

The Mauryan Empire

Chapter 8: The Mauryan Empire · Topic 1

Key Concept

Chandragupta Maurya, guided by his advisor Chanakya, unified much of the Indian subcontinent, establishing a well-organised administration.

The empire had a strong central government, with the emperor supported by ministers and a network of officials managing different regions.

Ashoka, Chandragupta's grandson, expanded the empire further but later embraced Buddhism and non-violence after the bloody Kalinga War.

The Mauryan Empire's administration, trade networks, and cultural developments had a lasting influence on later Indian history.

Quick Revision Notes

- Chandragupta Maurya founded the Mauryan Empire around 321 BCE.
- Chanakya was Chandragupta's advisor.
- Chandragupta unified much of India.
- The empire had a strong central government.
- Ministers and officials managed different regions.
- Ashoka was Chandragupta's grandson.
- Ashoka embraced Buddhism after the Kalinga War.
- The Mauryan Empire influenced later Indian history.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research Chandragupta Maurya's achievements.
- 2 Discuss Chanakya's role as an advisor.
- 3 Research Ashoka's transformation after Kalinga.
- 4 Explain how the Mauryan Empire was administered.
- 5 Discuss the Mauryan Empire's lasting influence.
- 6 Create a timeline of the Mauryan Empire's key rulers.