

Prehistoric period

Period without any written records.

Archaeological excavations are the only evidence for our cultural knowledge

Prehistoric period has three ages

The stone age

Palaeolithic age

Mesolithic age

Neolithic age

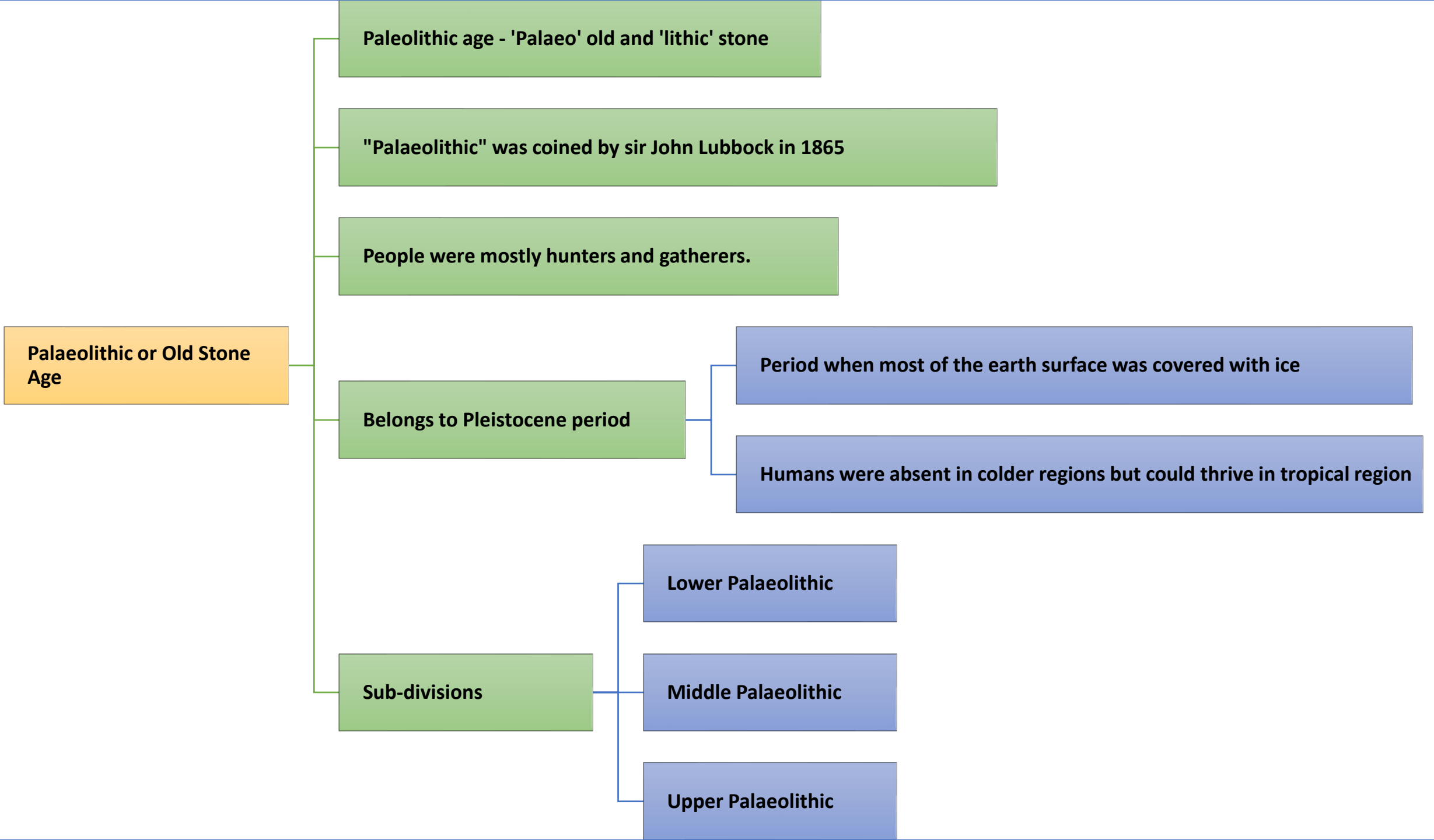
The Bronze Age.

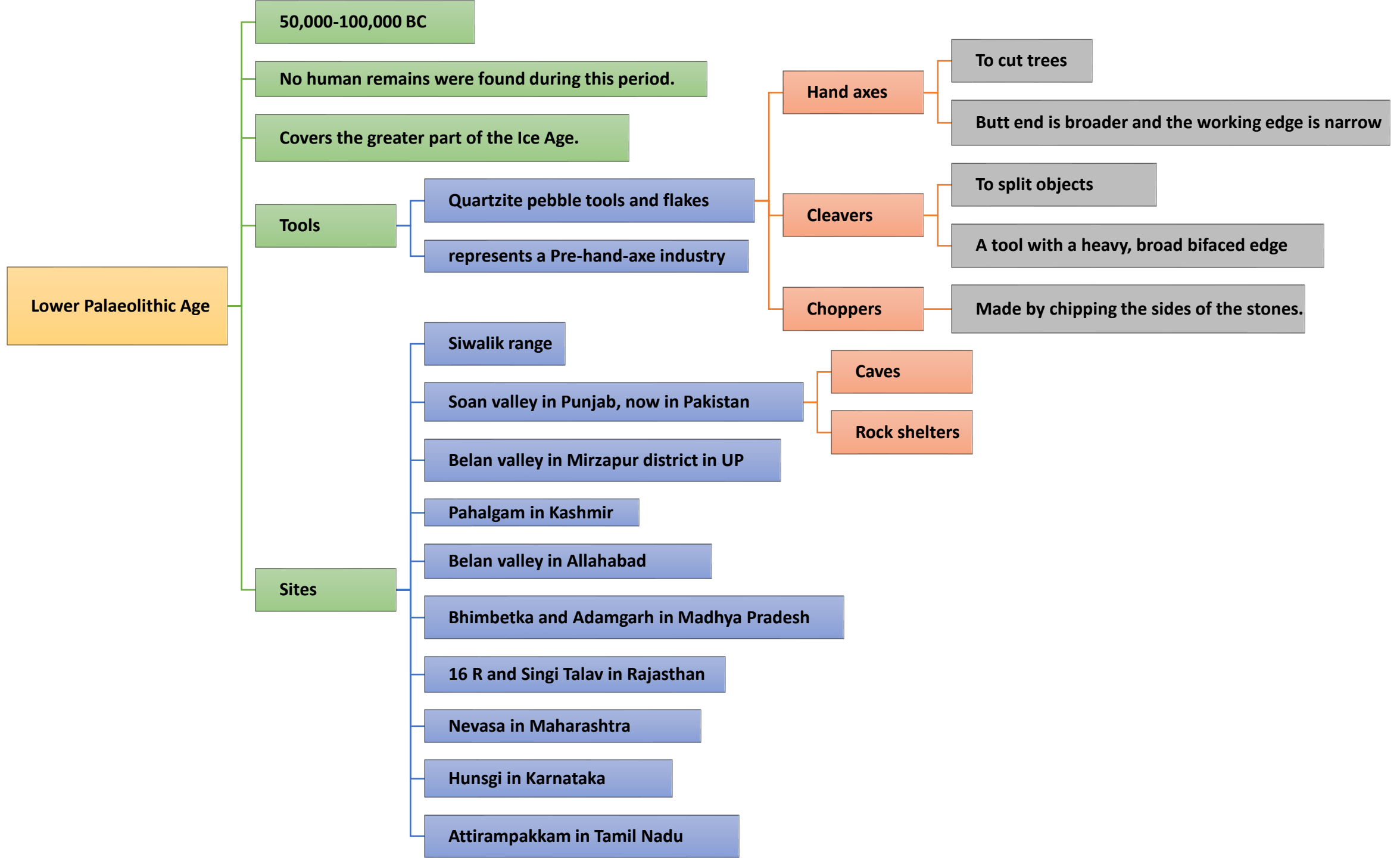
Indus valley civilization

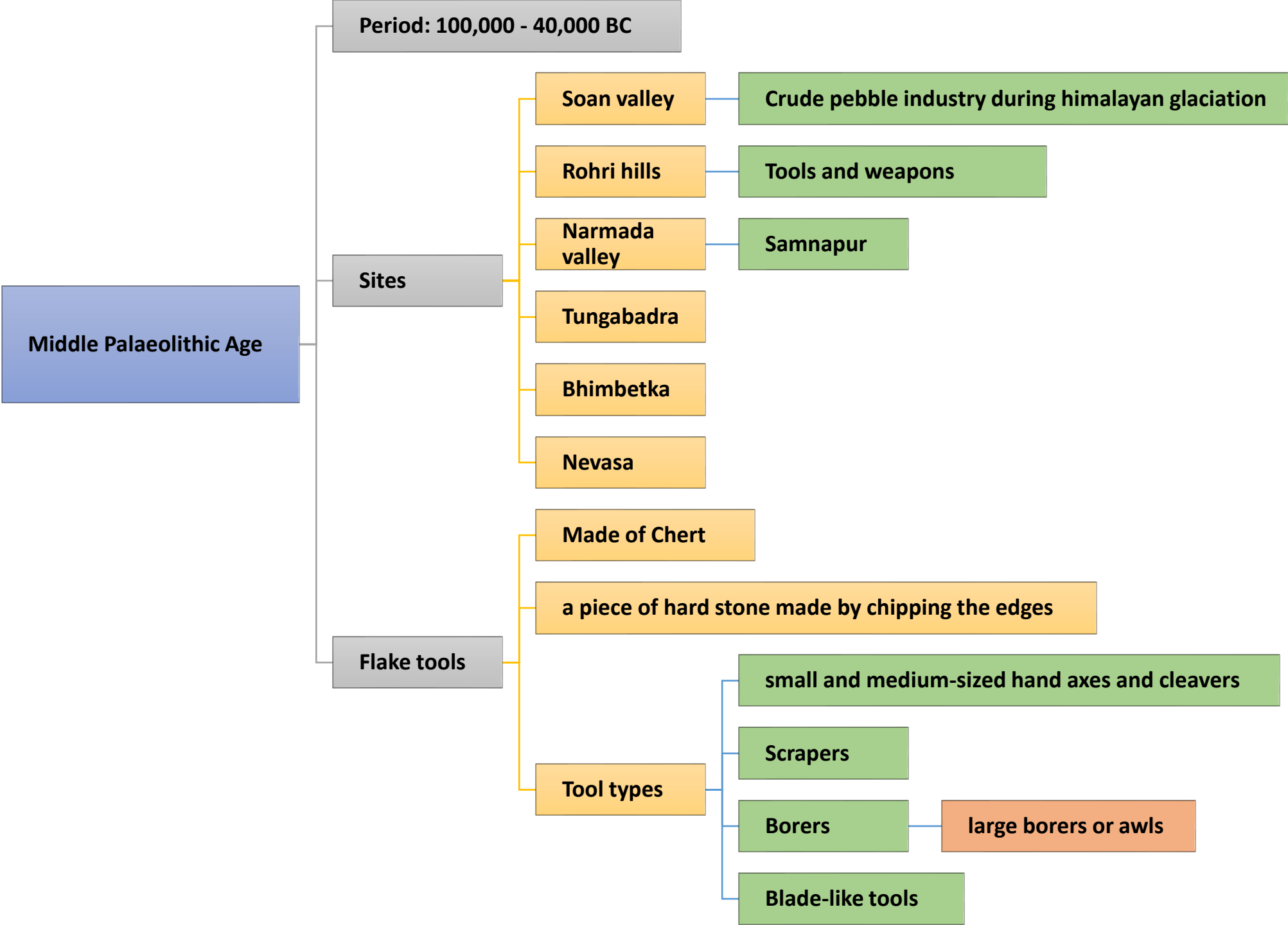
The Iron Age.

Vedic period

Early kingdoms







Upper Palaeolithic Age

Period: 40,000-10,000 BC

Significance

- marks the appearance of new flint industries.
- modern human beings (Homo sapiens) first appeared in the upper Palaeolithic age

Sites

- Bimbhetka(MP)
- Earliest rock cut paintings
- Andhra Pradesh
- Karnataka
- Maharashtra
- Chotanagpur Plateau
- Gujarat

Climate

- Less humid
- belongs to end period of Ice age
- Climate became comparatively warm
- Increase in flora and Fauna

Tools

- Blades**
 - Parallel-sided blades from a prepared core
 - blade tools are comparatively large
- Burins**
 - A chiseled stone with a sharp point
 - Used for engraving on rocks and bones
- Scrapers**
 - flint implement with a sharpened edge
 - used for scraping material such as hide or wood.
- Leather, wood, and bone were also used
- Bones were also used to make needles, fishing tools, harpoons, blades and burin tools

Palaeolithic Culture

Soan culture

Soan is a tributary of river Indus

Regions

sub-Himalayan region in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.

Sirsa valley in Punjab and Beas- Banganga valley in Himachal Pradesh

Three stages

Pre-Sohan

Late-Sohan

Early-Sohan

Sohan complex is also called Chopper chopping complex.

use of pebble tools was dominant.

Two divisions of tools.

chopper tools

unifacial tools having a round, semi-oval or almost straight cutting edge

formed by removal of flakes from the upper surface.

chopping tools

bi-facial tool, worked on both the faces.

produced by alternate flaking

Acheulian culture

Acheulian Tool types

hand-axes

cleavers

retouched flakes

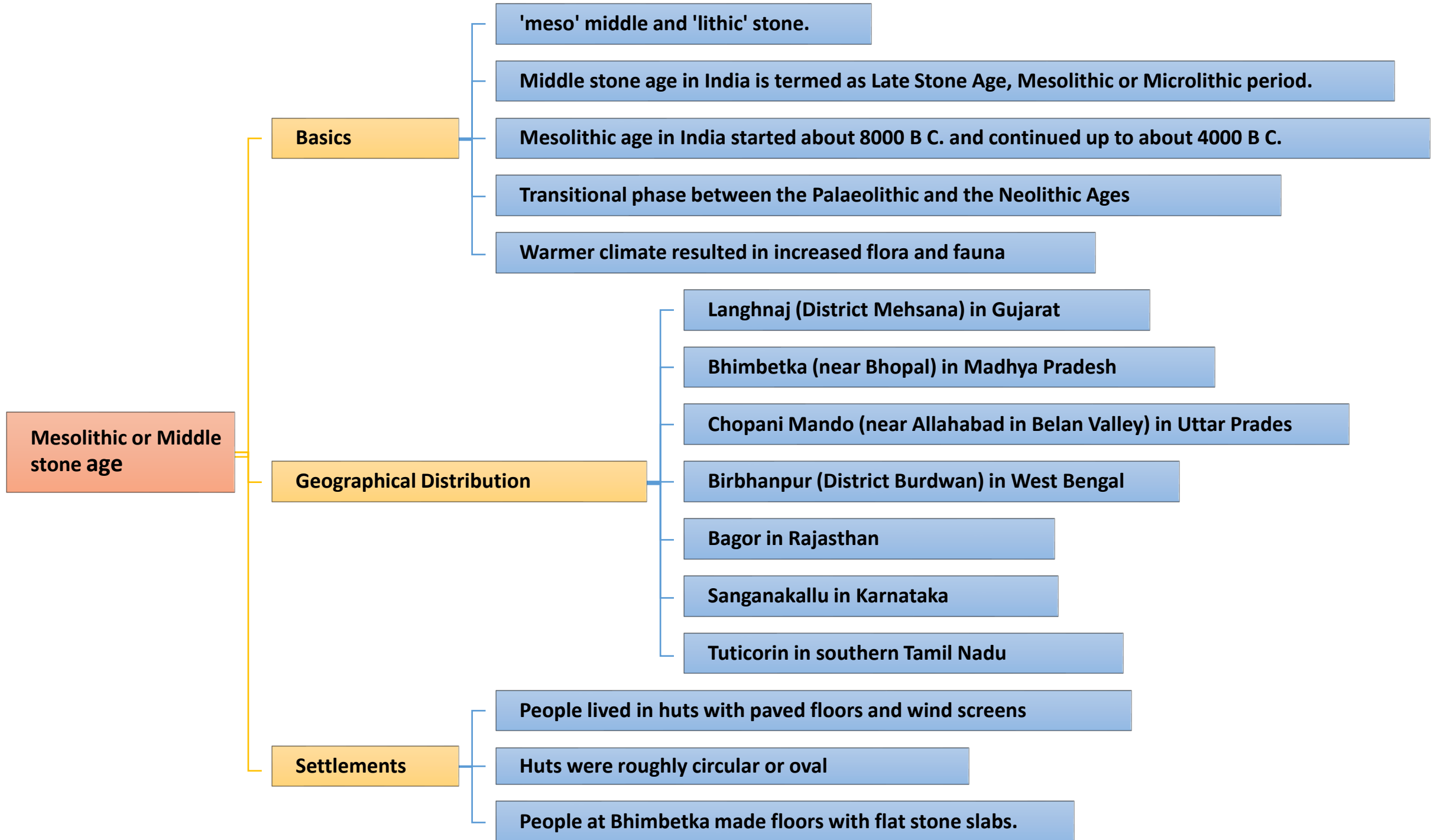
scrapers

tools are characterized by distinctive oval and pear-shaped "hand-axes"

Materials such as flint, chalcedony, quartzite, andesite, sandstone, chert, and shale were used

Tools made in the Achenlian culture are advanced than tools in Soanian culture.

Attirampakkam at Chennai in Tamil Nadu is the oldest Acheulian site in India(1.51 mya)



**Mesolithic age-
Tools, Pottery and
Arts.**

Microlithic Tools

Made of chipped and flaked stones

Length of tools varied from 1 to 8 cm

Tools include blades, points, lunates, trapezes, scrapers, arrowheads, geometric and non-geometric tools.

Tools were capable of being used as combination tools by hafting them in curved wood or bone

Pottery

reported from a number of excavated sites like Langhanj, Bagor(largest Mesolithic site in India), Nagarjunakonda, Chopani Mando

Pottery was wholly hand-made and usually coarse grained with incised and impressed designs rarely.

Arts

Painted rock-shelters

1. Mirzapur district of UP
2. Bhimbetka near Hoshangabad, Adamgarh, Lakha Juar in MP
3. Murhana Paharin in Uttar Pradesh
4. Kupagallu in Karnataka

paintings deal primarily with animals which are shown standing, moving, running, grazing, etc.

paintings are generally executed in red ochre but sometimes bluish green, yellow or white colour also have been used.

humans are depicted in activities, such as dancing, running, hunting, playing games and engaged in battle,

Rhinoceros hunt is depicted in the caves of Adamgarh

Mesolithic age - Society, Recreational activities and Burials

Society

- people began to have fixed settlements
- people were essentially hunters, food-gatherers and fishermen
- domesticated varieties of animals like cattle, sheep and goat
- hunted smaller animals with bows and Spears
- depended on vegetables or plants for food rather than animal meat.

Recreational activities

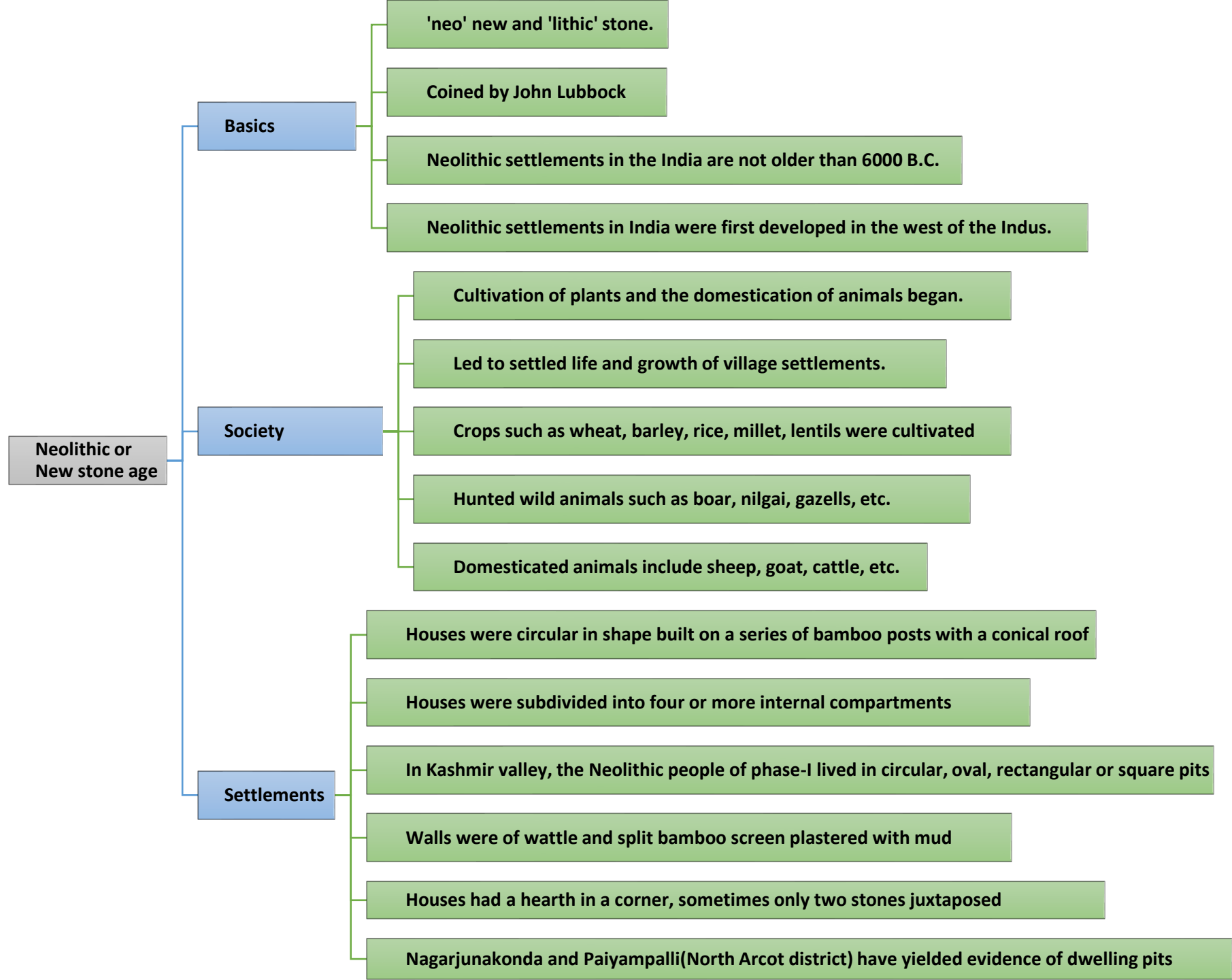
- paintings at Bhimbetka
- dances of ritual significance.
- musical instruments such as blowpipes and horns were used

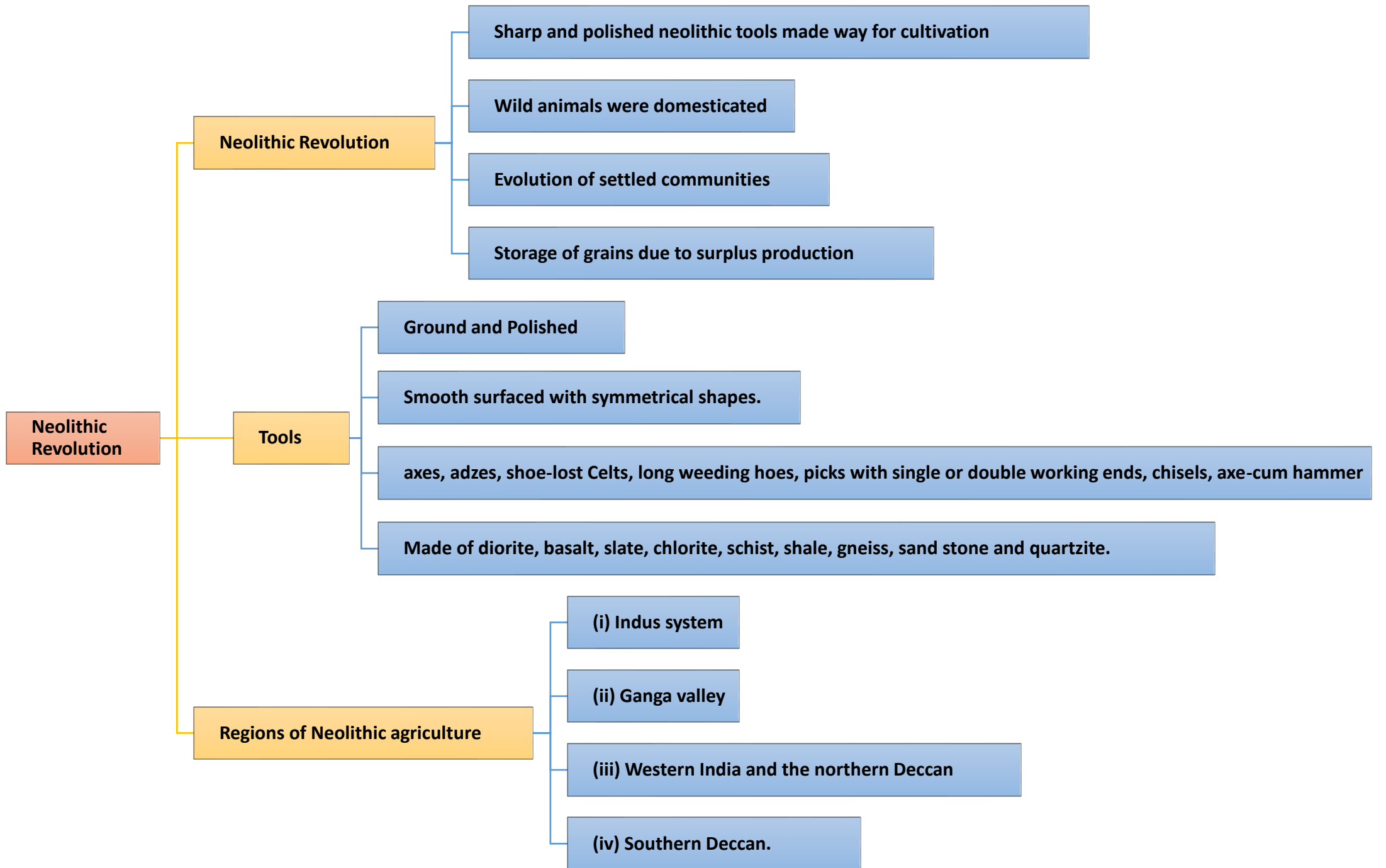
Burials

- rock-painting of a family mourning the death of a child at Bhimbetka
- At Langhanj human skeletons were associated with quartzite pebbles

