INDIAN ART & CULTURE

Music, Dances and Drama

*Sattriya Nritya* recognised as a classical dance form of India by the *Sangeet Natak Academi* only in 2000. It has remained a living tradition since its creation by the Vaishnav saint Srimanta Sankardeva, in 15th century. It is originated from which state? [SSC (10+2) 2013]

**Asom**

Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma, a famous musician who received the ‘Sangeet Natak Award’ in 1986, the ‘Padmashri’ in 1991 and the ‘Padma Vibhushan’ in 2001. He is famous for playing which instrument? [SSC MTS 2013]

**Bharatanatyam**

A classical dance, is more popular in the states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Alaripu, Jatiswaram, Shabdam, Varnam, Padam, Jaraali and Tillana are the types of Bharatanatyam dance. In this dance, the story or theme is always taken from which epics?

**Ramayana & Mahabharata**

Kathak dance was originated in North India, which is very similar to Bharatanatyam. Famous exponents of Kathak are—Shambhu Maharaj, Birju Maharaj, Gopi Krishna, Sitara Devi, Uma Sharma and Maylik Shah. Two Gharanas or Schools of Kathak were emerged. What are they?

**Jaipur Gharana and Lucknow Gharana**

Kuchipudi is one of the classical dance of South India. It derives its name from the Kuchipudi village of Andhra Pradesh. The famous exponents are—Vempatti Satyanarayan, Chiva Krishnamurthi, Swaguna Sundari, Radha and Rajja Reddy, Vedantam Satyam and Sarla Kumari. Which thing distinguished Kuchipudi from other classical dances?

**Use of Speech**

Kathakali is the classical dance-drama of Kerala, which dates from the 17th century and is rooted in Hindu mythology. What does the term *Kathakali* mean?

**Story and Play** [SSC MTS 2013]

Manipuri classical dance is indigenous to Manipur, a north-eastern State of India. Most popular forms are the *Raas, Sankirtana* and the *Thang-Ta*. The main characters are Radha, Krishna and the Gopis. One main musical instrument is the Manipuri classical drum. The other name of s this instrument is

**Pung**

Indian classical dance divide the human body into/ Anga, Pratyanga and Upaanga. When all the three harmonised, the dancer is said to achieve Angashudhi.

What does it mean?

**Purity of Body Parts**

Sanjukta Panigrahi is an exponent of Indian classical dance. She was honoured with Padmashri in 1975 and *Sangeet Natak Academi Award* in 1976. She is famous for which classical dance of India? [SSC MTS 2013]

**Odishi**

*Mohiniattam*, a classical dance form of Keralia, is derived from the words ‘Mohini’ meaning ‘Beautiful women’ and ‘attain’ meaning ‘Dance’. Famous exponents are—Sunanda Nair, Jayaraghhba Menon, Pullavi Krishnan, Gopika Verma, Vijayalakshmi and Kalyani Anna. It is developed in the tradition of which system?

**Devdosi**

The term ‘Classical’ for dance forms was introduced by the *Sangeet Natak Academi*. Organisations known as the ‘Sabhas’ work for the promotion of classical art forms in South India? Give one name of such Sabha.

**Ganamukhundhapriyin**

Gaur dance is popular among the Sing Marias or Tallaguda Marias. It involves men wearing head-dresses with stringed ‘cowries’ and plumes of peacock feathers. It relates to which area of Madhya Pradesh?

**South Bostar**

Bhavai dance is partly entertainment and partly a ritual offering to Goddess Amba. In the courtyard of Amba temple near Mount Abu, the Navaratni festival is celebrated with Bhavai performances. It belongs to which State?

**Rojosthan**

After the monsoon, in the months of September and October, the forty-days festival Gavari is celebrated in Udaipur, Rajsamand and Chittor districts of Rajasthan. It is a famous folk drama of which tribe? [SSC MTS 2013]

**Bheels**

*Chhau* is a genre of tribal martial dance, popular in Odisha, jharkhand and West Bengal. There are three sub-genres of the dance based on its places of origin and development namely Saratikella Chhau, Mayurbhanj Chhau and Purulia Chhau. Who said that the word ‘Chhau’ is derived from Chhauni i.e., military camp?

**Siakant Mahapatra**

Minicoy is renowned for its tradition of the *Lava* dance. It is performed during the festive occasions on the Island. Dancers dressed in Multi-hued costumes and headgears and carry a drum while dancing. It belongs to which Island?

**Lokshodweep**

‘Natya’ or Theatre’ is a mixture of literature,
mime, music, dance, movement, painting, sculpture and architecture. Roughly the India theatre can be divided into three distinctive kinds: First one is the Classical or Sanskrit theatre; Second one is the traditional or Folk theatre; and the last one is

**Modern Theatre**

Sanskar Rang Toli, a Theatre-in-Education company, established in 1989. It has become India’s premier educational resource centre and coaches children aged 8 to 16 years. Who established this company?

**National School of Drama (NSD)**

National School of Drama (NSD) is a theatre training institute situated at New Delhi. It was set-up in 1959 by the Sangeet Natak Academi. It comes under which Ministry?

**Ministry of Culture**

**Famous Music Personalities**

**Sarod**

- Ustad Alauddin Khan
- Ahmed AN Khan

**Tabla**

- Ustad Allah Rakha
- Miyan Kader Baksh
- Ustad Zakir Hussain

**Sitar**

- Pandit Ravi Shankar
- Akshay Kumar Ghosh

**Mandolin**

- Upalappu Srinivas

**Violin**

- Dr. Bal Murali Krishna
- Lalgudi Jayaraman
- GN Balasubramaniam
- Karaikudi Sambasiva lyer
- Dr. L. Subramaniam

**Veena**

- Bismillah Khan

**Shethani**

- Pandit Jasraj, an India classical vocalist belongs to the Mewati gharana of Hindustani classical music. He received the Sangeet Natak Academy award in 1987 and Sangeet Natak Academy Fellowship in 2010. He also received a civilian award. What is that and when?

**Padma Vibhusan in 2000**

- Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia, an Indian classical flutist, plays in the North Indian tradition. Born in Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh), joined the All India Radio, Cuttack (Odisha) in 1957 as a composer and performer. Films Division, Ministry of Information and

**Santoor**

- Shiv Kumar Sharma

**Drum**

- TH Vinayakaram

To celebrate the remembrance of the evolution of Khasis and their indigenous democratic state called Hima, Nongkrem dance is performed in Meghalaya. When it is celebrated?

**During Autumn**

Bhangra was a seasonal dance, practiced in the month leading up to the festival of Baisakhi. The core areas of Bhangra were Sialkot, Gujranwala, Sheikhupur and Gurdaspur. It is a dance of which State?

**Punjab**

[BSC CONSTABLE (GD) 2013]

**National School of Drama** (NSD) became an independent school in 1975. In 2005, it was granted deemed university status, but in 2011, it was revoked on the institute’s request. To decentralise its activities, the NSD opened regional resource centres, across India. When and where was the first one opened?

**Bengaluru (1994)**

Bharata’s Natyashastra was the earliest treatise on dramatics. It gives a divine origin to Indian theatre, attributing it to the Natyaveda. This holy book was believed to be created by which Lord?

**Lord Brahma**

Tamaasha is a traditional folk theatre evolved from the folk forms such as Gondhal, Jagran and Kirtan. In tamaasha, the female actress is the chief exponent of dance movement known as ‘Murki’. It is born in which State?

**Maharashtra**

MS Subbalakshmi, a renowned carnatic vocalist, was the first musician ever to be awarded the Bharat Ratna, and also the first to receive Ramon Magsaysay award. In which year she got

**Bharat Ratna 1998**

Amir Khusro, a sufi musician, poet and scholar, invented musical instruments ‘Sitar’ and ‘Tabla’; he invented the Ghazals into India. At the same time, he was the originator of some kinds of music: What are they?

**Khayaland Taran**

**Padma Vibhusan in 2000**

For more visit, www.studyiq.com
Broadcasting, produced a documentary film *Bansuri Guru* in 2013, features the life and legacy of Chaurasia. Who is the director of this film?

**Rajiv Chaurasia**

Pandit Vishnu Digambar Paluskar, a Hindustani musician who sung the original version of the bhajan *Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram*. In which year he founded the ‘Gandharva Mahavidyalaya’?

