

Chronology of Important Events in Indian History

Ancient India

Year	Event	Importance
2 Million BC to 10,00 BC	Palaeolithic Period	Fire was discovered
2 Million BC to 50,000 BC	Lower Palaeolithic	Tools made of limestones were used. They are found in Chotanagpur plateau and Kurnool district
50,000 BC to 40,000 BC	Middle Palaeolithic	
40,000 BC to 10,000 BC	Upper Palaeolithic	
From 10,000 BC	The Mesolithic Age	Hunters and Herders Microlith tools were used
7000 BC	The Neolithic age	Food producers Use of polished tools
Pre-Harappan Phase – 3000 BC	Chalcolithic Age	Use of Copper – first metal
2500 BC	Harappan Phase	Bronze age civilization, development of Urban culture
1500 BC-1000 BC	Early Vedic period	Rig Veda period
1000BC-500BC	Later Vedic period	Growth of 2 nd Urban phase with the establishment of Mahajanapadhas
600 BC – 325 BC	Mahajanapadhas	16 kingdoms with certain republics established
544 BC – 412 BC	Haryanka Dynasty	Bimbisara, Ajatshatru and Udayin
412 BC – 342 BC	Shisunga Dynasty	Shisunga and Kalashoka
344BC – 323 BC	Nanda Dynasty	Mahapadmananda
563 BC	Birth of Gautama Buddha	Buddhism established
540 BC	Birth of Mahavira	24 th Tirthankara of Jainism
518 BC	Persian Invasion	Darius
483 BC	1 st Buddhist council	Rajgir
383 BC	2 nd Buddhist Council	Vaishali

326 BC	Macedonian Invasion	Direct contact between Greek and India
250 BC	3 rd Buddhist council	Pataliputra
322 BC – 185 BC	Mauryan Period	The political unification of India, Dhamma policy of Ashoka, the growth of art and architecture
322 BC – 298 BC	Chandragupta Maurya	
298 BC – 273 BC	Bindusara	
273 BC – 232 BC	Ashoka	
232 BC – 185 BC	Later Mauryans	
185 BC – 73 BC	Sunga Dynasty	Pushyamitra Sunga
73 BC – 28 BC	Kanva dynasty	Vasudeva founded the dynasty
60 BC – 225 AD	Sathavahana dynasty	Capital at Paithan, MH
2 nd BC	Indo-Greeks	Menander(165-145AD)
1 st BC – 4 th AD	The Shakas	Rudradaman (130 AD – 150 AD)
1 st BC – 1 st AD	The Parthians	St Thomas arrived in India during the reign of Gondophernes
1 st AD -4 th AD	The Kushans	Kanishka (78 AD – 101 AD)
72 AD	4 th Buddhist Council	Kashmir
3 rd BC – 3 rd AD	Sangam age	Convene of Sangam Commune, Rule of Cheras, Cholas and Pandyas
319 AD – 540 AD	The Gupta Age	319 AD – Gupta Age
319 – 334 AD	Chandragupta I	The golden age of India Development of numerous art and literature. Nagara style of Temple Building
335 – 380 AD	Samudragupta	
380 – 414 AD	Chandragupta II	
415 – 455 AD	Kumaragupta	
455 – 467 AD	Skandagupta	
550 AD – 647 AD	Vardhana Dynasty	Harsha (606-647 AD) Kannauj assembly and Prayag assembly held Huan-Tsang visited Harsha's assembly
543 – 755 AD	Chalukyas of Vatapi	Development of Vesera style

575 - 897 AD	Pallavas of Kanchi	Structural temples in Dravida style started to develop
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Medieval India

Early Medieval Period (650 – 1206 AD)

Year	Event	Importance
750 – 1150 AD	Rule of the Palas	Capital at Munger, Bihar
752 – 973 AD	The Rasthrakutas	Capital at Malkhed
730 – 1036 AD	The Pratiharas	Ruled western India
712 AD	First Muslim Invasion	Mahmud Bin Qasim invaded India
850 – 1279 AD	The Cholas	Capital at Tanjore, epitome moment for Dravidian Architecture
998 – 1030 AD	First Turk invasion	Mahmud of Ghazni
1175 – 1206 AD	Second Turk invasion	Mahmud of Ghori
1178 – 1192 AD	Prithviraj Chauhan	The first battle of Tarain in 1191 between Prithviraj and Mahmud of Ghori 1192, Second battle of Tarain

The Sultanate Period (1206 – 1526 AD)

The Slave Dynasty		
Year	Event	Importance
1206 – 1210 AD	Qutbuddin Aibak	Known as Lal Bakhsh, began the construction of Qutb Minar
1211 – 1236 AD	Shamsuddin Iltumish	The real founder of Delhi sultanate
1236 – 1240 AD	Razia Sultana	First and only Muslim lady who ever ruled India
1240 – 1266 AD	Weak successors	
1266 – 1287 AD	Ghiyasuddin Balban	Established Diwan-i-Arz

