

**MODULE 3**  
**Session 1- SLO 1 & 2**  
**Essay writing**

The use of terracotta today connects us to the earth through the primal act of shaping clay with our hands, and it holds significant environmental and aesthetic benefits.

In an age where sustainability is key, terracotta offers an eco-friendly alternative to synthetic materials. Its natural composition means it can decompose without harming the environment, unlike plastics and other pollutants.

Terracotta's porous nature allows air to circulate, making it ideal for planters that promote healthy root growth. Architecturally, it offers a cooling effect in buildings, reducing the need for artificial air conditioning.

Aesthetically, terracotta brings a touch of organic warmth and traditional elegance to modern settings.

Each piece, with its unique hue influenced by the firing process and local clay, tells a story of the land it came from, making it a poignant choice for those seeking to infuse their spaces with natural beauty and historical continuity.

## **Session 2- SLO 1 & 2**

### **Assignment**

#### **1. Earliest Rock-Cut Cave Sculptures:**

The earliest rock-cut sculptures in India date back to the 2nd century BCE, with the Barabar Caves in Bihar being one of the oldest examples. These caves feature polished interiors and intricate carvings that reflect the early use of rock-cut architecture in Indian religious practices, particularly within Buddhist and Jain traditions.

#### **2. Rock-Cut Sculptures of Cave Temples:**

Cave temples, like the Ajanta and Ellora caves in Maharashtra, showcase some of the most sophisticated rock-cut sculptures. These temples are adorned with detailed carvings depicting various deities, mythological creatures, and scenes from sacred texts. The artistry in these caves displays the skill and spiritual devotion of ancient Indian artisans.

#### **3. Rock-Cut Sculptures of Monolithic Temples:**

Monolithic temples are hewn from a single rock, and the best example is the Kailasa temple in Ellora. This type of rock-cut sculpture is known for its grandeur and complexity, often representing a chariot or an assembly of halls and shrines. The scale and detail work of these temples demonstrate the peak of rock-cut architecture.

#### **4. Rock-Cut Sculptures of Free-Standing Temples:**

Unlike cave temples carved into a rock face, free-standing temples are sculpted as separate structures, although they may be part of a larger rock-cut complex. Examples include the freestanding monolithic temples at Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu, attributed to the Pallava dynasty.

#### **5. Rock-Cut Sculptures of Rock Cut Monuments:**

Rock-cut monuments encompass a broader category, including not just places of worship but also residential cells, pillared halls, and ornate gateways. The Pandavleni Caves in Nashik and the Udayagiri and Khandagiri Caves in Odisha are significant sites that feature rock-cut sculptures ranging from elaborate facades to interior carvings.