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UPDATED
ANSWER WRITING
WORKBOOK
Art & Culture

GS PAPER 1

Complete Art and Culture
Revision through **40+ Questions**

- ✓ Preparation Approach
- ✓ Micro Detailing of UPSC syllabus
- ✓ 5 Practice sets and model hints
- ✓ Previous year questions and solutions

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PREFACE

While current affairs changes every year there are some parts in syllabus which do not change and a candidate requires conceptual understanding and a good grip over these topics. The purpose of this workbook is to serve as one stop destination for students. It will help in building a base of knowledge and conceptual clarity

GS answer writing workbook aims to function as a standalone product that will promote self-learning habits in students and help in maximum syllabus coverage of the static portion.

Features of Workbook

The workbook has following features that aim to resolve various issues faced by students in an efficient and holistic manner.

Feature	Issue resolved
Static Topics from syllabus	Conceptual clarity
Topic wise sets	Syllabus coverage
Question & Answer format	Answer writing practice & Time management
Approach before each answer	Structuring of answers
Previous Year questions	Analysis
Blank Page at the end of each set	Self-note making

● How to optimally make use of workbook

In order to gain maximum out of it, a student must first attempt each of the set by himself and then compare his answers with model hint given. This exercise will help them to gain confidence in answer writing, in enrichment of their answers and in better management of time.

The approach given at the beginning of each answer is also aimed to give him an idea about how to approach an answer. Before going into the answer, he must first build his own answer around the approach and then compare with the given answer.

Any extra point to be remembered, revised or any other extra additions can be made at the Blank Page given at the end of each set.

● About GS score Art and Culture workbook

It consists of total 5 sets that are designed according to broad topic division under UPSC art & culture syllabus. Focus is given on maximum topic coverage along with framing thematic questions along the lines that are asked in UPSC mains examination. It is intended to serve as a reliable source of information about facts, ideas related to Indian art and culture and linking of these ideas that are extremely important from the point of view of UPSC mains and prelims examination. It is essential that you must optimally utilize it as per steps given above, to extract maximum out of it.

APPROACH TO PREPARE INDIAN ART & CULTURE FOR UPSC

Indian society is a multicultural society, its diversity and vastness is a subject of great interest and study. Art and culture under UPSC examination demands awareness of various facts about Indian culture and also develops an overall understanding about the richness and uniqueness of Indian art and culture. It is important to understand the evolution of art and culture in India through different stages of Indian history, to assess the impact of different foreigners and tribes that came to India and made it its homeland and the role of various kings who made an immense contribution towards development of syncretic cultural traditions of India.

GS paper 1 under UPSC civil services examination gives good amount of importance to Indian art and culture, so it is a section that aspirants cannot afford to miss out. A little bit of focus and planning can make a huge amount of difference in their overall marks in GS paper 1.

Preparation of Indian Art and Culture under UPSC civil services is based on 3 pillars

- ▶ Study of past year papers
- ▶ Books and resources
- ▶ Strategizing

● Study of Past year papers

Looking at past year papers we can observe that questions demand candidates to appreciate the diversity of Indian culture and also develop a clear understanding of different phases of visual, performing and literary arts in India. Religion has come to play an important role in development of Indian architecture, sculptures, and paintings etc. Study of these aspects is also essential to be able to answer in a holistic manner.

Areas from where questions have been asked include

- ▶ Rock cut architecture
- ▶ Role of Indian philosophy and traditions
- ▶ Gandhara art
- ▶ Travellers who visited India
- ▶ Bhakti movement

Thus as we can see above that what is required is point to point coverage of syllabus. Areas that have been asked require a broad overview, thus a candidate must keep in mind the syllabus at all times during preparation. For this purpose we are providing a detailed syllabus in form of micro detailing of UPSC syllabus. It would help in ensuring that an important aspect of syllabus is not left out.

● Books and Resources:

Like other subjects under UPSC mains examination, art and culture is also a very dynamic subject. Reading of NCERTs is essential to know about the various facets of Indian art and culture. The following NCERT books must be referred to strengthen the basics. Remember that to understand art and culture of a particular period it is important to know the

- ▶ Selected chapters of Class 11th NCERT Ancient India by RS Sharma: Chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27
- ▶ Selected chapters of class 11th NCERT Medieval India by Satish Chandra: Chapter 3, 4, 9, 11, 14, 17.
- ▶ NCERT class 11th: Introduction to fine arts

● **Advance Books and Resources:**

- ▶ Ignou material
- ▶ Online Study Materials and PDFs provided by GS Score
- ▶ Relevant yojana
- ▶ Newspapers like The Hindu and The Indian Express for current updates and any analytical writings on different aspects of Indian art and culture.

● **Strategy to Cover Indian Art and culture**

Indian art and culture is a vast topic in itself. Looking at the prevalent diversity in India, it can seem to be a never ending one, as there is always more to know and learn about it. However keeping the requirements of UPSC examination in mind, it is important to devise a strategy that will serve the purpose of securing good marks in UPSC mains.

After going through past year papers and relevant chapters of NCERTs and other standard material, it is important to engage in regular revision and consistent answer writing. It will help you to write to the point and broad answers. Under art and culture there are lot of names and places to be remembered. Adding to that vocabulary is also equally important to convey your point across.

This workbook will immensely help you in these aspects. It will help in building your approach towards answers. Important places, chronology, ideas, concepts, their interlinking have been covered which will help you in comprehensive coverage and revision.

SYLLABUS

MICRO DETAILING

SUB TOPIC LISTING (Art & Culture)

UPSC Syllabus

- Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.

