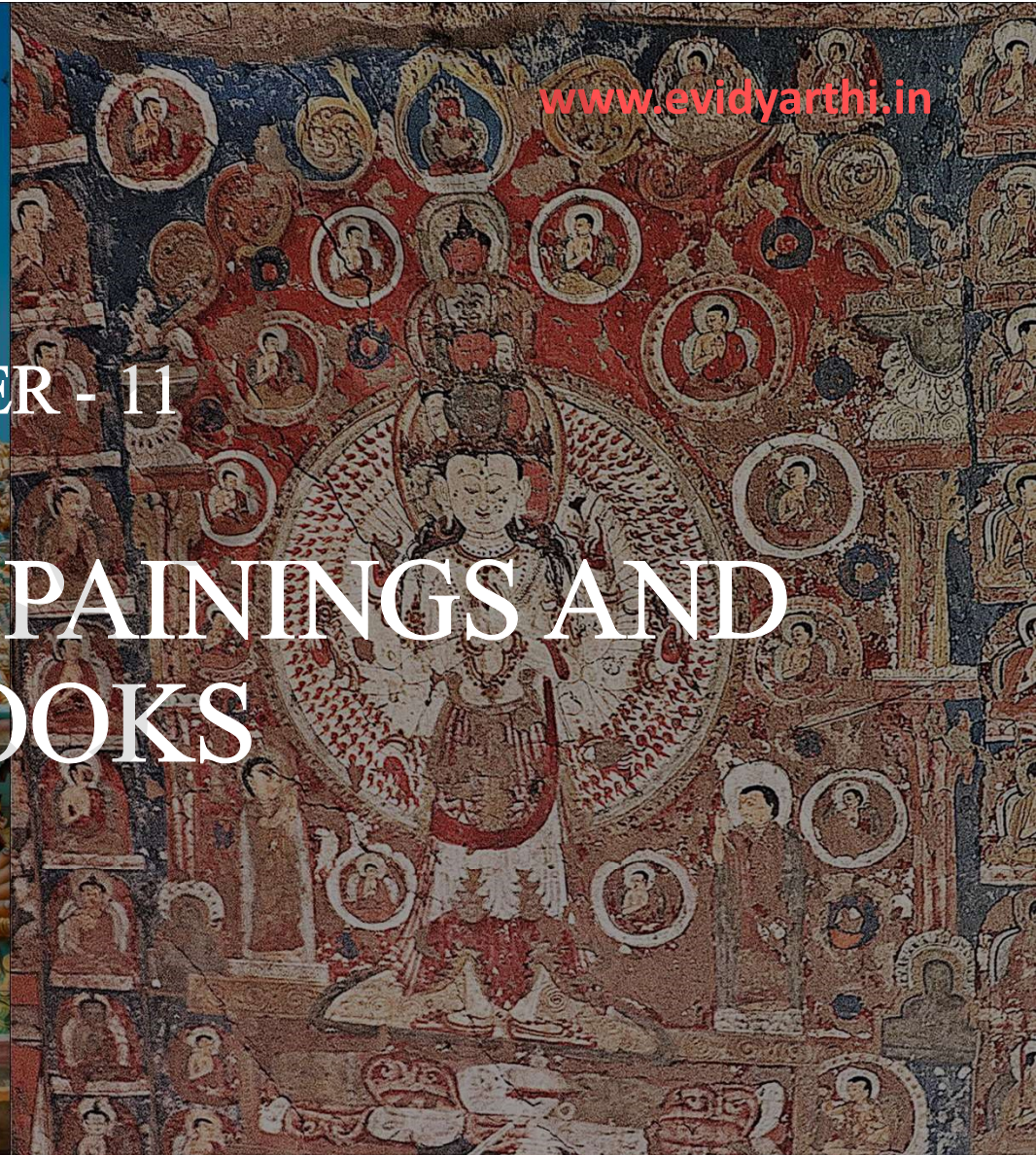


CLASS VI

CHAPTER - 11

BUILDINGS, PAINTINGS AND BOOKS

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CLASS VI CH 11 BUILDINGS, PAINTINGS AND BOOKS NCERT

- The iron pillar
- Buildings in brick and stone
- How were stupas and temples built ?
- Painting
- The world of books
- Recording and preserving old stories
- Stories told by ordinary people
- Writing books on science



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❑ The iron pillar



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❑ The iron pillar

- Location – Mehrauli, delhi.
- Height – 7.2m
- Weight – 3 tones
- Made about 1500 years ago by Chadra of Gupta dynasty(inscribed on the pillar).
- Made of iron yet hasn't RUSTED yet!!!

