

One-Liner Shots: (Later Vedic Age)

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One liner shots **LATER VEDIC AGE**

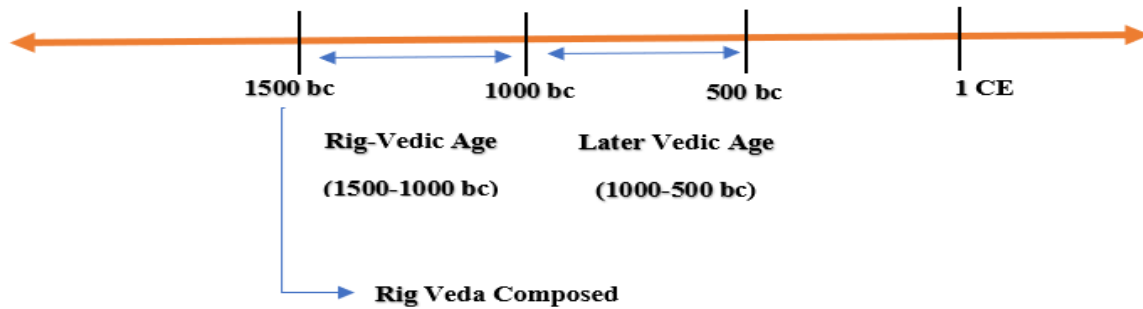
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Quick Pointers on Later Vedic Age

- The Later Vedic Age followed the Rig-Vedic culture in India.
- The Period for the Later Vedic Age was **1000-500 BC**.
- As per **Satapatha Brahmana**, the Aryans further moved towards the east in the upper Gangetic basin in the Later Vedic times.
- The growth of large kingdoms was one of the important events in the later Vedic Period.
- They succeeded in the second phase of their expansion because they used iron weapons and horse-drawn chariots.
- Tribes or 'Janas' slowly turned into Mahajanapadas.
- Iron was used in huge quantities in the later Vedic times.
- Works on leather, jewellery making, and chariot manufacturing were developed in this phase.
- The owner of the household in later edict was known as Grahpati
- The first mention of Krishna was in Chhandogya Upanishad
- Dhanvantari was hailed as the "God of medicine" by the practitioners of Ayurveda

Later Vedic TimeLine at a Glance



Few Key Points on Texts Emerged in the Later-Vedic Period

- ★ The later Vedic texts also denote the three divisions of India – Aryavarta or Northern India, Madhyadesa or Central India, and Dakshinapatha or Southern India.
- ★ Brahmana
 - It refers to the rules of sacrificial rituals and performances
 - Satapatha Brahmana is the most significant one
 - It is linked with Yajur Veda
- ★ Aranyaka - it means 'forest books'
- ★ Upanishads
 - Refers to 'To sit near someone or guru'
 - The **largest** Upanishad is **Mandukya Upanishad**
 - The **first three ashramas** were depicted in **Chhandogya** Upanishad
- ★ Vedanta- Vedanta means the **end of Vedas** as it indicates the final part of Vedas
- ★ Vedangas- It means '**Limbs of Vedas**'.
 - These were of human origin and not revealed by God.
 - Written in the form of Sutras as supplementary texts
 - Shiksha, Kalpa, Jyotish, Vyakaran, Nirukta and Chhanda
- ★ Puranas- Purana means old.
 - Religious sectarian literature
 - Brahminical and social values, as well as practices
- ★ Dharmashastras- Composed during 600-300 BCE. Code of conduct or moral laws
- ★ Epics-
 - **Mahabharata** (400BC-400CE)
 - Composed by Vyasa
 - 18 Parvas or books with 1 lakh verses
 - **Ramayana** (400BC-300CE)
 - Known as Adi-Kavya
 - Composed by Valmiki
 - Comprised of 7 Kandas or books with 24000 verses

- ★ The word “*Satyameva Jayate*” in the state Emblem of India was taken from **Mandukya Upanishad**.
- ★ The **Doctrine of Trimurti** originated from *Maitrayani Upanishad*
- ★ **Satapatha Brahmana** talks about the ‘*Great Flood*’

Various Aspects of the Later Vedic Period

Social Life	Political Life	Religious Life	Economic Condition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A rigid class (or caste) distinction emerged in the form of the Varna system. ● Women were disqualified to appear in Sabha. The situation of women became worse. ● A significant decline was seen in the status of women as they assumed a subordinate position to men. ● Education made restricted to women ● Instances of Sati and child marriage were gradually started. ● Widow remarriage was barred. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The concept of large kingdoms or ‘Rashtras’ emerged ● ‘Janapadas’ or ‘Rashtras’ came into being, and hereditary kingship started. ● Wars were no longer fought for cows but for land and territories. ● Rituals like Asvamedha, Vajapeya, and Rajasuya were enhanced. ● Popular assemblies like Sabha and Samiti lost their influence and privileged status. The King and royal officials dominated these. ● Elaborated administrative machinery took place that assisted the King. ● The tax system was highly developed. ● Taxes and tributes were made mandatory. Sangrihitri collected these. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The two most important Rig Vedic gods – Indra and Agni, lost their importance. ● Gods such as Rudra, Prajapati, and Vishnu became supreme lords during this Period. ● Religion was focused on the centrality of the cult of sacrifice, and it was immensely based on both priestly domination and ritual dogmas. ● The God of the Shudras was Pushan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agriculture became the chief occupation, and pastoralism became secondary. ● Rice, wheat, sugarcane, and barley are cultivated. ● Cattle lost its importance. ● Land emerged as an important measure of wealth. ● The later Vedic Period was the beginning of iron called Krishna Ayas. ● The later Vedic Period is also known as the iron phase culture. ● People used 4 types of pottery - PGW, BRW, Redware, and Black-slipped ware.