

Painting(332)

Tutor Marked Assignment

1. Answer any one of the following questions in about 40-60 words.:

a. What is the medium of the sculpture "Priest Bust"? Write about it in brief

<u>Answer:-</u> This steatite bust of the priest king is the most well-known artifact from the Indus Valley Civilization. It presents several clues about contemporary culture and lifetyle. The jewels on his forehead arm and the cloak draped over the left shoulder hint at the wearer's high socio-economic status. His trimmed beard and neatly combed hair indicate a certain sense of fashion. The trefoil motifs on the shawl - it is not clear whether they are printed, embroidered or woven - show that people had begun to adorn textiles.

b. "Chand Bibi Hawking" was painted during which period? Which school of painting does it belong to?

<u>Answer:-</u> Chand Bibi Hawking" paintings, depicting the legendary Queen of Ahmadnagar, fall within the 17th-18th century period. They belong to the Deccani School of painting, which flourished in the Deccan Plateau of India during that era.

2. Answer any one of the following questions in about 40-60 words.

a. Write any two features of Indus Valley sculptures.

Answer: Two features of Indus Valley sculptures are:-

- Indus Valley art heavily featured portrayals of deities and spiritual figures.
- The iconic Mother Goddess figurines, found in terracotta and steatite, are widely recognized. These figures typically stand or sit, adorned with elaborate headdresses and jewelry, symbolizing fertility and prosperity.

b. "The halo is a significant contribution to the Gandhara school." Justify the statement.

<u>Answer:-</u> Gandhar Buddha had an element of the Greco-Roman pictorial conventions. The Prathian and Acamenian traditions are mixed with the local tradition, which is known as Gandhar traditions. Image of Budha and Budhisattms are produced in Gandhara and Gangetic areas. The Avalokiteswara holding a lotus, Manjushree holding a book, and Maitreya holding a pitcher are so bejewelled that they look like royal personages. Some Buddha figures also sport facial hair. The heavy ornamentation of the Gandhar Bodhisatvas makes them look more like royal figures and less like ascetics. To convey their spiritual elevation, they have been shown with halos around their heads. The halo is a significant contribution to the Gandhara school.

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- 3. Answer any one of the following questions in about 40-60 words.
 - a. Write any two differences between Akbari Period painting and Jahangir period painting with one example each.

Answer:- Difference between Akbari Period painting and Jahangir period painting:-

- 1. Stylistic Approach and Detail
 - **Akbari Period**: The paintings from Akbar's reign were characterized by a blend of Persian, Indian, and European styles, reflecting the emperor's interest in different cultures and traditions. They were often vibrant, with detailed backgrounds and a dynamic sense of movement.

Example: One notable example is the illustration from the "Akbarnama," a chronicle of Akbar's reign. These illustrations often depicted court scenes, battles, and hunting expeditions with intricate details and lively compositions.

Jahangir Period: Under Jahangir, the Mughal painting evolved towards more naturalism and refinement. There was a greater emphasis on portraiture and the detailed depiction of flora and fauna. The use of perspective and realistic representation became more pronounced.

Example: A famous example is the painting "Jahangir Preferring a Sufi Shaikh to Kings" by Bichitr. This painting shows Jahangir seated on an hourglass throne, giving a book to a Sufi saint, with European and Turkish figures in the background. The work highlights the detailed and naturalistic approach typical of Jahangir's period.

2. Subject Matter and Themes

• Akbari Period: The themes during Akbar's reign were diverse, often focusing on historical narratives, epic tales, and various cultural and religious subjects. The Akbarnama and the Razmnama (a Persian translation of the Mahabharata) are prime examples, illustrating events from Akbar's life and the grand epics of Indian culture.

Example: The "Razmnama" illustrations, which depict scenes from the Mahabharata, show the blend of Persian and Indian styles with vibrant colors and intricate details, reflecting the grandeur and complexity of the epic.

• Jahangir Period: Jahangir's interest in nature, science, and portraiture led to a shift in the subject matter. Paintings from this period often depicted detailed studies of plants, animals, and birds, as well as intimate portraits of court figures and self-portraits.

