

Art & Culture Class 06

7th March, 2024 at 1:00 PM

NAYAK TEMPLE (01:12 PM)

- It was developed by the Nayak rulers of Madurai.
- Nayak temples are considered the climax of Dravida Architecture.
- Amman shrine from Vijayanagar style.
- Huge Gopurums were created from all four directions and their numbers could be more than 4.
- The Vimana of the temple were decorated with intricate sculptures based on Hindu mythology. Moreover, these sculptures were painted in vivid colours.
- A water tank in Nayak style was created inside the premises of the temple.
- Another characteristic feature is the presence of huge corridors known as Parakrams.
- These corridors connected different parts of the temple and they were decorated with carved columns.
- **Examples**
- Meenakshi Sundareshwar temple, Madurai
- Ranganath temple, Sri Rangam
- Natraj temple, Chidambaram

OTHER TEMPLE STYLES FROM SOUTH INDIA (01:26 PM)

• **VISARA TEMPLE**

- It derives its name from the Sanskrit word Vishra- to take a long path.
- It was developed by Chalukyas of Karnataka and many times it is also referred to as a Karnataka-style temple.
- These temples are a blend of Nagara, and Dravida temples and Buddhist elements also.
- **Features:**
- They created a covered ambulatory passageway in line with the Nagara style.
- The towers of the temple were inspired by Dravida Vimana.
- In line with Buddhist Chaitya, they created semi-circular halls.

• **Examples:**

- Durga Temple, Aihole Karnataka
- Lakhan temple, Aihole Karnataka
- Papanath temple, Pattudukal

• **Hoysala temple**

- It was developed by Hoysala rulers of Karnataka (Dwar Samudra area)
- The most unique characteristic of this temple is the star-shaped ground plan (Star Shaped Ground Plan)
- Generally, they did not create towers on the Garbhagriha part and it was kept flat.
- Temples were created from Calcite which is smoky grey in colour but turns black with water.
- It is also very suitable for creation of the sculptures.
- Both the exterior and interior walls of the temple were lavishly decorated. The outer walls were adorned with sculptures based on Ramayan, Mahabharata and Puranas.
- The interior walls had floral patterns and intricate geometrical designs.

• **Examples:**

- Hoysaleswara temple, Halebid
- Channa- Keshava temple, Belur
- Somnathpuram temple, Karnataka
- **Note-** It is also called as Karnataka-style

MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE (01:43 PM)

- It is also called as Indo-Islamic Architecture.
-

	Trabeate Art	Arcuate Art
Entrance and Roof	Lintel entrance and roof	Arched entrance and dome on the roof
Towers	Shikhara Vimana	Minar's, Minarets
Major Construction material	Stone (Gypsum)	Brick, limestone, mortar, cementing material

- **Features of Indo-Islamic Architecture:**

- Arch and Dome method of construction
- In the beginning, the existing Hindu and Jain Architecture was converted into Islamic premises. More space and width were added to these converted premises.
- They used a variety of stones like Red sandstone, Grey sandstone and white marble in the construction of their buildings.
- They avoided human representation in religious buildings. Instead, they included multiple ways of decorating their premises.
- They used intricate geometrical patterns for the purpose of decoration.
- Calligraphy was also employed to write verses from the Quran and other religious literature.
- They also developed a new font of Persian known as KuFi.
- **Arabesque** pattern was used to decorate the buildings.
- It is identified with a continuous running stem with similar identical leafy and floral structures on both the sides of stem.
- **Pietra dura technique**
- This method of decoration was also used extensively for the purpose of decoration.
- It is the process of tessellation or inlay of multicoloured stones on a wall.
- After the process of abrasion, the structure completely looks natural.
- **Stone tracery work (Jaliwork)**
- Stone tracery work was also preferred for the purpose of decoration.
- It also served many purposes like sunlight to enter inside the shrines.
- It served as Jharokha for the women and many a time also used in temperature control.
- They also created stepped water tanks and many other types of water bodies like fountains inside the premises of their buildings.
- They also started the practice of planting gardens around their buildings which turned into the Char Bagh tradition during Mughal times.