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■ Stupa

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❑ Buildings in brick and stone

▪ Stupa

- The word stupa means a mound.
- Stupas are of several kind yet have a common feature that is :
 - ✓ There is a small box placed at the center or heart of the stupa.

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- ✓ contains bodily remains or objects used by the Buddha or his followers and is known relic casket.
- Relic casket is covered with earth .
 - ✓ Later, a layer of mud brick or baked brick is added on top.
 - ✓ Then the dome like structure is covered with craved stone slab.



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- A path, known as the pradakshina patha, was laid around the stupa surrounded with railings.
- Devotee walked around stupa in clockwise direction as a mark of devotion.
- Both railings and gateways were often decorated with sculpture.

In Amaravati, a magnificent 2000 years old stupa existed with many stone carvings.



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■ Hindu Temples



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■ Hindu Temples

- Deities such as Vishnu, Shiva, and Durga were worshipped in these shrines.
- The most important part of the temple – garbhagriha.
 - ✓ the image of the chief deity was placed.
 - ✓ Priest performed religious rituals
 - ✓ Devotees offered their worship.

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- Often, a tower, known as the shikhara, was built on top of the garbhagriha, to mark this out as a sacred place.
- Most temples also had a space known as the mandapa where a hall where people could assemble.

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❑ How were stupas and temples built ?

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❑ How were stupas and temples built ?

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- several stages in building a stupa or a temple.
 - i. good quality stone had to be found, quarried, and transported to the chosen place.
 - ii. rough blocks of stone are shaped and carved into pillars, and panels for walls, floors and ceilings.
 - iii. then these had to be placed in precisely the right position.

