

# Politics and Religion in Ancient Asian Empires

Posted on September 17, 2019

## Ancient Asian Empires

### Introduction

Politics and religion have always influenced governmental/ state or provincial systems. The examples of different ancient Asian empires explain how politics and religion played a role in their eras, and the history and archaeological examples show the intersection of religion and politics.

### Discussion

#### The Gupta Empire

Between 320-550CE, the empire stretched across northern, central, and southern India. The political system during the era was well known; the vast kingdom was divided into smaller provinces, and for that purpose, administrative heads were appointed. The systems and processes of bureaucracy were kept as transparent; judicial torture was not followed and practised. The system of taxes was there, where taxes were collected to run the political and kingdom systems and to maintain governance and the empire. The kings of the Gupta Empire believed in linking and forming relationships between the communities, and they themselves were the followers of Vishnu. They never prevented other communities, like followers of Jainism and Buddhism, from practising their faith in their places. Gold and silver coins were issued to balance the economy and maintain a healthy economy. These coins give details on the historical evolution of the styles of the Gupta Empire and their impacts on religious art from the golden age of India. The coins used are a historical record detailing the evolution of the Gupta style.

#### Han Dynasty

This is considered the golden age of China for its history in arts, politics, and technology. The centralized rule was retreated by introducing vassal principalities in some areas for the sake of political suitability. After this, the country was divided into feudal states; then came the Daoist era to keep the peace. The goal was to relieve society from harsh rules and regulations, wars, and conflicts within the state. (Bentley, 1993) Safe trade routes were established, like the Silk Road. The Han

dynasty shows some archeological sites like tombs with painted walls, stony reliefs, and decorated tiles from the collection of Chinese pictorial art. Han dynasty started salt monopolies, and iron extended itself through the commandery system.

## The Chola dynasty

This is the longest ruling dynasty in the history of southern India. This dynasty has extensions from the island of Maldives to Andhra Pradesh. The Chola Dynasty resulted in some great works like Tamil literature and the zeal for building temples. They not only built temples for religious purposes but also for economic activities. The bureaucracy was established, and the government was centralized.

## Conclusion

In short, politics and religion intersect in ancient Asian empires, which have been discussed and explained with the help of three ancient Asian empires: the Gupta Empire, the Han Dynasty, and the Chola Dynasty.

# How Did Writing Develop Differently In The Indus And In China?

## Introduction

Writing is the procedure where you compose letters to shape a word, which shows emotion and feeling, and this writing is used as a tool and medium for communication. The origins of writing start from the earliest civilizations of Tigris and the Nile. Both civilizations Egyptian and the Sumerian (Iraq) changed and transformed the development of human beings. When it comes to evolutionary processes of writing in Indus and China, history tells us that the Indus script is known as the earliest form of writing in the subcontinent and Chinese writing started in the early second millennium.

## Discussion

Before mentioning the history and writing the people used to make symbolic marks on different things like the bones and shell of a tortoise, these were not just part of the language, but they were a tool to communicate the ideas of people in the early ages. The Indus writings and Chinese writings both have some similarities, such as they both used pictographic forms, and they give a variety of clues to understand the functions of proto-writing. The historical study shows some similarities, but we cannot ignore the differences between these two well-known writing startups. There exist some differences, like

## The scripts

The Indus scripts are only known in an archaeological way; this is what we assume based on certainty. (Thapar, 2002) The association of writing is only liked by the elite classes who tried to record the transactions and record them. It is also said that the writings were used for the administrative purposes of the state or their own civilization. According to the research study, the Indus clay tags have also been found in the Mesopotamian region outside of the Indus Valley civilization, and this shows how much people travelled for reasons like trade. The reason that this Indus script declined is that the Indus Valley civilization was in decline. The script which was invented could not be expanded to the other parts of the sub-continent.

## Characters

Chinese characters are the oldest and most continuously used system of writing in the world, which were invented by taking inspiration from nature, like landscapes of the earth, a world of animals, and the stars in the sky. Chinese writings developed mostly from images that were used to show concepts. The scripts made things easier because the people could not read them, but they also understood the concepts. One of the negative impressions was that they created a class system.

## Conclusions

Through a sequence of examinations. I have provided an approach to study the possible relationship between Chinese and Indus, the two ancient writing systems. I have concluded that these two systems are related closely and have at least a common origin.

## References

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