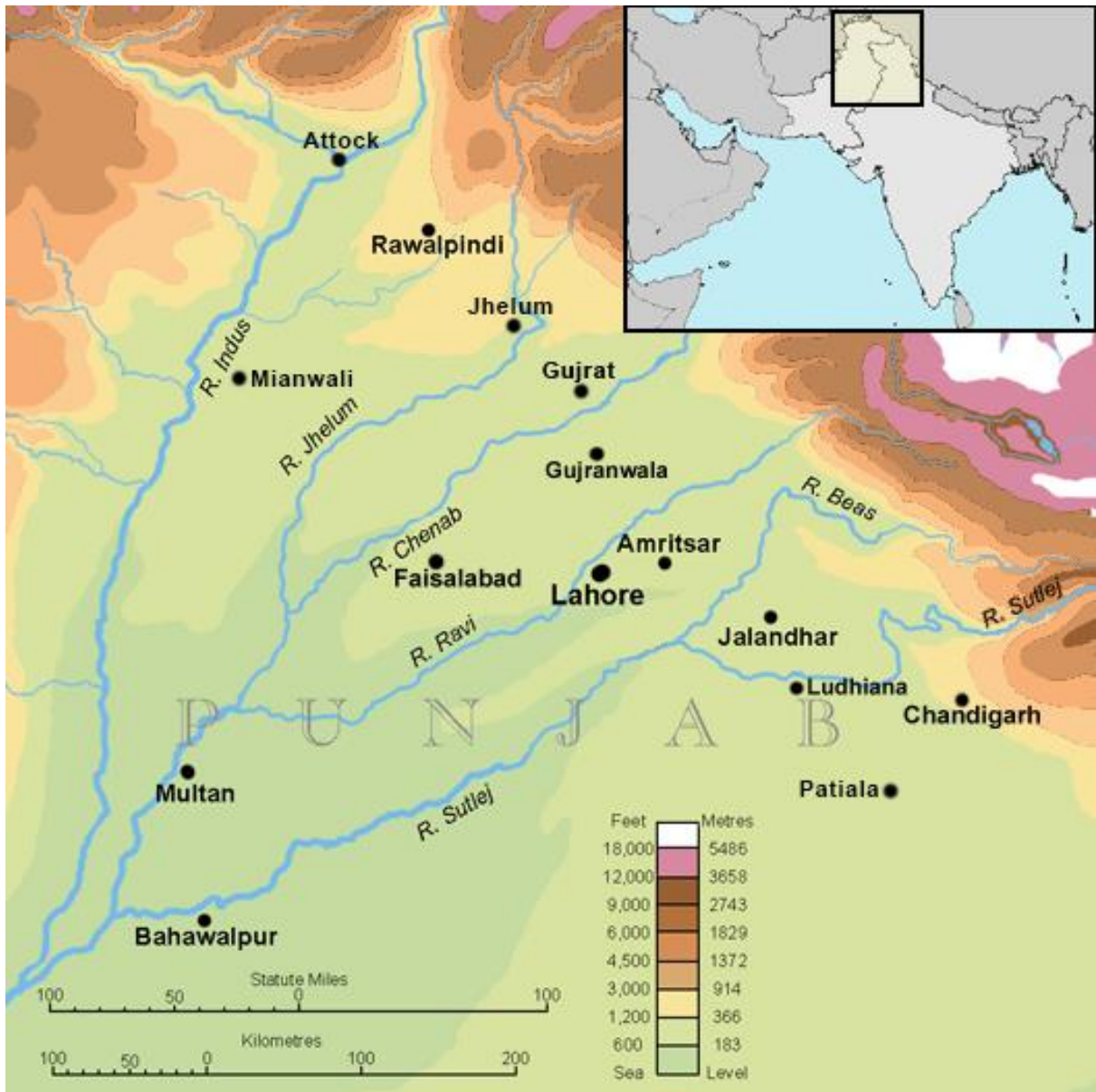


## PUNJAB -1 (Ancient and Medieval History of Punjab)

### Meaning/Origin of name 'Punjab'

- Punjab has been known by different names since ancient times.



- The term 'Punjab' consists of two Persian words: - 'Punj' (five) and 'Aab' (water) word meaning 'the land of five rivers'. It means that the five rivers the Shutudri/Sutlej, Parushni/Ravi, Asikni/Chenab, Vitasta/Jhelum, Vipasha/Beas, all tributaries of Sindhu / Indus -originating from the Himalayas, this name perhaps was given when this region came into contact with Persian Empire (500 years before Christian Era).



- The early records go back to **Ibn-Batuta** (1394-1378 AD), a traveler from **Morocco**, who visited India during the early 14<sup>th</sup> century and mentions the region as '**Punjab**' – the land of five rivers. He also mentioned Abohar as the first town of Hindustan on the Multan-Delhi route.
- According to **Alexander Cunningham** it covered entire plains of the Punjab from the Indus to Beas and from the foot of the mountain to the junction of the five rivers below Multan.
- In 'Rigveda' it has been described as '**Sapt Sindhu**' i.e., the hand of seven rivers, the Sutlej, the Beas, the Ravi, the Chenab, the Jhelum, the Sindhu and the Saraswati.
- When the Aryans settled down in the North India around 1500 B.C., they named it **Sapta-Sindhva** – land of seven rivers (seas).
- The Puranas and the great Epics-the Ramayana and the Mahabharata describe it as '**Panchnad**' (land of five rivers).
- The Greeks have named it '**Pentapotamia**', which also means the land of five rivers.
- Another name for this region mentioned by Hiuen-Tsang, the Chinese traveler (A.D. 629-644), is '**Taki**' after the name of a powerful tribe Taki who ruled over this region.
- In the medieval times, a large part of its was known as the 'Province of Lahore' and as '**Lahore kingdom**' during the times of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- It was given the name of '**Punjab Province**' in 1849 A.D. by the Britishers when they made it a part of the British empire.
- Historically and politically, the boundaries have been changing from time to time. Till medieval times, its boundaries were determined by the five 'Doabs'. Multan was made a separate province during Akbar's regime. Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh were a part of 'Lahore Kingdom' during the reign of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- In 1901 A.D. some of its north-western parts were formed into a separate state-North-West Frontier Province, the size of Punjab started decreasing hereafter.