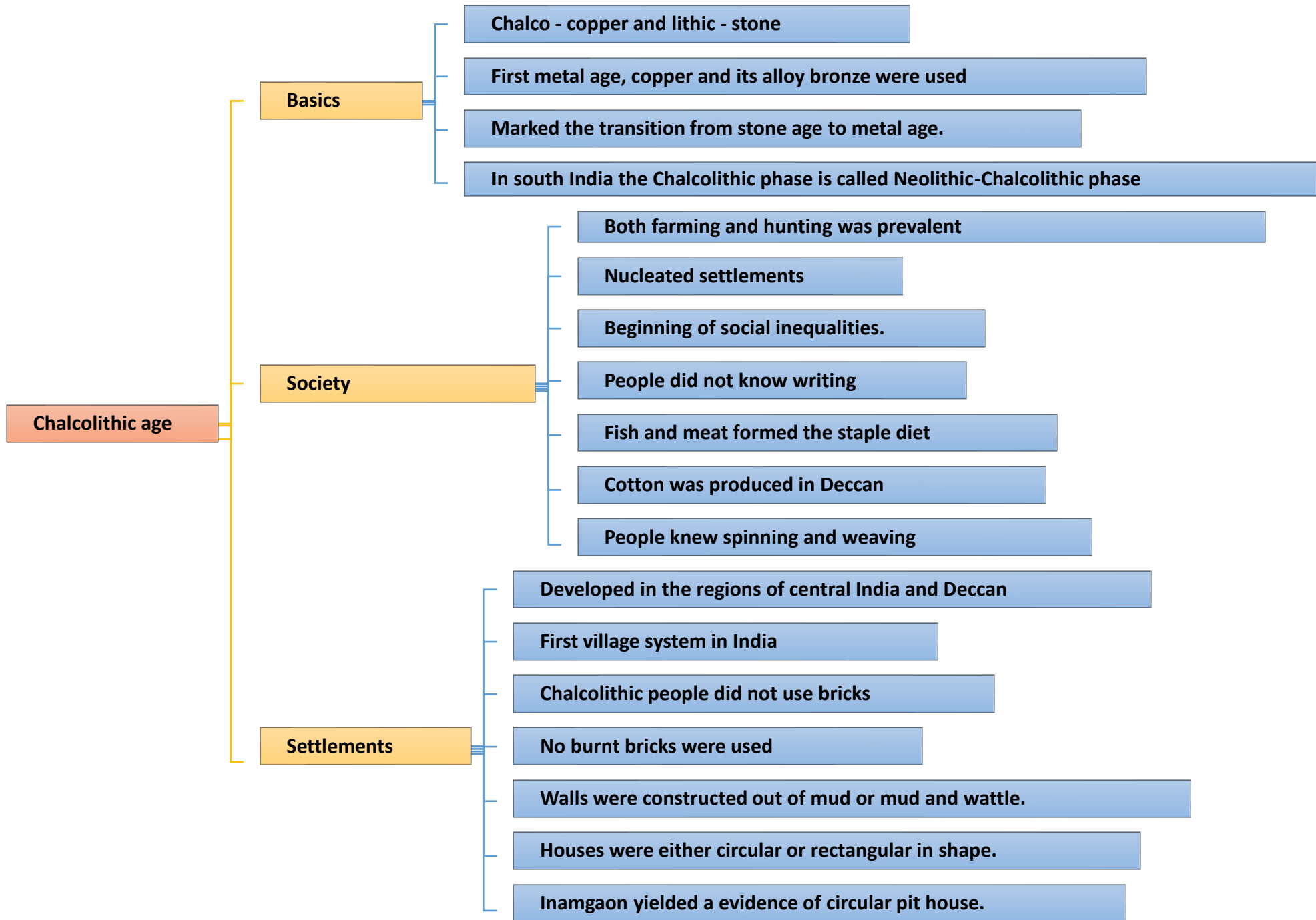
four types of burials

1. Extended burial
 2. Flexed (folded) burial
 3. Fractional (secondary burial)
 4. Double Burials
- Multiple burials were witnessed at Sarai Nihar Rai and Mahadaha
 - Mesolithic people interred objects like microliths, animal bones and beads along with the dead



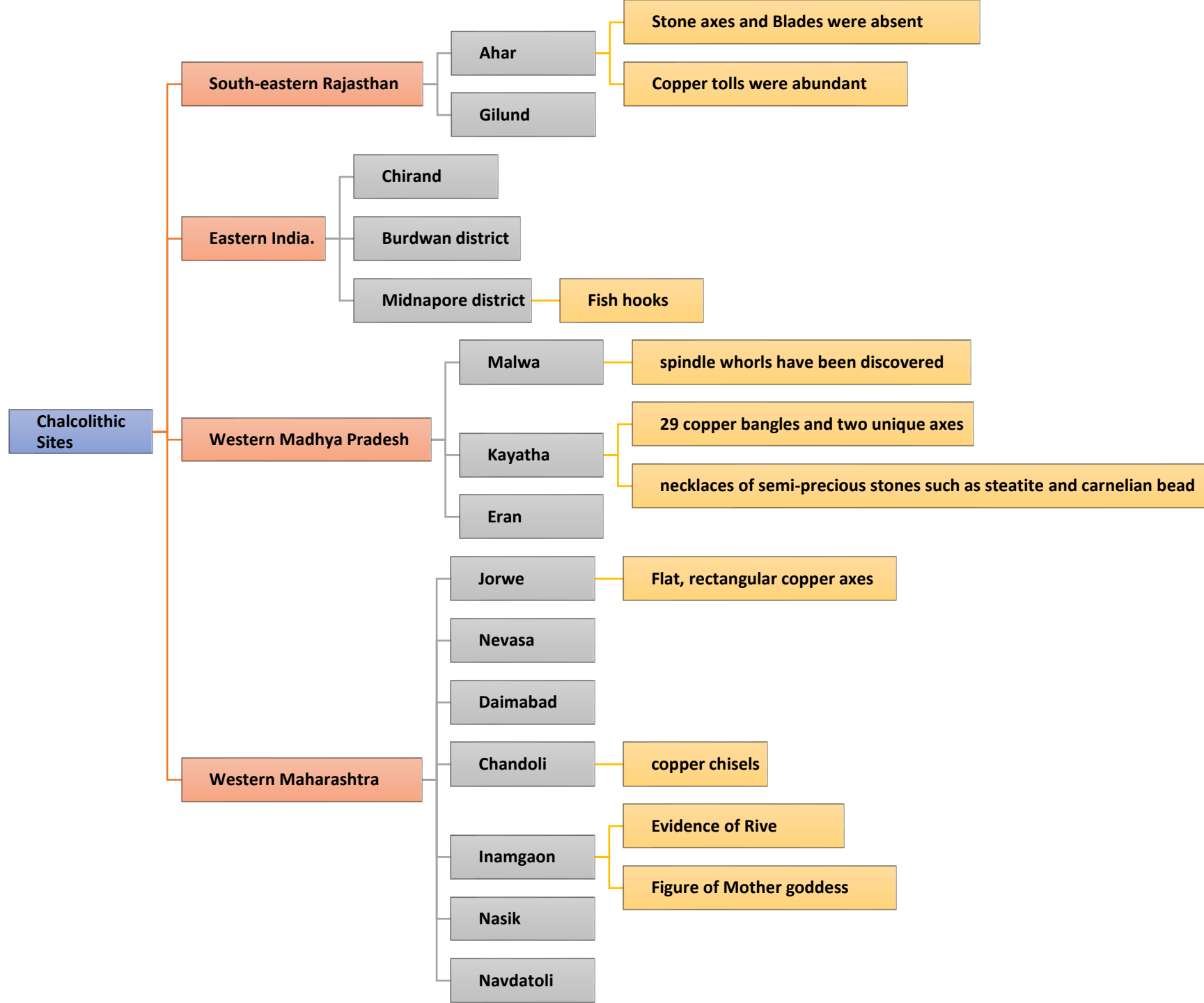


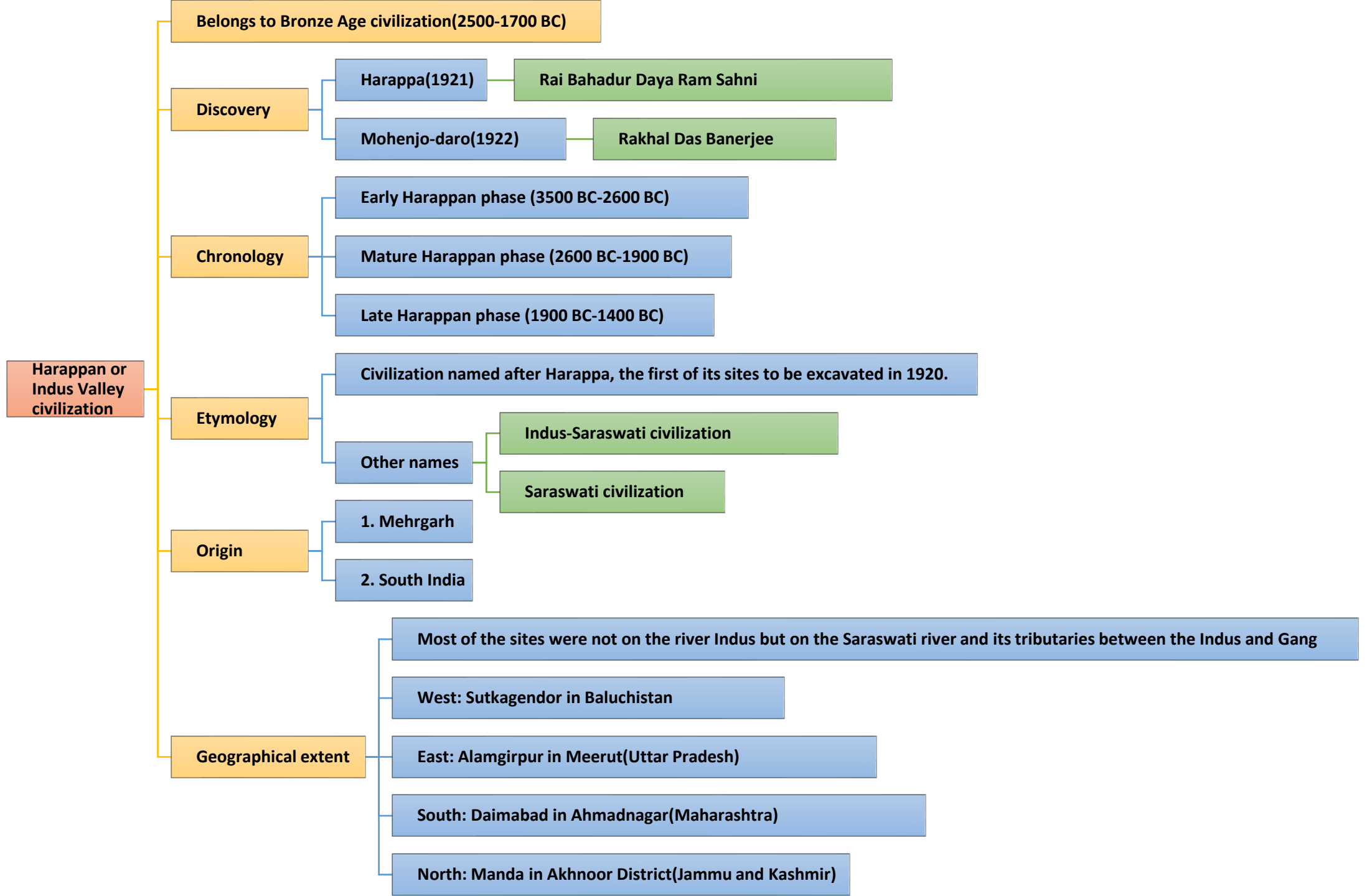




Chalcolithic age- Culture







Harappan or Indus valley Civilization - Town planning

Towns were divided into upper part with citadel and lower part.

Materials

- Sun dried bricks
- Baked bricks

Both Single and multi room houses

- well and water reservoirs were common
- taps inside every home

Buildings

(i) Private houses

- Bathing areas and drains were made with baked bricks or stone.
- Two story houses were common
- Rooms were paved with bricks or fired Terracotta cakes

(ii) Large houses surrounded by smaller units

(iii) Large public structures

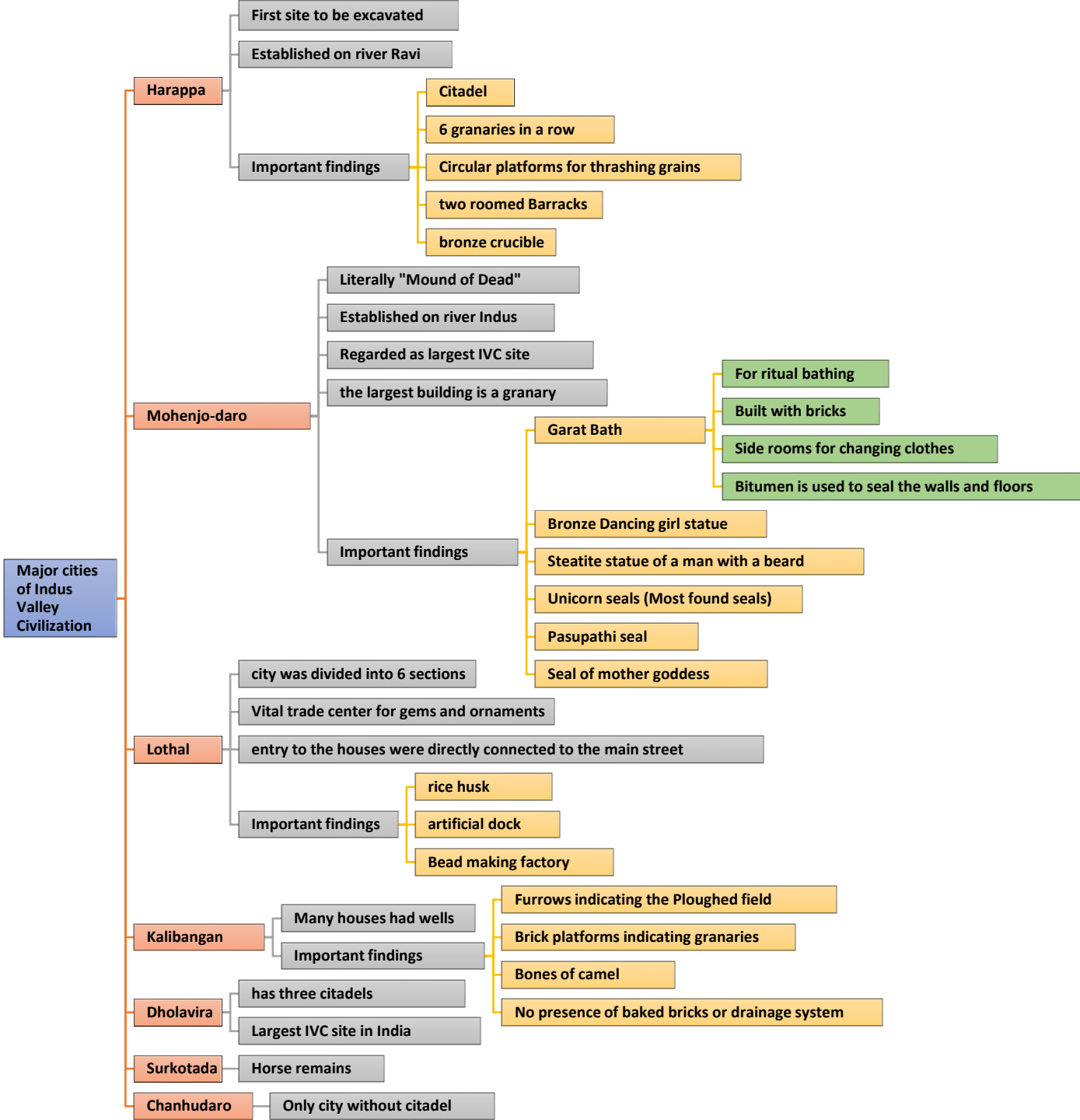
- Granaries
- Citadel

Roads

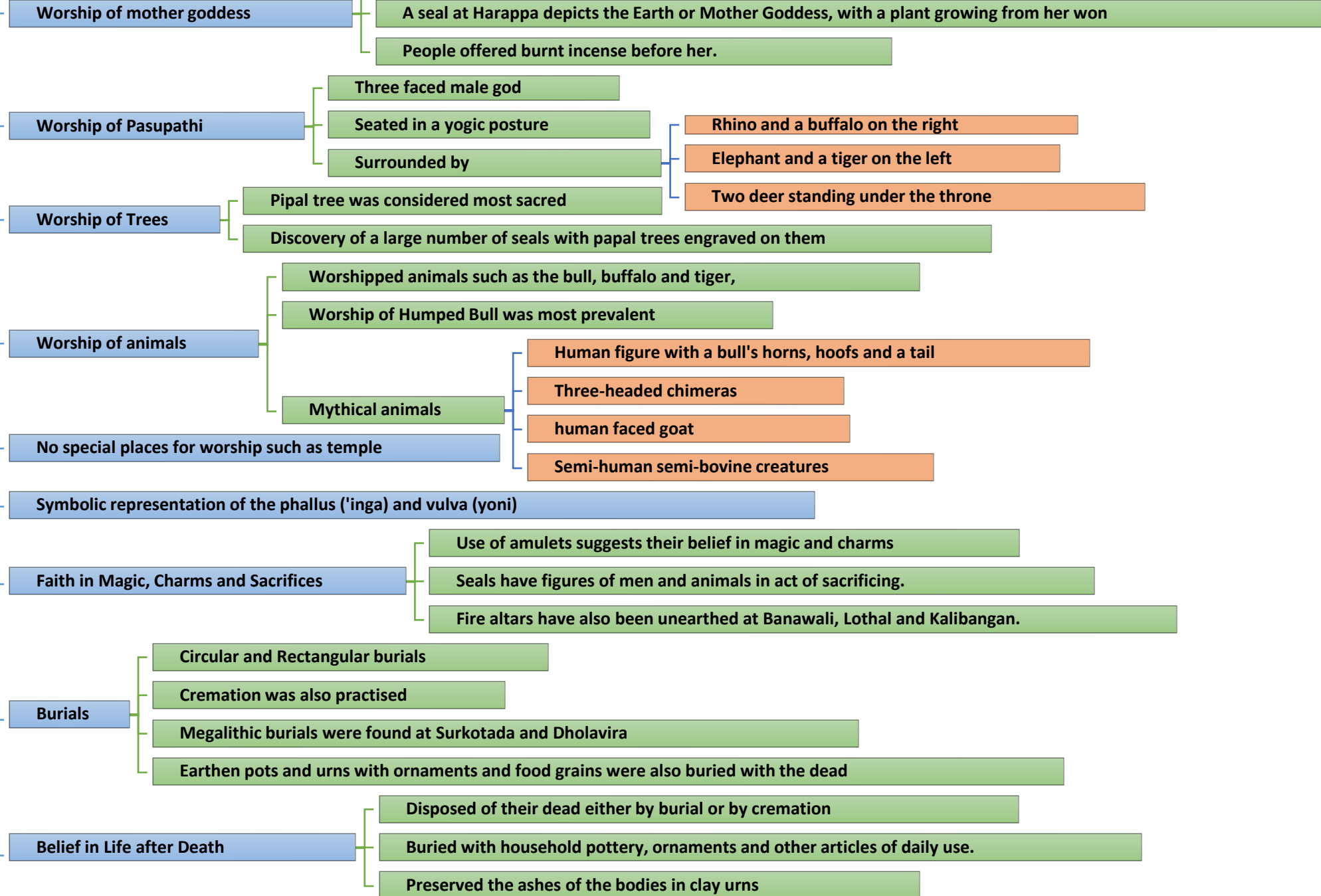
- Straight roads
- Grid or rectangular pattern

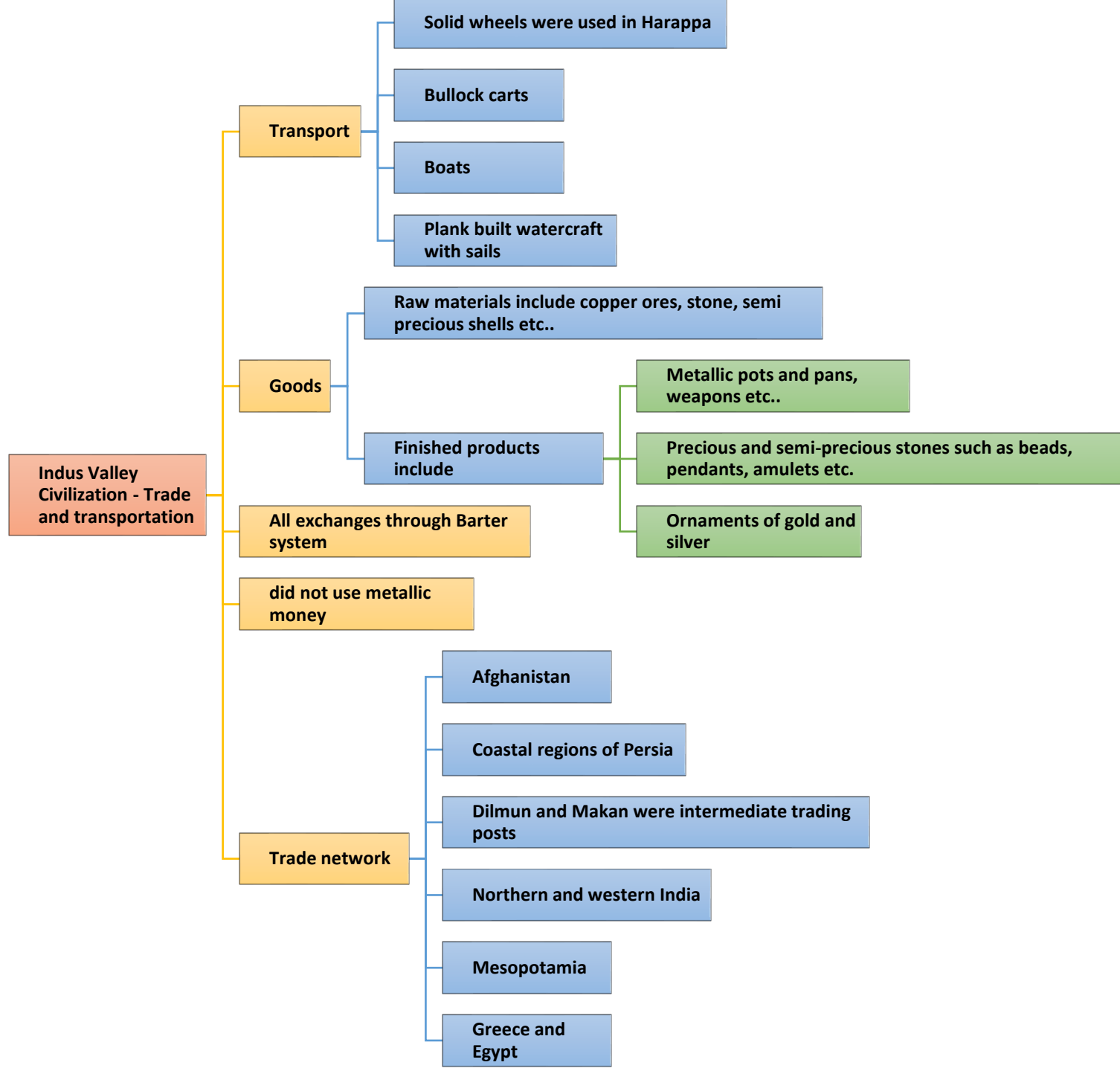
Drainage

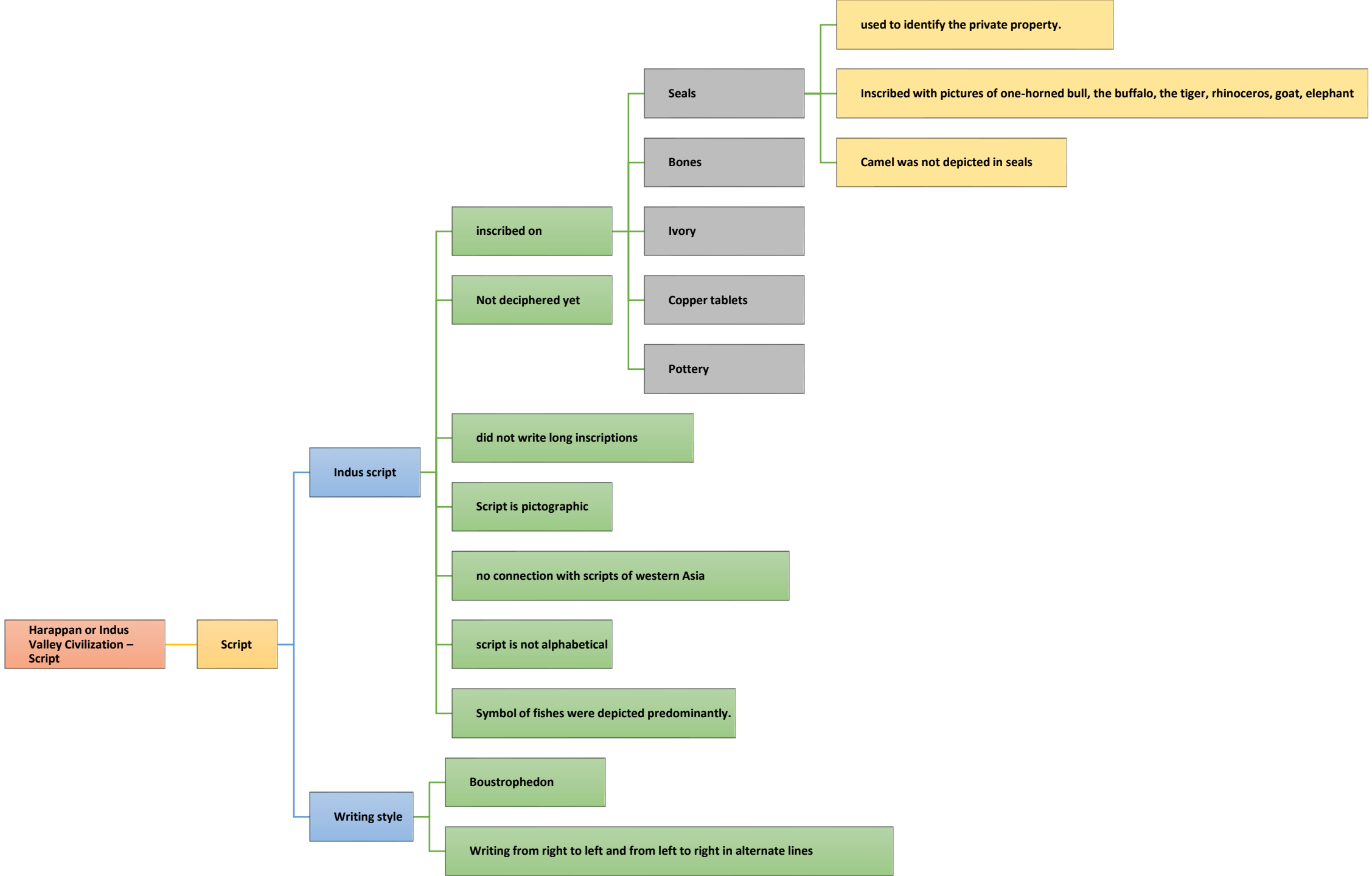
- Underground or covered drainage
- Connected from rear side of the houses



Indus Valley Civilization- Religion







**Indus Valley Civilization -
Agriculture and
Domestication**

Agriculture

Agriculture was practised along the river banks

Indus river inundated the region

Floods took place annually

Produced two types of wheat and barley

People sowed in flood plains during November and reaped in April

First people to produce cotton(Greeks called it as Sindon)

Sesamum and mustard were also cultivated

channel or canal irrigation was absent.

