

## L-2 ART FROM MAURYA TO GUPTA PERIOD

### Key Words/New Words

Unified politically	Sub-continent	Emperor	Dynasty	Stambhas (pillar)	Decline
Golden age	Refinement	Estimate	Capital (top part of the pillar)	Sermon	Excavated
Composite sculpture	Adopted	Emblem	Technique	Life-sized	Surface
Surpass	Enlarged	Torana (Gateway)	Emphasis	Righteous Work	Express
Upturned	Earlobes	Spiritual	Halo	Floral	Matured simplicity
Rational	Territory	Flourished	Rendering	Drapery	Tuft

### In-text Questions

#### In-text Questions 2.2

Choose the right answer:

a) Lion capital of Sarntah is made of Sand stone.

i. Clay

ii. Marble

iii. Sand stone

b) The Stambha was erected during the time of Ashoka.

- i. Chandragupta
  - ii. Ashoka
  - iii. Akbar
- c) The sculpture has been adopted as the emblem of Govt. of India.
- i. Door Darshan
  - ii. Delhi Govt
  - iii. Govt of India

### In-text Questions 2.3

Fill up the blanks:

- a) The Chauri bearer was found at Didarganj, Patna, India.
- b) It belongs to Maurya period because of the Technique, Surface refinement and High polish.
- c) The Chauri bearer is mentioned as Indian Mona Lisa.

### In-text Questions 2.4

Fill up the blanks:

- a) The relics of Sakyamuni (Buddha) were kept inside the great Stupa.
- b) The largest Stupa of Sanchi is known as Mahastupa.
- c) The four Toranas were erected by the Satavahana dynasty.

### In-text Questions 2.5

Choose the right answer:

- a) The Jain Tirthankar Statue is now in: State Museum, Lucknow.

- i. National Museum, N.Delhi
  - ii. Indian Museum, Kolkata
  - iii. State Museum, Lucknow
- b) The statue is in Vajraparyankasana Mudra.
- i. Abhaya Mudra
  - ii. Bhumisparsa Mudra
  - iii. Vajraparyankasana Mudra
- c) The image is of Mahavira.
- i. Buddha
  - ii. Mahavira
  - iii. Parsvanath

## In-text Questions 2.6

Fill up the blanks

- a) The beautiful figure is seated in Padmasan pose.
- b) Sarnath Buddha belongs to Gupta period.
- c) Hands of Sarnath Buddha are held in Dharmachakra Mudra.

## In-text Questions 2.7

Fill up the blanks

- a) The seated Buddha belongs to Gandhara style.
- b) This statue is made of Red Sand stone.

- c) The most important contribution of Gandhara School was the creation of Seated Buddha image.

## Model Questions

1. What are the major contributions of the Mauryan's to Buddhist art?

Answer: The major contributions of the Mauryan's to Buddhist art are:

- a. Ashokan Stone Pillars
- b. Stupas
- a. **Ashokan Stone pillars**- These pillars were erected to spread Dhamma, which is highly influenced by Buddhism.
  - The **Lion Capital** sculpture is one of the finest examples of Ashokan Stone pillars. This sculpture shows the concept of **Dharma Chakra** – turning the wheel of law.
- b. **Stupas**: Stupas were burial mounds. These were originally made to store Buddha's remains.
  - These Stupas were engraved with symbols related to Buddhism. At many places, torans of stupas were engraved with Jataka stories relating to Buddha's previous births.
  - The finest example is Mahastupa at Sanchi.

2. Discuss the style of Gandhara Buddhist sculpture?

Answer: The main theme of Gandhara style of art was **Lord Buddha and Bodhisattvas**.

An example of Gandhara style Buddhist sculpture is, **Seated Buddha**.

The salient features of this style are:

- Realistic rendering of drapery

- Tuft-like hair styles
- Body parts depicted in yoga mudras

3. Write the main features of the statue of Jain Tirthankara.

Answer: The main features of the statue of Jain Tirthankara are:

- The Jain Tirthankar is seated on a square pedestal in Vajraparyankasanam mudra.
- It is made in the typical Buddhist and Jain style of the Kusana period.
- The concept of **Tri Ratna** (three gems of action) is depicted in this image.
- Tri Ratna means faith, righteous work and truthful words. If a person practices these, they will get liberation from the cycle of birth and death.

## Previous Year Questions

The questions of 1 mark should be answered in about 15 words, 2 marks in about 30 words, and 3 and 4 marks should be answered in about 50 words.