The Khalji Dynasty		
Year	Events	Importance
1290 – 1296 AD	Jalaluddin Khalji	Founder of Khalji dynasty
1296 – 1316 AD	Allaudin Khalji	Did many administrative reforms, introduced the Dagh and Chehra system

The Tuglaq dynasty		
Year	Events	Importance
1320 – 1325 AD	Ghiyasuddin Tuglaq	Founder
1325 – 1351 AD	Mohammed-Bin-Tuglaq	Introduction of administrative reforms and certain ambitious projects
1351 – 1388 AD	Firoz Shah Tuglaq	Built great cities
1398 – 1399 AD	Taimur Invasion	Taimur, the descendant of Chengiz Khan, invaded during the reign of Muhammad Shah Tuglaq

The Sayyid dynasty 1414 – 1451 AD

The Lodhi Dynasty (1451 – 1526 AD)		
Year	Events	Importance
1451 – 1488 AD	Bahlol Lodhi	Founder of Lodhi dynasty
1489 – 1517 AD	Sikander Lodhi	Founded the city of Agra
1517 – 1526 AD	Ibrahim Lodhi	Babur defeated Lodhi in the first battle of Panipat

Vijaynagar and Bahmani Kingdoms

Vijaynagar Kingdom		
Year	Events	Importance
1336 – 1485 AD	Sangama Dynasty	Founded by Harihara and Bukka
1485 – 1505 AD	Saluva Dynasty	Saluva Narasimha
1505 – 1570 AD	Tuluva Dynasty	Veer Narashima
1509 – 1529 AD	Krishna Deva Raya	A gifted Scholar, contemporary of Babur
1570 – 1650 AD	Aravidu Dynasty	Founded by Tirumala

Bahmani Kingdom		
Year	Events	Importance
1347 – 1358 AD	Alaudin Hasan Bahman Shah	Founded the Bahmani Kingdom at Gulbarga
1397 – 1422 AD	Tajuddin Firoz Shah	
1422 – 1435 AD	Ahmad Shah Wali	

Mughal Empire

Year	Event	Importance
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1526 – 1530 AD	Babur	Founder of Mughal empire after the 1 st Battle of Panipat
1530 – 1540 AD	Humayun	He was defeated by Sher Shah
1555 – 1556 AD		
1540 – 1555 AD	Sur Empire	Sher Shah defeated Humayun and ruled from 1540-45 AD
1556	2 nd Battle of Panipat	Akbar Vs. Hemu
1556 – 1605 AD	Akbar	Established Din-i-illahi, expanded Mughal empire
1605 – 1627 AD	Jehangir	Captain William Hawkins and Sir Thomas Roe visited the Mughal court
1628 -1658 AD	Shahjahan	The pinnacle of Mughal empire and art and architecture
1658 – 1707 AD	Aurangazeb	Beginning of the decline of Mughal empire
1707 – 1857 AD	Later Mughals	Decline and disintegration of Mughal empire with gaining strength of the British

Maratha State and Maratha Confederacy

Maratha state 1674 – 1720 AD		
Year	Events	Importance
1674 – 1680 AD	Shivaji	Contemporary of Aurangazeb and the biggest challenge for the Mughals in Deccan
1680 – 1689 AD	Sambhaji	
1689 – 1700 AD	Rajaram	
1700 – 1707 AD	Tarabai	
1707 – 1749 AD	Shahu	The rise of Peshwas
1713 – 1720 AD	Balaji Vishwanath	The first Peshwa

Maratha Confederacy 1720 – 1818 AD

Year	Event	Importance
1720 – 1740 AD	Baji Rao I	
1740 – 1761 AD	Balaji Baji Rao	
1761 AD	The third battle of Panipat	The defeat of Marathas by Ahmad Shah Abdali
1761 – 1818 AD	Later successors	

Anglo Maratha Wars

Year	Event	Importance
1775 – 1782 AD	1 st Anglo Maratha War	British were defeated
1803 – 1806 AD	2 nd War	Marathas were defeated and they signed the Subsidiary Alliance
1817 – 1818 AD	3 rd War	Marathas were decisively defeated

Modern India

Bengal		
Year	Events	Importance
1717 – 1727 AD	Murshid Quli Khan	Capital of Bengal transferred to Murshidabad
1727 – 1739 AD	Shujauddin	
1739 – 1740 AD	Sarfaraj khan	
1740 – 1756 AD	Alivardi Khan	
1756 – 1757 AD	Sirajuddaulah	Battle of Plassey
1757 – 1760 AD	Mir Jafar	
1760 – 1764 AD	Mir Qasim	Battle of Buxar