Domestication

humped bulls were predominant

reared buffaloes, sheep, oxen, asses, goats, pigs etc.

both dogs and cats were grown as pets

kept asses and Camels for transport

people were acquainted with Elephants and Rhinoceros

**Indus Valley Civilization -
Inventions, Tools and
Measurement system**

Inventions by IVC

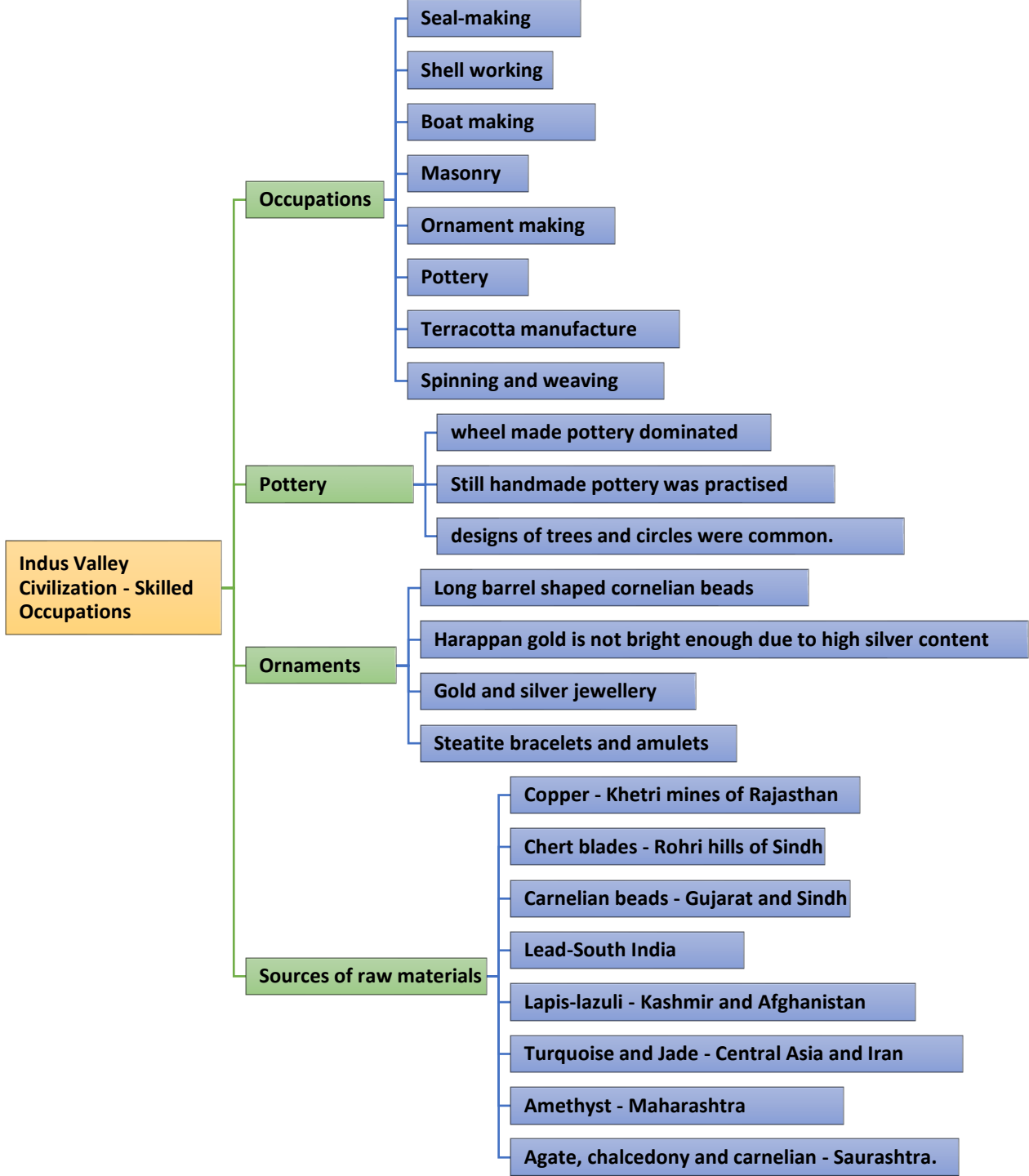
- Dental drill
- Bow drill
- Button
- Furnace
- Levee
- Ruler
- Step well

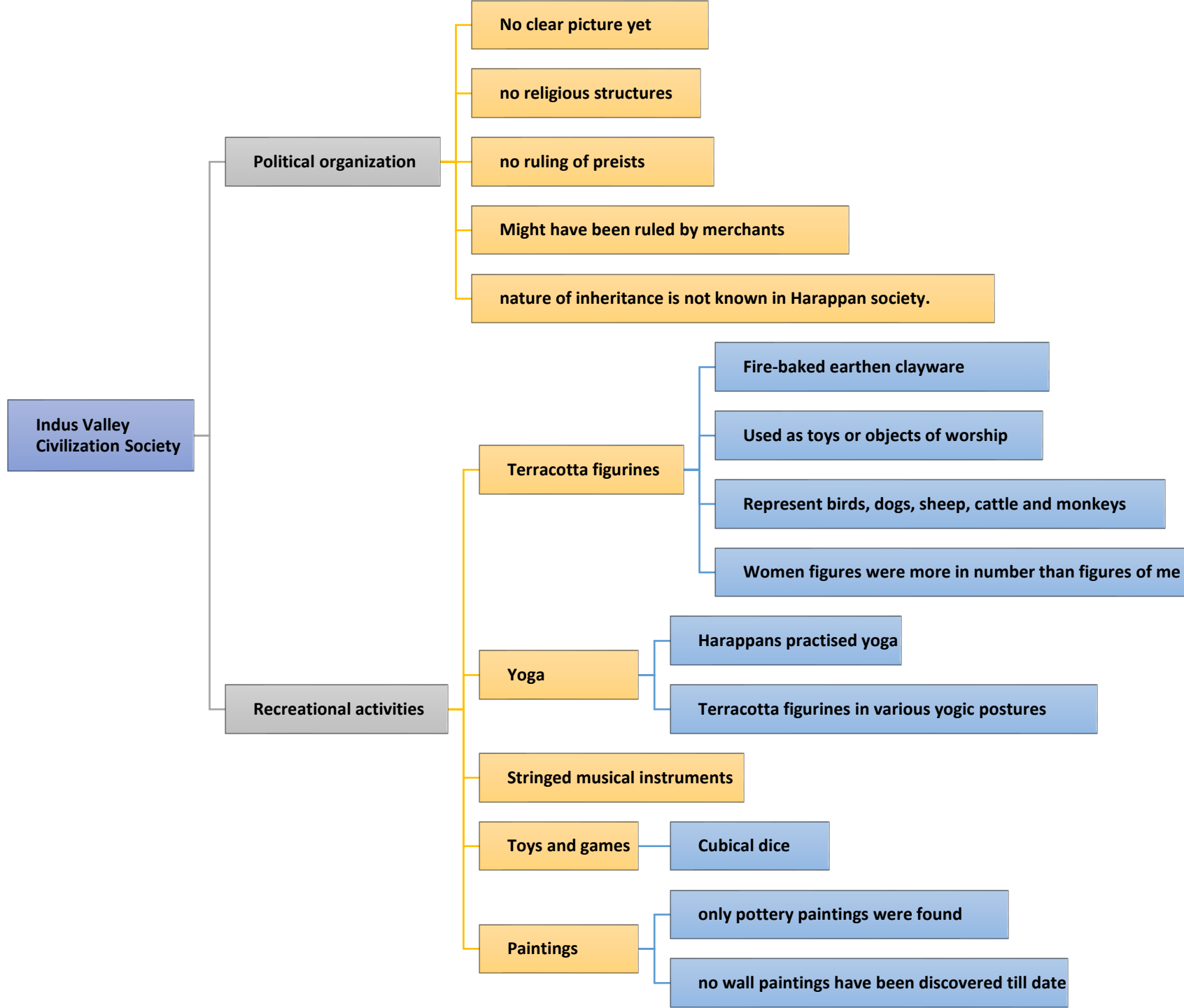
Tools

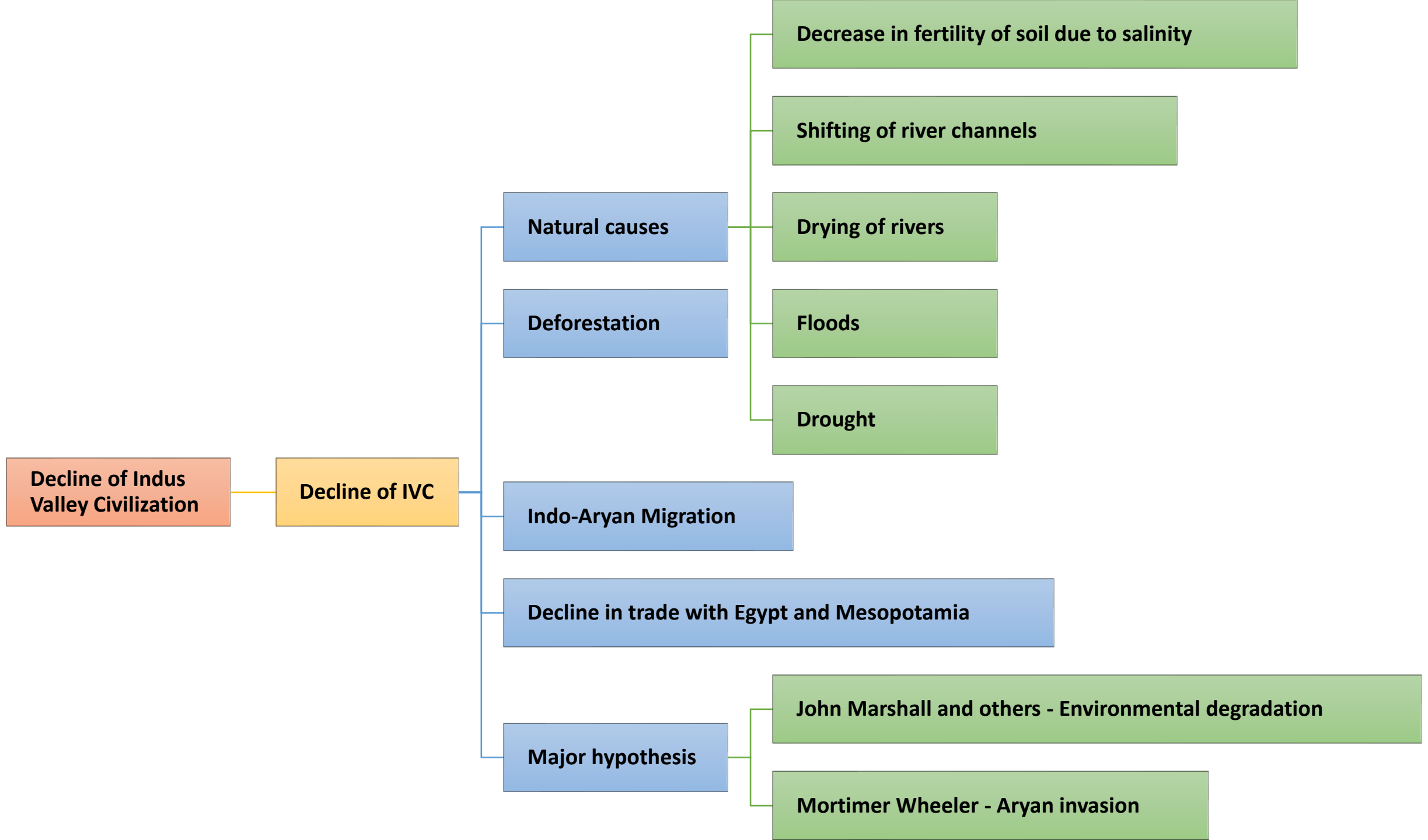
- Copper was mined from Khetri copper mines of Rajasthan
- Copper and Bronze tools were used
- Flat-axes, chisels, arrowhead, spearheads, knives, saws, razors and fish-hooks
- No use of Iron
- Largest number of copper tools found at Gunjeria

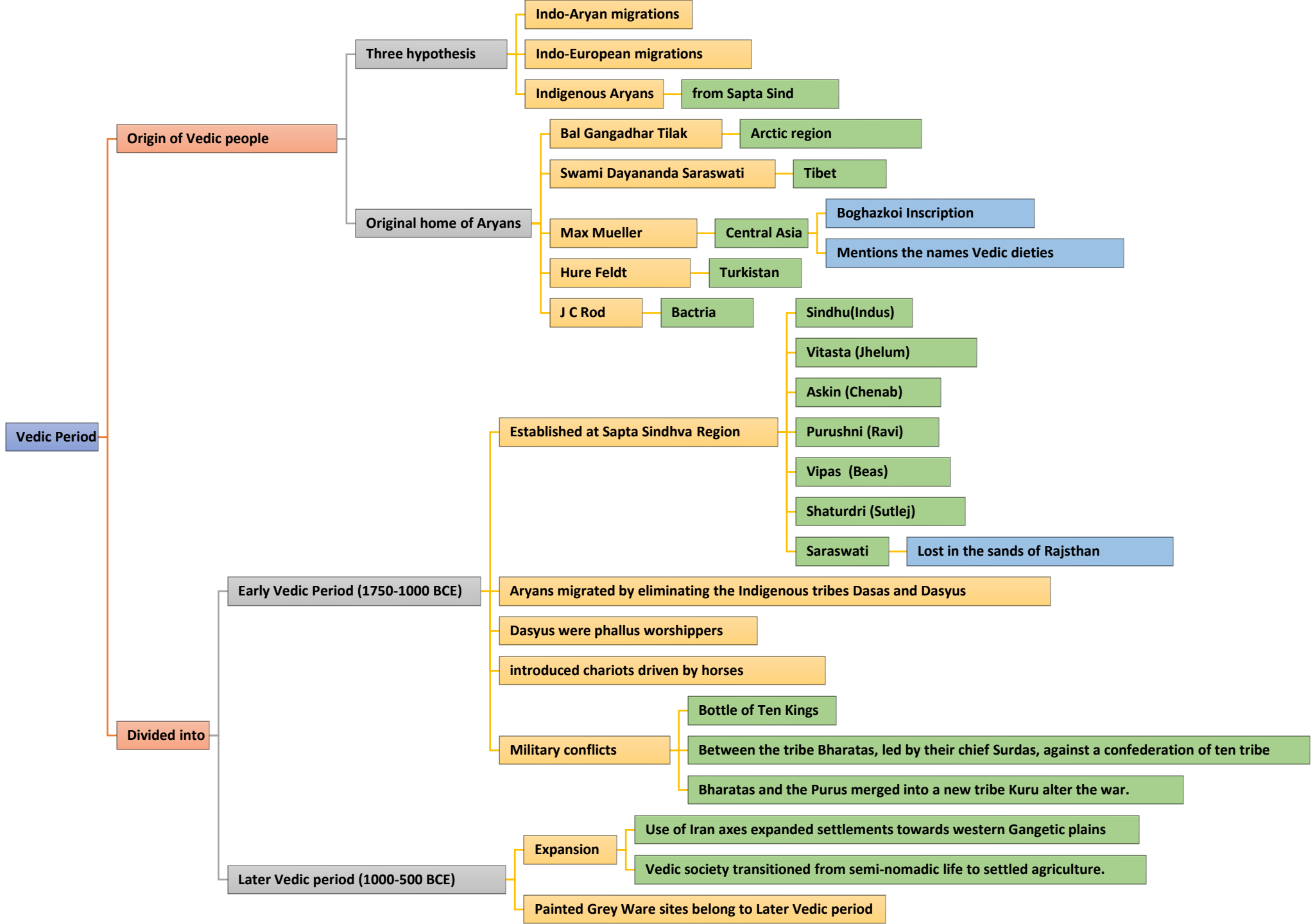
Measurement system

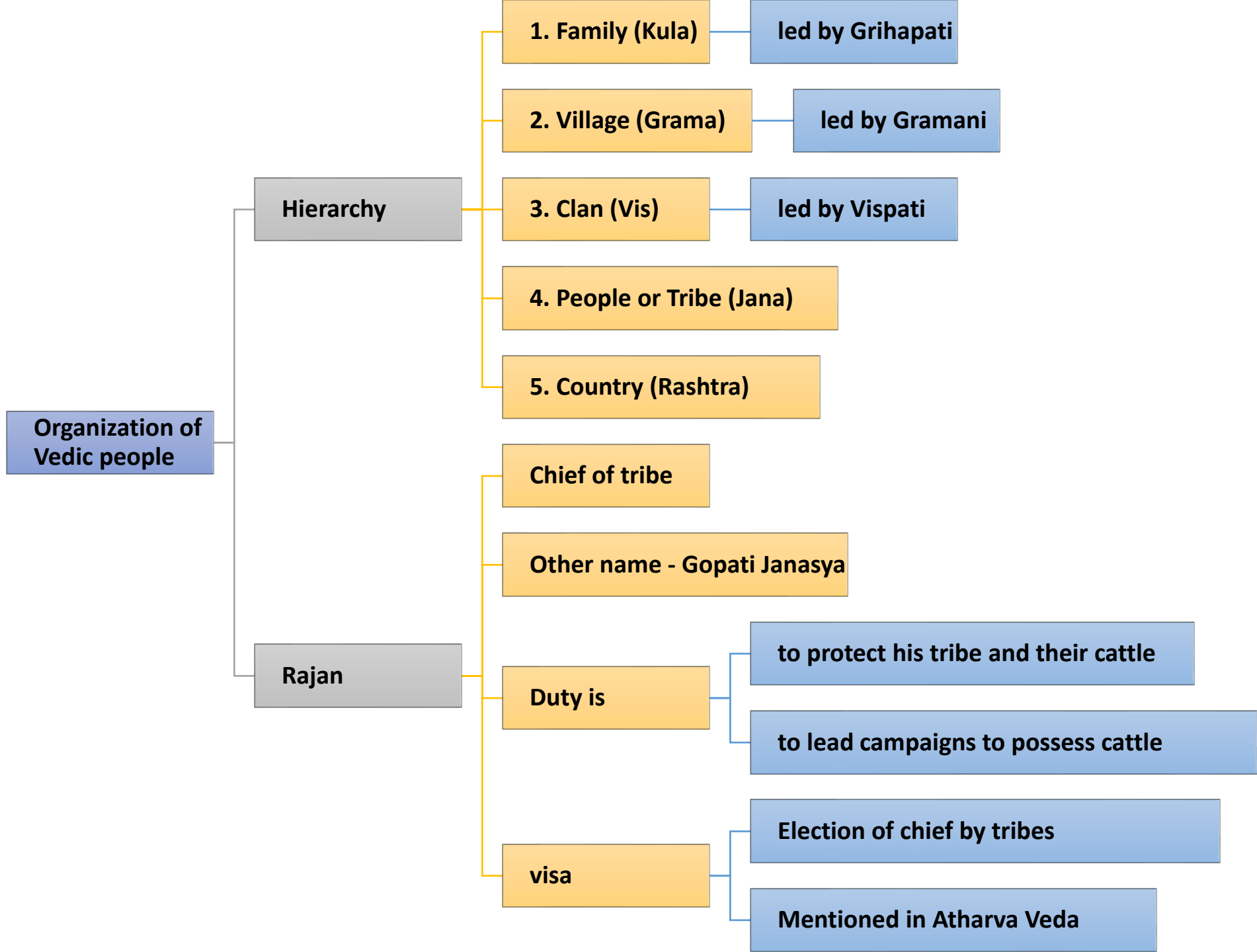
- Cubical and spherical units were made of chert, jasper and agate
- Decimal system
- Multiples of 16 was used to measure weights
- Sixteen chhatank = ser
- 16 annas one rupee
- Smallest division marked on an ivory scale
 - found in Lothal
 - approximately 1,704 mm
 - smallest division ever recorded on a scale of the Bronze A

