

Class: FY BSc

Subject : IKS

Chapter Name: Chanakya's Arthashastra

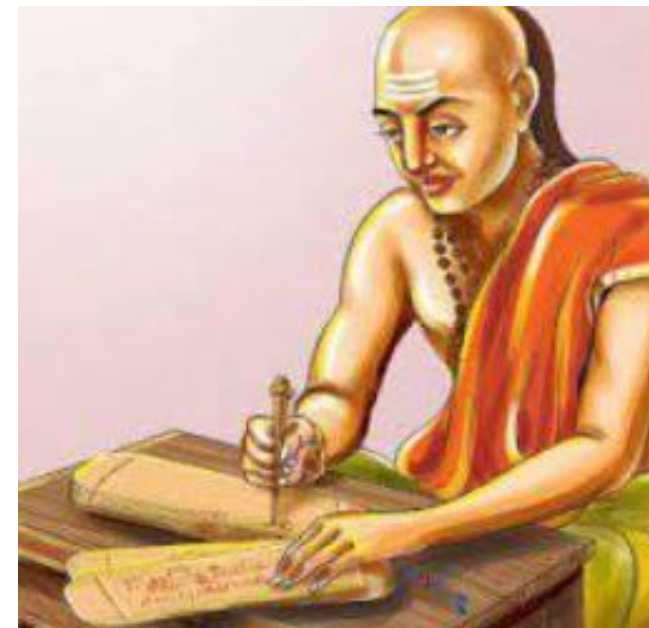
Today's Agenda

1. Who was Chanakya?
1. Chanakya's Arthashastra
 1. Why was Chanakya known as kingmaker?
3. King
3. Importance of Arthashastra in relation to modern times

1.2 Why was this subject introduced in the syllabus ?

1 Who was Chanakya ?

Chanakya, also called **Kautilya** or **Vishnugupta**, was a teacher, philosopher, economist, and statesman who wrote the Indian political treatise, the 'Arthashastra' (Science of Politics and Economics). He played an important role in the establishment of the Maurya dynasty.



To know about who was Chanakya and how he became famous watch the following link:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCOSVUStOdo>

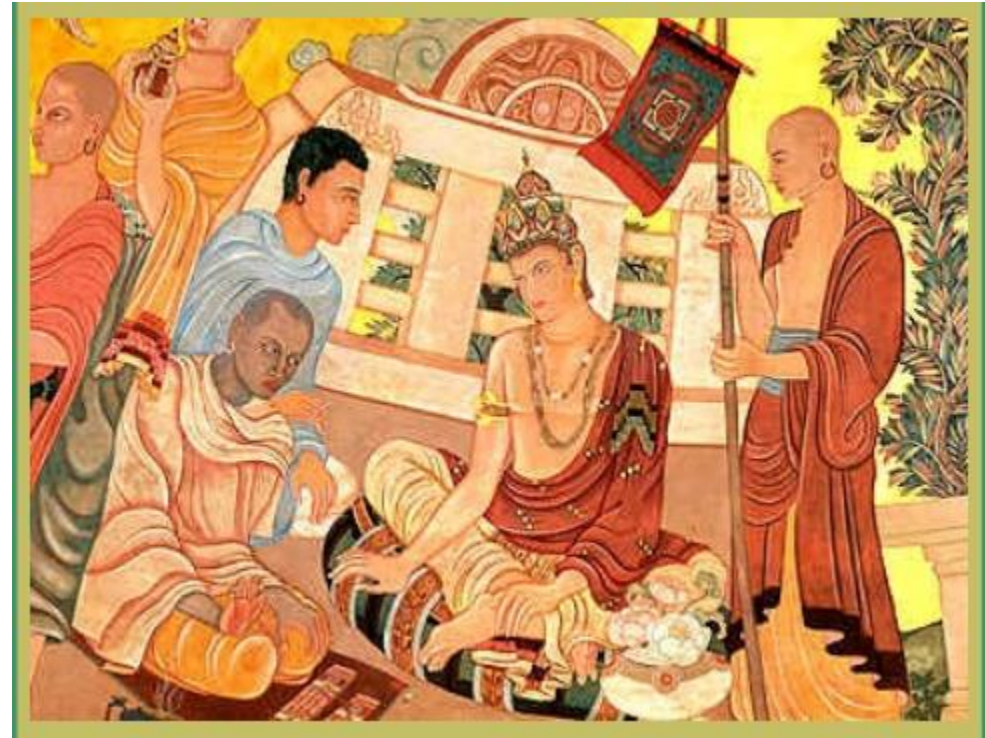
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Chanakya's Arthashastra

The **Arthashastra** is an Ancient Indian Sanskrit treatise on statecraft, political science, economic policy and military strategy.

