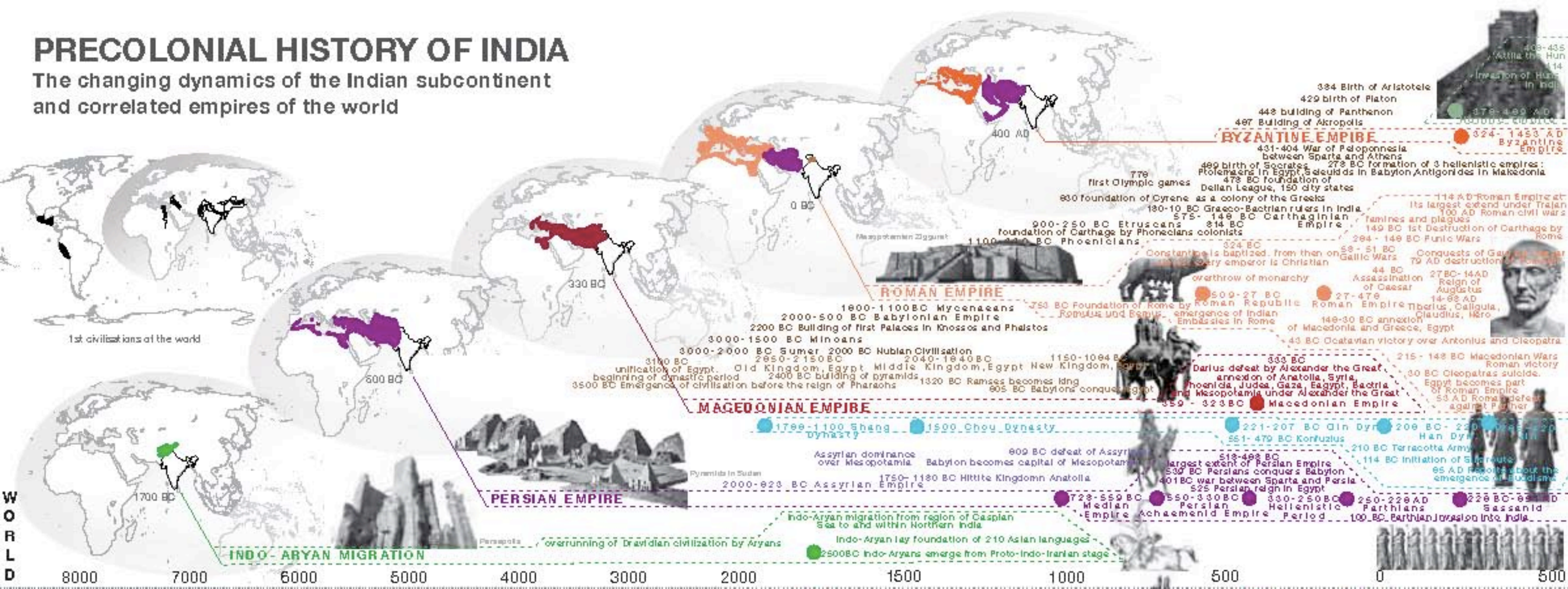


# PRECOLONIAL HISTORY OF INDIA

The changing dynamics of the Indian subcontinent and correlated empires of the world