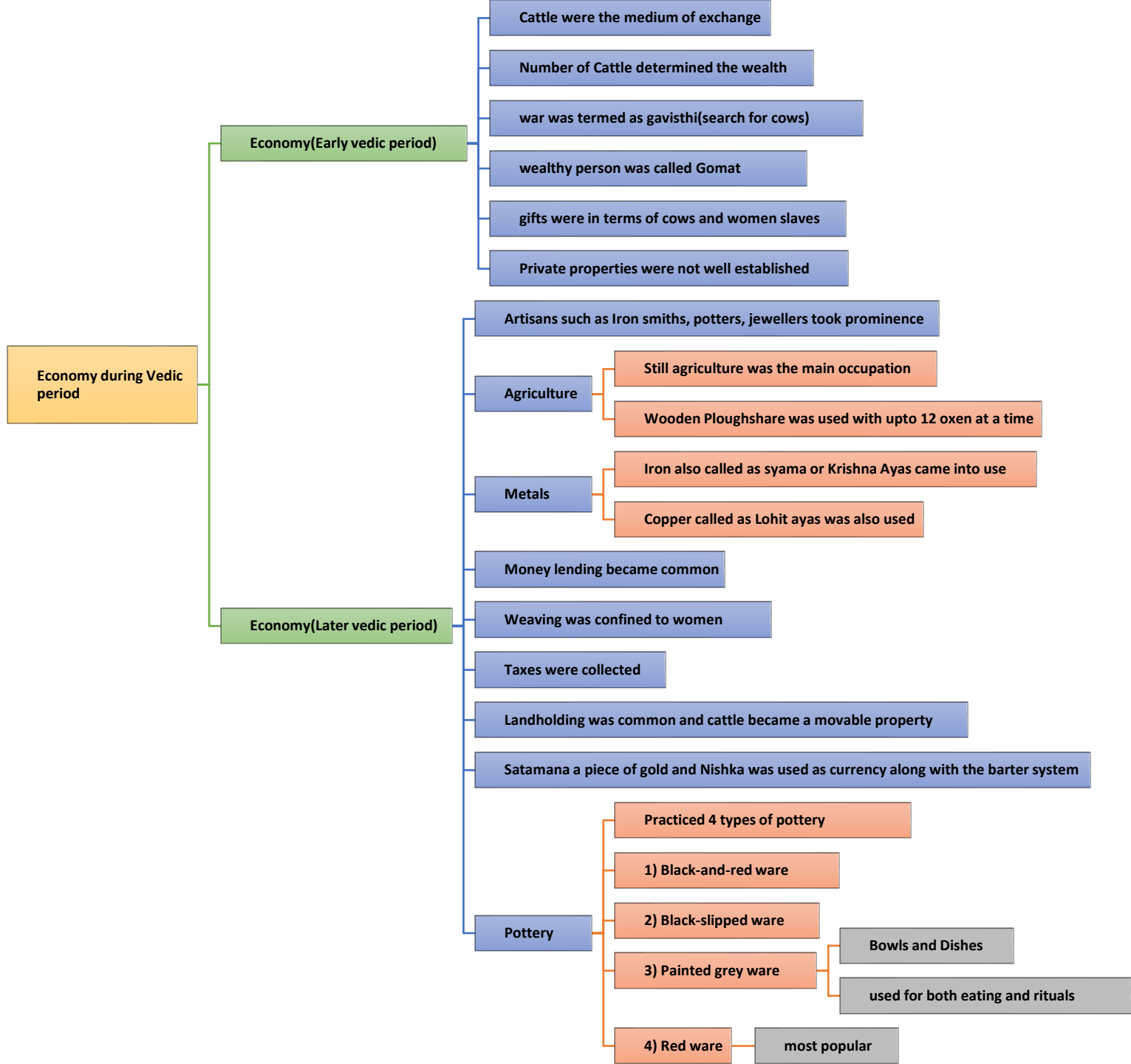












Religion during Vedic period

Rig vedic religion

- They worshipped the forces of nature
- Rigvedic hymns were sung to pacify their dieties
- There were no places of worship such as temples.
- Indra was the most prominent deity in the Vedic society

Sacrifices

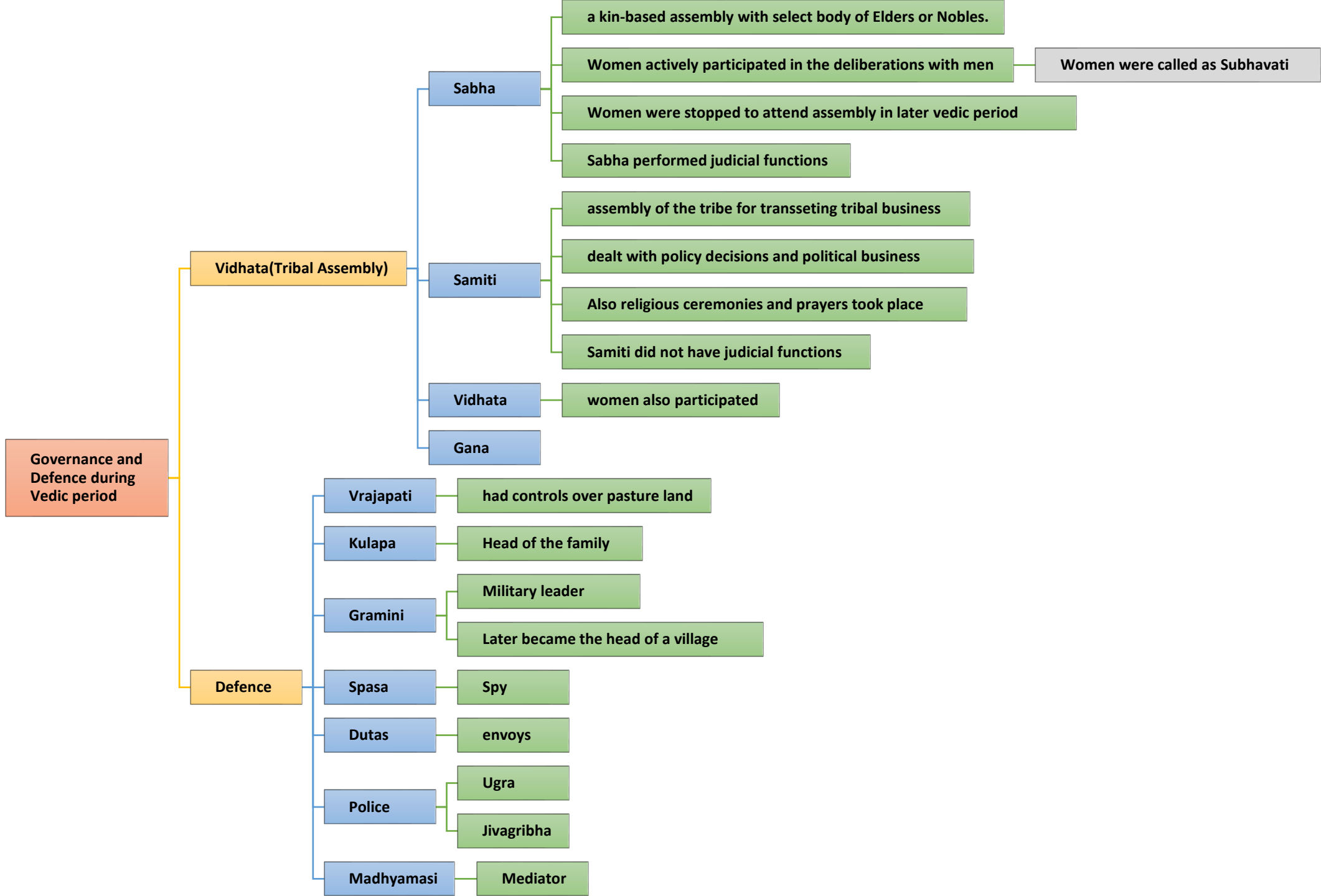
- Ashvamedha (horse sacrifice),**
 - consecrated horse rooms the kingdoms for a year.
 - horse was followed by a chosen band of warriors
 - kingdoms and chiefdoms in which the horse wandered had to pay homage or prepare to battle
- Rajasuya sacrifice** - Confers supreme power on kings

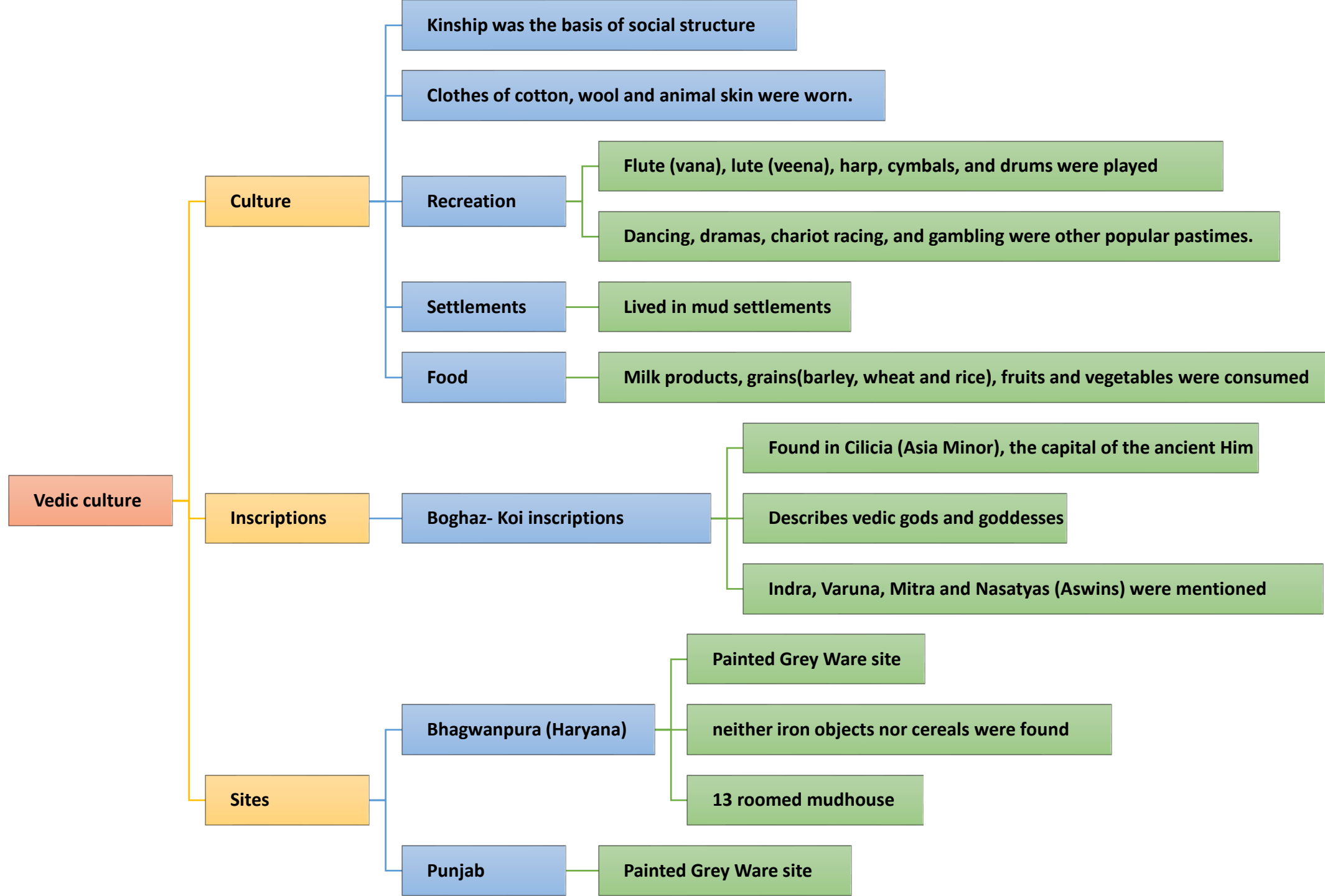
Major Dieties

- Indira**
 - Warlord
 - Also called Purandara (Breaker of forts)
- Agni** - Intermediary between people and God
- Varuna** - Upholder of natural order
- Soma**
 - God of plants
 - Intoxicating drink is called soma
- Marut** - Storm
- Usha**
 - Down
 - She is a female lord

Later Vedic religion

- cult of sacrifice was prominent**
 - Animals were killed on a large scale
 - sacrificer was known as Yajna
- Indra and Agni lost their importance and Prajapati took their place
- Rudra and Vishnu became important
- Symbolic worship increased





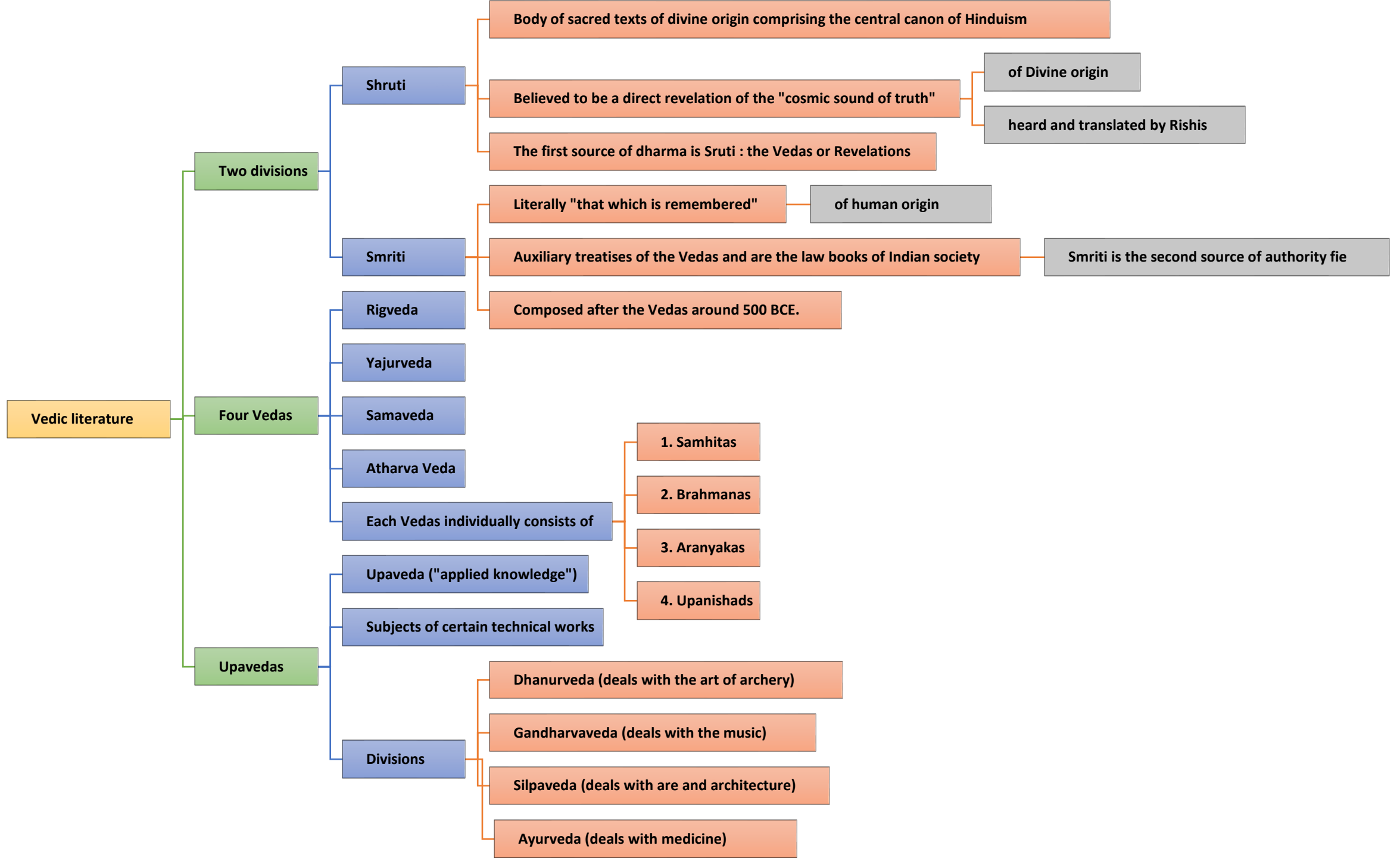
Vedic Society

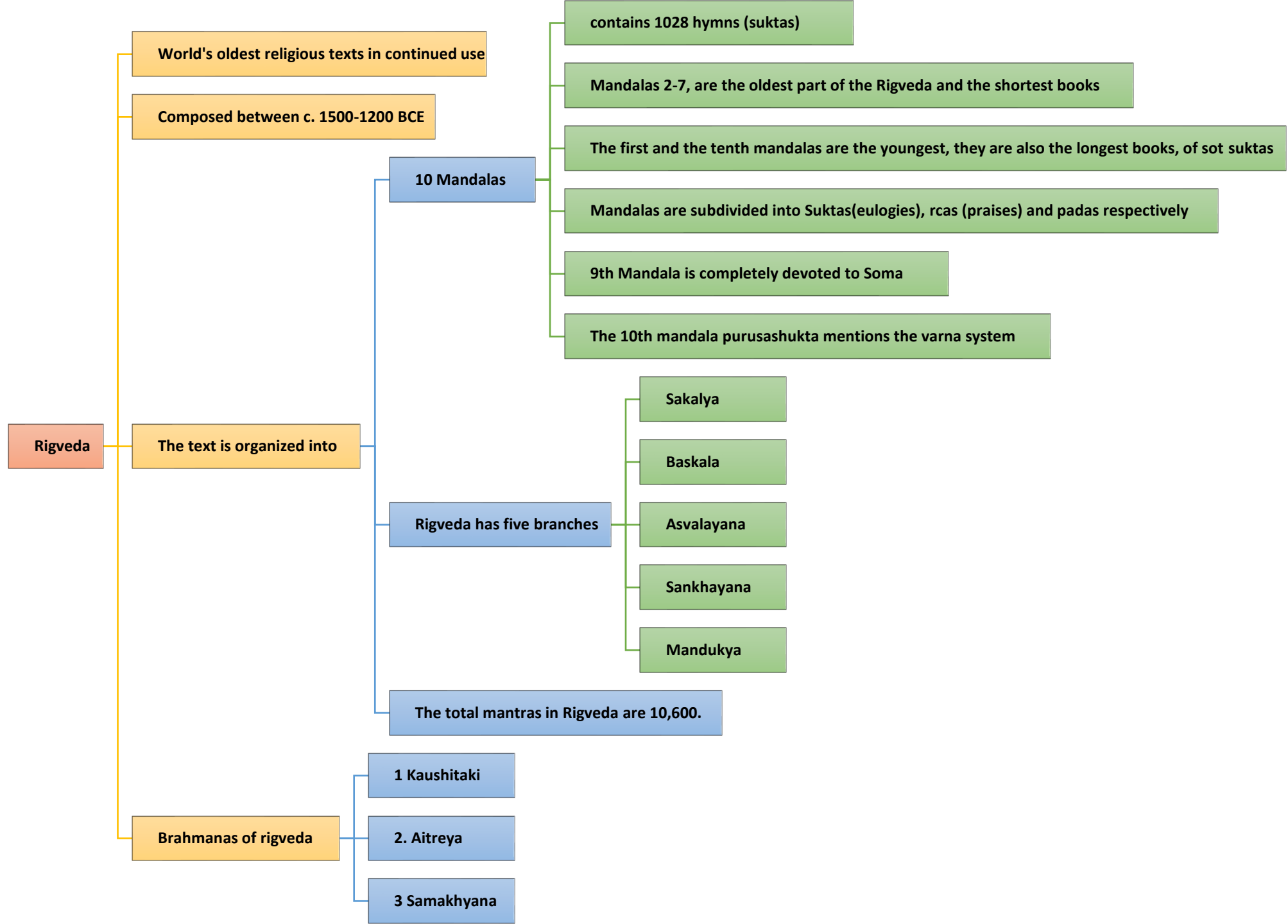
Society (Early vedic period)

- Early Vedic people didn't fight for territories
- Tribes were called Vis
- There was no Varna system in early vedic period
- Families were Patriarchal and Patrilineal
- Three types of Marriages existed
 - Monogamy
 - Polygamy
 - Polyandry
- Superstitions were employed to cure the diseases.
- No officers for administering justice
- Status of women
 - Women were equal to men
 - Women could choose their husbands and could remarry if their husbands died or disappeared
 - Both women sages and female gods existed
 - Women are allowed to study vedas

Society (Later vedic period)

- Old tribes grouped to form larger political units.
- monarchical states began to form
- Rice(Vrihi) and wheat became chief crops
- Wars were fought for territory
- Vidhata disappeared completely
- social boundaries, roles, status and ritual purity for each of the groups
- still kings did not possess any standing army
- People began to practise gotra exogamy.
 - Brahmana's
 - cut of sacrifices increased their position
 - had monopoly of priestly knowledge and expertise
 - Kshatriyas
 - also claimed portions of territory as Dakshina
- society was divided under varna system
 - Vaishya's
 - constituted the common people
 - assigned the producing functions
 - Shudras
 - began to trade at the end of the Vedic period
 - All three upper varnas were entitled to upanayana or sacred thread
- Status of women
 - Women could not participate in Sabha
 - functions were demarcated for women
 - women were prevented from attending rituals
 - Male dominance increased to a great extent
 - women were thought to be inferior and subordinate 30 men
- Marriage types
 - Asura Vivah — Marriage by Purchase
 - Arsa Vivah — A token bride-price of s Cow and a Bull was given
 - Brahma Vivah — Marriage of a girl with the boy of same Varnas with Vedic rites and rituals
 - Daiva Vivah — Father donates his daughter to a priest as Dakshina
 - Gandharva Vivah — It was a kind of love marringe or awyamavara type
 - Prajapati Vivah — Marriage without daury
 - Paisach Vivah — Seduction of a girl while sleeping
 - Rakahasha Vivah — Marriage by abduction





Yajurveda

The book of the Adhvaryu priests

prescribes the procedures for rituals or Yajnas

There are two main texts

Sukla Yajurveda or Vajasaneyi (Madhyandin and Kanva)

Krsna-Yajurveda (Taittiriya, Kathaka, Maitrayani and Kapisthal

Brahmanas of Yajur veda

Kasthaka

Maitrayani

Kapilathakatha

Taittriya

Samaveda

saman i.e. 'melody', is a 'collection of melodies

meant to be sung at the time of Soma sacrifice.

