NCERT Class 6 History

Chapter 6: Kingdoms, Kings and Early Replublic

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Varna System – Based on birth

- Brahmin
- Kshatriyas
- Vaishyas farmers, herders and traders
- Shudras untouchables

Some kings didn't accept it. They considered themselves superior to priests

Janapadas

- Land where jana set their foot
- Purana Qila in Delhi
- Hastinapur near Meerut (UP)
- Atranjikhera near Etah (UP)

Mahajanapadas

- Capital city which was fortified (wall of brick, wood and stone)
- Forts to protect from attack, show wealth, lot of labour
- New rajas had army regular salary
- Punch marked coins
- Levied regular tax
- Use iron ploughshare instead wooden
- Transplanting paddy (more production) slaves (dasis) & landless labourers (kammakaras)

Magadha - Mahajanapadas

- Ganga and Son transport, water supplies & land fertile
- Forest elephants, wood for building house and chariots
- Bimbisara & Ajatasattu & Mahapadma Nanda
- Capital Rajagriha (Bihar) to Pataliputra (Patna)
- Alexander didn't march further than Beas as his army was scared of Indian rulers

Vajji

- Capital Vaishali (Bihar)
- Government as ganas and sanghas
- •1000s of rajas ruled together met in assemblies (women, dasas and kammakaras not allowed)
- Buddha and Mahavira
- Powerful rajas tried to conquer sanghas last was conquered by Guptas

