



Pillar erected by King Asoka, mid-third Century BCE, Polished sandstone



Lion capital of a pillar erected by King Asoka,
Sarnath, mid-third Century BCE, Polished sandstone



Later representation of a Dharma Wheel
Eight spokes for the Eightfold Path



An Indian soldier is reflected on an official emblem of the government of India during a military anniversary celebration.





Remains of Bharhut stupa, maybe built by Asoka



The Buddha represented as a stupa (aniconic)
Bharhut, red sandstone, early 1st century, BCE

Most Bharhut artwork is now in Calcutta's Indian Museum.



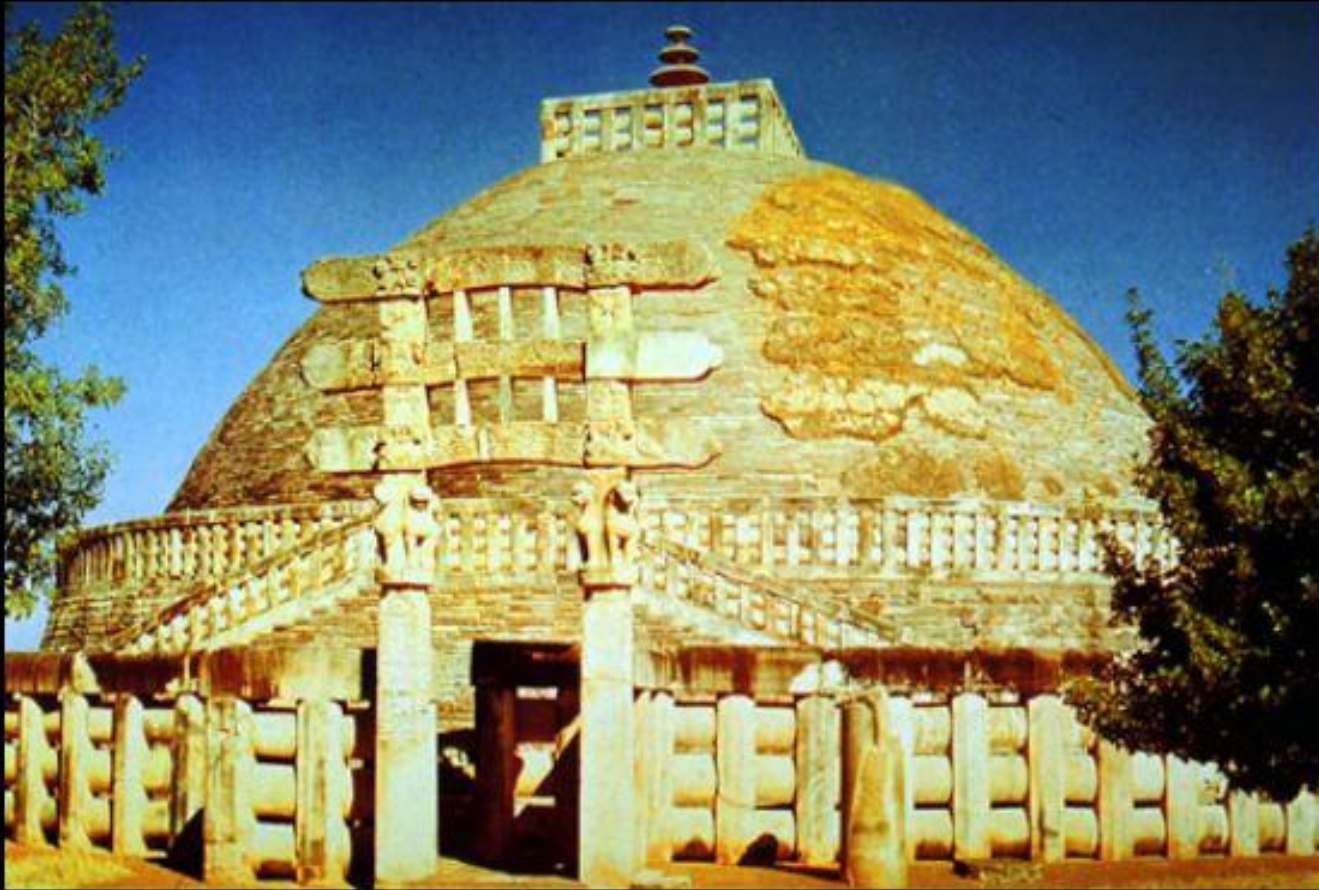
The Buddha represented as the Bodhi Tree
The Naga King pays respect.
Bharhut, 1st century, BCE



The Buddha represented as a Dharma Wheel, Bharhut



Bharhut yaksha and yakshi. The yaksha is now worshipped locally as Hanuman.



