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700 Foot Mural Art

This article covers “Daily current events “and the topic is about ‘700 Foot Mural Art’ which is in news, it covers “Polity and Governance” In GS-1 and GS-2, and the following content has relevance for UPSC.

For Prelims: About mural art

For Mains: GS-1, Features of mural arts

Why in News:

In Kerala, The Wall of Peace, a magnificent piece of contemporary mural art, was unveiled on the 700-foot-long compound wall of the Government Vocational Higher Secondary School at Cherpulassery.

On the wall, the word “peace” has been imprinted in 250 different languages.

ABOUT THE MURAL ART

- A mural is essentially an artwork created on a wall or other permanent surface. One of the oldest painting traditions in the world is found in India.
- Indian paintings have a long history that spans from the second century BC to the eighth and tenth centuries AD.
- The murals from Ajanta are the oldest ones still standing on the Indian subcontinent. The Ajanta paintings were created in two eras, with the earliest dating to roughly the second century B.C.
- The magnificent final phase took place under the Vakatakas’ sponsorship around the fifth century A.D.

FEATURES

- Indian mural paintings have a few unique characteristics that set them apart from other types of illustrative art. Their organic relationship to architecture and their widespread public importance are the two main characteristics that distinguish them as significant. Indian murals are incredibly expressive and practical.

- Mural paintings have the power to dramatically alter how a structure feels about its spatial proportions through the use of colour, design, and theme treatment. Mural paintings are the only type of artwork that actually alters and shares a place, making them truly three-dimensional.
- The natural pigments used in the mural paintings, such as terracotta, chalk, red ochre, and yellow ochre combined with animal fat, were used to create the colour palette.
- The important mural paintings date to the eighth century AD and are distinguished by their linear styles. They can be seen in Bagh in Madhya Pradesh, the Badami caves in Karnataka, Sittannavasal in Tamil Nadu, and the Kailashanatha temple in Ellora, Maharashtra.

Indian mural paintings come in a variety of styles:

- Tempera painting is accomplished by mixing colour with a water-soluble medium.
- Painting using oil paints using the suspension of pigments in drying oils is known as “oil painting.”
- Fresco painting is an old technique that involved applying water-based paints to freshly laid plaster, typically on a wall façade.

Several mural paintings of India:

- Various Buddhist cave sites, notably Pitalkhora near Ellora in Maharashtra, have pieces of other ancient Indian mural paintings from the Ajanta period.
- During the Gupta era, which spanned the 4th to the 6th century A.D., nine caves were discovered on the slopes of the Vindhya hills above the Bagh river.
- In the midst of Ladakh’s vast and desolate environment, the monastery of Alchi is a haven of beauty and colour. The Green Tara is one of the Alchi painters’ greatest works.
- The Nayaka brothers, Virupanna and Viranna, constructed the temple in Lepakshi in the sixteenth century at a major trading and pilgrimage hub in the Vijayanagar empire.
- The 6th-century Hindu caves of Badami in Karnataka have very few remaining murals.
- The paintings in the Kancheepuram temples of Panamalai and Kailashanatar express themes pertaining to Siva.
- In Tamil Nadu’s Sittannavasal Jain cave from the ninth century, the ceiling has a beautiful lotus pond painted on it.

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