ננה

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NANA ננה חנות שהיא בית | פייסבוק

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192 فندق بالقرب من محطة بي تي إس - نانا، بانكوك، تايلاند ...

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نانا

mana show | Facebook - شو لباس نانا

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شو لباس نانا - nana show | فيس بوك

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اسکونلاریا این از نیره نعناعیان است. ... در ویکیانیان بروندههایی (Scutellaria nana) نام یک گونه از نیره نعناعیان است. ... در ویکیانیان بروندههایی دریارهٔ اسکونلاریا ناتا موجود است.

nana-food.com - ارزش غذایی سالادهای نانا

www.nana-food.com/.../62 ارزسٌ-غذایی-سالادهای-ناتا- Translate this page ارزسٌ-غذایی ارزسٌ Translate this page ارائه محصولاتی منتوع با بکارگیری مواد اولیه تازه با طعم ومزه مناسب وخوسّمزه ودسترسی آسان آیا میدانستید ارزسٌ غذایی سالادهای یا به چه میزان است.

Nana (Afghan goddess)



Coin of Sapadbizes (c. 10 BCE), with the lion, moon crescent, and legend Navaua on the reverse.



Goddess Nana, seated on a lion, Afghanistan, 5-6th century.

Nana (Kushan Greek: Νανα, Ναναια, Ναναβαο, Sogdian *nny*) was a Kushan female divinity, a variation of pan-Asiatic *Nana*, a conflation of Sumero-Babylonian Inanna-Ishtar with a local divinity, in her Kushan form with either the indigenous (Zoroastrian) Harahvati Aredvi Sura Anahita, or the Indic Durga-Saraswati, or both. Such syncretism was common among the Kushan deities.

Nana is first attested by name on a coin of Sapadbizes,

a 1st century BCE king of Bactria who preceded the Kushans. In this singular case, Nana is depicted *as* a lion. Nana then reappears two centuries later on the coins and seals of the Kushan kings, in particular of the mid-2nd century CE Kanishka I. The Rabatak inscription of Kanishka I invokes her as well. Her characteristics are martial in these depictions, and she was typically depicted as a seated martial goddess, escorted by a lion.^[1] Whether she was also associated with fertility, wisdom and as a goddess of the waters (in particular of the Helmand River, which was known as Haravati in antiquity, and of which Haravati Aredvi Sura Anahita was the patron, or of the Saraswati-Yamuna, associated with Saraswati-Durga) is unknown.

The Kushan territories encompassed the Iranian-language speaking regions of Sogdiana, Ferghana, Bactria, Arachosia, as well as the Indian-language speaking provinces of Gandhara, Taxila, and Mathura. These provinces now lie in Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Pakistan and Northwest India. Depictions of Nana are known from Afghanistan as late as the 5-6th century CE. [2] In Afghanistan she continues to be known as "Bibi Nanni" ("Lady Nana") or "Hinglaj Mata". [1] Both are local names for Durga.

1 Notes

- [1] Bremmer, Jan N. *The strange world of human sacrifice*. Books.google.com. p. 176. Retrieved 2013-02-09.
- [2] Metropolitan Museum of Art, permanent exhibit

2 Text and image sources, contributors, and licenses

2.1 Text

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Kushan Empire

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Kushan Empire (Bactrian: κοβανο; Sanskrit: कुषाण राजवंश $Ku\check{s}an-x\check{s}a\theta r^{[4]}$) was an empire in India originally formed in the early 1st century AD under Kujula Kadphises in the territories of the former Greco-Bactrian Kingdom around the Oxus River (Amu Darya), and later based near Kabul, Afghanistan.^[5] The Kushans spread from the Kabul River Valley to also encompass much of the Indo-Greek Kingdom, from which they took their first official language (Greek), [6] Bactrian alphabet, Greco-Buddhist religion, coinage system, and art. They absorbed the Central Asian tribes that had previously conquered parts of the northern central Iranian Plateau once ruled by the Parthians, and reached their peak under the Buddhist emperor Kanishka (127–151), whose realm stretched from Turfan in the Tarim Basin to Pataliputra on the Gangetic Plain."[3]

The Kushans were one of five branches of the Yuezhi confederation, [7][8] a possibly Iranian [9] or Tocharian, [10] Indo-European [11] nomadic people who had migrated from the Tarim Basin and settled in ancient Bactria. [8] Some of the Kushan kings, amongst them Kanishka, had a Turushka origin. [2][12] Their official language, the Indo-European Bactrian language, is closely related to the modern Afghan languages.

During the 1st and early 2nd centuries AD, the Kushans expanded across the northern parts of the Indian subcontinent at least as far as Saketa and Sarnath near Varanasi (Benares), where inscriptions have been found dating to the era of the Kushan emperor Kanishka, which began about 127 AD [13][14][15] Around 152 AD, Kanishka sent his armies north of the Karakoram mountains. They captured territories as far as Kashgar, Khotan and Yarkant, in the Tarim Basin of modern-day Xinjiang, China. A direct road from Gandhara to China was opened which remained under Kushan control for more than 100 years. The security offered by the Kushans encouraged travel across the Khunjerab Pass and facilitated the spread of Mahayana Buddhism to China.