## Punjab's History

- It has been a **land of decisive battles** due to its physical features. Its fertile and prosperous land attracted many foreign invaders.
- The **invaders** entered Punjab through the passes in the north-west. They had to fight many decisive battles, before establishing their political supremacy in India, e.g. The battle between Alexander and Porus, Mehmood Gaznvi's battles against Jaipal and Anandpal, the first and second battles of Tarain (1191 A.D. and 1192 A.D.) and the three historic battles of Panipat (1526, 1556 & 1761 A.D.).
- Not only Punjab, but the whole of India was influenced by these battles. Many empires were lost in these battles though many new empires were born as well. A brief chronological account of the history of Punjab is given below.

## Chronology of Punjab history

<b>2500 - 1500 B.C.</b>	Harappa Culture
<b>2500 - 700 B.C.</b>	Rigvedic Aryan Civilization



<b>599 B.C.</b>	Jainism
<b>567 - 487 B.C.</b>	Buddha
<b>550 B.C - 600 A.D.</b>	Buddhism remained prevalent
<b>550 - 515 B.C.</b>	Persian Invasion to the west of Indus
<b>326 B.C.</b>	Alexander's Invasion
<b>322 - 298 B.C.</b>	Chandragupta Maurya's Period
<b>273 - 232 B.C.</b>	Ashoka's Period
<b>125 - 160 B.C.</b>	Rise of the Shakas (Scythians known as Jat ancestors)
<b>45 - 180 A.D.</b>	Rule of the Kushanas
<b>320 - 550 A.D.</b>	Gupta Empire
<b>500 A.D.</b>	Huns' Invasion
<b>510 - 650 A.D.</b>	Vardhana's Era
<b>647 - 1192 A.D.</b>	Rajput Period
<b>713 - 1300 A.D.</b>	Muslim Invaders (Turks and Arabs) famous invaders like Mahmud Gori and Mahmud Ghazni
<b>8th Century A.D.</b>	Arabs capture Sind and Multan
<b>1450 - 1700 A.D.</b>	Mughal Rulers
<b>1469 - 1539 A.D.</b>	Guru Nanak Dev Ji (1st Sikh Guru)



<b>1539 - 1675 A.D.</b>	Period of 8 Sikh Gurus from Guru Angad Dev Ji to Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji
<b>1675 - 1708 A.D.</b>	Guru Gobind Singh Ji (10th Sikh Guru)
<b>1699 A.D.</b>	Birth of the Khalsa
<b>1708</b>	Death of Shri Guru Gobind Singh ji
<b>1716</b>	Banda Bahadur executed
<b>1716 - 1759 A.D.</b>	Sikh struggle against Mughal Governors
<b>1739</b>	Invasion of Nadir Shah
<b>1748 -1769 A.D.</b>	Ahmed Shah Abdali's nine invasions
<b>1758</b>	Sirhind and Lahore occupied by Marathas
<b>1761</b>	Battle of Panipat; Marathas defeated by Abdali
<b>1762</b>	Golden Temple blown up by Ahmed Shah Durrani
<b>1762</b>	2nd Holocaust (Ghallughara) from Ahmed Shah's 6th invasion
<b>1764 - 99</b>	Rule of the Sikh Misls
<b>1780</b>	Birth of Ranjit Singh
<b>1799</b>	Lahore occupied by Ranjit Singh
<b>1799-1839</b>	Rule by Maharaja Ranjit Singh
<b>1809</b>	Treaty of Amritsar between Ranjit Singh & British
<b>1831</b>	Ranjit Singh and Lord Bentick signed treaty of Ropar



1839	Death of Ranjit Singh
1849	Annexation of Punjab by British after two Anglo-Sikh Wars
1849 - 1947	British Rule
1880-1920	The Singh Sabha Movement
1915	Ghadar Party established
1925	Sikh Gurdwara Act implemented
1936	Khalsa National Party formed
1945	Panthik Party formed
1946	Central Akali Dal under Baba Kharak Singh
1948	Formation of PEPSU (Patiala & Eastern Punjab States' Union)
1956	Merger of PEPSU with Punjab
1966	Re-organization of Punjab (Creation of Haryana & Himachal)

- Before studying Punjab history, a survey of various sources is essential. Punjab history is derived from a number of texts including religious scriptures, accounts of travelers which accompanied invaders and literary works written by various authors. The archaeological material cannot be ignored and provided valuable inputs though contains a number of missing links. A detailed account of these sources is given below.

### Sources of Ancient History of Punjab

- The ancient history of the Punjab is very varied. Most of the ancient literature on the history of Punjab has perished. Though there is lack of proper historical literature, the vast mass of Sanskrit literature like **the Vedas, the Upanishads, the Puranas and the two great epics** are a valuable source of information about the ancient history of Punjab. Though the Vedas are mainly religious in character, they also give us the glimpse of the prehistoric period. They give us a lot of information about the social and religious life of the Aryans who settled in the Punjab.
- The **Arthashastra of Kautilya** reflects the demographic condition of the Punjab at the time of Alexander's invasion.



- **Patanjali, in his Mahabhasya**, gives a useful account of the invasions of the Punjab by the Greeks. He talks of the attempted crossing of the river Beas by the Greeks.
- The main biographical work of the ancient history is **Harsha Charita** written by **Baanbhatta** in the 7<sup>th</sup> century A.D. It describes the life and the political history of India of the 7<sup>th</sup> century A.D.
- Another important biographical work of this period is **Prithvi Raj Raso** written by **Chandbardai**. It enlightens us about king Prithvi Raj and has a very useful historical material about his reign.
- The **Rajatrangini** written by **Kalhan** in 1149-50 A.D. is the only historical book in true sense of the term in the whole ancient literature. It relates to the history of Kashmir.

