



LESSON-14

THE FIRST EMPIRE

NOTES:

- Chandragupta Maurya founded the Mauryan Empire, he was guided by Chanakya to become the king.
 - Chanakya was appointed as the Prime Minister.
 - Chandragupta was a great warrior and ruler.
 - He was succeeded by his son Bindusara.
 - Again Bindusara was succeeded by his son Ashoka, who was the most famous of the Mauryan kings.
 - He wanted to be the emperor of the whole India.
 - To consolidate his empire, he undertook military campaign against Kalinga.
 - He defeated Kalinga in a bloody war and annexed it.
 - The sight of the large scale carnage moved Ashoka. It marked the turning point in the life of Ashoka.
 - He stopped all the forms of violence and became a strict vegetarian.
 - He became a devout Buddhist and began to spread the teaching of Buddha.
 - He believed that high ideal could lead people to live peacefully and co-exist in a harmonious environment. This was called Dhamma of Ashoka.
 - Ashoka built a number of rock edicts and pillars to spread the message of Buddhism.
 - Ashoka appointed Dhamma Mahamattas to do the welfare of the Dhamma.
 - He even sent his son and daughter to Sri-Lanka to spread Buddhism outside India.
 - The king was the head of the administrative system of the Mauryans.
 - The Mauryans were well known for their administrative system of urban administration, provincial administration and military administration.
-