



लघुपर्याय

ह

सुपुत्र  
निर्वीर



# Chandragupta: 321 BCE-298 BCE

- Unified northern India.
- Defeated the Persian general **Seleucus**.
- Divided his empire into provinces, then districts for tax assessments and law enforcement.
- He feared assassination [like Saddam Hussein] → food tasters, slept in different rooms, etc.
- 301 BCE → gave up his throne & became a Jain.



# THE MAURYA EMPIRE

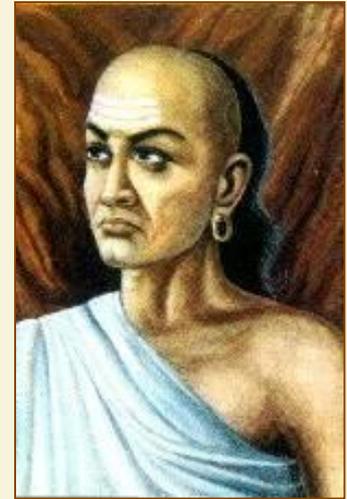


321 BCE - 185 BCE



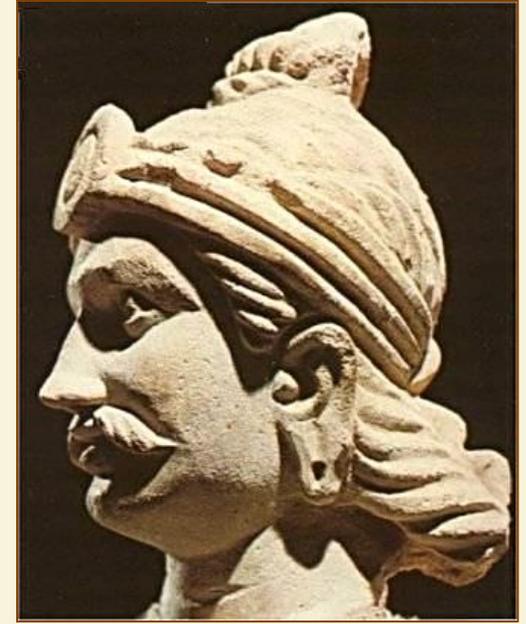
# Kautilya

- Chandragupta's advisor.
- Brahmin caste.
- Wrote *The Treatise on Material Gain* or the *Arthashastra*.
- A guide for the king and his ministers:
  - Supports royal power.
  - The great evil in society is **anarchy**.
  - Therefore, a single authority is needed to employ force when necessary!



# अशोक (304 – 232 BCE)

- Religious conversion after the gruesome battle of **Kalinga** in 262 BCE.
- Dedicated his life to Buddhism.
- Built extensive roads.
- Conflict → how to balance Kautilya's methods of keeping power and Buddha's demands to become a selfless person?

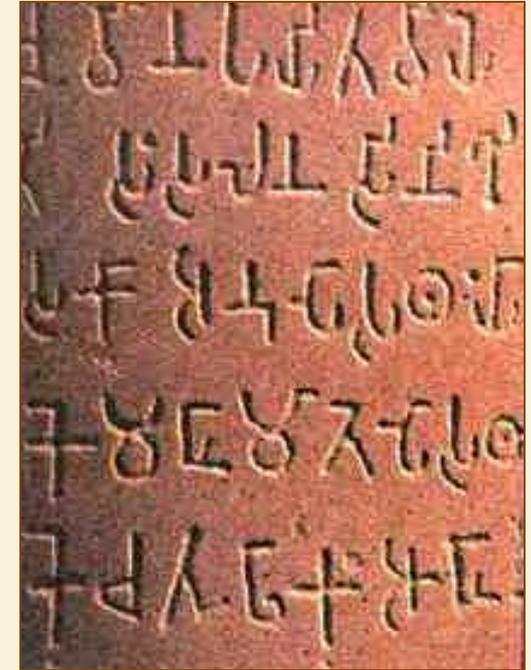




अशोक  
दलपिण्ड

# अशोक'इ विव वववे

- Edicts scattered in more than 30 places in India, Nepal, Pakistan, & Afghanistan.
- Written mostly in Sanskrit, but one was in Greek and Aramaic.
- 10 rock edicts.
- Each pillar [*stupa*] is 40'-50' high.
- Buddhist principles dominate his laws.





