CHAPTER II

GEOGRAPHICAL DIVISIONS OF ANCIENT INDIA.

NINE KHANDAS:

According to the various Purāṇas, Bhāratavarṣa or India forms one of the Varṣas (divisions) of the great continent called Jambudvīpa. Bhārata is one of these Varṣas, and is situated in the far South of this continent. The Himalayan ranges separate it from the Kimpurṣavarga which may thus be identified with Tibet. On the South it was bounded by the Sea, by which are obviously meant the three Seas of the present day - the Bay of Bengal (Purvaśāgara) in the East, The Indian Ocean (Dakṣinājalanidhi) in the South proper and the Arabian Sea or the (Pasimapayodhi). The Purāṇas further subdivide Bhāratavarṣa into nine regions (Khandas) which according to the Markandeya Purāṇa are the following:

1. Indradvīpa
2. Kesarumāna
3. Tamraparnava
4. Gabhastimān
5. Magadvīpa
6. Saumya
7. Gandharva
8. Varuna
9. The 'one enroled by the Sea', which is specifically named as Kumaṇa by Vāmana and Kumārika by the Skanda.
Rajaśekhara has also given this division into regions, in his Kavyāśāstra, and he too names the ninth region as Kūmaṇīdvipa. However, all these regions would make Bharata much larger than the present extent of India. Some overlapping is obvious. For instance, Tamraparnī, which is evidently named after the river Tamraparnī, in the Tirunelveli district must have included in the Kūmaṇī-kshāma. Some scholars are of the opinion that Kūmaṇī-kshāma alone represents the whole of India since it is said to be inhabited by the Kīratas in the extreme East, by the Yavanas in the West, and by the four castes in the centre.

Five Divisions

However, the division into five regions as adopted in many ancient works seems to represent the actual state of affairs. The Vaṁśabharata seems to divide India into five divisions. In the Sabhaparva, besides the four quarters, the conquest of Magadha is treated separately. Three of the Purāṇas, Viṣṇu, Vayu and Matsya agree with the Vaṁśabharata. Rajaśekhara also speaks of the five regions. According to him the eastern region is the part of the country to the east of Vaṁśaṇi. This includes Kṛṣṇa, Kaliṇī, Kosala, Pāta, Uttara, Magadha, Vaiṣṇava, Ceylon, Pundran, Pragjyotisha, Tārnalita, Malaya, Kaliyattam, Sūna and Brāhmatātra etc. The mountains of this region are
Arhadgha, Lohitagiri, Cakora, Dardura, Nepūla and Kamarpūpa. The big rivers are Sona, Lanhitya, Gaṅga, Karatoyā and Kapīśā. The chief products are the aloe, wood, grapes, musk etc. Daksināpatha or the southern region lies beyond Mahismati. It consists of Mahāṣṭra, Māhiṣaka, Kūmāra, Vidarbha, Kuntala, Krathakaśīka, Sūrprakata, Kanā, Keral, Kāvera, Mūralla, Vanavāsaka, Simhala, Coda, Dandaka, Pāndya, Pallava, Gaṅga, Mīṣikya, Kanakana, Kollagiri and Vāllāra etc. The chief mountains are the Vindhyā, Mahendra, Malaya, Mekala, Pālamañjara, Sahya, Śriparvata etc. The chief rivers are Marmadā, Tāptī, Payosni, Godāvarī, Kaverī, Bhairavathī, Venā, Kṛṣnavenā, Vaṁjura, Tuṅgabhadrī, Taṁraparṇī, Utpalāvatī and Kāvanagaṅgā.

The western region lies beyond Devasabhā. It consists of Devasabhā, Šūrāstra, Daśeraka, Travana, Bhṛguasaḥa, Khartta, Arbuda, Brāhmaṇavāha, Yavana etc. The chief mountains are Govardhana, Girinagara, Devasabhā, Malaśikhra and Arbuda. Its rivers are Sāravati, Śvabhraṅvī, Vartaghī, Mahī and Hidimvē. The characteristic products are Karira, Pilu, Guggula, Date Paḷas, Karabha etc.