Great Stupa at Sanchi
limestone 150-50 BCE Sunga period Madhya Pradesh India



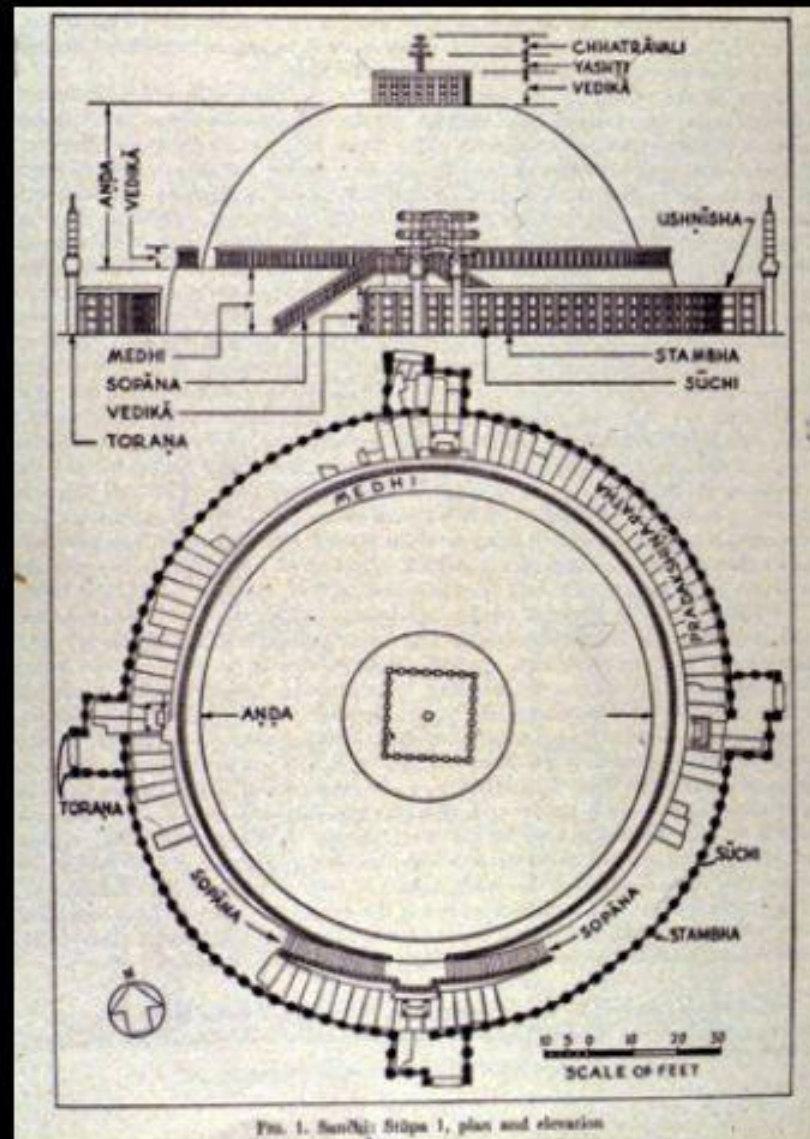


FIG. 1. Sanchi: Stupa 1, plan and elevation

Diagram of the Great Stupa of Sanchi



1. A square, elevated platform supports the rest of the structure. Devotees circumambulate clockwise around it.
2. The body (*anda*) of the stupa, shaped like an inverted bowl or bell
3. A tapering neck which extends upward from the body of the bell
4. A pole (*yasti*), which symbolizes the world axis
5. A square railing (*harmika*) which encloses the pole as a sacred space
6. A set of umbrellas (*chattras*) centered on the pole and diminishing in diameter towards the top, which signify honor and protection like the umbrellas held over the head of kings, abbots, and other important people.





Left: The *Triratna* or "Three Jewels" symbol, on a Buddha footprint (bottom symbol, the top symbol being a dharmachakra). 1st century CE, Gandhara.

