

Sculpture

The Pala sculptures also present examples of artistic beauty carved out of Black Basalt which are obtained from Sankhatargan and Munger. They had slight elegance technical precision and harsh outlines when to metal work.

The Pala style is marked by slim and graceful figures, elaborate jewellery and conventional proportion. Their sculptures from Behar are somewhat thick set and heavier in their general proportion of limbs than those from Bengal. The Pala rulers had intimate relation with Java which are evident in Hindu Javanese sculptures. Some amount of stylisation is noted in the later phase of Pala art, but the tradition is continued under the Sena rulers in the 12th century until the Islamic rulers overran the country.

The main feature of Pala sculpture is their free flowing movement. Almost all the figures are of similar size.

In the ~~muse~~ museum in Bangladesh the most notable exhibits are the innumerable beautiful sculptures in Rajmahal black basalt stone. The deities seem to have assumed life through the mastery carving of the sculptors.

The artistic genius of the Bengal sculptors blossomed to perfection in the period. Similarly Bronze sculpture of Bengal came to be recognized as specimen of a matured art and specialist think that the Bengal Bronze influenced the art in South East Asian countries.

Painting:-

The earliest example of miniature painting in India exist in the form of illustrations to the religious text on Buddhism India and the Jain texts executed in Western India during the 10th-12th centuries AD.

Paintings

Manuscripts

Wall Painting (Mura)

Manuscripts - were written on palm leaves. In these paintings, scenes of life of Buddha and several gods and goddesses of Mahayana sect are depicted. Many painting illustrated manuscripts belong to the Vajrayana school of Buddhism.

The Impact of Tantricism on these paintings are easily visible. Sometimes it also resembles some of the qualities of Nepalese and Burmese Art.

Though limited to manuscript paintings the art shows a very developed stage and scholars have held that the paintings of the Pala period definitely influenced the Eastern Indian, Tibetan and Nepalese painting of the 11th century.

- Saranika mentions the Ahimsa art Vajpali painter of the Pala period.
- A large number of manuscripts on palm leaf relating to Buddha's themes were written and illustrated with the image of Buddhist deities are seen.