The northern region or Uttarāpatha is the territory beyond Uttarapatha. It consists of Saka, Kekaya, Vakkaśa, Hūna, Vānayuja, Kambaja, Vahlika, Pahlava, Līmaṇka, Kulūta, Kīra, Taṅgana, Turāra, Turukka, Bar breaches, Harahūra (Māraṅgana?) Vahūnaka (Kuhunaka) Haṁsaṅgīrga, Ramaṇa and Karakantha. The chief mountains are Himālaya, Kalīṇa,
Indrākīla and Candrācalā. The rivers are Gaṅga, Sīndhu, Sarasvatī, Sataḍru, Candrabhāgā, Yamunā, Drāvati, Vītāśa, Vipāśa, Kuhu and Devikā. The products are Sarala, Devadāru, grapes, saffron, Chowries, deer-skin, Sauvīra, Salt, Vaidūrya, and horses.

Between these four regions lies the Madhyadesā for which he quotes Manus, according to whom the land between the Himalayas and the Vindhayas, which is to the east of Vīnāśa and to the west of Prayāga, is called Madhyadesā. These five divisions of India seem to have been the popular division of the country. The five Indo of Huen Tsang are obviously the above mentioned five regions of India.

1. MADHYADEśA

The division in the Markandeya Purāṇa is similar but the names of the countries differ here and there. This Purāṇa mentions the following countries as constituting the Madhyadesa:

1. MAŚYAs.—It consisted of the present day districts of Jaipur, Alwar and parts of Bharatpur. Its capital was Vīrāṭanagar.

2. ĀŚVAKūṭAS.—A country or a people of this name are unknown otherwise.

3. KULūTAS.—A people of this name are also unknown otherwise. Law suggests that it may be a misreading for Kulūtas but the Kulūtas belong to the Northern region and cannot be placed in Madhyadesa.
4. **KUNTALE**—They are to be distinguished from the well-known people of this name in the South. They may be located in the Mirzapur District of U.P., as Cunningham mentions a region called Kuntila near Chunar.

5. **KASI**—It is a very ancient kingdom and finds mention in early Brahmanical literature as well as in the Buddhist literature in the list of the sixteen Mahajanapadas. Its capital was also named Kas which later on came to be known by the alternative appellation of Varanasi. In course of time it was absorbed into the Magadhan empire.

6. **KOSALE**—It is obviously the Uttarakosa or Oudha and comprises the modern districts of Bara Banki, Faizabad, Gonda and Bahraich. According to the Epics, its capital was Ayodhya or Saketa in the Faizabad District. In the time of the Buddha however, Sravasti, the ruins of which are now represented by the twin villages of Sahat Mahat, was the capital. The famous Buddhist monastery of Jatavara was situated here.

7. The next two names Atharvaa and Arkaliynes are in all probability due to a misreading. No such countries are otherwise mentioned as situated in the Madhyadesa, the Kingdoms of which were so well-known that Rajasekhara felt it to be quite unnecessary to mention them specifically.

8. **MALAKAS**—No such people are otherwise known. Pargiter emends it as Malajes and locates them in the western position of the Shahabad District.
9. **Vrkas**:— This country so far as its location in the Madhyadesa is concerned, cannot be identified.

It is really surprising that whereas the text of the Markandeya contains so many obscure names, it leaves out some well-known countries such as Kurus, Panéslas, Śrēnasas and Vatasas. It is obvious that the text has not been handed down faithfully.

II. **Udīgyas — Northern Region**:

The Markandeya next mentions the countries of the North(Udīgyas). The first in the list are the Vahlika.

1. **Vahlika**:— They are certainly to be distinguished from the Vahlikas, to be located in the valley of the Oxus. It is the same as Bactria of the Greeks, Bakhtar of the Persians and Balkh of modern times, in North-Eastern Afghanistan.

2. **Vatadhana**:— In the Mahābhārata they figure as the allies of the Kurus. According to B.C. Law they may be placed on the eastern side of the Sutlej. 10

3. **Abhra**:— They may be placed near Kalivanagam in Rajasthan where the river Sarasvati finally lost itself into the sands, on account of her hatred for the Sudras and Abhīras, as stated in the Mahābhārata. According to epigraphic and numismatic evidences, the Abhīras were in the neighbourhood of Nasik in the 2nd and 3rd centuries of the Christian era.