The Kushan dynasty had diplomatic contacts with the Roman Empire, Sassanid Persia, Aksumite Empire and Han China. While much philosophy, art, and science was created within its borders, the only textual record we have of the empire's history today comes from inscriptions and accounts in other languages, particularly Chinese. [16] The Kushan control fragmented into



Kushan territories (full line) and maximum extent of Kushan dominions under Kanishka (dotted line), according to the Rabatak inscription.^[1]

Capital	Bagram Peshawar Taxila Mathura
	Iviauiuia
Languages	Official language:
	Bactrian
	Regional languages:
	Gandhari
	(Gandhara),
	Sogdian (Sogdiana),
	Greek
	Chorasmian

Tocharian

Saka dialects

Liturgical language:

semi-independent kingdoms in the 3rd century AD, which fell to the Sassanians who targeted from the west. In the fourth century, the Guptas, an Indian dynasty also pressed from the east. The last of the Kushan and Sassanian kingdoms were eventually overwhelmed by the Hepthalites, another Indo-European people from the north.^[3]

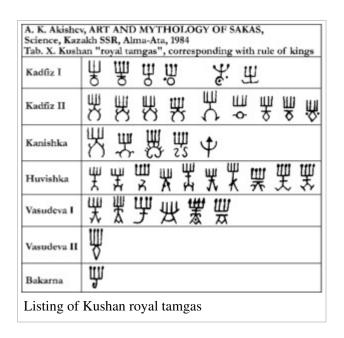
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 - 5.5 Vāsishka (ca. 140 ca. 160)
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	Sanskrit
Religion	Hinduism Buddhism ^[2]
	Shamanism
	Zoroastrianism
	Manichaeism various Afghan-
	Indian religions
	matan rengions
Government	Monarchy
Emperor	
- 60–80	Kujula Kadphises
- 350–375	Kipunada
Historical era	Classical Antiquity
- Kujula Kadphises	
unites Yuezhi tribes into a	
confederation	30
- Subjugated by the	50
Sassanians, Guptas	
and Hepthalites ^[3]	375
<u> </u>	
Area	3,800,000 km ²
	(1,467,188 sq mi)
Currency	Kushan drachm
Today part of	Afghanistan
	China
	Kyrgyzstan
	India
	Nepal
	C Pakistan
	Tajikistan
	Uzbe kistan

Origins

Chinese sources describe the *Guishuang* (貴霜), *i.e.* the Kushans, as one of the five aristocratic tribes of the Yuezhi^[17] (月氏), with some people claiming they were a loose confederation of Indo-European peoples, ^[18]



though many scholars are still unconvinced that they originally spoke an Indo-European language.

For well over a century, however, there have been many arguments about the ethnic and linguistic origins of the Da Yuezhi (大月氏), Kushans (貴霜), and the Tochari, and still there is little consensus.^[19]

The Yuezhi had been living in the arid grasslands of eastern Central Asia's Tarim Basin, in modern-day Xinjiang, China, possibly speaking varieties of the Tocharian languages, until they were driven west by the Xiongnu in 176–160 BC. The five tribes constituting the Yuezhi are known in Chinese history as Xiūmì (休密), Guìshuāng (貴霜), Shuāngmǐ (雙靡), Xìdùn (肸頓), and Dūmì (都密).

John Keay contextualizes the movements of the Kushan within a larger setting of mass migrations taking place in the region:

Chinese sources tell of the construction of the Great Wall in the third century BCE and the repulse of various marauding tribes. Forced to head west and eventually south, these tribes displaced others in an ethnic knock-on effect which lasted many decades and spread right across Central Asia. The Parthians from Iran and the Bactrian Greeks from Bactria had both been dislodged by the Sakas coming down from somewhere near the Aral Sea. But the Sakas had in turn been dislodged by the Yueh-chi who had themselves been driven west to Xinjiang by the Xiongnu. The Xiongnu would not reach India for a long time. But the Yueh-chi continued to press on the Shakas, and having forced them out of Bactria, it was sections or clans of these Yueh-chi who next began to move down into India in the second half of the first century AD.^[20]

The Yuezhi reached the Hellenic kingdom of Greco-Bactria (in northern Afghanistan and Uzbekistan) around 135 BC. The displaced Greek dynasties resettled to the southeast in areas of the Hindu Kush and the Indus basin (in present-day Afghanistan and Pakistan), occupying the western part of the Indo-Greek Kingdom.

General Cunningham identified the Kushans as Gurjars or *Gujjar*.^[21] The word *Gusur* is referenced in the Rabatak inscription of Kushan king Kanishka. According to some scholars, in this inscription the word *Gusur*, which means *Kulputra* or a "man or woman born in high family", stands for *Gurjara*.^{[22][23][24]}

Early Kushans

Some traces remain of the presence of the Kushans in the area of Bactria and Sogdiana. Archaeological structures are known in Takht-I-Sangin, Surkh Kotal (a monumental temple), and in the palace of Khalchayan. Various sculptures and friezes are known, representing horse-riding archers, [25] and significantly men with artificially deformed skulls, such as the Kushan prince of Khalchayan [26] (a practice well attested in nomadic Central Asia). The Chinese first referred to these people as the Yuezhi and said they established the Kushan Empire, although the relationship between the Yuezhi and the Kushans is still unclear. On the ruins of ancient Hellenistic cities such as Ai-Khanoum, the Kushans are known to have built fortresses. The earliest documented



Head of a Kushan prince (Khalchayan palace, Uzbekistan).

ruler, and the first one to proclaim himself as a Kushan ruler, was Heraios. He calls himself a "tyrant" on his coins, and also exhibits skull deformation. He may have been an ally of the Greeks, and he shared the same style of coinage. Heraios may have been the father of the first Kushan emperor Kujula Kadphises.