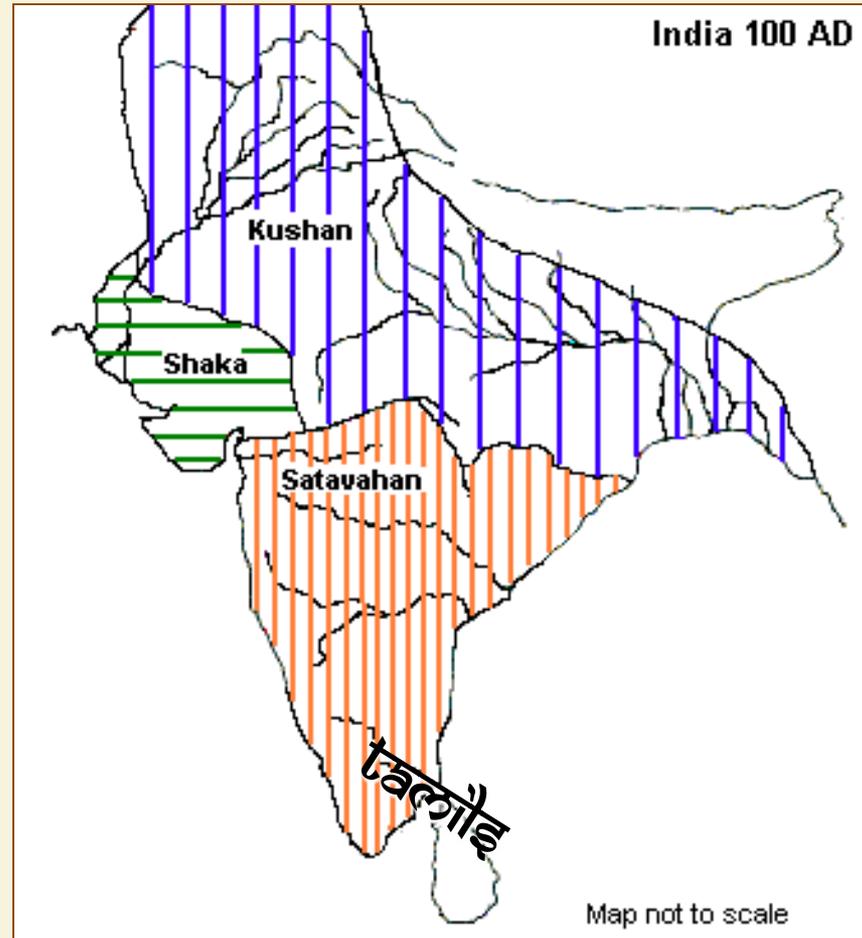
ਰਾਣ ਰੀ  
ਬਠੋਰਾ  
ਏਪਾਏ



# બારલદા પાવેદા અને વડોદરા ત્રણ



# मौर्यस्य इति प्रथमस्य राष्ट्रपालः इति विषय - इति विषय



The Maurya Empire is divided into many kingdoms.

# गुप्ता इल्पीरुडः ३२० लड - ६४७ लड



# गुप्ता राजर्षि

- **Chandra Gupta I**
  - ❖ r. 320 - 335 CE
  - ❖ "Great King of Kings"
- **Chandra Gupta II**
  - ❖ r. 375 - 415 CE
  - ❖ Profitable trade with the Mediterranean world!
- Hindu revival.
- Huns invade - 450 CE