4. **Kīcātoyakas**:— The identification of this name remains unknown.
5. **APARANTAS** : The people living on the western coast of India have been termed as Aparanta. The name occurs in the 5th Book Edict of Asoka where they are grouped with Yonas, Kambojas, Gandharas, Rathikas and Pitikakas.\(^{11}\) Kalidasa also uses the general term Aparanta for the western coastal region of India beginning with Kshank.\(^{12}\) So we can locate them in the Thana, Kolaba(Alibag) and Ratnagiri Districts of Maharashtra.

6. **SUDRAS** : According to the Mahabharata they can be located in Rajasthan where the river Sarasvati loses itself in the sands. In the Mahabharyya also they are associated with the Ashirva.\(^{13}\)

7. **PALLAVAS** : The correct reading is Pahlava which is given by the Vayu Purana. They are usually identified with the Parthians.

8. **CARMAKHANDIKAS** : Probably they are the same as Carsoandalas of the Mahabharata. Pargiter identifies them with the people of Samarkand.

9. **GANDHARAS** : They are mentioned in the list of sixteen Mahajanapadas, where their capital Puskalavati is given. The ruins of Puskalavati have been excavated at Charsadda in the Peshawar district of Pakistan. Generally speaking Gandhara was regarded as the country stretching from Taxila in the East to the river Kabul in the West.
10. **GABALAS** :- This is obviously a misreading for Yavanas who are evidently the Indo-Greek who ruled in Bactria.

11. **SINDHU** :- This is Sindh in Pakistan.

12. **SAUVIRA** :- The districts to the North of Sindh i.e. Multan and Mianwali in Pakistan may be regarded as Sauvira. It is the Sophir of Ptolemy.

13. **NADRAKAS** :- They are the same as Madaya. Their capital was Sakala - modern Sialkot in Pakistan. Their territory covered the present day districts of Sialkot, Gujranwala and the adjoining parts of Gurdaspur in Pakistan and part of Jammu in India.

14. **SATARDUJAS** :- Some territory along the river Sutlej constituted a separate kingdom. This country may be identified with She-to-tu-le mentioned by Huen Tsang. In Cunningham's opinion the town of Sarhind was the capital of the Satarduajas. It is, however, more accurate to associate Sarhind with another people, the Saisindras. As a matter of fact the correct name of the place as given in some of the coins of the Maghals is Sahrends which is very close to Saisindra.

15. **KALINGAS** :- It is obviously a mistake. Kalinga, an eastern country, cannot be located in the North. It is a mistake for Kulind or Kuninda, a people whose coins have been discovered at Tappa Mowa in Hamirpur district of Himachal Pradesh and at Jwalasukhi in Kangra district.
Cunningham says that Kuninda coins are mainly found between Ambala and Saharanpur. The Kunindas are grouped by Varahamihir with Kshatriyas, Kulitas and Sairindhas. The same is identical with Kalindrain of Ptolemy who places them in the region where Beas, Sutlej and Jamna take their rise. Allan, is evidently right when he says that 'The Kunindas occupied a narrow strip of land at the foot of the Sivalik hills between the Jamna and the Sutlej and the territory between the upper courses of the Beas and Sutlej'.

16. VARADAS :- They were a hill-tribe. They seem to be wrongly placed in the North. In the thirteenth Rock Edict of Asoka they have been grouped with the Andhras which agrees exactly with their mention in the Aitareya Brahmana. They are most probably to be located in the neighbourhood of the Vindhyas mountains.

17. NATHARAS :- It is most probably a mistake for Nāmathas who are the inhabitants of the region where hinga was produced. In the Amarakosa, their country is associated with Vahlika.

18. HARA-BHUTIKAS :- This is again erroneous. Pargiter suggests Harahūnakas and he seems to be correct.

19. BAHU-BHĀDRAS :- There is no evidence to enable us to locate them definitely.

20. KAKKEYAS :- It corresponds the region called Pothohar in Western Punjab, Pakistan. Its king Āvapati, proudly claims that "there is no thief, no drinker of liquor, no one
undisciplined, what to speak of a wanton woman".

21. **DASAMALIKAS** :- They are mentioned in the **Mahabharata** also. Their identification, however, is not possible.