The Chinese Hou Hanshu chronicles gives an account of the formation of the Kushan empire based on a report made by the Chinese general Ban Yong to the Chinese Emperor c. 125 AD:

More than a hundred years later [than the conquest of Bactria by the Da Yuezhi], the prince [xihou] of Guishuang (Badakhshan) established himself as king, and his dynasty was called that of the Guishuang (Kushan) King. He invaded Anxi (Indo-Parthia), and took the Gaofu (Kabul) region. He also defeated the whole of the kingdoms of Puda (Paktiya) and Jibin (Kapisha and Gandhara). Qiujiuque (Kujula Kadphises) was more than eighty years old when he died. His son, Yangaozhen [probably Vema Tahk(tu) or, possibly, his brother Sadaṣkaṇa], became king in his place. He defeated Tianzhu [Northwestern India] and installed Generals to supervise and lead it. The Yuezhi then became extremely rich. All the kingdoms call [their king] the Guishuang [Kushan] king, but the Han call them by their original name, Da Yuezhi.

—Hou Hanshu^{[27][28]}

Diverse cultural influences

In the 1st century BCE, the *Guishuang* (Ch: 貴霜) gained prominence over the other Yuezhi tribes, and welded them into a tight confederation under *yabgu* (Commander) Kujula Kadphises. The name *Guishuang* was adopted in the West and modified into *Kushan* to designate the confederation, although the Chinese continued to call them *Yuezhi*.

Gradually wresting control of the area from the Scythian tribes, the Kushans expanded south into the region traditionally known as Gandhara (an area primarily in Pakistan's Pothowar and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region but going in an arc to include the Kabul valley and part of Qandahar in Afghanistan) and established twin capitals near present-day Kabul and Peshawar then known as Kapisa and Pushklavati respectively.

The Kushans adopted elements of the Hellenistic culture of Bactria. They adopted the Greek alphabet to suit their own language (with the additional development of the letter P "sh", as in "Kushan") and soon began minting coinage on the Greek model. On their coins they used Greek language legends combined with Pali legends (in the Kharoshthi script), until the first few years of the reign of Kanishka. After that date, they used Kushan language legends (in an adapted Greek script), combined with legends in Greek (Greek script) and legends in Prakrit (Kharoshthi script).

The Kushans are believed to have been predominantly Zoroastrian. However, from the time of Vima Takto, many Kushans started adopting aspects of Buddhist culture. Like the Egyptians, they absorbed the strong remnants of the Greek Culture of the Hellenistic Kingdoms, becoming at least partly Hellenised. The great Kushan emperor Vima Kadphises may have embraced Saivism, as surmised by coins minted during the period. The following Kushan emperors represented a wide variety of faiths including Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, and possibly Saivism (a sect of Hinduism).



The Kushan writing system used the Greek alphabet, with the addition of the letter Sho.

The rule of the Kushans linked the seagoing trade of the Indian Ocean with the commerce of the Silk Road through the long-civilized Indus Valley. At the height of the dynasty, the Kushans loosely ruled a territory that extended to the Aral Sea through present-day Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan into northern India.

The loose unity and comparative peace of such a vast expanse encouraged long-distance trade, brought Chinese silks to Rome, and created strings of flourishing urban centers.

Territorial expansion

Rosenfield notes that archaeological evidence of a Kushan rule of long duration is present in an area stretching from Surkh Kotal, Begram, the summer capital of the Kushans, Peshawar, the capital under Kanishka I, Taxila, and Mathura, the winter capital of the Kushans.^[29]

Other areas of probable rule include Khwarezm^[29] Kausambi (excavations of Allahabad University),^[29] Sanchi and Sarnath (inscriptions with names and dates of Kushan kings),^[29] Malwa and Maharashtra,^[30] Odisha (imitation of Kushan coins, and large Kushan hoards).^[29]

Kushan invasions in the first century had been given as an explanation for the migration of Indians from the Indian Subcontinent toward Southeast Asia according to proponents of a Greater India theory by 20th-century Indian nationalists. However, there is no evidence to support this hypothesis.^[31]

The recently discovered Rabatak inscription confirms the account of the Hou Hanshu, Weilüe, and inscriptions dated early in the Kanishka era (incept probably 127 CE), that large Kushan dominions expanded into the heartland of northern India in the early 2nd century AD. The lines 4 to 7 of the inscription^[32] describe the cities which were under the rule of Kanishka, among which six names are identifiable: Ujjain, Kundina, Saketa, Kausambi, Pataliputra, and Champa (although the text is not clear whether Champa was a possession of Kanishka or just beyond it).^{[33][34][35]} Northward, in the 2nd century AD, the Kushans under Kanishka made various forays into the Tarim Basin, seemingly the original ground of their ancestors the Yuezhi, where they had various contacts with the Chinese. Both archaeological findings and literary evidence suggest Kushan rule, in Kashgar, Yarkand and Khotan. The Kushan state was bounded to the south by the Pārata state of Balochistan, western Pakistan.^[29]



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kushan_Empire

A Buddhist devotee in Kushan dress, Mathura, 2nd century. The Kushan dress is generally depicted as quite stiff, and it is thought it was often made of leather (Francine Tissot, "Gandhara").



Sculpture of a spear-throwing foreign soldier, Later Han, Three Kingdoms, 3rd century CE, China.

