

Spread of Sakas in Rajasthan as a Ruler Class Rajputs, As a Merchant Class (Marwaris) in Gujarat, Maharashtra in India in Satavahana Times

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Abstract

at the present in Rajasthan Rajputs and Gujarat Maharashtra Marwaris there were the Sakas. They were settled in India in Satavahana's time. What is the reason Gujarat, Maharashtra Sakas settled as merchants, and Rajasthan Rajputs settled as rulers. The reason is Satavahana rulers fought continuously with Sakas in Gujarat and Maharashtra, so Sakas exhausted and settled as guilds (merchant), but in Rajasthan which was far away from Satavahana's empire Sakas settled as rulers (Rajputs).

Keywords: Scythians-Sakas-Punjab-Rajasthan-Gujarat-Maharashtra- Satavahana's-Prakrit language-guild merchants-Rajputs-Maharathi- Gautami Putra Satakarni-Yagna Sri Satakarni-Nahapana- Chasthana-Rudra Dhaman-Saka era.

Introduction:

at the present in Rajasthan Rajputs and Gujarat Maharashtra Marwaris there were the Sakas. They were settled in India in Satavahana's time. What is the reason Gujarat, Maharashtra Sakas settled as merchants, and Rajasthan Rajputs settled as rulers. The reason is Satavahana rulers fought continuously with Sakas in Gujarat and Maharashtra, so Sakas exhausted and settled as guilds (merchant), but in Rajasthan which was far away from Satavahana's empire Sakas settled as rulers (Rajputs).

Sakas in India:

A branch of the Scythians lived in Central Asia, migrated to India and lived in Punjab. The Parthians invaded India, wiped out Saka rule. Sakas moved towards South and Western India with small branches.

¹Kushanas, or Sakas, ruled from Central Asia and came to India. They controlled the Silk Route between China, Afghanistan, and Iran. They tolled tax. They even introduced gold coins in India. In fact, doing business between the Roman Empire and China shows that they were experts in the guild merchant class.

²Scythian pressure on Satavahana after 48 A.D. started. Bhumak conquered Gujarat, Kathiawad, Malwa region. He was not attacked in the main Satavahana territory. ³Usabhadata, son-in-law of Nahapana, ruled Ajmer, Kathiawad, Western Malwa, Konkan, Nasik, Poona. In fact Sakas slowly came towards South India

¹ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 52 to 53.

² Sharma, Ram Sharan. *India's ancient past*. Oxford University Press, 2006. page no 217.

³ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 54

as rulers. While gautamiputra sri-satakarni defeated nahapana ,they were got slowly small chiefs as maharathi,slowly spread their culture.⁴Western satraps which were ruled by sakas were chastana capital at Ujjain,nahapana capital at nashik,these both states were defeated by gautami putra satakarni,but again regained by rudradaman at ujjaini capital. Nashik capital of sakas ruler was serious threat to satavahana kingdom. That's why gautami putra put more efforts to defeat the nahapana . while sakas originally traders who were already settled in local level and impossible to eradicate in western India,that's why the Satavahanas shifted their capital to Amravati.⁵Kharoshti letters on Bhumaka coins showing that it was famous in sind only. So they came from west to south.⁶

Gautami putra satakarni his description of ‘‘ ti samudra –toya pitordhana ‘‘ showing he was controlled east western deccan while his capital city in Amravati. Infact sakas slowly get jobs in this time under satavahanas.⁷Saka-ksharatas were slowly became head chiefs In villages. And get the land with that after gautamiputra satakarni defeated nahapana ,sakas never became think about kinfship slowly spread their culture.⁸The puranas saying simuka belonging to Andhra.⁹Yajnasri satakarni defeated saka ruler rudrasimha-I, became they were subordinates in western india.¹⁰Kshaharatas dominated over the western part of Maharashtra,according to ‘‘kamasutra’’ satavahana powere in south west Maharashtra region . infact sakas only existed in sahyadri boundaries in satavahanas time.¹¹Ksaharatas times ancient india guild system flourished more . the nashik inscription no.12,investment risabhadatta ,son –in-law of nahapana,of 2000 karsapanas with ‘‘western’’ weavers guild ,rate of 1% interest per month.infact sakas were slowly entered into merchant class in local region after satavahanas.¹²Kshaharata were the army service of saka,yavan,pahlavas,they were defeted by gautami putra satakarni-than they never become look for ruling and,lived as guild merchants and spread in Gujarat ,Maharashtra.¹³Satavahanas time jati system not crystalized in this moment ,sakas conveted into indainised castes.¹⁴Yavanas ,sakas influenced under indian culture, nahapana un-indian name, his son in law –risabhadatta.bore indian names risabhadatta father dinika un-indian name.¹⁵Ikshaku kings and pallavas of prakrit record showing that prakrit language was used by rulers in telugu region ,where local people don't know prakrit. Infact satavahans also same.¹⁶