Why was Arthashastra written by Chanakya?

- Establishing and Sustaining an Empire
- Economic Management
- Military Strategy
- Maintaining Social Order
- Diplomacy and Foreign Relations
- Ethical and Moral Principles
- Aims of the Ruler



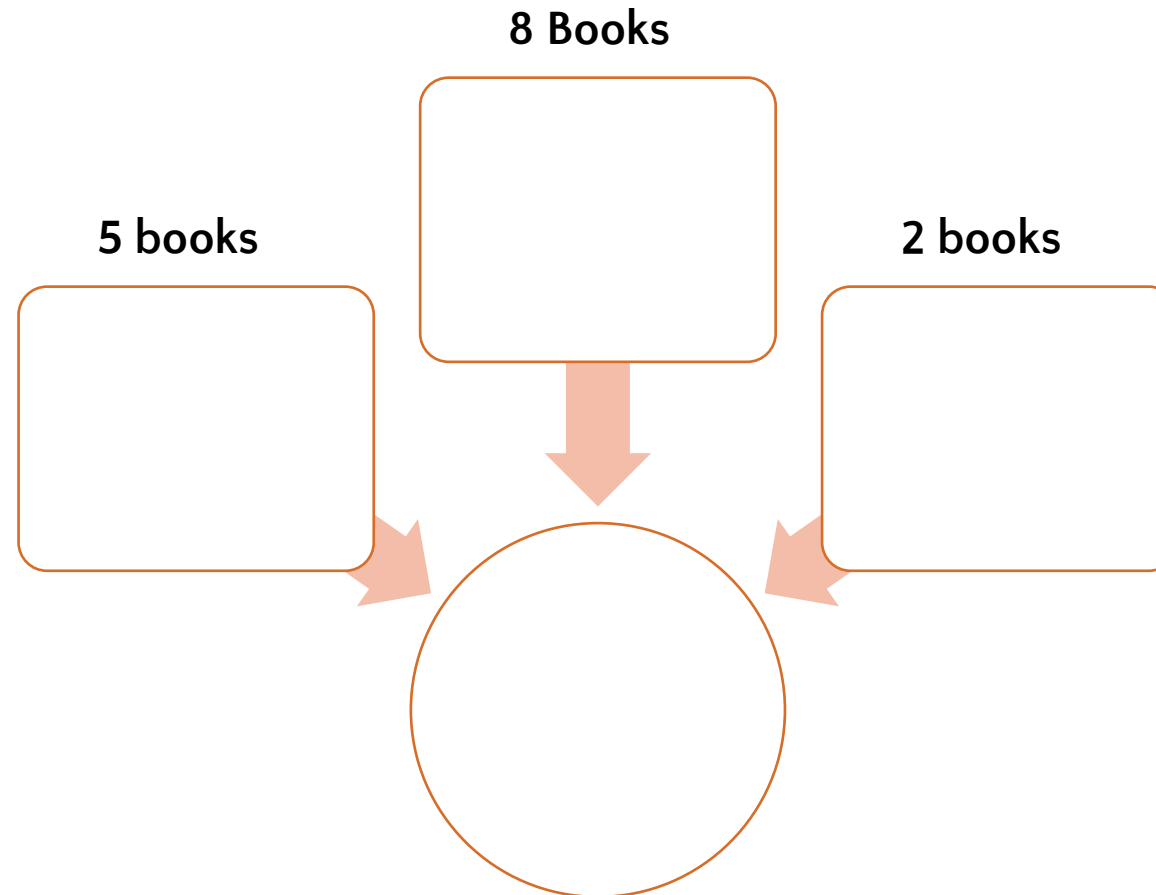
2 Chanakya's Arthashastra

Arthashastra has a two fold aim:

1. It provides guidance to the ruler to protect (palana) his territory and,
2. It shows how territory should be acquired (labha).

2 Chanakya's Arthashastra

Arthashastra is divided into 15 book titles, 150 chapters and 180 topics, as follows:



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Chanakya's Arthashastra

Book 1– On the Subject of Training, 21 chapters

- The first book deals with the training and equipment of the king as a ruler; and being a “Kautilyan King” is no mean task. He cannot sleep for more than four hours a day and has a full and punishing routine for the rest of the 20 hours.

Book 2 – On the Activities of Superintendents, 36 chapters

- Book Two deals with the activities of the state in various fields. 34 departments are described with activities ranging around the fields of agriculture, forestry, cattle, horses, elephants, yarns, liquor, army, issue of passports, trade, customs, shipping, etc

Book 3 – On Justices, 20 chapters

- It deals with law and administration of justice and provides a code of law.

