

Mihardhoya: He was illustrious king. He expanded the empire. He was one of the greatest leader of the Emperors. He killed his father in order to succeed the throne. During his reign, the glory of the Gurjara Pratihara reached a new zenith. He established friendly relationship with Cheddar. This relationship helped him to strength his authority.

Now, he revived the old rivalry between the Palas and Pratihara. He defeated Devapala and Vijayapala. He occupied the western region of the empire. In this course of action, he defeated the Rashtrakuta ruler and established his ~~empire~~ supremacy over northern India. He made Kanauj as his capital.

His fear forced the Kalchuris and Chandela to accept his suzerainty. Even the Arabs of Sindh also accepted his lordship.

His empire includes Punjab, Malwa, Rajputana, Kathiawar and Madhya Pradesh. He was great patron of art, religion and literature. His coins contain the title of 'Adivaraha'. He gave patronage to the Vaishnava sect.

Arab traveller Suleiman said King-fesses big army and no others king had similar forces at that time.

Mahendra Pala (I) (890-910AD).

- (a) Mahendra Pala secured the inheritance which he received from his illustrious father.
- (b) Shankarvarman, the ruler of Kashmir annexed western part of Punjab.

- (3) Though, he could not take back the province but able to secure some parts of Pal's territory
- (4) He was also great patron of art and literature
- (5) Rajasekhara's Kapurmanjari was written in this period
- (6) During his period, the glory of Kanva was at its peak.
- (7) He made Kanva the capital of political and cultural activities

Mahipala (I) (912-944 A.D)

- A) He was the last able ruler of Gurjara Pratihara lineage.
- B) His rule was infested with obstacles which eroded the stability of the empire
- C) Indra III occupied Kanva and defeated Mahipala - though with timely help of Chauluka, he occupied the seat of Kanva once again.
- D) But, this had lowered the prestige of Gurjara Pratihara as invincible power
- E) During his rule, the authority of the ruler started weakened.
- F) Though Mahipala still maintained the control of Soan, Benaras, Gwalior and Kathiawar.

Gurjara Pratihara considered the rule as it was more personally based rule. They therefore continued the empire with the help of able rulers but the decline hastened once the weak ruler succeeded to the throne. Though it was not that ruler was alone a factor but other factors also contributed to this decline.