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Example: The "Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri" (Jahangir's memoirs) contains illustrations of various animals and birds, showcasing the emperor's fascination with natural history. The realistic and detailed depiction of these subjects marks a significant evolution from the previous period.

b. Write a brief note "Ganjifa", site one example.

<u>Answer</u>: - Ganjifarefers to an ancient Indian card game and the intricately designed playing cards used for it. Originating during the medieval period, the game gained popularity during the Mughal era and was played by royalty and commoners alike. The cards were typically circular or rectangular and featured intricate designs, often hand-painted with elaborate motifs and vibrant colors. Ganjifa cards were traditionally made from various materials, including ivory, tortoiseshell, and wood, with paper versions becoming more common over time. The themes depicted on the cards ranged from mythological and religious scenes to royal court life and everyday activities. Each deck typically contained sets of twelve cards, with each suit representing different characters or objects, making the game both a test of skill and memory.

Example- Matsyavatara (Ganjifa Card).

- 4. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-150 words.
 - A. Describe Mauryan and post Mauryan sculptures similarities or differences with any examples.

Answer: - Similarities and Differences between Mauryan and Post-Mauryan Sculptures:

Similarities:

1. **Religious Themes**: Both Mauryan and Post-Mauryan sculptures prominently feature religious themes, reflecting the significant role of religion in ancient Indian society.

<u>Example</u>: Stupas and religious iconography are common in both periods. The Great Stupa at Sanchi, originally commissioned by Ashoka in the Mauryan period, continued to be developed in the Post-Mauryan period.

2. Use of Symbolism: Both periods employed rich symbolism in their art to convey religious and philosophical ideas.

<u>Example</u>: The Lion Capital of Ashoka from the Mauryan period and the numerous Buddha and Bodhisattva statues from the Post-Mauryan period use symbolic elements to represent power, enlightenment, and spiritual guidance.

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1. Stylistic Evolution:

• **Mauryan Sculpture**: Mauryan sculptures, especially those from the reign of Emperor Ashoka (268-232 BCE), are characterized by their highly polished surfaces and simple, yet majestic, forms. The art was influenced by Persian and Hellenistic styles, evident in the smooth and refined finish.

<u>Example</u>: The Lion Capital of Ashoka, found at Sarnath, is a prime example of Mauryan art, featuring polished sandstone and detailed carving.

Post-Mauryan Sculpture: In the Post-Mauryan period, especially during the Kushan and Satavahana dynasties (1st-3rd centuries CE), the art became more intricate and expressive. There was a significant influence of Greco-Buddhist art due to interactions with the Hellenistic world.

<u>Example</u>: The Gandhara Buddha sculptures, known for their detailed drapery and realistic features, contrast sharply with the simpler forms of Mauryan art. These sculptures reflect the syncretism of Indian and Greek artistic traditions.

2. Materials and Techniques:

• **Mauryan Sculpture**: The Mauryan period primarily used stone, especially sandstone, for their sculptures. The technique of polishing stone to a high sheen was a hallmark of this period.

<u>Example</u>: The Pillars of Ashoka, with their polished surfaces and detailed animal capitals, demonstrate the technical prowess of Mauryan artisans.

Post-Mauryan Sculpture: The Post-Mauryan period saw the use of a variety of materials, including stone, stucco, and terracotta. The sculptures became more detailed and complex, with intricate carvings and a greater emphasis on realistic human forms.

<u>Example</u>: The sculptures from the Mathura school, characterized by their robust and sensuous forms, are made from red sandstone and show a departure from the polished surfaces of the Mauryan period.

Examples:

1) Mauryan Period:

<u>The Lion Capital of Ashoka</u>: This iconic sculpture, which now serves as the national emblem of India, is a testament to the craftsmanship of the Mauryan period. It features four lions standing back-to-back, symbolizing power, courage, and confidence.

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2) Post-Mauryan Period:

<u>Gandhara Buddha</u>: These sculptures, found in the Gandhara region (modern-day Pakistan and Afghanistan), depict the Buddha with Greco-Roman artistic influences, such as wavy hair and realistic body proportions. The Gandhara Buddha sculptures are renowned for their detailed craftsmanship and Hellenistic style.

B. Write about the sculptural features of Indus Vally Civilization with any two examples.

Answer:- The sculptural features of Indus Vally Civilization:

□ **Naturalism and Realism**: Indus Valley sculptures often exhibit a high degree of naturalism and realism. The figures are carefully proportioned, with attention to anatomical details.