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Chanakya's Arthashastra

Book 4 – Eradication of Thorns, 13 chapters

- It is concerned with detection and suppression of crime, control over merchants, artisans, torture and punishment.

Book 5 – On Secret Conduct, 6 chapters

- It includes miscellaneous topics like salary scale of officials and advice to the chief minister on the ensuring continuity of rule on the demise of the ruling monarch.

Book 6 – Basis of the Circle, 2 chapters

- It defines the seven necessary constituents of a state— the king, the minister, the country, the fortified city, the treasury, the army and the ally. This book also includes the famous “rajamandala theory.”

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Chanakya's Arthashastra

Book 7 – On the Sixfold Strategy, 18 chapters

- The next book discusses the six gunas or measures of foreign policy to be used in different situations. Since the goal of foreign policy for the king, the conqueror or *vijigishu*, is conquest of the world, there is a description of various ways in which rivals may be outwitted by stratagems or overcome by force.

Book 8 – On the Subject of Calamities, 5 chapters

- It is concerned with *vyasanas*, that is, calamities which have to be overcome before any aggressive activities can be taken.

Book 9 – Activity of a King preparing to March into Battle, 7 chapters

- It deals with preparations for war.

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Chanakya's Arthashastra

Book 10 – On War, 6 chapters

- Fighting an enemy and describes the main battle camp, types of arrays and different modes of fighting.

Book 11 – Conduct toward Confederacies, 1 chapter

- Describes how a conqueror should subjugate his oligarchies governed by a group of chiefs.

Book 12 – On the Weaker King, 5 chapters

- It tells a weak king the ways in which he can defeat a strong king.

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Chanakya's Arthashastra

Book 13 – Means of Capturing a Fort, 5 chapters

- It is concerned with the conquest of the enemy's fortified capital and how the conquered territories should be ruled.

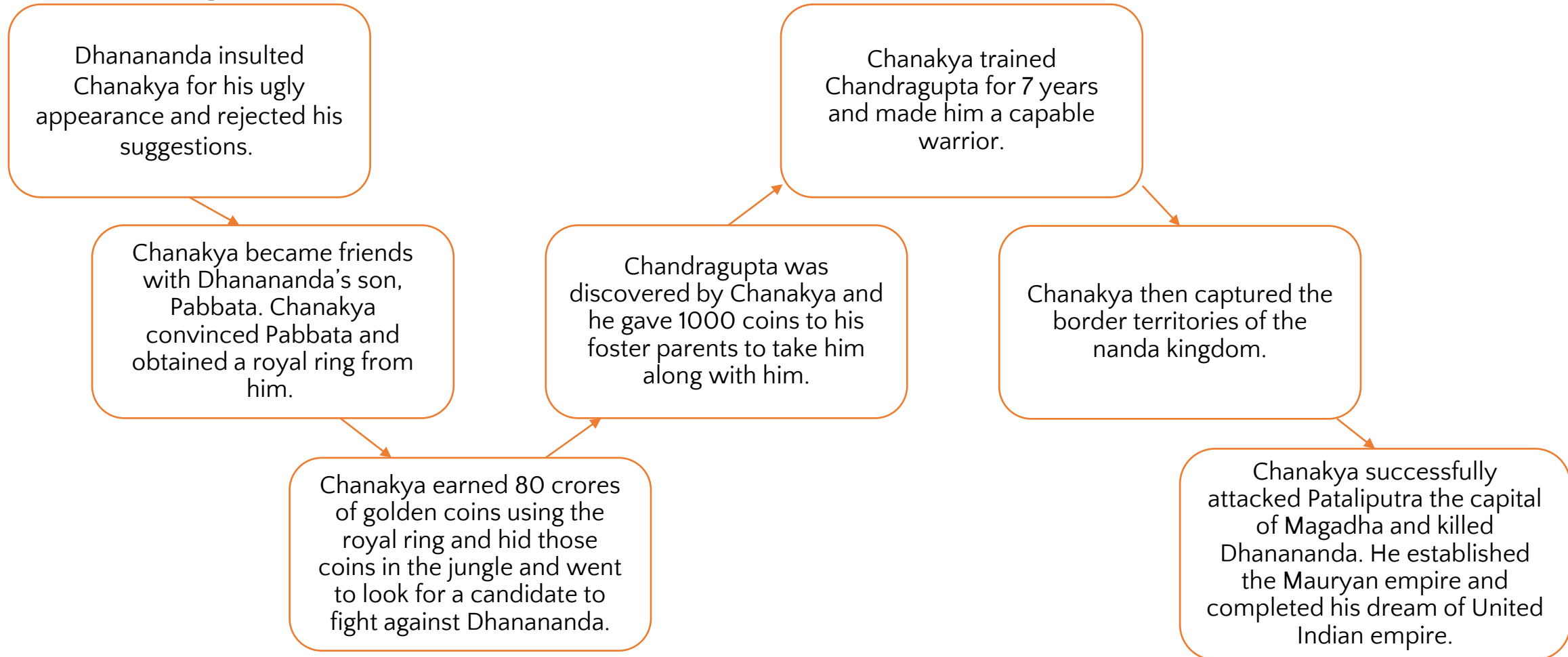
Book 14 – On Esoteric Practices, 4 chapters