Sung by Udgatris

consists of 1549 verses

Gandharvaveda

Upaveda of samavedas

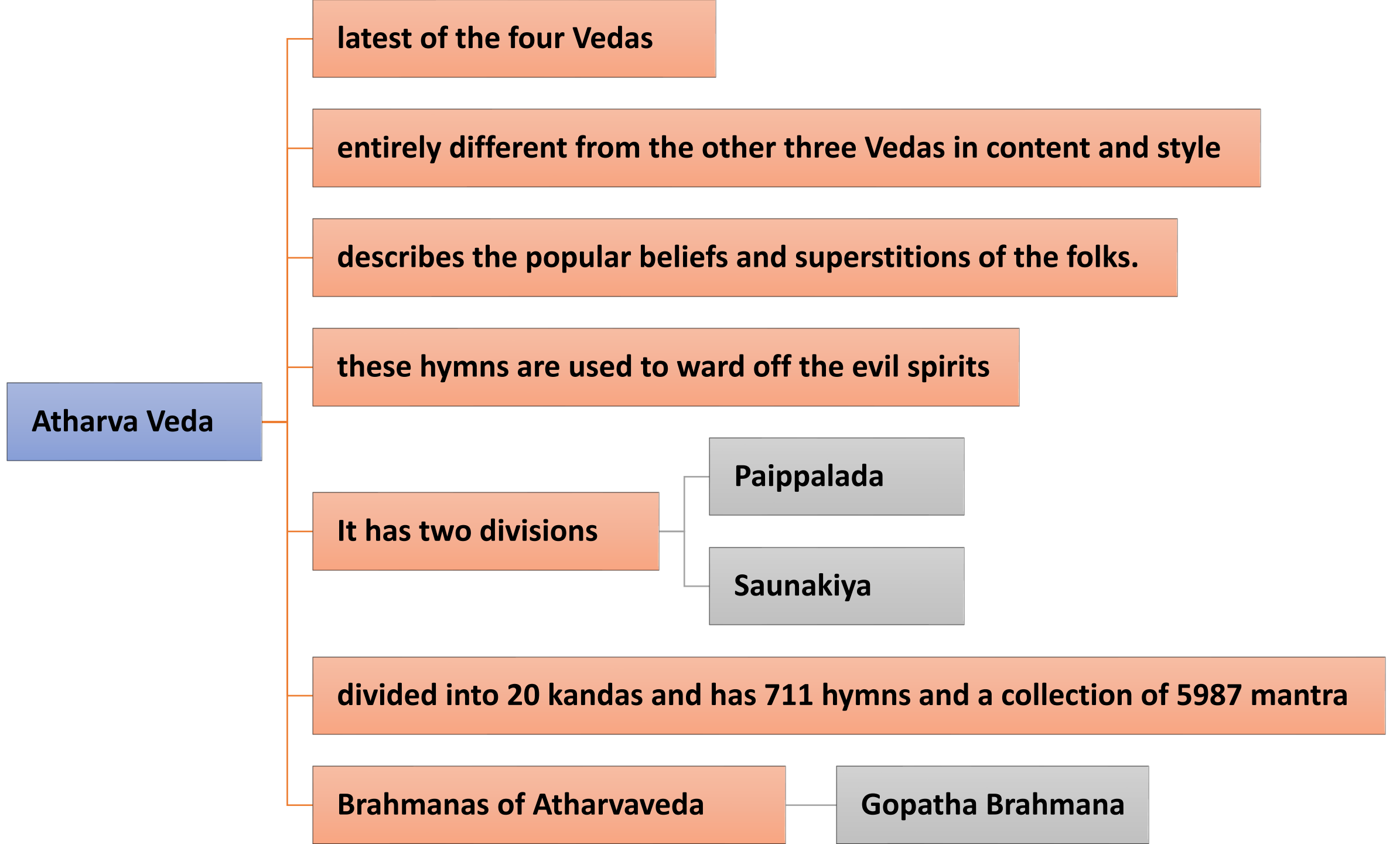
Also called as Natya sashtra

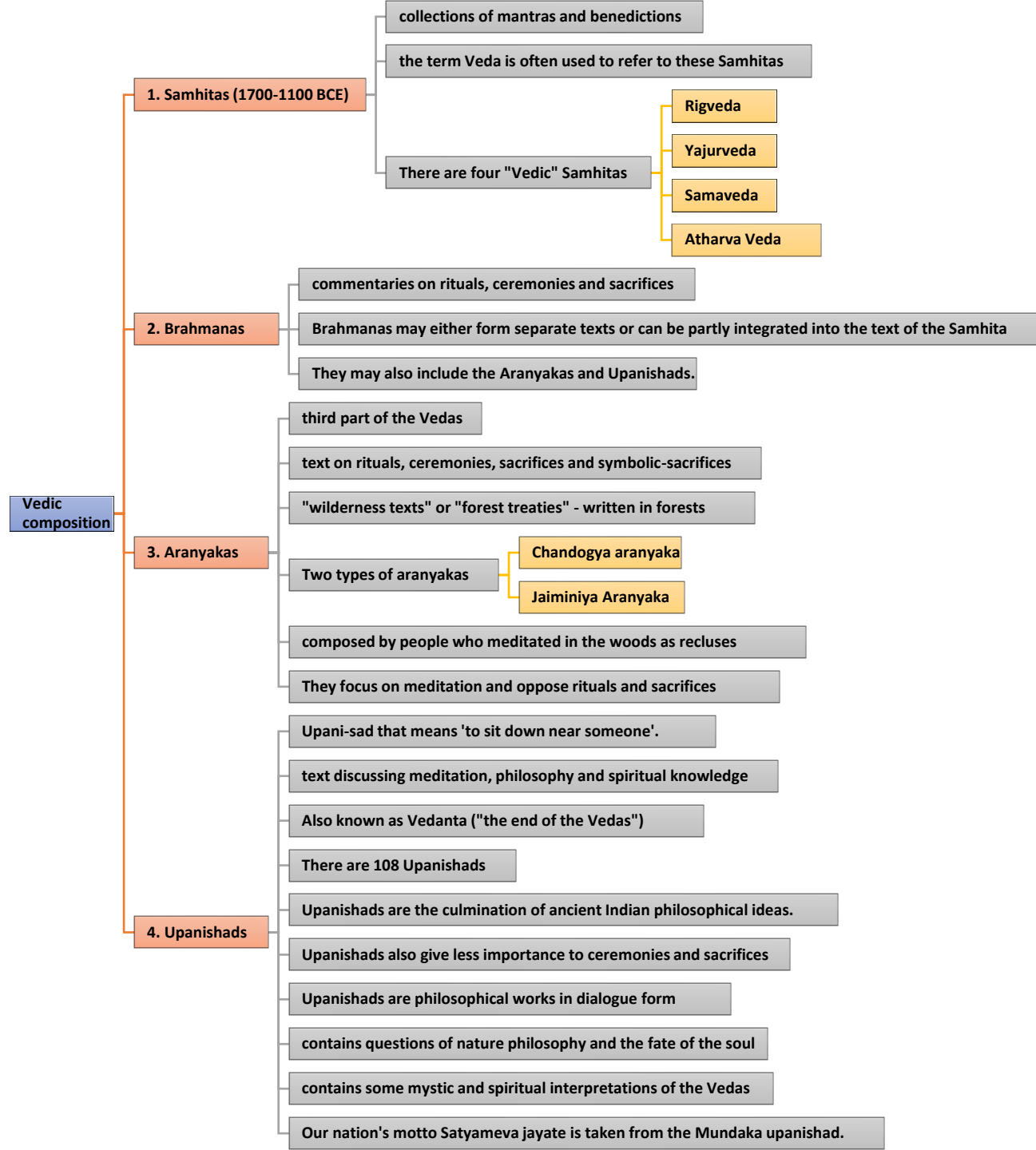
Brahmanas of Samaveda

Panchavish Brahmana

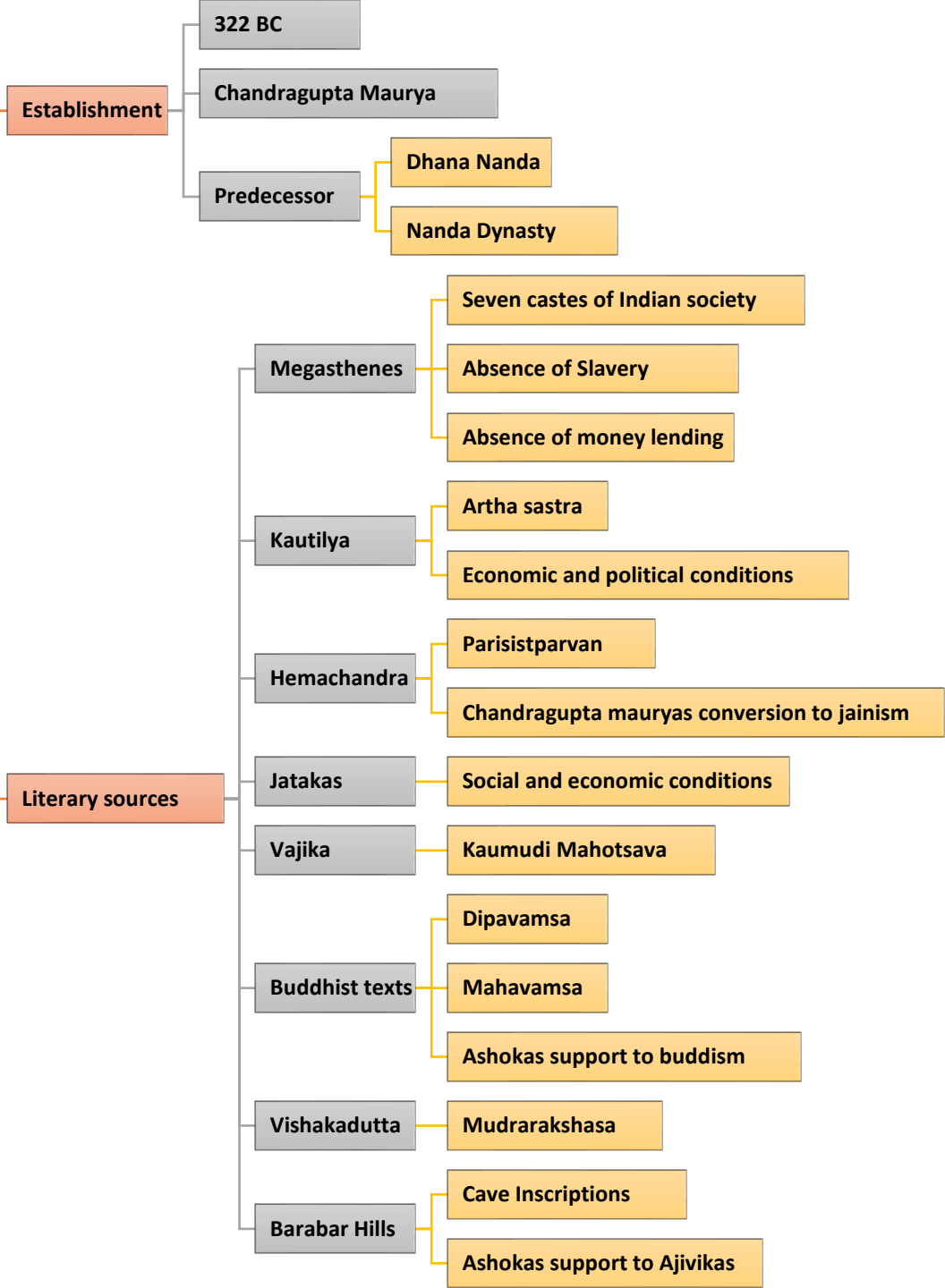
Jaiminiya Brahmana

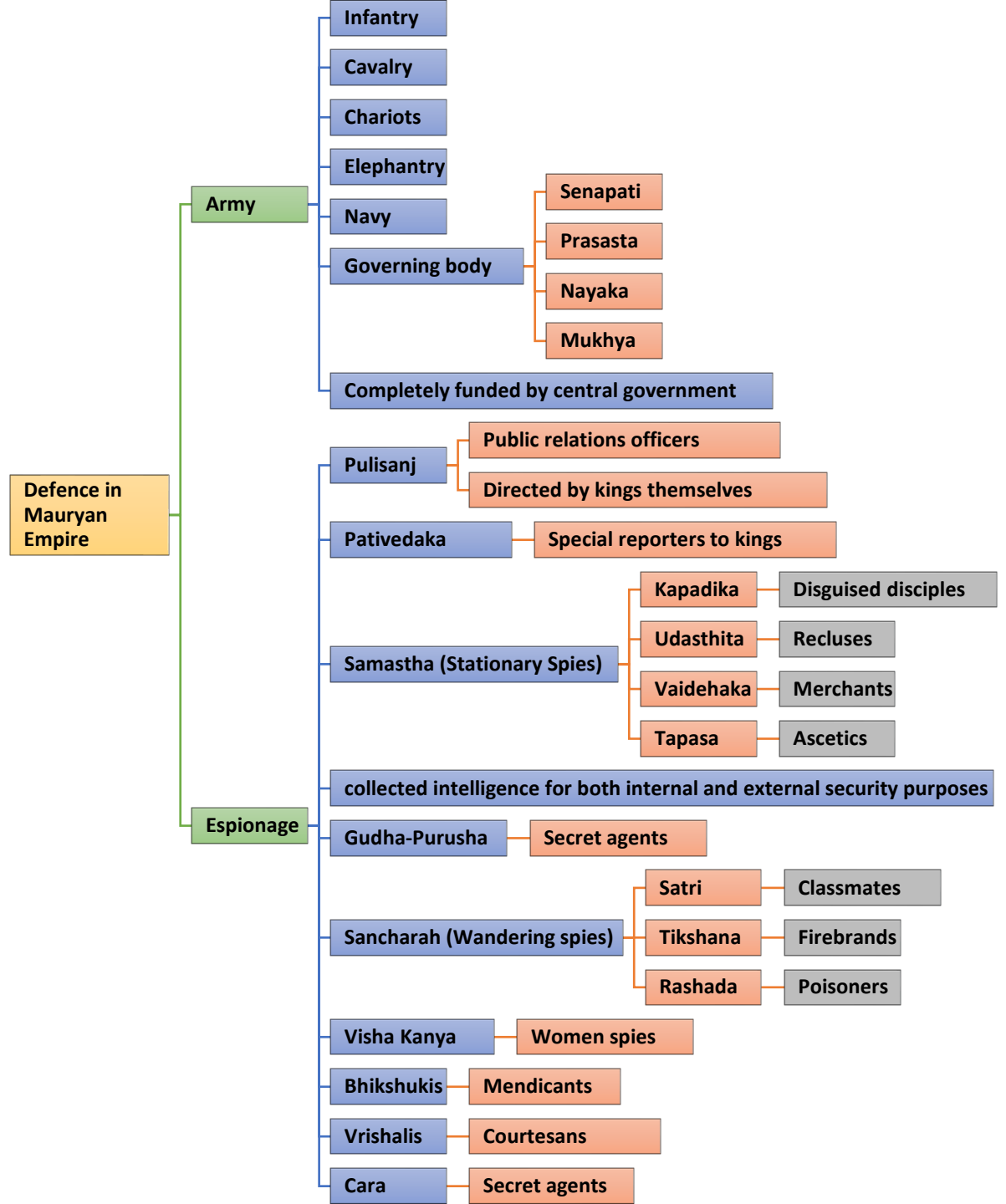
Shadvish Brahmana

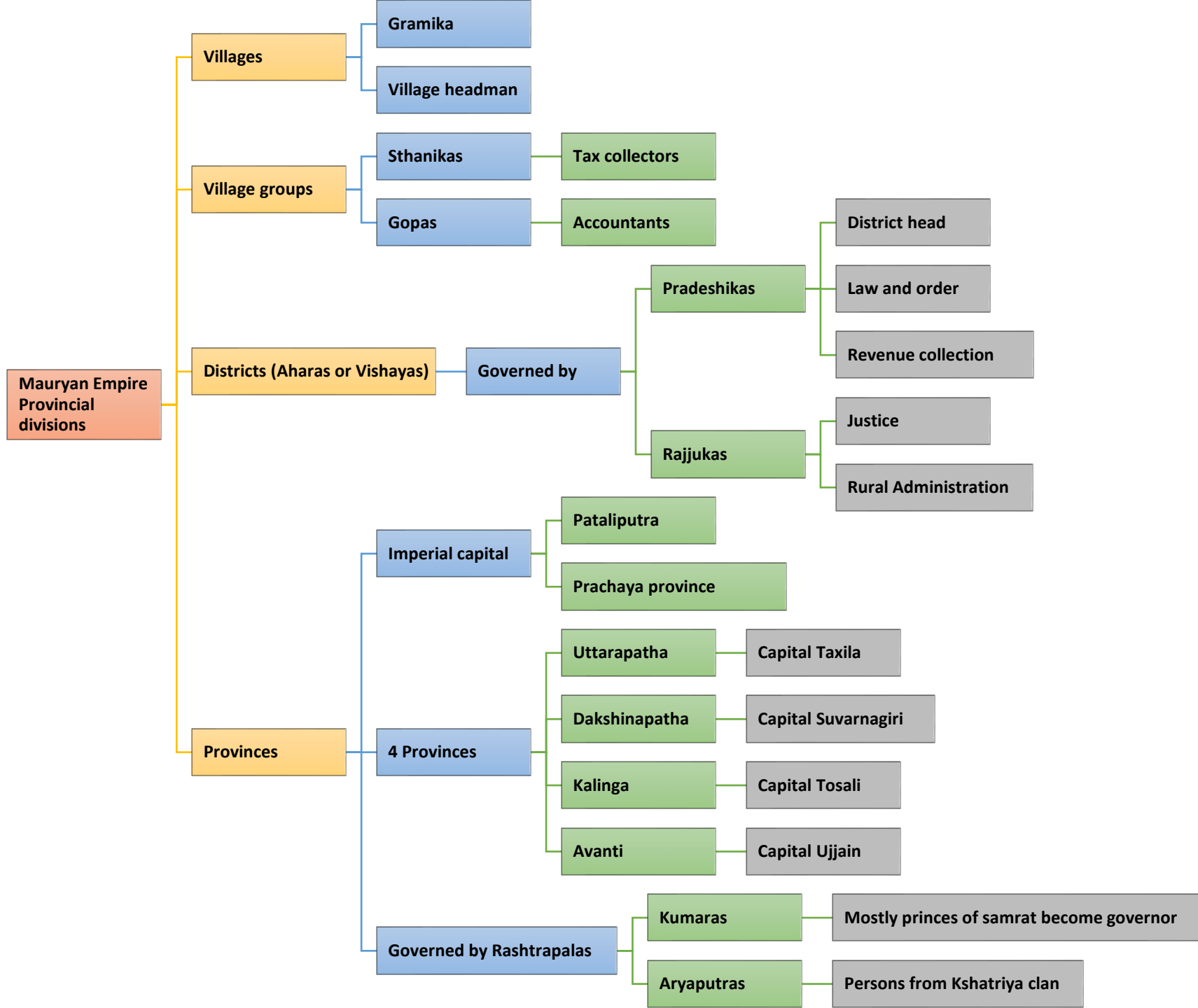




Mauryan empire - Establishment and Literary sources







Mauryan empire Census and Court visitors

Court visitors

Megasthenes

Sent by Seleucus Nikator

Court of Chandragupta Maurya

Deimachos Strabo

Sent by Antiochus I

Court of Chandragupta Maurya

Dionysios

Sent by Ptolemy II

Court of Bindusar

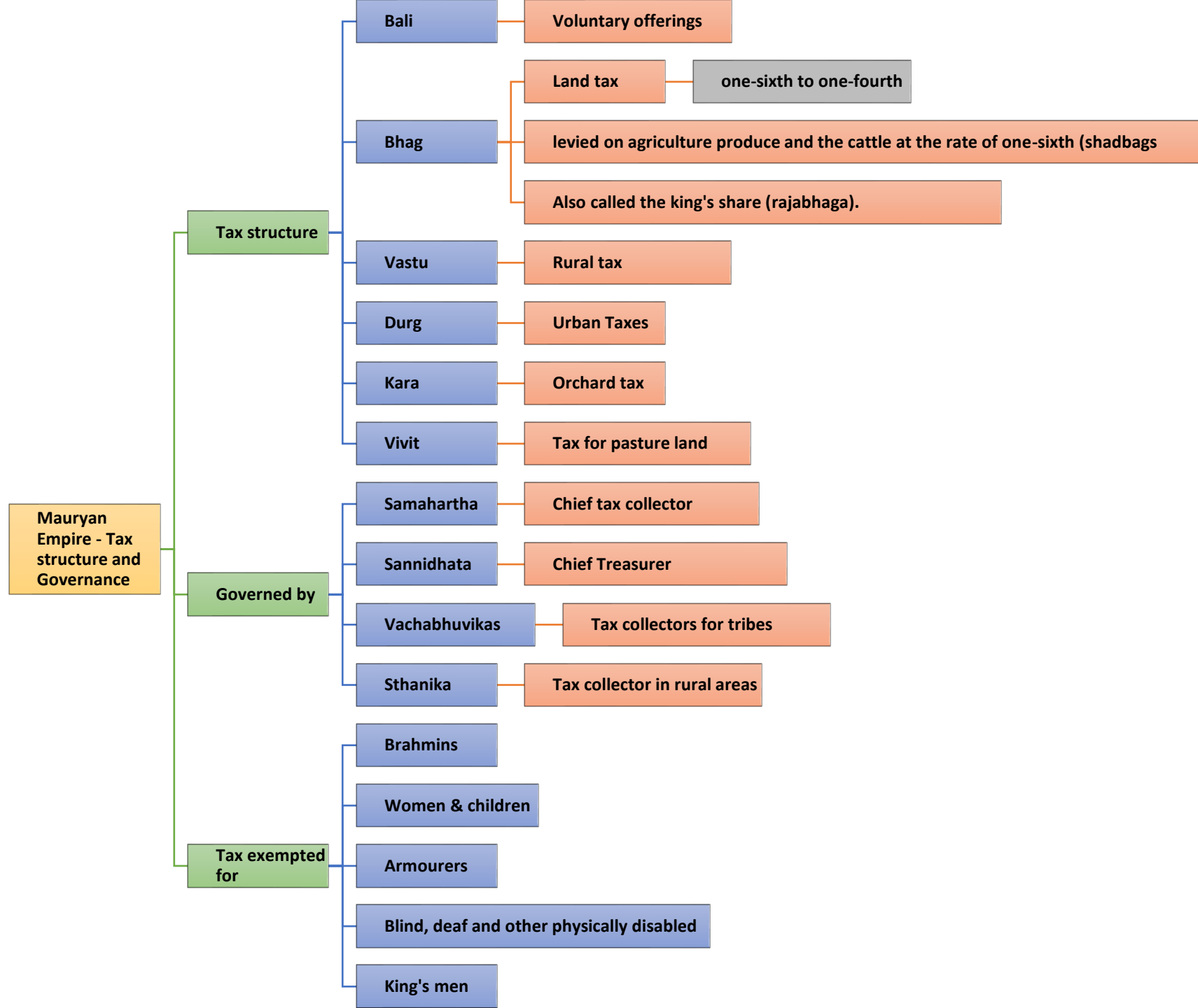
Census

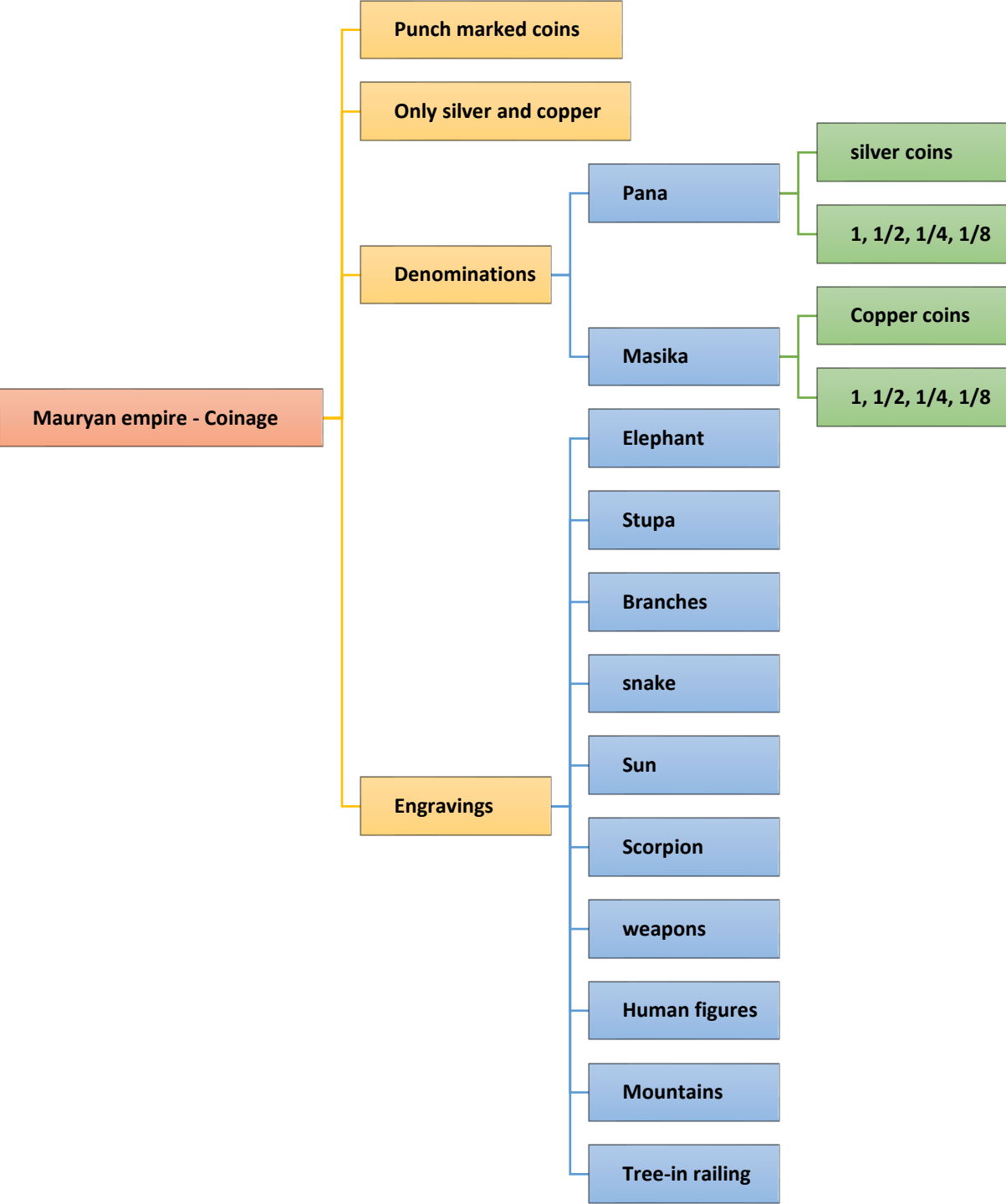
A register of immigration and emigration of foreign travelers, traders, or students was maintain

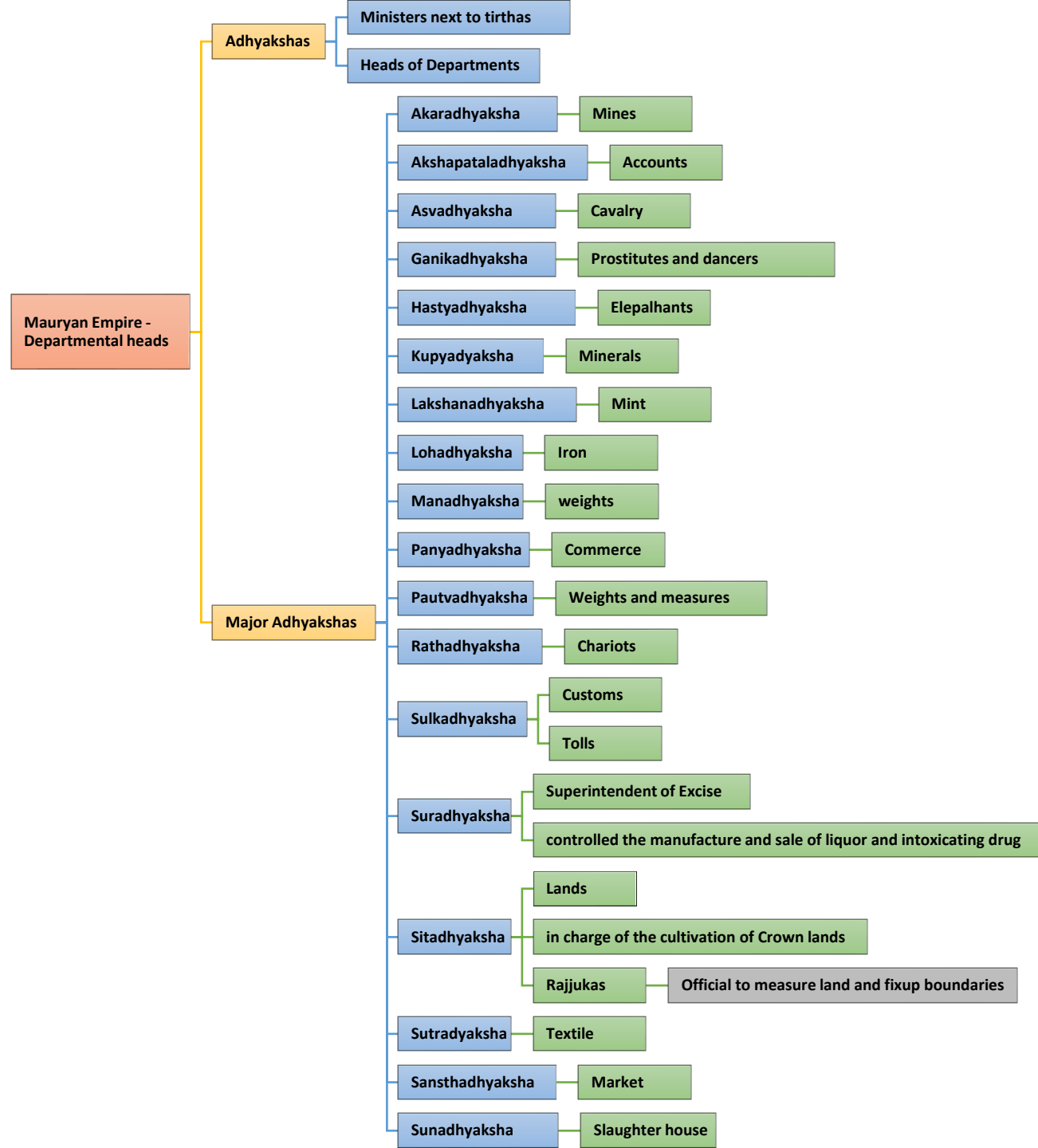
Probably the first mention of census in the world.

