

Art and Culture Class 08

17th March, 2024 at 1:00 PM

NEO-ROMAN STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE (01:10 PM)

- In 1911, British authority transferred the capital of British India from Calcutta to New Delhi.
- Two British architects **Herbert Baker and Edwin Lutyens** were entrusted with the task of developing new architecture in Delhi.
- The architects maintained that the task of developing new capital was similar to the task of creating a new Roman city.
- Many a time, this style is also referred to as **neo-classical style**.
- **Features**
- Due to the fusion of many styles like Hindu, regional, Buddhist, Mughal etc, an anonymous type of architecture developed.
- The buildings were **grand and aesthetically pleasing**.
- Utility and convenience were compromised in the majority of the buildings.
- Generally, the circular ground plan was followed.
- In construction, they majorly used Kota stone and pink sandstone
- A very good network of roads was created lined up with green corridors.
- At regular intervals, green zones were also created.
- **Examples**
- Old Supreme Court premise
- Vidhan Sabha building
- Rashtrapati Bhawan
- Old Parliament building
- Old Secretariat building

AWADH ARCHITECTURE (01:28 PM)

- It was developed by the rulers of Lucknow from the middle of the 18th century who practiced the Shia faith.
- To a greater extent, they stayed away from Mughal elements in their architecture.
- **Brick** was a major construction material and the **use of marble was avoided**.
- They created **beautiful gateways with floral arches**, in other words, inspired by petals and stamens.
- Awadh rulers created the **finest labyrinths in India** e.g. Bada Imambara, Chota Imambara, Rumi Darwaza, Hazarat Mahal, Chatta Manzil.

RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY (01:37 PM)

• 1) Buddhism

- Founder: Siddhartha Gautam.
- Birth: 563 BC at Lumbini (Nepal).
- Varna: Kshatriya.
- Clan: Shakya (Symbol of clan was Lion)
- Mahajanpada: Malla.
- Father/Mother: Sudodhan/Mahamaya Devi.
- Wife: Yashodhara.
- Son: Rahul.
- Kingdom: Kapilvastu.
- Mahaparinirvanam: Kushinagar (483 BC).
- **Four Signs Of Life:**
 - Signs of despair:
 - b) An old man.
 - c) A sick person.
 - d) A dead body.
 - Signs Of Hope: Yellow-robed monks.
- At the age of 29, Siddhartha left his home and this event is known as **Mahavinishkram** (the great going forth).
- He became a **Parivarajak** (homeless wanderer).
- He started to follow the **Shramana traditions** and found a teacher **Ardha Kalam** (early **Samkhya philosopher**).
- He learned the technique of meditation and internal purification from his teacher.
- After some time, he left the Ashram of his teacher in search of Enlightenment.
- At the age of 35, he reached a village named Uruvella (**Bodhgaya**) where on the the banks of Niranjana (Phalgu) under a Pipal tree he meditated for 49 days.
- At midnight of the 49th day he achieved **Nirvana**, (which means extinguishment of the flame of desire)
- After his enlightenment, he moved to Sarnath where in a deer park he gave his First Sermon, this event in Buddhism is known as **Dharamchakraparivartan** (turning the wheel of Religion).
- **It includes the following:**
 - **1) Arya Satya: Four Noble Truths**
 - 1.1) The world is full of misery (**Dukkha**).
 - 1.2) There is a cause of misery (**Samudaya**).
 - 1.3) Misery can be overcome (**Dukkha Nirodh**).
 - 1.4) There is a path (Magga).
 - The name of the path is **Ashtangika Marga (8 Fold path):**
 - a) Samyak Drishti: Right Vision.
 - b) Samyak Vacha: Right Speech.
 - c) Samyak Kamamanta: Right Conduct.
 - d) Samyak Ajeevan: Right Means of Livelihoods.
 - e) Samyak Vyayam: Right Physical and Mental Exercises.
 - f) Samyak Smriti: Right Awareness about oneself.
 - g) Right Dhyana: Right Concentration.
 - h) Right Samadhi: Right Deep Meditation.
- After his First Sermon, his disciples started to prefer calling him Buddha (Awakened one).
- His followers came to be known as the Buddhists.
- For the propagation of the doctrines of Buddhism, he created the Sangha.

