

## 6th Social Science Lesson 1 Notes in English

### 1] What is History?

- Time in history is calculated in years using BCE/CE, which stands for Before Common Era/ Common Era.
- History is the study of past events in chronological order. The term history has been derived from the Greek word “**Istoria**” which means ‘learning by enquiry’.

#### Rock Paintings

- In ancient period, the people lived in caves, used to draw paintings in rocks called Rock Painting. They might have wished to record their activities through these paintings.

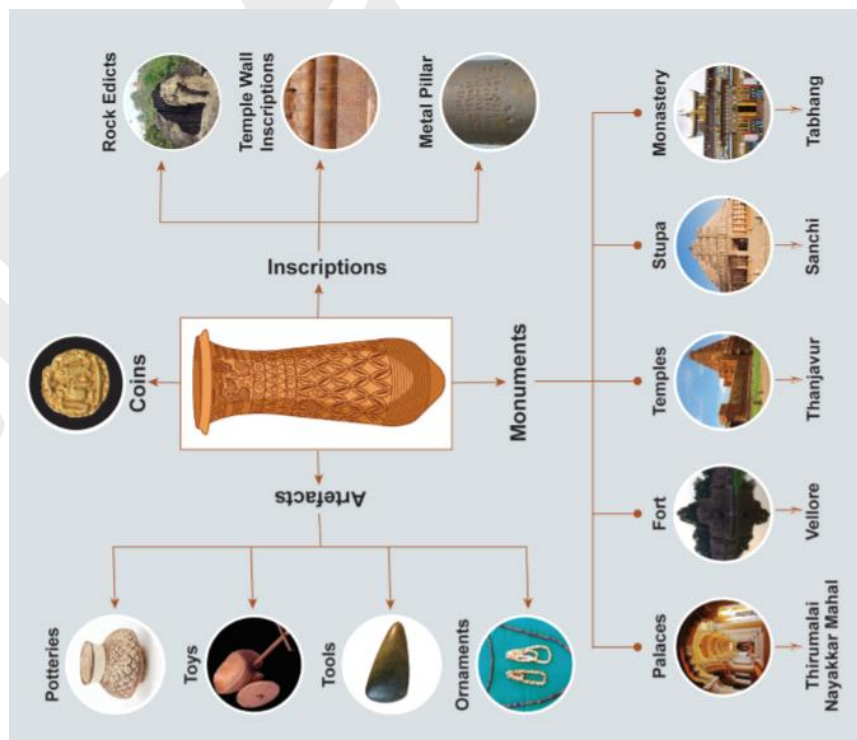
- **Numismatics - The study of Coins**

- **Epigraphy - The study of inscription**

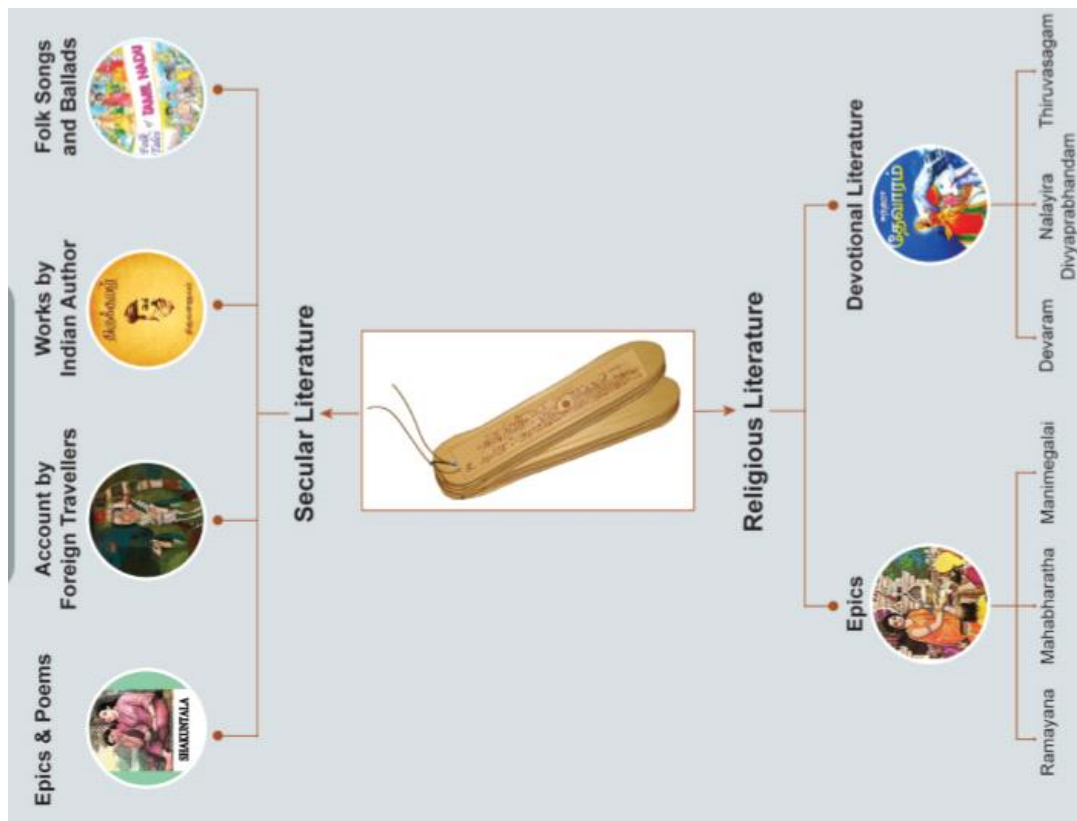
#### Pre Historic Period

- The period between the use of first stone tools and the invention of writing systems is prehistory. Stone tools, excavated materials and rock paintings are the major sources of pre-history.

#### Archeological sources of India



#### literary sources of India



- 'Dhamma' is the prakrit word for the sanskrit term 'dharma', which means religious duty.
- Dharma Chakra with 24 spokes in our national flag was taken from Saranath Pillar of Ashoka.



### Proto history

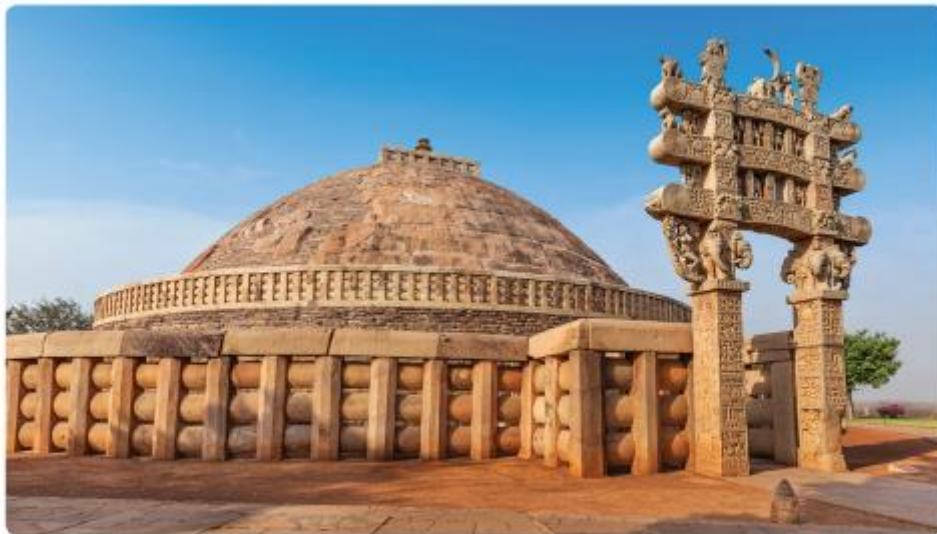
- The period for which records in writing are available but not yet deciphered is called proto history.
- They started domesticating dogs for their protection and hunting activities.



### A Mighty Emperor Ashoka

- The most famous ruler of ancient India was Emperor Ashoka. It was during his period that Buddhism spread to different parts of Asia.
- Ashoka gave up war after seeing many people grieving death after the Kalinga war. He embraced **Buddhism and then devoted his life to spread the message of peace and dharma.**
- His service for the cause of public good was exemplary. He was the first ruler to give up war after victory.
- He was the first to build hospitals for animals. He was the first to lay roads. **Dharma Chakra with 24 spokes** in our national flag was taken from the Saranath Pillar of Ashoka.
- Even though Emperor Ashoka was great, his greatness had been unknown until 20th century.
- The material evidence provided by **William Jones, James Prinsep and Alexander Cunningham** revealed the greatness of Emperor Ashoka.

- Based on these accounts, Charles Allen wrote a book titled The Search for the India's Lost Emperor, which provided a comprehensive account of Ashoka.
- Many researches made thereafter brought Ashoka's glorious rule to light.
- These inscriptions were observed on the rocks, Sanchi Stupa and Saranath Pillar and helped to understand the greatness of Ashoka to the world.



Sanchi Stupa