1. Write short notes on the following : 2

a. Sarnath Buddha

b. Lion Capital

Art Work	Short Notes
a. Sarnath Buddha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The beautiful figure is seated in Padmasana with upturned soles.</li> <li>• Buddha's hands are held in Dharmachakra mudra.</li> <li>• The ear lobes are long.</li> <li>• The eyes are half-closed.</li> <li>• The face is calm and has spiritual expression.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behind the head, there is a huge halo covered with beautiful floral decoration.</li> <li>• The sculpture depicts matured simplicity and rational use of ornamentation.</li> </ul>
b. Lion Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lion Capital sculpture shows highly advanced form of art.</li> <li>• This was made during Ashoka's time.</li> <li>• This capital features four Asiatic lions standing back to back, symbolizing power, courage, confidence, and pride, mounted on a circular base.</li> <li>• At the bottom is a horse and a bull, and at its centre is a <b>Dharma chakra</b>.</li> <li>• The pictures on abacus depict the fountainhead of life and creative inspiration.</li> <li>• Lion Capital has been adopted as the emblem of GOVT of India.</li> </ul>

2. Explain the aesthetic aspect of the famous Mauryan sculpture 'Lion Capital', from Sarnath. 2

Answer: The aesthetic aspects of the famous Mauryan sculpture 'Lion Capital', from Sarnath are:

- Lion Capital sculpture shows highly advanced form of art.
- This was made during Ashoka's time.
- This capital features four Asiatic lions standing back to back, symbolizing power, courage, confidence, and pride, mounted on a circular base.

- At the bottom is a horse and a bull, and at its centre is a Dharma chakra.
- The pictures on abacus depict the fountainhead of life and creative inspiration.
- Lion Capital has been adopted as the emblem of GOVT of India.

### 3. Evaluate the artworks of Maurya period 2

Answer: The artworks of Maurya period listed in the book are:

- Lion Capital
- Chauri Bearer
- Stupa at Sanchi

Art Work	Short Notes
Lion Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lion Capital sculpture shows highly advanced form of art.</li> <li>• This was made during Ashoka's time.</li> <li>• This capital features four Asiatic lions standing back to back, symbolizing power, courage, confidence, and pride, mounted on a circular base.</li> <li>• At the bottom is a horse and a bull, and at its centre is a Dharma chakra.</li> <li>• The pictures on abacus depict the fountainhead of life and creative inspiration.</li> <li>• Lion Capital has been adopted as the emblem of GOVT of India.</li> </ul>
Chauri Bearer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The technique, surface refinement and high polish are the features of this life-size sculpture</li> <li>• It is identified as Yakshini.</li> <li>• It is also called as Mona Lisa of Indian</li> </ul>

Art Work	Short Notes
	<p>art.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is carved in round, as a perfect model of female body.</li> </ul>
Stupa at Sanchi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This stupa is the largest stupa at Sanchi. Hence, it is called Maha Stupa.</li> <li>It was built during Ashoka's time, and enlarged to the present size by the Sungas.</li> <li>A portion of the relics of SakyaMuni (Buddha) are kept here.</li> <li>Satavahanas erected the four beautifully carved toranas here.</li> </ul>

4. Write short note on the following : 2

- The great Stupa of Sanchi
- Chauri Bearer

Answer:

Art Work	Short Notes
Stupa at Sanchi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This stupa is the largest stupa at Sanchi. Hence, it is called Maha Stupa.</li> <li>It was built during Ashoka's time, and enlarged to the present size by the Sungas.</li> <li>A portion of the relics of SakyaMuni (Buddha) are kept here.</li> <li>Satavahanas erected the four beautifully carved toranas here.</li> </ul>
Chauri Bearer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The technique, surface refinement and high polish are the features of this life-size sculpture</li> </ul>



Art Work	Short Notes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is identified as Yakshini.</li> <li>• It is also called as Mona Lisa of Indian art.</li> <li>• It is carved in round, as a perfect model of female body.</li> </ul>

## 5. Evaluate the development of Mauryan Art. 2

Answer: The major contributions of the Mauryan's to Buddhist art are:

- a. Ashokan Stone Pillars
- b. Stupas
- a. **Ashokan Stone pillars**- These pillars were erected to spread Dhamma, which is highly influenced by Buddhism.
  - The **Lion Capital** sculpture is one of the finest examples of Ashokan Stone pillars. This sculpture shows the concept of **Dharma Chakra** – turning the wheel of law.
- b. **Stupas**: Stupas were burial mounds. These were originally made to store Buddha's remains.
  - These Stupas were engraved with symbols related to Buddhism. At many places, torans of stupas were engraved with Jataka stories relating to Buddha's previous births.
  - The finest example is Mahastupa at Sanchi.

## 6. Write a short essay on Stupa No. I of Sanchi. 2

Answer: A short note on Stupa 1 of Sanchi:

- This stupa is the largest stupa at Sanchi. Hence, it is called Maha Stupa.
- It was built during Ashoka's time, and enlarged to the present size by the Sungas.

- A portion of the relics of SakyaMuni (Buddha) are kept here.
- Satavahanas erected the four beautifully carved toranas here.

