

The background of the image features a large, detailed stone wheel with many spokes, resembling a chariot wheel or a celestial diagram. The wheel is set against a backdrop of ancient Indian carvings, including what appears to be a temple facade with a central archway and various decorative elements. The overall color palette is warm, with earthy tones of brown, tan, and green.

VEDIC AGE

ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY



Vedic Age (1500-600) B.C.

Early/Rig Vedic Age (1500-1000) B.C

Later Vedic Age (1000-600) B.C.

The author of Vedic Culture were Aryans.

Who were Arvan?

Aryan is a linguistic connotation for the people who spoke the Indo-Aryan language, not a race.

Max Muller - Central Asian origin theory





South Siberia

European Steppe

Central Asian migration

Tibeto-Burmese language

Asia

Iranian Pastoralist migration to India

Indo-European language

First Migration route out of Africa

Dravidian language

Austro-Asiatic Migration into India





Home of Aryans

The original home of the Aryans is a debatable question and there are several views.

But it is an established fact that Aryans came to India in different waves from outside India.

The earliest wave is represented by the Rig Vedic people in around 1500 BC.



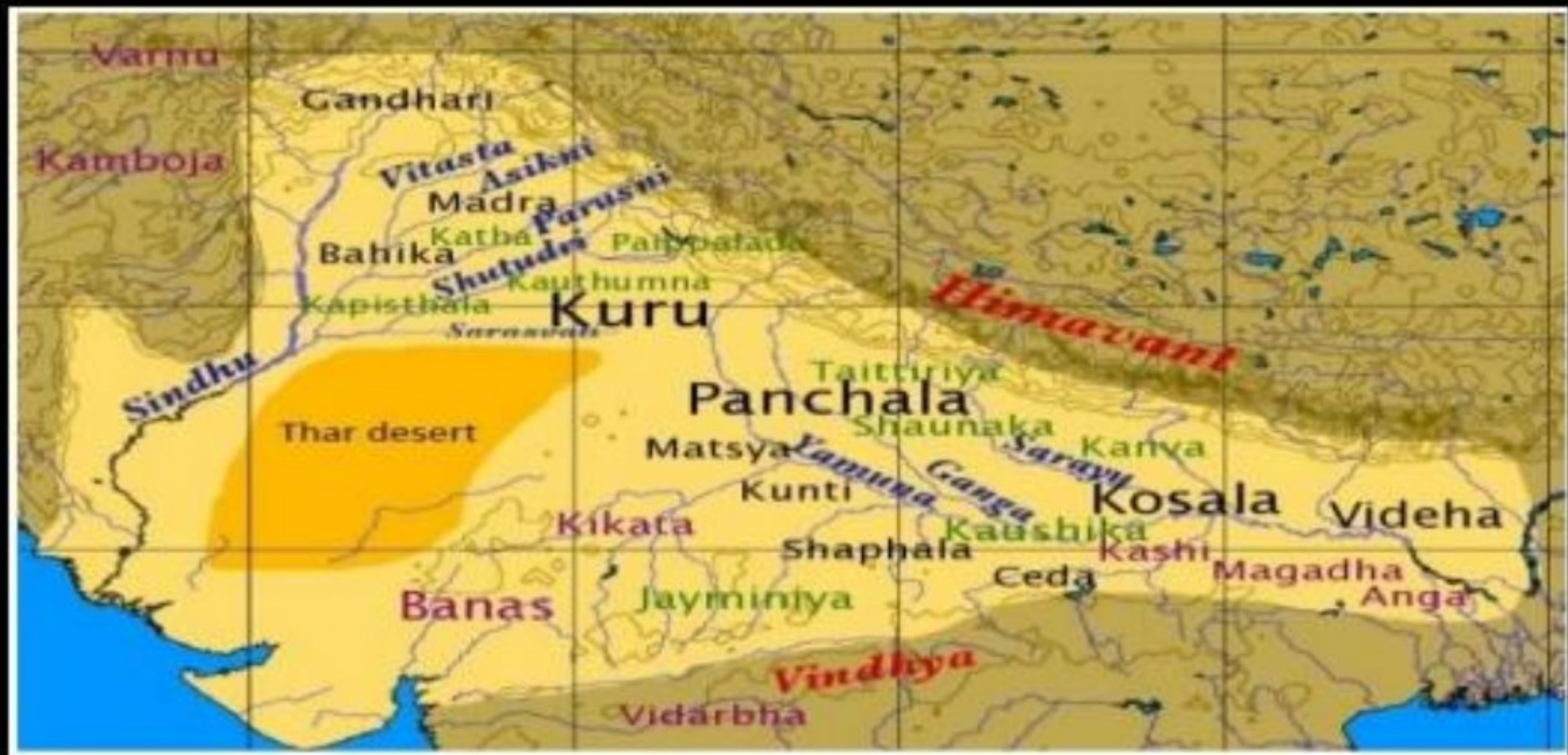
Earliest Settlements

Aryans came to India first and settled in the Eastern Afghanistan and Punjab-then called Sapta Sindhu i.e. region of seven rivers.

The region of "Sapta Sindhu" consisted of the River Saraswati, the River Indus and five tributaries of Indus, the Nadistuti sukta of Rig-Veda said, Rivers: Sutudri (Sutlej), Parusni (Ravi), Asikni (Chenab), Vitasta (Jhelum), Vipas (Beas).

The family books of the Rig Veda Samhita (books 2 to 7) were composed in Eastern Afghanistan and the Punjab, i.e, in the land of "Sapta Saindhav".

But the core geographical area of later Vedic texts was Kuru-Panchala, which comprised the Indo - Gangetic divide and the upper Ganga Valley.






Geography of Early Vedic Period



Geography of Later Vedic Period



Political structure - Early Vedic Period



Political structure - Later Vedic Period



Society - Early Vedic Period



Society - Later Vedic Period




Economic Life- Early Vedic Period



Economic Life- Later Vedic Period



Women position- Early Vedic Period



