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Topic : **India as secular State**

Organisation of fine arts, dance, drama, music

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ART AND CULTURE OF INDIA

17.1 RELIGION

Religion is a collection of belief systems, cultural system and world views that relate humanity to spirituality and sometimes to moral values. Religion is different from private belief in its social character.

- ❖ Holy book of Islam is **Quran**.
- ❖ Islam is the second largest religion in the world.
- ❖ Most Muslims belong to two denominations **Shia** and **Sunni**.
- ❖ Islam arrived in India in 8th century AD.

Hinduism

- ❖ It consists of a collection of intellectual and philosophical points of views, rather than a rigid system of beliefs.
- ❖ There is no specific founder of the religion.
- ❖ Its roots can be traced to the historical Vedic religion of the Iron age India.
- ❖ Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world after Christianity and Islam.
- ❖ Prominent texts are the Vedas, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata.

Islam

- ❖ **Prophet Mohammed** is the founder of Islam.

Christianity

- ❖ **Jesus** is the founder of Christianity.
- ❖ **Bible** is the Holy book of Christianity.
- ❖ Christian religion is mainly divided into 2 streams-**Catholic** and **Protestant**.
- ❖ Christianity is the world's largest religion.
- ❖ Holy texts of the Christianity are the **Old Testament** and the **New Testament**.

Sikhism

- ❖ **Guru Nanak** is the founder of Sikhism.
- ❖ **Guru Granth Sahib** is the Holy book of Sikhism. Sikhism

is the third largest religion of India.

- ❖ Sikhism developed in India during 16th and 17th centuries.

Buddhism

- ❖ **Mahatma Buddha** is the founder of Buddhism. Buddhism is the indigenous religion of India.
- ❖ Holy book of Buddhism are the **Tripitakas**.
- ❖ The three Jewels of Buddhism are Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha.
- ❖ Buddhists generally classify themselves as either Theravada or Mahayana.

Jainism

- ❖ **Mahavira Swami** is the founder of Jainism.
- ❖ Jainism is a religion indigenous to the Indian subcontinent.
- ❖ Holy book of Jainism is the **Kalpa Sutras**.
- ❖ The Main doctrines of Jainism are Anekantavada, Syadvada and Nayavada. The two sects of Jainism are **Svetambara** and **Digambara**. Jain holy texts consist of Purvas, Agamas, Angas and Upangas.

17.2 LANGUAGES

Sanskrit

- ❖ Sanskrit is the mother of many Indian languages.
- ❖ Sanskrit is the most ancient language of our country.
- ❖ The Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas and Dharmasutras are all written in Sanskrit.
- ❖ It is one of the twenty-two languages listed in the Indian Constitution.
- ❖ The Dharmasutras, the Manusmriti, Arthashastra and Gita Govinda are the famous books in Sanskrit.
- ❖ Panini, Kautilya, Kalhana and Jayadeva are the famous writers of Sanskrit.

Pali

- ❖ Pali is an Indo-Aryan language, which was used for the earliest Buddhist Scriptures. Pali literature is mainly concerned with Theravada Buddhism.

Telugu

- ❖ The Vijayanagara period was the golden age of Telugu literature.
- ❖ Eight Telugu literary luminaries are popularly known as Ashtadiggajas.

- ❖ Ramakrishna was the author of PandurangaMahatmayam, which was considered as one of the greatest poetical works of Telugu literature.

Kannada

- ❖ Kannada language developed fully after the AD 10th century. The earliest known literary work in Kannada is Kavirajamarg, written by the Rashtrakuta King NripatungaAmoghavargha.
- ❖ Pampa, known as the father of Kannada, wrote his great poetic works AdiPurana and VikramarjivaVijaya in the AD 10th century.

Malayalam

- ❖ The language of Malayalam emerged around the AD 11th century. By 15th century, Malayalam was recognised as an independent language.
- ❖ BhasaKautilya, a commentary on Arthashastra and Kokashndisam are two great works.
- ❖ Rama Panikkar and Ramanujan Ezhuthachan are well known authors of Malayalam literature.

Tamil

- ❖ Tamil is the mother language of the Dravidian language family.
- ❖ The **Sangam literature** is a collection of long and short poems composed by various poets in praise of numerous heroes and heroines.
- ❖ There are about 30000 lines of poetry, which are arranged in eight anthologies called Ettuttokai.

Persian and Urdu

- ❖ Urdu emerged as an independent language towards the end of the AD 4th century.
- ❖ Urdu language was born out of the interaction between Hindi and Persian.
- ❖ Urdu became more popular in the early 18th century.
- ❖ The earliest Urdu poet is supposed to be **Khusrau**.
- ❖ Urdu has given us a new form of poem, that is called a Nazam.

