



## FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES

COURSE: B.A.LL.B. 1st Semester

SUBJECT: HISTORY - I

SUBJECT CODE: BAL 102

NAME OF FACULTY: Dr. Sadhna Trivedi

# Lecture-18



## Theory of Kingship

### Kautilyan

Kautilya Arthashastra is not a theoretical treatise on political science. It is not directly concerned with the question of the origin of the state. Kautilya's Arthashastra essentially a book on the art of administration gave only passing reference to the origin of the state. Kautilya refers to the problem of the origin of the state only incidentally during a discussion of spies among themselves. According to Kautilya the state originated when people got weary of the logic of the fish (matayanyaya) according to which bigger fish swallow the smaller ones. People themselves selected Manu as their King and one-tenth of the merchandise and of the gold as his share. The state originated to fulfill the desire of the people to have a peaceful society. King took upon themselves the responsibility of maintaining the safety and security of their subjects. Kautilya does not propound any logical theory of the state its origin and ends, but he appears to believe in the social contract theory according to which the state came into existence after such a contract between the king and the people.<sup>5</sup> He regarded the state a result of human nature and its needs and it was consequently natural and beneficial.

1. Chanakya was an adviser and a prime minister to the first Maurya Emperor Chandragupta, who was the chief architect of his rise to power. Born as Vishnu Sharma, Kautilya and Vishnugupta, the names by which this ancient Indian Politico-economical treatise called the Arthasāstra identifies its author.
2. He is known as "The Indian Machiavelli" in the Western world. Chanakya was a professor at Takshashila University and was responsible for the creation of Mauryan Empire.
3. Strabo (a Greek Geographer) gives him the name Palibrotus. Arian Plutarch give him the name of Androkottus.
4. In Mudrarakshasa of Vishakhadatta he has been depicted by **names** Piyadamas, Vrishal, Chandrasiri & Kulihin.
5. In Mudrarakshasa Chandragupta has been depicted as a weak insignificant young man and Chanakya being the real ruler.

6. Historian Sir Thomas R. Trautmann has mentioned that Chanakya was born with a complete set of teeth , which gave a sign that he would become a King. However his teeth were broken so he would rule through someone else.
7. He was thrown out of Nanda court which prompted him to swear to take revenge.
8. *Chanakya mixed poison to the food eaten by Chandragupta Maurya, now king, in order to make him immune. Unaware, Chandragupta feeds some of his food to his queen, who is in her ninth month of pregnancy. In order to save the heir to the throne, Chānakya cut the queen open and extracts the fetus, who is named Bindusara because he was touched by a drop (bindu) of blood having poison.*

### MCQ

1. The book which gives an account of how Chandragupta Maurya overthrew the power of the Nandas with the help of Kautilya.
  - a. Arthashastra
  - b. Rajataringini
  - c. Amuktamalayada
  - d. Mudra Rakshasa
- 2.. Who of the following is credited with the introduction of decimal system?
  - a. Aryabhatta
  - b. Bhaskaracharya
  - c. Varahamira
  - d. Kautilya
3. Who of the ancient Indian scholars calculated the exact value of pi?
  - a. Varahamira
  - b. Bhaskaracharya
  - c. Brahmagupta
  - d. Aryabhatta
4. Who among the following is the author of the book 'Prithviraj Raso'?
  - a. Bana Bhatt
  - b. Chand Bardai
  - c. Todar Mal
  - d. Mirabai

5. Kamandaka's Nitisara is a contribution to:

- a. Logic and Philosophy
- b. Mathematics
- c. Political morality
- d. Grammar