### Archaeological Material

- The **excavations of Harappa, Mohenjodaro and Taxila** have given very reliable historical facts which were so far unknown to this world. Many ruins of the Indus Valley Civilization have been discovered at other places such as Kotla Nihang Khan (near Ropar), at Ucha Pind Sanghol in Ludhiana district, Banawali in Hisar District and Suktagendor on the east coast of Baluchistan.
- **Inscriptions** are the most important and the most reliable source of historical studies.
- The inscriptions found at Bogaha-koi (in Asia Minor) probably refer to the movements of the Aryans before they came to India and thus indirectly help us in reconstructing the history of the Vedic period.
- Inscriptions discovered at Persepolis and Nakshi Rostam (in Iran) contain valuable references to political contact between ancient Punjab and Iran.
- The **Persepolis Inscription** indicates that king Darius of Persia conquered the Indus Valley sometimes between 518 and 515 B.C.
- The **Sharkot Inscription** gives us information about the tribes living in the territories between Jhelum and Chenab at the time of Alexander's invasion.
- The **Allahabad Pillar Inscription** of Samudra Gupta (fourth century A.D.) narrates the conquest of Samudra Gupta in India and the republican tribes inhabiting the Punjab.
- The **Mehrauli Pillar Inscription** probably narrates the exploits of Chandragupta II. It indicates that after crossing the seven mouths of the Indus system, he defeated the Vahalikas and annexed their territories to his western provinces.
- The **Inscriptions of the Huna Chiefs** Toramana and Mihirakula discovered in Khewra in the Salt Range of Punjab tell us about their rule in the Punjab. Some of Ashoka's inscriptions give us material about the content of his empire.
- **Coins** are also valuable for constructing the history of ancient Punjab. A large variety of coins of Huna ruler Mihirakula were found at Chinlot (West Punjab, Pakistan). They indicate that Punjab was included in his dominions.

### Writings of Foreigners

- Writings of foreigners are a very valuable source of ancient history of Punjab supplementing the purely Indian sources to a great extent.
- **Travelers from Greece and Iran** have left their impressions about the Punjab and the North-West India. Only a few fragments of such records and portions quoted by later writers are valuable. Yet they are very useful as they supplement the evidence of India sources.
- **Herodotus, Skylax and Ctesias** were the early Greek writers who wrote about India before Alexander's invasion. Herodotus and Ctesias collected information about India through the Persians. Herodotus writes that North-West India was the 20<sup>th</sup> satrap of the Empire of king Darius.



He records that the soldiers of Gandhara fought with bows of reed and short spears and those of the lower

- Skylax writes about his voyages between Persian Gulf and Indus Valley. Xenophon (44 or 424-357 B.C.) in his work *Cyropedia*, records that Cyrus, the Great (559-530 B.C.) sent an embassy to a wealthy Indian king (who was probably Pukhasti the ruler of Gandhara) for borrowing money.
- After these early Greeks, certain Greek historians such as **Aritsobulus, Nearchos, Ptolemy, Onesicritus, Ctesias** accompanied Alexander in his Indian expedition. These scholars reduced into writing the account of Alexander's wars. But for writers, Alexander's invasion of India would have remained unknown to us.
- The later Greek and Roman writers like **Strabo, Diodorus, Arrian Piny, Ptolemy Curtius** and others throw valuable light on Alexander's invasion of the Punjab. Their accounts are more rational and highly critical. Arrian, a Greco-Roman official (2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D.) gives a detailed description of India. He also gives an account of Alexander's invasion of the Punjab. He mentions many tribal chiefs ruling in the Punjab at that time. Quintus Curtius has mentioned Alexander's invasion of the Punjab and an account of the people living beyond the Beas.
- The geographer **Pliny** in his work *Naturalis Historia* has given a description of the economic conditions of India of his times.

### Early Muslim Writers

- Among the early Mohammedan writers useful for ancient Punjab history, the most important is **Alberuni's** work **Tahqiq-i-Hind** (Enquiry into India). Alberuni who accompanied **Mahmud Ghaznavi** on his Indian expeditions, undertook a thorough study of Indian literature and his work has been described as a marvel of well-digested erudition in about 1000 A.D.
- Another Arabian writer who came to India much earlier was **Suleman Saudagar**. His short account of the North-West India is helpful to historians but has not deserved much attention.

### Persian Sources

- Most of the history of the Punjab has been reconstructed from the various and scattered Persian Sources which are available to us. Among them are some good historical works but their reliability is doubtful. The first in importance are: -

<b>The Royal Histories</b>	'Ain-i-Akbari' by Abul Fazal, 'Babar Nama' by Babar, 'Humayan Nama' by Gulbadan, 'Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri'
<b>Inspiration of Baghdad</b>	The Baghdad inscription enlightens us about Guru Nanak's visit to that place and his meeting with Bahlol Khan Lodhi who erected a platform to commemorate the visit of the Guru.
<b>'Dabistan-i-</b>	It is a contemporary work written by one who was on





<b>Mazahib’ by Mohsin Fani.</b>	most intimate terms with the Sixth Guru.
<b>‘Tarikh’ by Iradat Khan</b>	It contains factual and authoritative account on Banda.
<b>‘Ibarat Nama’ by Khair Din</b>	It is written in three volumes, the author, was a personal assistant to the son of Shah Alam II. It forms the most important source on Ahmad Shah Abdali’s invasion.
<b>‘Muntkhab-ul-Lubab’ by Khafi Khan</b>	a detailed account of the times and activities of Guru Teg Bahadur, Guru Gobind Singh and Banda.
<b>‘Tazkara-i-Tahmas Miskim’ by Tahmas Khan Miskim</b>	Being employed in the household of Muin-ul-Mulk and Mughlani Begum he has authentically covered their activities.
<b>‘Zafar Nama’ by Qazi Noor Mohammad</b>	Written in 1705, it gives valuable information in regard to the first and second invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali.
<b>‘Jang Nama’ by Qazi Noor Mohammad</b>	Written in 1765, it is an authoritative and an eye-witness account of the seventh invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali.
<b>‘Ibarat Nama’ by Mohammad Qasim Lahori</b>	It is both informative and authoritative account of some incidents in Banda Bahadur’s life.