1901

Folk Dances and Tribal Dances in India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Kathakeertan, Lezin, Dandaniya,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tamasha, Gafa, Dahikala, Lovani,</td>
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<td>Mauni, Dasavtar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Huttari, Suggi Kunitha, Yakashagana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>Kaikottikali, Kaliyattam, Tappatikalli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Kotattam, Pinnal Kolattam, Kummi,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kavadi, Karagam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Chanta Mardala, Veedhi Natakam,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Burrukatha</td>
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<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>Ghumnara Sanchar, Chadya Dandanata,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chhau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>Kathi, Chhau, Baul, Kirtan, jatra,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lama</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asom</td>
<td>Bihu, Khel Copal, Raaslila, Tabal</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chongli, Canoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>Ciddha (women), Bhangra (men)</td>
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<td>Jammu-Kashmir</td>
<td>Rauf, Hikat</td>
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<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Jhorda, Jhali, Dangli, Mahar, Jadda,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jhaanta, Chhari</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>Jhumar, Raasila, Phag, Daph, Dhanyal,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loor, Gugga, Khoria, Gagor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Garba, Dandiy Raas, Tippi, Gomph</td>
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<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>Ginad, Chakri, Gangore, Terahtaal,</td>
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<td>Khayal, Jhulan Leela, Jhuma, Suisini</td>
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<td>Bihar</td>
<td>Jatajatin, Jadur, Chhau, Kathaputli,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bakho, Jhijiya, Samochakwa, Karma,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jatra, Natna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>Nautanki, Thora, Chappeli, Raaslila,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kajri</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Ustad Bismillah Khan, an Indian musician credited to popularise the Shehnai, a sub-continenal wind instrument. He was awarded with Bharat Ratna in 2001 and Padma Vibhusan in 1980. Padma Bhusan in 1968 and Padmashri in 1961. Which institution of India instituted Ustad Bismillah Khan ‘Yuva’ Puraskar in 2007 in his honour?

**Sangeet Natak Academi, New Delhi**

The *Sarod* is a stringed instrument of India, used mainly in Indian classical music. Most of the well known players are Amjad Ali Khan, Buddhadeb Das Gupta etc. This instrument has 25 strings in all. How many main strings are on a Sarod?

Some Modern Playwrights and their Plays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>That Other History There in No End</th>
<th>Bhoma, Evan Inderjit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Yayati, Tughlaq, Tale Dande, Nagmandala</em></td>
<td><em>Girish Kamad</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Nalini: A Comedy, Marriage Poem: A Tragic Comedy, The Sleep</em></td>
<td><em>Nizim Ezekiel</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Walkers: An Indo-American Force Chitra, The Post Office, Sacrifice, Chandali, Muktagadhar</em></td>
<td><em>Rabindra Nath Tagore</em></td>
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<td><em>(Shantatal Court Chalu Aahe, Sakharam</em></td>
<td><em>Vijay</em></td>
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<td><em>Tendulkar</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Indian classical music tradition divided into *Hindustani* and *Carnatic*. Carnatic music or Karnataka Sangeet commonly associated with the southern part of the Indian sub-continent. Hindustani classical music is found in which part of India?

**North India**

**INDIAN CINEMA**

Satyajit Ray is an Indian film maker who directed 36 films including feature films, documentaries and short films. He received 32 *Indian National Film Awards*, a number of awards at international film festivals and award ceremonies. He received both an Oscar Award and Bharat Ratna in which year?

1992

In 1937, a Hindi feature film, which was directed by Moti B. Gidvani and produced by Ardeshir Irani of Imperial Pictures released. It is largely remembered by the Indians on account of it being India’s first indigenously made colour film. Name the film. [SSC SECTION OFFICER 2003]

**Kisaan Kanya**

Lumiere Brothers invented cinema in the last decade of 19th century. Only seven months after its inauguration in France, Lumiere Brothers’ films were shown first time in India on July 7, 1896. It was shown at which place?

**Bombay**

In 1899, Harischandra Sakaram Bhavadekar

**Raja Harischandra**

History of Indian cinema can be broadly divided into three phases. First one is the Era of silent films (1913-31) second one is Pre-independence talkies (1931-47) and the third one is Post-independent films (1947-till today). Initially films were made in which languages?

**Hindi, Bengali, Tamil and Telugu**

During the 1930s and 1940s, apart from Bombay, the film industry shaped up well in South too. They are of religious influence with struggle for Independence, the entire scenario altered. In 1950s, a period emerged in the history of India cinema, what was that?

**Golden Period**

In 1931, the first Indian talkie film was directed by Ardeshir Irani, and it was produced by Imperial Movietone. It was “also the first talkie feature film in India. What was that?

**AlamAra**

The Dadasaheb Phalke award was instituted in 1969. It is the highest national honour for cinema given by the government of India. The award is named after the veteran film actor Dadasaheb Phalke, who is considered as the Father of Indian Cinema. The award carries a cash prize of ₹10 lakh and a Swarna Kamal

**LoC kargil** is the longest Indian film (4 hours 25 min) made so far about the Indian soldiers fighting in Kargil. Which is the second longest film in India?

**Mera Noam Joker (4 hours 14 min)**

Bhanu Athaiya was the first Indian to get an Oscar Award. She won the award for the Best Costume Design for Richard Attenborough’s film ‘Gandhi’. When she won this award?

1982

**My Dear Kutti Chatha** a Malayalam film released in 1984 was India’s first 3D film. It was dubbed in Hindi and re-released in 1997, with the name

**Chota Chetan**

India is the world’s largest producer of films. In 2012, 3548 films were released on Celluloid. But only three Indian films have been nominated in the category of Best Foreign Language Film at the Oscars. One is Lagaan another two are

**Mother India, Salaam Bombay**

Sohrab Modi was an Indian Parsi stage and film actor, director and producer. His important films Khoon ka Khoon (1935), Jhansi ki Rani (1953), Mirza Ghalib and Nausherwan-e-dil (1957). One film he made, which is the first film in India made in techni colour

**Jhansi Ki Rani**

The International Indian Film Academy Awards, also known as the UFA Awards, are a set of awards presented annually by the International Indian Film Academy, for Bollywood. The event was last held at Macau in 2013. The 15th UFA Awards would be held from April 23 to 26, 2014 at which place?

**Florida (USA)**

The National Film Awards, established in 1954, has been administered, along with the International Film Festival of India and the Indian Panorama, by the Directorate of Film Festivals since 1973. The award ceremony is held in New Delhi. Who present these awards?

**President of India**

Both Government-run and private institutes provide formal education in various aspects of film making. Madras Film Institute is located at Chennai, Satyajit Ray Film and TV Institute is located at Kolkata. Where is the Government’s Film and Television Institute located?

**Bengaluru**

Gulzar was awarded with the Padma Bhusan in 2004 for his contribution the Arts and the Sahitya Academi Award in 2002. He won a number of National Film awards. At the 81 st Academy awards, he won for the Best Original Song award for the film Slumdog Millionaire. On January 31, 2010, the same song awarded him with another award. What was that?

**Grammy Award**

Javed Akhtar was awarded with the ‘Padmashri’ in 1999 and received the ‘Padma Bhusan’ in 2007. In 2001, Akhtar received the ‘National Integration Award’ from the All India Anti-terrorist Association and the ‘Avadh Ratan’ from the Uttar Pradesh government. In 2013, he received another award for his poetry collection ‘Lava’. What is the name of the award?

**Sahitya Academi Award**

**Indra Sabha** is the film with most number of songs (71 songs). The film was made in 1932 by Madan Theatres, who was the director of that film?

**JJMan**

**Government Award**

Bengal Film Journalists 1937 Government of Bengal

**Association Award**

Maharashtra State Film 1954 Government of Maharashtra

**Awards**

Nandi Awards 1964 Government of Andhra Pradesh

Tamil Nadu State Film Awards 1967 Government of Tamil Nadu

Karnataka State Film Awards 1967 Government of Karnataka

Odisha State Film Awards 1968 Government of Odisha

Kerala State Film Awards 1969 Government of Kerala

**Non-Government Award**

Filmfare Awards 1954 Benett, Coleman and Co Ltd

Screen Awards 1994 Screen Weekly

Zee Cine Awards 1998 Zee Entertainment
**Indian Art & Culture**

Stardust Awards 2003: Stardust
Apsara Awards 2004: Apsara Producers Guild
South Indian International 2012: South Indian Film Industry

**Fairs and Festivals**

A harvest festival is celebrated by Tamil people at the end of the harvest season. It is a 4-day festival, which usually takes place from January 13 to 16 in the Gregorian calendar. It is also celebrated in the Union Territory of Puducherry and Sri Lanka. Name it. [SSC (10+2) 2012]

**Pongal**

The Pushkar Fair is the annual five-day camel and livestock fair, held in the town of Pushkar, Rajasthan. It has also become an important tourist attraction. The imperial Gazette of India mentions an attendance of 300,000 pilgrims in early 1900s. It held in which district of Rajasthan? [SSC CGL 2002]

**Ajmer**

Rongli Bihu or Bohang Bihu marks the agricultural new year celebrated as the Festival of Merriment, by singing traditional Bihu-geets and performing group folk dances. It starts normally from April 13. In which State, it is observed?