As late as the 3rd century AD, decorated coins of Huvishka were dedicated at Bodh Gaya together with other gold offerings under the "Enlightenment Throne" of the Buddha, suggesting direct Kushan influence in the area during that period.^[36]

Main Kushan rulers

Kujula Kadphises (ca. 30 – ca. 80)

"...the prince [elavoor] of Guishuang, named thilac [Kujula Kadphises], attacked and exterminated the four other xihou. He established himself as king, and his dynasty was called that of the Guishuang [Kushan] King. He invaded Anxi [Indo-Parthia], and took the Gaofu [Kabul] region. He also defeated the whole of the kingdoms of Puda [Paktiya] and Jibin [Kapisha and Gandhara]. Qiujiuque [Kujula Kadphises] was more than eighty years old when he died."

—Hou Hanshu^[27]

These conquests probably took place sometime between 45 and 60, and laid the basis for the Kushan Empire which was rapidly expanded by his descendants.

Kujula issued an extensive series of coins and fathered at least two sons, Sadaṣkaṇa (who is known from only two inscriptions, especially the Rabatak inscription, and apparently never ruled), and seemingly Vima Takto.

Offerings found in Rodh Cays under

Offerings found in Bodh Gaya under the "Enlightenment Throne of the Buddha", with an impression of an imitation of a coin of the Kushan emperor Huvishka, 2nd century CE. British Museum.

Kujula Kadphises was the great grandfather of Kanishka.

Vima Taktu or Sadashkana (ca. 80 – ca. 95)

Vima Takto (Ancient Chinese: 閻膏珍 Yangaozhen) is mentioned in the Rabatak inscription (another son, Sadashkana, is mentioned in an inscription of Senavarman, the King of Odi). He was the predecessor of Vima Kadphises, and Kanishka I. He expanded the Kushan Empire into the northwest of the South Asia. The Hou Hanshu says:

"His son, Yangaozhen [probably Vema Tahk(tu) or, possibly, his brother Sadaṣkaṇa], became king in his place. He defeated Tianzhu [North-western India] and installed Generals to supervise and lead it. The Yuezhi then became extremely rich. All the kingdoms call [their king] the Guishuang [Kushan] king, but the Han call them by their original name, Da Yuezhi."

—Hou Hanshu^[27]

Vima Kadphises (ca. 95 – ca. 127)

Vima Kadphises (Kushan language: Οοημο Καδφισης) was a Kushan emperor from around 90–100 CE, the son of Sadashkana and the grandson of Kujula Kadphises, and the father of Kanishka I, as detailed by the Rabatak inscription.

Vima Kadphises added to the Kushan territory by his conquests in Afghanistan and north-west Pakistan. He

issued an extensive series of coins and inscriptions. He was the first to introduce gold coinage in India, in addition to the existing copper and silver coinage.

Kanishka I (ca. 127 – ca. 140)

The rule of Kanishka, fifth Kushan king, who flourished for about 13 years from c. 127. Upon his accession, Kanishka ruled a huge territory (virtually all of northern India), south to Ujjain and Kundina and east beyond Pataliputra, according to the Rabatak inscription:

"In the year one, it has been proclaimed unto India, unto the whole realm of the governing class, including Koonadeano (Kaundiny, Kundina) and the city of Ozeno (Ozene, Ujjain) and the city of Zageda (Saketa) and the city of Kozambo (Kausambi) and the city of Palabotro (Pataliputra) and so long unto (i.e. as far as) the city of Ziri-tambo (Sri-Champa)."

—Rabatak inscription, Lines 4–6

His territory was administered from two capitals: Purushapura (now Peshawar in northwestern Pakistan) and Mathura, in northern India. He is also credited (along with Raja Dab) for building the massive, ancient Fort at Bathinda (Qila Mubarak), in the modern city of Bathinda, Indian Punjab.

The Kushans also had a summer capital in Bagram (then known as Kapisa), where the "Begram Treasure", comprising works of art from Greece to China, has been found. According to the Rabatak inscription, Kanishka was the son of Vima Kadphises, the grandson of Sadashkana, and the great-grandson of Kujula Kadphises. Kanishka's era is now generally accepted to have begun in 127 on the basis of Harry Falk's ground-breaking research. [13][37] Kanishka's era was used as a calendar reference by the Kushans for about a century, until the decline of the Kushan realm.



Kanishka, Mathura Museum.



The Qila Mubarak fort at Bathinda, India was built by Kanishka.

Vāsishka (ca. 140 – ca. 160)

 $V\bar{a}$ sishka was a Kushan emperor who seems to have a 20 year reign following Kanishka. His rule is recorded as far south as Sanchi (near Vidisa), where several inscriptions in his name have been found, dated to the year 22 (The Sanchi inscription of "Vaksushana" – i. e. Vasishka Kushana) and year 28 (The Sanchi inscription of Vasaska – i. e. Vasishka) of the Kanishka era.

Huvishka (ca. 160 – ca. 190)

Huvishka (Kushan: Οοηþκι, "Ooishki") was a Kushan emperor from about 20 years after the death of Kanishka (assumed on the best evidence available to be in 140 AD) until the succession of Vasudeva I about thirty years later. His rule was a period of retrenchment and consolidation for the Empire. In particular he devoted time and effort early in his reign to the exertion of greater control over the city of Mathura.

