



## Ashoka The Emperor Who Gave Up War

Q1. Describe the governance in Mauryan Empire?

Ans. Governance in Mauryan Empire

- i. The area around Pataliputra was under the direct control of the emperor.
- ii. This meant that officials were appointed to collect taxes from farmers, herders, crafts persons and traders, who lived in villages and towns in the area.
- iii. There were other areas or provinces. Each of these was ruled from a provincial capital such as Taxila or Ujjain.
- iv. Mauryas tried to control roads and rivers, which were important for transport, and to collect whatever resources were available as tax and tribute.

Q2. What Megasthenes wrote about Pataliputra (modern Patna)?

Ans. Megasthenes wrote about Pataliputra (modern Patna)

- i. It is a large and beautiful city.
- ii. It is surrounded by a massive wall.
- iii. It has 570 towers and 64 gates.
- iv. The houses, of two and three storeys, are built of wood and mud brick.
- v. The king's palace is also of wood, and decorated with stone carvings.
- vi. It is surrounded with gardens and enclosures for keeping birds.