- Many rules were formulated for the Monks who resided inside the Sangha.
- Buddhist monks were on the move all the time but not during the 4 months of the Monsoon season.
- The major Mahajanpada where he preached Vajji, Magadha, Kasi, Kosal and Malla Mahajanpada.
- In the Monsoon season, they needed to stay inside the Buddhist Monasteries and Viharas, these monsoonal days are referred to as Vassa.
- Buddha spent his maximum number of Vassas in the **Jetwan Monastery of Shravasti**.
- The monsoonal stage was meant for the purification of the Body, Mind, and Soul.
- After peaching his doctrine for many years Buddha reached **Kushinagar** where he took his last breath.
- This event in Buddhism is known as **Mahaparinirwan** (The Final Blow Out).

BUDDHIST COUNCILS (02:37 PM)

- **First Buddhist Council**
- After the death of Buddha, the contemporary king of Magadha Ajatshatru convened the First Buddhist Council (483 BC, Rajgriha) presided by **Mahakasyap**.
- His disciples Upali and Ananda were instrumental in the compilation of 2 important Buddhist texts called **Suttapitaka, and Vinaypitaka**.
- **Suktapitaka**- It contains the original teachings of Buddha and it is divided into many chapters known as Niakaya namely, Anguttar Nikaya, Digha Nikaya, Majhima Nikaya, and Khuddaka Nikaya.
- **Vinayapitaka** contains the rules followed by the monks inside the Sangha.
- **Second Buddhist Council**
- The Council convened in **383 BC at Vaishali** patronized by the contemporary King **Kalashok from Shaishunaga dynasty** and presided by Buddhist Monk **Sabakami**.
- The major development of this council was the division of Buddhism into two sects called, **Sthavirvada** (orthodox) which sticks to the original teachings of the Buddha and doesn't subscribe to any other interpretation, and **Mahasamghika** (liberal interpretation of Buddha's teachings).
- Note: After the end of the second council in the following 130 years Buddhism was further divided into 18 branches which 11 belonged to Sthavirvada and 8 to Mahasanghika.
- **Third Buddhist Council:**
- The Third Buddhist Council (250 BC) convened at Patliputra under the **patronage of Ashoka**. The assembly was presided over by Buddhist monk **Mogaliputta Tissa**.
- Ashoka removed all the deviations from Buddhism and recognized **Theravada** (one of the branches of the Sthavarvadin branch).
- This council led to the compilation of the third Pitaka book called **Abhidhammapitaka**.
- This book contained a philosophical interpretation of the Buddha's teachings.
- After the end of this council, Ashoka started sending Buddhist missions to different parts of the world. He sent his son Mahindra and daughter Sanghamitra to Sri Lanka to propagate Buddhism
- He also created the position of **Dhammamahamatyas**. They are the ministers responsible for the propagation of the doctrines of Buddhism.
- He further sent Buddhist missions to East Asia and Central Asia.
- **Fourth Buddhist Council**
- It was held in 78 AD in Kundalwan in Kashmir.
- **It was patronized by Kanishka, presided over by Buddhist monk Vasumitra in the beginning and later by Asvaghosh.**
- The initial development of this council was a compilation of the Encyclopedia of Buddhism known as **Mahavibhasha**.
- In the later part of the council, Mahayana Buddhism was promoted under the guidance of Aswaghosh, and Kanishka accepted Mahayana Buddhism.

- Difference Between **Hinayana and Mahayana:**

-

Hinayana

Lesser Vehicle

Nirvana is an individual goal and they believe one has to strive for one's own nirvana and no one else can assist them. The highest goal is individual nirvana.

The 11 branches of Sthavirvadin were referred to as Hinayan by the followers of Mahayana.

Hinayan Buddhism regarded Buddha as a great teacher

They propagated Buddhism in the common language of people i.e. Pali and Prakrit.

No idol worship.

Mahayana

Greater Vehicle

Nirvana is not an individual goal but they believe in the **Nirvana of a large number of people**. According to them, the greatest goal is to assist others in attaining Nirvana.

The 7 branches of Mahasanghika fostered the development of Mahayana.

Mahayana Buddhism performed deification of Buddha and Bodhisattvas (They were treated like gods)

They also started using Sanskrit apart from Pali and Prakrit.

Idol worshipping of Buddha and Bodhisattva is practised

- **Bodhisattvas:** They are regarded as the **previous births of the Buddhas**.
- They are capable of achieving Nirwana but postpone their own Nirwana so that they are born again to help a large number of sentient beings attain enlightenment.
- Sidharth Gautam was a historical Buddha preceded by the Mythological Buddha Deepankar.
- They further believed that in the new time cycle period a future Buddha Maitreya.
- After many lifetimes, Bodhisattvas progresses to the Buddhahood.

TOPICS OF THE NEXT CLASS: BUDDHISM AND JAINISM (TO CONTINUE)