**Asom**

Sarhul is the main festival of the tribal population of Jharkhand. Sarhul means the ‘worship of Sal tree’. Another festival in Jharkhand associated with the cattle and is celebrated during the festival of Diwali. What is that? [SSC CGL 2002]

**Sohrai**

Rath Yatra at Puri is celebrated once every year in the month of Asadha. It has become a common sight in most major cities of the world since 1968. through the ISKCON Hare Krishna Movement. It is celebrated in the honour of Lord Jagannath [SSC (10+2) 2012]

**Madhya Pradesh**

Bada Osha, -Savitri is observed in which State?

**Nagaland**

Phang Uhabso Losoong is observed in which State?

**Tripura**

Bhataru, Kharchi puja is observed in which State?

**Maharashtra**

In the monsoon month of Bhadrapada comes the festival of flower-watching also known as Phulaich in the Kinnaur valley. The fair opens with animal sacrifices then the entire village collects on a hill top and takes for the ladra flower. In which State, it is observed?

**Himachal Pradesh**

Papeti is New year’s eve for orthodox Parsis who follow the Shenshah calendar. The next day, Novroz is the new year’s day. On Papeti, the Parsis visit which temple?

**Rangoli Bihu or Bohang Bihu**

marks the agricultural new year celebrated as the Festival of Merriment, by singing traditional Bihu-geets and performing group folk dances. It starts normally from April 13. In which State, it is observed?

**Arunachal Pradesh**

**Some Important Fairs and Festivals of India**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Festival/Fair</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Solung Adi, Murung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Sammakka Jattara, Nagula Chaviti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asom</td>
<td>Bhogali Bihu, Kangdi Bihu, Devadhalani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>Chhirmi, Chhawani, Navanti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujrat</td>
<td>Bhoomdeo, Pola, Teeja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Lohri, Lohkadiyan, Gochi, Ukhyang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jammu-Kashmir</td>
<td>Jhiri, Navroz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>Sohrai and Sarhul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Ugodi, Gowri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>Vishnu, Boat festival</td>
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<td>Manipur</td>
<td>Yasosang, Kang, Chunpha, Ningol</td>
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<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>Kajri Navmi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mizoram</td>
<td>Minikut, Puwalkut</td>
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<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>Bada Osha, -Sayritri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nagaland</td>
<td>Tulini, Yemshe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>Chhapar, Muktsar</td>
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<td>Sikkim</td>
<td>Phang Uhabso Losoong</td>
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<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Dunguni Uttimm, Nadavani</td>
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<td>Tripura</td>
<td>Khataru, Kharchi puja</td>
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<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>Bhitauli, Chipla</td>
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<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>Bharat Milap (Varanashi)</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>Jalpesh Mela, (Jalpaiguri)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Brahmotsavam, a hindu festival**

is observed in the Hindu calendar’month of Bhadrapada starting on the Shukla Chaturthi. The festival lasts for 10 days ending on Ananta Chaturdashi. In which State, it is celebrated?
**INDIAN ART & CULTURE**

**September and October**

On Shivratri, the Purmandal town wears a festive look and for three days people celebrate the marriage of Lord Shiva to Goddess Parvati in Jammu-Kashmir. What is the name of the occasion?

**Purmandal Mela**

Nuakhai festival takes place in the bright half of the month of Bhadrapad. It is intended for eating new rice of the year, so the new rice is cooked with milk and sugar and then offered as Bhog to Goddess Laxmi. In which part of India, it is celebrated?

**Western Odisha**

Ghaila or Bidri Ghaila is the Eastern pot ceremony of the Gonds performed in the month of Jayestha corresponds to the feast of transplantation of paddy seedlings celebrated by the Munda tribes of Chhota Nagpur. It is identical to which festival of the Hindu?

**Akshaya Tritiya**

Nazu festival is the most merrymaking festivals of the Pochury tribe. It is celebrated for ten days in the month of February. During this occasion, songs and dances are performed by the Pochury tribe. It belongs to which State?

**Nagaland**

Urs is the birth or death anniversary celebrations at a dargah. These are held annually at the dargah of famous Sufi saints. At the dargah of Qutbuddin Bakhthiar Kaki, one unique festival, held every year. Name it.

**Sair-i- Gulfarohan**

Kumbha mela is a religious congregation, which is held once in every 12 years. An Arda Kumbha occurs in every six years. There are four holy places where Kumbha mela is celebrated. First is Allahabad, second is Ujjain, third is Nasik and fourth is Haridwar.

**Surajkund mela** is celebrated on the outskirts of Delhi annually. Surajkund is a small ancient Pond (kurid). It is the venue for the annual handicrafts fair. Where is it situated?

**Haryana**

**ART AND ARCHITECTURE**

The excavations at Harappa and Mohenjodaro and several other sites of the Indus valley civilisation were under the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) established by the British. Harappans were utilitarians although not completely devoid of artistic sense. Their most notable artistic achievement was Seal Engraving.

Temple architecture of the Pallavas divided into rock-cut and structural, furtherly divided into excavated pillared Halls or Mandapas and monolithic shrines known as Ratha

Dharmaraja and Sahadeva were five ratha temples built by Narasimhavarman-I. Which are the best specimens of the structural temples of Pallavas?

**Kailosnath and Vanikunthaperumal**

The Harappans were experts in the use of the potter’s wheel. Pots were generally decorated with designs of trees and circles and images of men and scripts also engraved on it. The Harappan pottery is bright and of which colour?

**Dark Red**

The iron pillar of Delhi, a 7m (23ft) high pillar in the Qutub complex, notable for the composition of metals used in the construction. It was erected by Chandragupta Vikaramaditya. It is “a testament to the skill of ancient Indian Blacksmiths.” It draws attention of scientists due to its Rustlessness.

**Steatite**

About 2000 Harappan seals have been found with pictures of the one horned bull, the buffalo, the tiger, the rhinoceros, the goat and the elephant. The technique of cutting and polishing these seals with white lustre was a unique invention of the Harappans. These seals were most commonly mode of soft stone. What was that?

**Boustrophedon**

The Harappan script is yet to be deciphered. It is pictographic in nature. Overlapping of the letters show that it was written from right to left in the first line and then left to right in the second line. The style is called Boustrophedon.

The Chola art, a continuation of Pallava art, earlier examples ‘of which were modest in size while the later ones were huge and large with the Vimanas or Gopurams dominating the landscape. The Chola architecture achieved its peak at Thanjavur for which temple?

**Brihadeswara (AD 1000)**

The Vijayanagara temple architecture included temple complex with concentric series of rectangular enclosure walls with the Gopurams in the middle of each side. Temples also had devi shrine to keep the replicas of the consort of the deity and several mandapas including the Kalyana Mandapa. What was absent in their construction?

**Mortar**

The Rajput palaces are complex compositions built as inner citadels surrounded by the city and enclosed by a fortified wall at Chittorgarh and Jaisalmer. Some forts were protected by wide moats as at Bharatpur and Deeg. The buildings are constructed with which kind of stone?

**Gujarat**

**For more visit, www.studyiq.com**
and geometrical designs and presence of richly decorated buttresses. This kind of development has happened in whose administration?

**Muzaffar Shah**

The Islamic architecture of Kashmir is typified by use of woodwork. Best examples are log construction using deodar trees for the construction of wooden bridges called Kada/s or the wooden shrines called Z/arafs. The mosque of Shah Hamdan in Srinagar and the Jamii Masjid at Srinagar are the typical examples. Who built them?

**Sikandar Butshikan (AD 1400)**

Rashtrapati Bhavan, formerly the viceroy’s residence, is built of sandstone and has design features like canopies and jaali from Rajasthan. Name the architect who design it.

**Lutyens**

The key features of Bengali style are use of black marble and bricks, delicate decorations, convex roots suited to the heavy rainfall in the region and massive size of the buildings. Where these styles are found?