- It deals with occult practices and secret remedies

Book 15 – Organization of a Scientific Treatise, 1 chapter

- It defines and illustrates from the text itself the 32 *tantra yuktis* or “methods of treating a subject.”

2.1 Why was Chanakya known as the kingmaker?



3 King

Chanakya was known to the world as the kingmaker. Kautilya composed Arthashastra to provide guidance to a wise king, enabling him to defeat his enemies and rule correctly on behalf of the general good. Arthashastra provides a strategy for governments to protect their territories, gain the territories of others, and maintain all these territories properly and well. It encompasses both the administration and foreign policy of the state. It is the art and science of statecraft; of politics and administration.

Who is a king?



An ideal king is one who has the highest qualities of **leadership, intellect, energy and personal attributes.**

3 King

The qualities of leadership (which attract followers) are:

- birth in a noble family,
- good fortune,
- intellect and prowess,
- association with elders,
- being righteous,
- truthful,
- resolute,
- enthusiastic and disciplined,
- not breaking his promises,
- showing gratitude to those who help him,
- having lofty aims,
- not being dilatory,
- being stronger than neighbouring kings and having ministers of high quality.

3 King

The qualities of intellect are:

- desire to learn,
- listening to others,
- grasping,
- retaining,
- understanding thoroughly and reflecting on knowledge,
- rejecting false views
- adhering to the true ones.

An energetic king is one who is valorous, determined, quick and dexterous.

As regards personal attributes, an ideal king should be eloquent, bold and endowed with a sharp intellect, a strong memory and a keen mind. He should be amenable to guidance.

He should be well trained in all the arts and be able to lead the army.

3 King

He should be just in rewarding and punishing. He should have the foresight to avail himself of the opportunities (by choosing) the right time, place and type of action.

He should know how to govern in normal times and in times of crisis. He should know when to fight and when to make peace, when to lie in wait, when to observe treaties and when to strike at an enemy's weakness.

He should preserve his dignity at all times and not laugh in an undignified manner. He should be sweet in speech, look straight at people and avoid frowning. He should eschew passion, anger, greed, obstinacy, fickleness and backbiting. He should conduct himself in accordance with the advice of elders.

3 King

Some of the main duties assigned to the king by Kautilya are:

- Ensuring people's welfare and give due assistance to pregnant women, orphans, newly born, destitute and the elderly. According to Kautilya, a king's happiness lies in the welfare of his subjects.
- To maintain dharma or prescribed duties of all human being.
- To protect his subjects from internal and external threats.
- Protection of people from eight types of calamities – famine, fire, flood and drought, epidemic, rats and locusts etc., snakes and aquatic dangers, wild animals like tigers and crocodiles and evil spirits.
- Maintenance of law and order in the state.
- To ensure universal and free education for all the citizens based on Vedic system.
- To display Atma vrata (self-control) and to do this, the king had to abandon six enemies – kama (lust), krodha (anger), lobha (greed), mana (vanity), mada (haughtiness), and harsha (overjoy).

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Importance of Arthashastra in relation to modern times

- The most renowned Indian political philosopher Kautilya lived a long time ago but his philosophies are still applicable in the modern framework. The important elements established by Kautilya are governance, politics, quality and progress are to be directly linked to the welfare of the people.
- The older terminologies used in Arthashastra might be changed but nature and intention with which it was created remains the same and is still applicable in today's scenario.
- Kautilya also provided for a basis of economic science and its elements like foreign trade, taxation, public expenditure, agriculture and industry.
- According to Kautilya, there is stability where the rulers are responsive, accountable, removable and recallable. If any of these elements are not present there is uncertainty. In today's corruptive world this has become even more important.
- Kautilya also recommended that taxation should not be applicable heavily because then the general public will then not be willing to pay such a huge amount of taxes and will discover new and several methods to evade taxes. Thus Kautilya's views on various aspects of administration will remain a milestone for the generations to come.