22. **KAMBOJAS** :- They have to be located in the extreme North-West of India. Their country was noted for a very fine breed of horses since the time of the **Ramayana**. They are wrongly described as non-Aryan, for **Yaska**, in his **Nirukta**, tells us that the root Savati in the sense of motion is spoken amongst the Kambojas. Yaska was treating the Vedic language. Dr. V. S. Agrawala placed the Kambojas in the Pasir region.

23. **DARDAS** :- They are the people inhabiting the region extending from Chitral and Yasin across the Indus region of Gilgit, Chilas and Bunji to the Kishanganga valley in the immediate North of Kashmir. It is the people of the upper Kishanganga valley who are repeatedly mentioned in the **Rajatarangini** of **Kalhana**. Though they are called Meschas but their kings bear Hindu names. Sir George Grierson, has specially noted a group of languages which he calls Dardic.

24. **BARABARAS** :- The Epics and the **Puranas** locate the Barabaras in the North or North-West. There is mention of a sea-port Barbaricum in the **Periplus** and Barbari in **Pliny's** account. Barbaricum is obviously connected with **Sanskrit** Barbara. A channel of the river Indus has been so called.
We can thus place the Barabaras near the one of the souths of the Indus.\(^\text{14}\)

25. **HARSĀVARDHANAS**: They are unknown.

26. **CINAS**: They are obviously people of Chinese origin who had settled along the North-Western border of India. The Mahābhārata associates them with the Kāśbojas whom we have located in the Pāsir Plateau.

27. **TUSKRAS**: Their country has been figured in the Chinese records as Tsa-hia. Its capital at the time of the Yue-Chi invasion was Badakshan. It may roughly be equated with Bactria.

28. **ATREYAS**: According to the Mahābhārata, they were the residents of Dvaita-vana.\(^\text{16}\) However, they are not the exclusive occupant of this forest. Other notable Brāhmaṇa families are also mentioned. Therefore it cannot be definitely said that the Atreyas of the Markandeya list are the residents of Dvaita forest.

29. **BHRADVAJAS**: According to B.C. Lai, they occupied the upper regions of the Ganges near the hills.

30. **PUSKALAS**: They seem to be connected with Puskalāvatī, the capital of Western Gandhāra and identified with the extensive ruins near Charadde in the Peshawar district of Pakistan.

31. **KṢERUKAS**: They may be the same as Kṣīikas and may be placed in Kushka, in North-Western Afghanistan.
32. LUMPKAS:— They are the inhabitants of Lämpak—modern Langan, in Afghanistan. Hemacandra has equated them with the Mirandas. 18

33. 'ŚULKARAS:— They may be the same as Śulikas or Cūlikas.

34. CŪLIKAS OR ŚULIKAS :— They are the people of Sogdiana.

35. JAMUDES :— It is equated by Watters with Tsan-ku-to of Hsien Tsang. The river Indus flows through their country. 19

36. AUPADES :— They may be the people who lived near Opian, which is just 160 kilometres to the East of Bamiyan by the route of Hajjar Pass and Ghurband Valley.

37. ANIMADRES :— It is not possible to locate them.

38. KIRATAS :— Kalidasa in the Kumārasambhava speaks of the Kiratas in the Himalayas.

39. TAMASAS :— The Vāyu Purāṇa and the Mahābhārata gives the variant Teṣaras.

40. HANSAMRGAS :— These people were living near Haisamrga or Kranācavāndhra, which is the modern Niti Pass in the Kumaun District. It provides a passage from India to Tibet.

41. KASITAS :— The people of Kashmir.

42. TUSGANAS :— They are perhaps the same as the Taṅganas of the Mahābhārata and the Vāyu Purāṇa. They have been located in Ladakh. 21
43. **Sūlikas** := They are sometimes identified with the Cūlikas. These people are to be located on the Oxus, as according to the Matsya Purāṇa, the river Cakṣa (Vañkus) flowed through their territory.

44. **Kuhakas** := It seems to be the same as Kao-fu of Hsien Tsang and may be located near Kapilī or Begrām.

45. **Urnās** := The people of Urnadesa on the Sutlej in its upper course.

46. **Darvas** := It is usually coupled with Abhisāra to form the compound Darvābhisāra. The Darvas may be, therefore, located in the lower and middle hills between the Jhelum and the Chenab, extending westwards so as to include the district of Kasara in Pakistan.