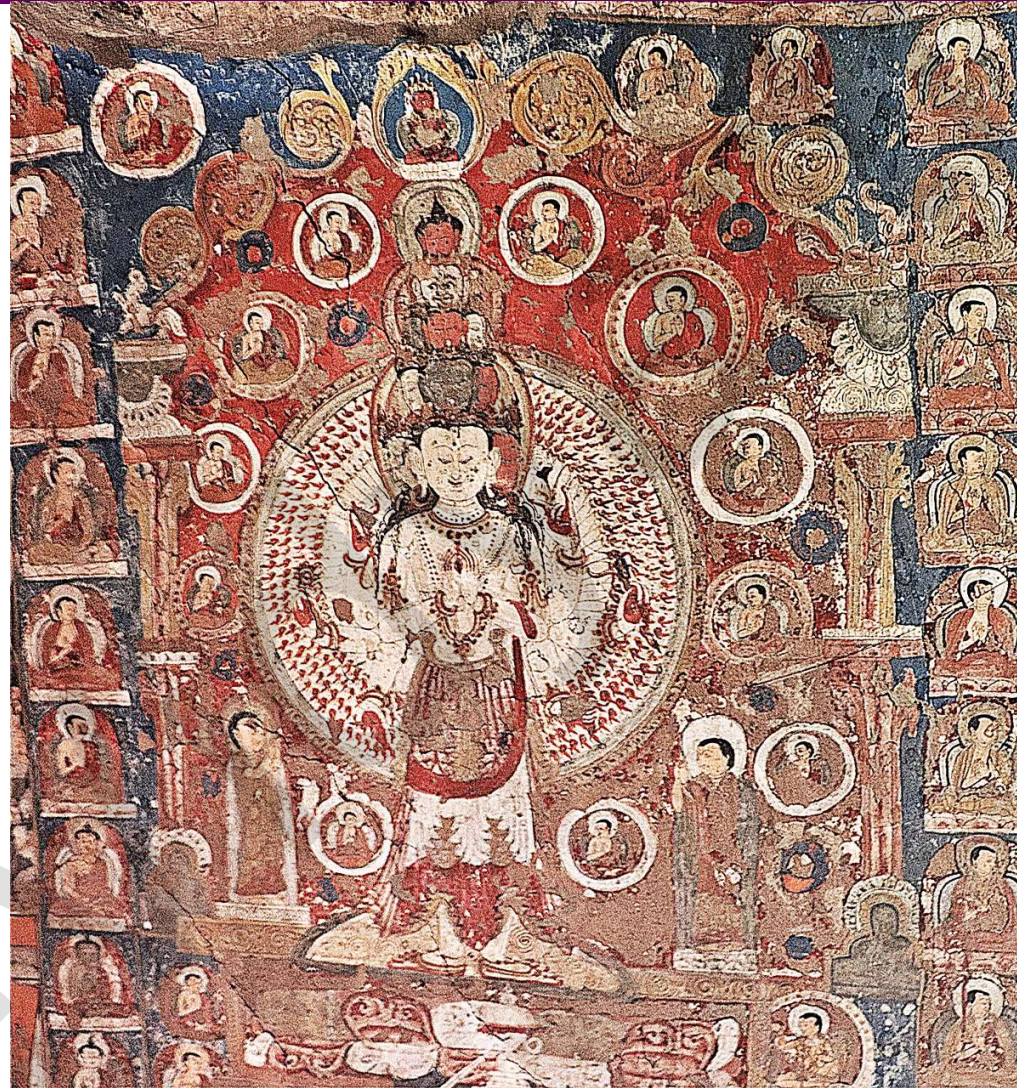
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- Usually, kings or queens decided to build these as it was an expensive affair.
- They probably spent money from their treasury to pay the crafts persons who worked to build these splendid structures.
- Devotees often brought gifts which were used to decorate the buildings.

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☐ Painting



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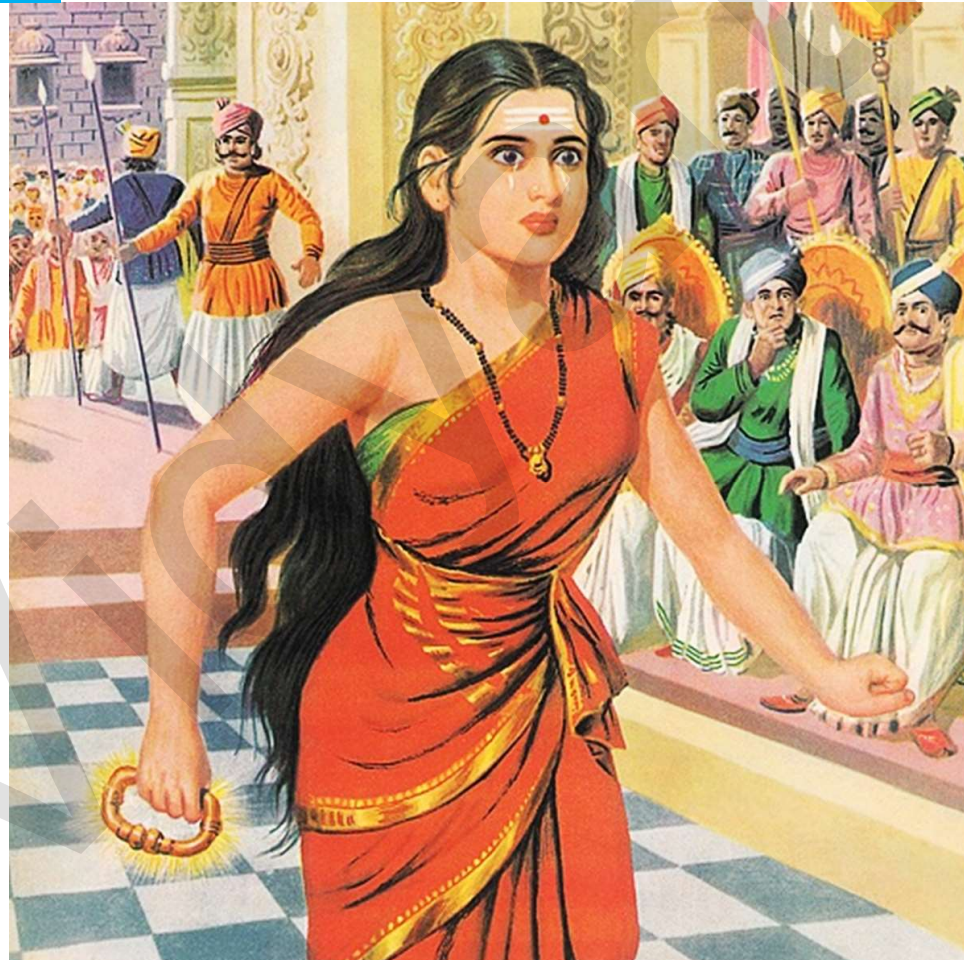
Painting