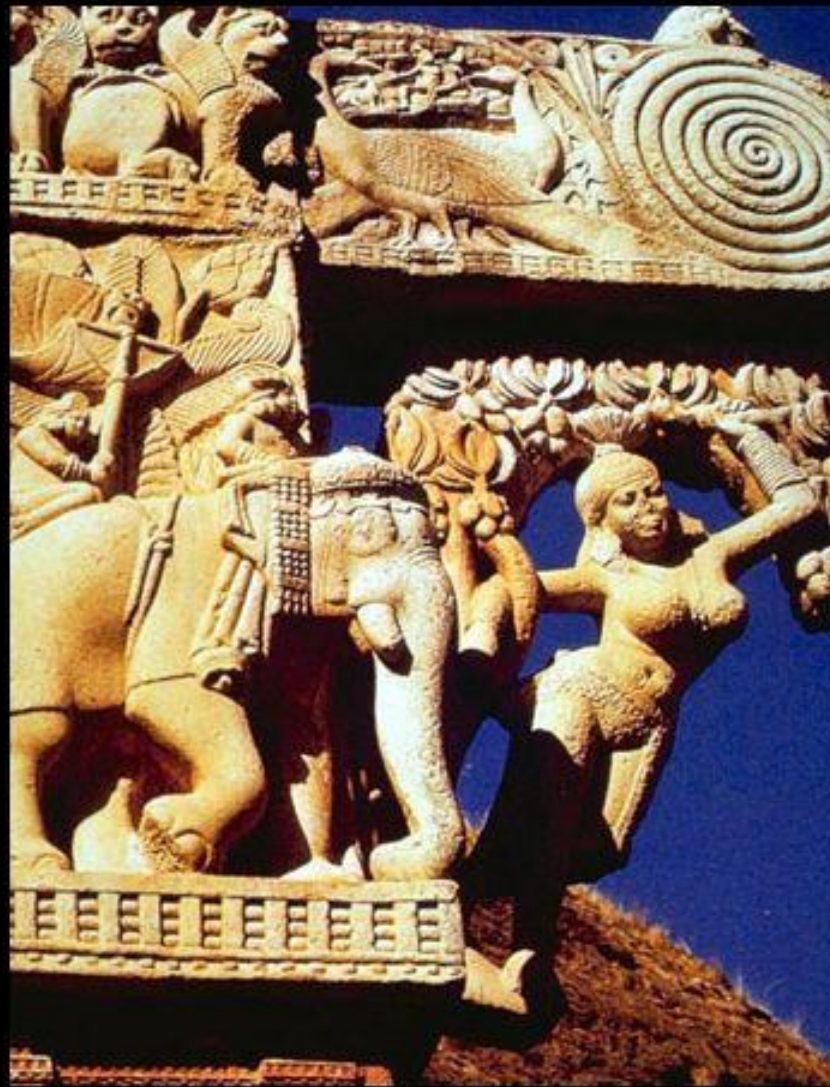




Bottom of the western *torana* shows a scene from the
Chhadanta Jataka.

