

handout

24TH GONDA LECTURE

Hans Bakker

TIMELINE

50 years that changed India (484 – 534)

484 *Eran Stone Pillar Inscription of Budhagupta, Gupta Year 165.*
Suraśmicandra ruling as Gupta viceroy from Yamunā to Narmadā.
Column and twin temple erected by Mahārāja Mātṛviṣṇu and his
younger brother Dhanyaviṣṇu in Eran (Betwā Valley).

491 *Choṭī Sādrī Inscription of Gauri, Mālava Year 547.* Date falls in Jan-
uary AD 491. Mahārāja Gauri of the Māṇavāyaṇi-kula built a great
temple for the Devī near the village of Choṭī Sādrī between Mandasor
and Chittorgarh (East Rajasthan).

c. 495 Death of the Gupta Emperor Budhagupta.

495/96 *Schøyen Copper Scroll, Year 68.* Year 68 (Kaniṣka Era) corresponds to
AD 495/96. Gandhāra – West Panjab. The scroll features four Alchon
(Αλχαννο) kings, among whom Devarāja Toramāṇa.

495–500 *Kurā Stone Inscription* found in Khwera in the Salt Range (West Pan-
jab). In this record Toramāṇa assumed the Indian titles Rājādhirāja
Mahārāja, combined with the Central Asian title of Ṣāh(i) Jaūhkha
(proto-Turkish: Yabġu?).

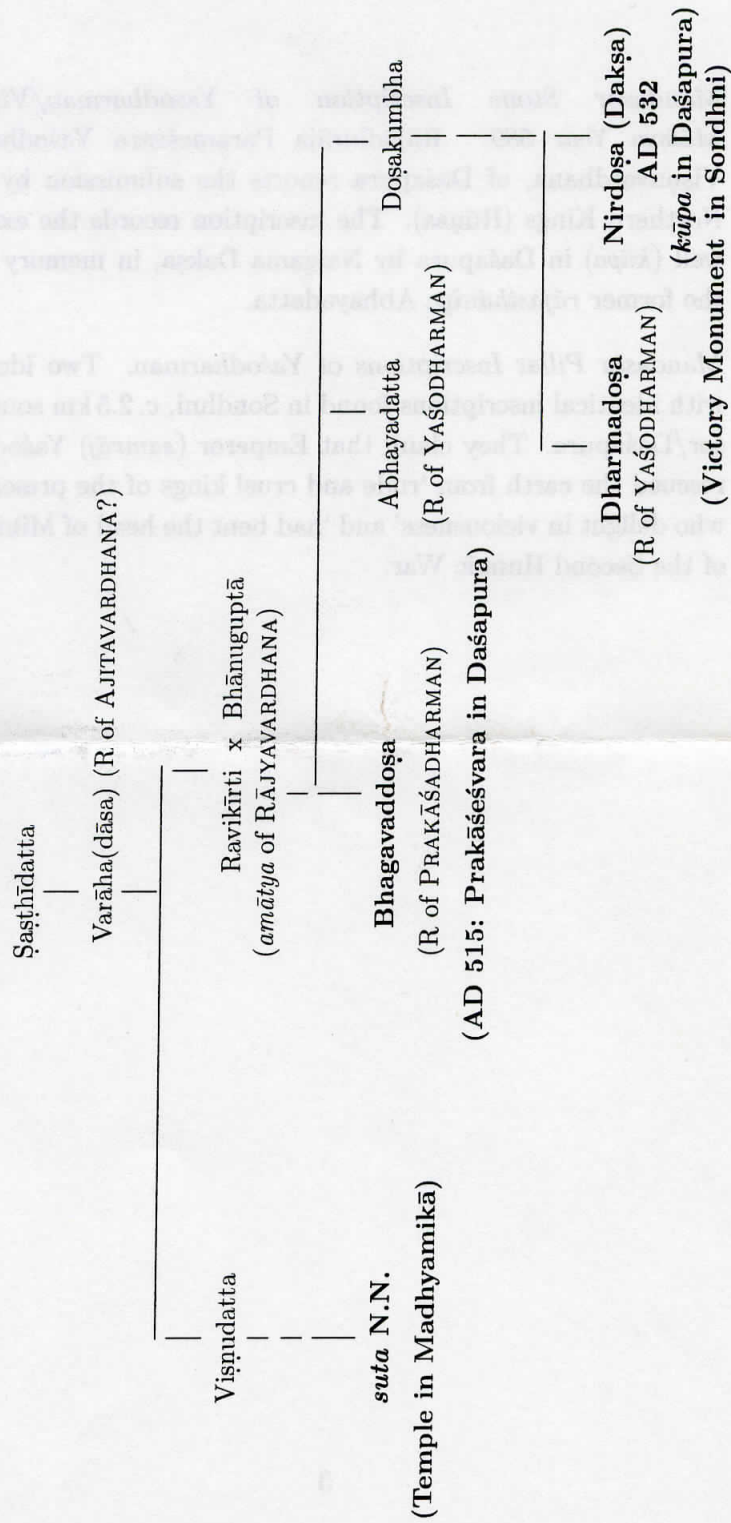
496–500 *Eran Stone Boar Inscription of Toramāṇa, Year 1.* In the first year
of the reign of Mahārājādhirāja Toramāṇa. Installation of a Varāha-
mūrti (*trailokyamahāgrhastambhaḥ*) by Dhanyaviṣṇu, after death of el-
der brother Mātṛviṣṇu (in the first battle of Eran?). Beginning of the
First Hunnic War.

