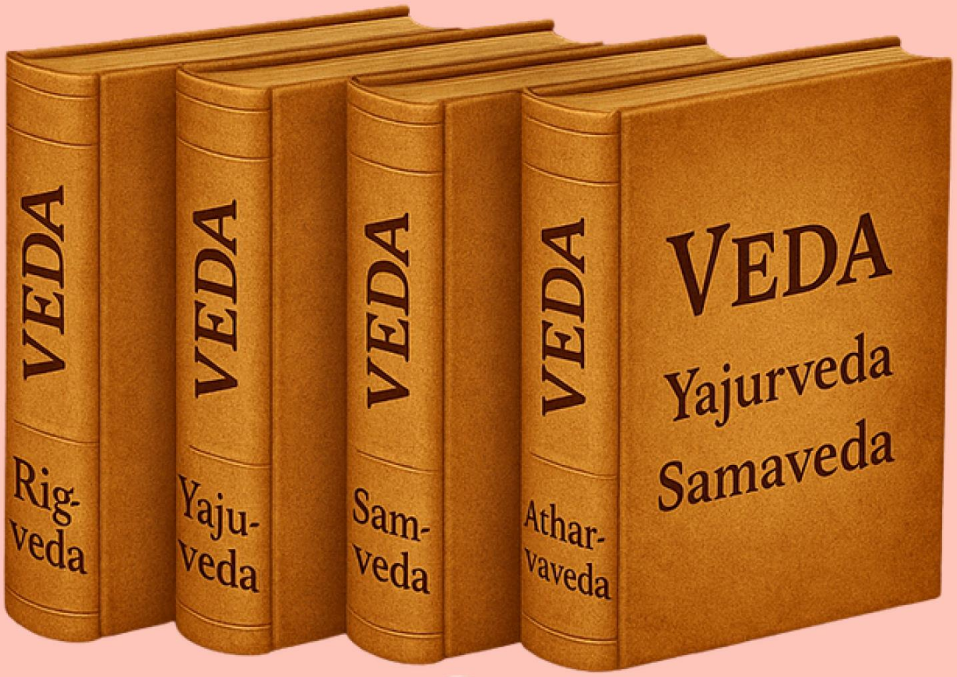
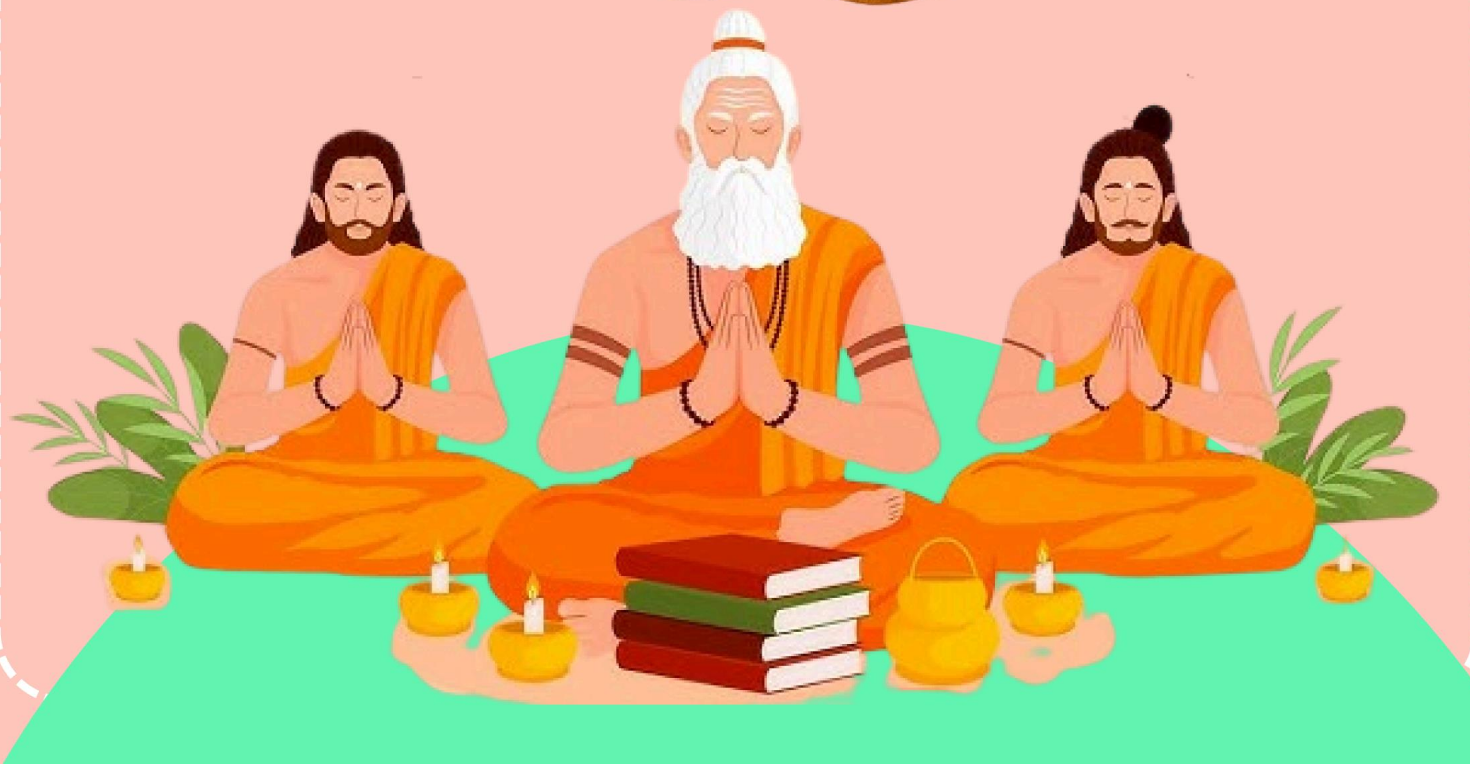
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Vedic Age