III. **PRACYA OR THE EASTERN REGION**

1. **Adhārakas** := The list of the eastern countries in the Markandeya Purāṇa begins with an enigmatic name Adhārakas. It is not possible to attempt their identification.

2. **Mudakaras** := It seems to be a corrupt reading. The correct name must have been Madagirikas — the people of Madagiri — modern Monghyr in Bihar, which was also known as Madgalapūrī.

3. **Antargirayas** := Jav has identified with the people dwelling in the hilly stretches of the Rajsahal ranges of the Santhal Parganas in Bihar.
4. **BAHIRGIRAH**: They may be regarded as the dwellers on the outskirts of the hills of Bhagalpur and Monghyr in Bihar.

5. **PRAVARAGAS**: Law has suggested that "they stand for the people who dwelt just in front of the Vaṅgas and they may be Aṅgas". 24

6. **PRAVEYAS**: It is obviously a mistake for Vaṅgaya as the people of Vaṅga. According to Buchanan, Vaṅga was the eastern part of the delta of the Ganges. He seems to be correct, for Kālidāsa also mentions the land situated between the various streams of the Ganges, where Rāghu set up his pillars of victory after having uprooted the Vaṅgas, whose main weapon was their navy.

7. **MILADAS**: It seems to be a misreading for Miladas who are mentioned as an eastern people in the Mahābhārata. Fargiter locates them in the modern district of Maldah in west Bengal.

8. **MALLAVARTHIKAS**: It is not possible to suggest a definite identification. They may be the neighbours, if not a branch of the Miladas.

9. **Brahmattarasa**: This again appears to be a misreading for Subhattarasa, the people living to the North of the Subhas.

10. **PRAVIJAYAS**: Nothing is known about their location.

11. **BHARGAVAS**: According to Law, they may be a branch of the Bhaggas or Bhargas of Subhasāragiri.
12. **Pragyotisas** := In the Mahabharata it is designated as a slesa kingdom whose king was Bhagadatta. According to Kalidasa's Raghuva\=i\=sa, Pratygotis\=a lay to the North of the Brahmaputra. 25

13. **Madv\=as** := They are evidently misplaced here.

14. **Videhas** := Videha is well-known from very ancient times. In the Satapatha Brahmana it is called Videgh. In the later Vedic period its king Janaka was famous for his knowledge and patronage of Br\=ahma\=nas. His capital, Mithila has been identified with Janakpur. It roughly corresponds to the modern districts of Muzzafarpur and Darbhanga in Bihar.

15. **N\=arakaliptas** := These people and their country is well-known. Narakalipta was a famous sea-port for intercourse with the eastern countries like Burma, China and South-East Asia. The Chinese Pilgrim set sail for China from this Port. It lies on the western bank of the river Supnarayana, in the Midnapur District of Bengal.

16. **Mallas** := They were one of the members of the Vajji confederacy. Kusinagara - modern Kasia where the Buddha died, was in the territory of the Mallas who claimed a share in the relics of the Buddha.

17. **Magadhas** := In the days of the Buddha, the kingdom of Magadha consisted of the present day districts of Patna and Gaya in Bihar. Its capital was Rajagrha, modern Rajgir. The
Magadhas were destined to play a glorious role in the history of India. The great empires of the Nandas, the Mauryas and the Guptas were built by the people of this land.

18. GONHTAS:— They are misplaced in the list. The country called Gomanta lies along the western coast of India, in Konkan. The present day Goa, represents the ancient name Gomanta.26

IV. DAKSINAPATHA OR THE SOUTHERN REGION:

1. PUNDAS:— The very first name of this list is misplaced here. Pundra or Pundravardhana is represented largely by the Rajshahi Division in Bangladesh. It may be if is a mistake for Pandyas, who are curiously enough omitted from the list.

2. KEVALAS:— This is obviously a scribal error for Kerals who are mentioned in the Matsya and Vayu Puranas as well as the Mahabharata. It is the present day state of Kerala.