- Ajanta is a place where several caves were hollowed out of the hills over centuries.
- Most of these were monasteries for Buddhist monks, and some of them were decorated with paintings.
- The colors, which are vivid even after 1500 years, were made of plants and minerals.

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❑ The World of Books

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❑ The World of Books

- Epics are grand, long compositions, about heroic men and women, and include stories about gods.
- Some of the famous epics written during this period are:
 - ✓ The Tamil epic Silappadikaram was composed 1800 years ago by a poet, Ilango.

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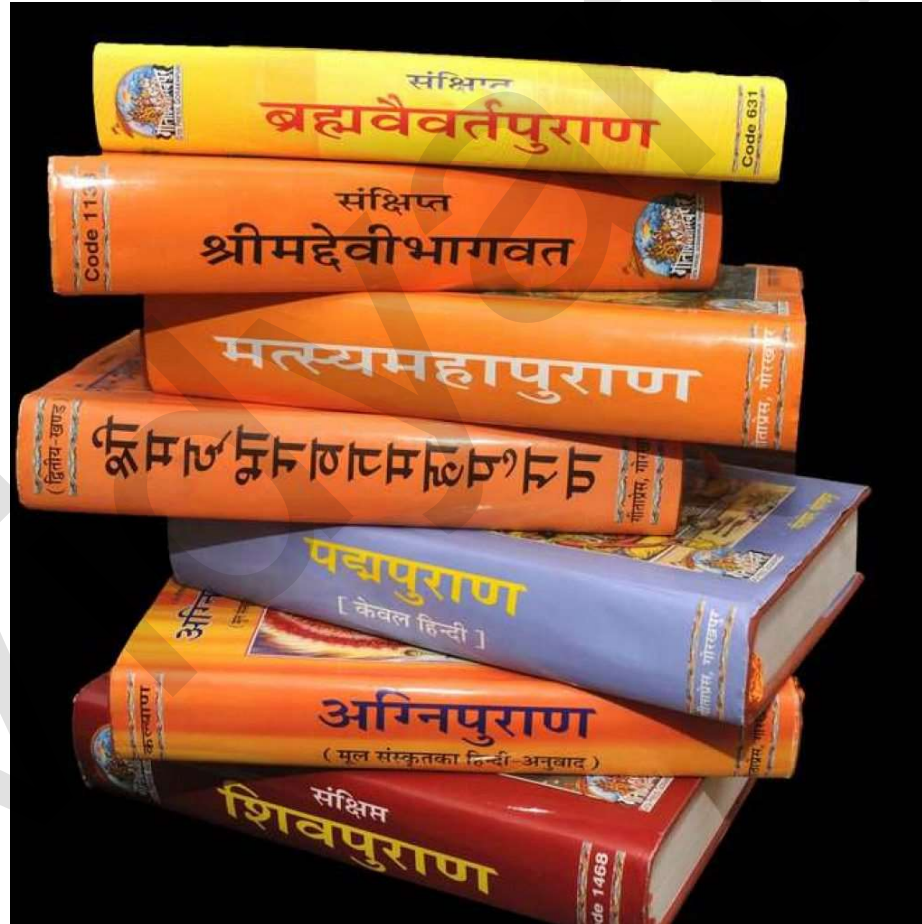
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- ✓ Manimekalai, another Tamil epic, was composed by Sattanar 1400 years ago.
- ✓ Meghduta was written by Kalidasa in Sanskrit.