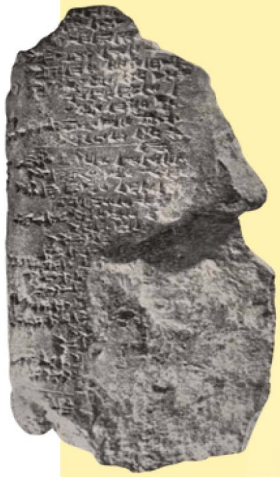


Vedic Age (1500-600 BC)

1. **Early Vedic Age** (1500-1000 BC) — They were pastoral community

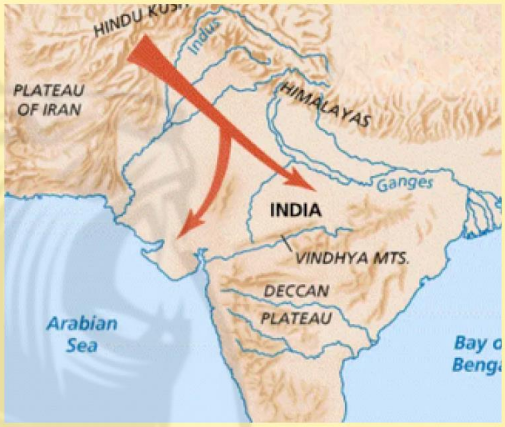
2. **Later Vedic Age** (1000-600 BC)

Boghazkoi Inscription (Turkey).



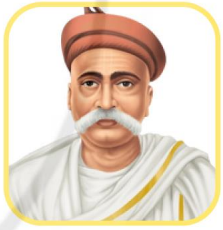
It mentioned names such as Indra, Varun, etc.

- It is believed that Aryans arrived from Central Asia, where one group migrated from Turkey towards Europe and other came towards India
- Language of Aryans: Sanskrit.
- Aryans are considered to have codified the Vedas



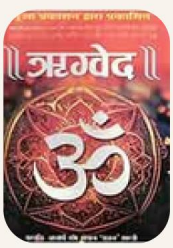
Vedas

- There are four Vedas: Rigveda, Samveda, Yajurveda, Atharvaveda.
- Oldest Text: Compiled during Zend-Avesta (Iran).
- Meaning: Knowledge
- They were orally passed (Shruti) from one generation to another.
- Apaurasheya: It is not created by man but gifted by God.

