

Ashoka faced many problems. There were quarrel among people. People adopted different religion. Slaves and servants were ill-treated. Animals were sacrificed. These were the problem that Ashoka wanted to solve.

What were the means adopted by Ashoka to spread the message of Dhamma?

The means adopted by Ashoka to spread the message of Dhamma were :—

- ① He appointed officers known as dhamma mahamattha to spread and explain the message of Dhamma.
- ② He wrote his message on rocks and pillars which were erected in different parts of the empire.
- ③ Messages were written in Prakrit, the language of the people.

Why do you think slaves and servants were ill-treated? Do you think the orders of the emperor would have improved their condition? Give reasons for your answer.

The slaves were mostly prisoners of war and servants did menial jobs. They were ill-treated if the emperor could have made the slaves free, if the servants were ill-treated the master could be punished.