**Sultanate of Delhi and Persia**

Mughal architecture was neither strictly Islamic nor strictly Hindu. The notable feature of the Mughal architecture was the use of red sandstone and white marble. The development of Muslim style of architecture of that period can also be called

**Indo-Islamic Architecture**

Greek and Roman influence in architecture can be observed in the Parliament House and Connaught Place in Delhi. The Austrian architect Stein, designed the Indian Habitat Centre. Charles Correa from Mumbai is responsible for the LIC building in Connaught Place in Delhi. Which Indian architect has designed the Scope complex and Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan in Delhi?

**Raj Rewal**

Handicrafts made from bamboo eco-friendly crafts in India, are mostly made in West Bengal, Asom and Tripura. Clay craft or pottery is the most primitive form of handicrafts in India. People engaged in pottery production are called

**Kumnaars**

Cane handicraft is prevalent in Vellore district of Tamil Nadu. Bell metal crafts are mostly prevalent in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Asom and Manipur. The manufacturing of Brassware is mainly done in Rajasthan. These artisans are famously known as

**Kansaris**

Techniques popular in India for **polishing of metalware** are Ganga-Yamuna technique, Kottgari technique, Bidri technique and Tanjore technique. The technique using lost wax process, Which involves’ preparaton1’ of a mould in the form of the object to be prepared, is practised in which areas?

**Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh), Jagadhri (Haryana)**

West Bengal, Asom and Bihar, being the leading jute producers, lead the jute handicrafts market in India. Dhokra, the oldest form of handicraft, is famous for its unique items portraying folk characters. This tribal handicraft Dhokra originated at which place?

**Madhya Pradesh in Different States**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Rangoli</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kolam</td>
<td>TamilNadu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alpana</td>
<td>West Bengal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mandana</td>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
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<td>Pudival</td>
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<td>Rangoli</td>
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<td>Chaitrangana</td>
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<td>Chowkpurana</td>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<td>Muggu</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
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<td>Alikthap</td>
<td>Kumaon</td>
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Patharkatti or soft stone is the rockcraft of Gaya. Black stone is used in Dungarpur (Gujarat) and Granite in Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu). Rajasthan, Jaipur and Madhya Pradesh are famous for marble stone carvings, which art is the speciality of Madhya Pradesh?

**Green-coloured Stone Art**

Papier mache, developed in the Mughal era, is a famous, form of paper handicraft. In India, it is mainly located in Delhi, Rajgriha, Patna, Gaya, Awadh, Ahmedabad and Allahabad. Gujarat, Jammu-Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh are known for wood work. It is prevalent in India from which time?

**Before Stone Sculpture**

Shell handicraft can be made out of three types of shells like conch shell, tortoise shell and sea shell. Generally, the places located on the sea shore are the places for shell handicraft. Gulf of Mannar, Goa are the examples. Give another example

**Odisha**

Silver Filigree otherwise named Tarakashi is a creative form of handicraft created from the twisted threads of silver or gold. Besides, Cuttack in Odisha, which place in Andhra Pradesh is known for its silver filigree work?
INDIAN ART & CULTURE

**Karim Nagar**

Patta Madai reed mats (Tamil Nadu), Phak reed mats (Kerala), Sitalpatti green cane mats and Madhur Kothi grass mats (West Bengal) are different types of mats made in India. Wild grass baskets are made in Sarkanda (Punjab) and monsoon grass baskets are made in Uttar Pradesh. At which place, the baskets are made from twigs of willow?

**Kashmir**

There are a total of 29 caves located in Maharashtra, around 106 km from Aurangabad depicted Ajanta paintings, painted during the time of Sunga, Kushan and Gupta rulers. They are fresco wall paintings with use of limited colours. Stories of Jataka and dying princess paintings are of more praise, when the paintings were done?

**From 700 BC to 200 BC**

Ellora paintings are the sharp twist of the head, painted angular bents of the arms, the concave curve of the close limbs, the sharp projected nose and the long drawn open eyes. It is measured out in rectangular panels with thick borders. It is conceived within the given limits of frames that hold the paintings. Which deities are mainly painted in Ellora caves?

**Hindu Deities**

Sittanavasal paintings resemble closely the Bagh and Ajanta paintings built by Mahendra Varman and Narasimha Varman. These are intimately connected with Jaina themes and symbology. The contours of these paintings are firmly drawn dark on a light red ground, where it is located?

**Sittanavasal Village (Tamil Nadu)**

Pala school of miniature painting developed under the patronage of Palas of Bengal and Bihar during 9th to 12th century. It was done mostly on palm leaf, paper manuscripts and their wooden covers. The main characteristics are sinuous finishing lines, flat heads, paintings with no names and focus mostly on human figures. These paintings related to

**Vajrayana Buddhism**

Bagh paintings are quite similar to those of Ajanta in terms of subject matter and characteristics. The best paintings were in the cave number 4 though many have now been removed and kept in a museum for preservation. Where it is located?

**Bagh River Bank (Madhya Pradesh)**

Deccan School of Miniature Painting was contemporary to Mughal style, shows the effect of Persian style. In Golkunda (Bijapur), the portraits contained images of fruits, flowers and pets. It rose to great height under which king?

**Ibrahim Adil Shah**

Bengal School of Painting was a fashion of art progressed during the British Raj in India. British arts administrators supported and promoted it. Raja Ravi Verma and Rabindranath Tagore were amongst the pioneers of this school. What theme is depicted in these paintings?

**Indian Nationalism**

Use of which marble, long legs and slender frames, human beings as central characters and prominence of kings, princess and palaces were the characteristic features of Amaravati School of Art. It had great influence of an art in Sri Lanka and South-East Asia. The art was evolved in the period of which dynasty?

**Satavahana**

The Ashokan inscriptions are 33 in number dispersed throughout the areas of modern day Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan. The edicts were decoded by British archaeologist and historian James Prinsep. Inscriptions at eastern part in Magadhi, Western part in Sanskrit, ,Kharosthi, Greek, Greek-American. In these inscriptions, Ashok refers to himself as

**Beloved of the Gods**

Rich carving on. red stones and complex symbolism were the main features of the Gandhara sculpture. It developed in sculpture as a fusion of Greco-Roman and Indian style. The Gandhara art flourished during which king and dynasty?

**Kanishka, Kushan**

The Salarjung museum, an art museum located at Darushifa, on the southern bank of the Musi river in the city of Hyderabad, is the third largest museum in India housing the biggest one-man collections of antiques in the world. It is otherwise called as

**Storehouse of World Art Collections**

**Major Puppetry Traditions of Various States**

**Andhra**

Tholu Bommalata (Shadow) and

**Pradesh**

Koyyabommalata (String)

**Asom**

Potal Nach (String and Rod)

**Karnataka**

Combe Atta (String), Togalu (Shadow)

**Kerala**

Pava Kuthu (Clove), Thol Pava Kuthu (Shadow)

**Maharashtra**

Kakasuri Bahulya (String), Chamadyache Bahulya (Shadow)

**Odisha**

Kunrei Nach (Glove) Ravan Charaya (Shadow)

**Kathi Kundei (Rod), Copalila Kandhei (String)**

**Rajasthan**

Kathputli (String)

**Tamil Nadu**

Bommalattam (String), Bommalattam (Shadow)

**West Bengal**

Putil Nach (Rod), Tarer Sutor Putil (String), Bener Putil (Glove)
INDIAN ART & CULTURE

Forts/Palaces of Rajasthan Forts Built by
Amer Fort (Jaipur) Raja Man Singh-I
Jaigarh Fort (Jaipur) Sawai Jai Singh-II
Nahargarh Fort (Jaipur) Sawai Jai Singh-II
Ranthambore Fort (Sawai Madhopur) A Chauhan ruler
Chittorgarh Fort (Udaipur) Chitrangada Mori
Jaisalmer Fort (Jaisalmer) Rawaljaisal
Mehrangarh Fort (Jodhpur) Raojodha
Junagarh Fort (Bikaner) Raja Rai Singh
Kumbhalgarh Fort (Kumbhalgarh) RanaKumbha
City Palace (Jaipur) Sawai Jai Singh-II
Hawa Mahal (Jaipur) Sawai Pratap Singh
City Palace (Udaipur) Maharana Uday Singh
Lake Palace (Udaipur) Mahamana Jagat Singh
Umaid Bhavan Palace (Jodhpur) Mahamana UmaidSingh
Lalgarh Palace (Bikaner) Mahamana Ganga Singh

Apabhramsa School was developed during 11th to 15th century. Initially, it was done on palm leaves but later moved to paper. The main characteristics of these paintings are building eyes in the paintings, angular faces, bulging eyes, lack of natural scenes and decorated margins. It relates to which area?