Vasudeva I (ca. 190 – ca. 230)

Vasudeva I (Kushan: Βαζοδηο "Bazodeo", Chinese: 波調 "Bodiao") was the last of the "Great Kushans." Named inscriptions dating from year 64 to 98 of Kanishka's era suggest his reign extended from at least 191 to 225 AD. He was the last great Kushan emperor, and the end of his rule coincides with the invasion of the Sassanids as far as northwestern India, and the establishment of the Indo-Sassanids or *Kushanshahs* from around 240 AD.

Kushan deities

The Kushan religious pantheon is extremely varied, as revealed by their coins that were made in gold, silver, and copper. These coins contained more than thirty different gods, belonging mainly to their own Iranian, Greek, and Indian worlds as well. Kushan coins had images of Kushan Kings, Buddha, and figures from the Indian and Iranian pantheons. [38] Greek deities, with Greek names are represented on early coins. During Kanishka's reign, the language of the coinage changes to Bactrian (though it remained in Greek script for all kings). After Huvishka, only two divinities appear on the coins: *Ardoxsho* and *Oesho* (see details below).

The Iranian entities depicted on coinage include:

- Αρδοχρο (*ardoxsho*, Ashi Vanghuhi)
- Abαειχρο (ashaeixsho, Asha Vahishta)
- A θ bo (*athsho*, Atar)
- Φαρρο (*pharro*, Khwarenah)
- Λροοασπο (*lrooaspa*, Drvaspa)
- Μαναοβαγο, (manaobago, Vohu Manah)
- Mao (mao, Mah)
- Μιθρο, Μιρο, Μιρο, Μιρο (*mithro* and variants, Mithra)
- Moζδοοανο (mozdooano, Mazda *vana "Mazda the victorious?")
- Νανα, Ναναια, Ναναβαο (variations of pan-Asiatic *nana*, Sogdian *nny*, in a Zoroastrian context Aredvi Sura Anahita, in the Indian context Durga)
- Oαδο (oado Vata)
- Oaxbo (*oaxsho*, "Oxus")
- Οορομοζδο (*ooromozdo*, Ahura Mazda)
- Οραλαγνο (*orlagno*, Verethragna)
- Τιερο (tiero, Tir)

Representation of entities from Greek mythology and Hellenistic syncretism are:

• Ηλιος (Helios), Ηφαηστος (Hephaistos), Σαληνη (Selene), Ανημος (Anemos). Further, the coins of Huvishka also portray the demi-god *erakilo* Heracles, and the Egyptian god *sarapo* Sarapis

The Indic entities represented on coinage include:

- Boδδo (*boddo*, Buddha)
- Μετραγο Βοδδο (*metrago boddo*, bodhisattava Maitreya)
- Mαασηνο (*maaseno*, Mahasena)
- Σκανδο koμαρο (*skando komaro*, Skanda Kumara)
- þακαμανο Βοδδο (*shakamano boddho*, Shakyamuni Buddha)

Additionally,

- Oηbo (*oesho*), long considered to represent Indic Shiva, [39][40][41] but also identified as Avestan Vayu conflated with Shiva. [42][43]
- Two copper coins of Huvishka bear a 'Ganesa' legend, but instead of depicting the typical theriomorphic figure of Ganesha, have a figure of an archer holding a full-length bow with string inwards and an arrow. This is typically a depiction of Rudra, but in the case of these two coins is generally assumed to represent Shiva.

Images of Kushan worshippers



Kushan worshipper with Zeus/Serapis/Ohrmazd, Bactria, 3rd century CE.^[44]



Kushan worshipper with Pharro, Bactria, 3rd century AD.^[44]



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kushan_Empire

Kushan worshipper with Shiva/Oesho, Bactria, 3rd century CE. [44]

Deities on Kushan coinage



Mahasena on a coin of Huvishka



Four-faced Oesho



Rishti







Manaobago

Pharro

Ardochsho





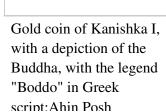


Oesho or Shiva

Oesho or Shiva with bull

Skanda and Visakha







Kushan Carnelian seal representing the "AΔPO" (*adsho* Atar), with triratana symbol left, and Kanishka's dynastic mark right



Buddha



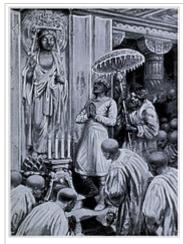
Kushan coins showing half-length bust of Vima Kadphises in various poses, holding mace-scepter or laurel branch in right hand; flames at shoulder, tamgha to right or left. On the other side of coin is a deity with a bull. Some consider the deity as Shiva because he is in ithyphallic state, holds a trident, and the Nandi bull is his mount, as in Hindu mythology. [40][41][45] Others suggest him as Oesho, Zoroastrian Vayu.

Kushans and Buddhism

The Kushans inherited the Greco-Buddhist traditions of the Indo-Greek Kingdom they replaced, and their patronage of Buddhist institutions allowed them to grow as a commercial power.^[46] Between the mid-first century and the mid-third century, Buddhism, patronized by the Kushans, extended to China and other Asian countries through the Silk Road.

Kanishka is renowned in Buddhist tradition for having convened a great Buddhist council in Kashmir. Along with his predecessor in the region the Indo-Greek king Menander I (Milinda) and the Indian emperors Ashoka and Harsha Vardhana, Kanishka is considered by Buddhism as one of its greatest benefactors.