The other important Persian sources include the following works:

<b>Ahwali-i-Adina</b>	Beg Khan
<b>Ahwal-i-Najib-ud-daulah</b>	Bihari Lal
<b>Halat-i-Multan</b>	Mohd Yusuf
<b>Khalsa Nama</b>	Bhagat Mal
<b>Khalsa Nama</b>	Rattan Chand
<b>Khulast-ut-Twarikh</b>	Sujain Rai Bhandari
<b>Shah Alam Nama</b>	Ghulam Ali
<b>Siyar-ul-Mutkhrin</b>	Gulam Hassain Khan
<b>Tarikh Shah Alam</b>	Munna Lal
<b>Tarikh-i-Anand Ram</b>	Anand Ram
<b>TARikh-i-Mohd Shah</b>	Khushal Chand
<b>Tarikh-i-Multan</b>	Mohd Khan
<b>Tarikh-i-Punjab</b>	Ahmad Shah
<b>Tarikh-i-Punjab</b>	Bute Singh
<b>Tarikh-i-Sikhism</b>	Khushwaqt Rai
<b>Tarikh-i-Sultan</b>	Sultan Mohd
<b>Umdat-ul-Twarikh</b>	Sohan Lal



### Urdu Sources

<b>Shamshir-i-Khalsa</b>	Gian Singh
<b>`Tarikh-i-Guru Khalsa'</b>	Gian Singh
<b>`Tarikh-i-Patiala'</b>	Mohd Hassan
<b>`Tarikh-i-Sikhan'</b>	Sarup Lal
<b>`Raj Khalsa'</b>	Gian Singh.
<b>`Dastur-ul-Amal'</b>	Sarup Lal.
<b>`Goshal-i-Punjab'</b>	Radha Kishan

### History of Punjab

- Punjab is the **cradle of the Indus Valley Civilization**, archaeological excavations, throughout the state, have revealed evidences of the magnificent cities of Harappa and Mohenjodaro that lived and died along the banks of the mighty Indus and its tributaries.
- The Mahabharata, which narrates life between the 7th and 5th century BC, contains rich descriptions of the land and people of Punjab at that time. It is believed that parts of the **Ramayana** too, was written around the **Shri Ram Tirth Ashram, near Amritsar**; and it was in these forests that Lav and Kush grew up.
- Other great historical discoveries have been unearthed at Ropar, Kiratpur, Dholbaha, Rohira and Ghuram. These relics throw light on the culture and changing architectural styles of Punjab, since the Harappan age. At Sanghol, in Fatehgarh Sahib district near Ludhiana, **sites associated with great Mauryan Dynasty**, have yielded remarkable relics that record the presence of Buddhism in the region.
- **Sage Priyamedha Sindhukshit** in the famous 'Hymn of Rivers" (Nadi-stuti) after invoking the favour of rivers soars to a high pitch of exultation in his reference to the Sindhu. He clearly states that his ancestors were the inhabitants of the land through which the river flowed from ages immemorial,
- The Vedic and the later Epic periods of the Punjab were socially and culturally the most prolific. The Rig Veda was composed here.
- During the period quite a number of centers of learning and culture were established. Panini and Vishnu Gupta were associated with this religion, Philosophy, grammar, law, astrology, medicine



and warfare were taught. Yasak’s **Nirkuta** and Panini’s **Ashtadhyayi** are those classic creations of which help us to understand the language and culture of the ancient Punjab.

- The field of action of the Ramayana is believed to be outside the Punjab but the tradition maintains that Valmiki composed the Ramayana near the present Amritsar city and Kaikeyee belonged to this region.

### Pre-Historic Period

- Also known as ‘Stone Age’
- Early man totally dependent upon the nature for his existence and upon stone for his early creativity

Name of Period	Sites in Punjab	Characteristics
A. Palaeolithic Age (Old Stone Age)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the partition of the country in 1947, India lost almost all these stone age sites to Pakistan</li> <li>• Sites in Punjab- Salt Range, Kohli and Dhokgul</li> <li>• Other sites in Present Punjab- Hoshiarpur, Daulatpur, Dholbaha, DherMajra, Dhang, Dadhi, Merhanwala, Nalagarh, Pirthan, Khokra- Ka- choa, Bhud, Rampura and Sirsa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People- Hunters and food gathers</li> <li>• Use of Crude stones</li> <li>• No use of Metals</li> <li>• No cultivation</li> </ul>
B. Mesolithic Age (Middle Stone Age)	No site in Punjab has so far discovered	Manufacture of smaller, finer and more varied flake tools
C. Neolithic Age (New Stone Age)	In 1963, only one site discovered at Ror and Dibbar in Beas- Banganga valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestication and Agriculture started</li> <li>• Manufacturing of earthen jars to preserve stock of food</li> <li>• Use of fire, build houses of clay, canes and straw</li> <li>• Learnt to manufacture ‘cloth’ with the fiber of plants and hair of animals</li> </ul>

### Proto- Historic Period

#### Characteristics

- Use of metals along with stone
- Chalcolithic Age and Bronze Age
- Copper first metal used
- Then use of Bronze, an alloy of copper and Tin
- Northern India- Copper and Bronze age
- Southern India- Iron age and Stone age
- Domestication of Oxen
- Cultivation of wheat and Barley



