

Lecture 14

- Types of pillars

eg- use of Doric columns in the Parthenon Temple, Athens

- Rationality, Human body & Anatomy : interconnected

idea of - idealized beauty {

- celebrating the ideal kind of human body (not any form)
- Greek classicism (everything in harmony)
- type of drapery used in the sculpture

originated from the city of Athens

→ fell after about 200 years (Fall of Athens)

- Hellenistic period - when the Greek art forms spread across

many parts of Europe &
Middle - East -

• Roman Art: Identified Portraits,
Greek copies & classicism

- the rise of Roman Empire
saw the revival of Greek
art / classicism

(as the rising Roman empire
also had parts of Greece)

reclaiming
of classical
past -

- a lot of the original Greek
sculptures didn't survive
but the copies of them made
by (during) the Roman
Empire did survive.

Romans
made

diligent copies from the moulds
they brought back from Greece
to build almost identical &
intricate copies of the Greek
sculptures.

(Roman appropriation of Greek Art)

2 Major Features in

Roman Art-

(Greco-Roman)

appropriation
from Greek
classicism

↓
(idealized
beauty)

Identifiable
portraits

↓
of actual living
people, not
just the faces
but the entire
life-size sculpture
with real-life
features from the
exact/actual
person

∴ not so
idealized
beauty as it
was based on
actual persons

} unlike Greek
classicism

↓
∴ many of Roman
sculptures are often

significantly different -
from each other
(individuality)

- "Dark" or Medieval Era

Why "Dark"?

term used by people
in the 19th & 20th
century for that era.

number of "uncivilized"
("barbarians") groups were
invading/capturing various parts
of Europe so no classicism
could rise/develop in Europe
during that period ⇒ "DARK".

But in reality it was not "dark"
as a lot of developments like
the publication of scholarly
manuscripts & setting up of
universities/monasteries was
happening during that period.

MEANING by the historians in the 19th & 20th century made them refute the significant scholarly developments that happened in the so-called "dark" ages.

Other kinds of development during the "dark" ages was Gothic architecture. (10th-11th century), (different from classicism). So was this period really "dark"?

the really big form of Gothic architecture was 'ad-hoc'. Not decided originally to make it so big like that.

some historians refer it as 'barbarian'

→ unlike Parthenon temple whose architecture/development was completely thought-before

due to its diverse
style of construction.
(unlike Classicism)

its construction

• Italian Renaissance

- reclaiming of the classical past-
- especially in the city of Florence
- coordination b/w philosophy, state, art forms etc.

↓
everything in harmony (Greco-Roman) past-

- conscious effort to break away from the previous art-forms to revive the classical past-
- significant painting in this revival: "Birth of Venus"

↙
actually a
're-birth' & not
birth of Venus.