During the first century AD, Buddhist books were being produced and carried by monks, and their trader patrons. Also, monasteries were being established along these land routes that went from China and other parts of Asia. With the development of Buddhist books, it caused a new written language called Gandhara. Gandhara consists of eastern Afghanistan and northern Pakistan. Scholars are said to have found many Buddhist scrolls that contained the Gandhari language.^[47]



Kanishka inaugurates Mahayana Buddhism. Illustration from 1910

The reign of Huvishka corresponds to the first known epigraphic evidence of the Buddha Amitabha, on the bottom part of a 2nd-century statue which has been found in Govindo-Nagar, and now at the Mathura Museum. The statue is dated to "the 28th year of the reign of Huvishka", and dedicated to "Amitabha Buddha" by a family of merchants. There is also some evidence that Huvishka himself was a follower of Mahāyāna Buddhism. A Sanskrit manuscript fragment in the Schøyen Collection describes Huvishka as one who has "set forth in the Mahāyāna." [48]

Kushan art



Standing Female, 1st century AD
Terracotta. This lively female figure
comes from an area of Pakistan where
merchants from around the
Mediterranean had long maintained
trading posts. The area, known in
antiquity as Gandhara, developed an
unusual hybrid style of art and culture
that was at once Hellenic and Indic.
Brooklyn Museum

The art and culture of Gandhara, at the crossroads of the Kushan hegemony, continued the traditions of Greco-Buddhist art and are the best known expressions of Kushan influences to Westerners. Several direct depictions of Kushans are known from Gandhara, where they are represented with a tunic, belt and trousers and play the role of devotees to the Buddha, as well

Early Mahayana Buddhist triad. From left to right, a Kushan devotee, Maitreya, the Buddha, Avalokitesvara, and a Buddhist monk. 2nd–3rd century, Gandhara

as the Bodhisattva and future Buddha Maitreya.

During the Kushan Empire, many images of Gandhara share a strong resemblance to the features of Greek, Syrian, Persian and Indian figures. These Western-looking stylistic signatures often include heavy drapery and curly hair,^[49] representing a composite (the Greeks, for example, often possessed curly hair).

In the iconography, they are never associated however with the very Hellenistic "Standing Buddha" statues, which might therefore correspond to an earlier historical period.

Contacts with Rome

Several Roman sources describe the visit of ambassadors from the Kings of Bactria and

India during the 2nd century, probably referring to the Kushans.



Coin of the Roman Emperor Trajan, found together with coins of Kanishka at the Ahin Posh Monastery

Historia Augusta, speaking of Emperor Hadrian (117–138) tells:

Reges Bactrianorum legatos ad eum, amicitiae petendae causa, supplices miserunt

"The kings of the Bactrians sent supplicant ambassadors to him, to seek his friendship."

Also in 138, according to Aurelius Victor (*Epitome*, XV, 4), and Appian (*Praef.*, 7), Antoninus Pius, successor to Hadrian, received some Indian, Bactrian Hyrcanian ambassadors.



Greco-Roman gladiator on a glass vessel, Begram, 2nd century

"Precious things from *Da Qin* [the Roman Empire] can be found there [in Tianzhu or Northwestern India], as well as fine cotton cloths, fine wool carpets,

perfumes of all sorts, sugar candy, pepper, ginger, and black salt."

—Hou Hanshu^[50]

The summer capital of the Kushan in Begram has yielded a considerable amount of goods imported from the Roman Empire, in particular, various types of glassware.

Contacts with China

During the 1st and 2nd century, the Kushan Empire expanded militarily to the north and occupied parts of the Tarim Basin, their original grounds, putting them at the center of the profitable Central Asian commerce with the Roman Empire. They are related to have collaborated militarily with the Chinese against nomadic incursion, particularly when they collaborated with the Han Dynasty general Ban Chao against the Sogdians in 84, when the latter were trying to support a revolt by the king of Kashgar.^[51] Around 85, they also assisted the Chinese general in an attack on Turpan, east of the Tarim Basin.



The Kushan Buddhist monk Lokaksema, first known translator of Buddhist Mahayana scriptures into Chinese, c. 170.

In recognition for their support to the Chinese, the Kushans requested a Han princess, but were denied, [51][52] even after they had sent presents to the Chinese court. In retaliation, they marched on Ban Chao in 86 with a force of 70,000, but were defeated by a



A bronze coin of Kanishka found in Khotan, Tarim Basin

smaller Chinese force.^{[51][52]} The Yuezhi retreated and paid tribute to the Chinese Empire during the reign of the Chinese emperor Han He (89–106).

Later, around 116, the Kushans under Kanishka established a kingdom centered on Kashgar, also taking control of Khotan and Yarkand, which were Chinese dependencies in the Tarim Basin, modern Xinjiang. They introduced the Brahmi script, the Indian Prakrit language for administration, and expanded the influence of Greco-Buddhist art which developed into Serindian art.

The Kushans are again recorded to have sent presents to the Chinese court in 158–159 during the reign of the Chinese emperor Han Huan.

Following these interactions, cultural exchanges further increased, and Kushan Buddhist missionaries, such as Lokaksema, became active in the Chinese capital cities of Loyang and sometimes Nanjing, where they particularly distinguished

themselves by their translation work. They were the first recorded promoters of Hinayana and Mahayana scriptures in China, greatly contributing to the Silk Road transmission of Buddhism.

Decline

After the death of Vasudeva I in 225, the Kushan empire split into western and eastern halves. The Western Kushans (in Afghanistan) were soon subjugated by the Persian Sassanid Empire and lost Bactria and other territories. In 248 they were defeated again by the Persians, who deposed the Western dynasty and replaced them with Persian vassals known as the Kushanshas (or Indo-Sassanids).