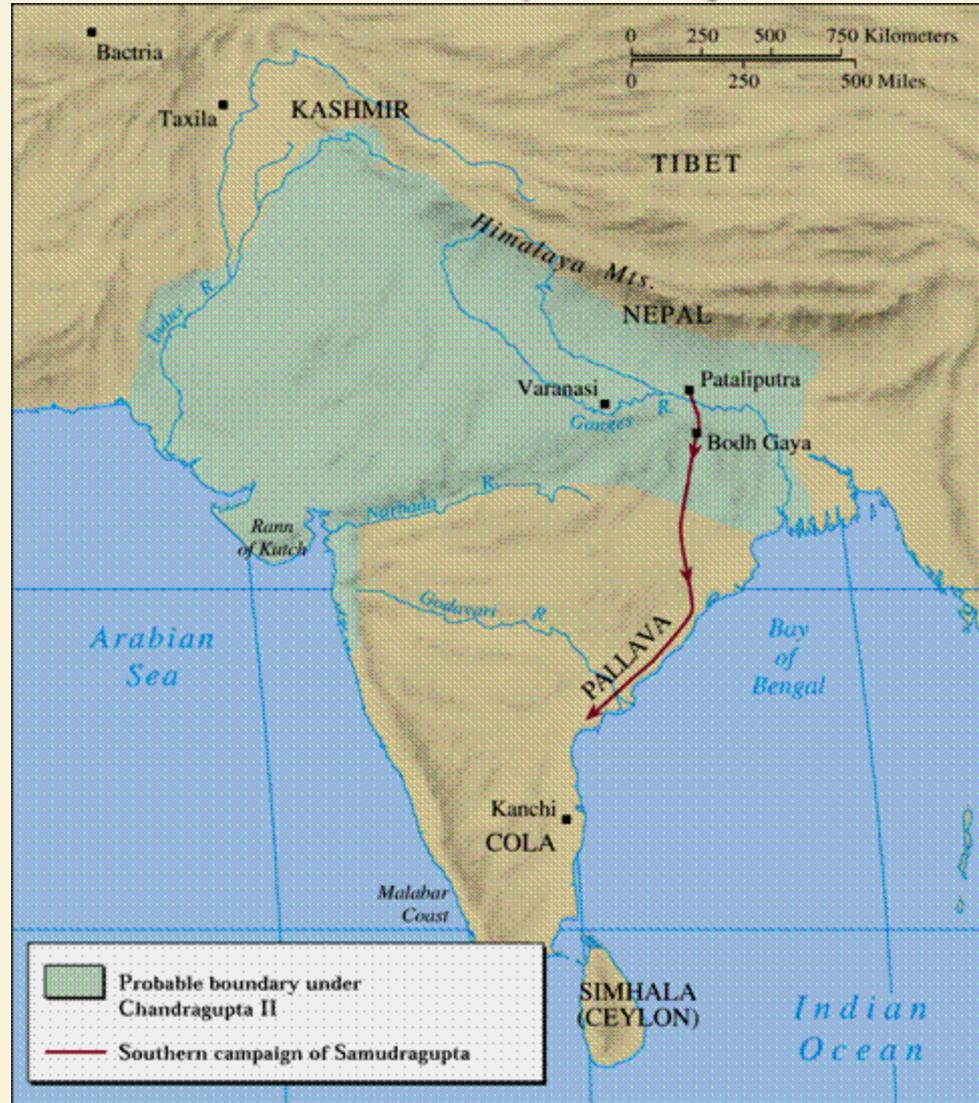


# विहसन: तिह in gupta india

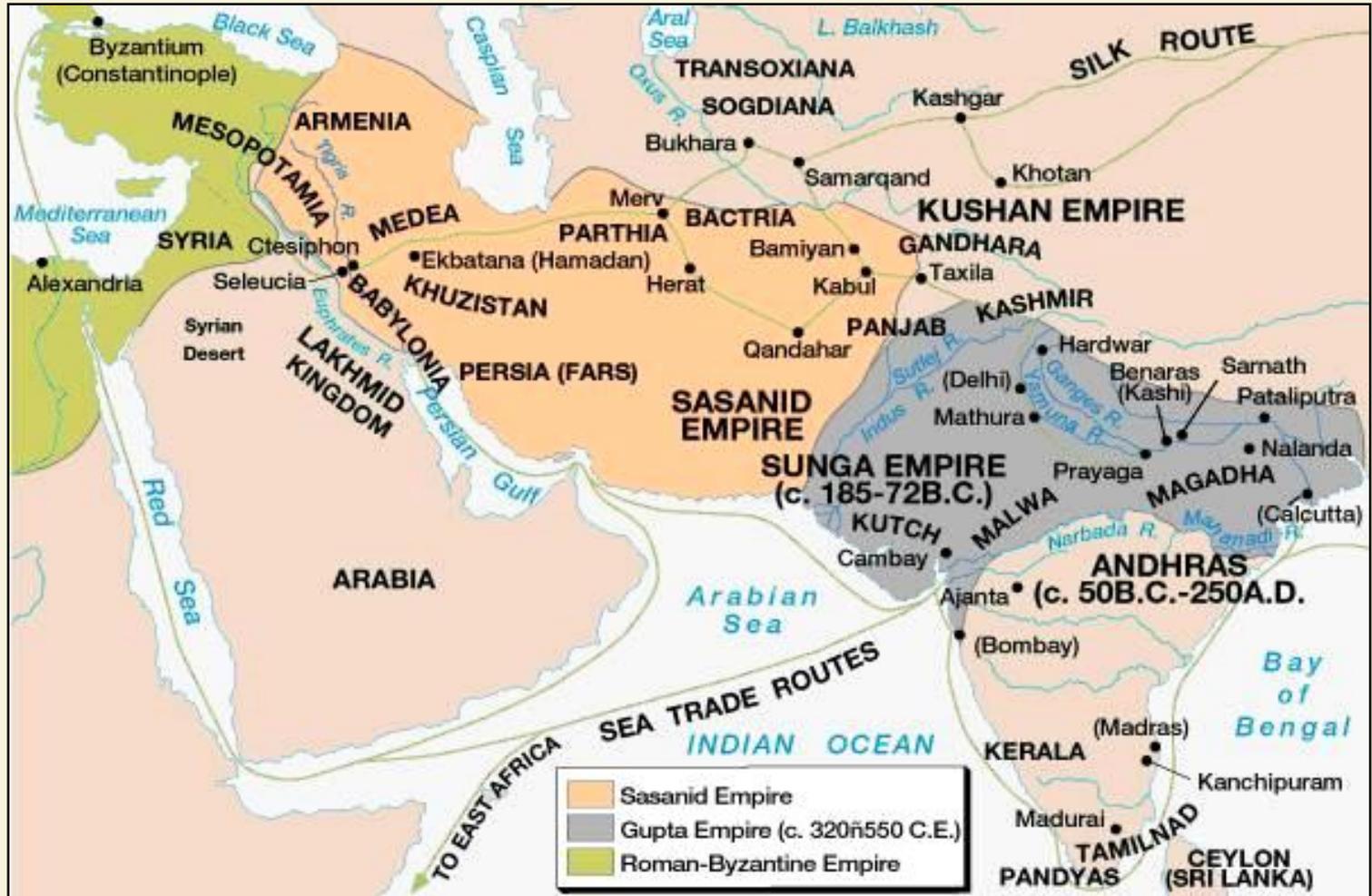
- Chinese Buddhist monk traveled along the Silk Road and visited India in the 5c.
- He was following the path of the Buddha.
- He reported the people to be happy, relatively free of government oppression, and inclined towards courtesy and charity. Other references in the journal, however, indicate that the caste system was rapidly assuming its basic features, including "untouchability," the social isolation of a lowest class that is doomed to menial labor.



