

**Study Material for Semester- II**  
**Paper – Mauryan and Gupta Empire (Core-3)**  
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## **Achievements of the Satavahana Rulers**

The Satavahana rulers were great kings. They recorded significant achievements in various fields which are described as under:

### **1. The Satavahana Rulers and their Conquests:**

There were about 19 Satavahana rulers of whom the most important were Simuka who conquered Magadha and Krishna who occupied Nasik. Sri Satakarni conquered Berar and Madhya Pradesh. Little is known about their successors for about a century except Hala the 17th ruler of this dynasty.

Shri Gautamiputra Satakarni conquered Malwa, Kathiawar, Gujarat and part of the Rajputana. Shri Pulumavi had perpetual conflict with Rudradaman. The last king was Yagya Sri Satakarni who was a strong ruler. He waged wars to recover the territories conquered previously by the Saka rulers.

### **2. Political Condition and Administration:**

The system of administration was monarchical. The king himself was the commander of his force. He sought advice from his council of ministers to carry out his administration efficiently. The administration was feudal. The whole kingdom was divided into provinces, districts and villages.

The king was always prepared to take steps for the welfare of his subjects. The main sources of income were land tax, salt tax, property tax, justice-cess and income from import and export trade. The military administration was efficient. The army which consisted of infantry or foot soldiers, cavalry or horses and elephants were well-equipped.

### **3. Literary Progress:**

The Satavahana kings were lovers of literature. They also patronized learning. The Prakrit language prospered well during this period. Hala wrote 'Gatha – Saptasati, Gunadhya wrote 'Brihat Katha' and Sarva Varman wrote a treatise on the Sanskrit Grammar.

### **4. Progress in the Field of Architecture:**

Under the Satavahanas great progress was made in the field of architecture as well.

### **5. Progress in the Field of Sculpture:**

Many statues and images were also made during this period. Most of the images depict scenes from the life of the Buddha.

The scene depicting Buddha's feet being worshipped is particularly a unique sculpture at the Amravati Stupa while at Nagarjunakonda the sculpture, depicting the Buddha giving a sermon, cast a spell of serenity and calm.

<https://www.historydiscussion.net/empires/satavahana-dynasty-rulers-administration-society-and-economic-conditions/736>