3. GO-LANGULAS:— This again seems to be a mistake. No people of this name are otherwise known. It seems that some ignorant scribe has substituted this in place of Colas who are known since very early times. They are mentioned in the second Rock Edict of Ashoka as Caka. The Colas occupied the Coromandel coast bounded by the river Pennar on the North and by Coorg on the West. The Thanjavur district was included in it. Its capital was Uraiyyur (Sanskrit Uragpur) near Tivashirapalli. The Colas were destined to
play a glorious role in the early medieval period when their empire included not only the greater part of the Southern Peninsula but extended beyond the seas over the islands of the Pacific.

4. SAULGSAS := This is yet another error in the text of the Markandeya. The Vayu and the Matsya read SETAKAS, which according to Pargiter may represent the people living near Rameshvara.

5. MUSIKAS := They are the people occupying the valley of the river Musi, a tributary of the Krishna, in the Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh. Their capital Musikanagara is mentioned in the Hathigumpha inscription of Khāravela.

6. KUSUMAS := In place of this name, the Vayu Purana has Kumanas and the Matsya, Kupathas but all three are unknown. Pargiter suggests Kumaras which mean the Pallavas, whose capital was Kanchi.

7. MAMA-VASAKAS := It is again a scribal error. The correct name Vanavāsa is given by the Vayu-Purāṇa and the Mahābhārata. It is the ancient kingdom of Vanavāsi, which was bounded by the western Ghats and the rivers Tuṅgabhadra and Varada on which the capital itself was situated.27

8. MAHARĀSTRAS := This is quite well-known. The western districts of the present day state of this name formed
Maharashtra from early times. In the Aihoḷe inscription of Pulakāśīn II, three Mahārāstras are mentioned. In the days of Aśoka these were known as Rīṣṭika-Petenika or Lāthika-Petenika.

9. MAHISKAS: Law has wrongly identified them with the people of Mahismati on the Harnada. They are to be located on the eastern coast adjacent to Kaliṅga. It is to be noted that in the present list they are grouped with the Kaliṅgas and so also in the Purāṇas. We would, therefore, prefer to locate them near Kaliṅga.

10. KALIṆGAS: They are a pretty ancient people who find mention in the Rock inscription of Aśoka, who conquered this province after a fierce struggle, but soon after his death it regained its independence and reached a new pinnacle of glory under its powerful monarch Kharavela. It roughly corresponds to the present state of Orissa.

11. ABHĪRAS: Properly speaking the Abhīras should be put in the western or northern region. But it was a migratory tribe and might have occupied some parts of the Deccan sometimes.

12. VAIṢIKYAS: Nothing is known about them.

13. ADHAKYAS: Here again we have an incorrect reading. The Vāyu and the Matsya Purāṇas have Kṛtavṛs which may correspond to the Kṛtvika-rājyas of the Allahabad stone pillar inscription.
and may be identified with the Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand regions.

14. SABARAS: They were an aboriginal tribe and often grouped with Fulindas, Mutibas etc. They can be located in the interior of Orissa and in the Deccan Plateau.

15. FULINDAS: They are also an aboriginal people who find mention in the XII Rock Edict of Aśoka where they are grouped with the Andhras.

16. VINDHYA-MALIKAS: In the Vāyu-Purāṇa, they are called Vindhyamālikas which means they lived at the foot of the Vindhya mountain.

17. VIDARBHAS: These people and their country is well-known in Sanskrit literature. It finds mention in the Aitareya and Jaisini Brahmaṇas and the Mahābhārata. The present day districts of Amravati, Akola and Yavatmal roughly correspond to the ancient Vidarbha. Its capital Kundinapura is represented by the town of Kaundinyapura in Amravati district of Mahārāstra.

18. DANDAKAS: They are the people residing in the Dandaka forest which covered almost the whole of Central India from Bundelkhand to the source of the Godavari.

19. PAURIKAS: The Harivaśa mentions a city Purikā in the Mahismati kingdom. This may help us to locate the Paurikās in the country around Mahismati on the Narmada.
20. **Maulikas**: In the Nasik cave inscription of Gautamiputra's mother Balārī we have mention of a country called Maulika which is coupled with Asika. The Maulika may be placed in the valley of the river Mala which is a tributary of the Godavari.

21. **Asmakas**: They are the people of the country called Asika in the Nasik cave inscription of Gautamiputra Satakarni's reign. They may be placed near the Maulikas.

