

**A PROJECT REPORT  
ON  
“ INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT THINKERS”**

**SUBMITTED BY**

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## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the Project Report title “ **INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT THINKERS** ” the completed by Dharavath akhila, bhukya.Roja under the guidance of T.pavani guest DL in Political science. This work or any part thereof has not been submitted to any other degree or University for any other degree or certificate.



LECTURER



PRINCIPAL

# INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT THINKERS

## KOUTILYA SAPTHANGA THEORY AND MANDALA THEORY

### ARTHASATHRA



### INTRODUCTION:

- ❖ Born in 350 BC (time of Alexander and his guru Aristotle).
- ❖ Studied at started teaching there.

- ❖ Patliputra: Head of Sungha( organization helping poor people.
- ❖ Patliputra was capital of Magadh Empire ruled by Dhananand .
- ❖ Insult of Kautilya by Dhananand and Kautilya pledge to overthrow.
- ❖ Met Chandragupta: trained.
- ❖ Established Maurya Empire.
  
- ❖ Chief Advisor (PM) to Chandragupta.
- ❖ Continued PM till Bindusar and then left the empire.

### Arthashastra:

- ❖ It was first discovered in 1904 and translated into German by Jacobi in 1909.
- ❖ it consists of 15 books, 150 chapters and 180 topics.
- ❖ First five books: Internal matters of State.
- ❖ 6 to 13 books: External matters of state.
- ❖ 14-15 books: other issue of states.
- ❖ It classified 34 departments of government.
- ❖ Arthashastra belongs to Dandashastra and is also known as Nitishastra.
- ❖ State Craft is the main focus of Arthashastra. However it also discusses Dharma and we see the continuity between Manu and Kautilya.

### Meaning:

- ❖ Kautilya defines State Craft as Arthashastra. 'Arth' denotes material well being. According to him, the most important objective of the king is to secure the material well being of his people.

'Material Well-being is supreme, attainment of all other goals-Dharma, Kama, Moksh depends on Material Well being'.

- ❖ In ancient times, land was the main source of securing material well being.
- ❖ Hence, the main idea of Arthashastra: How to acquire land.
- ❖ It is natural for a state to go for acquiring land.
- ❖ The first land to be acquired is the land of neighbor.

- ❖ Because neighbours are natural enemies.
- ❖ Hence the relations between 2 states are the RELATIONS OF WAR.
- ❖ Thus, Arthashastra deals with Art of War.
- ❖ Arthashastra can be considered as the 'First textbook in Geopolitics'.  
Geopolitics: Science of Capturing Land.

### Saptang Theory:

The word "Saptang" indicates seven limbs, constituents or elements. Together, they constitute the State as an organism, "like a chariot. composed of seven parts fitted and subservient to one another".

- ❖ It explains the seven limbs of the state. Which also means seven elements of sovereignty.
- ❖ it is an example of organic theory of state.
- ❖ Kautilya systematic view of state. those seven elements are:

### Seven elements of sovereignty:



### **KING:**

- ❖ King is the centre of the state. It is difficult to replace a personality.
- ❖ King plays the most important role.
- ❖ If king is strong and other elements of sovereignty are weak, the strong and the smart King can convert the elements of weakness into elements of strength.
- ❖ If other elements are strong but if king is weak it will lead to over all weakness.
- ❖ Kautilya emphasizes that King should not be arrogant and give attitude recognition of other element.
- ❖ State is a system of interdependence.
- ❖ In his words 'in the happiness of the subject lies the happiness of the king.

### **Amatya: Senior Minister**

- ❖ They are mostly Brahmins.
- ❖ The most important among them is the ambassador who is representative of the King / state.
- ❖ King should choose him very carefully. He should be a trusted person and well-versed in Shastra.
- ❖ He suggested that the king should have at least 3 Amatyas, two can inspire against, even then one will stay with king. King should have constant vigil on ministers.
- ❖ Amatyas can challenge the power of the king. He will suggest King should keep testing integrity of ministers from time to time.