Salient Features of Indian Art & Culture

1. Culture & Heritage of India

- Aims and objectives of performing arts and their development through various stages.
- Utility of performing arts during the ancient and the medieval period.
- Appreciate the contribution of classical dances, folk music as well as folk dances in Indian culture and Challenges faced by performing Arts
- Development of drama through various phases in India and recognize the contribution of folk theatre
- Examine the importance of the three art forms in the development of human personality.
- Religious and secular Art in India

Visual Arts

2. Architecture In India

- Architectural Style of Harappan Civilisation
- Influence of Buddhism and Jainism on Indian architecture
- Stupas, Chaityas and Viharas
- Impact of Persian and Greek invasion on Indian culture
- Mauryan Architecture (322-182 BC)

- Post Mauryan Architecture
- Gandhara and Mathura school of Art
- Cultural development during Gupta Age
- Temple Architecture and Sculptures
 - Nagara and Dravida Styles
 - Early Temples
 - Rock Cut temples
 - Monolithic Temples
 - Free Standing Temples
 - Pallavas as great temple builders
 - Emergence of Nalanda as centre of learning
- Medieval Period architecture
 - Delhi Sultanate
 - Regional Kingdoms (Mandu, Jaunpur etc)
 - Vijaynagara Architecture
 - Mughal Architecture
 - Evolution of temple construction in India
 - Indo Islamic Architecture
- Colonial Architecture
- Utility of Architectural structures today and in Past
- Conservation and Preservation of Architectural Structures
- Spread of Indian Culture to Southeast Asia

3. Bronze Sculptures In India

- Harappan "Dancing Girl"

- Jain Tirthankaras Bronze Images
- Buddha bronze Images (ex Guptas and Vakatakas)
- Pala school of Art (Bronze images, Manuscripts)
- Pallava Bronze Images
- Chola Bronzes
- Nataraja

4. Paintings In India

- Prehistoric Rock Paintings
- Ancient Period
 - Murals Paintings
 - Bagh Caves
 - Sittanavasal Paintings
 - Armamalai caves
- Medieval Period
 - Pala school of miniature paintings
 - Mughal miniature paintings (synthesis of Indian and Persian style)
 - Role of Akbar and his successors
 - Development of Pahari, Rajput and Deccan Paintings
 - Theme of paintings in Medieval period
- Modern Period
 - Bengal school of Art
 - Renaissance or revivalist painting
 - Madras School of Art
- Decorative Art
 - Madhubani
 - Kalamkari
 - Kalighat
 - Warli
 - Pattachitra
 - Theme of decorative paintings in India
- Theatre Forms of India
 - Significance of Traditional folk theatre in India

- Different forms of traditional folk theatre in India
- Sanskrit theatre in India
- Challenges faced by theatre in India
- Puppet forms in India
 - Themes of puppetry in India
 - Forms of Puppetry

Performing Arts

5. Music

- Evolution of Indian Music
- Contribution of Some personalities : Amir Khusro, Mohammad Shah
- Hindustani Music evolution, features and impact
- Carnatic Music evolution, features and impact
- Hindustani and Carnatic music differences and similarities
- Regional music and its impact
- Modern Music

6. Dance

- Tracing Evolution of Dance (Rig Veda, Harappa, Nataraja)
- Classical Dances of India, their evolution and Theme
- Well known Classical dancers of India.
- Themes in Indian folk dances

7. Drama

- Introduction (Natyashastra)
- Evolution of Drama in India
- Various texts relating to Drama period wise (ex Mahabhasya, Mrichhakatika)
- Famous Modern Dramas and Dramatists.

**Religion, Philosophy and
Literary Arts****8. Languages & Literature**

- Vedic Literature
- Tamil language and Sangam Literature
- Classical languages : Evolution & impact on society

- Trends in Medieval Literature
- Modern Indian Literature
- Religious Philosophies
 - Buddhism and its impact
 - Jainism and its impact
 - Sufism and its impact
 - Vedanta Philosophy
 - Bhakti Traditions

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

SET: 1 - 5

SET-1: QUESTIONS

SALIENT FEATURES OF INDIAN ART & CULTURE

- Q1. Indian society's strength lies in its ancient roots, capacity of its culture to assimilate and carry out reforms needed with changing times.
- Q2. Religion has such a deep imprint on Indian art, that often entire Indian art is dismissed as religious only; however, there is no dearth of secular art. Elaborate.
- Q3. India, with several millennia of history, boasts of a rich and diverse cultural heritage, which can be utilized for economic gains while meeting development objectives in a more sustainable manner. Elaborate.
- Q4. Culture is a tool to transport technology, but technology also transports cultural images. Elaborate the statement in the context of modern world.
- Q5. Western culture has enlightened us in several ways but it has also destroyed the hold of early Hindu culture. Analyse the statement highlighting the distinctive features of traditional India
- Q6. Devotion and art forms have maintained a beautiful synthesis in India. Elucidate.
- Q7. Indian festivals showcase the shared cultural history and diversity of the Indian sub-continent on the one hand, and are the lamppost of unity in diversity on the other. Elucidate
- Q8. To what extent did trade play a role in disseminating Indian culture abroad in ancient times? Illustrate.
- Q9. India's ancient inscriptions and temples do not just have religious and cultural value; lessons can be drawn from these to solve the crisis like water stress and drought. Discuss
- Q10. Although Indian folk music and dance form present themselves in a wide variety of forms, they share common themes and concerns. Elucidate

SET-1: ANSWERS

1. **Indian society's strength lies in its ancient roots, capacity of its culture to assimilate and carry out reforms needed with changing times.**

(250 words)

Approach

1. **Introduce Indian civilization with its ancient roots** (50 words)
2. **Explain how it evokes confidence & pride** (75 words)
3. **Explain assimilation power of Indian culture** (75 words)
4. **Explain reforms taken** (50 words)

Hints

Indian civilization is very ancient and it has evolved by learning and growing through cooperation and conflict over the years. It dates back to prehistoric ages and grown through the Indus Valley Civilisation, Maurayan and Gupta era, Moghul period and imperial rule to name a few examples from a long and chequered history. India survived external aggressions and internal conflicts because its culture had two great traits- assimilation and capacity to reform. Interaction, learning and growing

Evoking Confidence and Pride

- The past evokes pride and confidence which is very important for a developing country. The Gupta period is called the Golden Age of India and was marked by extensive inventions and discoveries in science, technology, engineering, art, dialectic, literature, logic, mathematics, astronomy, religion and philosophy that crystallized the elements of what is generally known as Hindu culture.
- The mark of the period is still clearly observed in many of the day-to-day activities and culture. Scholars of this period include Varahamihira and Aryabhata, who is believed to be the first to come up with the concept of zero, postulated the theory that the Earth moves round the Sun, and studied solar and lunar eclipses. Kalidasa, who was a great playwright, who wrote, plays such as Shakuntala, which is said to have inspired Goethe, and marked the highest point of Sanskrit literature is also said to have belonged to this period.
- The famous Sushruta Samhita, which is a Sanskrit redaction text on all of the major concepts of ayurvedic medicine with innovative chapters on surgery, dates to the Gupta period. The ancient Gupta text Kama Sutra is widely considered to be the standard work on human sexual behavior in Sanskrit literature written by the Indian scholar Vatsyayana. Aryabhata, a noted mathematician-astronomer of the Gupta period proposed that the earth is not flat, but is instead round and rotates about its own axis. The developments in Gupta era convince the Indian citizens, particularly youth that India was a great culture and even today it can do great things as it did in the past.

