

CBSE • CLASS 9 • SOCIAL SCIENCE

SOCIAL SCIENCE

CHAPTER 05

State and Society up to 1000 CE



NCERT SOLUTIONS



FROM CLANS TO LARGE EMPIRES

Q1. How did political organisation change from the Vedic period to the age of large empires such as the Mauryas and the Guptas?

1. Early Vedic period:

People lived in janans, or clans linked by kinship. The raja was mainly a clan chief who led warfare and protected the group. Assemblies took part in public affairs.

3. Mahajanapadas:

Larger political units developed. Some were kingdoms; others were ganas or sanghas, with republican forms of rule. Magadha grew powerful.

2. Janapadas:

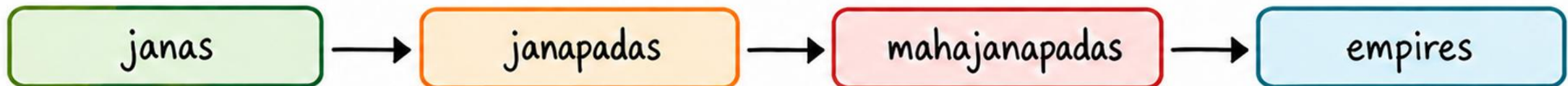
People became connected to a territory, not only to their relatives. Control of land, farming and trade routes became more important.

4. Mauryas and Guptas:

Large empires needed organised taxation, armies, ministers and officials at several levels.

Main change:

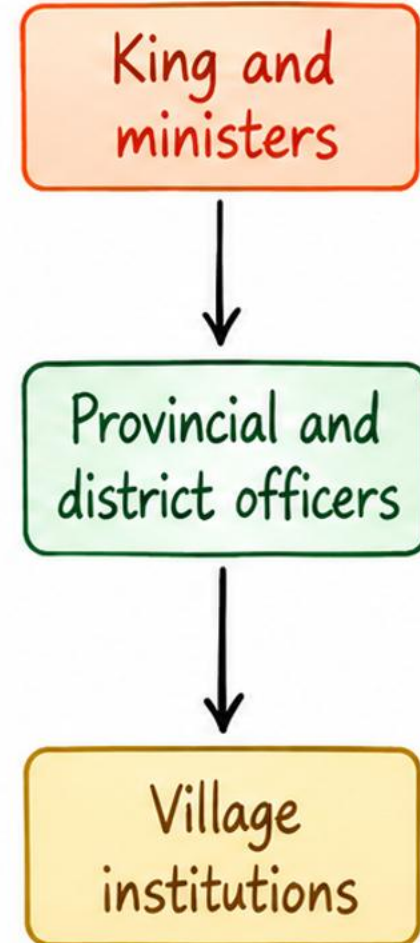
Small kin-based groups gradually became larger territorial states with more complex administration.



HOW EARLY STATES WERE ADMINISTERED

Q1 (continued). Explain the administrative system of the early Indian states.

- The king held the highest authority, but did not govern alone. A council of ministers advised and supported him.
- Some district decisions involved bankers, caravan leaders, artisans and scribes. Gupta records describe such local participation.
- Provinces were divided into smaller divisions and districts, with villages at the lowest level. Names of these units varied by region and period.
- Village headmen and assemblies settled disputes and managed local needs. Chola village assemblies handled taxes, land, irrigation, roads and records.
- Governors and district officers managed administration, justice, revenue and law and order.
- Thus, central authority worked with provincial officers and local institutions.



KING, OFFICERS AND TERRITORIAL RULE

Q2. Describe the role of the king, important officers, and the methods used to govern large territories.

KING

The king was expected to protect people, defend the state, maintain order and give impartial justice. Texts linked good rule with ethical conduct and public welfare.

IMPORTANT OFFICERS

- Ministers advised the king and organised administration.
- The treasurer managed wealth; the chief tax collector collected revenue.
- The legal advisor guided justice; the commander-in-chief led the army.
- Governors and district officers handled provincial and local affairs.

METHODS OF GOVERNMENT

Large territories were divided into smaller units. Officials worked at different levels and consulted local groups. Village assemblies managed everyday needs. Taxes supported administration, defence and public works.

IMPORTANT FEATURES OF EARLY INDIA

Q3. After studying this chapter, what do you think were the most important features of the state and society in India before 1000 CE?

A sample answer based on the chapter:

1. **Political growth:**

Clans developed into territorial kingdoms, republics and large empires.

2. **Organised government:**

Kings, ministers, provincial officers and village institutions shared administrative work.

3. **Social life:**

Families, kinship groups, varnas and jatis shaped society. Social roles changed across time and regions.

4. **Ethical ideals:**

Dharma connected duty, right conduct, justice and welfare. Education aimed to develop both knowledge and character.

5. **Economic networks:**

Farming and irrigation supported livelihoods and state revenue. Trade routes, ports and guilds linked regions.

6. **Cultural continuity:**

Learning, literature, religious practices and Bhakti traditions developed despite political changes.



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