### **Durga: Fort**

- ❖ Maurya Empire is known for different types of forts.
- ❖ Kautilya mentions different forts on hill, water or desert.
- ❖ Forts are the symbols of defensive and offensive capabilities of state.
- ❖ Hence King should be constructing forts.

### **Janpadh: Territory**

- ❖ Places where common man lives, operates, conducts business and various activities.
- ❖ It is very important as it provides economic resources.
- ❖ King has to ensure that his people are happy.
- ❖ Even in case of territory Kautilya suggests to use spies to remain in touch with public mood.
- ❖ Kautilya has given a detailed account of spies. He mentions at least 10 types of spies to be used both for external and internal purposes.

### **Bala: Military Strength**

- ❖ According to him, army should be comprised of Kshatriyas.
- ❖ He believes in hereditary basis of recruitment.
- ❖ However, if need arises, other varnas can also be incorporated.
- ❖ Even as far as king is concerned, Kautilya is not particular about varna.
- ❖ He mentions that king can be of any varna but preferably Kshatriya.

### Kosha: Treasury

It should be sufficient to the extent that not only the king is able to fulfill his routine obligations he is able to meet any sort of emergency.

### Mitra: Ally

- ❖ Friends have a symbolic importance.
- ❖ As there is no permanent friend/ enemy and it is difficult to identify who is real and who is pretending.
- ❖ are symbol of strength of king.
- ❖ Everyone wants to be the friend of the strong.
- ❖ Hence if country loosing friends to enemy, it is a serious concern.
- ❖ Example: Maldives, Sri Lanka and Nepal getting close to China.

### Basic Principle of Mandal Theory:

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1. Neighbour is a natural enemy.
2. Neighbour's neighbor is a natural friend.
3. Greater is the distance, lesser is the enemy.
4. All friendship in international sphere is guided by interest and convenience.
5. Relations can't be taken for granted.

### 12 Kings

#### Kautilya mentions different kings in forward direction.

1. King
2. Ari
3. Mitra
4. 4.Ari Mitra
5. Mitra Mitra
6. Ari Mitra Mitra

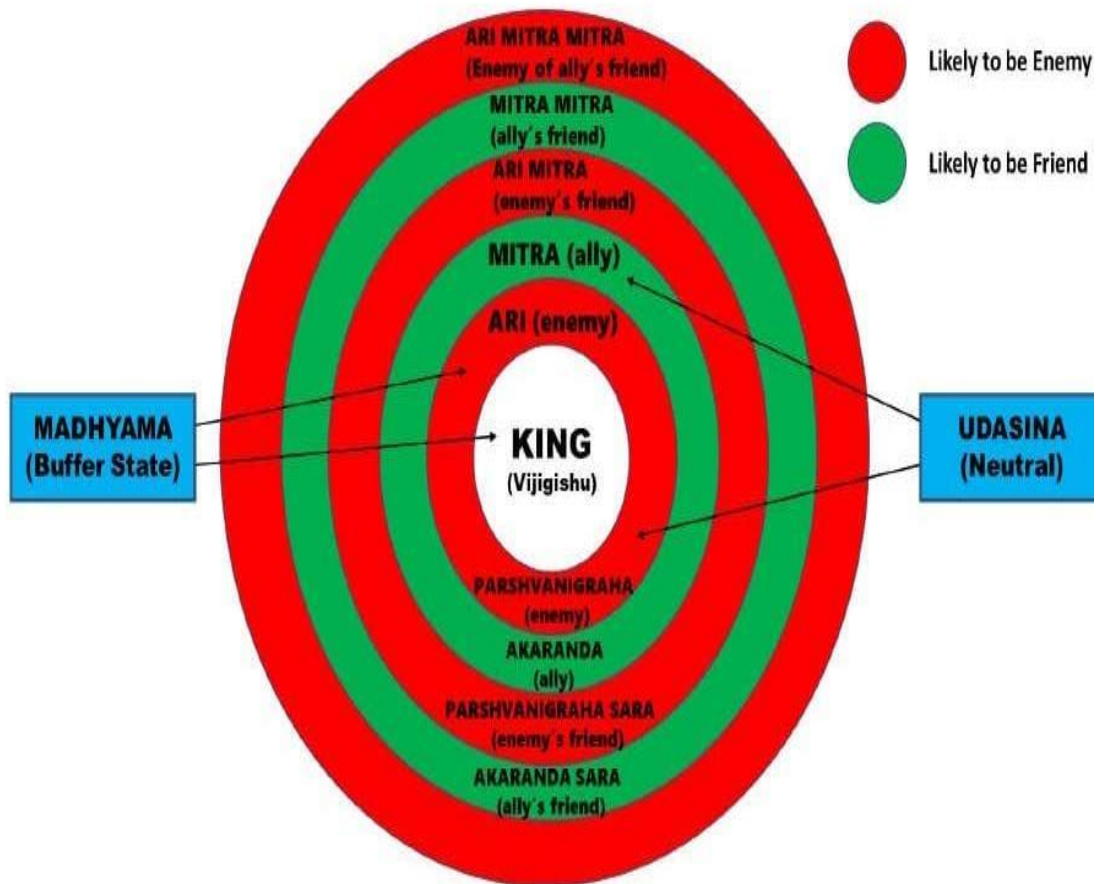
#### Kautilya mentions four kings in backward direction:



7. Parshvanighra
8. Akranda
9. ParshavanighraSara
10. Akrandasara

He gives two other kings:

11. Udasina(Neutral): During war if other countries accept the status of any country as neutral, then that country has to give equal access to its territory to both countries in War. Ex: Switzerland.
12. Madhyana(Buffer State): It is a smaller state between two major powers. Its purpose is to avoid 2 major powers coming into state of direct confrontation.
13. Ex: Nepal is ideal buffer zone between India and China.



### KOUTILYA "S MANDALA THEORY:

Mandala theory, regional states are grouped in a circle and are numbered. Kautilya suggests that any states located on the other side of an enemy state can be considered an ally. The most obvious reason for this categorization seems to be the concept of 'sand- wicking the enemy.'

- ❖ Rajdharma-Kshatriya Dharma i.e. war.
- ❖ After coronation, King has to start expedition.
- ❖ According to Kautilya, King should have the desire to become 'Chakravarti Samrat'.
- ❖ He addresses the King as 'Vijigishu' (one who aspires for victory).
- ❖ Mandala Sindhantis based on the concept of Geopolitics.
- ❖ According to Geopolitics, State is organism. Organism has to grow. For that it has to expand.
- ❖ If it does not expand it will perish.
- ❖ Thus, States are expansionist by nature.

### **ShadgunaNiti(6 Fold Policy)**

King can adopt following options depending on situation.

- ❖ 1. Sandhi (Treaty) : If enemy is strong, go for sandhi. Ex: Shimla agreement (Pak-Ind).
- ❖ 2. Vighra: Break sandhi when you become strong.
- ❖ 3. Asana (to sit): Stationing of forces near enemy's territory.
- ❖ 4. Yana (Movement): Military exercises near enemy territory.
- ❖ 5. Samashrya (Objective): Join hands with those who have similar objectives. Ex: Quad (to contain China).
- ❖ 6. Dvaidh bhava (Dual Policy): Friendship with one, enmity with other. Don't go for war at two fronts.

### **Four Upayas:**

- ❖ 1. Sam: Peace i.e. entry into treaty
- ❖ 2. Dam: Economic Diplomacy
- ❖ 3. Danda: use of Forces
- ❖ 4. Bheda: division i.e. creating separatist tendencies

### **Types of War:**

1. Parkrama Yuddha: Direct/ open war
2. Koot Yuddha: Guerilla Warfare
3. Tushnim Yuddha: Proxy war

### **Three types of Victories:**

1. Dharmavijaya: By rightful means

2. Lobhavijaya: Economic inducements to enemy's army
3. Asurvijaya: By unfair means

**Origin of State: Same as Manusamriti**

Same as Manusamriti

**Duties of King**

Same as Manusamriti.