**An Outline Chronology of Kashmir History**

Maharaj Kaul

**Sources**

1. Nilmatpurana Written in 6th – 7th Cent. (Oldest extant text)
2. Kalhana’s Rajatarangani Written in 1149 – 1150
3. Jonaraja’s Rajatarangani Covers 1150 – 1459
4. Jaina Rajatarangani by Srivara Pandit Covers 1459 – 1486
5. Rajavalipataka by Prajyabhatta Covers 1486 – 1512
6. Chaturtha Rajatarangani by Suka Covers up to the arrival of Asaf Khan

 (Shah Jehan’s, 1628-1657, Prime Minister)

**Chronology**

**Ancient Hindu Era**

3120 B.C. – 598 3,718 years 92 kings (chronology speculative – based on Kalhana

 and Ghulam Hassan Shah (1832 – 1898), in Tarikh-i-

 Hasan. The only source of 47 Lost Kings, based on

 Ratnakar Purana, compiled by Anand Kaul.

 Kalhana starts with King Gonanda I

Karakota Dynasty 600 – 855 255 years Hieun Tsiang visits Kashmir (631 – 633)

Utpala Dynasty 855 – 1003 148 years Suyya, the great engineer. Sopore named after him

 Lalitaditya Muktapida, built Martand Temple.

 Avanti Varman (855 – 883). Built Samarsvamin

 Temple in Avantipura.

 Vasagupta, founder of Kashmir Shaivism

 Ksemgupta (950 – 958). Married Didda.

 Didda (980 – 1003)

1st Lohar Dynasty 1003 – 1101 98 years King Harsha (1089 – 1101)

2nd Lohar Dynasty 1101 – 1339 238 years Pandit Kalhana wrote Rjatarangani during

 Jayasimha’s reign (1128 – 1154)

 Suhadeva (1301 1320). During his reign Dulcha,

 Rinchana, and Shah Mir came to Kashmir

 Rinchana (1323 – 1323). Converted to Islam.

 Udyandeva (1323 – 1338), brother of Suhadeva

 Kotarani (1338 – 1339). Murdered by Shah Mir.

 Lal Ded born in 1335

**Total Ancient Hindu Era 4,457 years**

**Muslim Era**

Sultanate 1339 – 1555 216 years Shams’Din (Shah Mir) 1339 – 1342)

 Sikandar Bhutshikan (1389 – 1413) –

 Most tyrannical to KPs. Forced conversion

 of KPs to Islam

 Zain-Ul-Abidin (Budshah) 1420 – 1470

 Most secular Muslim king. Death of Sheikh

 Nur-ud-Din Rishi

Chaks 1555 – 1586 31 years Habba Khatoon

Moguls 1586 -1752 166 years Rupa Bhavani (Shah Jehan’s reign 1628 – 1657)

Afghans 1752 – 1819 67 years Most brutal era for KPs

 Parmanand born in 1791

 Arnimal

**Total Muslim Era 480 years**

**Modern Hindu Era**

Sikhs 1819 – 1846 27 years Treaty of Amristar

Dogras 1846 – 1947 101 years Britain sold Kashmir to Gulab Singh for 75 lak rupees

 Master Zinda Kaul

**Total Modern Hindu Era 128 years**

**History of Srinagar**

The city of Srinagri was founded by King Ashoka (273 – 232 B.C.) at the present-day village of Pandrethan, about 3 miles of the present-day Srinagar. (Panderthan was called Purnadisthan until 14th cent.). Present-day Srinagar was founded by King Pravarsena The Second (Gonandiya Dynasaty) and used to be called Pravarpura. When the name Srinagri changed to Srinagar and replaced Pravarpura is not known.

Suffern, New York, Original 2003: Rev 1: 2010; Rev 2: January 29, 2017; Rev. 3: Feb. 28, 2017; Rev 4: March 4, 2017

[www.kaulscorner.com](http://www.kaulscorner.com)

maharaj.kaul@yahoo.com