Assimilation

- The Gandhara period was a great period of assimilation. The Kingdom of Gandhara lasted from the Vedic period (c. 1500-500 BC). As a centre of Hindu culture, Greco-Buddhist culture, Jewish & Parsi culture it attained its height from the 1st century to the 5th century under the Kushan Kings.
- Gandhara is noted for the distinctive Gandhara style of Buddhist art, which developed out of a merger of Greek, Syrian, Persian, and Indian artistic influence. In the early 16th century, northern India, being then under mainly Muslim rulers, fell to the superior mobility and firepower of the Mughals.
- The resulting Mughal Empire did not stamp out the local societies it came to rule, but rather balanced and pacified them through new administrative practices and diverse and inclusive ruling elites, leading to more systematic, centralized, and uniform rule. Eschewing tribal bonds and Islamic identity, especially under Akbar, the Mughals united their far-flung realms through loyalty, expressed through a Persianised culture.
- The “classic period” of the empire started in 1556 with the ascension of Akbar the Great to the throne. Under the rule of Akbar and his son Jahangir, India enjoyed economic progress as well as religious harmony, and the monarchs were interested in local religious and cultural traditions. Mughal influence can be seen in cultural contributions such as:
 - Centralised, imperialistic government which brought together many smaller kingdoms.
 - Persian art and culture amalgamated with Indian art and culture.
 - New trade routes to Arab and Turkic lands.
 - The development of Mughlai cuisine.
 - Mughal Architecture found its way into local Indian architecture, most conspicuously in the palaces built by Rajputs and Sikh rulers.
 - Landscape gardening

Reforms

- Under Mauryan ruler Chandragupta and his successors, not only internal and external trade, agriculture and economic activities thrived and expanded across India but the era saw marked improvement in social harmony, religious transformation, and expansion of the sciences and of knowledge after the Kalinga War of Ashoka. The period also saw reactions to ritualistic Brahmanical religious system giving birth to alternative religious systems like Buddhism and Jainism.
- The Mauryas contributed a lot in administration. The slave dynasty did many market reforms, especially Alauddin Khalji. Then Moghuls brought Mansabdari System which developed ‘nobility’ (mansabdars) to look after administration, but took steps to ensure that there was always an element of insecurity and dependence on the king or centre of power- can be dubbed as beginning of federal administration. The Afghan ruler Sher shah Suri is also known for administrative reforms. These reforms have an imprint on India administration even today.
- In the social arena there were reform movements called Bhakti Movement collectively. The Bhakti movement was a Hindu religious movement of the medieval period that promoted the belief that salvation was attainable by everyone. The movement is closely related to Islamic Sufism, which appeared around the same time: both advocated that a personal expression of devotion to God is the way to become at one with him. The
- Bhakti movement emphasised an individualistic relationship with a personal deity rather than the more rule-bound strictures of traditional Vedic Hinduism. Customarily discussed as a unified whole, the movement’s message was expressed in diverse ways. At the core was the idea that salvation was attainable by all who believed, thus challenging the Vedic system that claimed it was limited to male members of the Brahmin, Kshatriya and Vaishya caste groups. Women and members of the Shudra and untouchable communities were included rather than excluded.

Conclusion:

India's unity in diversity is because of its past heritage and the manner in which it has evolved. We can conclude that modern principles of liberty, equality and fraternity originated at least in this part of the world due to these movements. India remains infallible and united because of its ancient roots; there is no doubt in this.

2. **Religion has such a deep imprint on Indian art, that often entire Indian art is dismissed as religious only; however, there is no dearth of secular art. Elaborate.**

(250 words)

Approach

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Introduce religious and secular art of India | <i>(50 words)</i> |
| 2. Elaborate influence of religion on Indian art | <i>(75 words)</i> |
| 3. Elaborate on how secular art is equally prevalent in India | <i>(75 words)</i> |
| 4. Conclusion | <i>(50 words)</i> |

Hints

India is the birthplace of major religions of the world like Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism; these have inspired most of her art. Its artistic traditions are ancient and deeply rooted in religion.

While at the same time art with secular themes giving vivid description of life and society of that period also formed an important part of Indian heritage.

Influence of religion on art:

- The primary purpose of paintings with religious influences was to convey the message and preaching's of that particular religion.

Buddhism

- Huge rock cut sculptures and tomb paintings dedicated to the teachings of Gautama Buddha clearly depict the influence he had on the country.
- Queen Maya's dream, preceding the birth of the Buddha, is also a major theme on the railing of the Bharhut stupa. Satvahana kings were Hindus but patronized Buddhism as well & built Buddhist rock cut caves in Western India, particularly the Pune-Nasik-Mumbai region.
- Buddhist art came to prominence during the Mauryan period with Viharas Chaityas being constructed. The caves at Ajanta, Karle, Bhaja and elsewhere contain early sculpture, often outnumbered by later works such as iconic figures of the Buddha and Bodhisattvas.
- Images of both Standing Buddha and sitting Buddha flanked by Bodhisattvas are a major feature of Kanhericaves in Maharashtra.

Hinduism

- The depiction of Hindu gods and goddesses is quite evident in various Indian art forms. In fact, Tanjore and Mysore paintings are famous worldwide for their beautiful depiction of episodes from Hindu epics.

- The Indian artists visualized the qualities of various gods and goddesses as mentioned in scriptures and infused these qualities into their idealised figures of man and woman. Kandariya Mahadev Temple in Khujraho temple is embellished with ornate carvings and sculptures and is dedicated to Hindu Lord Shiva,
- Art of painting in Central India, Rajasthan and the Pahari region etc. is deeply rooted in the Indian traditions, taking inspiration from Indian epics, religious texts like the Puranas, love poems in Sanskrit and other Indian languages, Indian folk-lore and works on musical themes.
- The cults of Vaishnavism, Saivism and Sakti exercised tremendous influence on the pictorial art temples in India. Kailashnath temple here the deities belong to both the Shaivite as well as Vaishnav faith. The grand sculpture of Ravana attempting to lift Mount Kailasa, the abode of Lord Shiva is a landmark in Indian art.
- The Shore temple at Malappuram constructed by the Pallavas symbolizes early Dravidian architecture, with its monolithic rock relief and sculptures of Hindu deities. They were succeeded by Chola rulers who were prolific in their pursuit of arts
- Badami caves temples of Karnataka; Dashavatara temple in Deogarh is famous for Vishnu reclining on the serpent Shesha (Ananta) on a side panel.

