

AJANTA AND ELLORA CAVES

Ellora Caves, Ajanta is the major tourist attraction of Maharashtra. ... They are 100 kilometres (62 miles) from the Ellora Caves, which contain Hindu, Jain as well as Buddhist caves, the last dating from a period similar to Ajanta.

INDEX

- ❖ *Location*
- ❖ *Number of caves*
- ❖ *HISTORY – When was it discovered*
- ❖ *HISTORY – Who discovered these caves*
- ❖ *PAINTINGS – What are paintings*
- ❖ *About Paintings*
- ❖ *Materials used*
- ❖ *My Words*
- ❖ *Thank you*



WHERE IS IT LOCATED ?

❖ ***AURANGABAD***

The Ellora caves are located in the Indian state of Maharashtra about 29 kilometres (18 miles) northwest from the city of Aurangabad, 300 kilometres (190 miles) east-northeast from Mumbai, and about 100 kilometres (62 miles) west from the Ajanta Caves.



NUMBER OF CAVES

❖ *The Ajanta Caves are about 29 rock-cut Buddhist cave monuments which date from the 2nd century BCE to about 480 or 650 CE in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra state of India.*



HISTORY

WHEN WAS IT DISCOVERED ?



Most of the caves were constructed in the period ranging from 2nd century BC to 6th century AD. There are 29 caves in Ajanta while Ellora has 34 caves. The British Army discovered the caves in the year 1819.

HISTORY



***WHO DISCOVERED
THESE CAVES ?***

***A British officer named John K
Smith discovered these
AJANTA AND ELLORA
CAVES.***



CAVES

PAINTINGS

WHAT ARE PAINTINGS ?

*THE ACTION OR SKILL OF
USING PAINT, EITHER IN A
PICTURE OR AS DECORATION
IS KNOWN AS A PAINTING.*

ABOUT PAINTINGS...

- ❖ *Pattern of painting is some what rigid with little movement of figurines like dropping eyes, appearing on the scene. Love and compassion and feelings are given importance associated with Buddha life and teaching in this painting.*
- ❖ *The main theme of Ajanta Cave Paintings are Buddhism . Stories related to Jataka stories dealing with Buddha previous births and Bodhisattva path to enlightenment and so on.*
- ❖ *These paintings have given prominence to aesthetic values showing importance to Spirituality , meditative mood and serene look, Spiritual bliss are clearly portrayed out in this wall (mural) painting.*

ABOUT PAINTINGS

- ❖ *Apart from Buddhism plants and animals are also depicted on wall paintings. These paintings have been added with maturity.*
- ❖ *The paintings were done on big Wall paintings where Space is not limited for paintings . Continuous paintings with sequential stories were painted on Walls.*

MATERIALS USED...

❖ *The paintings were executed after elaborate preparation of the rock surface initially. The rock surface was left with chisel marks and grooves so that the layer applied over it can be held in an effective manner. The ground layer consists of a rough layer of ferruginous earth mixed with rock-grit or sand, vegetable fibres, paddy husk, grass and other fibrous material of organic origin on the rough surface of walls and ceilings. A second coat of mud and ferruginous earth mixed with fine rock-powder or sand and fine fibrous vegetable material was applied over the ground surface. Then the surface was finally finished with a thin coat of lime wash. Over this surface, outlines are drawn boldly, then the spaces are filled with requisite colours in different shades and tones to achieve the effect of rounded and plastic volumes.*

MATERIALS USED...

❖ *The colours and shades utilised also vary from red and yellow ochre, terra verte, to lime, kaolin, gypsum, lamp black and lapis lazuli. The chief binding material used here was glue. The paintings at Ajanta are not frescoes as they are painted with the aid of a binding agent, whereas in fresco the paintings are executed while the lime wash is still wet which, thereby acts as an intrinsic binding agent.*

MATERIALS USED

- ❖ *The rough chisel marks provide a 'key' or grip for the filling layer that resembles a contemporary cement like mix with the aggregate of stone chips and sand re-inforced with the paddy husks and grass, much like plaster panels once used horse hair or coconut fibre for the same purpose. The thin coat of lime would act as a sealant and undercoat for the finished paint layer.*



It is surprising to think that the great masters who had created these wonders used only small tools of work. Still they had thus bequeathed us something universal and magical that we can contemplate today. The centuries seem like small water drops in the Walls of these caves.

I have not visited the Ajanta and Ellora caves yet but I have read a lot About it on internet, from friends and also from my family members who have already visited them.

But I have worked really hard to complete my presentation. So, I hope you liked it.

Thank
You



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CLASS - 6th B2