## Sites in Punjab

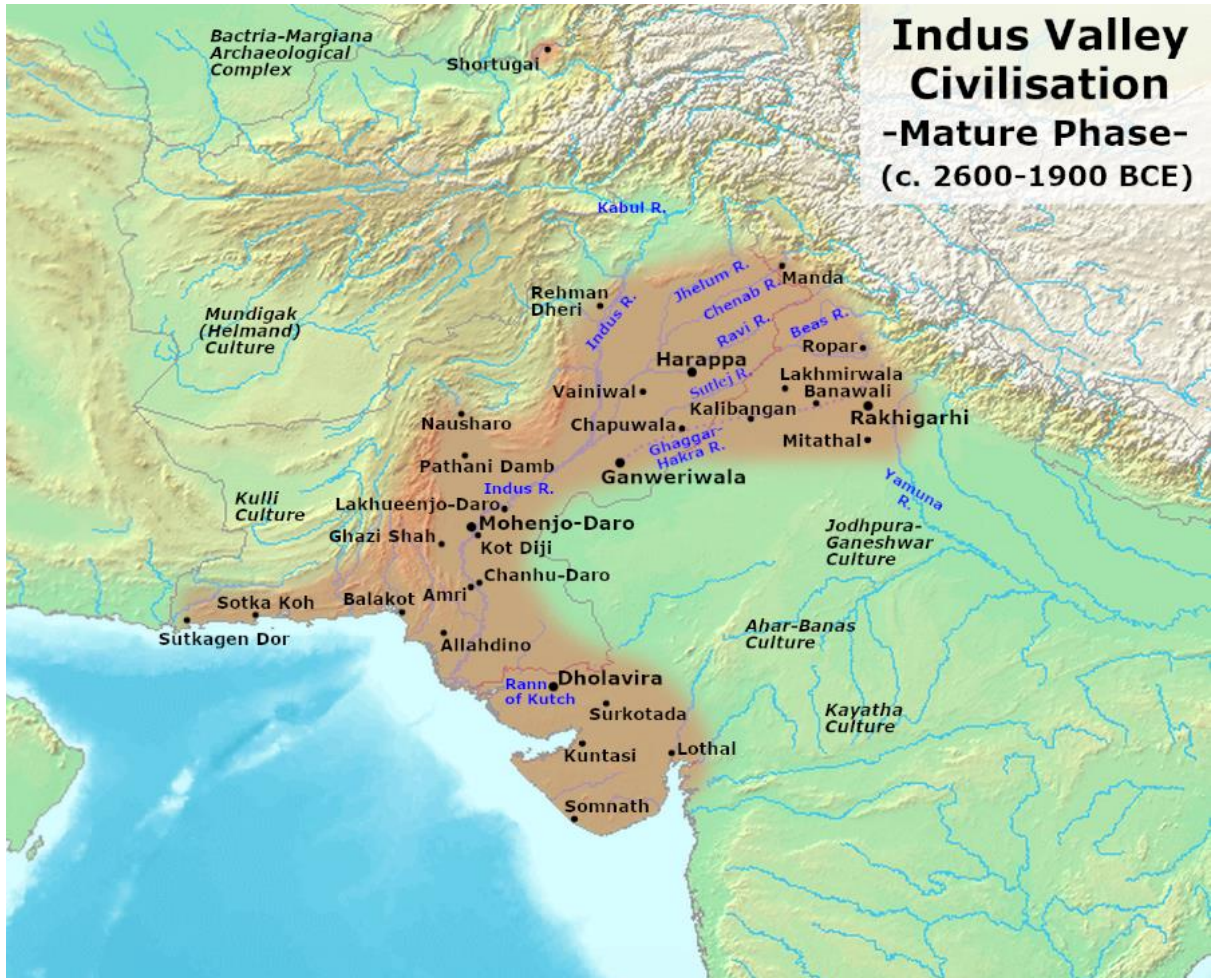
1. **Rupnagar**- On the bank of Satluj  
1952-53- Excavated by Y. D. Sharma (earthen ware, seals, beads, bangles etc.)
  2. **Kotla- Nihang Khan** (District Rupnagar)- Discovered in 1929; discovered by M.S. Vats in 1921.
  3. **Dher Majra** (District Rupnagar)
  4. **Bara** (District Rupnagar)
  5. **Rohira** (Tehsil Ahmadgarh, District Sangrur)-
    - Revealed that the houses were spacious and made up of bricks in the ratio 1:2:4
    - A large number of beads of steatite terracotta, bangle pieces of terracotta and bone styli were discovered
  6. **Sanghol** (District Fatehgarh Sahib)-
    - Terracotta figures found
    - Pottery and variety of copper objects found
  7. **Sunet** (District Ludhiana)-  
Seals, coins, coin moulds and human and animal figurines in terracotta found
  8. **Dhogri and Madhopur** – Both in Jalandhar district.
  9. **Rakhigarhi** (District Jind)
  10. **Mudiala Kalan** – It is G.T. road in district Ludhiana.
  11. **Raja Sirkap** – It is in district Faridkot.
  12. **Daulatpar** – It is 15 km East of Thanesar.
  13. **Mithathal** – It is in Bhiwani district.
  14. **Chandigarh** – The pottery related culture was excavated in Chandigarh.
  15. **Dhalbaha** – It is in district Hoshiarpur.
- 1921- **Daya Ram Sahni** excavated Proto- historic sites at Harappan in Montgomery district in West Bengal (Pakistan)
  - 1922- **R. D Banerjee** discovered a site at Mohenjodaro in Larkana district in Sindhu (Pakistan)

## Indus Valley Civilization

- Punjab, region was centre of Indus Valley Civilization Important sites of IVC like Harappa, Sanghol, Ropar, Dholbaha are found in Punjab. Important Places of Indus Valley Civilization include
- Harrappa – The city was excavated by Daya Ram Sahni in 1921. It was in district Montgomery in Punjab on bank of River Ravi 100 km away from Lahore, now in Pakistan.
- Kotla Nihang Khan – It is in district Ropar, discovered by M.S. Vats in 1921.
- Ropar – It is on bank of River Satlej. It was excavated by Y.D. Sharma in 1952-53.
- Bara – It is in Ropar, 8 km away from city Ropar.
- Sanghol – It is also known as Ucha Pind in district Fatehgarh Sahib.
- Dhogri and Madhopur – Both in Jalandhar district.
- Rakhigarhi – It is in district Jind.
- Mudiala Kalan – It is G.T. road in district Ludhiana.



- Raja Sirkap – It is in district Faridkot.
- Daulatpar – It is 15 km East of Thanesar.
- Mithathal – It is in Bhiwani district.
- Chandigarh – The pottery related culture was excavated in Chandigarh.
- Dhalbaha – It is in district Hoshiarpur.



## Indo Aryan period

- About 1500 BC
- Descended into Punjab plains from North- West
- The word meaning of **Aryan** is “Noble”, respected, or “High born”.
- Didn’t live in castles or mansions or in cities (established themselves in villages)
- Rigveda- famous book of Aryans composed on the banks of river Satluj
- Ramayana, Mahabharata and Bhagwat Gita composed
- In the great epic Mahabharata (1500 B.C to 1700 B.C) we find at several places the description of Punjab in terms of its geographical position and socio-religious structures.
- Punjab was called Aratta and its people Balhika. “Where these five rivers, Shatadru, Vipasha, the third Iravati, Chandrabhaga and Vitasta flow and where there are Pilu-forests and (where) Sindhu is the sixth to flow out, this country is called Aratta...”.





