I. ORIGIN & FOUNDATION (1228 CE)

- **Founder**: *Chaolung Sukapha*, a Tai prince from Mong Mao (present-day Yunnan, China), founded the Ahom kingdom in **1228 CE** by crossing the Patkai Hills and settling in the **Brahmaputra Valley**.
- **Initial Capital**: Charaideo (near present-day Charaideo district, Assam) was established as the first capital.
- The Ahoms initially integrated with local tribal groups (Barahi, Moran, Chutiya) through marriage alliances and diplomacy.

II. POLITICAL EXPANSION & CONSOLIDATION

- **13th–14th Century**:
  - Initial phase focused on *territorial consolidation* and *assimilating local tribes*.
  - Expansion up to Dihing and Dikhow rivers.
- **15th Century**:
  - Conflicts with the **Chutiyas and Kacharis**.
  - By the end of 15th century, the Ahoms had defeated and annexed the Chutiya and Kachari kingdoms.
- **16th Century**:
  - Major confrontation with the **Koch kingdom**, especially under **King Naranarayan** and **General Chilarai**.
  - Eventually, peace was made through diplomacy and marriage alliances.
- **17th Century (Golden Age)**:
  - Reign of **Suhungmung (1497–1539)**: Transformed Ahom polity from tribal to monarchical state; introduced **Paik system**.

- Reign of **Pratap Singha (1603–1641)**: Reorganized administration, introduced **Borphukan** post, established diplomacy with Mughals.
- **Jayadhwaj Singha (1648–1663)**: Fought Mughal incursions, signed the **Treaty of Ghiladhari**.
- **Supatphaa (Lachit Borphukan)** defended Guwahati in **Battle of Saraighat (1671)** against the Mughal general **Ram Singh**.

- **18th Century (Decline begins)**:
  - **Rudra Singha (1696–1714)**: Patron of art and architecture; dreamt of expanding into Bengal.
  - After his death, **internal revolts**, **noble factionalism**, and **external invasions** began to weaken the kingdom.
  - **Moamoria Rebellion (1769–1805)**: A major socio-religious uprising by the Moamorias (Vaishnavite sect) weakened the Ahom state for decades.

III. ADMINISTRATION

1. CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

- **Monarchy**: Hereditary but powerful nobles often influenced succession.
- Key officials included:
  - **Burhagohain** (Premier)
  - **Borgohain** (Military Chief)
  - **Borpatra Gohain**, **Borphukan**, and **Borbarua** (regional and administrative heads)

2. PAIK SYSTEM (INTRODUCED BY SUHUNGMUNG)

- **Paiks**: Male peasants organized into groups of 4; 1 served the state while 3 worked to support him.
- Provided **administration, military service, and public works**.

3. JUDICIAL SYSTEM

- No codified laws; justice based on customary laws, king’s discretion, and advice from nobles.
- Severe punishments for crimes like treason, murder, and theft.

IV. MILITARY SYSTEM

- Based on the **Paik** system—no standing army but mass mobilization.
- Strong naval force in Brahmaputra and its tributaries.
- Use of **guerrilla tactics**, especially seen in **Battle of Saraighat (1671)** under **Lachit Borphukan**.
- Fortifications included **Garhs (embankments)** and **Talas (water bodies)** as natural defenses.

V. SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

1. SOCIETY

- Initially Tai-Ahom tribal customs, but gradually assimilated **Hindu and Assamese culture**.
- Caste system introduced by Brahminical influence.
- Important festivals: **Me-Dam-Me-Phi**, **Bihu**, **Rongali Bihu**.
- Supported Satras (Vaishnavite monasteries) and neo-Vaishnavism.

2. ECONOMY

- **Agriculture-based** economy, mainly **rice cultivation**.
- Land was not individually owned; distributed by the state.
- Barter system used; later, coins were minted (e.g., **Rudra Singha's reign**).
- Encouraged artisanship, boat-making, textiles, oil pressing.

VI. CULTURE & LITERATURE

- **Ahom language** used for rituals; Assamese became the court language by 17th century.
- Literature: *Buranjis* – historical chronicles written in Ahom and Assamese.
- Patronage of **Assamese literature, Sanskrit learning**, and **Vaishnavite texts**.
- Architecture: Temples (e.g., **Siva Dol**, **Joy Dol**), tanks, embankments, forts.

VII. DECLINE AND BRITISH INTERVENTION

- **Moamoria Rebellion** (1769–1805): Severely weakened the Ahom state.
- Burmese invasion (1817 onwards):
  - Ahoms sought Burmese help, but this led to **Burmese occupation of Assam (1817–1826)**.
- **Treaty of Yandabo (1826)**:
  - Signed between the British and Burmese after the First Anglo-Burmese War.
  - **Marked the end of the Ahom Kingdom** and the beginning of **British rule in Assam**.

VIII. LEGACY OF AHOM RULE

- Ruled Assam for nearly **600 years** — longest unbroken dynasty in Indian history.
- Maintained **political autonomy** even during peak Mughal expansion.
- Their historical records — **Buranjis** — are valuable sources for reconstructing medieval Assam's history.
- National heroes like **Lachit Borphukan** continue to inspire regional and national pride (e.g., Lachit Diwas celebrated on Nov 24).