Jainism

- Armamalai Caves and Sittanvasal Caves in Tamil Nadu portrays theme from Jain religion.
- The Gupta period saw the emergence of the iconic carved stone deity in Hindu art, as well as the Buddha-figure and Jain Tirthankara figures, these last often on a very large scale.
- The five Jain caves at Ellora belong to the Digambara sect. These caves show dimensions of Jain philosophy and tradition and reflect a strict sense of ascetism.

Secular art:

- On its way to modern times, Indian art has had cultural influences (Indus valley and Hellenistic) as well as religious influences such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Islam.
- The rock cut architecture and art in India mainly focused on natural elements. The paintings in these sites like Barabar caves, Bhimbetka commonly depicted scenes of human life alongside animals, and hunts with stone implements.
- During Indus valley civilization there were animal depictions, religious depictions like Pashupati.
- Mughal paintings were uniquely secular in nature. It evolved from the synthesis of Indian and Persian arts. Paintings from Akbarnama Tuzinama, Hamzanama depicted life at court, hunting scenes etc.
- Apart from Persian books of fables, themes from Mahabharata were also selected. Indian scenes and landscapes came into vogue. Emperors like Jahangir portraits of birds, animals and flowers were portrayed in a realistic manner.
- With Delhi Sultanate and coming Mughal rule Islamic architecture and art came into light. It introduced use of delicate carvings, true arches, domes. Presentation of human figures, sculptures and imagery were prohibited in Islam structures.
- The walls of a mosque are decorated in geometrical patterns in different coloured marbles, plaster, stucco, paints and glazed tiles. Art and architecture was no longer confined to temples but many other structures were built like forts, palaces, gardens, and town gates Ex Buland Darwaza, Qutub Minar, Alai Darwaza, Golgumbaz in Bijapur etc.
- Other secular structures included step-wells or vavs. These wells were common in the towns of western India.

- The practice of construction of step-wells was there even earlier to Islam's ruling. Muslim rulers also continued the tradition. They were meant to meet water needs public. Eg Dada Hari Vav in Ahmadabad built during 1501.
- During the British raj, the fusion of Indian traditions with European style was evident from Raja Ravi Varma's oil paintings.
- Other artists, such as Rabindranath Tagore and Gaganendranath Tagore as well as new artists of the early 20th century such as Amrita Shergill were responsible for introducing Avant Gardewestern styles into Indian Art.
- Many other artists like Jamini Roy and later S.H.Raza took inspiration from folk traditions.

Conclusion:

Thus Indian culture is a storehouse of both religious and secular art. But what remains important is that during her long history India experienced many foreign races and cultures who exercised some influence on Indian art forms,

3. **India, with several millennia of history, boasts of a rich and diverse cultural heritage, which can be utilized for economic gains while meeting development objectives in a more sustainable manner. Elaborate.**

(250 words)

Approach

1. **Brief Intro on India's cultural heritage** *(25 words)*
2. **Various dimension of cultural heritage** *(100 words)*
3. **How cultural heritage can contribute in economic and development objective** *(100 words)*
4. **Conclusion** *(25 words)*

Hints

India's diverse and rich cultural heritage which includes both tangible (such as buildings, monuments, landscapes, books, works of art, and artifacts) and intangible (such as folklore, dance, music, traditions, language, and knowledge) can be leveraged for economic gain through tourism dollars as well as opportunities for craftsmen and local communities.

Various dimension of cultural Heritage for economic gain and development:

- Promoting various types of tourism: Religious tourism Buddhist Circuits, Sufism, Melas like Kumbha Melas.
- Spiritual Tourism through centers like Art of Living and Isha Foundation and Other meditation and spiritual centers
- Health Tourism: Appealing to rich Indian tradition of Yoga and AYUSH.
- Exploration of Indian architecture like wide variety of temple across India, Mughal architecture (Ex. Taj Mahal, Fatehpur Sikri), Caves (ex, Ajanta Ellora), other structures like Ashokan Pillar,

Gothic Architecture, Lutyens architecture.

- Educational: Nalanda university as well book fests like Jaipur Lit Festivals which showcase rich legacy of literature in India.
- Indian Music: Both Hindustani and Sangam which has rich Indian cultural heritage.
- Cuisine: The diverse and delicious Indian cuisine that reeks of rich heritage in India

How they can contribute:

- Heritage buildings everywhere utilize local materials; the skills to work upon these are in the local communities. Obviously, any conservation effort then has to source locally—creating employment and economic opportunities. “Make in India” objectives will thus be met by any well planned and implemented conservation effort while simultaneously creating an economic asset that continues to pay rich dividends for years to come.
- Besides being used as hotels or museums or libraries, heritage buildings could also easily be adapted to serve as schools or clinics—lending economic value to local communities.
- The cultural heritage like lifestyle, folkdances of Gujrat, Rajasthan attracts tourist and giving them real time experience through schemes like Bed and Breakfast will yield further gains
- Bilateral cultural exchanges like India celebrates Nile river festival and Egypt celebrates ganga river festival, also the same is being done among Indian states like between Andhra Pradesh and Haryana which can promote exhibitions, fairs, exposure etc.
- Promotion and Advertisement in a more persuasive manner, refining Tourism courses like Indian Institute of Tourism & Travel Management providing high quality tourist facilities like hotels, rest rooms at different cultural heritage sites will help in spreading the word of best Indian services by tourist to attract furthermore tourist.
- Natural heritage: India have the 10 Natural UNESCO heritage sites that include the Rhino Site of the Kaziranga and Tiger reserves of the Sundarbans. There are many other such natural sites like Living root bridges of the Meghalaya and Backwaters of the Kerala which have potential to attract millions of tourists.
- Promoting songs through digital media: availability of traditional and classic songs at digital platform make them in reach of everyone.
- Online cultural extravagant of Indian paintings and embroidery with real life and 3D experience can boost online tourism
- Leveraging on Indian strengths like Ayurveda, Yoga providing these facilities in special packages will not only rejuvenate and spread them across world but also benefit India with revenues and Forex.