7. Write a few lines on the great Stupa of Sanchi and mention its period. [2]

Answer: A short note on Stupa 1 of Sanchi:

- This stupa is the largest stupa at Sanchi. Hence, it is called Maha Stupa.
- It was built during Ashoka's time, and enlarged to the present size by the Sungas.
- A portion of the relics of SakyaMuni (Buddha) are kept here.
- Satavahanas erected the four beautifully carved toranas here.
- It was built during circa 3rd century BC through 1<sup>st</sup> century AD.

8. Write an appreciative note on the "Lion Capital" of Sarnath. [2]

Answer: The aesthetic aspects of the famous Mauryan sculpture 'Lion Capital', from Sarnath are:

- Lion Capital sculpture shows highly advanced form of art.
- This was made during Ashoka's time.
- This capital features four Asiatic lions standing back to back, symbolizing power, courage, confidence, and pride, mounted on a circular base.
- At the bottom is a horse and a bull, and at its centre is a Dharma chakra.
- The pictures on abacus depict the fountainhead of life and creative inspiration.
- Lion Capital has been adopted as the emblem of GOVT of India.

9. Evaluate the development and nature of Mauryan Art. 2

Answer: The major contributions of the Mauryan's to Buddhist art are:

- c. Ashokan Stone Pillars
- d. Stupas
- e. **Ashokan Stone pillars**- These pillars were erected to spread Dhamma, which is highly influenced by Buddhism.
  - The **Lion Capital** sculpture is one of the finest examples of Ashokan Stone pillars. This sculpture shows the concept of **Dharma Chakra** – turning the wheel of law.
- f. **Stupas**: Stupas were burial mounds. These were originally made to store Buddha's remains.
  - These Stupas were engraved with symbols related to Buddhism. At many places, torans of stupas were engraved with Jataka stories relating to Buddha's previous births.
  - The finest example is Mahastupa at Sanchi.

10. Write an appreciative note on the "Capital with Lion" of Sarnath. 2

Answer: The aesthetic aspects of the famous Mauryan sculpture 'Lion Capital', from Sarnath are:

- Lion Capital sculpture shows highly advanced form of art.
- This was made during Ashoka's time.
- This capital features four Asiatic lions standing back to back, symbolizing power, courage, confidence, and pride, mounted on a circular base.
- At the bottom is a horse and a bull, and at its centre is a Dharma chakra.
- The pictures on abacus depict the fountainhead of life and creative inspiration.
- Lion Capital has been adopted as the emblem of GOVT of India.

11. Write short notes on the following : 2

a. The Great Stupa of Sanchi

b. Jain Tirthankar

Answer:

Art Work	Short Notes
a) The Great Stupa of Sanchi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This stupa is the largest stupa at Sanchi. Hence, it is called Maha Stupa.</li> <li>• It was built during Ashoka's time, and enlarged to the present size by the Sungas.</li> <li>• A portion of the relics of SakyaMuni (Buddha) are kept here.</li> <li>• Satavahanas erected the four beautifully carved toranas here.</li> <li>• It was built during circa 3rd century BC through 1<sup>st</sup> century AD.</li> </ul>
b) Jain Tirthankar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The JainTirthankar is seated on a square pedestal in Vajraparyankasanam mudra.</li> <li>• It is made in the typical Buddhistand Jain style of the Kusana period.</li> <li>• The concept of <b>Tri Ratna</b> (three gems of action) is depicted in this image.</li> <li>• Tri Ratna means faith, righteous work and truthful wods. If a person practices these, they will get liberation from the cycle of birth and death.</li> </ul>

12.	Narrate the contribution of Mauryan King Ashoka in the development of sculptural art.	2
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The major contributions of the Mauryan's to Buddhist art are:

- a. Ashokan Stone Pillars
- b. Stupas
- a. **Ashokan Stone pillars**- These pillars were erected to spread Dhamma, which is highly influenced by Buddhism.
  - The **Lion Capital** sculpture is one of the finest examples of Ashokan Stone pillars. This sculpture shows the concept of **Dharma Chakra** – turning the wheel of law.
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  - These Stupas were engraved with symbols related to Buddhism. At many places, torans of stupas were engraved with Jataka stories relating to Buddha's previous births.
  - The finest example is Mahastupa at Sanchi.

13. Write the main features of Sarnath Buddha. 2

Answer: The main features of Sarnath Buddha are:

- a. The beautiful figure is seated in Padmasana with upturned soles.
- b. Buddha's hands are held in Dharmachakra mudra.
- c. The ear lobes are long.
- d. The eyes are half-closed.
- e. The face is calm and has spiritual expression.
- f. Behind the head, there is a huge halo covered with beautiful floral decoration.
- g. The sculpture depicts matured simplicity and rational use of ornamentation.