The Eastern Kushan kingdom was based in the Punjab. Around 270 their territories on the Gangetic plain became independent under local dynasties such as the Yaudheyas. Then in the mid-4th century they were subjugated by the Gupta Empire under Samudragupta.

In 360 a Kushan vassal named Kidara overthrew the old Kushan dynasty and established the Kidarite Kingdom. The Kushan style of Kidarite coins indicates they considered themselves Kushans. The Kidarite seem to have been rather prosperous, although on a smaller scale than their Kushan predecessors.

These remnants of the Kushan empire were ultimately wiped out in the 5th century by the invasions of the Hephthalites, and the rise of the Gupta empire.

Main Kushan rulers

- Heraios (c. 1 30), first Kushan ruler, generally Kushan ruling period is disputed
- Kujula Kadphises (c. 30 c. 80)
- Vima Takto, (c. 80 c. 95) alias Soter Megas or "Great Saviour."
- Vima Kadphises (c. 95 c. 127) the first great Kushan emperor
- Kanishka I (127 c. 140)
- Vāsishka (c. 140 c. 160)
- Huvishka (c. 160 c. 190)
- Vasudeva I (c. 190 to at least 230), the last of the great Kushan emperors
- Kanishka II (c. 230 240)
- Vashishka (c. 240 250)
- Kanishka III (c. 250 275)
- Vasudeva II (c. 275 310)
 - Vasudeva III reported son of Vasudeva III,a King, uncertain.
 - Vasudeva IV reported possible child of Vasudeva III, ruling in Kandahar, uncertain.
 - Vasudeva of Kabul reported possible child of Vasudeva IV,ruling in Kabul, uncertain.
- Chhu (c. 310? 325?)
- Shaka I (c. 325 345)
- Kipunada (c. 345 375)

See also

- Pre-Islamic period of Afghanistan
- Indo-Parthian Kingdom
- Kucha, another Tocharian-speaking kingdom (with a related etymology)
- Turushka

Notes

- 1. ^ "The Rabatak inscription claims that in the year 1 Kanishka I's authority was proclaimed in India, in all the satrapies and in different cities like Koonadeano (Kundina), Ozeno (Ujjain), Kozambo (Kausambi), Zagedo (Saketa), Palabotro (Pataliputra) and Ziri-Tambo (Janjgir-Champa). These cities lay to the east and south of Mathura, up to which locality Wima had already carried his victorious arm. Therefore they must have been captured or subdued by Kanishka I himself." "Ancient Indian Inscriptions", S. R. Goyal, p. 93. See also the analysis of Sims-Williams and J.Cribb, who had a central role in the decipherment: "A new Bactrian inscription of Kanishka the Great", in "Silk Road Art and Archaeology" No4, 1995-1996. Also Mukherjee B.N. "The Great Kushanan Testament", Indian Museum Bulletin.
- 2. ^ a b André Wink, Al-Hind, the Making of the Indo-Islamic World: The Slavic Kings and the Islamic conquest, 11th-13th centuries, (Oxford University Press, 1997), 57.
- 3. ^ a b c "Afghanistan: Central Asian and Sassanian Rule, ca. 150 B.C.-700 A.D." (http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?frd/cstdy:@field(DOCID+af0005)). United States: Library of Congress Country Studies. 1997. Retrieved 2012-08-16.
- 4. ^ *The Dynasty Arts of the Kushans*, University of California Press, 1967, p. 5 (http://books.google.com/books?id=udnBkQhzHH4C&pg=PA7&dq=Kushan+Sanskrit&hl=en&ei=UvPDTbbwC9zZ4waLkdijBQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=1&ved=0CCkQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=Kushan%20Sanskrit&f=false)
- 5. ^ Hill (2009), pp. 29, 318–350

- 6. ^ The Kushans at first retained the Greek language for administrative purposes, but soon began to use Bactrian. The Bactrian Rabatak inscription (discovered in 1993 and deciphered in 2000) records that the Kushan king Kanishka (c. 127 AD), discarded Greek (Ionian) as the language of administration and adopted Bactrian ("Arya language"), from Falk (2001): "The yuga of Sphujiddhvaja and the era of the Kuṣâṇas." Harry Falk. Silk Road Art and Archaeology VII, p. 133.
- 7. ^ Runion, Meredith L. (2007). *The history of Afghanistan*. Westport: Greenwood Press. p. 46. ISBN 978-0-313-33798-7. "The Yuezhi people conquered Bactria in the second century BC. and divided the country into five chiefdoms, one of which would become the Kushan Empire. Recognizing the importance of unification, these five tribes combined under the one dominate Kushan tribe, and the primary rulers descended from the Yuezhi."
- 8. ^ a b Liu, Xinrui (2001). Adas, Michael, ed.

