

# RISE OF MAGADH

1. The political history of India from 6<sup>th</sup> century BC onwards is the history of struggle among the four of 16 Mahajanpads :
  - a. MAGADH
  - b. KOSALA
  - c. VATSA
  - d. AVANTI
2. Ultimately the kingdom of Magadh emerged to be the most powerful one and succeeded in founding an empire.
3. Brihadatta is said to be the founder of Magadh.

## **REASONS OF MAGADH'S SUCCESS:**

- 1. Economic growth**
- 2. Political strength**
- 3. Geographical power.**

## **MAGADH DYNASTY :**

- 1. Haryanka Dynasty.**
- 2. Shisunaga Dynasty**
- 3. Nanda Dynasty**
- 4. Mauryan Dynasty**

# **HARYANKA (Pitrihanta) DYNASTY:**

**544 BC – 412 BC**

## **❖ BIMBISAR (544 BC-492BC)**

- 1. Founder of Haryanka Dynasty**
- 2. His capital was Rajgriha**
- 3. He was a contemporary of Gautam Buddha**
- 4. He married the princess of:**
  - a. Kosala : MAHAKOSLA**
  - b. Vaishali (Lichwi): CHELLNA**
  - c. Madra : KHEMA/ KSHEMA**

- 5. He got a part of KASHI as dowry from Kosala king Prasenjit.**
- 6. He sent a royal physician JIVAKA To Lord Buddha when he went ill and also to Ujjain, when Avanti king Pradyota was suffering from jaundice.**
- 7. He was also known as SENIYA, as he was the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian to have a standing army.**

## ❖ **AJATSHATRU: 492 BC- 460 BC**

- 1. Killed Bimbisar & became king in 492 BC** Dev dutt brother of Goutam Buddha provoke
- 2. He was also known as KUNIT/ KUNIKA.**
- 3. With his attacking tactic, KASHI & VAISHALI were added to Magadh** Rath mushal and Mahashila kantaka
- 4. Lord Buddha's Mahaparinirvana was in his ruling period.**
- 5. Buddha's 1<sup>st</sup> council was held by him.**
- 6. He built the fort of RAJAGRIHA & a watch-fort JALADURGA at the village called PATALI.**

## ❖ **UDAYIN (460 – 440 BC)**

- 1. He killed Ajatshatru to become king in 460 BC**
- 2. His reign is important because he laid the foundation of the city Patliputra at the confluence of the SON & the GANGES and shifted the capital from Rajgriha to Patliputra.**
- 3. He was succeeded by ANURUDDHA, MUNDAD & NAGA-DASAK respectively but were weak.**

# SHISUNAGA DYNASTY(412-344 BC)

## ❖ SHISUNAGA:

1. He changed the capital to VAISHALI.
2. He destroyed the Pradyota dynasty of AVANTI & from then Avanti was a part of Magadh.

## ❖ KALASHOKA:

1. He changed the capital back to Patliputra.
2. He convened the 2<sup>nd</sup> Buddhist council in VAISHALI.

# **NANDA DYNASTY (344-323 BC)**

## **❖ MAHAPADMANANDA:**

- 1. He was the founder of the Nanda Dynasty.**
- 2. He was known with different names:**
  - a. According to Puranas: SARVAKSHATRANTAK & EKRAT**
  - b. According to Pali texts: UGRASENA**
  - c. He was referred to as the Avatar of Lord Parshuram.**
- 3. He won over Kalinga and brought the Jain statue of JINSEN to Magadh.**



**4. He built ponds in Kalinga, proof is in the HATHIGUMPHA (made by Kharvel)**

### **❖ DHANANANDA**

- 1. The last king Dhanananda was referred to as AGRAMMES / XANDRAMES in Greek texts.**
- 2. During his rule, invasion of Alexander took place in 326 BC.**
- 3. According to Greek writer Curtius, Dhanananda commanded a huge army of 20,000 cavalry, 200,000 infantry, 2000 chariots & 3000 elephants.**

4. It was the might of Dhanananda that terrorized Alexander and stopped his march to the Gangetic valley.

5. The nanda dynasty was brought to an end in about 322-321 BC by Chandragupta Maurya who led the foundation of **Mauryan Dynasty**.

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# Q & A

1. WHICH EARLY RULER OF MAGADH MURDERED HIS FATHER FOR THRONE & IN TURN WAS MURDERED BY HIS OWN SON?

- a. **BIMBISAR**
- b. **UDIYAN**
- c. **AJATSHATRU**
- d. **SIDHUNAGA**

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## 8. WHO FOUNDED PATLIPUTRA?

- a. AJATSHATRU
- b. UDAYIN
- c. DHANANANDA
- d. MAHAPADMANANDA

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**9. WHO IS REFERRED TO AS SENIYA IN EARLY  
MAGADH RULERS?**

- a. **BIMBISAR**
- b. **AJATSHATRU**
- c. **KALASHOKA**
- d. **ASHOKA**

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**10. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS NOT A NAME OF MAHAPADMANANDA?**

- a. **SARVAKSHATRANAK**
- b. **AGRAMMES**
- c. **UGRASENA**
- d. **EKRAT**

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