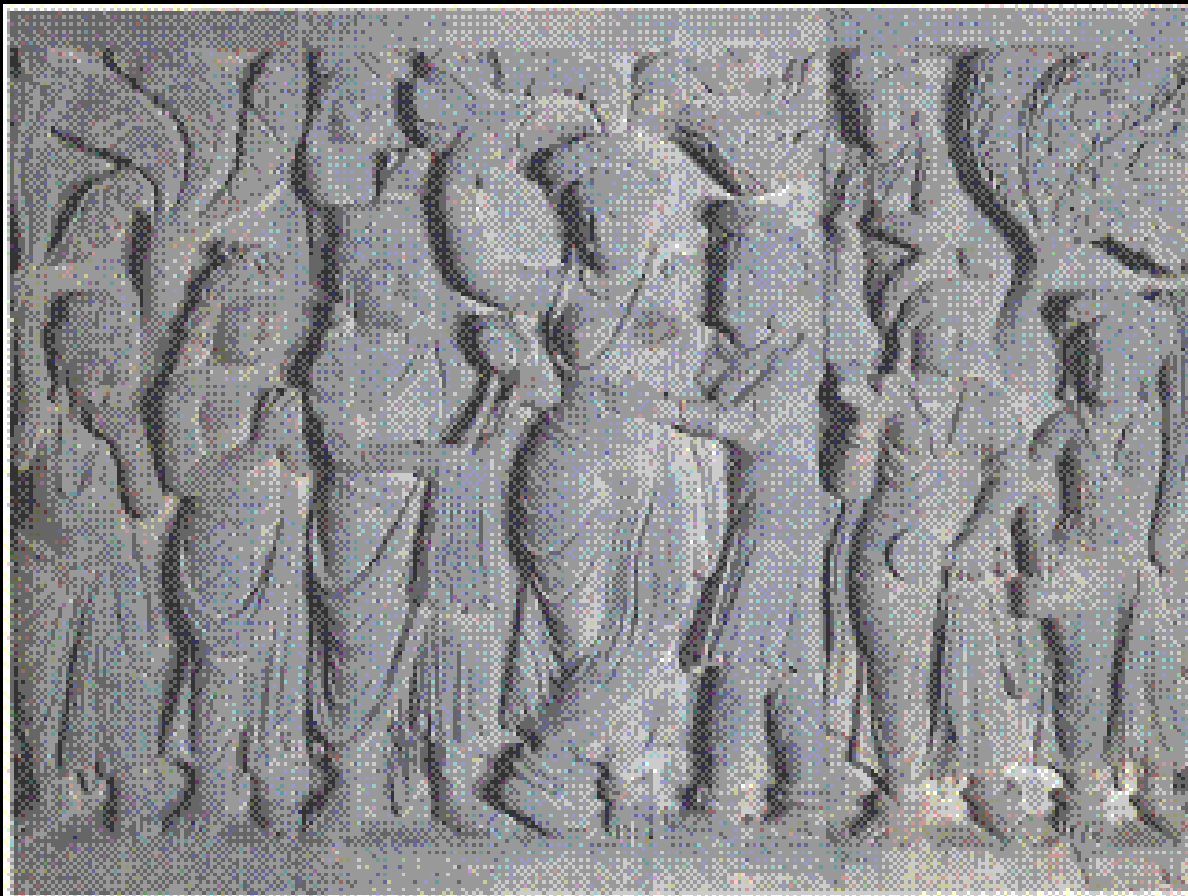
The Bodhisattva was an elephant-king Chhadanta (seen
with multiple tusks in the center on either side of the
tree).





Yakshi on the east Torana of the Great Stupa at Sanchi
First century CE

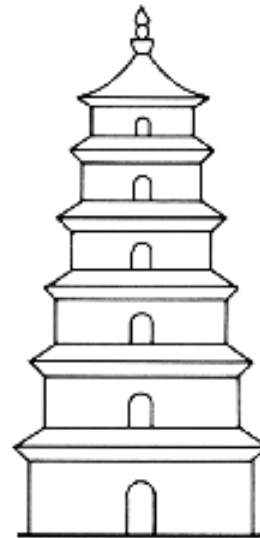
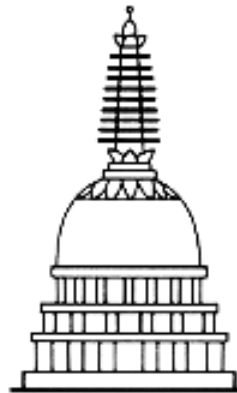
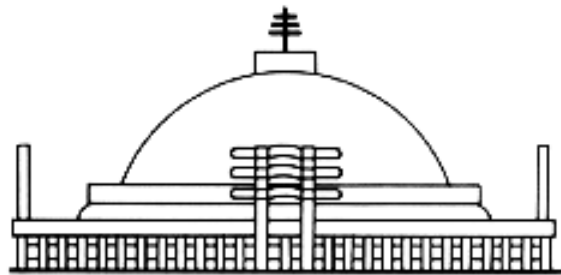




Birth of the Buddha, Gandhara, 2nd century CE
(notice similarity with Sanchi torana yakshi)

EVOLUTION OF BUDDHIST ARCHITECTURE.

- a. Early Indian stupa. 3rd century to early 1st centuries B.C.
- b. Later Indian Stupa. 2nd century A.D.
- c. Chinese pagoda. 5th–7th centuries.
- d. Japanese pagoda. 7th century.