Women position- Later Vedic Period



Religion- Early Vedic Period



Religion- Later Vedic Period

Vedic Literature

vast literature is divided into two parts

a. Shruti literature
to hear

b. Smriti literature
to remember

Smriti Darshanas

Mahakavyas (Epic)

Puranas

Vedangas

Upvedas

Apanshya

veda's paths

created by man

God gifted

→ Vedas / Samhitas → hymns

→ Brahmanas

(Sacrifice)

Explanation of vedas in ritualistic forms

→ Aryankas

forest text

concluding portions of vedas mostly written

→ Upanishads

philosophical

explanation of vedas

by hermites in forests

Shruti describes the sacred texts comprising the Vedas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas, & Upanishads

Smriti literally means "that which is remembered," and it is entire corpus of the post Vedic Sanskrit literature.

It comprises Vedanga, Shad darsana, Puranas, Itihasa, Upveda, Tantras, Agamas, Upangs.

The Samhitas (four vedas) and Brahmanas form the 'karmakanda' segment of the vedas.

Aranyakas and Upanishads form the Gyan-kanda segment of the Vedas.

There are four vedas (Vedic samhitas)-

a. Rigveda- a collection of hymns

b. Samveda - a collection of songs mostly taken from RigVeda

c. Yajurveda - a collection of sacrificial formulae

d. Atharvaveda - a collection of spells and charms



Rig Veda - Hota/Hotri

1,028 hymns, divided into 10 Mandals

II to VII mandals are the oldest Mandal and are called as family books as they explains the particular families of rishi. The six-rishi families are.- Gritsamada, Vishwamitra, Vamdeva, Atri, Bharadwai, and Vasishta.

Mandal IX dedicated to Soma

The famous Gayatri Mantra is from IIIrd Mandal of Rig-Veda.

✓ Xth Mandal contains the Purusashukta which explains the four fold varna system.

Upveda of the Rig Veda is the Ayurveda (Science of Health and Medicine).

Battle of ten kings - VII Mandal

Sam Veda - Udgata/Udgatri

The Upveda of the Sama Veda is the Gandharva
Veda. (Science of Music)

Yajur Veda - (Adharvayu)

The Upveda of the Yajur Veda is the Dhanur Veda
(Science of War).

Atharva veda - Atharva

This Veda contains the Gopatha Brahmana.

The Upveda of the Atharva Veda is the Shilpa Veda

Music



Brahmanas

The Brahmanas describe the rules for the performance of sacrificial ceremonies.

Each Veda has their Brahmanas attached to it.