Hindi

- ❖ Hindi is direct descendant of the Sanskrit language, through Prakrit and Apabhramsha.

- ❖ It is spoken largely in North India.
- ❖ Evolution of Hindi literature can be better understood through four stages of **AdiKal**, **Bhakti Kal**, **Riti-KavyaKal** and **AdhunikaKal**.

17.3 LITERATURE

Bengali Literature

- ❖ Raja Ram Mohan Roy wrote in Bengali besides English, which gave an impetus to Bengali literature.
- ❖ **Ishwar Chandra Vidhyasagar** (1820-91) and **Akshay Kumar Dutta** (1820-86) were the two other writers of this early period.
- ❖ Sharat Chandra Chatterji (1876-1938) and RC Dutta, a noted historian and a prose writer, too contributed to the making of Bengali literature.
- ❖ But the most important name that influenced the whole of India was that of **RabindraNath Tagore** (1861-1941). Novels, dramas, short stories, criticism, music and essays, all flowed from his pen. He won the **Nobel Prize** for literature in 1913 for his

Geetanjali.

Assamese Literature

- ❖ Like Bengali, Assamese also developed in response to the Bhakti movement.
- ❖ Shankaradeva, who introduced Vaishnavism in Assam helped in the growth of Assamese poetry. Even the Puranas were translated in Assamese.
- ❖ The earliest Assamese literature consisted of buranjis (court chronicles). Shankaradeva has left several devotional poems, which people sang with rapturous pleasure, but it was only after 1827 that more interest was shown in producing Assamese literature.

Oriya Literature

- ❖ Oriya language shows the maximum influence of Sanskrit. It originated in the AD 9th century and its literary development took place in the 13th century.
- ❖ Worth mentioning in Oriya literature are **FakirmohanSenapati** and **RadhaNath Ray**, whose

writings deserve considerable attention in the history of Oriya literature.

- ❖ The works of UpendraBhanja (1670-1720) were important as they ushered a new period of Oriya literature. In Odisha, the works of **Saraladasa** are regarded as the first works of Oriya literature.

17.4 MUSIC

- ❖ The music of India is said to be one of the oldest unbroken musical traditions in the World.
- ❖ Many different legends have grown up concerning the origin and development of Indian classical music.

Hindustani Music

Classical Music

- ❖ Hindustani classical music originated in North India around the 13th and 14th centuries. In contrast to Carnatic music, the Hindustani classical music was not only influenced by ancient Hindu musical traditions and Vedic philosophy but also by the Persian elements.
- ❖ Hindustani music is based on the Raga system. The Raga is a melodic scale,

- ❖ comprising of notes from the basic seven –Sa, Re, Ga, Ma, Pa, Dha and Ni.

- ❖ On the basis of notes included in it, each raga attains a different character. the form of the raga is also determined by the particular pattern of ascent and descent of the notes, which may not be strictly linear.

- ❖ Hindustani classical music is primarily vocal-centric. The major vocal forms associated with Hindustani classical music are the Khayal, ghazal, dhrupad, dhammar, tarana and thumri.

Thumri

- ❖ It is an informal vocal form of Hindustani classical music and is said to have begun with the court of NawabWajid Ali Shah, the Nawab of Oudh.

Dadra

- ❖ Refers to two separate, but originally linked concepts in Hindustani classical music. The Dadra tala consists of six beats in two equal divisions of three. It is mostly performed in Agra and in the Bundelkhand region.

Qawwali

- ❖ It is a form of Sufi devotional music. Originally, it was performed at mainly Sufi shrines or dargahs. Its roots can be traced back to 8th century Persia. Songs in Qawwali are mostly in Urdu and Punjabi languages.

Ghazal

- ❖ It is a poetic form consisting of rhyming couplets and a refrain, with each line sharing the same meter.
- ❖ It is an ancient form originating in 6th century Arabic verse. It spread into South Asia in the 12th century, due to the influence of Sufi mystics.

Hori

- ❖ It is a genre of semi-classical singing which is popular in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. It comes under the category of season songs.

Kirtan

- ❖ It is a call and response chanting performed in Indian devotional traditions. It is closely associated with the Bhakti movement.

Gharana

- ❖ There is a rich tradition of Gharanas in classical Hindustani music. These Schools or Gharanas have their basis in the traditional mode of musical training and education. Every Gharana has its own distinct features.