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☐ Recording and preserving old stories

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☐ Recording and preserving old stories

■ Puranas

- ✓ literally mean old.
- ✓ contain stories about gods and goddesses, such as Vishnu, Shiva, Durga or Parvati.
- ✓ also contain details on how they were to be worshipped.
- ✓ accounts about the creation of the world, and about kings

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- ✓ were written in simple Sanskrit verse, and were meant to be heard by everybody, including women and shudras.
- ✓ recited in temples by priests, and people came to listen to them.

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■ The Mahabharata



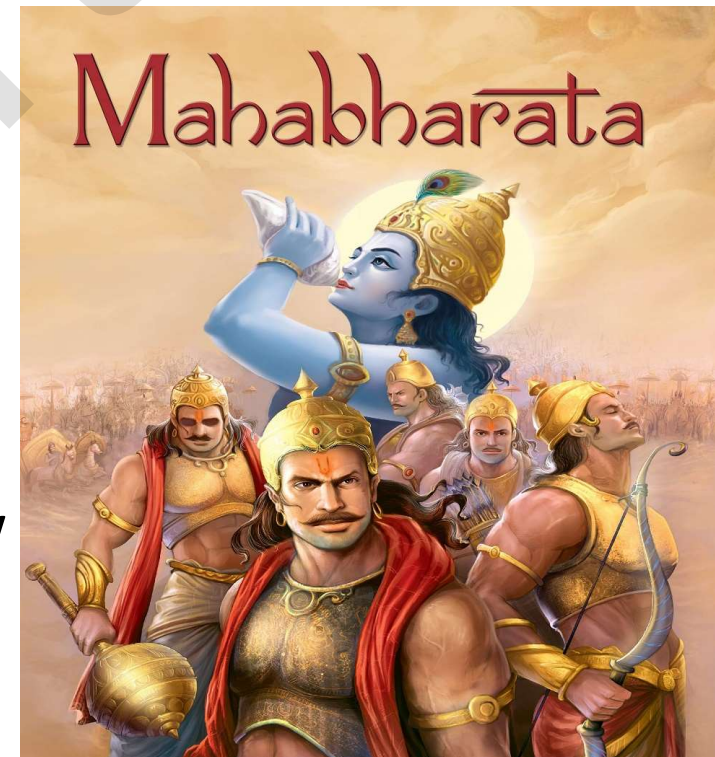
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■ The Mahabharata

- ✓ about a war fought between the Kauravas and Pandavas, who were cousins.
- ✓ This was a war to gain control of the throne of the Kurus, and their capital, Hastinapura.
- ✓ The Bhagavad Gita was also included in the Mahabharata.
- ✓ written down in the form in which we know it today, about 1500 years ago.
- ✓ Both the Puranas and the Mahabharata are supposed to have been compiled by Vyasa.



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■ The Ramayana



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■ The Ramayana

- ✓ about Rama, a prince of Kosala, who was sent into exile.
- ✓ His wife Sita was abducted by the king of Lanka, named Ravana.
- ✓ Rama had to fight a battle to get her back.
- ✓ He won and returned to Ayodhya, the capital of Kosala, after his victory.
- ✓ Valmiki is recognised as the author of the Sanskrit Ramayana.