Veda	Brahmanas
1. Rigveda	Aitereya and Kaushitaki (AK)
2. Samveda	Tandya and Jaiminiya (TJ)
3. Yajurveda	Tattiriya and Satpatha (TS)
4. Atharva veda	Gopatha

Upanishads (Vedanta) 108

Important Upanishads -

Brahmacharya, Grihasth
Vanprasth, Sanyasa

Chhandogyva Upanishad-

It clearly refers to the first three ashrams and discusses the types of

marriage

(10) →

a. Anuloma marriage - The marriage of a man in his own Varna or below his
Varna.

b. Pratiloma marriage - The marriage of a girl/woman in a Varna lower than
her own Varna.




Jabala Upanishad-

4th ashrama (sanyansa)

Mundaka Upanishad

The chant "Satyameva Jayate" used in the Indian National Emblem is taken from the Mundaka Upanishad,



Yajna performed during Vedic Period-

a. **Rajasayu** - for divine grace

b. **Ashwamedha** - for territorial expansion

c. **Vajapeya** - associated with chariot race. To win the race against his kinsmen

yajurved

Vedanga (organs/limbs of Vedas)

Vedangas are important for the study of Vedas. They are part of "smriti literature".

Vedanga and Sutra literature were roughly contemporary with early Buddhism and can be dated around 600-200 BC.



The six Vedangas are as follows

1. Shiksha or phonetics or pronunciation Nose of Veda
2. Kalpa or ritual = Hand of Veda
3. Vyakarana or grammar = Mouth of Veda
4. Nirukta or etymology (it means meaning or origin of the word) = Ear of Veda
5. Chandas or metrics (number of syllables in a line of a poem) = Feet of Veda
6. Jyotisha or astronomy = Eye of Veda

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Smritis Dharmashastras

1. Manu Smriti → oldest
2. Yajnavalkya Smriti
3. Narad Smriti
4. Parashara Smriti
5. Brihaspati ''
6. Katyayana ''

Mahakavyas

Ramayana
(Valmiki)
→ 7 Kand

Mahabharate (ved Vyas)

- 18 Parvan - (Gita Updesha)
↓
in Bhishma
Parvan.

Puranas (18)

↳ Agama (12)

Upvedas

Rig veda — Ayurveda

Sam veda → Gandharva veda

Atharva veda → Shilpa veda

Yajurveda → Itanurveda

Shad Darsana (Indian Philosophy) (orthodox)

veda's

Atma / Purusha

SHAD DARSHANA

Existence and nature of Brahman

Nature of the jiva or the individual soul

Creation of the jagat or the world

Moksha or liberation and the disciplines that lead to it

NYAYA

- given by Gauthama Shasthra
- a measure of Divinity must be available by which the proof may be obtained through:
 1. Prathyaksha (direct perception) by the sense organs
 2. Anumana (inference), e.g. one infers about fire by seeing the smoke
 3. Upamana (comparison) to understand many things that cannot be otherwise easily understood
 4. Shabdha (sound)—the ultimate proof, the proof garnered on the basis of sound

Sage

VAISHESHIKA

- includes the concept of atoms
- equality of men and women
- doing good to the society
- inherent unity of in the microcosm of all humans and appeals not to fight over petty matters
- understand that microcosm is in the macrocosm and the macrocosm is in the microcosm

Kanada
Sage

UTTHARA MEEMAMSA

- given by Sage Jamini
- man must not give in to excitement to acquire something
- if it is destined to reach you, it shall be delivered to you wherever you are
- concentrate on protecting your righteousness i.e. "Dharmo Rakshathi Rakshithah"

PUURVA MEEMAMSA

- given by Sage Jaimini
- provide the philosophical justification to the observance following spiritual tradition and rituals related to the Karma kanda (the field of action)

SAMKHYA

- given by Sage Kapila
- explains how to reach God with the help of numbers
- oldest of the orthodox philosophical systems in Hinduism, with origins in the 1st millennium BCE
- Buddhi, Ahamkara, Manas and Prana
- ahamkara is divided into five gross elements: space, air, fire, water and earth ✓ ✓ ✓
- The five fine elements are Sound, touch, sight, taste and smell

YOGA

- given by Sage Pathanjali
- eight kinds of Yoga prescribed for man to enjoy health and happiness—Yama, Niyama, Asana, Pranayama, Prathyahara, Dharana, Dhyana and Samadhi