Gwalior Gharana

- ❖ This is the oldest among all the KhayalGayaki (Vocal) styles. The distinctive feature of this style of singing has been noted to be its simplicity.

Agra Gharana

- ❖ The Agra Gharana places great importance on developing forcefulness and deepness in the voice, so that the notes are powerful and resonant.

KiranaGharana

- ❖ It derives its name from the birth-place of Abdul Kharim Khan of Kirana near Kurukshetra. In the Kirana style of singing, the swara is used to create an emotional mood by means of elongation and use of Kana-s.

Rampur SahaswanGharana

- ❖ The Rampur SahaswanGharana, there is a stress on the clarity of swara in this style and the development and elaboration of the raga is done through a stepwise progression.

Patiala Gharana

- ❖ Patiala Gharana is regarded as an off-shoot of the Delhi Gharana. The Patiala Charana is characterised by the use of greater rhythm play and by Layakari with the abundant use of Bols, particularly **Bol tans**.

Delhi Gharana

- ❖ The Delhi Gharana was represented by Tanras Khan and Shabbu khan. The highlights of Delhi Gharana are pleasing vistaar and exquisite compositions.

Bhendi Bazaar Gharana

- ❖ The most distinctive feature of the Bhendi Bazaar Gharana is the presentation of Khayal, which is open voice using Akar. There is a stress on breath-control and singing of long passages in one breath is highly regarded in the Gharana.

Banaras Gharana

- ❖ The Banaras Gharana evolved as a result of great tilting style of khayal singing known by thumri singers of Banaras and Gaya.

MewatiGharana

- ❖ The MewatiGharana gives importance to developing the mood of the raga through the notes forming it and its style is Bhava Pradhan. It also gives equal importance to the meaning of the text.

17.5 DANCE

Indian Classical Dances

India has an old tradition of thousands of years in regard to fine arts and classical and folk music and dances. Some of the world-famous dance forms that originated and evolved in India are Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Kuchipudi, Manipuri, Mohinaiatam and Odissi.

Bharatnatyam

- ❖ Bharatnatyam is one of the most popular classical Indian dances. Bharatnatyam is more popular in South Indian states of



Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

- ❖ The music accompanying this dance is Carnatic music. It evolved out of the Devadasi system of South Indian temples. Two famous styles are **Pandanallur** and **Tanjore**.
- ❖ Famous dancers associated with Bharatnatyam are E Krishna Iyer, Rukmini Devi Arundale and Ana Pavlova.

Kathak

- ❖ Kathak is one of the most important classical dances of India. Kathak is said to be derived from the work katha, meaning the art of storytelling.
- ❖ Famous centres are Lucknow and Jaipur, Lucknow school depicts Mughal Court etiquette, while the Jaipur School depicts stories of Rajput Kings and Gods. Famous exponents are Sitara Devi, Sambhu Maharaj, Uma Sharma Shovana Narayan etc.



Kathakali

- ❖ Kathakali is the classical dance form of Kerala. The word kathakali literally means **Story play**.



- ❖ Kathakali is considered as one of the most magnificent theatres of imagination and creativity.
- ❖ Famous exponents of Kathakali are Vallathol Narayan Menon, KujuKurup, GuruGopinath etc.

Kuchipudi

- ❖ Kuchipudi is one of the classical dance forms of South India. Kuchipudi exhibits scenes from the Hindu epics, legends and mythological tales. Famous exponents of Kuchipudi are Lakshmi Narayan Shastri, Raja and Radha Reddy, Swapanasundari and Yamini Krishnamurti.



Manipuri



- ❖ Manipuri is one of the major classical dances of India. The most striking part of Manipuri dance is its colourful decoration, lightness of dancing foot, delicacy of abhinaya (drama), lilting music and poetic charm. Popular exponents are Javeri sisters, Rita Devi, Nirmala Mehta, Guru Bipin Singh etc.

Mohiniyattam

- ❖ Mohiniyattam from Kerala is a solo female dance and is known for its rhythmic and unbroken flow of the body movements.



Mohiniyattam has the grace and elegance of Bharathanatyam and vigour of Kathakali.

- ❖ Famous exponents of this dance form are Kalyani Amma, Vaijyanthimala, Bharati Shivaji and Hema Malini.

Odissi

- ❖ Odissi is one of the famous classical Indian dances from Odisha state.
- ❖ It is a graceful and sensuous dance style and involves the tribhanga (three bends) posture.
- ❖ The (three bends) symbolise the means to escape the limitations of the body.
- ❖ **Famous dancers** of Odissi are Indrani Rehman, Sonal Mansingh, Kiran Sengal, Rani Karni, Sharon Lowen and Myrta Barvie.