497–500 Sack of Kauśāmbī.

- 497–500 *Mandasor Fragmentary Inscription of Ādityavardhana/Gauri*. In the reign of Ādityavardhana, after his conquest of Daśapura (Mandasor), Mahārāja Gauri of the Māṇavāyaṇi-kula dedicates a well in Daśapura to the memory of his mother.
- 498–503 *Sanjeli Copper Plate, Year 3*. In the third year of the reign of Mahārājādhirāja Toramāṇa, thanks to whose grace Mahārāja Bhūta in Vadrāpālī / Sanjeli is holding the governorship over the Śivabhāgapura district (North Gujarat).
- 500–510 *Demonic Gaṇas of Śāmalājī*, 175 km south-west of Daśapura (Mandasor), in North Gujarat.
- 510** *Eran Posthumous Stone Pillar Inscription of Goparāja, Gupta Year 191*. The inscription reports that Goparāja and Rāja Bhānugupta fought together in the second battle of Eran, in which Goparāja was killed.
- 513** Chinese translation by Bodhiruci of the *Laṅkāvatara-sūtra*.
- 513–515 Building of a Mahādeva Temple and Torāṇa in Madhyamikā (Nagari), 10 km north of Chittorgarh, by a cousin of Naigama Bhagavaddoṣa, the viceroy of Prakāśadharman.
- 515** *Rīsthal Inscription, Mālava Year 572*. The Later Aulikara king Prakāśadharman of Daśapura reports victory over the Hūṇādhīpa Toramāṇa. Prakāśeśvara Temple, symbol of rising Bhāratavarṣa, erected by his viceroy (*rājasthānīya*), the Naigama Bhagavaddoṣa, in Daśapura. End of the First Hunnic War.
- 520** The Chinese monk Song Yun meets the ‘King of the Huns’ (Mihirakula) in his army camp at the banks of the Jhelum River (Vitastā). Beginning of the Second Hunnic War.
- c. 530 *Gwalior Stone Inscription of Mihirakula, Year 15*. Toramāṇa’s son Mihirakula, Lord of the Earth, is bending to no-one save Paśupati.

- 532** *Mandasor Stone Inscription of Yaśodharman/Viṣṇuvardhana, Mālava Year 589.* Rājādhirāja Parameśvara Yaśodharman, alias Viṣṇuvardhana, of Daśapura reports the submission by force of the Northern Kings (Hūṇas). The inscription records the excavation of a well (*kūpa*) in Daśapura by Naigama Dakṣa, in memory of his uncle, the former *rājasthānīya* Abhayadatta.
- c. 534 *Mandasor Pillar Inscriptions of Yaśodharman.* Two identical pillars with identical inscriptions found in Sondhni, c. 2.5 km south of Mandasor/Daśapura. They claim that Emperor (*saṃrāj*) Yaśodharman had rescued the earth from ‘rude and cruel kings of the present [Kali] age, who delight in viciousness’ and ‘had bent the head of Mihirakula.’ End of the Second Hunnic War.

The Naigama *rājasthānīyas* (R) of Daśapura (Later-Aulikara KINGS)



THEATRE OF THE HUNNIC WARS