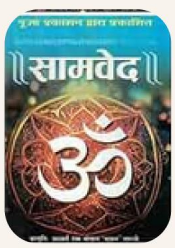


Bal Gangadhar Tilak

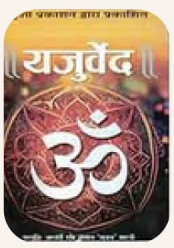
He compiled the book: **The Arctic Home in the Vedas** (he said "all Indians were Aryans").



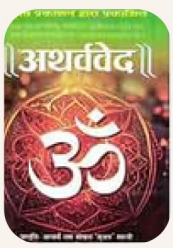
Rig Veda



Sama Veda



Yajur Veda



Atharva Veda

Subdivisions of Vedas

1	2	3	4
Samhita	**Brahmanas**	**Aryankas**	**Upanishads**
Collection of Hymns (sukta)	Sacrifices and rituals	Hermits (those who lived in Jungles)	Bhakti (talk about Bhakti Marg)

Rig Veda

- It was the first Veda to be compiled.
- It is made up of 10 mandalas.
- It has the oldest and largest collection of Sanskrit hymns.
- Total: 1028 hymns
- Verses: 10,600
- Hymns recited by Hotri.
- Deities: Indra, Agni, Vishnu, and Varuna (Also known as God of Order,Rita and Water)
- Female deities: Aditi (Mother of Gods), Usha (goddess of dawn), Sinivali (goddess of fertility), Raka (goddess of Prosperity)
- Gayatri Mantra was written by Sage Vishwamitra for Goddess Savitri (mentioned in 3rd mandala).
- Mandala no. 2-7 were created first.
- 10th Mandala mentions Purusha Shukta (Considered a cosmic being)

Purusha Shukta

1. **Mouth** :- Brahmans
2. **Arms**:- Kshatriya
3. **Thighs**:- Vaishya
4. **Feet**:- Shudra

These four varnas are believed to have emerged from different parts of Purusha.

- 9th Mandala mentions: Lord Soma (Lord of Plants)
- Somras is an energy Drink

- Upanishads are also known as "Vedanta" (end of Vedas).
- Total: 108 Upanishads (Traditional).

Sama Veda

- It is the oldest book on music.
- It consists of chanting melodies.
- It is composed of two Upanishads → Chandogya and Kena
- It is performed (recitation) by "Udgatris"

Yajur Veda

- It is the collection of mantras (rituals and sacrifices).
- It is divided into two section → Shukla (meaning: White or Pure ; contains Sathapatha Brahmana) and Krishna (meaning: Black or Mixed i.e Mantra + Explanation).
- People recites Yajurveda are called "Adhvaryu"



Vedamurti Devavrat Mahesh Rekhe

Completed the Dandakrama Parayanam, consisting of 2000 mantras of the Shukla Yajurveda's Madhyandini branch, in 50 days.

Important Upanishads of Yajur Veda

1. **Brihadaranyaka Upanishad** (oldest upanishad); part of Shukla Yajur veda.
2. **Katha Upanishad** (contains story of Nachiketa and Yama (God of Death)).
3. **Jabala Upanishad** is a part of Shukla Yajur Veda.

Atharva Veda

- Veda of magic formulas to ward off evil spirits and diseases (black magic).
- It is divided into 20 khandas.
- People recites Atharva Veda are called "Brahmanas"

Note : Only Rig Veda was compiled during Early Vedic Age rest of three vedas were compiled in later vedic age.

Important Upanishads of Atharva Veda

- **Mundaka Upanishad**: Satyameva Jayate taken from here.
- **Maha Upanishad**: Vasudhaiva Kutumbkham (meaning: "the whole world is one family") taken from Chapter 6 of Maha Upanishad.
- **Mandukya** Upanishad.
- Mundaka Upanishad is longer than Mandukya Upanishad.