Conclusion:

However, several structures considered to be of national/state importance in India and protected as such remain under threat from urban pressures, neglect, vandalism and, worse, demolition, only for the value of the land they stand upon mainly due to the inability of those entrusted with their care and management. To unlock the economic potential of these sites and demonstrate that conservation efforts can lead to meeting development objectives in a more sustainable manner need to be undertaken.

4. **Culture is a tool to transport technology, but technology also transports cultural images. Elaborate the statement in the context of modern world.**
(250 words)

Approach

1. **Introduce culture in wider context.** (25 words)
2. **Elaborate on relation between technology and culture** (25 words)
3. **Culture's influence on technology** (100 words)
4. **Technology's impact on culture** (100 words)

Hints

Culture arises from observation of what human beings do and what they refrain from doing as a consequence of being brought up in one group as opposed to another. In the broader sense, culture represents a way of life.

As new technology is introduced into a society, the culture reacts in a positive or negative way and is thus changed forever. Consequently, as cultures change, so does the technology they develop.

Culture is a tool to transport technology:

- The culture of a society determines the nature, form and content of technological development and the evolving technological culture. Technology is thus a cultural enterprise which exists in varying degrees in all societies.
- A technology capable of a cultural shift can only have come from the culture itself. Without the culture's choice to refine the technology, the practical applications would have been left as only fleeting ideas; technology will only be developed if the culture has some immediate and apparent use for it.
- **Technology developed in response to local needs for acceptance:**
- Uber had to be adjusted when it arrived at India:
- Some technologies like cloning, genome mapping is still not entirely acceptable to the people as they impact their core values.

Technology also transports cultural images:

- Technologies are adapted, tailored to the cultures of each group of people, **meaning that the culture is intact, unchanged by the new development** because the technology was made to fit in.
- The introduction of a new technology often creates new social situation, which in turn, creates new needs and values. Thus, stimulating further technological development.
- The technology that powered the industrial revolution created the industrial society.
- The mass production of automobiles created a culture of commuters, vacationers, and the suburbs.
- A television set brings programmes of cultures like music, dance to the people.
- Satellite technology and computers transport the western world of film and fashion to Asian homes.

Conclusion:

Thus, the relationship between technology and culture is cyclical. Logically, a culture will develop technologies based on the needs or desires of the people, because this is where the creative influences lie. As technology spreads and is absorbed into the people's lives, it affects their culture and way of life. This change in lifestyle also occurs when a technology developed outside a culture is introduced into the culture, providing an external influence.

5. Western culture has enlightened us in several ways but it has also destroyed the hold of early Hindu culture. Analyse the statement highlighting the distinctive features of traditional India

(250 words)

Approach

1. Brief introduction (25 words)
2. Distinctive features of traditional India (50 words)
3. Elaborate how western culture has influenced Indian culture (75 words)
4. Traditional culture also influenced western culture in many ways (75 words)
5. Conclusion (25 words)

Hints

Despite 500 years of occupation and some conversions, Islamist rulers could not influence the Hindu culture any significantly. In the 200 years of British rule, it transformed the early Hindu culture considerably.

Characteristics of traditional culture:

- Political and social features:
 - ▶ Inherently democratic
 - ▶ Decentralized power town, village and clan based
 - ▶ Public goals (good of group over individual)
 - ▶ No preponderance of bureaucracy
 - ▶ Community cohesion where consensus, family and pluralism were important.
- Lifestyle:
 - ▶ Spiritual focus and informal social control.
 - ▶ Subsistence strategy related to ecology, population size and structure and settlement pattern
 - ▶ Limited but nutritious diet.
 - ▶ Production is for use or subsistence, division of labour is generally based on age and sex.
 - ▶ Units of production are family, clan, village, age-group. Unit of distribution and consumption too is socially-based.
 - ▶ Consumption is to satisfy basic needs.

Western culture impact on Traditional culture:

◉ Negatives:

- ▶ In the 200 years of British rule there were significant conversions to Christianity, particularly in the tribal areas and the urban centers.
- ▶ Moreover, there was a much deeper conversion to the European culture. It was mainly done through capture and control of education.
- ◉ Modern education had less to do with disseminating scientific, rational thinking and more to do with an acquiescence of West's superiority.
 - ▶ Traditional land structure and agriculture of India was destroyed due to western influences.
 - ▶ The British influence has changed the way Indians look at themselves and has stripped Indians of a confidence that comes naturally to a people belonging to an ancient and great civilization.

◉ Positives:

- ▶ India was able to get inspired by modern political ideals like equality before law due to western influences.
- ▶ With British, new ideas such as liberty, equality, freedom and human rights from the Renaissance, the Reformation Movement and the various revolutions that took place in Europe came to India
- ▶ Food, clothing and basic amenities have been influenced and India got access to latest technologies as well
- ▶ In the 19th century, certain social practices like female infanticide, child marriage, sati, polygamy and a rigid caste system became more prevalent. British contributed in curbing these.
- ▶ Spread of English language and western education helped Indians to adopt modern, rational, democratic, liberal and patriotic outlook.
- ▶ The early British administrators in India like Warren Hastings, William Jones, Jonathan Duncan and others glorified India's ancient past.
- ▶ For the first time great ancient Sanskrit writers like Kalidasa became known to the world through translation of their monumental work into English.

Traditional culture impact on modern western culture

- ◉ In fact, some of the traditional features have already been adopted under modern garb and the value of many others is being recognized.
- ◉ For instance, political features are being emulated now like in a federal structure and the panchayat system. Similarly, the importance of work leisure balance in lifestyle management is being emphasized now. World has incorporated the above subsistence strategy into our sustainable development plan.
- ◉ Vegetarianism has its roots in the civilizations of ancient India. Vegetarian diet was closely connected with the idea of nonviolence towards animals (ahimsa), and was promoted by religious groups and philosophers.
- ◉ Texts of Aryabhata and Bhaskaracharya contain calculus that was written many centuries before Newton. All mathematical calculations and theories of modern science are based on two fundamental discoveries of ancient science of India. These are the concept of zero and the principle of place value in powers of the radix.
- ◉ Traditional medical sciences like Ayurveda and herbal medicines are till today very successfully applied in curing many ailments in India and even in developed countries. Further, home remedies to cure diseases and ailments that employ certain spices, vegetables, or other common domestic items are making a strong comeback.

