

## PAINTING – XII NOTES

### Rajasthani School of Painting (1619<sup>th</sup> A.D)

#### Q:- 1. Define Miniature painting.

**Ans:-**Any painting done in small size, in any media and on any surface is called Miniature painting. It is generally painted on palm – leaf, a piece of cloth, a piece of leather or ivory. It is presented with minute details

The themes are taken from a scene from daily life, portrait, illustration of any story.

Red Colour was used lavishly in miniature paintings.

The Schools which followed the tradition of miniature paintings are:-

1. The Pala School
2. The western Indian School or Jain School of Art
3. The Mughal School of Miniature painting
4. Deccan School of Art.
5. The Rajasthani School of Painting.
6. Pahari School of Art.

#### Q:- 2. Write an essay on the origin and development of the Rajasthani School of Art.

**Ans:-**Rajasthani School of Painting Came into existence from 16 to 19<sup>th</sup> century A.D. Rajasthani School was a Continuation of old tradition. This art was developed under old tradition.

In the beginning this school had mughal influence, but later it was established as a purely Indian Art.

Rajasthani School did not originate as miniature but it was primarily a mural art.

During the attack of Mughals, the whole Rajasthan was affected but Mewar remained safe till the end So, Rajasthani school flourished first in Mewar, later in jaipur, jodhpur, Bundi, Kishangarh, Bikaner and other places of Rajasthan.

Raja Kishan Singh ruled at Kishangarh. After Kishan Singh, Raja Sawant Singh ruled Kishangarh and the art reached its climax. He was a scholar and a great poet, a great lover of nature, art and beautiful things. He was named as Nagri Das. He was a devotee of Krishna. He fell in love with a maid of his step – mother who was named as Radha – BaniThani and a painting was also made and it was a postal stamp was also issued by the Indian government.

This art was based on Hindi literature, Music, Poetry, Religion, Rag and Ragnis, Ritikala Paintings, sentiments of love and devotion with exuberant joy of life.

The figure of Krishna stands for divine soul and Radha for the human soul.

main features of Rajasthan school of miniature painting.

1. Variety in Themes:- There is a great variety in themes of Rajasthani paintings. Themes are based on seasons (Barahmasa), music, hunting, Scenes, religious themes like Ramayana, Mahabharat etc. love scenes, ragamala series etc. Radha and Krishna have been beautifully depicted in love scenes.
2. Colour Scheme:- Mostly bright glowing colours are used . The main colours Red, Yellow, Blue, Brown, White, Green. In some paintings gold and silver colours have been used.
3. Depiction of Nature:- Nature has been beautifully depicted. Different types of trees, floral trees, depicted in a very attractive manner.
4. Linear Beauty fine powerful and Rhythmic and graceful lines have been used.
5. Costumes or Garments:- garments are highly decorative, Ladies are wearing Lehenga and choli with transparent chunni. Males are wearing turbans and Jhabba, Pyjama and patka.

6. Facial features:- Faces are full of emotions and feelings according to the mood. The faces are in profile. The faces are elongated and oval, the forehead is inclining downwards, long and pointed nose, bulging out lips and pointed chin.
7. Depiction of Women:- The women of Kishangarh school of art are very impressive RadhaBaniThani is world famous painting of Rajasthani Paintings.
8. Symbolic Painting:-Radha and Krishna have been depicted as human and soul.
9. For effect of Folk Art is very prominent in all Rajasthani Painting.'
10. Night Scenes are painted in a very attractive way in Black or smoke are colours white and yellow.

### **MEWAR:-**

Mewar's Contribution to the history of Rajasthani paintings hold a place of Paramount importance. The whole Rajasthan was affected by the attack of the Mughals but Mewar did not come under their control till the end. This was the reason that Rajasthani School flourished in its purest form in Mewar. New style of Paintings Originated at Mewar. It contains elements of central Indian style, blend of western Indian Gujrat – Jain manuscript school with Persian influences. The artist, painted Ragmala series, village scenes, Court Scenes, battle scenes, forest Scenes, Landscape, literary and religious themes.