Orthodox School of thoughts

6 Schools of Philosophy	Propounded By
Samkhya (oldest of all) ; mentioned about Purusha and Prakriti	Kapila
Nyaya (School of Logic and Reasoning)	Gautam (scientific approach)
Vaisheshika (About Physics (atom))	Kannada
Yoga (Synchronisation of Body and Mind)	Patanjali
Uttar Mimansa (Vedanta)	Badrayana
Purva Mimansa (Karm-Kanda)	Jaimini

Vedangas

- They are tools to understand Vedas.
- They are philosophical teachings of Upanishads.
- There are total six Vendangas

1. **Siksha**:- Study of Phonetics
2. **Kalpa**:- Study of Practices
3. **Vyankaran**:- Study of Grammar
4. **Nirukta**:- Study of Etymology
5. **Jyoti**:- Study of Light / Astronomy
6. **Chhanda**:- Study of poetic matters

Early Vedic Age: Rig Veda

- Mention of: Himvanta (Himalaya) and Munjavat (Hindu Kush) in Rig Veda.
- Mention of Sapta Sindhu in Rig Veda.

Rivers	Old Name
Indus	Sindhu
Jhelum	Vitasta
Chenab	Askini
Ravi	Purushini
Beas	Bipasha
Sutlej	Shutudri
Saraswati	A Mythical River

Battle of 10 Kings

- Battle of 10 Kings (Dasarajna Yuddha) mentioned in the 7th mandala of Rig Veda.
- Between: Bharata tribe (leader: Sudas) vs 10 kings.
- Won by: Bharata tribe
- It was fought on the banks of Purushini (Ravi river).
- An arrow like tool called "Ishukrit / Ishukara" were used in battles.

Society in Early Vedic Period

- The society was divided into four varnas.
- Varna system was not hereditary, but based on profession.
- Child marriage was not prevalent.

1. **Widow Remarriage** : Niyoga (was allowed)
2. **Society** : The condition of women was good
3. **Cow** (Aghanya meaning sacred) : Cow was considered as wealth decider (Gomat:- Wealthy Person)
4. **Gavishti** : Battle for Cows

Polity

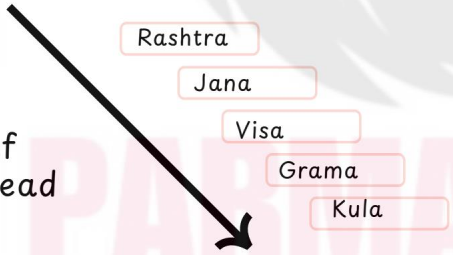
Elective Monarchy which consist of three Assemblies :

1. **Sabha**:- Community of Privileged
2. **Samiti**:- Community of common people
3. **Vidhata** :- Community of religious purpose

Women could participate in both Sabha and Samiti

Ranking of Official

1. **Purohit**:- Priest
2. **Senani** :- Army Chief
3. **Gramani**:- Village Head



- Yajamana was Householder
- Yajna was performed in the house of Yajmana.
- Rajana was Tribal Chief

Religion

- They worshiped nature (naturalistic polytheism) and no animals were worshipped.
- They did not worship any idol.
- They performed sacrificial prayers.

Deities	God Of
Indra	Purandara; destroyer of forts (lord of plough)
Prithvi	.
Agni	Intermediary between human and God
Soma	Lord of Plants
Vayu	.
Rudra	Protector of cattles
Aditi	Mother of Indra
Savitri	Gayatri Mantra is dedicated to her
Sinivali	Goddess of Fertility
Raka	Goddess of Prosperity ; associated with full moon.

Three Main types of Political Yajna.

1. **Rajsuya Yajna**
   Performed for "Coronation"
2. **Vajpeya Yajna**
   Performed after Rajsuya Yajna, also known as "Drink of Strength"
3. **Ashwamedha Yajna**
   Performed for Territorial Expension

Pottery

Ochre / Black and Red ware coloured pottery was used.