17.6 ARCHITECTURE



Indian architecture, which has evolved through centuries is the result of socio-economic and geographical

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conditions of the region. Indian architecture evolved in various stages in different parts and regions of the country.

Rajput Architecture:

- ❖ The Rajputs were great patrons of art and architecture, the finest examples being their forts and palaces. The Rajputs palaces are complex composition built as inner citadels surrounded by the city and enclosed by a fortified wall as at Chittorgarh and Jaisalmar. Some forts, such as those at Bharatpur and Deeg, were protected by wide moats.
- ❖ The palaces of Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Udaipur and Kota represent the maturity of the Rajput style.

Deccan Style:

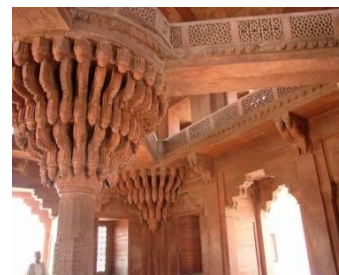


- ❖ The architecture of the Deccan is marked by its distinct originality and independence of style,

unlike the architectural styles of the other provinces, which combined both the temple architecture and the Islamic building ideals. It derived its elements from the architectural styles of the Sultan of Delhi and that of the distant Persia.

- ❖ Some key features of this style are the presence of bulbous domes with lotus neck, military style of architecture, presence of thick walls and combination of gateway and mosque-like charminar.

Mughal Style:



- ❖ The medieval period saw great developments in the field of architecture. With the coming of Muslims to India, many new features came to be introduced in buildings. The development of Muslim style of architecture of this period can be called the Indo-Islamic architecture or the

India architecture influenced by Islamic Art.

- ❖ The Indo-Islamic style was neither strictly Islamic nor strictly Hindu.
- ❖ The earliest building of this period is Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque and the QutubMinar at Delhi.

PUPPETRY:

- ❖ The early puppet shows in India dealt mostly with histories of great Kings. Princes and heroes and also political satire in rural areas.
- ❖ Slowly, this art form emerged from the precincts of the temple and village to reach out to the outside world performing on various social and contemporary themes in Indian towns and cities.

PAINTING:

- ❖ The history of Indian painting is just about as old as the history of the people of India.
- ❖ The most primitive instances of paintings in India can be traced back to cave paintings.

Mughal School:

- ❖ This school has a specific style of south Asian painting. Usually, it was confined to miniatures either as book depictions or as individual works to be kept in albums.
- ❖ This practice materialised from Persian miniature painting, with Indian influences of Hindu, Buddhist and Jain.
- ❖ It wonderfully blossomed during the Mughal Empire. Later, this school of painting reached other India courts of Muslims and Hindus and afterwards Sikhs.
- ❖ Akbar and Jahangir were exceptionally great patrons of this painting. Mughal School of painting revolved around court scenes, portraits, hunting scenes, lover's battle fronts etc.

Rajput School:

- ❖ This school progressed and thrived during the 18th century in the majestic Rajputana courts.
- ❖ This school of painting flooded from the approach of Mughal painting.

- ❖ A typical style of painting with particular common characteristics came up in every Rajput real
- ❖ This school illustrated an assortment of themes like landscapes, events from the Mahabharata, Ramayana, Krishna's life and about human beings.

Bengal School:

- ❖ This school was a fashion of art, which progressed during the British Raj in Indian of early 20th century.
- ❖ Indian Nationalism was greatly linked to this painting. British art administrators also supported and promoted it.
- ❖ Raja Ravi Verma and Abanindranath Tagore were amongst the pioneer artists of this school. Today's renowned artists, who belong to this school include Nilima, Dutta, Sudip Roy, Paresh Maiti and BikashBhattacharjee.

Institutions for the promotion of Art and Culture

- ✓ The National Museum : 1948
- ✓ The Indian Council for cultural Relations : 1950
- ✓ Sahitya Academy : 12 March 1954
- ✓ SangeetNatak Academy : 1953
- ✓ Lalit Kala Academy : 1954
- ✓ Center for cultural resource and training : 1979
- ✓ Seven zonal centres at : Patiala, Santiniketan, Udaipur, Allahabad, Thiruvaiaru, Nagpur, and Dinapur
- ✓ Indira Gandhi National Center for Arts :
 - The Indira Gandhi Kalanidhi
 - The Indira Gandhi Kala Kosha
 - The Indira Gandhi JanapadaSampada
 - The Indira Gandhi Kala Darshana
- ✓ The National Gallery of Modern Art