In a letter by S.konow to J.ph.Vogel mentined that prakrit inscription showing that Dravidian languages ,semi –prakrit started using by kanararese.¹⁷Nanaghat inscription mentioned that satakarni king of dakshinapatha ,son of simuka ,gained victories in western india. After his death ,his wife naganika

⁴ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 54 to 55

⁵ Smith, Vincent A. *The early history of India*. Atlantic Publishers & Dist, 1999. Page no. 215 to 218.

⁶ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 55

⁷ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 18.

⁸ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 21.

⁹ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 23.

¹⁰ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 60

¹¹ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 73

¹² Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 74 to 76.

¹³ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 79.

¹⁴ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 82.

¹⁵ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 83 to 84.

¹⁶ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 84.

¹⁷ Chattopadhyaya, Sudhakar. *Some early dynasties of South India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, 1974. Page no. 114.

daughter of maharathi mentioned these inscription .infact in western india while satakarni shifted his capital to pratishtanapuram than he was married local chief. Mauryan time maharathi very popular local chiefs.for gaining more strength satakarni married maharathi daughter in western india.¹⁸In gautami putra reign nahapana defeated and ksharatas were defeted but the chastana time they were became mahakshatrapas ,rudradaman time they were rulers in rajasthan ,madhyapradesh.infact while gautamiputra satakarni defeated sakas in gujarath, Maharashtra, they were went guild merchant professions and settled in local areas. Only rajasthan ,madhyapradesh they were became mahakshatrapas.¹⁹Even nahapana time sakas used in prakrit language ,but rudradaman time who were ruled in rajasthan ,madhyapradesh used Sanskrit.infact Gujarat ,Maharashtra sakas who were settled as merchants used Marathi after nahapana ,but in rajasthan, madhyapradesh ,sakas who were rulers used Sanskrit.²⁰

After satakarni victory over nahapana gautami putra satakarni capital city paithan ,but pulumavi time kshaharatas occupied north Maharashtra .ptolemy in his book geography mentioned that ‘ ‘ siro polemaios reigned at baithana ,tiastanes at ozene.’ ’ Here pulumavi ruling from paithan,chastana ruling from ujjaini .infact in north Maharashtra sakas settled as chiefs ,guild merchants under satavahanas as maharathis, while rajasthan ,madhyapradesh under chastana became rulers and pulumavi shifted his capital city to Amravati. He thought that capital city of paithan was in danger because of sakas, he was shifted so much distance from sakas.²¹Rudradamanwas looked towards Gujarat , and Maharashtra defeated satakarni of sivaskanda. It was the reason ,satavahanas shifted their capital to Amravati .infact rudradaman given his daughter to satakarni.²²After satavahanas ,pallavas were used prakrit language in south india. Infact using prakrit not only by sakas ,all the indian kings referred , used in administration ,it was showing that prakrit was not the mother language of sakas.²³

Gautami putra satakarni defeated sakas ,especially ,nahapana. He was claim 8000 silver coins of nahapana . it was showing that sakas were serious threat to deccan . even after defeat saka rulers pulumavi time capital city shifted to Amravati . it was showing that shakas not only ruler class,they were migrating people ,who were a group of people impossible to eradicate . that’s why pulumavi shifted his capital from long distance from expansion shaka’s people territory in deccan.²⁴Peddabankur in Karimnagar district had found regular use of fire bricks ,in long wall ,which was popular in satavahanas time. Piliny informs that Andhra country andhras had thirty walled towns .infact it was the enough evidence for saying that satavahanas ,andhras both were same.²⁵The inscription of nanaghat says that ,king of dakshinapatha married naga-nika ,daughter of maharathi kalalaya. Infact satavahanas were brahmins married deccan local people nagas and created kingdom.²⁶Satavahans period mostly brahmanical society claiming very popular by shakas as ksatriyas.²⁷