Coin with depiction of Buddha, gold, 1st-2nd century CE King Kanishka

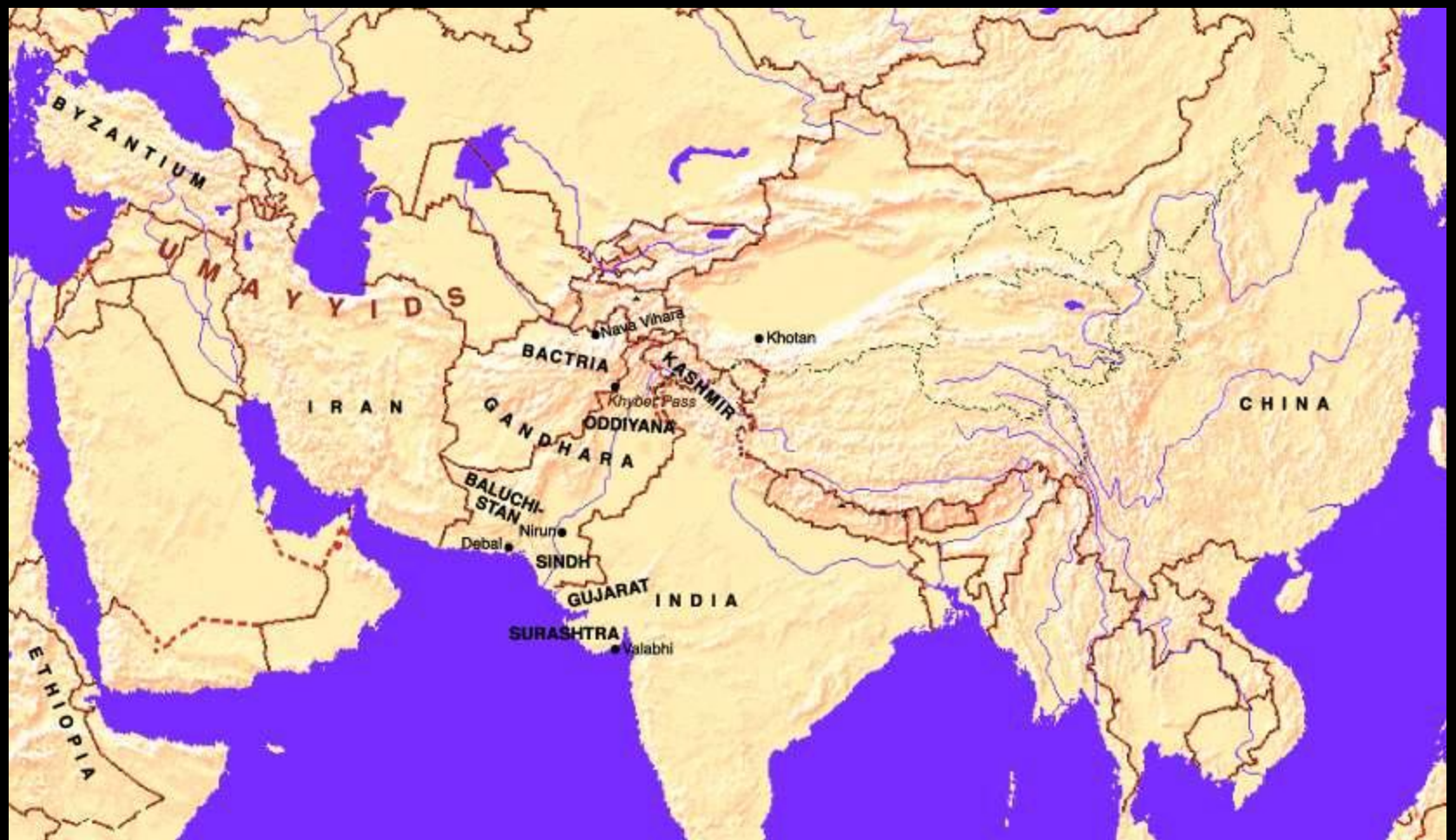


Coin of Kanishka with the Bodhisattva Maitreya





2nd cent. CE. Left: Gandhara, Right Katra mound, Mathura



Barabar Hills, Lomas Rsi and Sudama's Caves

Dynasty/Period: Maurya, mid 3rd century BCE, 299 BCE - 250 BCE

Architecture: rock-cut

Copyright Holder: Huntington, John C. and Susan L. **Photo Year:** 1984



Lomas Rsi cave interior



Barabar Hills, Lomas Rsi cave entrance



Mahabodhi Temple.

Around 250 BC, about 250 years after the Buddha's enlightenment, Asoka visited Bodh Gaya to establish a monastery and shrine.



The Bodhi Tree at the Mahabodhi Temple. Propagated from the Sri Maha Bodhi, which in turn is propagated from the original Bodhi Tree at this location.