- Lord Rama (Ramayana) belonged to Punjab as tenth guru, Guru Gobind Singh ji has connected Ghuram in Patiala district with the birth place of Mata Kaushalya, mother of lord Rama.
- Punjab was parceled into number of Republics like Trigartas, Kututas, Kunindas, Yakdeyas and Malavas etc.
- During excavation at Sanghol, Sunet, Rohira and other places, coins have been found of the above tribal republics which give an ample proof of their domination in Punjab
- Later on, people of Punjab became much influenced by Buddhism and Jainism





## Buddhism, Jainism and Punjab

- In 6<sup>th</sup> century BC, world witnessed religious upheaval. In Greece, Heraclites, Permaides and Empedocles played significant role. In Iran, Zoroaster awakened the people. In China, Confucius protested against prevailing religious superstition. Same role was played by Buddhism and Jainism in India. Both represents reform movement in Hinduism.
- 4<sup>th</sup> **Buddhist Council** in 72 A.D was held near Jalandhar. Some scholar hold that this council was held in Kashmir. It was presided over by Vasumitra. During this council, Buddhism parted into Mahayana and Hinayana.

## Persian and Greek invasion

- 516 BC- Persian king Gustasp occupied Punjab
- **Darius**, Persian king also occupied some parts
- During 6<sup>th</sup> century BC, Persia was ruled by Cyrus, a powerful ruler. He occupied North West region of India. Cambysen, succeeded Cyrus who too suppressed the tribes of N.W. India and advanced towards India. He was succeeded by Darius I who occupied portion of Punjab which comprised up to Jhelum River. These victories are mention in works of Herodotus. He counted Heart, Kandhar, N.W. Punjab and whole of Sindh, as part Darius Empire. But such victory could not last long.
- 321 BC- Greek ruler Alexander invaded Punjab
- New routes for communication and trade with the countries of west were opened
- Fusion of culture started
- Greek scholars learnt philosophy, religion etc. from the Indians and the Indians in turn learn Greek coinage, art, astronomy etc.

## Alexander's invasion

- Alexander was son of Phillip the king of Macedonia, a slate in **Greece**. He ascended the throne of **Macedonia** after the death of his father in 336 BC. He was just 20 at that time. He wanted to be world conqueror. His teacher was Aristotle.
- He conquered Asia Minor, Syria, Egypt, Babylon, Persia and then crossed over to river Indus in 326 BC. He marched up to river Beas.
- Punjab was divided into smaller states engaged into mutual warfare. There were many small kingdoms in Punjab like, Aspasian territory in Kabul, Kingdom of Assakenois, Kingdom of Abhisara, Kingdom of Taxila, Kingdom of Saubhati, etc. The most important kingdom was kingdom of Porus.
- The Kingdom of Porus lay between rivers of Jhelum and Chenab comprising modern district of Jhelum, Gujrat and Shahpur. In 327 BC young conqueror crossed over Hindukush with army of 120,000 soldiers. Ist of all, Assakenois, tribe offered him resistance, but were defeated. In 326 BC Alexander was welcomed by king of Ambhi of Taxila who was enemy to Porus.
- Porus was defeated in the battle. He was taken into custody. But Alexander reinstated Porus to his rein and made him ally.
- Alexander died at Babylon when he was going back after conquering N.W. India and Punjab.





## Mauryas

- 4th century BC
- Chanakya (Kautilya)- inspired Chandragupta Maurya to free Punjab from foreign yoke and establish a powerful empire in India
- Under Maurya, the area known as modern Punjab was included in the larger province of Gandhara, whose capital was at Takshila (now in Pakistan)
- Rule of Nand Dynasty was ended by Mauryan dynasty under leadership of Chandragupta Maurya with help of Kautilya. Punjab began to suffer from mutual conflicts again after the death of Alexander. Chandragupta Maurya exploited the prevailing conditions and occupied Punjab and Sindh in 321 BC.
- In Greece, Seleucus succeeded Alexander. He moved towards India to region last possession. He crossed Indus river. He was disappointed because now the Punjab was a united force under Chandragupta Maurya. He attacked India 305 BC. He was defeated in battle and forced to accept a treaty with Chandragupta Maurya. Seleucus ceded part of Gandhara, Kabul, Herat at Baluchistan. In return, Chandragupta gave him 500 elephants. Seleucus also married his daughter to Chandragupta Maurya.
- Chandragupta Maurya was succeeded by Bimbisara, who also ruled Punjab. He had a renowned physician and Surgeon named Jivika.
- Bimbisara was succeeded by Ashoka. He led expedition to win Khasa - the hill region of Kashmir.

## Punjab under Sungas, Greeks, Shakas, Parthians and Kushans

- Pushyamitra Sunga, who was commander-in- chief of the last Mauryan ruler, Brihadratha, grabbed political power from the Mauryas and established Sunga dynasty in Central and Eastern India and a large part of Punjab, was the part of his empire.
- King Milinda or Menander (Greek ruler)- invaded India at the time of Pushyamitra

## Shaka Rule-

- Punjab was one of the 5 seats of power of Shakas in India with Takshila as its capital

## Parthians-

- A large number of coins and coin- moulds of Gondophernes (Parthian king) have been discovered at Sunet (Ludhiana District) and Ruhira (Sangrur District).