Later Vedic Period (1000-600 BC)

Other three vedas were compiled.

Ganga-Yamuna Doab

- Aryans expanded from Punjab to western Uttar Pradesh.
- Upper portion: Kuru
- Middle part: Panchal
- Iron was used for the first time.
  - Towards the later vedic period, they shift from Doab area to eastern UP.
- Expansion was possible due to: Iron weapons + Horses
  - Krishna Ayas/Shyam Ayas (black metal)
  - Ayas means: Metals



Ganga is mentioned only one time in Rig Veda while Yamuna is mentioned three times and Saraswati is mentioned more than 50 times.

Agriculture

- It was a chief means of livelihood.
- King also did manual labour in the field.
- Vrihi means rice.
- Godhuma: Wheat
- Yava means barley.
- Dhanya: Grains and Cereals

Political Organisation

The political organisation became centralised.

Sabha

Dominated by Brahmins; women participation was not allowed

Samiti

- Same as before (early Vedic period)

Vidhata

- Disappeared during later Vedic period

Society: Varna System

- **Brahmans** :- Performed rituals/sacrifices
- **Kshatriya**:- Participated in war and protected people
- **Vaishya** :- Conducts trade
- **Sudra**:- They did manual work.

Social Differences

- Conditions of women deteriorated in later vedic period.
- **Gotra** (clan) system emerged.

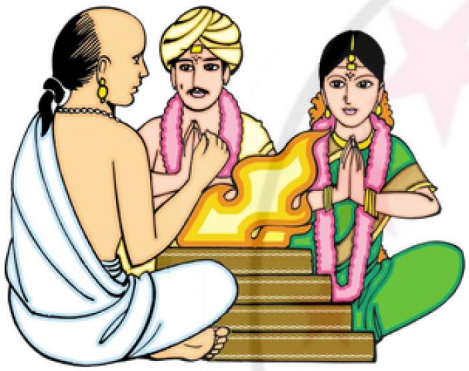
Ashrams Mentioned in Jabala Upanishad

- **Brahmacharya** :- 1st phase of life (0-25 yrs)
- **Grihasta**:- 2nd phase of life (25-50)
- **Vanaprastha** :- 3rd phase of life
- **Sannyasa** :- 4th phase of life



Marriage

- **Anulom vivah**: Boy is from higher caste + girl is from lower caste.
- **Pratiloma vivah**: Girl is from higher caste + boy is from lower caste.



Eight types of marriage are there:

1. **Brahma Vivah** :- Marriage within same Varna with Vedic rituals
2. **Gandharva Vivah**:- Love marriage
3. **Daiva Vivah** :- Father donates his daughter to priest as Dakshina
4. **Arsha Vivah** : Token bride price of a cow and Bull were given.
5. **Prajapati Vivah** :- Marriage without dowry
6. **Asur Vivah** :- Marriage by purchase
7. **Rakshasa Vivah** : Marriage by abduction
8. **Paishacha Vivah**:- In this type of marriage, a girl who is not in her senses is forcibly married off

Religion

- Other Gods like **Rudra** gained more importance while Indra and Agni lost their importance.
- **Pushan** (god of cattle) came to be regarded as God of Shudras.
- Prajapati: Creator of Universe
- Idol worship gained importance.
- Animal sacrifice increased during this period.
- Different kind of Yajnas were performed: **Ashwamedha** yajna, **Rajasuya** sacrifice and **Vajapya.**

Pottery



Grey coloured pottery were seen here also known as PGW (Painted Grey Ware)

Difference between Early and Later Vedic Period

Early Vedic Period

- Pastoral community
- Better women condition
- Varna system was based on profession and was not rigid
- No idol worship
- Rigveda was compiled during this time

Later Vedic Period

- Agriculturists
- Condition of women deteriorated
- Varna system became hereditary and rigid
- Idol worship started
- Samveda, Yajurveda, and Atharvaveda were compiled during this time