



SALTORA NETAJI CENTENARY COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

U.G.History -Honours
Semester- I
Course Code: AHHST101 C-1

History of India (Prehistoric Times – 600 BC.)

Cultural Development during the Gupta period

Presented by

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‘Classical age’- ‘Golden age’ ?

From the beginning of the fourth until the beginning of the sixth century CE, the Gupta Empire ruled over ancient India.

The greatest achievements of this period are the significant cultural advancements that primarily took place under the reigns of Samudragupta, Chandragupta II, and Kumaragupta I.

Literature

- Large collection of religious and secular literature including some Smritis was compiled (Sanskrit). Emergence of Puranas--- Poetry, Drama.
- **Kalidasa**
- Meghadutam, Abhijnanashakuntalam, Raghuvamsham, Kumarasambhavam etc.
- **Shudraka**- Mrichchhakatikam
- **Bhasa**- Pratigya Yugandhara Yanam (the vow of Yaugandharayana) and Swapnavasavadattam (Vasavadatta in the Dream)
- **Vishakhadatta**-Mudrarakshasa and the Devichandraguptam.
- **Dandin**-Dasakumarcharita.
- **Bharavi** -Kiratarjuniyam, **Bhatti**- Bhaṭṭikavya, **Vatsyayana**-Nyaya Sutra Bhashya, Kamasutra
- **Vishnusharma**- Panchatantra
- **Philosophical Ideologies**.--Jaimini, Asanga, Basubandhu, Panini, Patanjali
- Nyaya, Baisheshik, Sankhya, Yoga,, Mimangsa, Vedanta.
- **Smritis**- Yagyabalkasmriti, katyayanasmriti, Vyasasmriti, Brihaspatismriti, Devalasmriti, Naradasmriti

Science

- Throughout the Gupta era, astronomers and scientists achieved a number of important advances in the science. Mathematics, astronomy, medicine, astrology, chemistry, zoology, botany, and metallurgy. -
- Aryabhata-Aryabhattachiya.
- Varahamihira – Panchasiddhantika, Brihat-samhita.
- Brahmagupta - ‘Brahmasiddhanta’.
- Seven planets in the solar, eclipses decimal system of notation based upon the principle of the place value of the first nine numbers and the use of the zero, theorems related to circles and triangles, arithmetic, geometry, algebra, trigonometry.

