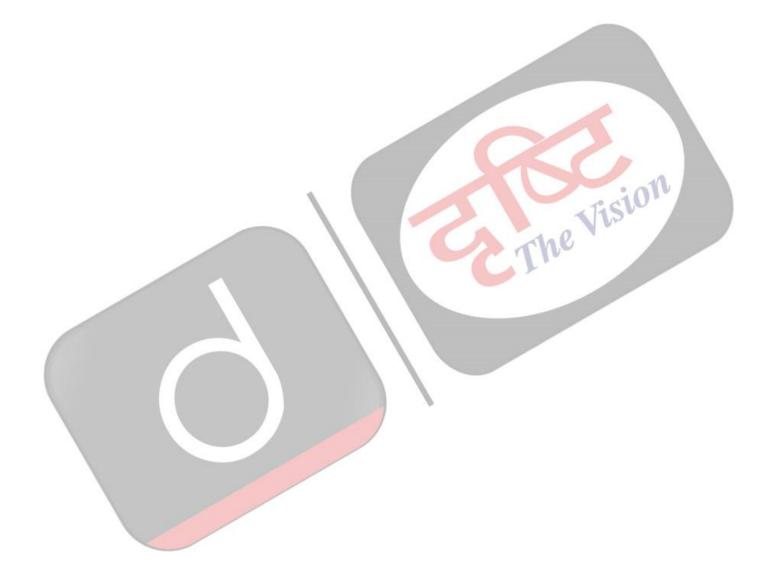


Inscriptions and Rock Edicts



INSCRIPTIONS AND ROCK EDICTS

Sohgaura Copper Plate

- 🕒 Location Sohgaura, Gorakhpur (UP)
- Mentions Famine relief efforts
- 🕒 Language Prakrit*
- Seatures Mauryan dynasty
 - Earliest-known copper plate
 - (Rare) Pre-Ashokan Brahmi inscription

Ashokan Edicts

- 🕒 Location Eastern India
- Mentions Ashoka's view of Dharma (Buddhist philosophy)
- 🕒 Language Magadhi Prakrit*
- Features 33 inscriptions (pillar edicts, Major rock edicts, Minor rock inscriptions)
 - 1st tangible evidence of Buddhism
 - Ashoka as Devanampiyadasi "Beloved servant of the God"

Rummindei Pillar Edicts

- 🕒 Location Lumbini, Nepal
- Mentions Ashoka's visit to Lumbini and tax
- exemptions he made there Script - Brahmi
- Features Minor pillar inscriptions

Prayag-Prashasti (Allahabad Pillar)

- Location Allahabad Fort (earlier Kaushambi)
- Mentions Ashoka Stambh but with 4 different inscriptions
- 🕒 Script Brahmi
- 🤒 4 Inscriptions include -
 - (Usual Ashokan Inscriptions
 - 😕 Queen's Kaurwaki edict
 - 😕 Samudragupta's conquests by Harisena
 - (Jahangir's inscriptions in Persian

Mehrauli Inscription (Mehrauli Iron Pillar)

- 🕒 Location Qutub Minar complex, Delhi
- Mentions Credits Chandragupta II for the conquest of Vakatakas and Vanga countries
- 🕒 Script Brahmi
- 🕒 Features Gupta dynasty
 - Pillar estd by Chandragupta II as Vishnupada (in honor of Lord Vishnu)
 - (Notable for rust-resistant metal composition

Kalsi Inscription

- 🕒 Location Kalsi town (Uttarakhand)
- Mentions Ashoka's humane approach in administration, non-violence, spirituality
- 🕒 Language Prakrit*
- Features Only place in north India to have 14 Ashokan rock edicts

Maski Inscription

- 🕒 Location Maski (an archaeological site in Karnataka)
- Mentions Dharma shasana (promotes Buddhist tenets)
- 🕒 Language Prakrit*
- Features 1st edict to contain Ashoka's name instead of Piyadasi.

Kalinga Edicts

- 🕒 Location Kalinga, Odisha
- Mentions Kalinga war turning point for Ashoka
- 😑 Language Magadhi Prakita, Script Brahmi
- Features Set of 11 out of 14 rock edicts
 - (b) 2 special rock edicts signifying pacification
 - Ashoka gave up Digvijaya, adopted non-violence & Buddhism

Aihole Inscription

- 🕒 Location Meguti temple, Karnataka
- (Mentions Pulakeshin II defeated Harshavardhana
- 🕒 Language Sanskrit; Script Kannada
- ⇒ Features Chalukya victory→Pallavas
 - (Capital: Aihole→Badami
 - () Written by Ravikirti (Pulakeshin II's court poet)
 - 😕 Samudragupta's conquests by Harisena

AIHOLE WAS THE FIRST CAPITAL OF CHALUKYAS

Hathigumpha Inscription (Elephant Cave Inscription)

- 🕒 Location Udaygiri-Khandgiri Caves, Odisha
- Mentions History of King Kharvela
 a champion of Jainism
- 🕒 Language Prakrit*
- 🕒 Features Mahameghavahana dynasty

NOTE:*implies that wherever language is Prakrit, the script is Brahmi



Read more

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/inscriptions-and-rock-edicts