# Chandragupta II



# international trade routes during the guptas



# Extensive Trade:

बट



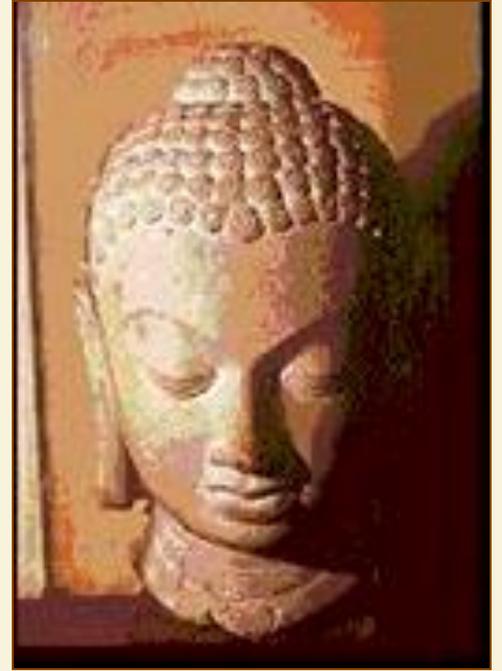
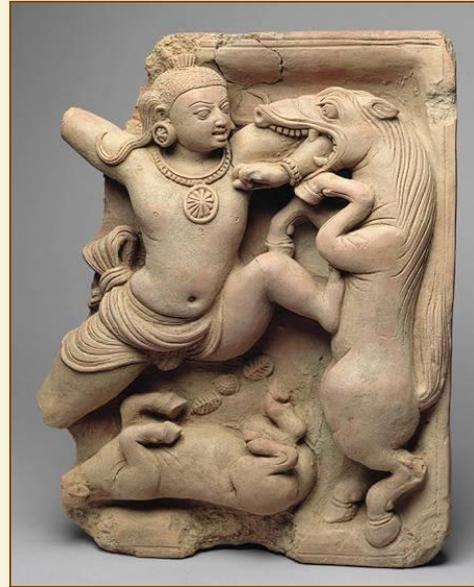
# Kalidasa



- The greatest of Indian poets.
- His most famous play was *Shakuntala*.
- During the reign of Chandra Gupta II.