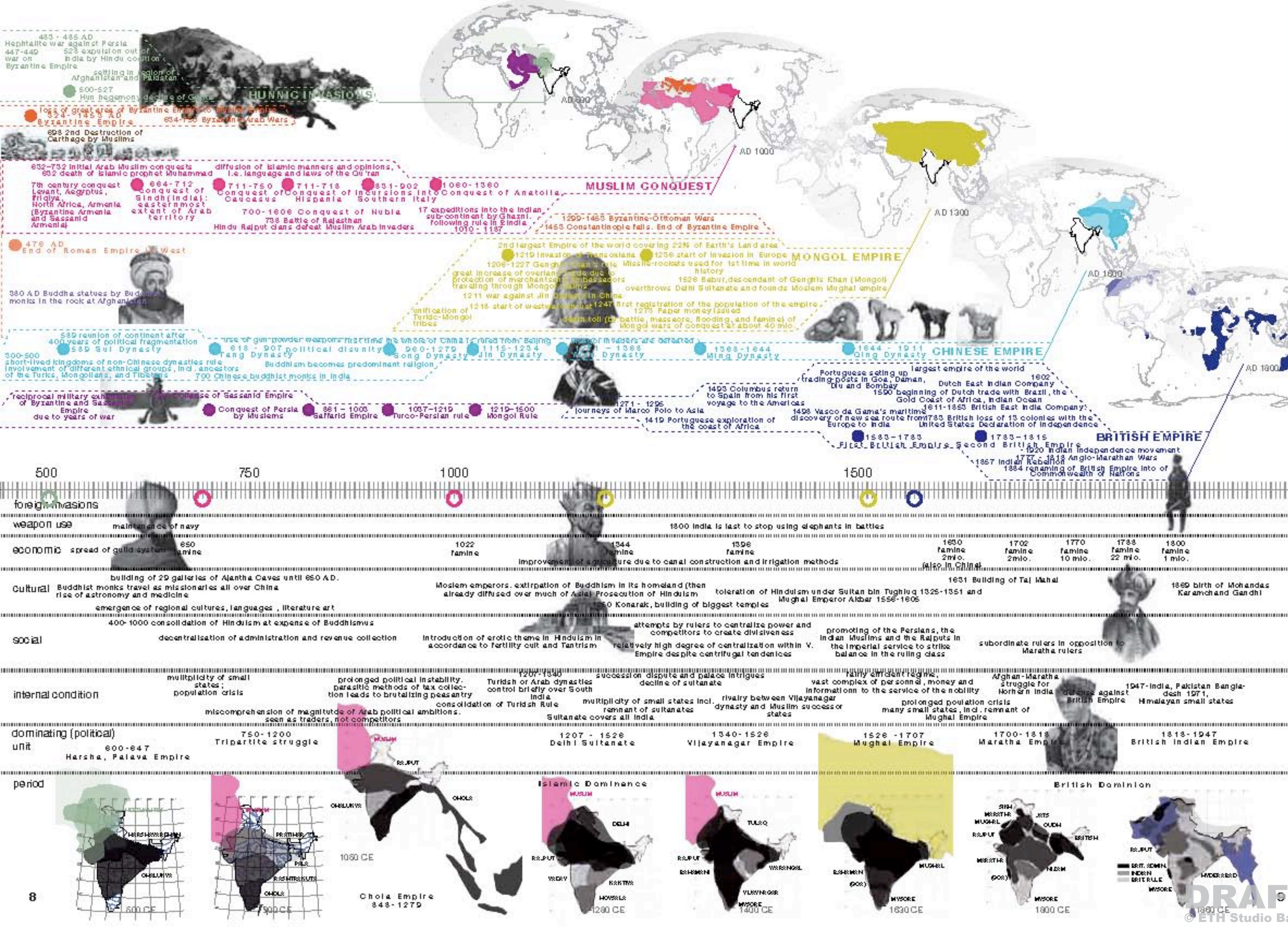


Category	8000 - 7000 BC	6000 - 5000 BC	4000 - 3000 BC	2000 - 1000 BC	1000 - 500 BC	500 BC - 500 AD	
<b>foreign invasions</b>			1700 BC Invasion of Aryans				
<b>weapon use</b>	start of making weapons out of stones	weapons get more refined	weapons are carved properly, made sharp and pointed	India is first to use elephants in battles	bronze weapons and chariots	longbows of bamboo, broad sword, chariots in decline	
<b>economic</b>	lapis lazuli found far in Afghanistan - contact with that area	domestication of cattle	development of farming techniques, growing of crops	domestication of farm animals	trade contact with Mesopotamia	alternatively agricultural or pastoral character of settlements	
<b>Cultural</b>	hunting animals, create fire	living in brick houses	drawing of paintings in caves	first writing	development of techniques of metallurgy, production of bronze, copper	crafting of god-like statues	
<b>social</b>	living in brick houses	preclass society, tribe / clan system	land = territory not property	class division	existence of small villages and extensive cities	transformation of tribe into state	
<b>internal condition</b>	earliest culture in South-Asian Continent, precursor of Indus Valley Civilization	forming of small communities	1st urbanisation	40,000 residents, comparatively large culture at that age	destruction of Indus Valley towns due to unknown reason	emergence of Ganges culture	
<b>dominating (political) unit</b>	rampur village in Mehrgarh		3300-1700 BC Indus Valley Civilization	Harappan Culture	1700-1000 BC Vedic Civilisation	Ganges Valley	
<b>period</b>	- 8000 BC Paleolithic Period	0-4000 BC Neolithic Period	4000-2500 BC Neolithic Period	3300 BC Bronze Age	1700-300 BC Vedic Period	Post-urban	
						1200-300 BC Iron Age	
							Golden Age
							Classical/Imperial Age