There was a regular dept. of census

Census officer of the cities was called Nagaraka







Mauryan Art

Mauryan sculptures and pillars were made of hard sand stone

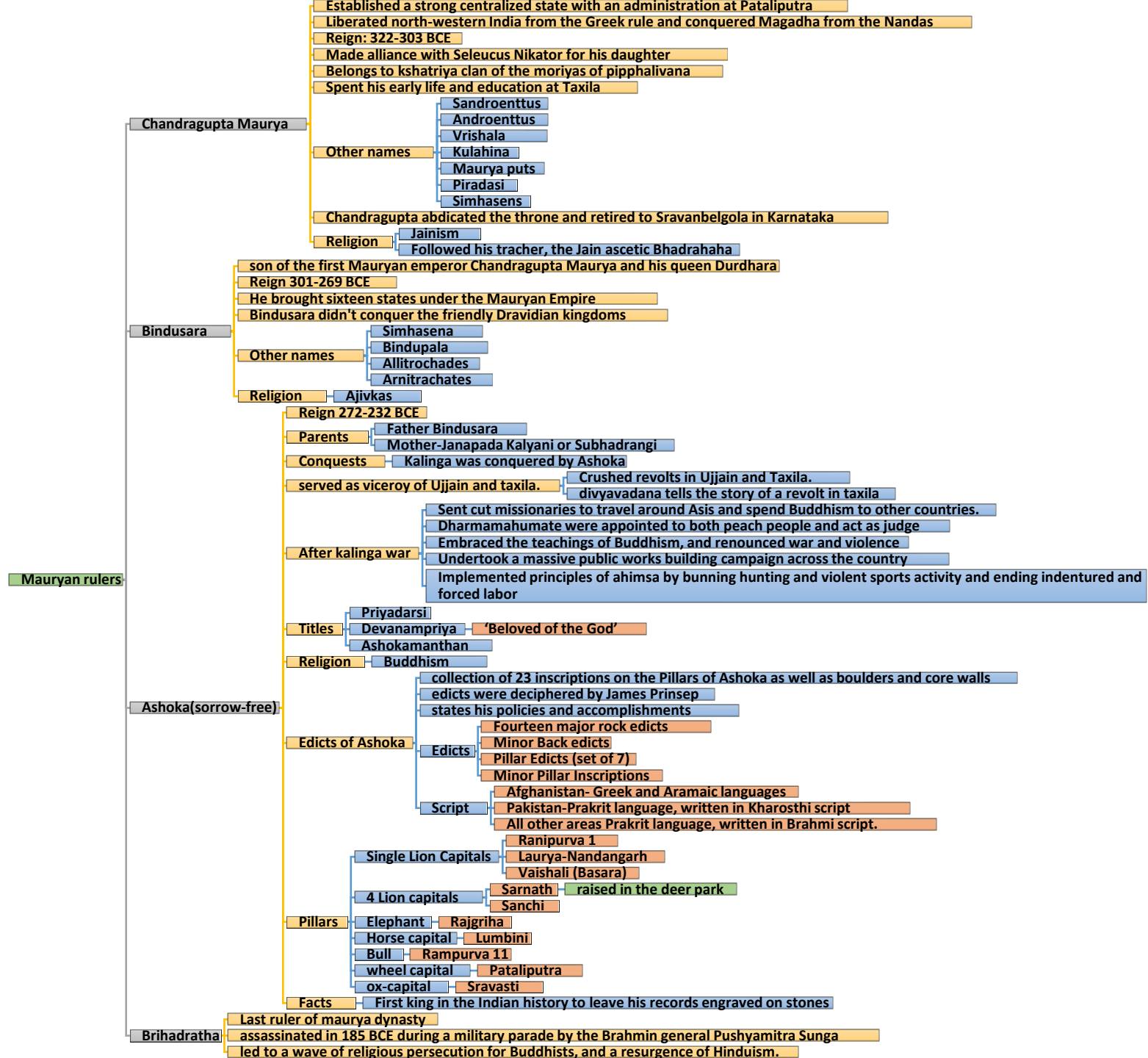
rock-cut chaitya-halls or cave dwellings in the barabar and nagarjuna hills of gaya

Sculptures

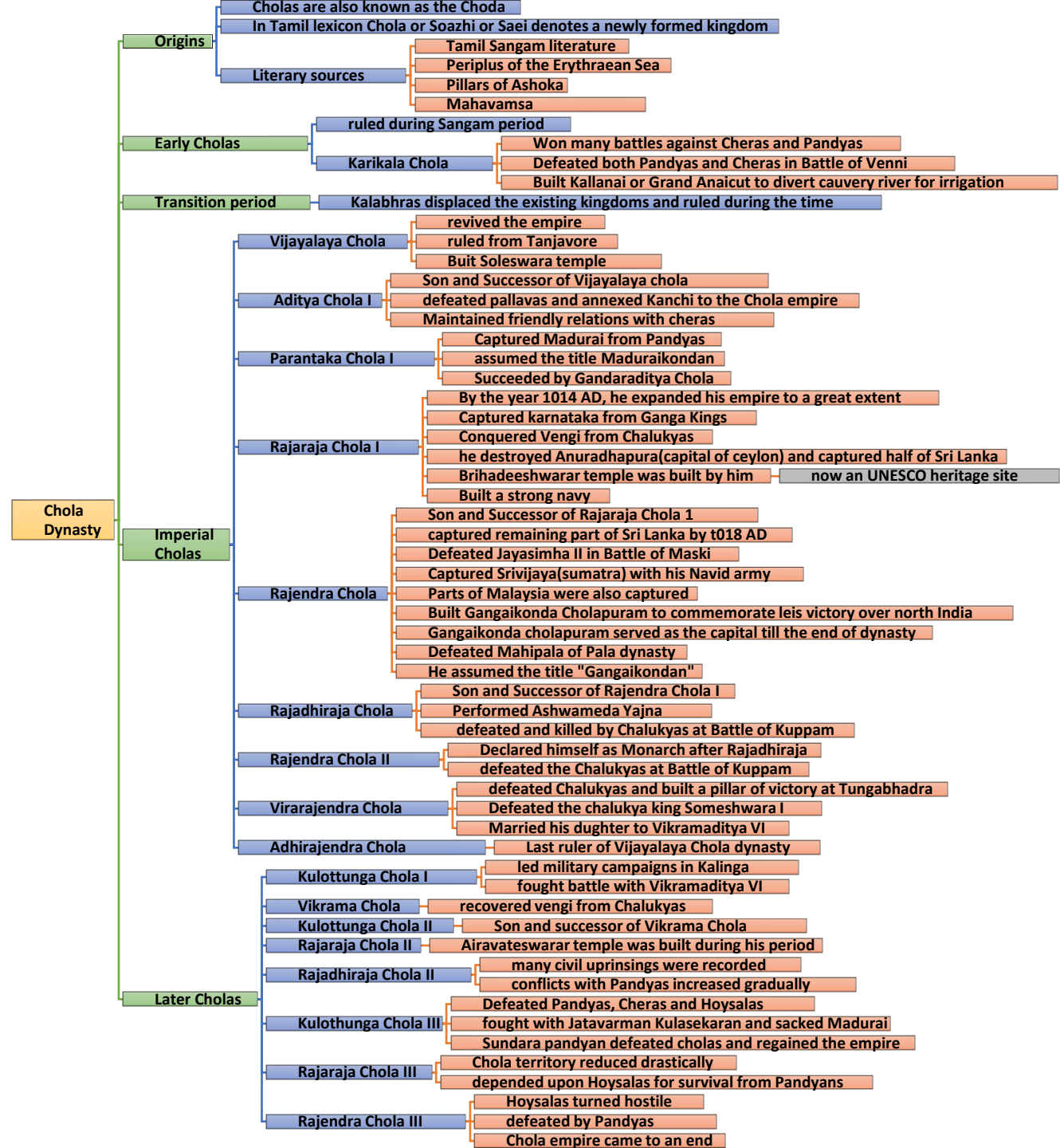
yakshi of besnagar

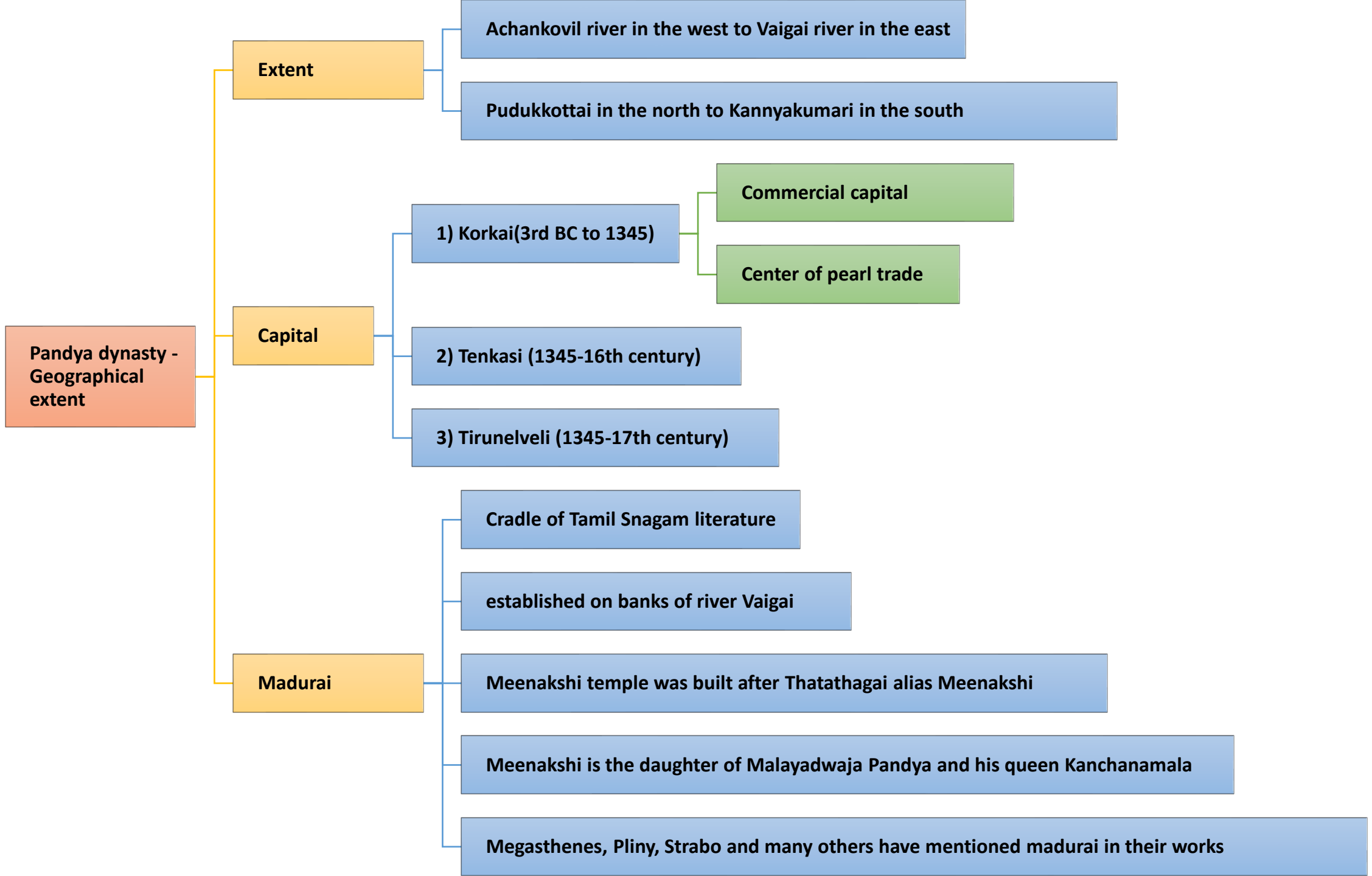
yaksha of parkham

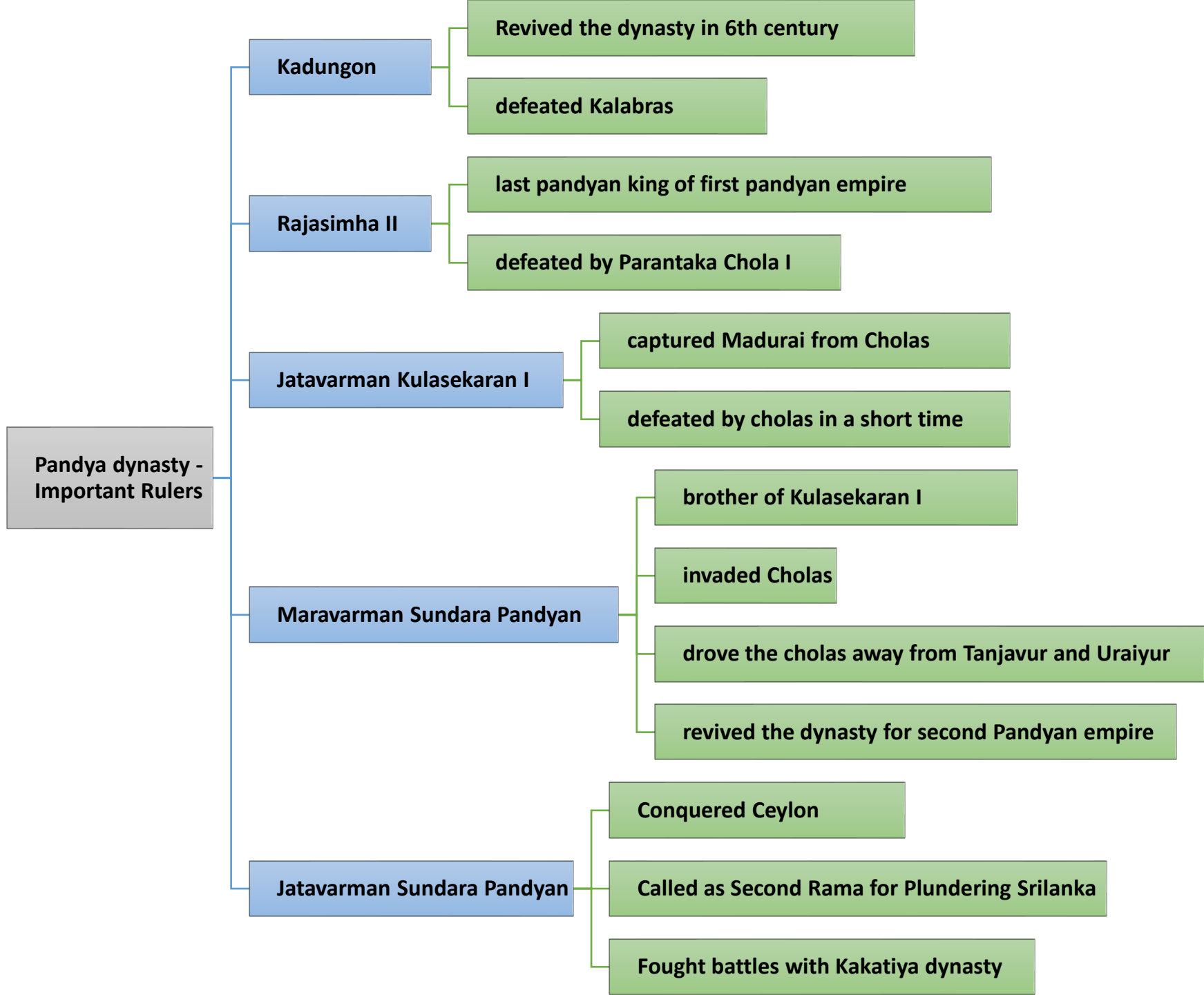
chauri-bearer of yakshini from didarganj











Pandyan dynasty - Architecture, Religion and Coinage

Pandyan architecture

- Rock cut and structural temples are prominent
- Vimana, mandapa and sikhara were built in early temples
- Vimanas were developed in the later stage
- gopurams were given more importance than Shikharas.
- Meenakshi Temple in Madurai and Nellaiappar Temple were built by Pandyas.

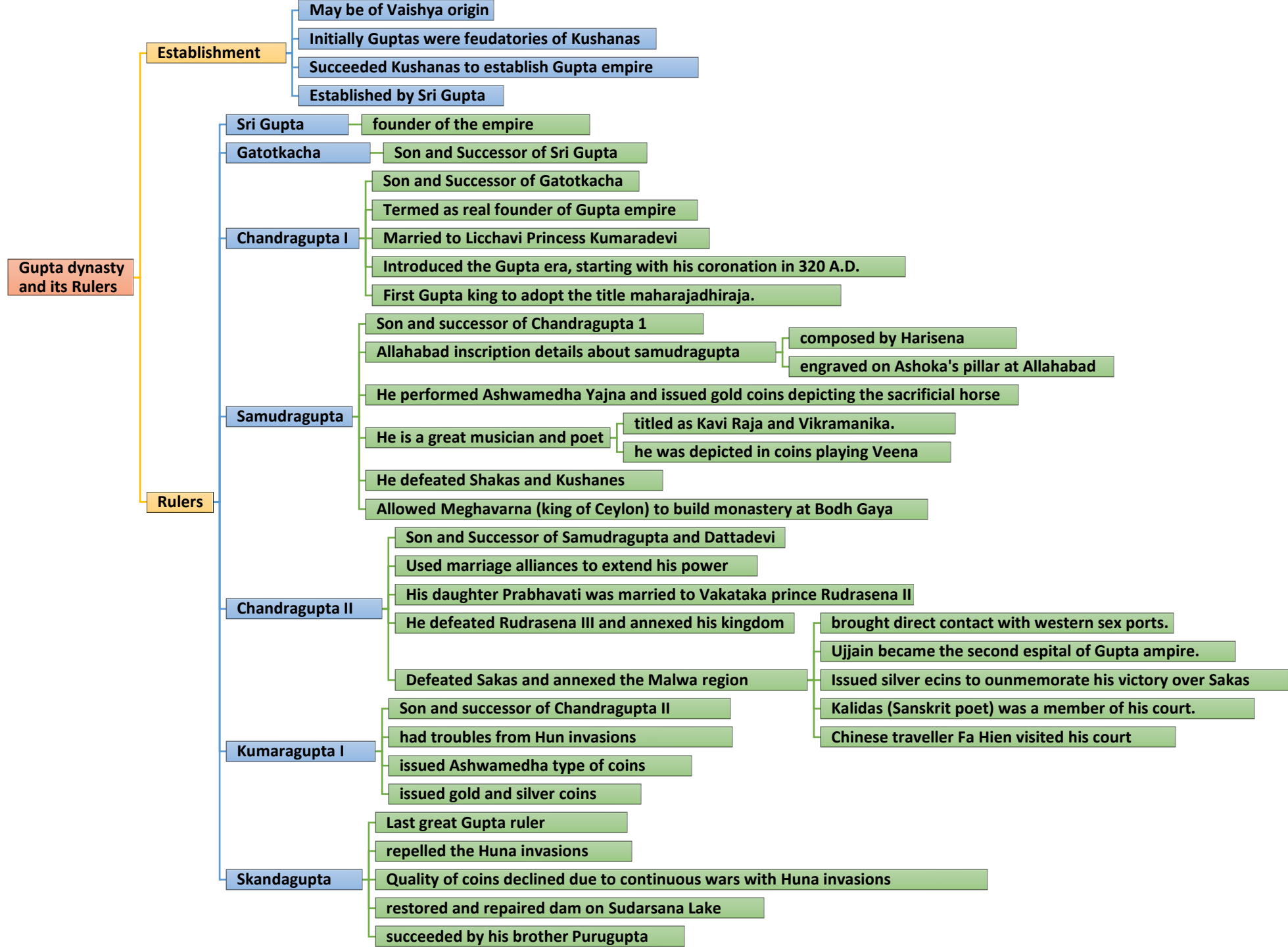
Religion

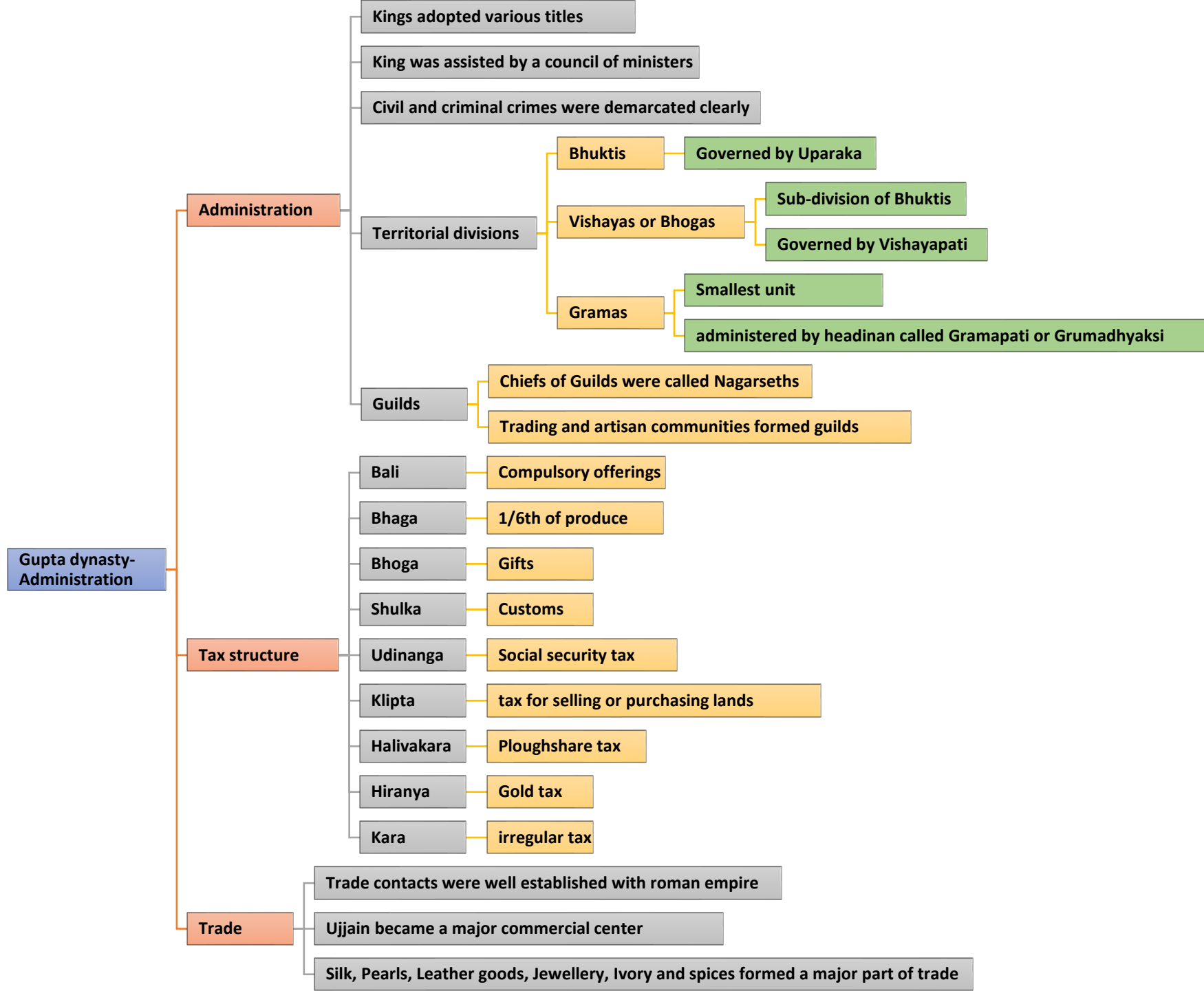
- Initially Madurai was a stronghold of Saivism.
- Jainism gained a foothold after invasion of Kalabras
- Finally Bhakti movements revived Saivism and Vaishnavism

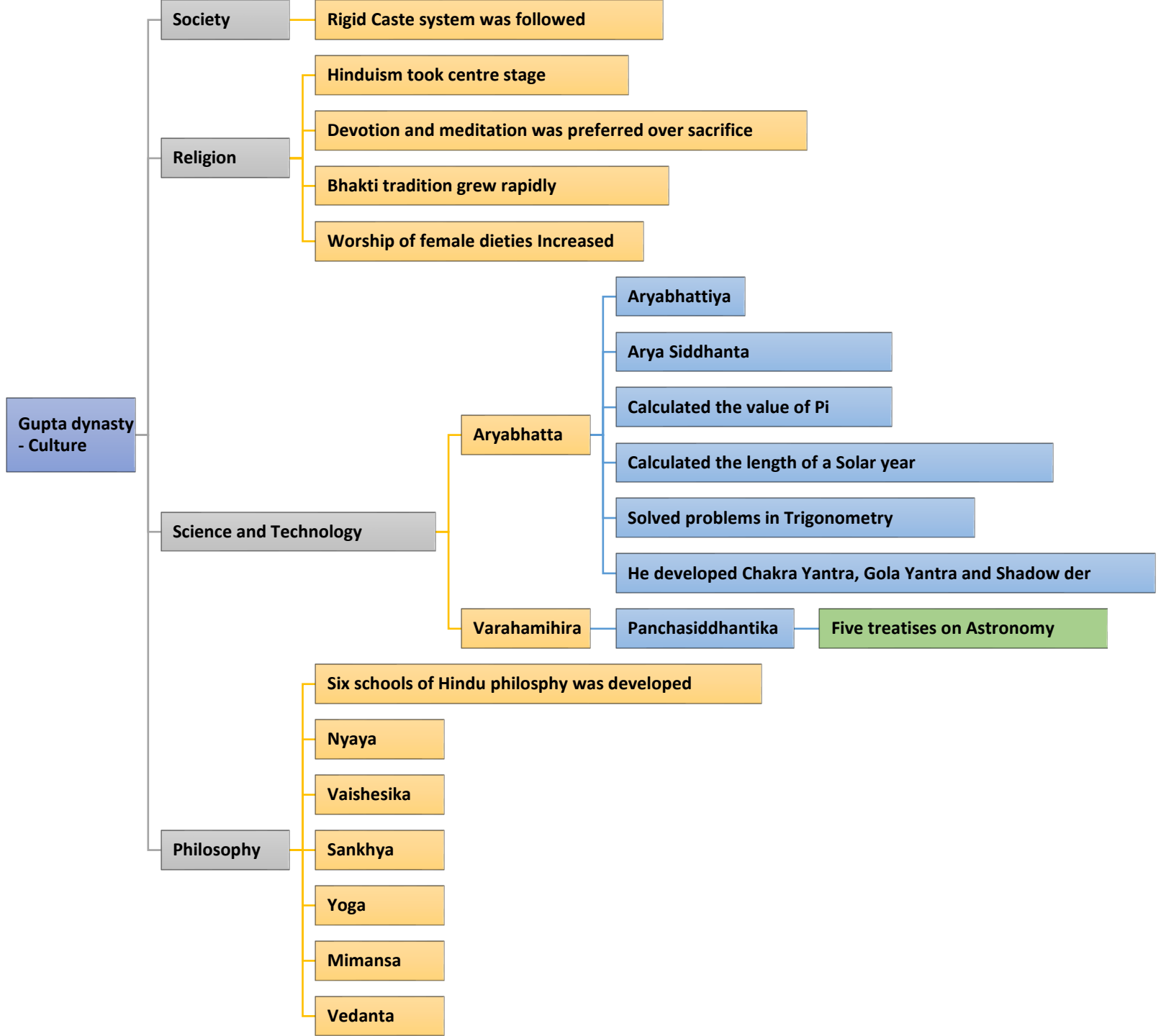
Pandyan coins

- Coins of Pandyas bear the legend of different Pandya rulers
- issued silver punch marked and die struck copper coins
- coins bore the image of a fish(single or in pairs), bow, conch, discus etc..
- The coins of Pandyas were basically square.
- silver and gold coins were in Sanskrit while the copper coins bore the Tamil legends.









