

## **CHAPTER 4.4**

### **KUSHANAS**

#### **I. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN A WORD OR A SENTENCE EACH**

1. Which was the original home of the Kushanas?

A: China.

2. Who was the first ruler of the Kushanas?

A: Kujula Kadphesis or Kadphesis I.

3. Who was the greatest king of the Kushanas?

A: Kanishka.

4. Name the Chinese general who defeated Kanishka.

A: Pan-chao.

5. Which was the capital of Kanishka?

A: Purushapura (modern Peshawar)

6. Who influenced Kanishka to embrace Buddhism?

A: Ashwaghosha.

#### **II. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN TWO WORDS OR TWO SENTENCES.**

1. Why was the fourth Buddhist council held? When?

A: The fourth Buddhist council held to settle disputes existing in Buddhism at that time.

2. Write any two measures of Kanishka for the spread of Buddhism?

A: a) Buddhism was given royal patronage and it was also extended to Buddhism monks.

b) Viharas and monasteries were built for the use of the monks.

## II ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN 15 TO 20 SENTENCES EACH.

1. Explain the achievements of Kanishka.

A: Kanishka was the greatest king of the Kushanas. He found Saka era in 78CE. He successfully expanded his empire through conquests, and it consisted of Bactria, Persia, Afghanistan, Punjab and a large portion of Sind. He conquered Kashmir, where he built many monuments. He laid the foundation of a town 'Kanispura' (present day Srinagar). He waged a war against Magadha and captured it. He waged a series of battles against the Saka-Satrapas of Punjab and Mathura and finally established his supremacy.

The Kushanas had suffered defeat against the Chinese king and had to pay annual tribute. Kanishka stopped paying this and invaded China. But the Chinese general Pan-Chao defeated him. Kanishka made more preparations and attacked again. Pan-chao had died and his son, Pan-chiang was the new general. Kanishka emerged victoriously and annexed three Chinese provinces- Kashgar, Yarkhand, Khothan. Kanishka was the first ruler to establish territories outside India.

His empire extended from Kashgar in the north, Sindh in the south, Benaras in the east and Afghanistan in the west.

2. Describe the chief characteristics of the Gandhara School of Art.

A: The Gandhara School of Art is a blend of Indian and Greek art. The chief characteristics are:

- a) Life size statues of Gautama Buddha was carved. Until then, only symbols like lotus, umbrella was used to show Buddhist existence.
- b) While carving, utmost care was given to symmetry of body including muscles and moustaches which were shown in a natural setting.
- c) Even the folds and turns of the clothes were exhibited with minute care and skill.
- d) The ornaments on the statue was very beautifully made and added to the beauty of the statue.
- e) Polishing of the statues is an important feature of the art.
- f) The statues were prepared in stone, terracotta and clay.
- g) The technique used in making the statues were Greek but the inspiration and the personality was Indian.