Mewar or Gujarat

Content of the Gujarat school of miniature painting are illustrations of the religious books of the Jainas. The characteristics are—painted on long, narrow palm leaves, fine drawing of outline and ornamentation combined with bright paints of a local variety. What is the exception secular work depicted?

Vasanta Vilasa

Mughal School of Painting revolved around court scenes, portraits, hunting scenes, lovers, battle frunts, etc. It has a specific style of South Asian painting. Usually, it was confined to miniatures either as book depictions or as individual works to be kept in albums. This practice materialised from which miniature painting with Indian influences?

Persian

The Indo-Saracenic revival was an architectural style movement by British architects in the late 19th century in British India. It drew elements from native Indo-Islamic and Indian architecture and combined it with the Gothic revival and neo-classical styles favoured in Victorian Britain. The most famous example of this type is

Gateway of India

RELIGIONS AND PHILOSOPHY

Buddhism founded by Siddhartha Gautama (born in Lumbini, Nepal) around 563 BC and raised in Kapilvastu. At the age of 35, Buddha achieved enlightenment sitting under the Bodhi tree in the present day town of Bodh Gaya in Bihar. There are four noble truths in Buddhism—one is suffering in human life, second is cause of suffering, third is cessation of suffering and the fourth is

Path of Liberation

Hinduism consists of a collection of intellectual and philosophical points of view rather than a rigid system of beliefs. There is no specific founder of the religion though its roots can be traced to the historical Vedic religion. Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world after

Christianity and Islam

There are three common beliefs in Hinduism. *Karma* stands for moral law of cause and effect. *Dharma* stands for universal principle of law, order, harmony and all in all truth. Another thing is liberation from the continuous cycles of birth, life, death and rebirth. These things stand for

Moksha

Hindu texts are divided into *Shrut* (revealed) and *Smriti* (remembered) texts. *Shrut* refers primarily to the four Vedas. *Smriti* texts are mainly Ramayana and Mahabharata. Vedas divided into four parts one is *Rig*, second is *Sam*, third is *Yajur* and the fourth is

Athrva

First part of the Veda is called *Samhita*. The other three parts are Brahmanas, Aranyakas and Upanishads. The first two parts are referred to as *Karmakanda* (ritualistic portion). What is the name for the last two parts?

Jnanakanda (Knowledge Portion)

Jainism has a core principle namely Non-violence. In Jainism, a *Tirthankara* is a person who helps in achieving liberation and enlightenment. There are 29 tirthankaras in Jainism. The first one being Rishabha Deva. The last one is

Mahavira

[CDS-II 2011] Mahavira advocated the path of Dharma was one of strict asceticism, renunciation and moral cultivation. He strongly believed in the importance of celibacy or Brahmacharya. He instructed three jewels to his followers namely—right belief, right knowledge and

Right Conduct

The main doctrines of Jainism are *Anekantauada*, *Syadvada* and *Nyavada*. There are five vows in order to become a Jaina follower. They are—Ahimsa, Satya, Asteya, Aparigraha and

Brahmacharya

There are two forms of the five vows namely—
Anuvrata and Mahavrata. Jaina holy texts consists of Purvas, Agamas Angas and Upangas. There are two sects of Jainism. What are they? [NDA/NA-I 2012]

**Svetambara and Digambara**

Anekantavada refers to the principles of pluralism and multiplicity of viewpoints, syadavada is the theory of conditioned prediction. The theory of partial stand points or viewpoints is

**Nyayavoda**

Islam is a monotheistic religion articulated by the Quran and the teachings and normative examples of Prophet Mohammed. Muslims belong to two denominations namely Shia and Sunni. Islam arrived in India in the 8th century AD by?

**Arab Traders**

In the 8th century BC, the Parsi or Zoroastrian religion was founded by Zarathustra. He preached monotheism and taught the worship of fire and the presence of good and bad in the form of Ahura Mazda and Angra Mainyu in the region known as Persia. These doctrines are enshrined in

**Zend Avesta**

The Jains believed that the natural and supernatual things of the universe can be traced back to nine fundamental elements i.e., Jiva, Ajiva, Asrara, Astikaya, Sannvara, Nirjana, Moksha, Punya and Paapa. The soul moves from life-to-life until it attains Nirvana. Jainism what explains in order to achieve Nirvana?

**Law of Karma**

The Sufis were very liberal in their religious outlook. They believed in the essential unity of all religions and preached spirituality through music and doctrines that professed union with God. It originated in Iran and found a congenial atmosphere in India under which rule?

**Turkish**

The sense of piety, tolerance, sympathy, concept of equality and friendly attitude at Sufi attracted many Hindus also, mostly from lower classes to Islam. In order to attain a state of mystical ecstasy, the Sufis listened to poetry and Sama which were originally in Persian, But later switched to

**Hindawi**

The pioneers of Sufis in India are Moin-ud-din Chisti, Nizam-ud-din Auliya, Farid-ud-din, Ganj-e-Shakar. The Sufis were organised into religious orders or silsilahs. These silsilahs were named after their founder such as Chishti, Suhrawardi, Qadi and

**Naqshbandi**

In Christianity, Trinity refers to the teaching that God comprises three distinct, eternally, co-existing persons i.e. the father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Confirmation is a rite of initiation, Ordination is the process of performing various religious rites and ceremonies. What stands for practice of confessing?

**Confession**

Orthodox Sikhs believe that their religion was revealed by God to Guru Nanak, whose spirit entered the 2nd Guru and the subsequent Gurus till the 10th Guru. Guru Gobind Singh ordained the Sikhs to treat something as his successor, elevating it to (a status of) Guru. What was that?

**Adi Granth**

The 10th Guru, Guru Gobind Singh created the Khalsa meaning The Pure’, in 1699. He ordained the Sikhs to take vows namely, keeping of Kesh, Kangha, Kada, Kirpan and Kaccha. Where the Harmandir Sahib or Golden Temple and Akal Takht are located?

**Amritsar**

There are an estimated five to six million Bahai’s around the world in more than 200 countries and territories. They believe that religious history has unfolded through a series of divine messengers each of whom established a religion which was suited for the needs and capacities of the people of the time. The key scriptures of Bahai are

**Kitab-i-Aqdas and Kitab-i-Iqan**

Christianity is a monotheistic religion based on the life and teachings of Jesus. Christians believe that Jesus is the Son of God and the Saviour of humanity. Three largest groups are—Roman catholic church, Eastern orthodox church and the various denominations of protestantism. The sacred texts of Christianity are

**Old Testament & New Testament**

The basis of Jewish law and tradition is contained in the Torah. There are 613 commandments in Torah. There are around 13.4 million Jews in the world around with 42% of them in Israel. A similar number of Jews are found in another State, what is that?

**The USA**

Confucianism is a Chinese ethical and philosophical system based on the teachings of Chinese philosopher Confucius. The core belief is humanism i.e., human beings are teachable, improvable and perfectable through personal and communal endeavour. Confucius lived between

**55 land 479 BC**
Confucius taught six books to his followers which are Classic of Poetry, Book of Documents, Book of Rites, Book of Music, I-Ching and Spring and Autumn Annals. Ren is one of the basic virtues. Another greatest virtue which must be shown to both the living and the dead, is

**Filial Petty**

A monotheistic religion founded by Bahaullah in 19th century Persia, which emphasises the spiritual unity of all humankind. The core principles of Bahai’s are Unity of God, Unity of Religion and Unity of Humankind. What is the name of this religion?

**Bhai Faith**

Nyaya system, a work of the sage Gautama based on logical grounds. It admits four separate sources of true knowledge viz, Perception, Inference, Comparison and Testimony. The philosophy considers God who creates, sustains and destroys the universe. Gautama is said to be the author of

**Nyaya Sutras**

Shintoism is an indigenous spirituality of Japan, refers to a set of practices to be carried out diligently to establish a connection between present day Japan. The book Kojiki and Niban Shoki contain many stories and background to Shinto beliefs. What is the sacred text of Shintoism?

**No Sacred Text**

The Charvakas, the Buddhas and the Jainas are come under the heterodox schools of philosophy due to their rejection of Vedic authority. Brihaspati is the founder of the Charvaka philosophy and it deals with the materialistic philosophy. What is the other name for Charvaka philosophy?

