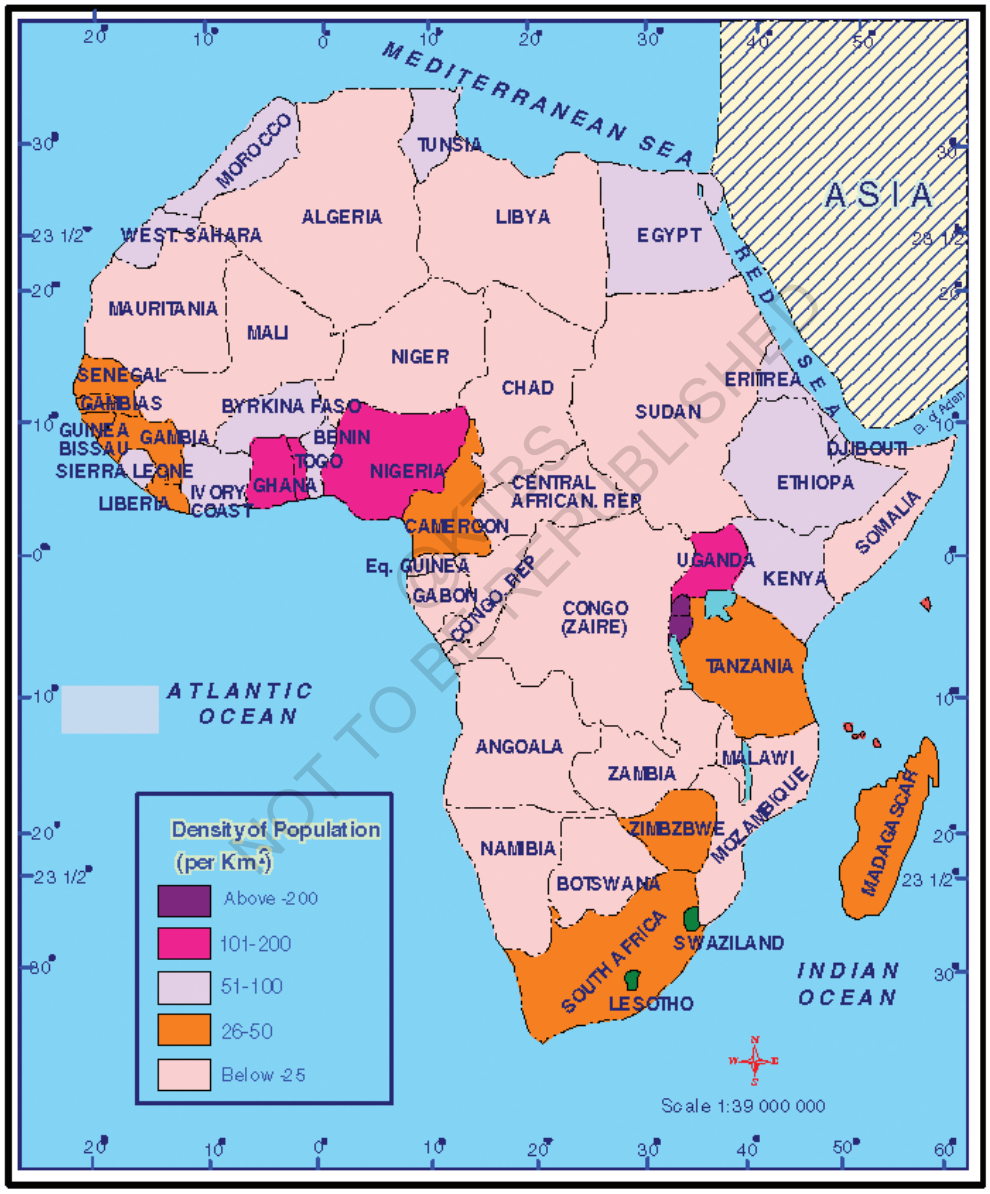
Nearly 1051 million people live in the continent of Africa. Nigeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Zaire and South Africa have the highest population density. During the last three decades the death rate has declined in most of the countries of Africa. This is due to increased production of food and supply of medicine and improvement in sanitation. But the birth rate is fairly high and led to high population density. The population of Africa is now increasing at a equal rate or perhaps slightly above, the average of the world.

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Some countries have very low life expectancy like Ethiopia, Somalia, Chad, Niger and Mali. That is only 50 years.

The speciality of the population is that the distributed is uneven. The highest population density is concentrated in the urban and mining areas of costal areas of African Guinea, in the valley of Nile River, in the highlands of East Africa and Madagascar, along the northern coast, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Zaire.

The low population density is found in the deserts, mountainous regions and in the thick equatorial forest, Libya's Sahara and Algeria are less densely populated. The population density here is 15 people per sq. km.



Distribution of Population

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The People of Africa belong to four groups:

(1) Pygmies, Bushmen and Masai who live to the South of Sahara desert.

(2) The Arabs who live in North Africa.

(3) The Indians who live in South Africa and East Africa.

(4) The Europeans live in South Africa and other fertile land of other river basins.

New words

Peninsula bay, rift valley, lakes, life expectancy, population density, prime longitude, Isthmus, Tropic of cancer, tropic of capricorn, Savannah.

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Let's know

- *Though the Nile river flows mostly in the Sahara Desert. The water never dry up in its course because of plenty of rain in its catchment areas.*
- *The Sahara is the largest desert in the world, covering northern part of Africa.*
- *The highest temperature recorded has been 58°C in El Azizia of Libya.*
- *Addax is a kind of antelope with long and twisted horns. It never drinks water. It gets water from the plants and the food it eats.*
- *The Baobab tree is a bottle shaped tree in Africa. The trunk of this tree is swollen to store water. It can store water from 1000-12000 litres. Travelers who need water often use water of this tree.*
- *Africa produces 24% of the world's coffee.*

- *More than 50% of world cocoa is produced by Africa alone.*
- *Pygmies are among the shortest people in the world. They live in the Congo basin.*
- *The people of Africa have the highest fertility rate but the lowest life span.*
- *There are more than 800 languages spoken in African continent.*
- *Africa has a large rural population. It is a less urbanized continent.*

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word:

1 Africa is called _____*Continent.*

2 The longest river of Africa is _____ .

3 The highest peak of Africa is _____ .

4 The largest bird of Africa is _____ .

5 The Savanna type of climate is also called _____ climate.

II. Answer the following questions:

6 Africa is known as the *Central Continent*. Why?

7 What is Isthmus? What is the African Isthmus?

8 Name the basins of Africa.

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9 Mention the types of natural vegetation of Africa.

10 What are the major food crops of Africa?

11 Which African countries are rich in diamond reserves?

Activities

1 Locate on the map lakes in the Rift Valley of Africa.

2 Identify the important rivers and mountains of Africa.

3 Collect images similar to Baobab trees (bottle shaped) found in Karnataka.

4 Compare the African addax and our Indian deer and write a note.

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