- India's contribution in literature, poetry, drama as also music, dance, painting and sculpture is immense, to say the least. Indian culture has given many gifts to the world. Yoga, for example, or at least its more physical aspects like asanas and pranayama, is spreading like wildfire around the world. Meditation is another gift.
- Indian cuisine is now popular all over the world.

Conclusion:

India's cultural heritage is not only one of the most ancient but it is also one of the most extensive and varied. Indian culture is often labelled as an amalgamation of several segments of cultures, including traditions that are several millennia old. It spans across the entire Indian sub-continent. Many elements of India's diverse cultural segments have had a profound impact across the world. In its collective form these cultural traits are identified as Indian cultural heritage

6. Devotion and art forms have maintained a beautiful synthesis in India. Elucidate.

(250 words)

Approach

1. Briefly give an introduction about the various art forms in the context of its synthesis with Devotion. (25 words)
2. Discuss with examples the various art forms maintaining its synthesis with devotion. (200 words)
3. Conclusion (25 words)

Hints

Indian art forms have been historically significant in conveying the language of soul and prevailing socio-economic setup. The various art forms like architecture, sculpture, painting, music, dances have beautifully expressed its synthesis with devotion in India.

Examples of various art forms maintaining a synthesis with devotion:

Architecture:

- In India, temple architecture and the devotional aspect related to it is integrated.
- Example: Nagara temples of north India like Jagannath temple of Odisha, Khajuraho temple of MP, etc. depicts devotion to Lord Jagannath.
- Similarly, Dravidian style temples like Brihadeshwara temple depict devotion to Lord Shiva. Subsequently, various Hindu temple architectures traced to the remains in Aihole and Pattadakal were constructed for the devotion of various gods and goddesses.
- The Chaitya Hall (place of worship), the Vihara (monastery) and the Stupa (hemispherical mound for worship/ memory) – exemplified by the extraordinary caves of Ajanta and Ellora, were built for the devotion of Buddhism.
- Further, exhibiting architectural brilliance, Jain temples at Ranakpur and Mount Abu in Rajasthan and remnants of the rock-cut cave architecture (Udaigiri-Khandagiri) found in Odisha, meant for the Jain monks are among the architectural masterpieces, built for the devotion of Jainism.

Paintings:

- Madhubani Painting: Also known as Godhna, Maithili, and Chaitra figure painting, deal with the Hindu deities, nature and social events of the time.
- Kalamkari Painting: This style of painting evolved in the Mughal rule and was patronized by the Golconda Sultanate. The subject of these paintings are narratives from Ramayana, Mahabharata and the Puranas.
- Patachitra Painting: Paata Paintings or Patachitra, is a devotional art form worshipping Lord Jagannath, originating from the state of Orissa. The themes are usually religious, mythological, and folklore. Needless to say, most of the motifs are centered on tales from the Krishna Leela and Lord Jagannath.
- Warli Art: The central motive of each painting is a square in which resides the mother Goddess of fertility, Palaghata.
- Ajanta Painting: Deals with Jataka stories of Buddha, reflect devotion to Buddhism.

Sculpture:

- Gandhara School and Mathura school gave Buddha a human figure. Jaina and Hindu images of the Mathura school are carved in the same style as the Buddhas.
- The Elephanta Caves are known in particular for their Hindu rock art, featuring sculptures of many figures from the Hindu pantheon, such as Shiva, Vishnu, Parvati, Brahma, Ravana and Shiva's elephant-headed son Ganesha. The most important sculpture in the caves is the Trimurti (or Maheshmurti).

Performing Art Forms:**Music:**

- Qawwali: A form of Sufi Islamic devotional music performed at Sufi shrines or dargahs.
- Bhajan: Song with religious theme or spiritual ideas. Ideas from scriptures, legendary epics, the teachings of saints and loving devotion to a deity are the typical subjects of bhajans.
- Kirtan: A genre of religious performance arts, connoting a musical form of narration or shared recitation.
- Gurbani: Refer to various compositions by the Sikh Gurus and other writers of Guru Granth Sahib.

Dance:

- Bharatanatyam - Traditionally performed by mandir (Hindu temple) Devadasis. Many of the ancient sculptures in Hindu temples are based on Bharatanatyam dance postures Karanas.
- Kathakali, (Katha for a story, Kali for performance or play) is a form of dance-drama, is a spectacular combination of drama, dance, music, and rituals. Characters with vividly painted faces and elaborate costumes re-enact stories from Mahabharata and Ramayana.
- Mohiniaattam is a traditional dance from the South Indian state of Kerala. Mohini is an Apsaras in the Hindu mythology and Aattam in Malayalam means dance. So Mohiniaattam essentially means "dance of the enchantress". The theme of Mohiniaattam is love and devotion to god. The costumes worn by the dancers are typically white-colored Kasavu saree with golden borders.
- Kathak dance form arose from the Vaishnava devotees dancing to the episodes from Krishna's life.
- Sattriya, dance is believed to be a creation of the great Vaishnavite (bhakti) guru.

Conclusion:

Thus, it is observed that the devotional aspect of Indian art is profound. The several religions which include Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, and others at different times have immensely contributed in shaping the various styles of Indian art, synergizing the diverse spiritual inspiration of religious beliefs with unique nature of various Indian art forms.

7. **Indian festivals showcase the shared cultural history and diversity of the Indian sub-continent on the one hand, and are the lamp-post of unity in diversity on the other. Elucidate**

(250 words)

Approach

1. **Briefly explain about the homogeneity of Indian society which is the result of an amalgamation of different religious views and sects.** *(50 words)*
2. **Explain briefly about different inter-religious festivals and some which belong to a particular religion but are celebrated by people from different religions.** *(150 words)*
3. **Conclude with the importance of festivals in maintaining social harmony in India and how they have played an important role in maintaining unity in diversity.** *(50 words)*

Hints

Indian society is an amalgamation of people from different religions, sects, colour, creed and regions. This has led to the formation of a homogeneous culture in Indian society which equally respects all religion and becomes part of their celebrations. This culture has led to a few festivals which are inter-religious in nature while others attract people from different religions to celebrate. Few religions are celebrated differently by members of the same religion across the country. This makes festivals the torchbearers of unity in diversity and showcases the shared cultural traditions of India.