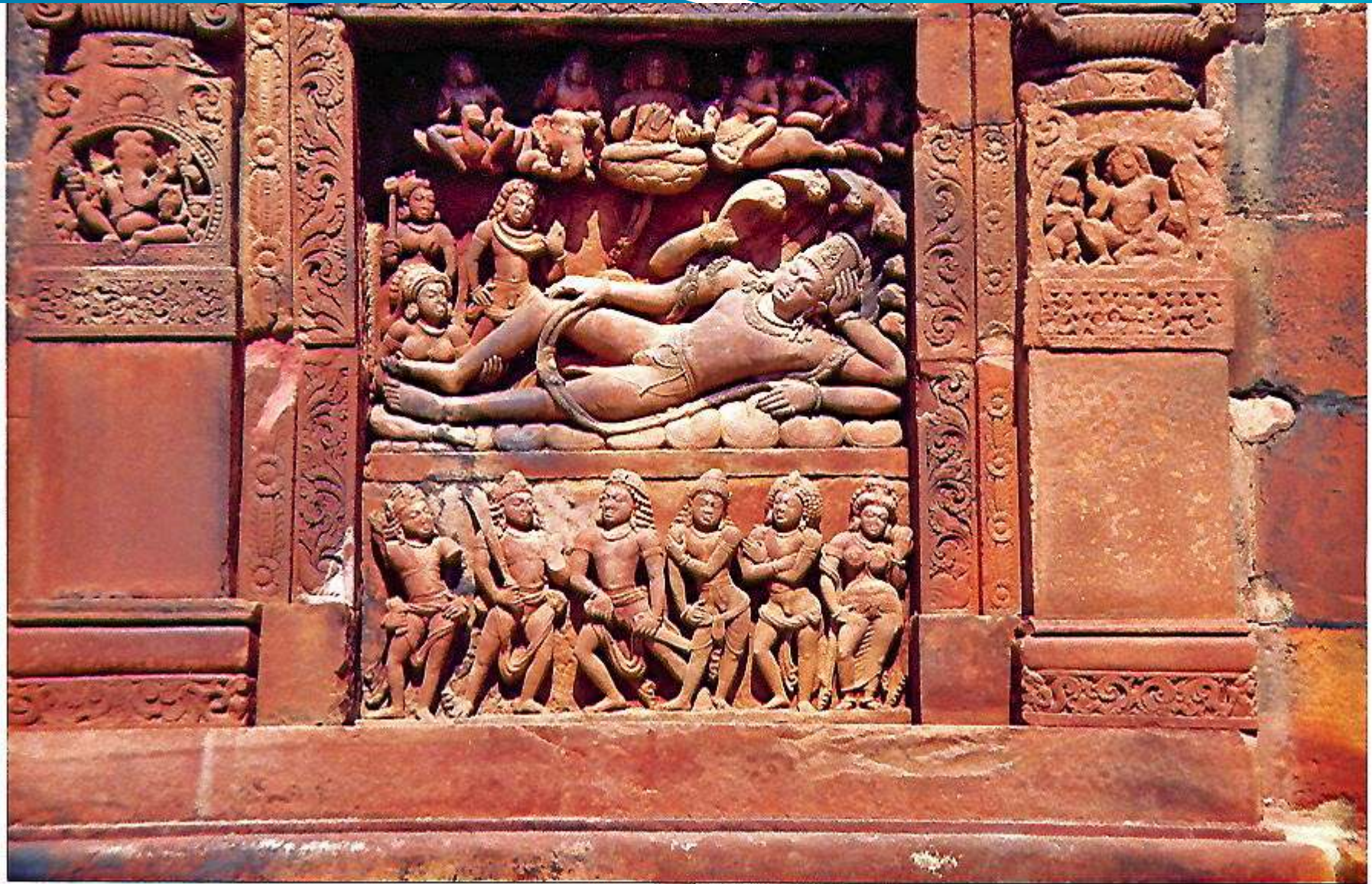
Medicine

- **Susruta- Sushruta samhita**
 - **Dhanwantari, Bagbhatta**
- The structure of the body, its organs, ligaments, muscles, vessels and tissues- amputations and operations-Surgical instruments.
- Vast collections of drugs belonging to the mineral, vegetable and animal kingdoms.
- process of distillation and use of disinfectants.

Art and Architecture

“Golden Period of Indian Architecture”

- Sculptural temples as well as the temples of rock-cut caves. the temples of Buddhist rock-cut at Bagh, Madhya Pradesh, and Ajanta, Maharashtra. Hindu structural temples.
- Buddhist and Hindu sculpture
- Temple Architecture-Keteswar, Maninag, Sanchi, Bhuma's Shiva temple, Dashavatara temple(Deogarh), Parbati temple, Bishnu temple
- Viharas , Chaityas.
- Ajanta, Ellora, Udaygiri, Bagh, Junagarh, Nasik, Mandapeshwar
- Sculpture: Mathura style, Sarnath style, Patliputra style.- Buddha image.
- Ajanta, Ellora, Bagh – wall paintings.



- The **Vishnu** Anantasayana panel, Dashavatara **Temple**, Deogarh. 5th-6th century CE.
- Source: <https://www.worldhistory.org/image/3876/vishnu-anantasayana-panel-dashavatara-temple-deoga/>



- *Source: https://www.worldhistory.org/Gupta_Architecture/*



- The Gupta style Dashavatara temple, Deogarh in Madhya Pradesh, India. 5th-6th Century CE.



- A mural in **Ajanta** (between 2nd century BCE – 6th century CE) depicting a scene from Mahajanaka Jataka.
- Source: <https://www.worldhistory.org/image/4326/jataka-image-in-ajanta/>



- **Gold** coins issued by **Samudragupta**(335 – 375 CE)
- The **gold coin** issued by Emperor **Samudragupta** (335/350 – 370/380 CE) of the **Gupta** dynasty shows him playing the vina, an Indian stringed instrument resembling the **lyre** or lute.
- Source: <https://www.worldhistory.org/image/10135/samudragupta-coin>



SOURCES

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Thank You