**Lokayata Philosophy**

Charvaka School was mentioned in the Vedas and Brihadaranyaka Upanishad. It holds that knowledge is the product of the combination of four elements, which leaves no trace after death. They are Earth, Water, Fire and Air. According to Charvaka, there is no other world. What is the ultimate object of them?

**Pleasure**

Judaism is one of the oldest monotheistic religions spans over a period of 3000 years. Jewish religious texts consist of Tanakh, Midrastic literature Halakhic literature, etc. Where does it originate from?

**Hebrew Bible**

The schools of Indian philosophy are divided into two broad classes namely Orthodox and Heterodox. Mimansa, Vedanta, Samakhya, Yoga, Nyaya and Vaisheshika, popularly known as sad darsana belongs to the Orthodox system, why is it so?

**Accept the Authority of Vedas**

Samkhya system regards human existence as a seat of intense suffering. Ignorance is regarded as the sole cause of suffering and bondage, and self-knowledge offers a way of this suffering. Once a person realises that Prakriti is different from Purusha, he is no longer subject to rebirth and transmigration. Who was the preponder?

**Kapila**

Samkhya system holds that reality is constituted of two principles one female and the other male i.e., Prakriti and Purusha respectively. It tries to establish same relationship between Purusha and Prakriti for explaining the creation of the Universe, it explained the phenomena of the doctrine of evolution? What is wrote by Kapila regarding this?

**Samakhya Sutra**

The origin of yoga is found in the Yogasutra of Patanjali, written in 2nd century BC, Yoga admits the existence of God as a teacher and guide. Yogic techniques control the body mind and sense organs. By purifying and controlling changes in the mental mechanism, Yoga systematically bring about the release of Purusha from Prakriti known as

**Achieving Freedom or Mukti**

Taoism, a religious practice, believes in harmonising oneself with nature. Key text of Taoism is Tao te ching which consists of teachings attributed to Laozi. Basic virtues of Taoism are three in number namely Compassion, Moderation and

**Humility**

Vaisheshika School of Philosophy explained the phenomena of the universe by the Atomic Theory and believe that all objects of the universe are composed of five elements—Earth Water, Air, Fire, and Sky. Who is the guiding principle for them?

**God**

The living beings were rewarded or punished, according to the Law of Karma, based on actions of merit and demerit. Creation and destruction of universe was a cyclic process and took place in agreement with the wishes of God according to the Vaisheshika philosophy. Who wrote the basic text of this philosophy?

**Kannada**

Mimansa Philosophy is the analysis of interpretation, application and the use of the text of the Samhita and Brahmava portions of the Veda. It encompasses the Nyaya-Vaisheshika systems and emphasises the concept of valid knowledge. This system lays stress on the ritualistic part of whom?

**Vedas**

The main text of Mimansa is known as the Sutras of Gaimini, written during the 3rd century BC. Ac-
According to Gaimini, the essence of system is Dharma, which is the dispenser of fruits of one’s actions. The names associated with this philosophy are Sabar Swami and Kunarila Bhatta.

Vedanta implies the philosophy of the Upanishad. Shankaracharya wrote the Commentaries on the Upanishads, Brahmasutras and the Bhagavad Gita. Shankaracharya’s discourse on his philosophical views came to be known as Advaita Vedanta. What does Advaita literally mean?

Non-dualism or Belief in One Reality

Vedanta philosophy teaches that all these different religions are alike, so many roads, which lead to same goal. Every action must be governed by the intellect, the discriminating faculty. The mind makes mistakes but the intellect tells us if the action is in our interest or not. Shankaracharya expanded that ultimate reality is one if being the Brahman. Name the another well-known Advaita scholar?

Ramanuja

Buddha presented simple principles of life and practical ethics that people could follow easily. He strongly criticised blind faith in the traditional scriptures like the Vedas. Jainas also do not believe in the Vedas, but they admit one thing, what is that?

Existence of a Soul

Bhakti saints believed that salvation can be achieved by all. They made no distinction of caste, creed or religion before God. They themselves came from diverse backgrounds. The development of Bhakti movement took place first in Tamil Nadu between the 7th and 12th Century.

Earliest Bhakti movements in India were led by Alvar and Nayanar saints. These saints looked upon religion not as a cold formal worship, but as a loving bond based upon love between the worshipped and worshipper. The more effective method for spreading of the Bhakti ideology was the use of Local languages [CDS 2013 (II)].

Swami Vivekananda was the chief disciple of the 19th century mystic Ramkrishna Paramahansa and the founder of Ramakrishna Mission. He introduced Hindu philosophies and yoga to the western world mainly America and Europe. What is his inspiring speech in Chicago in 1893? Beginning with Sisters and Brothers [CDS 2011 (II)]

The Vaishnavite saints developed their philosophy within the broader framework of Hinduism. The worship of Rama was popularised by Ramananda in the 15th century. Another famous Rama Bhakta, wrote the Ramacharitmanas. Who was he?

Tulsidas

Vaishnavite movement centred around the worship of Rama and Krishna. Surdas, a blind Vaishnava poet, was a disciple of Vallabhacharya. His songs centred around Krishna and he wrote Sursagar. The love for Krishna was also expressed through the songs of Mirabai. She belonged to which period?

1503-1573

LITERATURE AND LANGUAGES

India has 22 scheduled languages, 122 regional languages, 5 classical languages, thousands of mother tongues and countless dialects. Classical languages are Sanskrit, Tamil, Kannada and Telugu. But most of the Indian languages can be divided into four families. They are Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Austro and Sino-Indian.

Speakers of Indo-Aryan languages account for around 70% of the population of country. Most of the language in this family are derived from Sanskrit. Dravidian is the 2nd biggest family of languages in India. Which is older?

Dravidian

Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu and Malayalam are the languages which has given the status of classical language by central government. Odia, on February 20, 2014, became the sixth language in India to get classical status following approval of the Cabinet. It is the first language from which language family? [SSC STENO 2011]

Indo-Aryan Group

Austro is the oldest and must indigenous language family of India. Its speakers are concentrated in the hilly and tribal areas of Central and Eastern India e.g., Santhali, Nicobarese, Khand, etc. Which language family is spoken in the South India?

Dravidian

Sino-Indian includes languages spoken in the North-east and Northern parts of India which includes Naga, Bodo, Tibetan, Ladakhi, Karbi etc. Hindi, Bengali, Punjabi, Gujarati, Rajasthani, Assamese, etc, are part of which language family?

Indo-Aryan

A fifth family of languages spoken in South Andaman is Onge, which includes the two languages of Onge and Jarawa. Apart from these, the Great Andamanese is another language family which is mostly extinct. Another language spoken by around 2000 people in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, which is isolate and not part of any family. What is that?

Nihali- Language

The Sidi language which is spoken in Gujarat till the middle of 20th century is now extinct. It is derived from Swanili. It was part of the which language family?

Niger-Congo

Languages in the 8th Schedule
Vedas are the earliest known literature written in Sanskrit and were handed down orally from one generation to the other. The Rigveda, Samaveda and the Yajurveda are collectively known as Traji. How many hymns were there in the Rigveda?

1028 Hymns

In Rigveda Samhita, it is mentioned that the battle of 10 kings was fought between Sudas, a Bharata king of Tristu family and the confederacy of 10 well known tribes Purus, Yadu, Turvas, Anu, Dheeryu, Aliva, Paktha, Bhalanas, Shiva and Vaisanin. What is the name of the war? [NDA/NA-II 2011]

Dasarajan War

The prominent Gods of the Rigveda are Indra, Agni, Varuna, Rudra, Aditya, Vayu, Aditi and the Ashwini twins. Some of the prominent Goddesses are Usha, Vak and Prithvi. while Prithvi stands for the the Goddess of Earth and Usha stands for the Goddess of dawn. What does Vak mean?

The Goddess of Speech

In Rigveda, the prayers are for seeking worldly prosperity and for the development of a highly cultured society. Yajurveda concerned mostly with rites and mantras of different sacrifices. It gives directions for the performance of the yajnas, which kind of renderings it has?

Both Prose and Poetic

There are two major branches of Yajurveda, namely, Shukla and Krishna Yajurveda i.e., Vajasaneyi Samhita and Taitriya Samhita. Rigveda is the earliest but most popular is Yajurveda. What is the meaning of Yajur?

Sacrifice or Worship

Samaveda consists of 160Q ragas and raginis or musical notes. Out of total 1875 verses, only 75 are original and others are from the Rigveda. It prescribes the tunes for the recitation of the hymns of the Rigveda. What is the meaning of Sama?