 Agricultural and pastoral societies in ancient and classical history. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. p. 156. ISBN 978-1-56639-832-9.
- 9. ^ http://books.google.dk
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 dq=Sassanid+and+huns&hl=da&
 sa=X&ei=cXfRUcPOMMjvOcfLgYgO&
 ved=0CE0Q6AEwBA#v=onepage&
 q=Sassanid%20and%20huns&f=false
- 10. ^ Mallory & Mair (2000), pp. 270–297.
- 11. ^ "They are, by almost unanimous opinion, Indo-Europeans, probably the most oriental of those who occupied the steppes." Roux, p.90

- 12. A Ramesh Chandra Majumdar. The History and Culture of the Indian People, Volume 2. (http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&id=0szGAAAAIAAJ&focus=searchwithinvolume&q=Turushka+Turkish) G. Allen & Unwin, 1951. page 149: "The reference to the Kushana family as of Turushka or Turkish origin in the Kashmir chronicle is supported by a tradition recorded by Alberuni. According to this tradition the Hindus had kings residing in Kabul, who were said to be Turks of Tibetan origin."
- 13. ^ *a b* Falk (2001), pp. 121–136.
- 14. ^ Falk, Harry (2004), pp. 167–176.
- 15. ^ Hill (2009), pp. 29, 33, 368-371.
- 16. ^ Hill (2009), p. 36 and notes.
- 17. ^ Yueh-chi or Yüeh-chih in other transcriptions, For romanized spelling Yueh-chi see: Keay, p. 110.
- 18. ^ Kushan Empire (ca. 2nd century BC–3rd century AD) | Thematic Essay | Timeline of Art History | The Metropolitan Museum of Art (http://www.metmuseum.org/TOAH/HD /kush/hd kush.htm)
- 19. ^ Hill (2009), p. 311.
- 20. ^ Keay, p. 110.
- 21. ^ University of Calcutta (1885). Calcutta review,
 Volumes 80–81. University of Calcutta. p. 202.
 "Southern Panjab, and as three Gujar princes were reigning somewhere possibly in the same country more than a hundred years later, General Cunningham thinks that the Kushan and the Gujar may be identical"
- 22. ^ Dineschandra Sircar (1971). Studies in the religious life of ancient and medieval India (http://books.google.co.in /books?id=mh1y1eMgGBMC&pg=PA109&lpg). Motilal Banarsidass Publ. pp. 108–109. ISBN 978-81-208-2790-5. ISBN 81-208-2790-2.
- 23. *^ The history of the Gurjara-Pratihāras, Edition 2.*Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers. 1986. p. 20.

- 24. ^ University of Kerala. Dept. of History; University of Allahabad. Dept. of Modern Indian History, University of Travancore, University of Kerala (1963). *Journal of Indian history, Volume 41*. Dept. of Modern Indian History. p. 284.
- 25. ^ Lebedynsky, p. 62.
- 26. ^ Lebedynsky, p. 15.
- 27. ^ *a b c* Hill (2009), p. 29.
- 28. ^ Chavannes (1907), pp. 190-192.
- 29. ^ *a b c d e f* Rosenfield, p. 41.
- 30. ^ For "Malwa and Maharashtra, for which it is speculated that the Kushans had an alliance with the Western Kshatrapas", see: Rosenfield, p. 41.
- 31. ^ Hall, D.G.E. (1981). *A History of South-East Asia, Fourth Edition*. Hong Kong: Macmillan Education Ltd. p. 17. ISBN 0-333-24163-0.
- 32. ^ For a translation of the full text of the Rabatak inscription see: Mukherjee, B.N., "The Great Kushana Testament", Indian Museum Bulletin, Calcutta, 1995. This translation is quoted in: Goyal (2005), p.88.
- 33. ^ For quotation: "The Rabatak inscription claims that in the year 1 Kanishka I's authority was proclaimed in India, in all the satrapies and in different cities like Koonadeano (Kundina), Ozeno (Ujjain), Kozambo (Kausambi), Zagedo (Saketa), Palabotro (Pataliputra) and Ziri-Tambo (Janjgir-Champa). These cities lay to the east and south of Mathura, up to which locality Wima had already carried his victorious arm.

 Therefore they must have been captured or subdued by Kanishka I himself."see: Goyal, p. 93.
- 34. ^ See also the analysis of Sims-Williams and J.

 Cribb, specialists of the field, who had a central role in the decipherment: "A new Bactrian inscription of Kanishka the Great", in *Silk Road Art and Archaeology* No. 4, 1995–1996. pp.75–142.
- 35. ^ Sims-Williams, Nicholas. "Bactrian Documents from Ancient Afghanistan" (http://www.gengo.l.utokyo.ac.jp/~hkum/bactrian.html). Retrieved 2007-05-24.
- 36. A British Museum display, Asian Art room.

- 37. ^ Falk (2004), pp. 167–176.
- 38. ^ Xinru Liu, *The Silk Road in World History* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010), 47.
- 39. ^ Sivaramamurti, p. 56-59.
- 40. ^ *a b* Loeschner, Hans (2012) The Stūpa of the Kushan Emperor Kanishka the Great (http://www.sino-platonic.org/complete /spp227_kanishka_stupa_casket.pdf) Sino-Platonic Papers, No. 227 (July 2012); page 11
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- 45. ^ Perkins, J. (2007). Three-headed Śiva on the Reverse of Vima Kadphises's Copper Coinage. South Asian Studies, 23(1), 31-37

- 46. ^ Xinru Liu, *The Silk Road in World History* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010), 42.
- 47. ^ Xinru Liu, *The Silk Road in World History* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010), 58.
- 48. ^ Neelis, Jason. *Early Buddhist Transmission and Trade Networks*. 2010. p. 141
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- 50. ^ Hill (2009), p. 31.
- 51. ^ a b c de Crespigny, Rafe. (2007). A Biographical Dictionary of Later Han to the Three Kingdoms (23-220 AD). Leiden: Koninklijke Brill. page 5-6. ISBN 90-04-15605-4.
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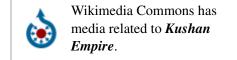
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