

Art and Architecture of Rashtrakutas:

- The art and architecture of Rashtrakutas were found Ellora and Elephanta.
- At Ellora, the most remarkable temple is the Kailasa Temple.
- It is built during the reign of Krishna I. It is carved out of massive block of rock 200 feet long and 100 feet in breadth and height.
- The Kailasa temple is an architectural marvel with its beautiful sculptures.
- The sculpture of the Goddess Durga is shown as slaying the Buffalo Demon.
- In another sculpture Ravana was making attempts to lift Mount Kailasa, the abode of Shiva.
- The scenes of Ramayana were also depicted on the walls.
- The general characteristics of Kailasa temple are more Dravidian.
- Elephanta is an island near Mumbai.
- The sculpture art of Rashtrakutas reached its zenith in this place.
- There is a closer similarity between sculptures of Ellora and Elephanta. Both might have been carved by the same craftsman.
- In the walls of the Prakara around the Sanctum there are niches containing the images of Shiva in various forms- Nataraja, Gangadhara, Ardhanareeswara and Somaskanda.
- The most imposing figure of this temple is Trimurti.
- The sculpture is 6 metres high.
- It is said to represent the three aspects of Shiva as creator, preserver and destroyer.
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