

## Art and Culture Class 16

9th April, 2024 at 1:00 PM

### REGIONAL SCHOOL OF PAINTING (01:14 PM):

- **1) Rajasthani School:**
- Initially, Rajasthani schools started as a mural tradition but later in the 16th century, with the establishment of Mughal rule, miniature tradition also started in Rajasthani painting.
- Technique-wise Rajasthani painting was similar to Mughal painting but the themes were drawn from regional inspiration.
- For example, the poems like Laurnnada, Chaur Panchashika of Bilhana, and Geetgovind of Jayadev.
- Lord Krishna was the common running theme in all the Rajasthani schools.
- He was often depicted in blue colour or black colour to depict his Shyamavarna.
- **a) Kota-Bundi Style/Hadoti Painting:**
- The specialty of this painting is the depiction of lush green vegetation of the Kota-Bundi area as the depiction of wild animals and hunting scenes.
- **b) Marwar Painting:**
- It was mainly practiced in the areas of Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Bikaner, etc.
- One of the central themes in this painting is the depiction of lord Krishna and Khatu Shyam.
- Another popular theme in Marwar was "**Ragamala**" which is a unique fusion of musical ragas with painting.
- **c) Mewar Painting:**
- It was mainly practiced in the areas of Chittorgarh, Udaipur, Pratapgarh, and the temple town of Nathdwara.
- In Mewar's painting, royal palaces, lakes of Udaipur, royal procession, and court life were depicted.
- **Note:**
- Picchwai painting of Nathdwara.
- Originally, the Picchwai painting was created on cotton cloth to serve as the backdrop of the idol of Shree Nath ji in his temple at Shree Nathdwara.
- As per the tradition, the backdrop changes according to the season.
- **d) Kishangarh Painting (01:37 PM):**
- The style is often called as "Mannerist Style" which developed under Nihalchand.
- The style is considered a "Climax of Rajasthani Painting".
- It is known for depicting exacerbated features in the body.
- For example, a sharp nose, sharp chin, almond-shaped eyes, eyebrows exuding margins of the face, slender curves in the body, and depiction of Indian jewelry and ornaments.
- "**Bani Thani**" was the most painting of this school created by Nihalchand.
- She is often regarded as the "**Fashion lady of India**".

- **2) Pahari Area Painting (01:49 PM)**

- **a) Guler-Basoli Painting:**

- It shares a similarity with Kishangarh's painting in terms of technique.
- They also created sharp features in the depiction of human beings.
- Local vegetation was also depicted in detail.
- They also started using the glittery colour extracted from the insect, Beetles.
- In terms of theme, they started the depiction of Nayikas.

- **b) Kangra Painting:**

- Historical part:
- It is also considered an extension of the Guler-Basoli tradition.
- In 1835, Governor General Charles Metcalf discovered this painting in Kangra Valley and perhaps it became the first painting to be patronized by the British Government.
- This style is known for the depiction of Ashtanayika or Abhisarika Nayika (it's a depiction of heroines who brave the inclement weather and other challenges to meet their lover).
- Note - **Kangra Rumal**.
- It is a unique combination of painting and embroidery created on cotton cloth.
- Traditionally, it had themes of Gods from Hindu Mythology and it was used as an exchange gift during marriage or any celebration in the family.

- **3) South Indian Painting (02:04 PM):**

- **a) Kalamkari Painting:**

- Kalamkari painting was created on cotton cloth and it was mainly practiced in the State of Andhra.

- It is a time-taking process and is known for the use of modern colours.
- On the basis of theme, there are two types of Kalamkari, that is:
- i) Shrikalahasti Kalamkari is based on a Hindu religious theme.
- ii) Masulipatnam Kalamkari is based on the secular theme.