Gupta dynasty - Culture

Society

Rigid Caste system was followed

Religion

Hinduism took centre stage

Devotion and meditation was preferred over sacrifice

Bhakti tradition grew rapidly

Worship of female deities Increased

Science and Technology

Aryabhata

Aryabhattiya

Arya Siddhanta

Calculated the value of Pi

Calculated the length of a Solar year

Solved problems in Trigonometry

He developed Chakra Yantra, Gola Yantra and Shadow der

Varahamihira

Panchasiddhantika

Five treatises on Astronomy

Philosophy

Six schools of Hindu philosophy was developed

Nyaya

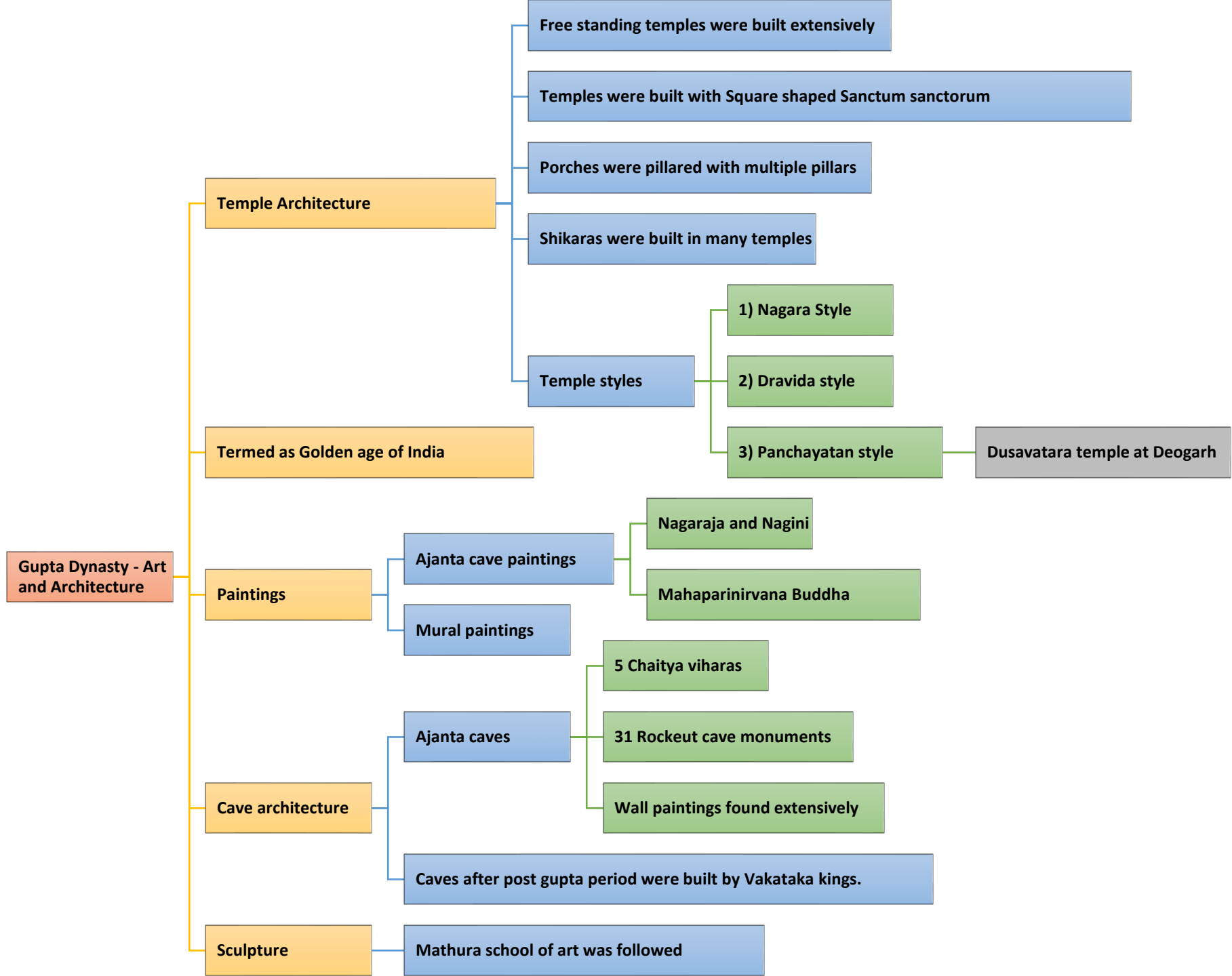
Vaishesika

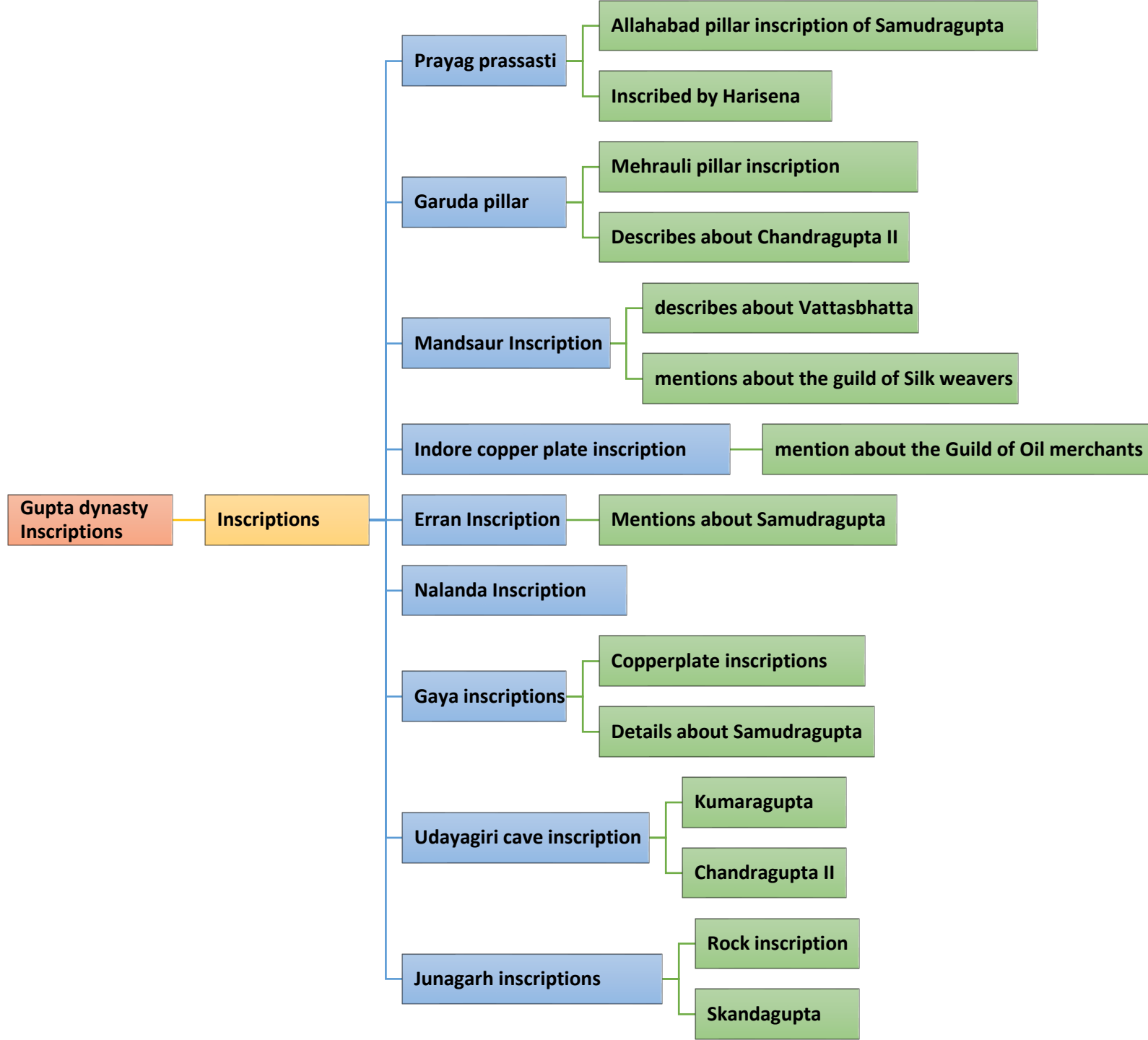
Sankhya

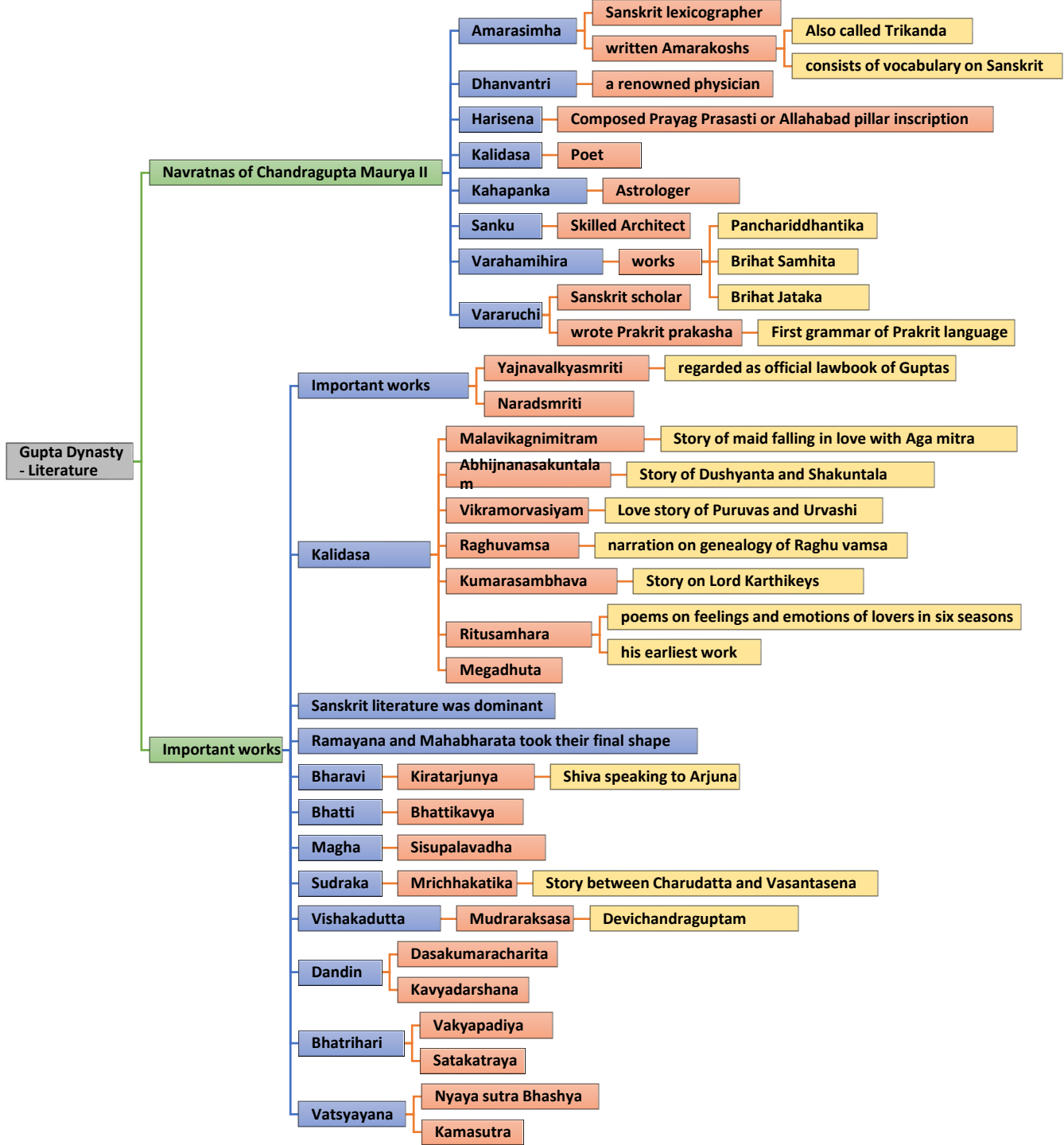
Yoga

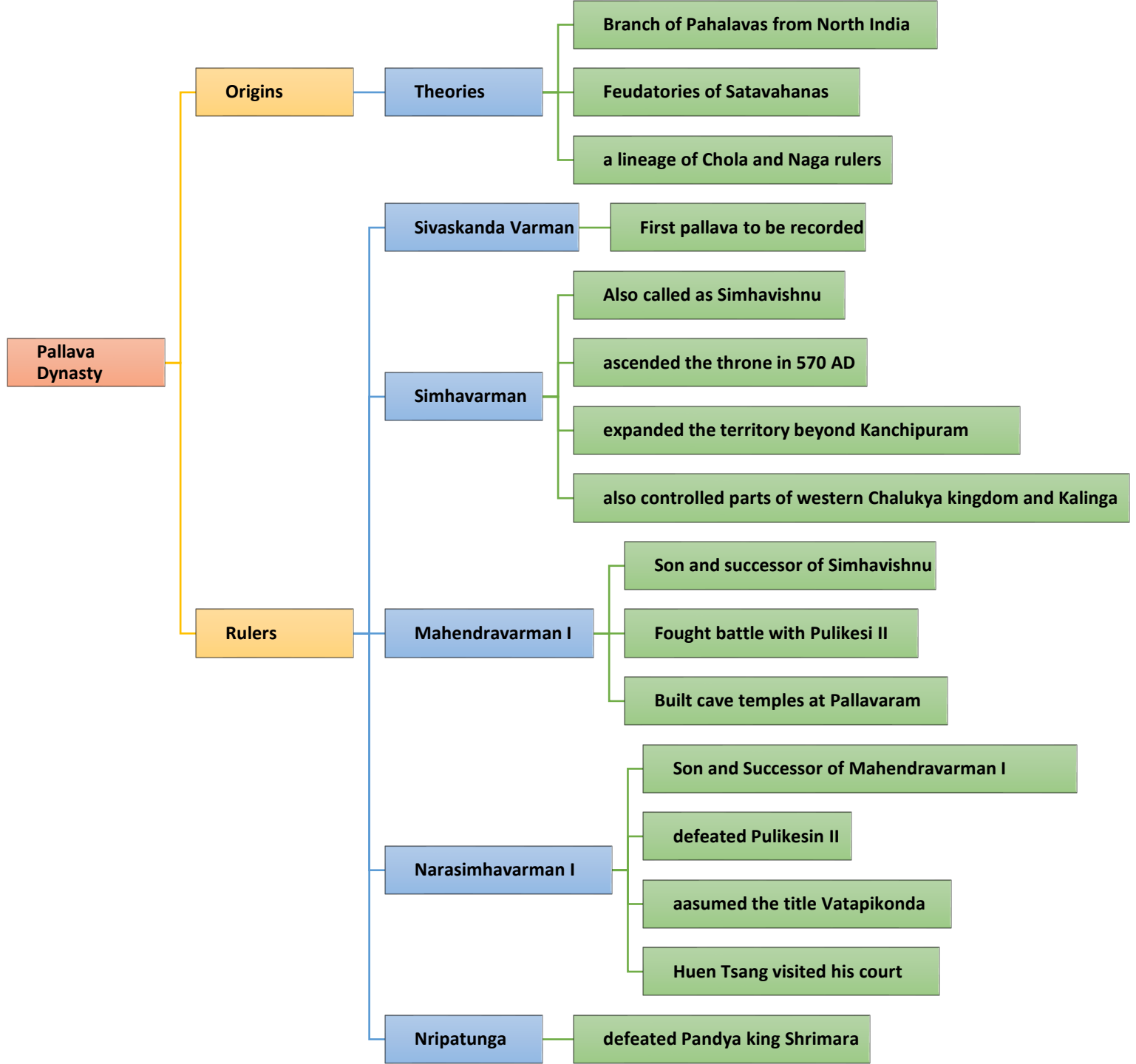
Mimansa

Vedanta









Pallava Dynasty

Origins

Theories

- Branch of Pahalavas from North India
- Feudatories of Satavahanas
- a lineage of Chola and Naga rulers

Rulers

Sivaskanda Varman

- First pallava to be recorded

Simhavarman

- Also called as Simhavishnu
- ascended the throne in 570 AD
- expanded the territory beyond Kanchipuram
- also controlled parts of western Chalukya kingdom and Kalinga

Mahendravarman I

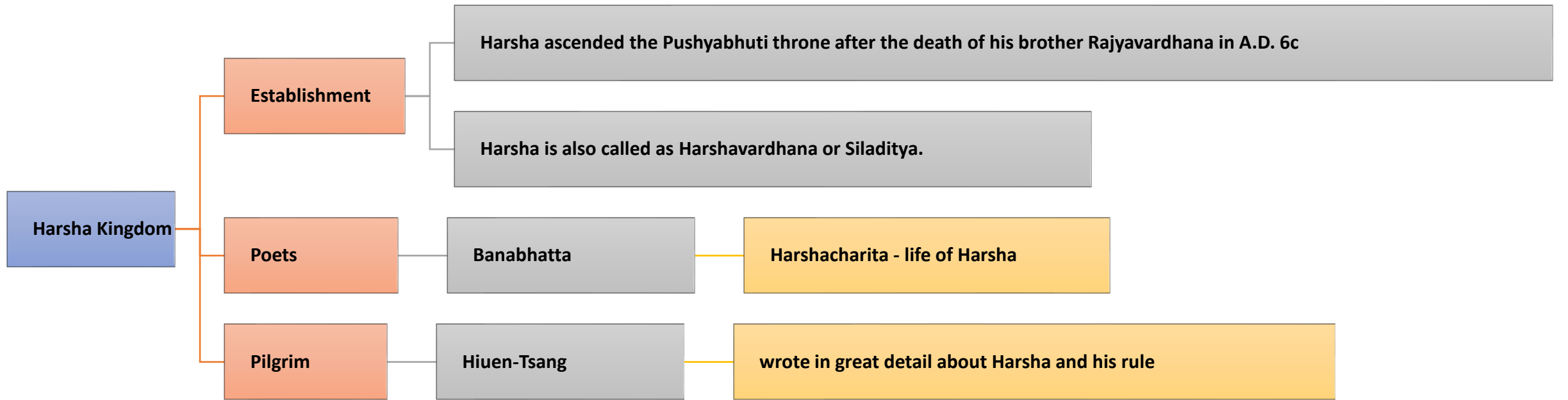
- Son and successor of Simhavishnu
- Fought battle with Pulikesi II
- Built cave temples at Pallavaram

Narasimhavarman I

- Son and Successor of Mahendravarman I
- defeated Pulikesin II
- aasumed the title Vatapikonda
- Huen Tsang visited his court

Nripatunga

- defeated Pandya king Shrimara



Indo-Greek Rule

Facts

Indo-greeks were called as "Yavanas" in India

Greek coins were the first coins to carry the portraits of kings and their names.

Greeks were also the first rulers to issue gold coins.

Antiochus II

Governor of Bactria

Defeated the king Subhagsena of Kabul

Demetrius I

led the first major Indo-Greek expansion

He made modern day Sialkot as his capital

His coins were written in Greek and Prakrit

Menander

Ruled Gandhara and parts of Afghanistan

He ruled from Sialkot

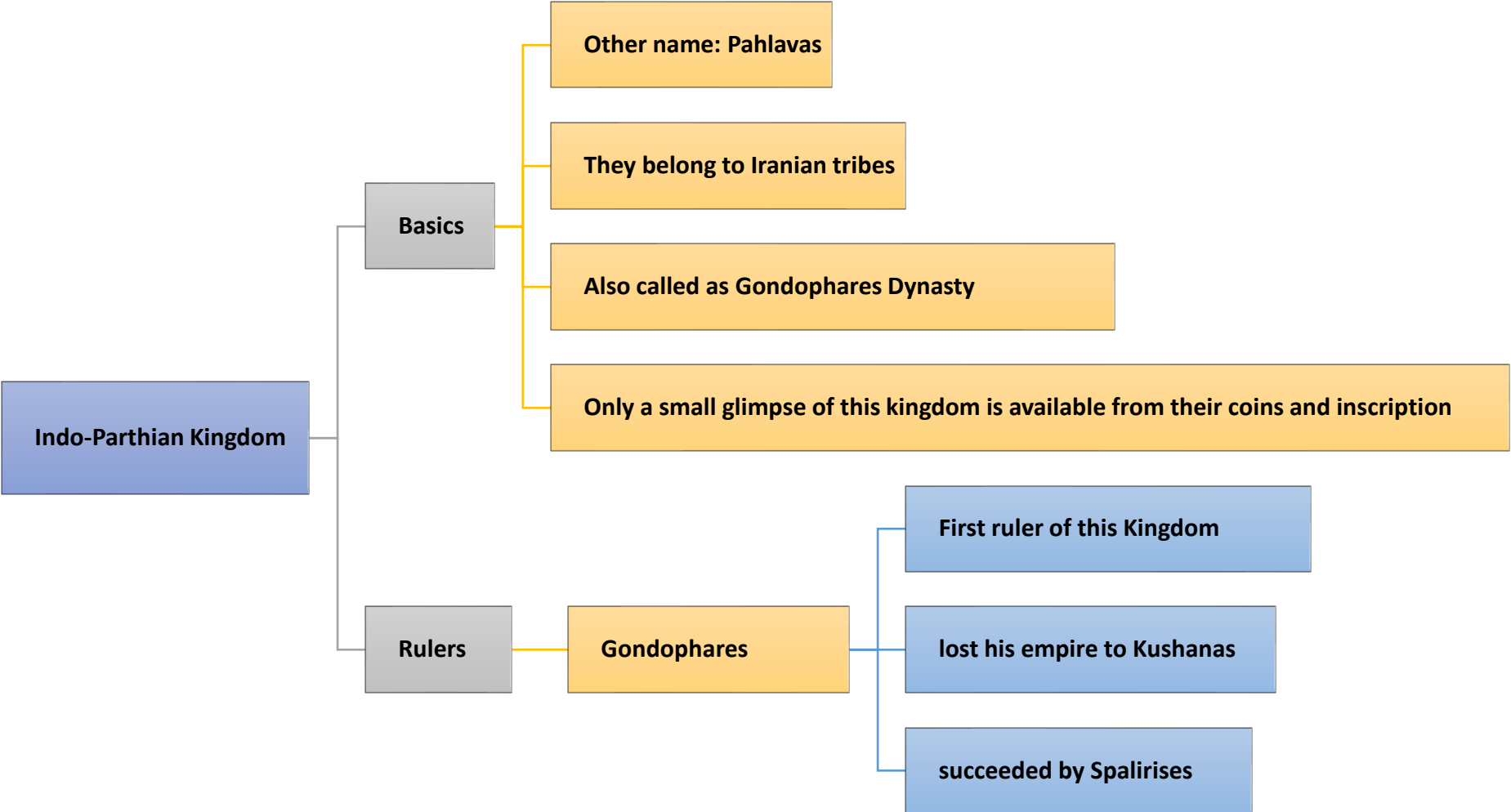
His territory extended from Afghanistan to Uttar Pradesh in east and Gujarat in the west.