□ Use of Various Materials: Artisans used a variety of materials, including terracotta, steatite, and bronze. Each material was chosen for its specific properties and worked with great skill.

□ **Representation of Human and Animal Figures**: The sculptures include both human and animal figures, showcasing the everyday life and spiritual beliefs of the people. Human figures often display detailed attire, jewelry, and hairstyles.

□ Small Scale: Most of the sculptures are relatively small, which suggests they were meant for personal use or small-scale rituals rather than monumental public displays.

□ **Sophisticated Bronze Casting**: The lost-wax technique was used for casting bronze statues, indicating advanced metallurgical skills.

Examples:

1. The Dancing Girl

- <u>Material</u>: Bronze
- Location: Discovered in Mohenjo-daro
- <u>Description</u>: This small bronze statue, about 10.5 cm tall, depicts a young girl in a confident, almost playful pose, standing with one hand on her hip and the other dangling freely. The figure wears a necklace and bangles, highlighting the sophistication of Indus Valley jewelry. The naturalistic portrayal of the human form and the sense of movement captured in the pose are remarkable for the period.

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- 2. The Priest-King
 - Material: Steatite
- <u>Location:</u> Discovered in Mohenjo-daro
- <u>Description</u>: This sculpture, about 17.5 cm high, depicts a bearded male figure, often referred to as the "Priest-King." He wears a patterned robe over his shoulder and a plain headband. The face is solemn and dignified, with a well-groomed beard and a mustache. The detailed carving of the robe and the facial features reflect the high level of craftsmanship and the cultural significance of such figures in Indus society.
- 5. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-150 words.
 - A. Write note on "Tanjore Painting' collecting information from available library resources.

Answer: This important style of painting is named after Tanjore (Tanjavur) in modernday Tamilnadu, where it originated. Its golden period was between the 16th and the 18th centuries when it flourished under the patronage of the Nayak rulers under the suzerainty of the Vijayanagar Rayas and the Maratha court. The Raju community of Tanjavur and Trichy and the Naidu community of Madurai were instrumental in developing this style. The subject of these paintings is mainly Hindu gods and goddesses, royal personages and celestial beings. Since they were originally painted on fabric stuck on wooden planks, they were called 'Palagai Padani' (literally pictures painted on wood) in Tamil. Tanjore paintings are deeply rooted in religion, tradition and exude feelings of holiness and devotion. They are characterized by the use of precious and semiprecious stones, glass and gold foil in relief. The sophisticated use of flat vivid colours is a hallmark of the Tanjore style. These paintings made interiors come alive. Since the style originated during a period marked by prolific temple building in the region, gods and goddesses were the natural choice of theme. Skillful use of coloured precious stones over the basic drawing sets Tanjore paintings apart from other Indian painting styles. It gives them a three-dimensional effect. Generally used as icons, the faces in these paintings are round and have a divine glow. The pranks of the child Krishna are a favourite theme. Some paintings have also been rendered on glass panels. Materials used for painting include wooden board, white cotton fabric, chalk powder, gum, mineral colours, gold leaf, precious stones, and pieces of glass. This is a rendering of the five-headed Hanuman in the Tanjore style. The outline of the painting has been painted as a doorway. It is highlighted by the use of gold leaf, and the arch is ornamented with bits of red and green glass.

B. Write any four features of Mughal Painting.

Answer:- Four features of Mughal Painting:

- 1. Mughal paintings are known for their rich and vibrant colors, often derived from natural sources. The use of colors is not only decorative but also symbolic, enhancing the overall aesthetic and narrative of the painting.
- 2. Mughal painting is a blend of Persian and Indian artistic traditions, incorporating elements such as Persian motifs and Indian color palettes. This fusion is evident in the use of elaborate floral borders, Persian-style human figures, and Indian themes and settings.

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- 3. A significant feature of Mughal painting is its emphasis on naturalism and realism. This style portrays human figures, animals, and landscapes with a high degree of accuracy and attention to detail.
- 4. Mughal paintings are typically created in a miniature format, often for inclusion in books or albums. These paintings are characterized by their intricate detail and fine brushwork.

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