Melody or Songs

Atharvaveda contains treatment of 99 diseases, source of which is traced to two sages called Atharva and Angiras. It has two branches, the paippalada and the saunaka. The Atharvaveda is also known as Brahmanda

Each Veda consists of four parts: the Samhita, the Brahmanas, the Aranyakas and the Upanishads. The Aranyakas intend to serve as objects of meditation for ascetics, who live in forests and deal with mysticism and symbolism. What is the name for collection of hymns or mantras?

Samhita

The Brahmanas are ritualistic texts which include percepts and religious duties. Each Veda has several Brahmanas attached to it. The Upanishads form the concluding portions of the Veda and contains the essence of Vedic teachings. The Upanishads and Aranyakas are the concluding parts of the Brahmanas. Upanishads are otherwise known for Vedanta

Kalidasa, a Sanskrit poet and dramatist drew his poems and dramas mainly from Hindu, Puranas and Hindu philosophy. Abhigyanshakuntlam, Malavikagnimitra and Vikramorvasiyam are his three plays and Ritusamhara and Meghdootam are his two khandas kavyas. Name two poems authored by him?

Rahuvamsa and Kumara Sambhava

The word Upanishad is derived from Upa (nearby) and Nishad (to sit down), i.e., sitting down near. Groups of pupil sit near the guru to learn from him in the guru-shishya parampara. There are more than 200 known Upanishads, one of which gives a list of 108 Upanishads. What was that?

Muktika

Upanishads are deal with questions like the origin of the universe, life and death, the material and spiritual world, nature of knowledge and many other questions. The earliest Upanishads belong to the Shuka Yajurveda and Samaveda. What are they?

Brihadaranyaka and Chandogya

The earliest Buddhist works were written in Pali, which was spoken in Magadha and South Bihar. The Buddhist works can be divided into the canonical and the non-canonical. The rich Buddhist literature of Mahayan School and Hinayan School written in which language?

Sanskrit

The Jaina texts were written in Prakrit and were finally compiled in the 6th century AD in Valabhi in Gujarat, which refer repeatedly to trade and traders. It helps to reconstruct the political history of eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Name two important Jain scholars.

Haribhadra Suri and Hemchandra Suri

Canonical literature in Buddhism is represented by the Tripitakas i.e., Vinaya Pitaka, Sutta Pitaka and Abhidhamma Pitaka. Vinaya Pitaka deals with rules
and regulations of daily life. Sutta Pitaka contains dialogues and discourses on morality and deals with Dharma. Abhidhamma Pitaka deals with Philosophy and Metaphysics [CDS-112011]

Dharmasutras lay down duties for different Varnas as well as for the kings and their officials. They prescribed rules according to which property had to be held, sold and inherited. They also prescribed punishments for persons guilty of assault, murder and adultery. In which period, it was compiled?

500 to 200 BC

Kautilya’s Mhashastra written in Sanskrit is an important treatise of the Mauryan times. Varahamihira wrote Brihat Samhita on astronomy, Aryabhatta wrote Aiyabhattiya and Lagdh Acharya wrote Vedanga Jyotisha on astrology. Books on medicine were written by Charak and on surgery by Sushruta. Who wrote a book on pathology?

Mudhava

The Manusmriti tells us about the role of man and woman in society, their code of conduct and relationship with each other. Both Manusmriti and Dharmasutras were law books, together they are known as Dharmoshstras

Panini analysed Sanskrit and we can found word formation in his grammar Ashtadhyayi. But in medieval period, Sanskrit literature rose in Kashmir. Somadeva’s Katha sarita sagar and Kalhan’s Rajatarangini gives a vivid account of which kings?

Kings of Kashmir

The most important Sanskrit work of the Hinayana school is the Mahavastu, and Lalitvistara is the most sacred Mahayana text which supplied literary material for the Buddhacharita of Ashvaghousaha. Jaidev wrote a finest poem in Sanskrit literature during the medieval period. What was that?

Geet Govinda

Pali is an Indo-Aryan language. It is mainly concerned with Theravada Buddhism. In Dravidian language Tamil being the oldest began writing earlier and produced the oldest literature in Tamil. What was that? [CDS-12013]

Sangam Literature

Sangam literature finally compiled by poets who were patronised by kings and chieftains over a period of three to four centuries by AD 600. Poets, birds and writers came from various parts of South India to form assemblies which were called Sangamas. What was the place they came to?

Madurai

The Vijayanagara period was the golden age of Telugu literature. Nachana Somanatha, court poet of Bukka-I produced a poetical work titled Uttaraharivamsam. Another work Amukta Malayada is regarded as an excellent prabandha in Telugu literature. Who wrote that?

King Krishnadevaraya

Tamil devotional poems are written by Nayanars and Alvars during the 6th to 12th century. Two classic writers during this period were Kambaramayanam and Periya Puranam. Tamil as a written language known from the beginning of which era?

Christian

Eight Tetugu literary luminaries, popularly known as Ashtadigajas adorned Krishnadevaraya’s court. Among them Alasani Peddana, the author of Manneharitam was the great. He was known as Andhra Kavitapitama

Dhurjati a shaiva, composed two poetical works known as Kalahasteeswara Mahatmayam and Kalahasteeswara satakam. Pingali Suranna composed two works Raghava Pandaviyam and Kalapumodayamu, Panduraga Mahatmayam, a poetical work of Telugu literature authored by whom?

Rama Krishna

Thiruvallurar’s work Kuril’s first part deals with the epics, second part with polity and government and third part deals with love. There is another text deals with the grammar and poetry in Tamil. What was that?

Tolkappiyam

Scientific Literature in Sanskrit

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Vijayanagara rulers and Jaina scholars contributed to the growth of Kannada literature. It developed fully after 10th century AD. The earliest known literary work in Kannada is Kavirajamarg written by the Rashtrakuta king, Nripatunga Amoghaparsha-I. Pampa wrote Adi Purana and Vikramarjiva Vijaya in
Like Bengali, Assamese also developed in response to the Bhakti movement. Shankaradeva who introduced Vaishnavism in Assam helped in the growth of Assamese poetry. After 1827, more interest was shown in producing Assamese literature. Two important names are Lakshmi Nath Bezbaruah and Padmanaba Gohain Baruah. What consisted the earliest Assamese literature?

Buranjis
Fakir Mohan SenapatI and Radha Nath Ray writings deserve considerable attention in the history of Odia literature. The works of Saraladas are regarded as the first works of Odia literature. Why the works of Upendra BhanaJa (1670-1720) were important?

They Ushered a New Period
Maratha grew out several local dialects. The Portuguese missionaries started using Marathi for preaching their gospel. The earliest Marathi poetry and prose is by saint Jnaneswar who lived in the 13th century. Two centuries later, Eknath wrote the commentaries on Ramayana and Bhagwat Purana, Then Tukarama supposed to be the greatest Bhakti poet. At last, Ramdas is the hymn writer who is the guru of which king?

Shivaji
Early Gujarati literature is available in the form of Bhakti songs of the 14th and 15th centuries. Narmad’s poetry gave a fillip to the Gujarati literature. Saraswati Chandra, a novel by Govardhan Ram has become a classic. KM Munshi, a novelist, essayist and a historian left a plethora of historical novels. But there is someone whose songs in praise of Krishna made Gujarati language popular. Who is he?

NarsiMehta
Urdu became more popular in the 18th century. The last Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar wrote poetry in Hindi. Ghalib, Zang and Iqbal are well known poets in Hindi. Iqbal’s Urdu poetry is available in his collection called Bang-i-Darra. Who authored the song ‘Sare Jahan se Achha Hindustan Hamara’?

Iqbal
Tribes in India (State-wise)
Nagaiand Ao, Lotha, Naga, Sema, Zeliang, Angami, Konyak, Chang, Phom
Manipur Kuki, Tankhul, Rongmei
Mizoram Mizo, Pawi, Chakma, Lakhre, Lushai, Mara
Arunachal Pradesh Apatani, Abor, Dafila, Momba, MiMi, Wancho, Minyong, Tangad, Mishmi, Necto, Padma, Khampti
Asom Kachari, Mikir, Rabha, Garo, Khasi, Jaintia, BhoI
Tripura Tripuri, Riang, Lushai
Meghalaya Garo, Khasi, Jaintia

INDIAN ART & CULTURE

the 10th century AD known as

Father of Kannada
Madhava wrote Dharmanathapurana on the 15th Trithankara in Kannada. Another Jain scholar, Uritta Vilasa wrote Dharma Parikshe. Sanskrit works of this period included Yadavabhuyudayam by Vedanta Desika. Who wrote Parasara Smriti Vyakhya?

Madhetvacharya
Andayya’s Madana Vijaya or Kabbigara Kava is a work in pure Kannada. Mallikarjuna wrote Suktisudharnava, the first anthology in Kannada. Kesiraja wrote another standard work on grammar. What was that?

Shabdamanidarpana
The language of Malayalam emerged around the 11th century AD. By 15th century, Malayalam was recognised as an independent language. Two great Malayali works are Bhasa Kautilya, a commentary on Arthashastra and Kokasandisan. Name two well known authors of Malayali literature?

Ram Panikkar and Ramanuj
Modern Malayalam literature rose in the 19th century with the famous triumvirate of Kumaran Asan, Villoor Parameswara Iyer and Vallathol Naryana Menon. The earliest known work in Malayalam is Ramacharitam, a poem written in early to late 13th century. Which Malayalam writer was the first recipient of Jnanpith Award and when?

G. Sankar Kurup in 1965
All the scripts of present North Indian languages, except that of Urdu, have had their origin in old Brahmi script of Ashoka days. Surdas and Bihari used the language Brij Bhasha, Tulsidas used Awadhi language in Ramcharitamanas. The language used by Vidyapati has been termed as

Maithili
William Carey wrote a grammar of Bengali and published an English-Bengali dictionary. However, it was Raja Rammohan Roy, who wrote in Bengali that gave impetus to Bengali literature. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, RC Dutta, etc all contributed to the making of Bengali literature, but Rabindranath Tagore influenced the whole India. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913 for his

Geetanjali
Mughal rulers were great patrons of Persian learning and literature. Akbar translated Tuzuk-i-Babur into Persian. He got Mahabharata translated into Persian. Jahangir’s autobiography is also in Persian. Who was an accomplished Persian poetess?

Noorjahan
**INDIAN ART & CULTURE**

**Chhattisgarh** Bhii, Maria, Banjara, Bhumia, Lambadi, Muria, Gond, Bhuiya, Abujhmariya, Kharia, Savara, Kheru, Asur, Agariya, Baiga

**Jharkhand** Asur, Munda, Bhuiyan, Ho, Kol, Birhor, Kharia, Korwar, Oraon

**Odisha** Santhal, Ho, Kol, Khond, Bondo Poroja, Juang, Saora

**West Bengal** Lodha, Koch, Bhumij, Mech, Santhal, Rajbangshi

**Andhra Pradesh** Chenchu

**Maharashtra** Koli, Warli

**Karnataka** Irula, Paniyan, Kurumba, Lambani

Tamil Nadu Toda, Badaga Kerala Kedar, Kota

**Gujarat** Banjara, Kolam, Bhil, Bhangi, Koli, Dhubla, Naikda, Macchi Kharwa

**Rajasthan** Bihil, Bishnoi, Meena, Garasia, Lohar, Damariya, Shariya, Gadulika

**Jammu and Kashmir** Pradi, Bakkarwal, Sippi, Gaddi

**Himachal Pradesh** Lahauli, Kinnauri, Gaddi, Pangwala

**Uttar Pradesh** Tharu, Buxa, Mana, Bhotiya, Jaunsari

Hindi is a descendant of the Sanskrit language through Prakrit and Apahramsha. It has been enriched by incorporation of words from language such as Persian, English, Arabic, etc. The literature, can be divided into four different styles i.e., Bhakti, Shringar, Veer Gatha and Adhunik. Evolution of Hindi literature can be better understand through four stages. What are they?

**Adi kaal, Bhakti kaal, Riti-kavya, Adhunik**

The principal languages of Lakshadweep are Malayalam, Jeseri and Mahl. The people of northern islands speak a dialect of Malayalam with Tamil and Arabic influences. The people of Minicoy speak Mahl and a variant of Divehi language spoken in the Maldives. When Malayalam with Malayalam script was introduced as the official language?

**During the British Raj** [SSC (10+2) 2002]

Kabir, being illiterate, expressed his poems orally in vernacular Hindi, borrowing from various dialects including Avadhi, Brij and Bhojpuri. His verses often began with some strongly worded insult to get the attention of passers by. Kabir’s legacy is today carried forward by the

**Kabir Panth**

He was an **Urdu poet** and **Hindi lyricist**, who work extensively in Hindi films. He was a Padma Shri and won two Filmfare awards. The President of India, Pranab Mukherjee, on March 8, 2013, released the commemorative postage stamp on him, on the occasion of his birth anniversary at Rashtrpati Bhavan in New Delhi. Who was he?

**Sahir Ludhianvi** [NDA/NA-II 2013]

Born with the name Dhanpat Rai, he switched to Premchand, sometimes Munsi Premchand. He has written over 250 short stories, several essays, a dozen novels and translations of several foreign books into Hindi language. His most notable works are Godan, Bazaar-e-Husn, Karmabhoomi and Shatranj ke Khiladi. His pen name is **Nawab Rai**

The Ain-i-Akbari is a 16th century detailed document recording the administration of emperor Akbar’s empire, written by Abul-Fazl ibn Mubarak. It makes the volume-III and the final part of the much larger document, the Akbarnama. He also did a Persian translation of

**Bible** [NDA/NA-12013]

All India Radio is the national public radio broadcaster of India and a division of Proasar Bharati. Its headquarters is at the Akashwanri Bhawan in New Delhi. Its started it operation with its original name, Indian Broadcasting company. It started in which year? [SSC section officer (Ardit) 2013] 1927

A string musical instrument native to Jammu and Kashmir with origins in Persia. Some notable players of this instrument are Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma, Bhajan sopori, Tarun Bhattacharya, R. Visweswaran, Rahul sharma etc., What is the name of this musical instrument?

**Santoor** (SSC Combined graduated level exam) 2004

Chikan is a traditional embroidery style. Indication Registry (GIR) accored the Geographical indication status for chikan kari in December 2005. It recognised which place as an exclusive hub of chikan kari? [SSC CPO SI 2005]

**Lucknow**

Agamas are original texts of Jainism based on Mahavira’s teachings. Mahavira’s preaching were orally compiled by his disciples into various Sutras (text) which were collectively called Jain canonical or Agamic literature. Traditionally, these Sutras were orally passed on from teachers to the disciples for several centuries. The scholars, date the composition of Jain Agamas at round the

**6th to 3rd century BC**

**Types of Marriage in Hindus**

According to the Scriptures, there are eight forms of Hindu marriage

**The Brahma** It comprises the gift or giving away of the daughter by the father to a man, who has learnt the veda.

**The Daiva** It involves the giving away of the daughter by the father to a priest, who duly officiates at a sacrifice, during the course of its performance.

**The Arsha** It consists of the daughter being given away by the father to a man after receiving a cow and a bull from the bridegroom, not with an intention of selling the child, but in accordance with the require-
ment of the dharma.

The Prajapatya In this form of marriage, the father gives away his daughter to bridegroom and addresses the couple to perform their dharma together.

The Asura It involves a payment by the bridegroom to the bride’s father for obtaining a wife.

The Gandharva Here, the bride and the bridegroom agree to marry at their own consent. Such a decision to marry is consequently consecrated by going through the sacred rites of marriage.

The Rakshasa This is described as a marriage, through force.

The Paishacha In this form, a man first seduces a woman (who may be intoxicated or mentally retarded) and subsequently marries her. Of these, the first four are considered as ideal forms.

Hamsa Damayanti is an oil painting on canvas of Raja Ravi Verma. In this painting, Damayanti is shown talking with Royal swan about Nolan. Raja Ravi Verma an Indian painter from the princely state of Travancore. His paintings are considered to be among the best example of the fusion of Indian traditions with the techniques of European academic art.

Chikan is a traditional embroidery style from Lucknow, India, believed to have been introduced by Nurjahan. There are references to Indian Chikan work as early as 3rd century B.C. by Megasthenes who mentioned the use of flowered muslin by Indians. What does it mean literally?

Chikan means embroidery

Madhubani painting or mithila painting is a style of Indian painting, practiced in the mithila region of Bihar and the adjoining parts of Terai in Nepal. It is done with gingers, twigs, nib-pens and needles, using natural dyes and pianists, and is characterized by Geometrical patterns.

Clip art, in the graphic arts, refers to pre-made images used to illustrate any medium. Today clip art is used extensively in both personal and commercial projects, ranging from home-printed greeting cards to commercial candles. Clip art comes in many forms, both electronic and printed. Which type of clip art is today used mostly?

Electronic