Converted to Buddhism by Buddhist monk Nagasena

Milindapaho is a dialogue between Menander and Nagasena

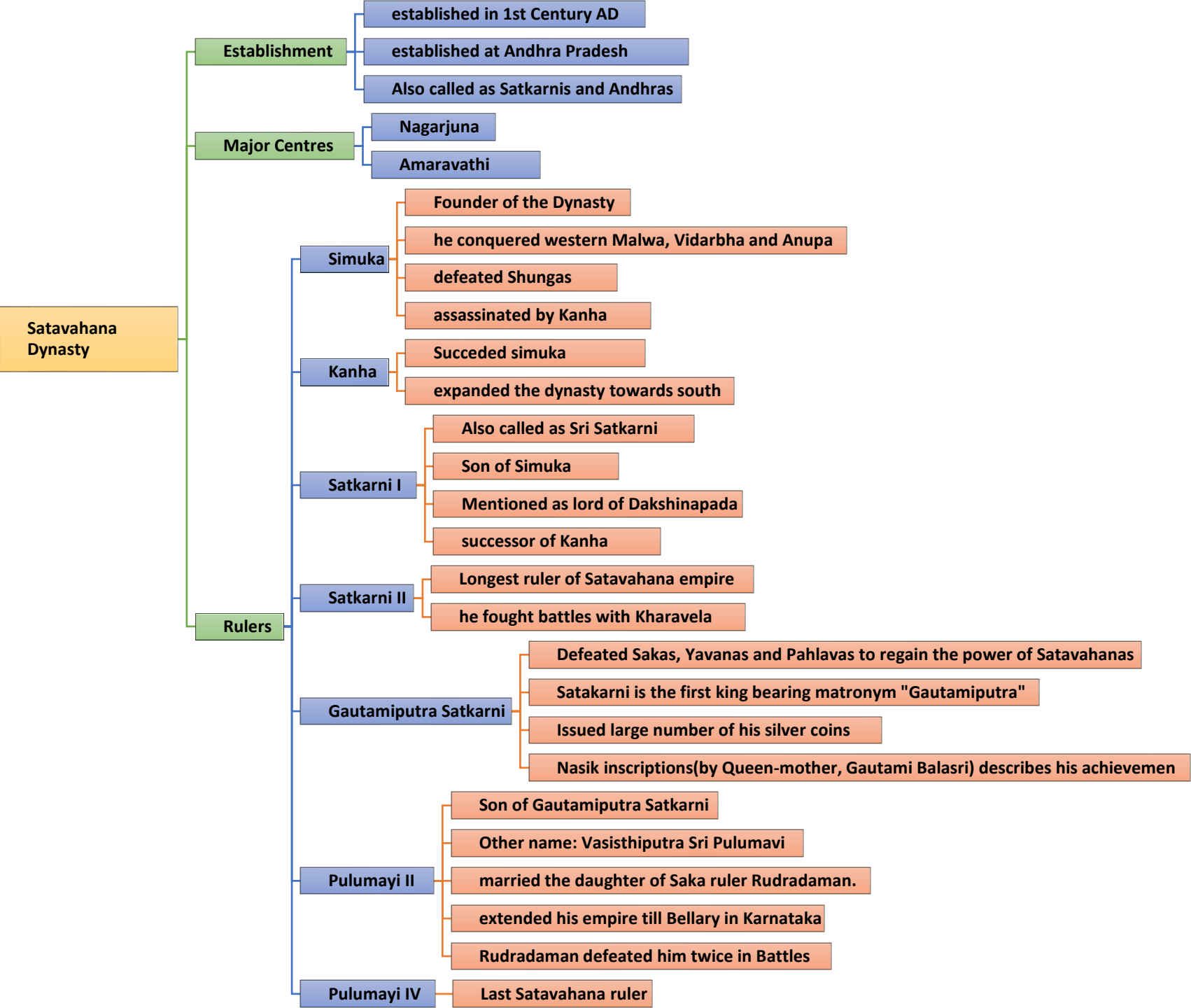
His coins are engraved with Dharmachakra

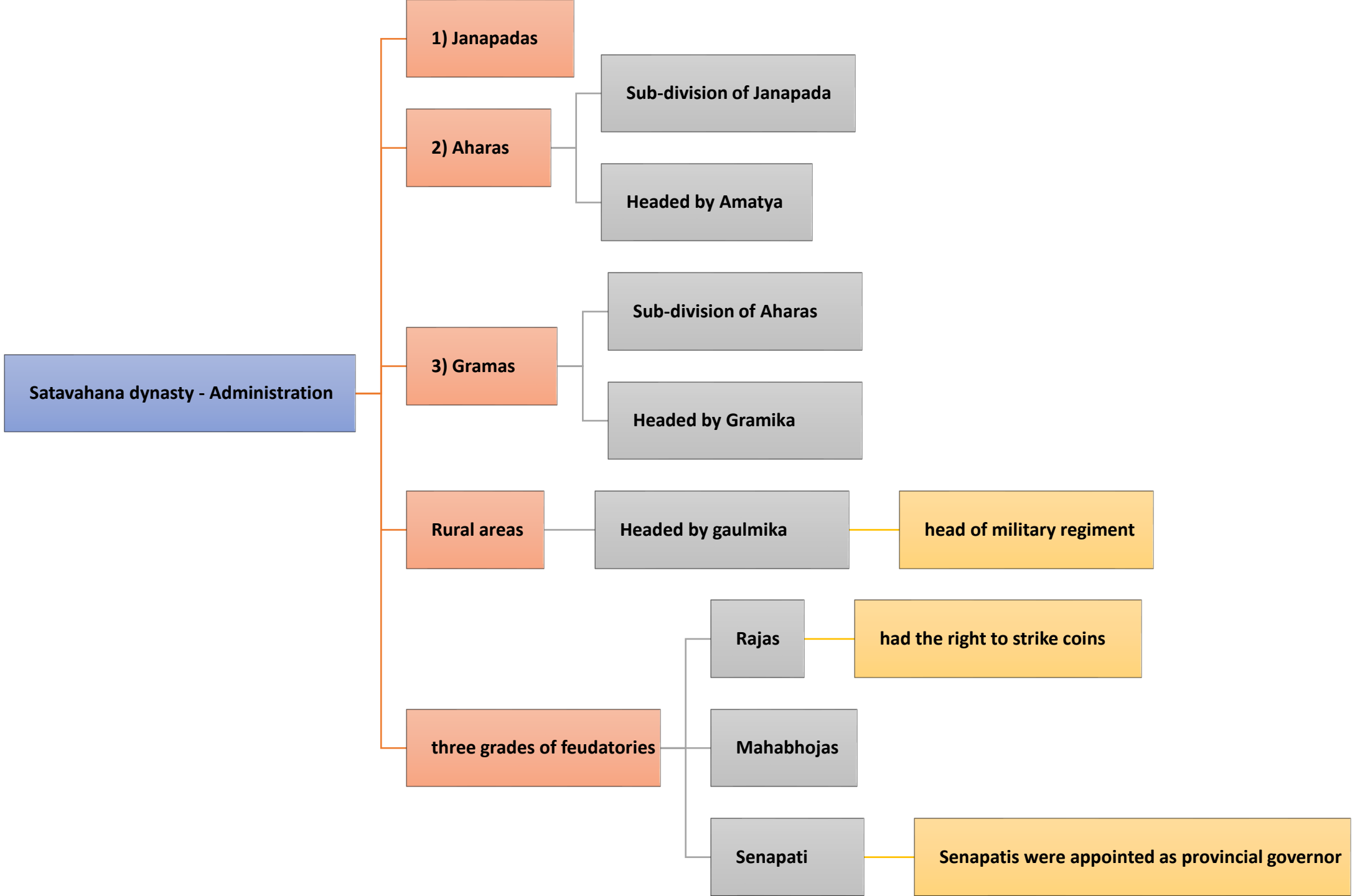
He issued silver and Gold coins

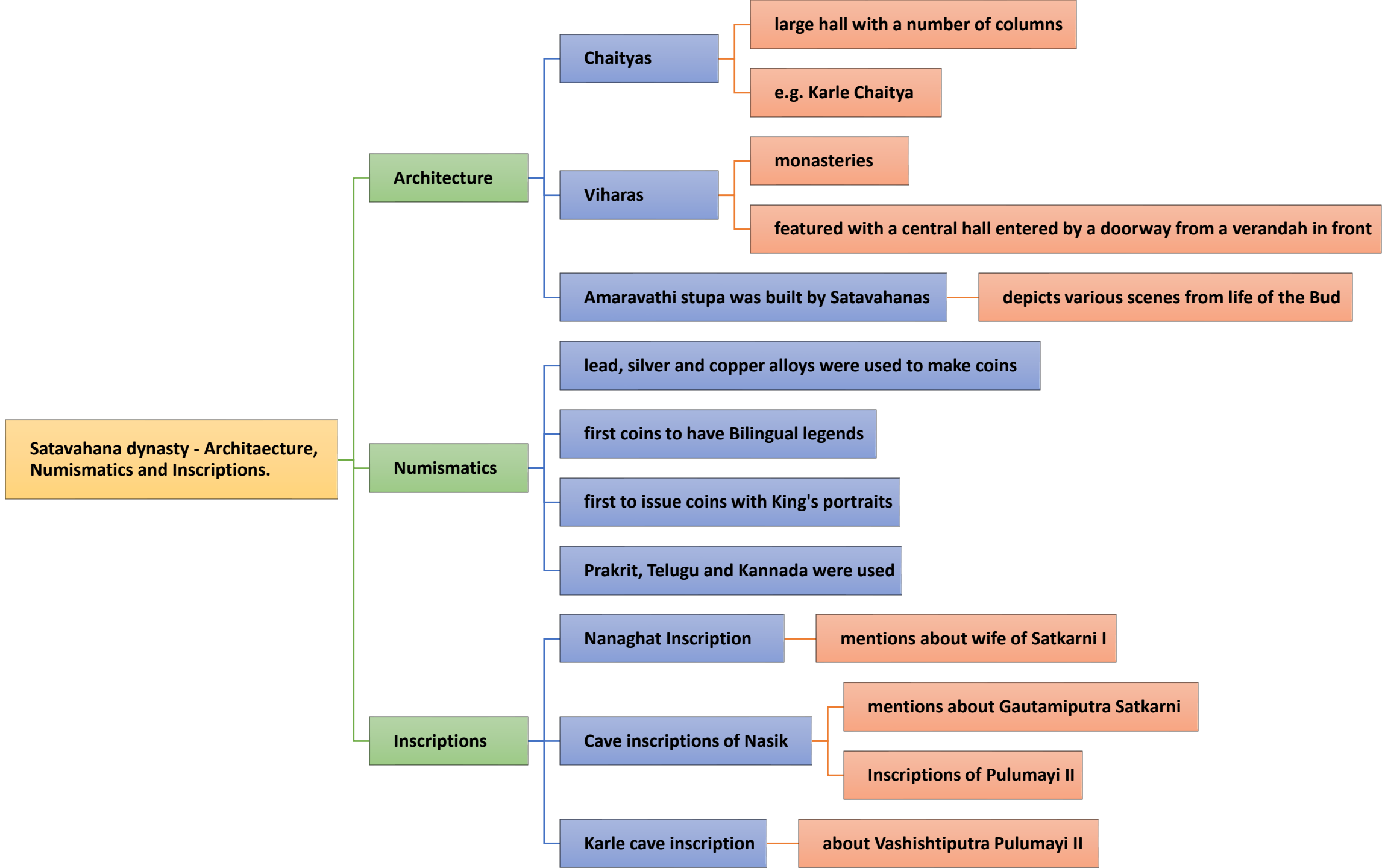


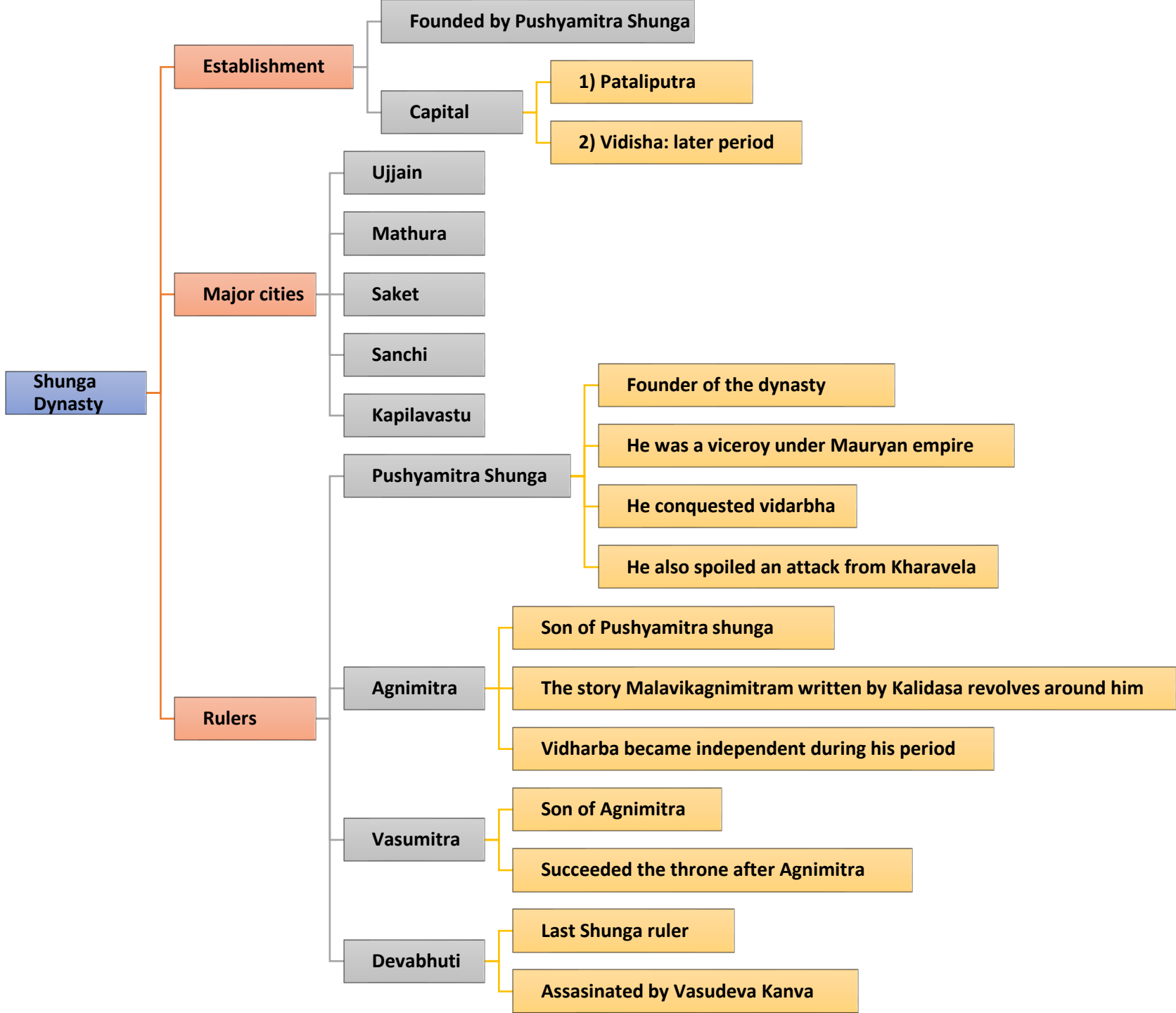
















Delhi sultanate: khilji dynasty

Rulers

Jalauddin Khalji (1290 AD - 1296 AD)

- Founder of the Khalji dynasty
- He brought an end to the slave dynasty and ascended the throne under the title of Jalaluddin Khalji
- First ruler to clearly put forward the view that the state should be ruled on the willing support of the governed
- Jalaluddin
 - tried to win the goodwill of the nobility by a policy of tolerance.
 - avoided harsh punishments and instead rewarded them to win their support
 - many people considered him to be a weak sultan.

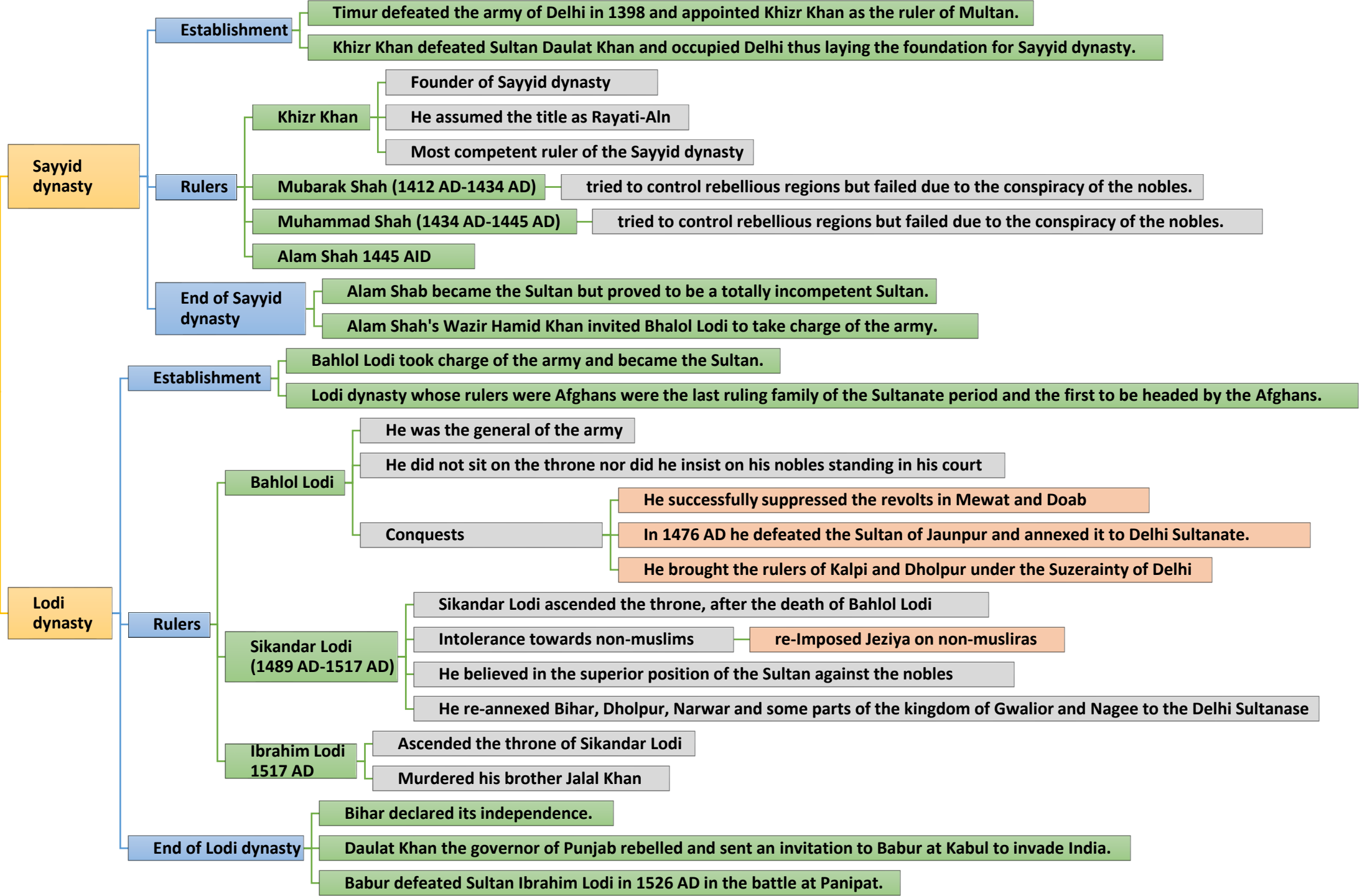
Alauddin Khalji (1296 AD - 1316 AD)

- Jalaluddin's nephew and son-in-law
- Ascension
 - He was appointed as Amir-i-Tuzuk (Master of Ceremonies).
 - He was appointed as Arizi-i-Mumalik (Minister of War) and he led the first Turkish expedition to southern India to plunder Devagiri
 - In 1296 AD, he murdered Jalaluddin Khalji and became Salтан
- Alauddin revived the Balban's policies of ruthless governance.
- To prevent rebellions, Alauddin
 - a. imposed land tax on excess land holdings
 - b. reorganized the spy system
 - c. prohibited liquor and intoxicants
 - d. ordered not to have social gatherings or inter-marriages without his permission
- Conquests of the North
 - 1. Captured Gujarat in 1290 AD by sending an army under two of his noted generals Ulugh Khan and Nusarat Khan temple of Soranath was looted
 - 2. Defeated Hamirdeva ruler of Ranthambore) in a battle to capture the fort of Rajasthan in Ranthambore Nusrat Khan lost his life in the battle
 - 3. In 1305 AD, Alauddin Khalji captured Malwa with his army led by Ain-ul-Mulk.
 - 4. He also captured Jalore, Ujjain, Rajputana, Dhar and Chanderi
- Conquests of the South
 - Campaigns of Alauddin
 - In 1307 AD Alauddin captured Baglana in Deccan from Rai Karan.
 - Alauddin defeated Rai Ramachandra, the ruler of Deogir and married one of his daughters. Rai karan was given a district of Gujarat
 - Campaigns of Malik Kafur
 - First expedition:
 - In 1309 AD Malik kafur sieged Pratab Rodradeve of Warangal in Telengana
 - Made Rai agree to part with his treasures and pay tribute to Sultan.
 - Second expedition
 - Dwar Sarrudra Ruler of Dwar Samodra, Vir Ballala III agreed to pay tribute to Sultan without any resistance.
 - Mahar (Pandya Kingdom)
 - direct decisive battle could not take place
 - Kafur plundered the wealthy temples of Chidambaram and Madurai
 - Sultan honoured Malik Kafur by appointing him Naib Malik of the empire.
- Alauddin maintained a standing army to
 - succeed in his conquests
 - protect the country from Mongol invasion
- Market Regulations
 - lowered and fixed the price of essential commodities
- set up three different markets
 - Grain market (Mandi)
 - Cloth market (Sarai Adl)
 - Market for cattle, slaves etc...
- Appointed
 - Shahna-i-Mandi-Superintendent assisted by an intelligence officer
 - Barid-Intelligence officer to receive daily reports of the market
 - Munhiyans-Secret spies

Decline of Khalji

- After the death of Alauddin in 1316 AD, Malik Kafur sat on the throne
- Within few days, Malik kafur was deposed by Qutbuddin Mubarak Shah
- Qutbuddin Mubarak Shah was soon murdered and Khusrau ascended the throne
- Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq defeated and killed Khusrau in a battle which led to the birth of Tughlaq dynasty

**Delhi sultanate:
Sayyid and Lodhi dynasty**







Arab invasions

Muhammad Bin Qasim

- a general of the Umayyad caliphate
- invaded the sindh region
- Cause of invasion
 - To avenge King Dahir for refusing to punish the pirates of Debol who plundered the Arsh ships
 - also the wealth of India
- defeated Dahir and captured the Sindh region
- Within two years of his rule, he conquered the major portion of Sind upto the lower Punjab.

Mahmud Ghazni

- Son of Sabuktigin, the founder of Ghazni dynasty and Turkish slave commander.
- He invaded India 17 times between 1000 AD and 1026 AD
- He invaded India only to loot the wealth of India to consolidate his vast rule in Central Asia
- Invasions
 1. Fought with Juipal Hindushai ruler in 1001 AD
 2. He defeated Multans and brought Punjab under Charnavide
 3. Looted the temples of Nagarkot. Thanesar, Mathura and Kanau

Shahabuddin Muhammad

- Other names
 - Muhammad Ghori
 - Muhammad of Ghor
- ascended the throne of Ghazni in 1173 AD
- Strong Khwarizmi Empire in Central Asia put an end to his expansion and forced Ghor to turn towards India.
- Muhammad Ghori's campaigns resulted in the permanent establishment of the Turkish Sultanate
- Conquests
 1. First expedition: Defeated Multan
 2. Battle of Anhilwara
 - got defeated by Ghima II, the Chaluky a ruler of Gujarat
 3. Campaign against Ghaznavids
 - Conquered Peshawar in 1180 AD and Lahore in 1186 AD
 4. Battle of Tarain
 - First Battle of Tarain(1191 AD)
 - conflict with the Rajput ruler Prithivaraj Chauhan for Bhatinds
 - first battle was fought at Tarain
 - Ghori's army was defeated
 - Second Battle of Tarain (1192 AD)
 - Both forces met again at the Battle of Tarain
 - Prithviraj was defeated and captured near Sarsuti
 - Turkish army captured the fortresses of Hansi, Sarsuti and Samana
 5. Battle of Chandwar
 - Defeated Jai Chand at Chandwar near Kanau.
 - laid the foundations of Turkish rule in Northern India
- He died in 1206 AD, leaving India in the hands of his trusted slave general Qutbuddin Aibak.