22. **Bhogavardhanas**: They occupied the districts of Nasik in Maharashtra. They are to be distinguished from the people of the Govardhana hill near Mathura.

23. **Nasiikas**: The correct form of this name seems to be Nasiikyas who may be placed in a part of the Nasik district of Maharashtra.

24. **Kuntalas**: The Kuntalas are a well-known people of the Deccan. Their country may roughly be located in the Shimerga district of Karnataka. During the rule of the Gālukyas its extent was very large. It extended from the river Harmadā in the North to the river Tūgabhadrā in the South and from the river Godavari in the East to the Arabian Sea in the West. It was also called Karmata. The Ārkandeya Purāṇa mentions one Kuntala in the South and also another in the Madhyadēva.

25. **Andhras**: They are an ancient people who find mention in the Aitareya Brāhmaṇa. They are also mentioned in the Rock
inscriptions of Aśoka along with the Pulindas. They have to be placed to the South of the Vindhyas. Some scholars, however, think that the original Āndhradeśa is the region between the lower courses of the rivers Godavari and Krishna and the Telugu speaking people of this region are the Āndhras of ancient days.

26. Udbhidas: Nothing is known about them.

27. Vanaśrakas: They are also unknown.

V. APARANTĀ OR WESTERN REGION:

The Mṛkhandeya Purāṇa enumerates the following countries which are located in the western region of India. As in the case of the previous regions the text is very corrupt and the names have been distorted out of shape. However with our knowledge of the ancient Indian geography from the Mahābhārata and the other Puruṣas we can restore the names correctly.

1. Sūrapākṣas: This is evidently a mistake for Sūrapākṣas i.e. the people in the vicinity of Sūrapākṣa - an ancient sea-port. The name has survived in the modern form of Sopara in the district of Thana 59 Kilometres to the North of Bombay in Maharashtra. The town is said to have been founded by Parasurāma.30 A fragment of Aśoka’s Rock Edict was discovered from here in 1882 which points to the antiquity as well as the importance of the place as early as the third century B.C.
It is mentioned in the periplus as Cuppara. It was a busy centre of trade with the western world.

2. KALIVALAS := Nothing is known about them.

3. DURGA := The Mahabharata gives Durgalas. The name is unknown otherwise.

4. ANIKALAS := It is not possible to suggest a definite identification.

5. FULINDAS := They are wrongly placed here. The name occurs in the variant form Farinda in the Rock inscription of Asoka in association with the Andhra in Daksinapatha.

6. SUMINAS := They are unknown.

7. RUPAPAS := They are also unknown.

8. NYTAPADAS := They are equally obscure.

9. KURIMANAS := It is not possible to attempt their identification.

10. MASTYAVAS := They can be regarded as occupying the district of Nasik in Maharashtra but that region has already been included in the list of Daksinapatha kingdoms.

11. KATHAKSARAS := The recently discovered relic casket inscription from Devni Mori mentions the Era of Kathika kings which in the light of the present Kathakaras may be regarded as the name of the ruling family amongst the western Katurapas. The dominions of the western Katurapas
were definitely in the western region i.e. Surāstra, Kaccha etc.

12. BHATUKACCHAS: This is again a scribal error for Bhargukacchas or the people living around Bhargukacch or Bhargukacstra which has been identified with Baruch near the mouth of the Narmada in Gujarat. It was a famous sea-port in ancient times.

13. NAEYAS: They are evidently the people living in the valley of the river Nahi which flows through the Godhra and Khair districts of Gujarat and joins the river Sabarmati.

14. SARASVATAS: They can be easily regarded as the people living in the valley of the Sarasvatī i.e. Puskara-Sarasvatī which issues out of the Puskara lake along with the river Luni and falls into the Gulf of Kutch. There is another river named Prabhāsa-Sarasvatī which falls into the sea near Somnath.

15. KASHTHAS: It is an obvious mistake. Kashmir has already been mentioned amongst the countries of the North. The Vāyu-Purāṇa reads Kacchavīyas and the Matsya reads Kocchikas both of which stand for the people of Kutch.