Bright and brilliant Colour have been used like orange, red, green and blue.

There has been little use of Perspective Angular features mark the native style Sahibdin was the greatest master of Mature Mewar style. His work is found in abundance. He painted the series of Ragmala, Bhagwat Puran and Nayak – NayikaBheda. He reveals the social and cultural life of the common people. No artificiality of the Mughal style is there in his paintings.

His style brought sophistication to the folk style art.

### **BUNDI:-**

Bundi and Kota were a unified state in 17<sup>th</sup> century. Afterwards Bundi developed as an independent branch of Mewar school of painting. It was ruled by Hara royal dynasty. The Human figures resemble Mewar but are expressive, the faces are round and small the shades near cheeks, eye and nose add charm and emotion.

Human figures usually have a reddish brown complexion but they got more refined and it was pinkish towards the end of 17 century. Water got stylized in wavy lines.

Natural forms became more realistic. The favourite themes were Ragmala, Baramasa, Rasikpriya. Krishna was the beloved of all the people of all classes.

Special mention should be made of the Bundiartists special gift of portraying the elephants.

Climax was reached by the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century after mughal influence started showing in shading, finer lines and Deccan influence can also be seen in cylindrical forms of women, gardens, fountains and architecture.

### **Jodhpur School**

1. It is the largest state of Rajasthan of Rajputs.
2. The paintings initially were of Jain style because of Jain merchants.
3. Then the Mughal influence was there because of the alliances with Mughal rulers. Royal portraits were made.
4. A true Jodhpur style came up in between 1760 to 1780. Rhythmic lines and well like colours were the main features.
5. Female figures were shown with charming simplicity and beautiful long uplifted eyes.
6. The peak of art maturity was in Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century under Man Singh, a poet himself.
7. Illustrations were on Shiva Purana ,Nalacharitham, Durga Charitra,Panchatantra.

## **Kishangarh School**

1. This state was surrounded by Jaipur, Jodhpur and Ajmer where the art sparked when it was about to end in Neighbouring states (in the reign of Raja Raj Singh and Raja Sawant Singh)
2. Sawant Singh was a scholar and an expert in Music, poetry and painting
3. He wrote over fifty books under his pen name Nagari Das.
4. He fell in love and got married to a girl who was an attendant to his step mother . She was named as BaniThani
5. They both became a subject for artists who portrayed them as Radha and Krishna as he was a great devotee of Krishna.
6. Illustrations were done on Swant Singh's work.
7. Other scenes like Court, royal portraits, Bhagavad Purana, BihariSatsa,Nayak – Nayika Bheda and Geet – govind were also painted.
8. Depiction of women was beautifully done.
9. BaniThani by Nihal Chand is the most famous painting and a prime example of that time.

## **Jaipur School of Art**

1. The jaipur school reached its peak in the 18th Century A.D when Mughal influence weakened.
2. The roots of art remained deep under Jai Singh I. under the patronage of Akbar.
3. The Subjects were from Hindu epics and romances of lord Krishna.
4. Some influence of Mughal art was there but they were ready to make their own mark in bold compositions and stylization under Pratap Singh.
5. Other Subjects were life size Portraits, Ragmala, Lord Krishna and Radha, Rajput Princes, Camel fights, pomp and ceremony of the royal court, the Bhagavata Purana, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata etc.

## **Bikaner School**

1. Bikaner School was completely under the influence of Mughal art.
2. Raja Rai Singh was particularly influence and later kings Karan Singh and Anup Singh did some patronage but Mughals did not let art prosper.
3. All artists were Muslim but painted Hindu themes skillfully like RasikpriyaVarshaVihar.
4. Most of the scenes painted were from Ragmala, BhagavataPurana, and Ras Lila.
5. The paintings had their lines and a lesser range of colors
6. Some developed form of Bikaner art can be seen in palaces of Anup Mahal, SurjanMahal where Barahmasa and Ragmala were painted.