Indian Paintings

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# Mural Paintings

 Paintings on the walls of a solid structure are called Mural paintings. Had its genesis in Gupta period

\*Fresco paintings -painted on wet plaster

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| Ajanta cave paintings | Maharashtra | Buddhism | * + - Mauryas and Guptas
		- **Padmapani** (holding lotus) and **Vajrapani** (holding vajra -ritual object) paintings
		- Parinirvana of Buddha depicted in Cave 17
 |
| Ellora cave paintings | Maharashtra | Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism | * + - **Cave  number  10**  is  a  Chaitya  hall  also  known  as  **Chandrashala** / **Vishwakarma** / **carpenter's** cave.
		- At heart of this cave is a 15 ft statue of Buddha seated in a **preaching pos**e.
 |
| Bagh cave paintings | MP | Secular |   |
| Armamalai cave paintings | TN | Jainism |   |
| Sittanavasal cave paintings | TN | Jainism | Pallavas and Pandyas |
| Ravan Chhaya Rock Shelter | Odisha |   |   |
| Lepakshi paintings | Karnataka | Secular | Vijayanagar period |

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# Miniature Paintings

Latin word Minium which means **red lead paint**. Also Miniatures are small (less than 25 square inches) and **detailed paintings** when compared to mural paintings

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pala School of art |   | 8-12 century | Buddhism | Palm leaf or vellum paper |
| Apabhramsa school of art | Gujarat and Rajasthan | 11-15 century | Jain and later Vaishnavism | Palm and later paper |
| Persian style of painting |   | 15th century |   |   |
| Mughal school of painting |   | 16th century | Since Akbar |   |
| Rajasthani School |   |   |   |   |
| Mewar school |   |   |   |   |
| Kishangarh school | Rajasthan; By Nihal Chand;  |   | Sawant singh and his beloved Bani Thani |   |
| Bundi School of Painting | Rajasthan |   |   |   |
| Amber-Jaipur school |   |   |   |   |
| Marwar school |   |   |   |   |
| Bikaner school |   |   |   |   |
| Pahari style | HP, Parts of Jammu, Punjab, UP |   |   | Jammu or Dogra schoolKangra schoolBasholi school |
| **Tanjore paintings** | TN; Maratha rulers | 18th century | * + - Peak under Sarfoji Maharaj
 | * + - Decorative paintings
		- Glass and board
		- Gold leaf, gemstones
 |
| **Mysore paintings** |   |   |   | * + - One figure predominates other
		- Gesso paste (zinc oxide & Arabic Gum)
 |
| Bengal School of art |   | 20th century | * + - Famous Abanindranath Tagore
 |   |
| Cubist style |   |   | MF Hussian | * + - Objects broken, analysed and then reassembled
 |

### Ragamala paintings

* + Illustrative paintings from **Medieval India** based on Ragamala or the Garland of Ragaas depicting various **Indian musical ragas**
	+ Example of amalgamation of art, poetry, classical music in **medieval India**
	+ Each raga is personified by a colour

# Folk Paintings

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| Madhubani Folk art painting/Mithila painting  | Bihar | Wall, paper, canvas* + - Eye-catching geometrical patterns
 |   |
| Manjusha painting | Bihar |  Boxes of jute and paper | Angika art/snake painting |
| Pattachitra | Odisha | Cloth painting | Jaganath, Vaishnava, Shakti, Shaiva cult |
| Patua art | Bengal | Scroll painting |   |
| **Kalighat painting** | Calcutta | done on cloth around the temple of Kalighat |   |
| Patikar painting | Jharkhand |   |   |
| Kalamkari painting | AP | Pen made of sharp pointed bamboo | Hindu mythology |
| Warli paintings | Gujarat-MH |   | Palaghata- Goddess of fertility |
| Thangka paintings | Sikkim | painting on silk/cotton depicting the image of deity/scene/mandala | Tibetan Buddhism |
| Phad Paintings | Rajasthan |   |   |
| Cheriyal Paintings | Telangana |   |   |
| Pichwai Paintings | Rajasthan |   |   |

## Current Affairs

### Kulhadar paintings

* + Group of **miniature paintings** of 16th century
	+ The style of these miniatures is marked by the use of brilliant contrasting colours, vigorous and angular drawing, transparent drapery and the appearance of **conical caps 'Kulha' on which turbans are worn by the male figures**.
	+ Completely native to India. No influence of Persian or Mughal style of painting

### Madhubani Folk art painting

* + Also called Mithila Painting
	+ Traditional art form of painting in Bihar
	+ Eye-catching geometrical patterns
	+ In some cases, mothers usually make them and gift them to daughters in wedding
	+ the technique of painting is safely and zealously guarded by the women of the village to be passed on by the mother to the daughter
	+ Conceptual and includes both mythological and social concepts
	+ Nowadays Madhubani art is being used as decorative gift items, greeting cards and has become a source of income for local women folk

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### Bundi School of Painting

* + **In princely state of Bundi**
	+ **Rajasthani** style of Indian **miniature** painting
	+ characterized by a fondness for l**ush green vegetation**, **dramatic night skie**s and a distinctive way of depicting water with light swirls
	+ main subjects of these paintings are **Krishna Leela, Rama Leela, Baramasa, hunting scenes, scenes of court, festivals, elephant, horses, battle scenes, horse race, flowers, trees etc**

### Alpana Folk tradition

* + **West Bengal**
	+ Making images on the floors and walls of the house
	+ The painting was **done with hands (fingers are the brush) and the paint is mainly a paste comprising of rice flour**
	+ motifs drawn are ritualistic images from mythology and scriptures
	+ drawn by **women** of the house before the sunset
	+ considered **to ward off evil spirits** and was specifically drawn on special occasions such as festivals or weddings