16. SURĀSTRAS: They are well-known. Their country Surāstra often finds mention in Sanskrit literature and the inscription of the Satavahanas as well as the Western Ksatrapas. It can be identified with the peninsula of Kathiawad. The district of Junagarh is still called Sarath which is directly derived from Surāstra.
17. AVANTIYAS: They are the people of Avanti or western Malwa which comprised the present day district of Ujjain and some adjacent territory. It was ruled over by the Western Ksattrapas for a long time till the Guptas under Candragupta II Vikramaditya conquered it in circa A.D. 390. In place of Avantiya, the Vāyu and the Matsya Purāṇas have Ānarta which is the northern part of the peninsula of Kathiarad. Its capital was Dwāraka. It figures in the list of possessions of the Mahā-Ksattrapa Rudradhāman I as given in his Girnar Rock inscription.

18. ARBUDAS: They are obviously the people living near the Mount Abu in Rajasthan which was known as Arbuda in ancient times.

This completes the survey of almost the whole of India. The Markandeya Purāṇa, however, adds some more details regarding the people living in the Vindhyā and Himalayan regions. However much of the account is a repetition and there is overlapping also. Some are even wrongly placed in this class as for instance Keralas, Utkalas, Avantis, Kiskindhalas, Tosalas, Kosalas, Traipuras etc. They have nothing to do with the Vindhyā region. Some are quite unknown such as Sarasas, Patas, Annajas and some are such as are near the dividing line between two regions. These may be noted.

Firstly we find mention of Dāsārṇas. They occupied the valley of the Dāsārṇa river which is modern Dusun a tributary of the Yamuna. The Dāsārṇas are mentioned by
Kalidasa in his Meghaduta. He also mentions its capital Vaidis
city. The Purana, therefore, is indulging in mere
repetition when it mentions the Vaidisas separately. Another
people called Tamuras are probably a mistake for Tumbavanas.
Their city Tumbavarna is modern Tumain or Asoka Vihar in the
Sagar district of Madhya Pradesh.

Similarly there is not much new information in the
account of the Himalayan region. Here again there is
repetition. Hamsanergas, Kuras, Urnas, Darvas, Kiratas
and Khadas have all been mentioned in the list of northern
countries. The only new names are Khasas and Trigarttas who
could be easily assigned to the northern region. The Khasas
are mentioned in the Rajatarangini and can be placed in the
neighbourhood of Hazauri in Jammu and Kashmir State. We may
also state that the language of western Nepal has been
classified as Khas. The Khasas therefore might have
sometimes occupied western Nepal and the adjacent region of
Garhwal. Trigarttas is a well-known designation of the
territory between the rivers Beas and Sutlej on the
Bist Doab as it has been called in the Ain-i-Akbari.
It comprises the districts of Jullundur, parts of Mohiarpur
and the whole of Kangra.
REFERENCES

1. In most of the Purānas seven Varsas are enumerated, viz. 1. Ilāvṛta or Meru, 2. Rāma or Nila, 3. Śveta or Hīrānasaya, 4. Uttarākuru or Śrāgavat or Airāvat, 5. Bhārata or Hīmav or Hīmavata, 6. Kimpurusa or Kaksāka and 7. Harivāra or Nisadhavāra. The Matsya Purāna and the Mahābhārata add two more; Bhadrāśva or Mālyavat and Ketumāla or Gandhamādana.

2. Markandeya, LVII


5. Kāvyamāla, XVII.

6. This is most probably Dewas.

7. हिन्दुमोर्चिप मल्घ्राप विलोकनेया।
   इत्यक्रिय अवस्था नध्येष्व: हस्तःतिनः।

8. LVII.


11. तीन जगों संघर्षान्त देशिनों अलावा ये वा ये बड़े अंतराण।
   A.B.V.

12. अचार्य विलोकनाय साधनान्त वेदः कराराम का यायन समेत राजस्थान।

13. 1, 2, 3.


18. तद्धिताः समस्थानः स्थ : | Abhīdhanacintamani


20. Cunningham, AG.I, 73.


22. cf. Lassen, Ind. Alt. map.

23. cf. Law, B.C., Geog. Essays, 150.


25. cf. तद्धिताः समस्थानः स्थ : | अभिधानचिन्तामणि

26. See Padma P., Adhik Ch.VI.

27. cf. Aihole Inscription of Palakesin II.


29. George Bühler, Introduction to the Vikramādityakāvya

30. Harivandana, XCVI

31. EI, XLVII, 67 ff.