The advent of the Hūṇas mark the beginning of an important chapter in the history of India which is attested by their nearly century long domination of the Indian affairs that set in motion and modelled the future social and economic trends. The studies done so far on the history of the Hūṇas, though scanty deal with the major aspects of the history of the Hūṇas in India, but still it requires a more objective and convincing explanation of the data available. The first systematic study on the history of the Hūṇas appeared in 1967 entitled 'The Hūṇas in India' authored by Upender Thakur. This study covers a wide range of topics regarding the history of the Hūṇas which includes their origin, relations with the China, Persia, Europe and obviously India, the political exploits of the Hūṇa rulers in India - particularly of Toramāṇa and Mihirakula, the later Hūṇas and their relations with the contemporary Rajput dynasties and finally the Hūṇas in relation to the Indian culture. The main emphasis of the work is on the political history of the Hūṇas although attention has been paid to the social and economic aspects as well. Moreover, the new researche and evidences related to the Hūṇas, which have come forth since then, requires new look and fresh interpretation of the political activities of the Hūṇas in India. "The Political History of the Hūṇas in India," by Aitreya Biswas, published in 1971, is another systematic study on the history of Hūṇas available to us. The very title of the study draws the limits of the work. Even then the work has aptly highlighted the problem of the
later Hūnas and their coinage. Apart from these studies, various articles related to the different aspects of Hūna's history have been published in number of journals that make a significant contribution to Indian history with special reference to Hūnas. The scholarly works of Alexander Cunningham, Robert Gobl, Michael Mitchiner, A.D.H. Bivar, G. Mitterwallner, M.F.C. Martin etc. have contributed richly in sketching the early political developments of the Hūnas, (Before coming into India) which determined the future course of action of the Hūnas in India.

The present study 'The Hūnas in India and their impact on Indian Culture' aims to provide an overall evaluation of Hūna rule in India. Here the words 'impact' and 'culture' require a sort of explanation which would facilitate to understand the objective of the present work. The Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language (second edition 1977) explains the meaning of the word 'impact' as 'the power of an event, idea etc. to produce changes, move the feelings etc.' The Oxford English Dictionary (second edition, vol. VII, 1989) means it as 'the effective action of one thing or person upon another; the effect of such action; influence; impression'. In light of these explanations of the word 'impact' the present work aims to study the changes or affects, introduced by the Hūnas, which the Indian society experienced related particularly to country's existing social and economic order, which are essentially the components
of culture according to Anthropologists. Generally, the effect or impact of the Hūṇas is left unstudied and unattended and their role in Indian history is dismissed simply by defining them as merely a foreign invader who were absorbed, later on, into the Indian society on the pattern of their early foreign predecessors who left no considerable impact on Indian society. But such conception does not seem to be applicable in case of the Hūṇas. Their presence in the west of India disturbed the economic order of the country by sealing trade and commercial prospects along the western border. The disturbance in the economic order brought changes in the social relations and functions of the four varṇas. Although, it cannot be said that the Hūṇas replaced the existing economic and social order but it cannot be denied that whatever the changes in economic and social order the Indian society witnessed during & after the time of the Hūṇas, were primarily because of the presence of Hūṇas at the core. The metaphor of nuclear fission, where first the innermost atom breaks up which, in consequence, breaks the atoms surrounding, they in turn breaking atoms surrounding them leading ultimately to an explosion elucidates this hypothesis. Similarly, the Hūṇas acted as the innermost atom which disrupted or destroyed the economic components followed by social components and ultimately leading to cracks in the existing economic and social order.
The first chapter of the present studies deals with the origin and ethnicity of the Hūṇas. The problems related with the ethnicity of the Hūṇas with special reference to the Indian Hūṇas and the racial connection of the Hūṇas with the Hsiung-wn of Chinese sources etc. is the theme of this chapter.

The second chapter highlights the political history of the Hūṇas that begins with their emergence in Bactria towards the beginning of second half of the fourth century A.D. An Effort to resolve the problems like predecessors of Toramāṇa, course of their invasion, date of first invasion, final battle of Mihirakula, extent of their empire, dates and tenure of the Hūṇa rulers particularly of Toramāṇa and Mihirakula etc. has been made in this chapter. The problem of later Hūṇas in light of the numismatic evidences is also taken up in this Chapter.

The third chapter brings in focus the impact of the Hūṇas on Indian economy. It covers the causes and loss of commercial benefits which India received before the emergence of the Hūṇas in the area of Bactria, the decay of urban centres specifically in north India, increase of pressure on land or agriculture, land grant system etc.
The fourth chapter deals with the social remifications of the Hūṇa's invasion. It also includes the socialization of the Hūṇas that ultimately led to their absorption into Indian society, the Hūṇas and other likewise problems.

The fifth chapter is confined to the coinage of the Hūṇas where an attempt has been made to link the political developments or the events with the coinage of the concerned Hūṇa rulers.

The sixth chapter discusses the results of the present study in the form of conclusions. It is to be mention here that notes and references of each chapter are given at the end of each chapter for typing convenience and less time consumption.

In the task of completing this work I express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. Manmohan Kumar, Reader, Department of History, M.D.University, Rohtak, whose constant guidance and cooperation enabled me to undertake this study. I am also indebted to Sh. G.B. Sharma for his valuable suggestions and informations that he provided from time to time. I am equally indebted to prof. P.L.Gupta, Ex - Director, Indian Institute of Research in Numismatic Studies, Nasik; Prof. H.A.Phadka and Prof. M.C.Chaudhary of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra for their elderly affection and suggestions and whose vision of tackling the historical facts has always inspired and guided me. I also express my gratefulness to Prof. Silak Ram and Dr. Amar Singh of
the Department of History, M.D. University, Rohtak in resolving certain problems related particularly to the political history of the Hūṇas. I have all words of praise for my teacher-cum-colleagues at the Department of History, M.D. University, Rohtak, specially Prof. S.P. Shukla, Prof. Pradaman Singh and Dr. Neelima Dahiya, Reader, for arranging a seminar on the present study and making constructive suggestions and corrections wherever it was necessary. I express my warm appreciation and thanks to all my friends and colleagues at Faculty of Law, M.D. University, Rohtak, for their affection, cooperation and good wishes which made me feel energetic and inspired. I feel equally obliged to my friend Sh. Jaibir Singh Hooda, Lecturer, M.D. University College for his sincere cooperation and deep involvement in preparing the thesis from the beginning to the end. It would not be a more formality to express my indebtedness to my wife Amita, Lecturer, for her encouragement and constantly reminding me to devote to my research work. Above all I express my gratitude to all the scholars mentioned by name in thesis or otherwise whose work has benefited me directly or indirectly.

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