## Kushanas-

- They were first rulers in India to issue 'Gold coins' on a wide scale.
- The Kushan rulers of the first and second centuries AD evidently maintained active trade communication with Roman Empire.
- Imported Roman coins have been found in the Punjab, Kabul and neighbouring territories



## Gupta Age-

- Mauryan empire began to disintegrate after the death of Ashoka. The last Mauryan ruler, Brihadratha was killed by his own commander-in-chief Pushyamitra Sunga.
- He founded Sunga dynasty. However, there were other strong kingdoms named Satvahana and Kushana.
- From 3rd century A.D. onward, Gupta empire began to consolidate.
- It was only in A.D. 318 when **Samudra Gupta** established a powerful Gupta empire.
- In Punjab during Samudra Gupta, Devaputra, who adopted title of Kudara, was ruling his capital was Peshawar.
- During the reign of **Skand Gupta** – the last ruler of Gupta age, nomadic Mongols invaded Punjab many a time and finally in A.D. 500 these tribes established themselves in the Malwa region of Punjab. These tribes under the name of Huns ruled for about a century and made Shakla (later on Sialkot) as their capital.
- The numismatic sources show that majorly Punjab was being ruled by three Scythian (Saka) houses. The western part was ruled by Shakas with Peshawar as capital. Other two houses were Shiladas and Gadharas.
- In the latter half of the 6th century came into existence the great kingdom of Thaneshwar under the Vardhanas, and king Prabhakar **Vardhana** drove back the Huns from the North Western Punjab.
- His son **Harshavardhana** was a capable ruler and extended the boundaries from Punjab to the Ganga delta.
- The **Chinese traveller Hiuen-Tsang** visited Punjab in A.D. 633 and has left many memorable instances of the Harsha's empire.
- After the death of king Harsha in A.D. 674 there was chaos and confusion. He left no heir and his empire did not outlive him.
- Red polished pottery (which is common at the time Gupta period) at Sunet in Ludhiana district and many other antiquities found at various other places in Punjab make it quite evident that modern Punjab was part of mighty Gupta empire.

## Punjab under Vardhana Age

- Founded at **Thaneshwar** (Kurukshetra, Haryana) by Pushyabhuti in the beginning of 6th century A.D.
- Most important king of this period was Harshavardhana
- During his times, the great Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang visited India.
- He speaks highly of the ancient town of Sirhind

## Turkish Invasion

- In the 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> century, Punjab polity was fragmented into different kingdoms. Punjab was being ruled by **Turk shahi** Dynasty.



- Other important kingdoms were- kingdom of Kashmir, Jammu, Kangra, Chamba, Kullu, Garhwal, Kumaon etc. During this time, Sindh and Multan were conquered by Arab muslim invaders.
- By the end of the 9<sup>th</sup> century, Turk shahi dynasty was replaced by **hindushahi** dynasty. Important rulers of this dynasty were- samanta, kamalu, bhima, jaipala, anandapal, Trilochan pal and Bhimpal.
- Jaipala faced the attack of Alpatgin and his successor Sabutkgin. Jaipala made an alliance with the ruler of Multan to repulse Sabutkgin back. However, Sabutkgin defeated Jaipala in the battle. Soon, Jaipala began to prepare for war again, however, he faced defeat after defeat in the hands of Sabutkgin. In 988 A.D., Sabutkgin occupied Peshawar. In 988 A.D. itself. Sabutkgin died and succeeded by sultan Mehmud.
- In 1000 A.D. **Ghazni** led his first attack on hindushahi dynasty and plundered the Punjab region. Jaipala and his relatives were made captive. Anandapal, his son, paid heavy ransom to get his father free. Jaipala burnt himself alive out of successive disgraced defeats in the hands of Mahmud, Anandapal became his successor.
- In 1002, Anandapal too refused to pay to Mahmud Ghazni. In 1006, Mahmud again attacked Anandapal to defeat him. After conquering Multan. Mahmud appointed Sukhpal as governor of Multan.
- Sukhpal soon declared himself independent. In 1008, Mahmud launched a massive attack to teach a lesson to Sukhpal. He arrested Sukhpal and annexed Multan to his empire.
- In 1008, Mahmud again attacked Anandapal who had developed large alliance with other rulers of the region. In the battle of Waihind, Mahmud again defeated the allied forces led by Anandapal. Anandapal was cornered in the salt ranges region.
- In 1012, Anandapal died and succeeded by Trilochanpal who was also a great warrior. Mahmud launched 3 successive attacks against Trilochanpal in 1013, 1014 and 1019. He cornered Trilochanpal in the shivalik hills of east Punjab.
- Mahmud annexed Punjab into his empire and appointed general Malik as governor of Lahore. Mahmud ruled Punjab till his death in 1030 when he was succeeded by his son Mehsud.

### Muslim Invasion in Punjab

- During the invasion of Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni, the area of Punjab was under the Hindustani dynasty.
- Raja Jaipal, the ruler of Hindustani dynasty, was successful in building up an empire from Sirhind to Lampaka (modern Lamghan) with Bathinda its capital.
- The Hindustani dynasty further shifted its capital from Bathinda to Sirhind.
- They ruled over a large part of Punjab but dynasty could not stand against the incessant invasions of **Mahmud Ghaznavi** who made as many as seventeen attacks on India.
- From the conditions of chaos and confusion created by continuous onslaught of the Mohammadan invaders and specially those of Mahmud Ghaznavi, the Rajputs rose to power after the fall of Hindustani in Punjab.
- The Chauhans first ruled in Ajmer, but it appears that by 1164 AD they had occupied Delhi as well as the entire tract of territory lying between it and the Satluj
- Sirhind and Bathinda constituted the two most important military stations on the north- western frontiers of the Rajputs Kingdom.
- In 1191 AD, Shihabuddin **Mohamad Gori** defeated and killed Prithviraj Chauhan, the last illustrations king of Chauhan dynasty) in the famous battle named battle of Tarain in 1192 AD and the entire territory upto Delhi (including Sirhind) came under the control of the Turks.