Inter-religious festivals in India

- Phool Walon Ki Sair is an annual celebration by the flowers sellers of Delhi. It is a three-day festival, generally held in September, just after the rainy season in Mehrauli. It is an example of the composite culture of Delhi, which has bolstered an environment of communal harmony in the city. Even today the festival is celebrated by both Hindus and Muslims alike.
- Similarly, almost all harvest festivals such as Baisakhi, Kichdi, Pongal, Bihu, etc., are equally celebrated by farmers and people from all religions.

Religions which are owned by one community and celebrated by others

- Festivals like Id-ul-Fitar, Deepavali, and Christmas are celebrated by people from different religions in India. Effects of Indian culture can be seen in rituals too. In Christmas, rituals with elements from Hinduism, such as chanting of religious songs, can be observed which is different from Christmas in other countries.

- People of different religions live in society, hence, visit each other during festivals and participate in their celebration.
- Some festivals are pan-Indian and are celebrated across different states like Id-ul-Fitar and Deewali. This underlines the importance of festivals which spread social and religious harmony in the country.

Conclusion:

Festivals in India not only promote social harmony but also promote a sense of oneness due to their diverse nature and celebration across different regions. Globalization and urbanization also play an important role in spreading oneness as people from different background meet and celebrate festivals together. Thus, festivals bind together people from diverse backgrounds into a singular society and promote a sense of brotherhood among them

8. To what extent did trade play a role in disseminating Indian culture abroad in ancient times? Illustrate.

(250 words)

Approach

1. Briefly describe about status of trade in ancient India (50 words)
2. Explain how trade played important role in spreading Indian trade abroad such as silk road and trade with south east Asia (75 words)
3. Briefly discuss factors like religious, education, etc. that helped in the dissemination of culture (75 words)
4. Conclusion (50 words)

Hints

India established trade relations with outside world since as early as during the Indus Valley civilization in the third millennium BC. Spread of Indian culture through trade has been called as remarkable because it didn't involve forceful imposition of culture or violence, rather was voluntary adopted between parties.

Trade played a significant role in disseminating Indian culture abroad in ancient times in the following manner:

- Strategic location of India and vicinity near the ancient silk route gave India the advantage of being a centre for cultural admixture.
- Kuchi, a kingdom in central Asia witnessed flourishing of Indian culture. The trading of silk, jade, horses was accompanied with transmission of Indian culture in the form of ancient stupas, temples, monasteries, paintings and images found there.
- Khotan, another ancient trading centre contained ancient coins bearing Prakrit text in Kharoshti script, Sanskrit manuscripts and Buddhist texts.
- Traders from Kashi, Mathura, Ujjain, Pataliputra and port cities of Mammalapuram, Kaveripattanam and Puri travelled extensively in South East Asia in search of trade opportunities, especially to Indonesia, Java, Malaya, Sumatra, Cambodia.

- Indonesia and surrounding regions came to be known as Suvarnadweep as traders travelled in search of gold there. Indonesia housed many Shaivite and Vaishnavite temple. Mahabharat and Ramayan also became quite popular over there which was later represented in the form of Wayung puppetry.
- Similarly, Malaysia too adopted Ramayana and Jataka stories in their folklore. Brahmi script was modified and adopted as script of Malaysia in ancient times.
- The Hindu temples and Buddhist sculptures were also found in Cambodia and Vietnam, eg. The temple of Angkor Vat.
- Traders of Kalinga established cultural links with Srilanka and helped in disseminating Buddhist culture.
- Apart from south East Asia, travelers like Suleman, Al Masudi, Ibn Hauqual and Al Idrisi attest the flourishing trade relations of India with Arab world.
- Arab traders took home astronomical and mathematical treatises by Aryabhatta and Varahamihira, translating it into Arabic. Decimal system, notation and use of zero was widely spread and popularized by Arab traders.
- Merchants from south India traded with Roman empire in items like pepper, betel, spices, scents and precious stones. The Tamil kings even employed 'yavanas' (people belonging to Western Asia and the Mediterranean) as guards. The Yavanas settles in parts like Kaveripattinam and absorbed Indian culture as well spread their culture with the indigenous people.

Other factors that led to spread of Indian culture abroad in ancient times:

- The universities were the most important centres of cultural interaction. They attracted large numbers of students and scholars. Students and teachers from such universities carried Indian culture abroad along with its knowledge and religion.
- Nalanda , Valabhi, Vikramshila and Odantapuri (Bihar) universities were quite active in cultural transmission. The Chinese pilgrim Huien-tsang has given ample information about his visit to Nalanda and Valabhi universities.
- Along the silk route, there were resting places for monks and missionaries, for pilgrims and merchants and later these became famous centres of Buddhist learning. These monasteries and resting places like Khotan (present day China) transmitted religion and philosophy, ideas and beliefs, languages and literature, and art and culture.
- Indian rulers like King Ashoka made great efforts to propagate Buddhism outside India. He sent his son Mahendra and daughter Sanghamitra to Sri Lanka to spread the message of the Buddha.

Conclusion:

Cultural exchange was a two way process with India adopting foreign culture such as cooking styles, apparels (Shakas and Kushans introduced turbans, tunics and trousers), coins by Indo Greek and so on. The exchange of culture between India and outside world helped in diversification and development of many cultural aspects like language, food, religion, architecture styles and so on.

9. India's ancient inscriptions and temples do not just have religious and cultural value; lessons can be drawn from these to solve the crisis like water stress and drought. Discuss

(250 words)

Approach

1. Briefly introduce ancient Temples and inscriptions as guiding sources on water issues (25 words)

2. **Exemplify various inscriptions and temples on issue of water** (100 words)
3. **Discuss on the lessons taught by these examples to solve present water issues** (100 words)
4. **Conclusion** (25 words)

Hints

Country is facing severe water crisis and disputes related to sharing of water resources across states. India's past also faced such issues and mentioned ways of resolving the water crisis and disputes in form of inscriptions and temple records. Temple inscriptions were always documents connected with the sale, transfer and maintenance of irrigated lands. These records now can be utilized as a lesson to be learned to solve the issue of water conservation and its management. Following are some examples:

- Inscriptions on Tamil Nadu's temples record administrative and social decisions from a time when they were a seat of authority for the local community. Inscriptions connected to irrigation in Tamil Nadu concern two broad zones, the Cauvery delta and the Tamirabarani delta.
- Discovery of a recent inscription of eighth century Chola period has thrown light that the Sivaganga tank, built the Raja Chola, was actually a rain water harvesting system to collect water for the famous Big Temple at Thanjavur.
- The chaste Sanskrit inscription of Rudradaman in Saurashtra Gujrat talks about the Sudarshana lake built by him. It was repaired for number of times and provided water for scarce region.
- An inscription, over 1,100 years old, was found at the Sri Arunachaleswarar temple in Tiruvannamalai. The inscription, according to archaeologists, is believed to be the second oldest found in the temple. It stated that 20 gold coins were donated for maintaining a water body there.

Lessons to be learned from inscription and temple records:

- Reverence for the resource: Today, we consider water to be a right. However, in the older traditions, it was a representation of god that residents were duty-bound to protect and conserve. Further, the respect for water transcended the public sphere and was part of individual homes as well.
- Participatory and local management approach: In the Pandya empire, water conservation was a completely local affair. The entire community, through the elected temple mahasabha, managed it. This meant that there was constant supervision, ownership and responsibility. All systems and processes were sustained through an emotional connection with the resource.
- Some inscriptions show that maintenance was a local responsibility and not that of the king. In fact, many capital-intensive projects were funded by the dancing women of temples.
- Peaceful resolution of dispute: They talk about disputes related to water sharing and taxes; deaths that happened during desilting; and fights over excess water for more rounds of crops. However, these disputes were quickly resolved and, in a way, that the river or tank was respected.
- Care for the local terrain: Every tank in Tamil Nadu region had multiple weirs, always built in consonance with the local terrain, to drain out excess water. Using these, farmers irrigated the fields. There were complex calculations on allocation by turns (murai) and hours of supply (nir naligai). The interests of the boatmen in the lower estuaries and ports were also taken care of so that there was enough water there to permit them to bring boats up the river.

Conclusion:

Today, we may have advanced in technology, but we could pick some best practices from long ago. History always teaches lessons if we are capable enough to learn them for better present and prosperous future and same apply to water conservation.

- 10. Although Indian folk music and dance form present themselves in a wide variety of forms, they share common themes and concerns. Elucidate**
(250 words)

Approach

- 1. Underline the importance of Indian folk music and dance and how they have linked past with the present and different regions with common themes.** (100 words)
- 2. Describe the different types of folk dances and music forms which have a common theme but different ways of presentation across different regions.** (100 words)
- 3. Conclude with the remark that different types of folk songs and dance reflect the shared and common cultural heritage of India.** (50 words)

Hints

India has a diverse cultural heritage where people from different regions, religions, race and caste share common cultural heritage and rich tradition. These diverse group of people have different folk music and dance forms which are different from each other but have common themes. These folklores are not only part of the daily lives of people but also are part of the development of personality and character of individuals from these communities.

Some of the differences and similarities of different types of folk music and dance forms are:

Harvest folk dances and music forms:

- There are many folk dances and music which are performed during harvest season across different regions with a common theme.
- Jawara is the harvest dance popular in Bundelkhand, Madhya Pradesh. The dance includes balancing a basket full of 'Jawar' on the head, and is accompanied by heavy instrumental music.
- Jhumar is a popular harvest dance, performed by the tribal people of Jharkhand and Odisha.
- Bihu is the popular dance of Assam, performed in the group by both men and women. It is performed during harvest season.

Mythological folk dances and music forms:

- There are different dance forms and music which are based on folklores which characterize different mythological characters.
- Many folk dances and music forms depict religious folklores and are performed to honour deities across the country.

- Garba is a popular folk dance of Gujarat, held at the time of Navaratra. This dance is practised by dancing around an idol of goddess Durga, the feminine form of divinity to honour her.
- Dandiya Raas which is an energetic, lively dance form in which polished sticks or dandiyas are used. It represents a mock fight between Durga and Mahishasura. It is also performed in Gujarat.
- Braj Raslila is a popular folk dance of the region of Uttar Pradesh, revolving around the adolescent love stories of Radha and Krishna.

Folk dances and music based on the natural environment:

- Many folklores which are based on the natural environment and its element are made alive through dance and music. These folk forms may consist of different living creatures such as snakes, peacocks, etc., and natural entities such as rivers and wind.
- Chhau is a form of mask dance that uses vigorous martial movements to narrate mythological stories. Some narrations also use natural themes such as Sarpa Nritya (serpent dance) or Mayur Nritya (peacock dance). It is performed in tribal regions of West Bengal and Jharkhand.
- Tarangamel is the folk dance of Goa that celebrates the youthfulness of the region. It is performed during Dussehra and Holi. The use of rainbow-like costumes with multi-coloured flags and streamers make it a visual spectacle.
- Kalbelia is a sensuous folk dance performed by the women of the Kalbelia community of Rajasthan. The costumes and dance movements are similar to those of the serpents.
- Gaur Maria is an important ritualistic dance form of the Bison Horn Maria tribes who live in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh. The dance imitates the movements of a bison and is performed in a group by both men and women.
- Mayilattam is a folk dance of Kerala and Tamil Nadu in which young girls are dressed as peacocks, with colourful headgears, beaks, and feathers.

Folklores depicting Human emotions and skills:

- Some folk dances and music are based on folklores which showcases human pain, sufferings and skills.
- Biraha dance along with its variant, Bidesia, is a popular form of entertainment in rural Bihar. It is a portrayal of the pain of the women, whose partners are away from home. However, this dance form is practised solely by males, who play the role of female characters as well.
- Paika is a martial folk dance performed in the southern parts of Odisha. The dancers are armed with wooden spears and shields and show off their skills and agility in infantry like formations. It has a martial art character.
- Jat-Jatin is popular in the northern parts of Bihar, especially in the regions of Mithila. This dance form is unique in its representation of the tender love and quarrel of a married couple.

Conclusion:

Although different folk music and dance forms are based on different folklores and are performed differently across the country, they share common themes which revolve around natural environment, emotions, skills and festivities of people and their imagination. Hence, these folk art forms are different from each other but are common in character in different ways, imbibing common and shared culture and tradition of the country.



NOTES