Mysore		
Year	Events	Importance
1761 – 1782 AD	Haider Ali	Establishment of Modern Mysore state
1766 – 1769 AD	1 st Anglo – Mysore war	Haider Ali defeated the British
1780 – 1784 AD	2 nd Anglo – Mysore war	Haider Ali was defeated by Sir Eyrecoot
1782 – 1799 AD	Tippu Sultan	Continued the 2 nd war
1790 – 1792 AD	3 rd Anglo – Mysore war	Tipu ceded half of his territory
1799	4 th Anglo – Mysore war	Tipu sultan died

Punjab		
1792 – 1839 AD	Maharaja Ranjit Singh	Founder of Sikh rule
1845 – 1846 AD	1 st Anglo – Sikh war	Sikhs were defeated
1848 – 1849 AD	2 nd Anglo – Sikh war	Dalhousie annexed Punjab

The advent of Europeans in India

Year	Company	Importance
1498	Portuguese East India company	Headquarters at Cochin and Goa
1600	English East India company	Madras, Calcutta and Bombay
1602	Dutch East India company	Pulicat, Nagapattinam

1616	Danish East India company	Serampore
1664	French East India company	Pondicherry

Carnatic wars

1746-48	1 st Anglo-French war	Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle
1749-54	2 nd Anglo-French war	Treaty of Pondicherry
1758-63	3 rd Anglo-French war	Treaty of Paris

Freedom Struggle

Year	Event	
1857	The First war of Indian independence	Revolt due to socio-religious and economic causes
1885	Formation of Indian National Congress	A.O. Hume
1885 – 1905	Moderate phase	Dominated by Dadabai Naoroji, Surendranath Banerjea
1905 – 1917	Extremists Phase	Dominated by Lal-Bal-Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh
1905	Bengal Partition	Curzon announced the partition
1905 – 1908	Swadeshi movement	Boycott of foreign products
1906	Muslim league formation	
1906	Calcutta Session of INC	Swaraj as the goal
1907	Surat split	Question on extending the movement to the rest of India
1909	Morley – Minto reforms	The separate electorate for Muslims
1915 – 1916	Home rule movement	BG Tilak and Annie Besant
1916	Lucknow Pact	The pact between Congress and League
1916	Lucknow session	Extremists admitted in Congress

Gandhian Era

Early life		
1893 – 1914	Gandhi in South Africa	Foundation of Natal Indian Congress, Sathyagraha and CDM against British excesses
1915 – 1948	Gandhi in India	
1915	Arrived in Bombay. First two years to tour India and not to participate in any political movement	
1917	Champaran Campaign	Against the Indigo cultivators

1918	Ahmedabad	First hunger strike
1918	Kheda	First non-cooperation movement
1919	Rowlatt Sathyagraha	Against the Rowlatt act and Jallianwala massacre
1920-22	Non-cooperation and Khilafat movement	
1924	Belgaum session	Gandhi elected as Congress president
1930 -34	Civil disobedience movement	Dandi March Gandhi – Irwin Pact 2 nd Roundtable conference Resuming the Civil disobedience movement
1940-41	Individual satyagraha	
1942	Quit India movement	Do or die

Important Events during this period

Year	Event	
1919	Rowlatt act	Gandhi gave a call for Rowlatt satyagraha
1919	Jallianwala Massacre	
1920-22	Khilafat and Non-cooperation movement	Hindu Muslim unity
1922	Chauri Chaura incident	Gandhi called off NCM
1923	Congress Khilafat Swaraj Party	Enter legislative councils
1927	Simon commission	All white commission to review the 1919 act
1928	Nehru committee report	To determine the principles of the constitution
1929	Jinnah's 14 points	
1929	Lahore session	Purna Swaraj
1930	Civil disobedience movement	Dandi March
1931	Gandhi Irwin Pact	To ask Gandhi participate in the 2 nd RTC
1931	2 nd RTC held in London	
1932	Communal award	
1932	Poona Pact	
1935	Government of India act	Provisional autonomy
1937	18 months rule of Congress begins	
1939-45	World War II begins	
1939	Congress ministries resign	

1940	August offer	Linlithgow proposed to seek India's cooperation in the World War
1941	Individual Satyagraha	
1942	Cripps mission	
1942	Quit India movement	
1943	Gandhi's 21 days fast	
1944	C R Formula	
1945	Wavell Plan and Shimla Conference	
1945	INA Trails	
1946	RIN Ratings Mutiny	
1946	Cabinet mission plan	
1946	Formation of Interim government	
1946	Formation of the constituent assembly	
1947	Atlee's announcement	
1947	Mountbatten Plan	
1947	Indian independence act, 1947	