

L-9 PAHARI SCHOOL OF MINIATURE PAINTING

Key Words/New Words

Glamour	Patronage	indigenous	Mythological	religious
Portrait paintings	stencils	perspective	Fore-shortening	Allegorical
Persuade	spiritual	Costume	flanked	Attendants
portraiture				

In-text Questions

In-text Questions 9.2

Choose the right answer:

a) The 'Krishna waiting for Radha' painting belongs to the style of:

i. Kishan garh

ii. **Basholi**

iii. Chanba

b) The painter was inspired by the following book:

i. Shrimad Bhagvat

ii. Mahabharata

iii. **Geeta-Govinda**

c) Match the following:

1. Radha → a. Atma
2. Krishna → b. Guru
3. Gopini → c. Paramatma

1-a, 2-c, 3-b

In-text Questions 9.3

Fill up the blanks

- The 'King of Chamba and King of Kangra' painting is painted by NainSukh.
- This 'King of Chamba and King of Kangra' painting belongs to Pahari school of Kangra.
- The 'King of Chamba and King of Kangra' painting is a good example of Portraiture of Pahari School.

Model Questions

- Describe the main theme of Pahari painting.

Answer: The main theme of Pahari painting is Krishna leela as depicted in Geeta Govindam penned by famous Bengali poet Jayadeva.

- What do you know about the characteristic features of Pahari Painting?

Answer: The characteristic features of Pahari Painting are:

- They are a combination of natural beauty of Himalayan foot-hills and glamour of Mughal court of Delhi.
- They narrate Indian mythological as well as religious stories.
- The paintings have beautiful flowing lines and brilliant colours.

- Describe the painting 'Krishna waiting for Radha'.

Answer: A short note on 'Krishna waiting for Radha' painting:

- The theme of the painting is influenced by Krishna leela depicted in Geeta Govindam book by famous Bengali poet Jaideva.
- In this painting, Krishna is shown as paramatma, the Supreme Being.
- Radha is shown as Atma , the human being.
- Gopinis are depicted as Gurus who are trying to bring Radha to Krishna, that is urging the human to become divine!

4. Throw some light on the technique of Pahari miniature painting.

Answer: The technique of Pahari miniature painting:

- They were done on paper made from bamboo, cotton and other materials.
- After drawing lines, the paper was coated with white colour.
- The surface of the paper is polished by rubbing a smooth stone.
- After polishing, colors are applied.
- Stencils were used to make copies of the painting.

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. How did poet Jaidev influence the painters of Pahari school ? 1

Answer: "Geet Govinda" was written by Bengali poet Jaidev on '**Krisna-Leela**' during 11th C.A.D. and became very popular all over India.

The painters of Basholi were influenced by poetic descriptions of "Krisna-Leela" and used these most romantically in their pahari minitature paintings.

2. Give a brief introduction to 'Pahari' miniature paintings. 1

Answer: An introduction to Pahari Painting

- **Pahari painting** (literally meaning a painting from the mountainous regions: pahar means a mountain in Hindi).
- It is done mostly in miniature forms.
- It originated from Himalayan hill kingdoms of North India, during 17th-19th century, notably Basohli, Mankot, Nurpur, Chamba, Kangra, Guler, Mandi and Garhwal.
- Nainsukh was a famous master of the mid-18th century, followed by his family workshop for another two generations.
- The central theme of Pahari painting is depiction of eternal love of Hindu deities Radha and Krishna.

3. How did 'Geet Govinda' influence the painters of Pahari miniature school?
1

Answer: "Geet Govinda" was written by Bengali poet Jaidev on '**Krishna-Leela**' during 11th C.A.D. and became very popular all over India.

The painters of Basholi were influenced by poetic descriptions of "Krishna-Leela" and used these most romantically in their pahari minitature paintings.

4. Describe the main theme of Pahari painting. 1

Answer: The main theme of Pahari painting is Krishna leela as depicted in Geeta Govindam penned by fanous Bengali poet Jayadeva.

5. Write a short note on technique used in pahari school of painting. [1]

Answer: The technique of Pahari miniature painting:

- They were done on paper made from bamboo, cotton and other materials.
- After drawing lines, the paper was coated with white colour.

- The surface of the paper is polished by rubbing a smooth stone.
- After polishing, colors are applied.
- Stencils were used to make copies of the painting.

6. What do you know about the technique of Pahari Miniature Painting?1

Answer: Same as above.

7. Identify the allegorical representation of Krishna, Radha and Gopi's in the painting "Krishna waiting for Radha". [1]

Answer: A short note on 'Krishna waiting for Radha' painting:

- The theme of the painting is influenced by Krishna leela depicted in Geeta Govindam book by famous Bengali poet Jaideva.
- In this painting, Krishna is shown as paramatma, the Supreme Being.
- Radha is shown as Atma , the human being.
- Gopinis are depicted as Gurus who are trying to bring Radha to Krishna, that is urging the human to become divine!

8. Identify the allegorical representation of Krishna, Radha and Gopis in the painting 'Krishna Waiting for Radha'. 1

Answer: Same as above

9. What is Pahari Qualam? Name the themes of this style?1

Answer: Pahari painting or Pahari Qualam (literally meaning a painting from the mountainous regions: pahar means a mountain in Hindi).

- It is done mostly in miniature forms.

- It originated from Himalayan hill kingdoms of North India, during 17th-19th century, notably Basohli, Mankot, Nurpur, Chamba, Kangra, Guler, Mandi and Garhwal.
- Nainsukh was a famous master of the mid-18th century, followed by his family workshop for another two generations.
- The central theme of Pahari painting is depiction of eternal love of Hindu deities Radha and Krishna.

10. How did 'Geet Govinda' influence painters of Pahari miniature painting? 2

Answer: "Geet Govinda" was written by Bengali poet Jaidev on '**Krisna-Leela**' during 11th C.A.D. and became very popular all over India.

The painters of Basholi were influenced by poetic descriptions of "Krisna-Leela" and used these most romantically in their pahari minitature paintings.

11. How did Geeta Govinda influence the painters of Pahari Miniature school? 2

Answer: Same as above