Ajanta caves from a distance



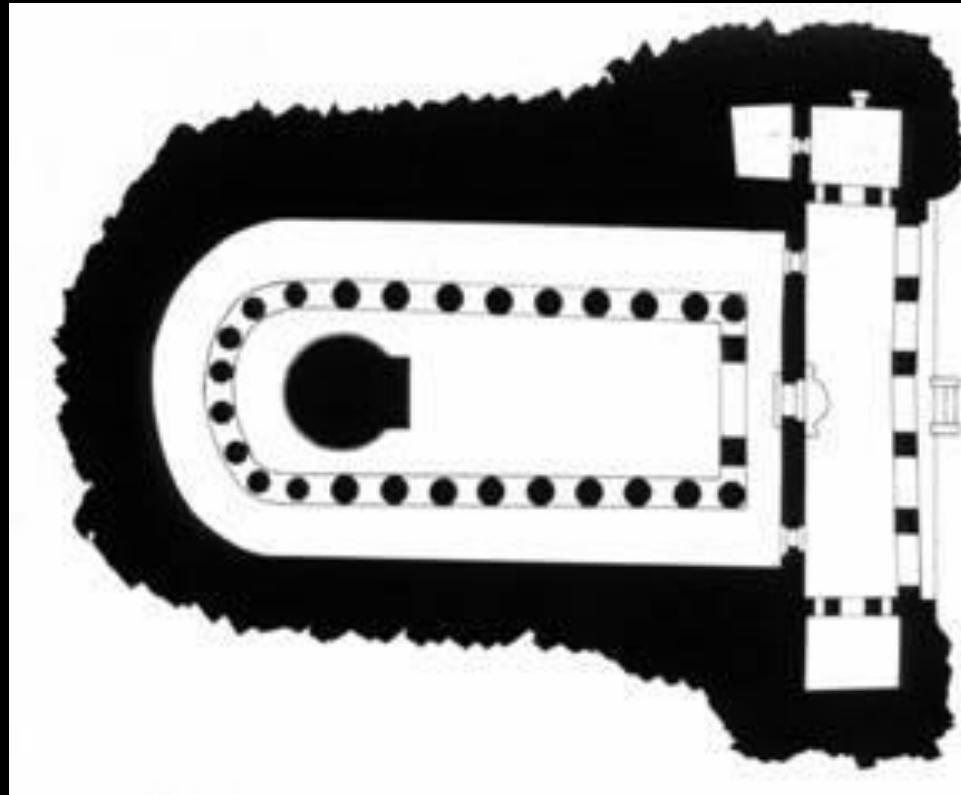


Diagram of cave at Ajanta



Padmapani and Vajrapani, Cave One, Ajanta

Cave 1 at Ajanta



Cave 1 at Ajanta, shrine at center rear.

Buddha figure (unidentified).

