

Indian History Comprehensive Formula & Fact Sheet

Elite Academic Revision Guide

1. Ancient India

- **Indus Valley Civilization (c. 2500–1500 BCE):** Urban planning, grid system, advanced drainage. Major sites: Harappa (Ravi), Mohenjodaro (Indus), Lothal (dockyard), Kalibangan (ploughed field).
- **Vedic Period (1500–600 BCE):** Early Vedic (Rigvedic) and Later Vedic periods. Composition of Vedas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas, and Upanishads.
- **Maurya Empire (322–185 BCE):** Founded by Chandragupta Maurya with Kautilya (Chanakya). Ashoka's Dhamma, Rock Edicts, and the impact of the Kalinga War (261 BCE).
- **Gupta Empire (320–550 CE):** Known as the *Golden Age of Ancient India*. Contributions by Aryabhata, Varahamihira, Kalidasa. Patronage of art, science, and Sanskrit literature.

2. Medieval India

- **Delhi Sultanate (1206–1526 CE):** Five distinct dynasties: Slave, Khilji, Tughlaq, Sayyid, and Lodi. Key administrative reforms under Alauddin Khilji and Muhammad bin Tughlaq.
- **Mughal Empire (1526–1857 CE):** Established by Babur after the First Battle of Pa-

nipat. Zenith under Akbar (Mansabdari system, Ibadat Khana), Shah Jahan, and Aurangzeb.

- **Vijayanagara Empire (1336–1646 CE):** Founded by Harihara and Bukka. Golden age under Krishnadevaraya (Tuluva dynasty). Famous for architecture (Hampi) and foreign trade.

3. Modern India

- **British Expansion:** Battle of Plassey (1757) and Battle of Buxar (1764) establishing political supremacy. Policies: Subsidiary Alliance (Wellesley) and Doctrine of Lapse (Dalhousie).
- **Revolt of 1857:** The First War of Indian Independence. Key centers and leaders: Delhi (Bahadur Shah II), Lucknow (Begum Hazrat Mahal), Jhansi (Rani Laxmibai), Kanpur (Nana Saheb).
- **Indian National Movement (1885–1947):**
 - *Moderate Phase (1885–1905):* Formation of INC.
 - *Extremist Phase (1905–1919):* Partition of Bengal, Home Rule Movement.
 - *Gandhian Era (1919–1947):* Non-Cooperation (1920), Civil Disobedience (1930), Quit India Movement (1942).