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☐ Stories told by ordinary people

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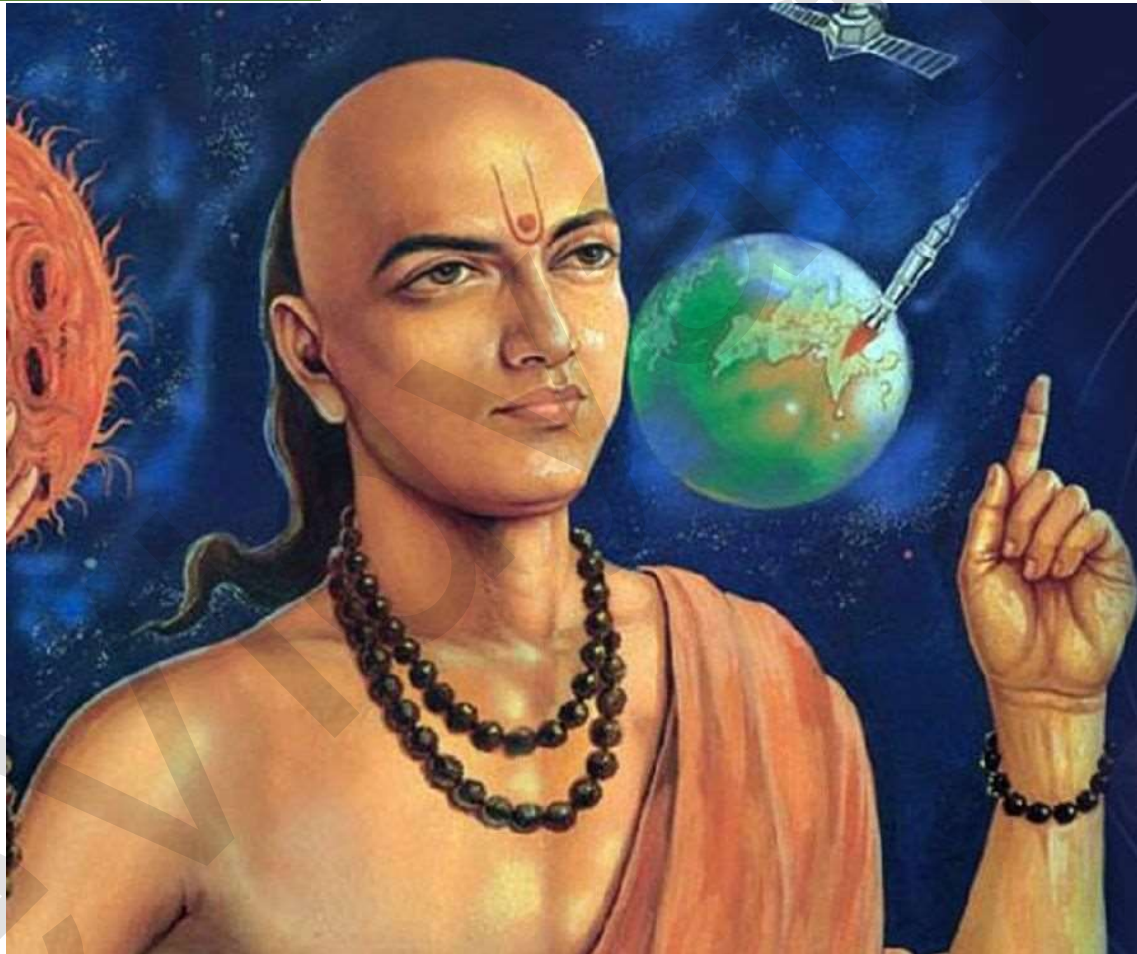
☐ Stories told by ordinary people

- Ordinary people also told stories, composed poems and songs, sang, danced, and performed plays.
- The stories of ordinary people were collected in the form of Jatakas and the Panchatantra.
- Stories from the Jatakas were often shown on the railings of stupas and in paintings in places such as Ajanta.

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☐ Writing books on science

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❑ Writing books on science

- This was also the time when Aryabhata, a mathematician and astronomer, wrote a book in Sanskrit known as the Aryabhatiyam.
 - ✓ stated that day and night were caused by the rotation of the earth on its axis, even though it seems as if the sun is rising and setting everyday.
 - ✓ developed a scientific explanation for eclipses as well.

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- ✓ found a way of calculating the circumference of a circle
- Varahamihira, Brahmagupta and Bhaskaracharya were some other mathematicians and astronomers who made several discoveries.