The Buddhism followed by sakas ,it was helped them to do easy to claim land, and trade routes in Gujarat ,Maharashtra . because buddhist’s monk’s travelled from one place to another place .they slowly knowing trade and they got land grants by satavahanas .it was helped them to get grip on gujarat ,Maharashtra land

¹⁸ Jouveau-Dubreuil, Gabriel. *Ancient history of the Deccan*. Jouveau-Dubreuil, 1920. Page no 20 to 25.

¹⁹ Jouveau-Dubreuil, Gabriel. *Ancient history of the Deccan*. Jouveau-Dubreuil, 1920. Page no 25 to 29.

²⁰ Jouveau-Dubreuil, Gabriel. *Ancient history of the Deccan*. Jouveau-Dubreuil, 1920. Page no 30.

²¹ Jouveau-Dubreuil, Gabriel. *Ancient history of the Deccan*. Jouveau-Dubreuil, 1920. Page no 38 to 40

²² Jouveau-Dubreuil, Gabriel. *Ancient history of the Deccan*. Jouveau-Dubreuil, 1920. Page no 42 to 43.

²³ Jouveau-Dubreuil, Gabriel. *Ancient history of the Deccan*. Jouveau-Dubreuil, 1920. Page no 52

²⁴ Sharma, Ram Sharan. *India's ancient past*. Oxford University Press, 2006.page no 225.

²⁵ Sharma, Ram Sharan. *India's ancient past*. Oxford University Press, 2006.page no 228

²⁶ Jouveau-Dubreuil, Gabriel. *Ancient history of the Deccan*. Jouveau-Dubreuil, 1920. Page no 39 to 40

²⁷ Sharma, Ram Sharan. *India's ancient past*. Oxford University Press, 2006.page no 228

and trade which was helped to sakas to spread their culture and prakrit language in Gujarat and Maharashtra.²⁸The satavahanas had matrilineal social structure .it was customary for the king to be named after his mother . budhha mother very popular by her status ,so satavahanas time Buddhism very popularly ,so kings were adopted it popular culture. Especially kings mothers pride them as budhhas mother and donated land and facilities to Buddhist monks and having their name after king name.²⁹Nagarjuna konda , Amravati in andhrapradesh became important places of Buddhist expansion under satavahana rulers while in western india Gujarat ,Maharashtra Buddhism spread by traders. Infact sakas became traders and merchant guilds and spread buddhism³⁰Satavahana kingdom period sakas were did the trade in tagar ,paithan,dhanyakataka,Amravati ,nagarjunakonda, broach ,sopara,arikamedu popular towns sakas were settled as tradersand in several places as settlers.kushanas controlled uttarapatha trade route between Mathura to taxila . these kuhsanas ,sakas controlled trade route between satavahanas and roman empire.³¹

Conclusion:

Scythians who were settled in silk route ruled and collected toll tax , they were naturally have two charectrs as rulers and merchants. If it possible they were settled as rulers example rajsthen, if it is not possible settled as merchants example Gujarat, maharathra. They were really adopted Buddhist culture not hindu culture, from satavahnas time prakrit language used by budhhism, the same language was used by sakas (marwaris Marathi, gujarathi), even now budhhism gone in dia, but the prakrit language (gujarati, Marathi)exist by saka group of marwaris in gujarath, Maharashtra.

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²⁸ Sharma, Ram Sharan. *India's ancient past*. Oxford University Press, 2006.page no 229

²⁹ Sharma, Ram Sharan. *India's ancient past*. Oxford University Press, 2006.page no 229 to 230.

³⁰ Sharma, Ram Sharan. *India's ancient past*. Oxford University Press, 2006.page no 230 to 231.

³¹ Sharma, Ram Sharan. *India's ancient past*. Oxford University Press, 2006.page no 269 to 270.