SOURCE: Grimbley Stone (2003) Encyclopaedia of the ancient world. Pinter Publishers, London; Richards, Janet (ed) 'In Stone, Mary (ed) (2003) Order of light, and wealth in ancient times. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK; Herzog, Roman (2002) Die alten der Prähistorie Ursprünge und Heranbildung. CH. Beck, München; Megret-Clément (2002) Atlas der Alten Welt als Ländersystem und Reise zu den Hochkulturen der Menschheit. Friedrich & Thiele, München; Krauss, D. (2003) An Introduction to the Study of Indian History. Popular Prakashan, Shimla; Leach, J. (2003) A manual of ancient history from the remote times to the overthrow of the western empire A.D. 476. Oxford University. <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/282246/India>. Encyclopaedia Britannica. 2008. Encyclopaedia Britannica Online. Downloaded: 02.10.2008. Last updated: 11 Oct 2008. <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2008/08/20080829.2008082908.htm>. Downloaded: 30.09.2008. [www.gutenberg.org/files/2008/20080829.2008082908.htm](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2008/20080829.2008082908.htm). Downloaded: 30.09.2008. Further internet Research: 02.2008-10.2008. All maps displayed are created by the author.



PRECOLONIAL HISTORY OF INDIA - Anabel Cramer



**HUNNIC INVASIONS**  
 483 - 485 AD: Hephthalite war against Persia  
 447-449: war on Byzantine Empire  
 528: expulsion out of India by Hindu coalition  
 settling in region of Afghanistan and Pakistan  
 500-527: Hun hegemony declines of Saka

**MUSLIM CONQUEST**  
 632-732: Initial Arab Muslim conquests  
 632: death of Islamic prophet Muhammad  
 664-712: Conquest of Sindh (India's easternmost territory)  
 711-750: Conquest of incursions into Caucasus  
 711-718: Hispania  
 831-902: Southern Italy  
 1060-1380: Conquest of Anatolia  
 17 expeditions into the Indian sub-continent by Ghazni following rule in India 1010-1187  
 700-1806: Conquest of Nubia  
 738: Battle of Rajasthan  
 Hindu Rajput clans defeat Muslim Arab invaders

**MONGOL EMPIRE**  
 1219: Invasion of Transoxiana  
 1256: start of invasion in Europe  
 1206-1227: Genghis Khan's rule  
 1211: war against Jin Dynasty in China  
 1218: start of westward conquest  
 1273: Paper money issued  
 1278: first registration of the population of the empire  
 1526: Babur, descendant of Genghis Khan (Mongol) overthrows Delhi Sultanate and founds Muslim Mughal empire  
 1588-1644: Ming Dynasty  
 1644-1911: Qing Dynasty

**CHINESE EMPIRE**  
 1492: Columbus return to Spain from his first voyage to the Americas  
 1498: Vasco da Gama's maritime discovery of new sea route from Europe to India  
 1583-1783: First British Empire  
 1783-1815: Second British Empire  
 1802: Dutch East India Company  
 1850: beginning of Dutch trade with Brazil, the Gold Coast of Africa, Indian Ocean  
 1811-1858: British East India Company  
 1857: Indian Rebellion  
 1884: renaming of British Empire into of Commonwealth of Nations

**BRITISH EMPIRE**  
 1800: India is last to stop using elephants in battles  
 1850: famine 2mlo. (also in China)  
 1702: famine 10 mlo.  
 1770: famine 10 mlo.  
 1788: famine 22 mlo.  
 1800: famine 1 mlo.

**Cultural**  
 building of 29 galleries of Ajanta Caves until 650 AD.  
 Buddhist monks travel as missionaries all over China  
 rise of astronomy and medicine  
 emergence of regional cultures, languages, literature art  
 400-1000: consolidation of Hinduism at expense of Buddhism

**social**  
 decentralisation of administration and revenue collection  
 Introduction of erotic theme in Hinduism in accordance to fertility cult and Tantrism  
 attempts by rulers to centralize power and competitors to create divisiveness  
 relatively high degree of centralization within V. Empire despite centrifugal tendencies  
 promoting of the Persians, the Indian Muslims and the Rajputs in the Imperial service to strike balance in the ruling class  
 subordinate rulers in opposition to Maratha rulers

**internal condition**  
 multiplicity of small states;  
 population crisis  
 prolonged political instability, parasitic methods of tax collection leads to brutalizing peasantry  
 Turkish or Arab dynasties control briefly over South India  
 succession dispute and palace intrigues  
 decline of sultanate  
 vast complex of personnel, money and information to the service of the nobility  
 Afghan-Maratha struggle for Northern India  
 defense against British Empire  
 1947-India, Pakistan, Bangladesh 1971, Himalayan small states

**dominating (political) unit**  
 600-647: Harsha, Palava Empire  
 750-1200: Tripartite struggle  
 1207-1526: Delhi Sultanate  
 1340-1526: Vijayanagar Empire  
 1526-1707: Mughal Empire  
 1700-1818: Maratha Empire  
 1818-1947: British Indian Empire