DELHI SULTANATE IMPERIAL ARCHITECTURE (02:21 PM)

- **Slave Period**

- This period was mainly known for the conversion of the existing religious buildings into Islamic premises.
- Not only the rubbles of destroyed buildings were used but they also started extensive use of red sandstone.
- One of the notable buildings of this time was Qutub Minar initiated by Qutubuddin Aibak in the memory of Sufi Saint Qutubuddin Bakhtayar Kaki.
- In the completion of Qutub Minar, there was the contribution of Iltutmish, Feroz Shah Tughlaq and Sikandar Lodhi.

- **Other examples**

- Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque
- Arhai din ka Jhopra in Ajmer
- The arches created in this period were not true in nature.

- **Khilji Period**

- It is also referred to as Seljuk Architecture and they also preferred mainly Red Sandstone.
- For the first time, a true arch and dome were created and the first structure was Alao Darwaja in Mehrauli complex, Delhi.
- In 1304, Allaudin Khilji laid the foundation of one of the precursor cities of Delhi, Siri

- **Tughlaq Period**

- This period is regarded as a crisis period in architecture as the Tughlaq rulers were fearful that the buildings created by their predecessors were not strong and resilient.
- Rather than creating aesthetically pleasing buildings, they constructed cities.
- They introduced the Batter method of construction whereby walls were slanted a little bit and reinforced with concrete on the base.
- They preferred Grey Sandstone instead of Red Sandstone.
- It was easily available and cheaper than red sandstone.
- They founded cities like Tughlaqabad by Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq, Ferozabad
- Feroz Shah Tughlaq also founded Citi of Jaunpur in UP in memory of Jauna Khan.

- **Sayyid Dynasty**

- They introduced octagonal tombs and the Guldasta method of decoration in India.
- The most important contribution of theirs was the introduction of blue enamelled tiles in India.

- **Examples:**

- Mohammad Shah Sayyid's tomb

- **Lodi Period**

- **Lodis** were also fearful about the strength of the buildings but they did not compromise with the aesthetics of the building.
- They introduced a double dome structure which was not only strong but also resilient.
- They also started to incorporate the Indian concept of Veramda in their buildings.
- Lodis started the tradition of planting gardens around buildings.

- **Example:**

- Lodi tomb
- Sikandar Lodi founded the city of Agra.

PROVINCIAL ARCHITECTURE OF DELHI SULTANATE (03:00 PM)

- **Bengal Architecture**

- It is mainly known for its huge coverage in terms of area but it is also criticised for wasting space.
- The building heights seem to be highly stunted (very low rising)
- They mainly used black marble and brick.
- Thin terracotta brick was also used extensively.
- The characteristic feature of Bengal architecture is the sloping Bangla roof.

- **Examples:**

- Kadam Rasool mosque- Gaur
- Adhina Masjid- Pandua

- **Malwa Architecture**

- It is often referred to as the Pathan style of architecture.
- It mainly developed under ruler Baj Bahadur of Malwa

- **Features**

- They used a wide variety of stones like Red Sandstone, White stone, Pink sandstone, buff colour stone etc.
- Large windows were created in their buildings and cross ventilation was also ensured.
- They created well-proportioned staircases.
- Wall mates were used for the purpose of decoration.
- Their galleries and hallways were decorated with a series of archways.
- High-rising pavilions were also created so as buildings in the middle of water bodies.

- **Example**

- Mandu Fort
- Ashrafi Mahal
- Jahaz mahal
- Rani Rupmati Pavillion

- **Jaunpur Architecture**

- It is often referred to as the Sharqui style of architecture.
- They did not create any minarets in their mosque.
- The characteristic feature of this style was the creation of huge propylene gateways.
- On each side of the gateways, small chambers of similar nature were created.

- **Example**

- Atalla masjid of Jaunpur
- Jama masjid of Jaunpur

TOPIC OF THE NEXT CLASS- ARCHITECTURE (TO CONTINUE), RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY