

UPDATES



EDEN IAS



GS ARTICLES

DAILY STATIC REVISION

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FOLK PAINTINGS

1. MADHUBANI PAINTINGS:

- Also called MITHILA PAINTINGS, art form practiced in Bihar.
- Hindu religious motifs are drawn.
- Traditionally, drawn on wall. Now also practiced on cloth.
- These are 2-D paintings, use double line border, bold use of colours, ornate floral patterns and exaggerated facial features.
- Mostly women practice this art.
- It is given GI tag.

2. PATTACHITRA:

- Traditional painting of ODISHA, drawn on cloth.
- Natural colors are used.
- No pencil or charcoal is used, rather brush is used.
- Themes inspired from JAGANNATH and VAISHNAVA CULT.

3. PATUA ART:

- Traditional art of WEST BENGAL.
- Done on pats or scrolls.
- Depict religious stories.

4. KALIGHAT PAINTINGS

- Product of changing urban society of Calcutta.
- Done by rural migrants.
- Watercolors were used on mill paper.
- Paintings depicted religious note.
- These paintings expressed social sentiments.

5. PAITKAR PAINTINGS:

- Scroll paintings practiced by tribal people of JHARKHAND.
- These paintings have cultural association with MA MANSA, popular goddess of tribals

6. KALAMKARI:

- Name comes from kalam i.e., pen.
- Base is cotton fabric while colors are vegetable dyes.
- Main centres of art are MACHILIPATNAM AND SRIKALAHASTI in ANDHRA PRADESH.

CHAMPARAN SATYAGRAHA

- Champaran Satyagraha (1917)—First Civil Disobedience:
- Gandhi was requested by Rajkumar Shukla, a local man, to look into the problems of the farmers in context of indigo planters of Champaran in Bihar. The European planters had been forcing the peasants to grow indigo on 3/20 part of the total land (called tinkathia system).
- When towards the end of the nineteenth century German synthetic dyes replaced indigo, the European planters demanded high rents and illegal dues from the peasants in order to maximise their profits before the peasants could shift to other crops.
- Besides, the peasants were forced to sell the produce at prices fixed by the Europeans.
- When Gandhi, joined now by Rajendra Prasad, Mazharul-Haq, Mahadeo Desai, Narhari Parekh, and J.B. Kripalani, reached Champaran to probe into the matter, the authorities ordered him to leave the area at once. Gandhi defied the order and preferred to face the punishment.
- This passive resistance or civil disobedience of an unjust order was a novel method at that time.
- Finally, the authorities retreated and permitted Gandhi to make an enquiry. Now, the government appointed a committee to go into the matter and nominated Gandhi as a member.
- Gandhi was able to convince the authorities that the tinkathia system should be abolished and that the peasants should be compensated for the illegal dues extracted from them.
- As a compromise with the planters, he agreed that only 25 per cent of the money taken should be compensated. Within a decade, the planters left the area.

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- Gandhi had won the first battle of civil disobedience in India. Other popular leaders associated with Champaran Satyagraha were Brajkishore Prasad, Anugrah Narayan Sinha, Ramnavmi Prasad and Sham-bhusharan Varm

tributaries, and all flow in the same direction. Parallel drainage patterns form where there is a pronounced slope to the surface.

Radial drainage system, the streams radiate outwards from a central high point. Volcanoes usually display excellent radial drainage.

DRAINAGE PATTERNS

On the basis of the origin the drainage can be divided in to two parts:

- (a) The Himalayan drainage system
- (b) The Peninsular drainage system.

Tributary: A stream or river that flows into a larger river. e.g. Yamuna

Delta: A triangular shaped land at the mouth of a river formed from the deposition of silt, sand and small rocks that flow downstream in the river. eg. Ganga delta.

Estuary: A partially enclosed coastal body of water where the salty tidal water mixes with the fresh water of the river. eg. Narmada river makes an estuary.

IMPORTANT DRAINAGE PATTERNS:

Drainage pattern a pattern created by stream erosion over time that reveals characteristics of the kind of rocks and geologic structures in a landscape region drained by streams.

Dendritic patterns, which are by far the most common, develop in areas where the rock (or unconsolidated material) beneath the stream has no particular fabric or structure and can be eroded equally easily in all directions

Trellis drainage patterns typically develop where sedimentary rocks have been folded or tilted and then eroded to varying degrees depending on their strength.

Rectangular patterns develop in areas that have very little topography and a system of bedding planes, fractures, or faults that form a rectangular network.

Parallel drainage system is a pattern of rivers caused by steep slopes with some relief. Because of the steep slopes, the streams are swift and straight, with very few

The centripetal drainage system is similar to the radial drainage system, with the only exception that radial drainage flows out versus centripetal drainage flows in.

MAJOR TYPES OF EXCHANGE RATES

(a) Fixed Exchange Rate System:

Fixed exchange rate is the rate which is officially fixed by the government or monetary authority and not determined by market forces. Only a very small deviation from this fixed value is possible. In this system, foreign central banks stand ready to buy and sell their currencies at a fixed price. A typical kind of this system was used under Gold Standard System in which each country committed itself to convert freely its currency into gold at a fixed price.

In other words, value of each currency was defined in terms of gold and, therefore, exchange rate was fixed according to the gold value of currencies that have to be exchanged. This was called mint par value of exchange. Later on Fixed Exchange Rate System prevailed in the world under an agreement reached in July 1994.

The advantages and disadvantages of this system are as under::

Merits:

- i. It ensures stability in exchange rate which encourages foreign trade
- ii. It contributes to the coordination of macro policies of countries in an interdependent world economy
- iii. Fixed exchange rate ensures that major economic disturbances in the member countries do not occur
- iv. It prevents capital outflow
- v. Fixed exchange rates are more conducive to expansion

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sion of world trade because it prevents risk and uncertainty in transactions

vi. It prevents speculation in foreign exchange market.

Demerits:

- i. Fear of devaluation. In a situation of excess demand, central bank uses its reserves to maintain foreign exchange rate. But when reserves are exhausted and excess demand still persists, government is compelled to devalue domestic currency. If speculators believe that exchange rate cannot be held for long, they buy foreign exchange in massive amount causing deficit in balance of payment. This may lead to larger devaluation. This is the main flaw or demerit of fixed exchange rate system
- ii. Benefits of free markets are deprived
- iii. There is always possibility of under-valuation or over-valuation.

(b) Flexible (Floating) Exchange Rate System:

The system of exchange rate in which rate of exchange is determined by forces of demand and supply of foreign exchange market is called Flexible Exchange Rate System. Here, value of currency is allowed to fluctuate or adjust freely according to change in demand and supply of foreign exchange.

There is no official intervention in foreign exchange market. Under this system, the central bank, without intervention, allows the exchange rate to adjust so as to equate the supply and demand for foreign currency. In India, it is flexible exchange rate which is being determined. The foreign exchange market is busy at all times by changes in the exchange rate.

Advantages and disadvantages of this system are listed below:

Merits:

- i. Deficit or surplus in BOP is automatically corrected
- ii. There is no need for government to hold any foreign exchange reserve
- iii. It helps in optimum resource allocation
- iv. It frees the government from problem of BOP

Demerits:

- i. It encourages speculation leading to fluctuations in foreign exchange rate
- ii. Wide fluctuation in exchange rate hampers foreign trade and capital movement between countries
- iii. It generates inflationary pressure when prices of imports go up due to depreciation of currency.

(c) Distinction between Fixed Exchange Rate and Flexible Exchange Rate:

Fixed exchange rate is the rate which is officially fixed in terms of gold or any other currency by the government. It does not change with change in demand and supply of foreign currency. As against it, flexible exchange rate is the rate which, like price of a commodity, is determined by forces of demand and supply in the foreign exchange market. It changes according to change in demand and supply of foreign currency. There is no government intervention.

d) Managed floating exchange rate:

This refers to a system of gradual adjustments in the exchange rate deliberately made by a central bank to influence the value of its own currency in relation to other currencies. This is done to save its own currency from short-term volatility in exchange rate caused by economic shocks and speculation. Thus, central bank intervenes to smoothen out ups and downs in the exchange rate of home currency to its own advantage.

ECONOMIC LIFE IN VIJAYNAGAR EMPIRE

- The economy of the empire was largely dependent on agriculture. Sorghum (jowar), cotton, and pulse legumes grew in semi-arid regions, while sugarcane, rice, and wheat thrived in rainy areas. Betel leaves, areca (for chewing), and coconut were the principal cash crops, and large-scale cotton production supplied the weaving centers of the empire's vibrant textile industry.
- Spices such as turmeric, pepper, cardamom, and ginger grew in the remote Malnad hill region and were transported to the city for trade.

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TRIPARTITE STRUGGLE BETWEEN PALAS, PRATI HARAS AND RASTRAKUTAS

- The empire's capital city was a thriving business centre that included a burgeoning market in large quantities of precious gems and gold. Prolific temple-building provided employment to thousands of masons, sculptors, and other skilled artisans.
- Land ownership was important. Most of the growers were tenant farmers and were given the right of part ownership of the land over time.
- Exports to China intensified and included cotton, spices, jewels, semi-precious stones, ivory, rhino horn, ebony, amber, coral, and aromatic products such as perfumes. Large vessels from China made frequent visits, some captained by the Chinese Admiral Zheng He, and brought Chinese products to the empire's 300 ports, large and small, on the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. The ports of Mangalore, Honavar, Bhatkal, Barkur, Cochin, Cannanore, Machilipatnam, and Dharmadam were the most important.
- When merchant ships docked, the merchandise was taken into official custody and taxes levied on all items sold. The security of the merchandise was guaranteed by the administration officials.
- Traders of many nationalities (Arabs, Persians, Khorasanis) settled in Calicut, drawn by the thriving trade business. Ship building prospered and keeled ships of 1000–1200 bahares (burden) were built without decks by sewing the entire hull with ropes rather than fastening them with nails. Ships sailed to the Red Sea ports of Aden and Mecca with Vijayanagara goods sold as far away as Venice.
- The empire's principal exports were pepper, ginger, cinnamon, cardamom, myrobalan, tamarind timber, anafistula, precious and semi-precious stones, pearls, musk, ambergris, rhubarb, aloe, cotton cloth and porcelain. Cotton yarn was shipped to Burma and indigo to Persia. Chief imports from Palestine were copper, quicksilver (mercury), vermilion, coral, saffron, coloured velvets, rose water, knives, coloured camlets, gold and silver. Persian horses were imported to Cannanore before a two-week land trip to the capital. Silk arrived from China and sugar from Bengal.
- Kannauj located in the central Gangetic valley was a very important center for trade and commerce. Hence obviously all the dominant dynasties of the time fought for power and control over this area.
- The dominant dynasties of this time were Gurjara-Pratiharas, Palas and Rashtrakutas. Historians often describe this fight between the three dominant dynasties of 8th century as the tripartite struggle.
- Palas ruled the eastern parts of India and Pratiharas dominated western India and Rashtrakutas controlled Deccan regions of India. The tripartite struggle ultimately ended in favor of Nagabhata II, Gurjara-Pratihara ruler.

Causes of tripartite struggle:

- Kannauj was the symbol of prestige and power during early medieval period.
- Control of Kannauj also implied control of Central Gangetic valley which had plenty of resources and thus it was both strategically and commercial important.
- This center was best for trade and commerce as it was connected to silk route.
- Desire to loot through war.

The beginning of struggle:

The Pratihara ruler named Vatsaraja was very ambitious about Kannauj. Similarly Dharmapala, the Pala ruler also wanted to rule over Kannauj. And thus these two rulers were into a conflict. Vatsaraja defeated Dharmapala in a battle at Gangetic Doab. And at the same time Vatsaraja was defeated by the Rashtrakuta king Dhruva. Dhruva also defeated Dharmapala. Finally this pronounced enmity led to Tripartite Struggle between Palas, Rashtrakutas and Pratiharas.

Consequences of tripartite struggle:

After the attack by Dhruva, Dharmapala could manage to get back control over his territory and placed Chakrayudha on the throne of Kannauj. But soon Naga-

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bhata II, the successor of Pratihara ruler Vatsaraja conquered Kannauj and drove away Chakrayudha. Later Nagabhata II also defeated Dharmapala. The struggle for Kannauj became more severe after the Nagabhata II exercised control over it. During the rule of Rashtrakuta ruler Krishna III, there was successful campaign against the Cholas. The Rashtrakutas also formed a matrimonial relationship with other feudal kings. However, by the end of the 9th Century the power of the Rashtrakutas started to decline along with the Palas. And by the end of the tripartite struggle, the Pratiharas emerged victorious and established themselves as the rulers of central India.

- Whether the economy, price level, and money supply are deflating or inflating changes the appeal of different investment options.
- Disinflation is a temporary slowing of the pace of price inflation.
- Unlike inflation and deflation, which refer to the direction of prices, disinflation refers to the rate of change in the rate of inflation.
- A healthy amount of disinflation is necessary, since it represents economic contraction and prevents the economy from overheating.

INFLATION

Inflation is a quantitative measure of the rate at which the average price level of a basket of selected goods and services in an economy increases over a period of time. It is the constant rise in the general level of prices where a unit of currency buys less than it did in prior periods. Often expressed as a percentage, inflation indicates a decrease in the purchasing power of a nation's currency.

Galloping inflation: When inflation rises to 10 percent or more, it wreaks absolute havoc on the economy. Money loses value so fast that business and employee income can't keep up with costs and prices. Foreign investors avoid the country, depriving it of needed capital. The economy becomes unstable, and government leaders lose credibility. Galloping inflation must be prevented at all costs.

Hyperinflation: Hyperinflation is when prices skyrocket more than 50 percent a month. It is very rare. In fact, most examples of hyperinflation have occurred only when governments printed money to pay for wars. Examples of hyperinflation include Germany in the 1920s, Zimbabwe in the 2000s, and Venezuela in the 2010s. The last time America experienced hyperinflation was during its civil war.

Deflation:

- Deflation is the general decline of the price level of goods and services.
- Deflation is usually associated with a contraction in the supply of money and credit, but prices can also fall due to increased productivity and technological improvements.

CORAL BLEACHING

- The stunning colours in corals come from a marine algae called zooxanthellae, which live inside their tissues.
- This algae provides the corals with an easy food supply thanks to photosynthesis, which gives the corals energy, allowing them to grow and reproduce.
- When corals get stressed, from things such as heat or pollution, they react by expelling this algae, leaving a ghostly, transparent skeleton behind. This is known as 'coral bleaching'.
- Some corals can feed themselves, but without the zooxanthellae most corals starve.
- In some instances corals can recover from bleaching. If conditions return to normal, and stay that way corals can regain their algae, return to their bright colours and survive.
- However prolonged warmer temperatures and other stressors, like poor water quality, can leave the living coral in a weakened state.
- It can struggle to regrow, reproduce and resist disease – so is very vulnerable to coral diseases and mortality.

Causes of Coral Bleaching:

- **Rise in Sea Temperature:** Most coral species live in waters close to the warmest temperature they can tolerate i.e., a slight increase in ocean temperature can harm corals. El Nino elevates the sea temperature and destroys coral reefs.

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- **Ocean Acidification:** Due to rise in carbon dioxide levels, oceans absorb more carbon dioxide. This increases the acidity of ocean water and inhibits the corals ability to create calcareous skeletons, which is essential for their survival.
 - **Infectious Diseases:** Penetration of bacterium like vibrio shiloi inhibits photosynthesis of zooxanthellae. These bacteria become more potent with elevated sea temperatures.
 - **Chemical Pollution:** Increased nutrient concentrations affect corals by promoting phytoplankton growth, which in turn supports increased numbers of organisms that compete with coral for space.
 - **Increased Sedimentation:** Land clearing and coastal construction result in high rates of erosion and a higher density of suspended silt particles which can
 - smother corals when particles settle out (sedimentation),
 - reducing light availability (turbidity) and
 - potentially reducing coral photosynthesis and growth.
 - **Human Induced Threats:** Over-fishing, pollution from agricultural and industrial runoff, coral mining, development of industrial areas near coral ecosystems also adversely impact corals.
- of the people of British India... and to employ such other means of peaceful and lawful character as may appear calculated to secure the welfare, extend the just rights and advance the interests of all classes of our fellow subjects”.
- In 1851, both the Landholders’ Society and the Bengal British India Society merged into the British Indian Association.
 - **The East India Association** was organised by Dada-bhai Naoroji in 1866 in London to discuss the Indian question and influence public men in England to promote Indian welfare.
 - Later, branches of the association were started in prominent Indian cities.
 - The **Indian League** was started in 1875 by Sisir Kumar Ghosh with the object of “stimulating the sense of nationalism amongst the people” and of encouraging political education.
 - The **Indian Association of Calcutta** (also known as the Indian National Association) superseded the Indian League and was founded in 1876 by younger nationalists of Bengal led by Surendranath Banerjea and Ananda Mohan Bose, who were getting discontented with the conservative and pro-landlord policies of the British Indian Association.
 - **The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha** was founded in 1867 by Mahadeo Govind Ranade and others, with the object of serving as a bridge between the government and the people.
 - **The Bombay Presidency Association** was started by Badruddin Tyabji, Pherozeshah Mehta and K.T. Telang in 1885.
 - **The Madras Mahajan Sabha** was founded in 1884 by M. Viraraghavachari, B. Subramaniya Aiyer and P. Anandacharlu.

POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS BEFORE THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

- The Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha: was formed in 1836 by associates of Raja Rammohan Roy.
- The Zamindari Association, more popularly known as the ‘Landholders’ Society’, was founded to safeguard the interests of the landlords.
- Although limited in its objectives, the **Landholders’ Society** marked the beginning of an organized political activity and use of methods of constitutional agitation for the redressal of grievances.
- The **Bengal British India Society** was founded in 1843 with the object of “the collection and dissemination of information relating to the actual condition

PROVISION FOR DELHI

- The 69th Constitutional Amendment Act of 19915 provided a special status to the Union Territory of Delhi, and redesignated it the National Capital Territory of Delhi and designated the administrator of Delhi as the lieutenant (lt.) governor.

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- It created a legislative assembly and a council of ministers for Delhi. Previously, Delhi had a metropolitan council and an executive council.
- The strength of the assembly is fixed at 70 members, directly elected by the people.
- The elections are conducted by the election commission of India.
- The assembly can make laws on all the matters of the State List and the Concurrent List except the three matters of the State List,
 - that is, public order, police and land.
- But, the laws of Parliament prevail over those made by the Assembly.
- The strength of the council of ministers is fixed at ten per cent of the total strength of the assembly, that is, seven—one chief minister and six other ministers.
- The chief minister is appointed by the President (not by the Lt. governor).
- The other ministers are appointed by the president on the advice of the chief minister.
- The ministers hold office during the pleasure of the president.
- The council of ministers is collectively responsible to the assembly.
- The council of ministers headed by the chief minister aid and advise the Lt. governor in the exercise of his functions except in so far as he is required to act in his discretion
- In the case of difference of opinion between the Lt. governor and his ministers, the Lt. governor is to refer the matter to the president for decision and act accordingly.
- The Lt. governor is empowered to promulgate ordinances during recess of the assembly. An ordinance has the same force as an act of the assembly.
- Every such ordinance must be approved by the assembly within six weeks from its reassembly.
- He can also withdraw an ordinance at any time. But, he cannot promulgate an ordinance when the assembly is dissolved or suspended.
- Further, no such ordinance can be promulgated or withdrawn without
 - the prior permission of the President.

SCHEDULED AND TRIBAL AREAS

- Article 244 in Part X of the Constitution envisages a special system of administration for certain areas designated as 'scheduled areas' and 'tribal areas'.
- The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes in any state except the four states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
- The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, on the other hand, deals with the administration of the tribal areas in the four north-eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES

- The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs) is a constitutional body established by
 - **Article 338 of the Constitution.**
- Originally, Article 338 of the Constitution provided for the appointment of a Special Officer for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) to investigate all matters relating to the constitutional safeguards for the SCs and STs and to report to the President on their working. He was designated as the Commissioner for SCs and STs and assigned the said duty.
- In 1978, the Government (through a Resolution) set up a non-statutory multimember Commission for SCs and STs; the Office of Commissioner for SCs and STs also continued to exist.
- In 1987, the Government (through another Resolution) modified the functions of the Commission and renamed it as the National Commission for SCs and STs.
- Later, the 65th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1990 provided for the establishment of a high level multi-member National Commission for SCs and STs

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in the place of a single Special Officer for SCs and STs. This constitutional body replaced the Commissioner for SCs and STs as well as the Commission set up under the Resolution of 1987.

- The 89th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003 bifurcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs into two separate bodies, namely, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (under Article 338) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (under

Article 338-A).

- The separate National Commission for SCs came into existence in 2004. It consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members. They are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal. Their conditions of service and tenure of office are also determined by the President.

Functions:

The functions of the Commission are:

- To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the SCs and to evaluate their working;
- To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the SCs;
- To participate and advise on the planning process of socioeconomic development of the SCs and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union or a state;
- To present to the President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;
- To make recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or a state for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the SCs; and (f) To discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the SCs as the president may specify.

The commission presents an annual report to the president. It can also submit a report as and when it thinks necessary. The President places all such reports before the Parliament, along with a memorandum explaining the action taken on the recommendations made by the

Commission. The memorandum should also contain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any of such recommendations.

The President also forwards any report of the Commission pertaining to a state government to the state governor. The governor places it before the state legislature, along with a memorandum explaining the action taken on the recommendations of the Commission. The memorandum should also contain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any of such recommendations.

Powers of Commission:

The Commission is vested with the power to regulate its own procedure. The Commission, while investigating any matter or inquiring into any complaint, has all the powers of a civil court trying a suit and in particular in respect of the following matters:

- summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;
- requiring the discovery and production of any document;
- receiving evidence on affidavits;
- requisitioning any public record from any court or office;
- issuing summons for the examination of witnesses and documents; and
- any other matter which the President may determine.

The Central government and the state governments are required to consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting the SCs.

The Commission is also required to discharge similar functions with regard to the Anglo-Indian Community as it does with respect to the SCs.

Till 2018, the commission was also required to discharge similar functions with regard to the other backward classes (OBCs). It was relieved from this responsibility by the 102nd Amendment Act of 2018.

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