

Names, terms, etc. from lecture on post-Mauryan political development (including the Gupta Empire).

I am distributing these so that you do not have to distract from the lecture to write them down and I can save time ditto.

Shunga/Sunga kingdom – followed Mauryans

Mathura – important trading and cultural city south of today's Delhi

Indo-Greeks

Gandhara – Indo-Greek area in northwest

Shakas and Kushanas – central Asian invaders, established states

Kanishka – Kushana emperor, ca. 120-144 CE

Shiva, Vishnu – Hindu gods which receive new prominence

Hellenistic – late antiquity Greek culture

Barhut and Sanchi – sites of important stupas

Stupa – building constructed for the honouring of the Buddha

Dharmasastras – Hindu law books

Code of Manu – most famous of the dharmasastras, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE

Gupta Empire – 320 – c. 550, based in north India

Mahabharata and Ramayana – major epics, produced in ancient period, reach present form about 100 BCE

Purana – means ancient story, new more popular form of sacred Hindu literature

Rajadharma – the dharma of a king, his role and duties

Chandragupta I – 320-335, founded Gupta dynasty

Samudragupta – ruled ca. 339-375

Chakravartin – an emperor, he who turns the wheel of righteousness, universal ruler

Rajabhisekha – the ritual of royal installation

Maharajadhiraja – a great king over other kings

Chandragupta II – 375-413/415

Vakataka dynasty – central Indian, married daughter to Chandragupta II

Kumaragupta – 4125-455

Skandagupta – 455-467

Huns – ca. 510, from Central Asia, conquered large parts of northwest India up to Gwalior.

Taxila – main city of Gandhara

Yamuna river

Icon – figure representing a god or goddess with typical forms

Bodhisattva – figure in Mahayana Buddhist which rejects nirvana to continue to help humans

Theistic systems of thought – tell of the creation of the universe and its conduct

Lingam – phallus, symbol of cosmic force, symbol of the Hindu god Shiva

Durga – goddess, saves the universe from destruction

Yaksha/yakshi – spirit figures