- **b) Thanjavur Painting:**

- It developed under the Nayak rulers of Thanjavur.
- It is a panel painting created on a cotton cloth pasted on a wooden panel with the help of a paste of tamarind and jaggery.
- The characteristic feature is the use of thick embossing in the painting.
- It is also noted for the use of real gold in the painting so as the painting is also decorated with other real ornaments.
- The theme of the painting was based on Hindu Mythology but the most celebrated theme is the life of Lord Krishna.
- For example, his childhood pranks and flute playing Krishna.

- **c) Mysuru Painting:**

- It developed under the Wodeyar rulers of Mysore.
- Like Thanjavur painting, it also followed the technique of embossing but the embossed images were thinner than the Thanjavur.
- The special feature is the use of fading colours and contrasting colours in the painting.
- Another speciality was the use of Gesso paste which is a mixture of lead, gamboge, and glue.
- It was applied to the painting to increase its longevity and also to provide luster to the painting.
- The theme of the painting was based on Hindu mythology but the often repeated theme was the depiction of Mysore Dussehra.

- **Other Paintings/Folk Paintings of India (02:27 PM):**

- a) **Thang-Ka Painting:**

- It was practiced in the Leh Laddakh area.
- Originally, it was created on silk cloth but later it was also created on cotton cloth.
- It is said that the Thang-Ka painting was influenced by Syno-Tibetan tradition which is reflected in the image of a dragon.
- The most popular theme in Thang-Ka is the depiction of mandala art.

- b) **Patna-Kalam Painting:**

- It was practiced by royal male painters of Patna city.
- In terms of painting, technique, and style, it was quite similar to the Mughal style.
- But in terms of theme, they differed from the Mughal style.
- They depicted the hardships of the common man in their paintings.

- c) **Manjusha Art:**

- It was practiced in the Bhagalpur area of Bihar.
- The theme of the painting is based on the gods and goddesses of the Hindu pantheon.
- Generally in the painting, 8 bamboo structures were depicted to give an impression of the temple.
- Moreover, each and every painting depicts a snake.

- d) **Madhubani Painting (03:06 PM):**

- Traditionally it was practiced by the women of Bihar.
- Originally, it was created on the walls of the houses.
- Colours were mixed in rice flour to be applied on the walls.
- On the basis of the theme, there were **three types of Madhubani paintings**:
- i) Aripana Madhubani was created at the entrance of the houses.
- ii) Gosaingar Madhubani - Created inside prayer rooms and theme is based on Hindu gods and goddesses.
- iii) Kohbar Madhubani - Created inside bedrooms and the theme is based on love and further propitiation of family.
- In modern times, with Governmental support, the Madhubani painting is also created on Converse.
- It's a highly compact category of the painting but the details of the painting maintain clarity.
- They use each and every space of converse and the symbol of fish is considered as very auspicious.

- e) **Warli Painting:**

- It was the painting of the Warli tribe of Maharashtra.
- It was also created on the walls of their houses.
- At a time they use a combination of only colours.
- It is a depiction of their entire life cycle starting from birth to death but the central part of the painting is dedicated to their unique celebration.

- f) **Pata Chitra (03:26 PM):**
- It originated from the temple town of Jagannath Puri.
- Originally it was a scroll painting created on palm leaves with an iron needle.
- Initially, it was based on the legends of Lord Jagannath.
- In today's time, Pata Chitra is also practiced on cotton cloth and silk cloth.
- **Note:**
- The idols of deities in Jagannath temple are replaced with new ones.
- For a temporary period, Pata Chiyra painting is placed inside Grabha Griha.
- g) **Kalighat Painting:**
- Practiced in Bengal.
- It is a depiction of the life of marginalized sections of society which includes their hardships, their faith, and also their entertainment.
- h) **Pabuji Ki Phad:**
- It is practiced in the pastoralist community of the Western Rajasthan.
- It is based on the life of a worrier Pabuji who is believed to be the protector of the cattle of the pastoralist community.

**THE TOPIC FOR THE NEXT CLASS -THE BHAKTI AND THE SUFI MOVEMENT.**