## Mohammad Ghori

- In late 12<sup>th</sup> century, Ghori started the series of invasion which culminated into Muslim rule in India. He belonged to **principality of Ghor** which falls between the hills of Ghazni and Herat. After consolidating his position, he began to look towards India. He claimed Punjab region. His main aim was to loot and plunder on the one hand and to spread his faith on the other. The first expedition of Md Ghori was against Multan in 1175 A.D. he also occupied Uch along with Multan. Bhatti raja was the ruler of Uch. According to farishta, Mohd Ghori conspired with the wife of Bhatti raja.
- He promised her to get married with her daughter if she killed her husband. When actually she killed her husband, Ghori did not keep his words. It caused the defeat of Uch. In 1178, he attacked Gujrat,
- Where he faced touch resistance Chalukyan king Bhima - II. Ghori decided to annex Punjab to develop his permanent base in India. He attacked Lahore which was being ruled by Khusrao Malik, the appointee of Mahmud Ghazni at that time. After the successive attacks, **Ghori seized Punjab in 1186.**
- During this period, the fertile plains of Punjab were being ruled by Rajputs. They were alarmed at the march of Mohd. Ghori towards the plains of Hindustan. Mohd Ghori captured the fort of Sirhind which panicked **Prithviraj Chauhan** and he started preparing for an inevitable war between Ghori and Prithviraj Chauhan. He was the ruler of Delhi and Ajmer. He decided to check the advancing Mohd Ghori by forming an alliance of 100 chiefs of the region.
- The two armies met in the battle field of **Tarain** in 1191 A.D. near Thaneshar. Prithviraj Chauhan defeated Ghori completely and also captured the fort of Sirhind but he allowed Ghori to return back to his native place. In 1192, Ghori again marched onto India with an army of 120000.
- Prithviraj Chauhan appealed to many rajas for help, some of them responded positively, two armies once again met in the battle field of Tarain in 1192, but this time rajput forces faced crushing defeat.
- Prithviraj Chauhan was arrested and executed. In 1194, Ghori defeated the most powerful king of the time namely Jaichandra of Kanauj in the **battle of Chandwar.**
- In 1206, the victorious career of ghori came to an end with his death. He died on his way back to Ghazni. He was attacked and killed by Khokhars, a warlike tribe of Punjab plains. Before his death, he had appointed Qutub ud din Aibak as his successor of his Indian dominion with Lahore as capital.
- Again in 1398 Amir Timur, a terrible military leader came hurtling down from Samarkand. Within less than 8 months he reached Delhi and put the city to sword. Whatever country he conquered, he pillaged it ruthlessly and massacred the whole population. From Delhi he went back home as he had no desire to stay in India.
- During the period from Timur's death to the advent of Babur there was contest for supremacy between various Muslim dynasties which cleared the way for rapid decay of the **Delhi Sultanate.**
- After a gap of about 100 years the history again took a turn. This time it was **Babur**, a Chaghtai turk, who was descended from Timur on his father's side and connected with Chenghiz Khan on his mother's side.
- In 1525 he marched from Kabul and occupied Punjab. With an army of about 12000 soldiers, he met Ibrahim Lodhi with one lakh troops in the historic field of **Panipat in 1526** and defeated him.
- This victory of Babur cleared the way for empire building and by time of his death in 1530 almost the whole country was under him.



- Strong foundation was laid for Mughal empire. Great architects of this empire – Humayun, Akbar, Jehangir, Shahjahan, Aurangzeb – followed one after another and it grew from strength to suzerainty.
- The whole of Punjab barring the mountain fastnesses of the Himalayas, became a province of the Mughal Empire and its people and institutions acquired the stamp of a new culture – the Indo-Mughal Culture”.
- After Aurangzeb the Mughal dynasty did not produce able and pains taking rulers. The confusion and the chaos that followed the gradual process of decay of the Mughal Empire once again gave an opportunity to invaders. These invaders came from Persia and not from Central Asia.
- In A.D. 1738 **Nadir Shah** marched towards India and did not meet any resistance en route to Delhi. He overran Punjab and dealt a humiliating defeat to the pleasure-loving Mughal Emperor Mohamad Shah and his carpet knights in 1739 in the Panipat plain.
- The ruthless conqueror carried away a large booty including the crown pearls, the famous **Koh-i-Noor** and the Peacock throne of Shahjahan. Sind, Kabul and the western parts of the Punjab had to be surrendered to the Persians.
- **Ahmad Shah Abdali** an officer, in Nadir Shah’s army accompanied him in his campaign against India. This sharp-eyed and ambitious person had seen the inherent weakness of the Mughal Empire. After the assassination of Nadir Shah in 1747, Ahmad Shah Abdali became an independent ruler of Afghanistan. He called himself **Durri-i-Durran** i.e., the pearl of the age, and his clan came to be known as Durrani.
- Ahmad Shah Abdali attacked India four times between 1748 and 1751 and inflicted very serious and grievous injuries to Punjab and Punjab was incorporated in the Durrani Empire.

### Punjab Under Mughals

- Mughal empire was founded by **Babur**. He had total 5 expeditions. In his 5<sup>th</sup> expedition, Babur fought Battle of Panipat in 1526 and defeated Ibrahim Lodhi on one hand he ended Delhi Sultanate and on other, he founded Mughal Empire.
- In 1530, Babur was succeeded by **Humayun**. He appointed his brother Kamraan as Governor of Punjab. It was considered his mistake because Kamraan was a weak ruler.
- In 1556, Humayun was succeeded by **Akbar**. Akbar was in Kalanaur (Gurdaspur) when he got the news of death of his father. Later Akbar was coronated in Kalanaur itself.
- Akbar fought famous battle of Panipat in 1556 with Hemu. It provided political stability to Mughal empire.
- Akbar appointed Muhammad Khan Kalan, Hussain Quli Khan, Shah Quli Khan, Saiyal Khan, as Punjab Governors.
- Akbar made Lahore as capital of Mughal empire between 1585 to 1598. This step was taken because of Turbulent conditions in Kabul and Kashmir.
- Akbar was succeeded by **Jahangir**. Lahore fascinated Jahangir. He undertook many constructions works in Lahore.
- He constructed Khawabgah in Lahore.
- He constructed Tomb of Mehr-un-Nissa (Anarkali) in Lahore.
- He completed Moti Masjid in Lahore fort.
- He also constructed the structure of his own tomb in Lahore.
- He constructed Shalimar bagh in Lahore.
- Jahangir also caused the Martyrdom of 5<sup>th</sup> Sikh Guru, Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji.



- He also arrested 6th Sikh Guru, Sri Guru Hargobind ji at **Gwalior** who was later released with intervention of Sir Mia mir.
- **Shah Jahan** succeeded Jahangir. He first appointed Ali Mardan as Punjab Governor. In 1639, Dara Shikoh succeeded Ali Mardan Khan as Punjab Governor.
- **Aurangzeb** succeeded Shah Jahan as the next emperor. He executed ninth Sikh Guru, Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji at Chandni Chowk in Delhi.