Gestures: dharmacakra mudra (teaching gesture), seated

Date: ca. late fifth century CE, 460 CE - 495 CE

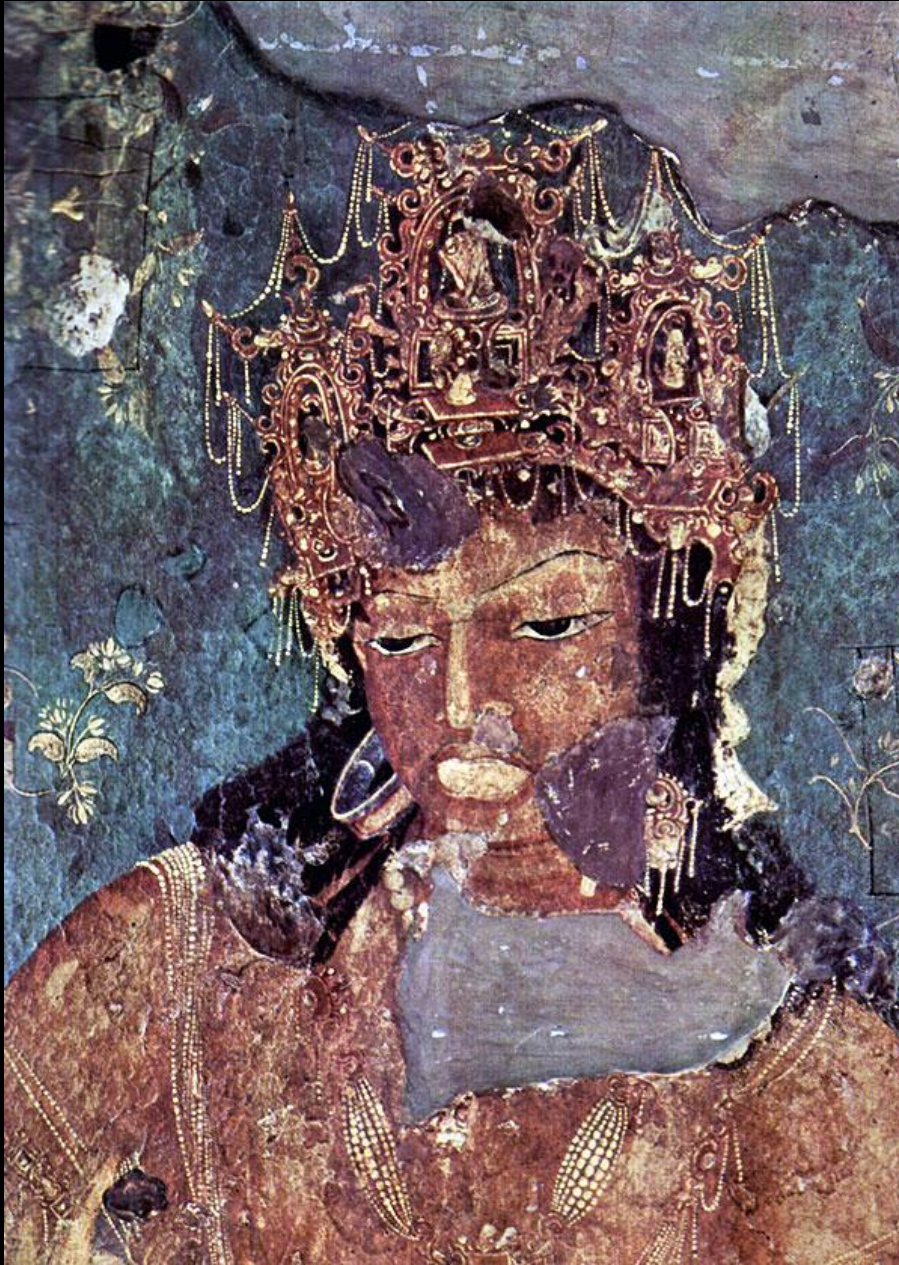


Ajanta mural depicting Vajrapani



- Ajanta, Cave 1, antechamber, interior, rear wall, right side, from group
- **Dynasty/Period:** Vakataka
- **Date:** late 5th century, 450 CE - 499 CE
- **Copyright Holder:** Huntington, John C. and Susan L.
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Ajanta, Cave 1, antechamber, interior, rear wall, right side.
From mural depicting Vajrapani, Vajrapani head (close-up).



Scriptures say:
Bow eyebrows
Lotus eyes
Lions body

Ajanta,

Mahajanaka Jataka, Cave 1



- Ajanta, Cave 1, front wall, mural at right end
- **Dynasty/Period:** Vakataka
- **Date:** late 5th century, 450 CE - 499 CE
- **Material:** pigment
- **Copyright Holder:** Huntington, John C. and Susan L.
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Mahajanaka Jataka, Cave 1 at Ajanta

The future Buddha as Mahajanaka, whose kingdom was usurped by his wicked uncle. Mahajanaka became a merchant to gain the fortune that would allow him to regain his kingdom. After many years his uncle died without sons, and his daughter Sivali was only allowed to marry a man who fulfilled certain conditions. Mahajanaka was able to do these, married her and regained his kingdom.

This picture shows a scene from palace life, in which Mahajanaka sits on his throne, watching a dance performance arranged for his amusement by Sivali, who clearly has eyes only for him. Their high status is shown by rich jewelry and ornamentation, and by the servants surrounding them.

Cave 2 at Ajanta, interior, back of cave, center portion, main shrine, view from south, looking north

Vairocana and two bodhisattvas.





Hariti with a Child in Her Lap.

Ajanta ceiling painting



- Ajanta, Cave 17, veranda ceiling
- **Dynasty/Period:** Vakataka
- **Date:** late 5th century, 450 CE - 499 CE **Material:** pigment
- **Copyright Holder:** Huntington, John C. and Susan L. **Photo Year:** 1985

Ajanta cave 19 ceiling