# Gupta art

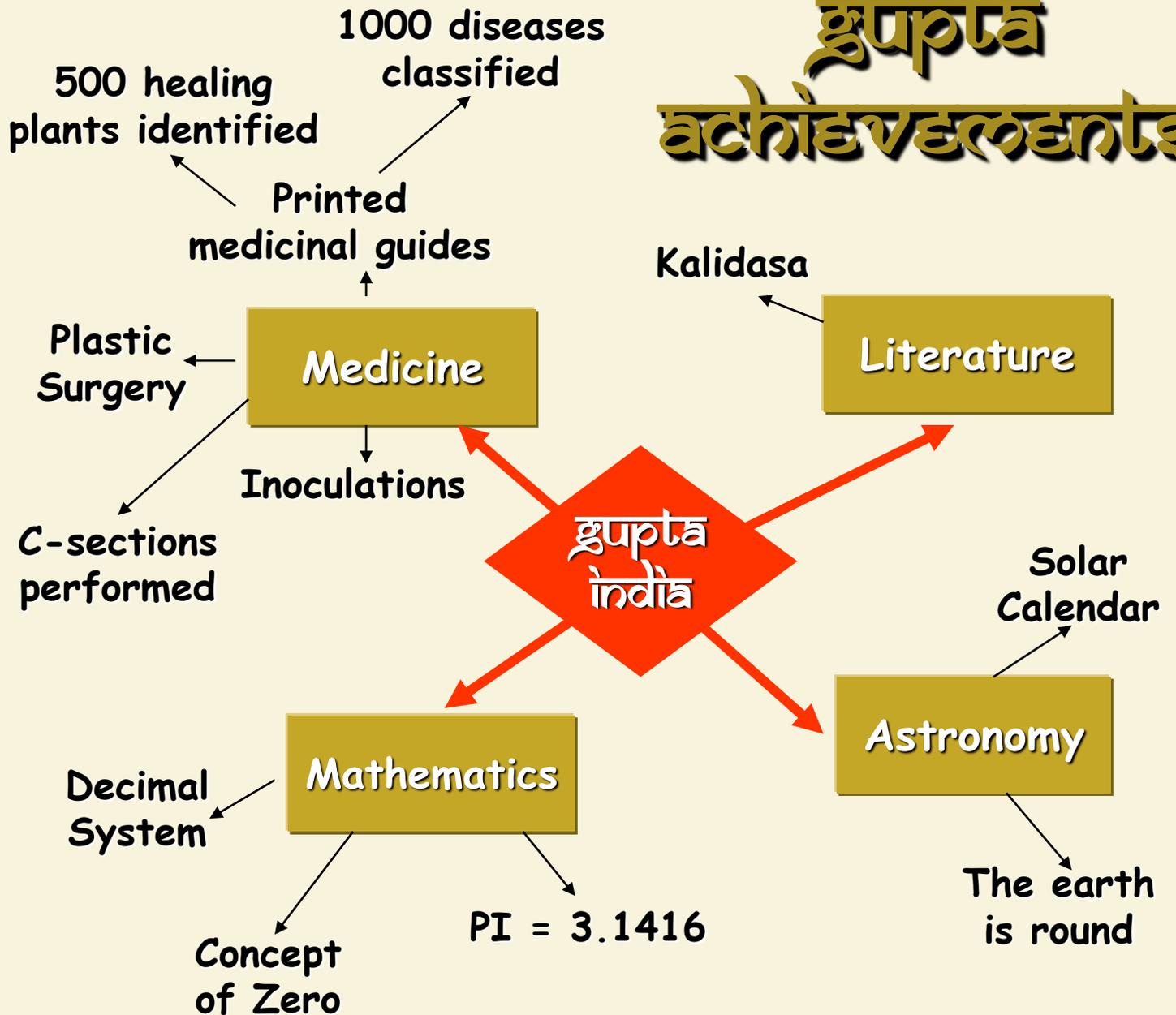


Greatly influenced  
Southeast Asian art & architecture.





# गुप्ता achievements



# the decline of the guptas

- Invasion of the White Huns in the 4c signaled the end of the Gupta Golden Age, even though at first, the Guptas defeated them.
- After the decline of the Gupta empire, north India broke into a number of separate Hindu kingdoms and was not really unified again until the coming of the Muslims in the 7c.
- **QUESTION:**  
Is the best literature and art written as the civilization is on the rise, at its height, or in its decline?



# bhartrhari

- 5c India court poet and philosopher.

*Knowledge is man's crowning mark,  
A treasure secretly buried,  
The source of luxury, fame, and bliss,  
A guru most venerable,  
A friend on foreign journeys,  
The pinnacle of divinity.  
Knowledge is valued by kings  
beyond wealth---  
When he lacks it, a man is a brute.*

