



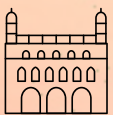
CULTURE

Classroom Study Material

(May 2021 to January 2022)



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CULTURE

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Note:

PT 365 documents comprehensively covers the important current affairs of last 1 year (365days) in a consolidated manner to aid Prelims preparation.

In our endeavour to further enhance the document in the interest of the aspirants, following additions have been incorporated:

1. Different colours have been used in the document for easy classification and recollection of a variety of information.
2. QR based Smart quiz has been added to test the aspirant's learnings and understanding.
3. Infographics have been added to ease understanding, provide for smoother learning experience and ensure enhanced retention of the content.



SMART QUIZ

You can scan this QR code to practice the smart quiz at our open test online platform for testing your understanding and recalling of the concepts.



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1. SCULPTURE AND ARCHITECTURE

1.1. ANCIENT TEMPLE OF GUPTA PERIOD

Why in News?

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has found **remains of an ancient temple dating back to the Gupta Period, 5th Century CE in Bilsarh village of Uttar Pradesh's Etah.**

About Archeological Survey of India (ASI)

- It is the **premier organization for archaeological research, scientific analysis, excavation of archaeological sites, conservation and preservation of protected monuments.**
- It was founded in **1861 by Alexander Cunningham.**
- It is an attached office under **Ministry of Culture.**

More in News

- **Bilsarh** has been protected since 1928 and was known as an **important Gupta period site.**
- Key finding include **two decorative pillars** close to one another, with human figurines and stairs that led to temple engraved with **'shankhalipi' inscriptions saying, 'Sri Mahendraditya', the title of Kumaragupta I of Gupta dynasty.**
 - The discovery becomes significant since **only two other structural temples from the Gupta age** have been found so far — **Dashavatara Temple (Deogarh) and Bhitargaon Temple (Kanpur Dehat).**
 - The Etah pillars are well-sculpted, **better than the earlier examples in which only the lower sections were carved.** The decorative pillars and staircase are a bit more advanced than the earlier ones.

Shankhalipi

- Shankhalipi or "shell-script" describe **ornate spiral characters assumed to be Brahmi derivatives** that look like conch shells or shankhas.
 - Both Shankhalipi and Brahmi are stylised scripts **used primarily for names and signatures.**
- They are found in inscriptions across north-central India and **date to between 4th and 8th centuries.**
- **Prominent sites with shell inscriptions** include the **Mundeshwari Temple in Bihar, the Udayagiri Caves in Madhya Pradesh.**

About Gupta period temple architecture

- The Guptas were **the first to build structural temples**, distinctly different from the ancient rock-cut temples.
 - The Gupta Dynasty ruled the North Central India between **the 4th and 6th centuries CE** and is considered a **golden age for arts.**
 - The Dynasty was founded by **Chandragupta I who acceded to the throne in 320 CE.**
- **Key features of Gupta period temple architecture**
 - The Gupta style was influenced by **Kusana, Mathura, and Gandhara** and borrowed the common features of **T-shaped doorways, decorated door jambs, sculpted panels with high-relief figures, and laurel-wreath and acanthus motifs.**
 - These temples were **constructed using sandstone, granite, and brick.**
 - In Gupta architecture, the **square was considered the most perfect form and temples were designed to be appreciated from all sides** so that each carries decorative architectural features.
 - **From the 6th century CE, Gupta temples were built on a platform (jagati)** and a good example is the Dashavatara temple at Deogarh in Madhya Pradesh.
 - Gupta temples were **dedicated to a large number of Hindu gods rather than a single deity.**
 - ✓ The doorway to the square sanctuary tower of the **Dashavatara temple is a fine example** and carries **sculpture of Vishnu, Brahma, Indra, Ganga, and Yamuna, as well as attendants and mithuna couples.**

DID YOU KNOW?



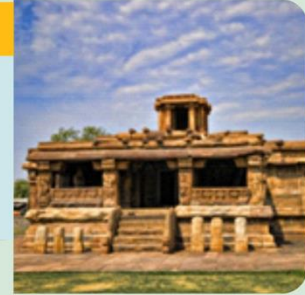
- **During Gupta period, the memorizing of chronicles, dynastic histories or epic tales** was the work of a different group of people, the **sutas and magadhas.**
- **From Ajanta and Bagh caves, examples of cave paintings of the Gupta period** were also found.
- **Tamralipti port** handled the **North Indian trade** during the **Gupta period.**

Five main types of Gupta Temples

**Type 1**

- ▶ **Square building with flat roof** and shallow pillared porch.
- ▶ The nucleus of the temple, the **sanctum or cella (garbhagriha)**, with a **single entrance and a porch (Mandapa)** appears for the first time here.
- ▶ **Notable examples are:** Kankali Devi Temple (Tigawa) and Vishnu Varaha Temple (Eran).

- ▶ **Addition of an ambulatory (paradakshina)** around sanctum
- ▶ Sometimes a **second storey is also found**
- ▶ **Notable examples are:** Shiva Temple Bhumara (MP), Lad Khan Temple (Aihole), Parvati Temple at Nachnakuthara (MP)

Type 2**Type 3**

- ▶ **Square Temple** with low and squat tower (Shikhara) above. **Pillared approach**, a high platform at the base.
- ▶ It is in the **Panchayatna style of architecture** where the main shrine is built on a rectangular plinth with four smaller subsidiary shrines at the four corners (making it a total of five shrines, hence the name Panchayatna).
- ▶ Most unique achievement of this stage was **“Curvilinear Tower” i.e. Shikhara**.
- ▶ Success of third stage **led to “Nagara Style” temple making**.
- ▶ **Notable examples are:** Dasavatara Temple (Deogarh) and Brick Temple (Bhitargaon)

Type 4

- ▶ **Rectangular temple** with an apsidal back and **barrel-vaulted roof** above
- ▶ **Notable examples are:** Kapoteswara Temple at Cezarla (Andhra Pradesh)

**Type 5**

- ▶ **Circular temple** with shallow rectangular projection at **four cardinal faces**.
- ▶ **Notable example:** Maniyar Math shrine at Rajgir, Bihar.



1.2. SUN TEMPLE OF KONARK

Why in News?

Recently, the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** discussed ways to remove sand filled by the British from the **sealed assembly hall (known as Jagamohana) of Konark Sun Temple, Odisha**.

More on News

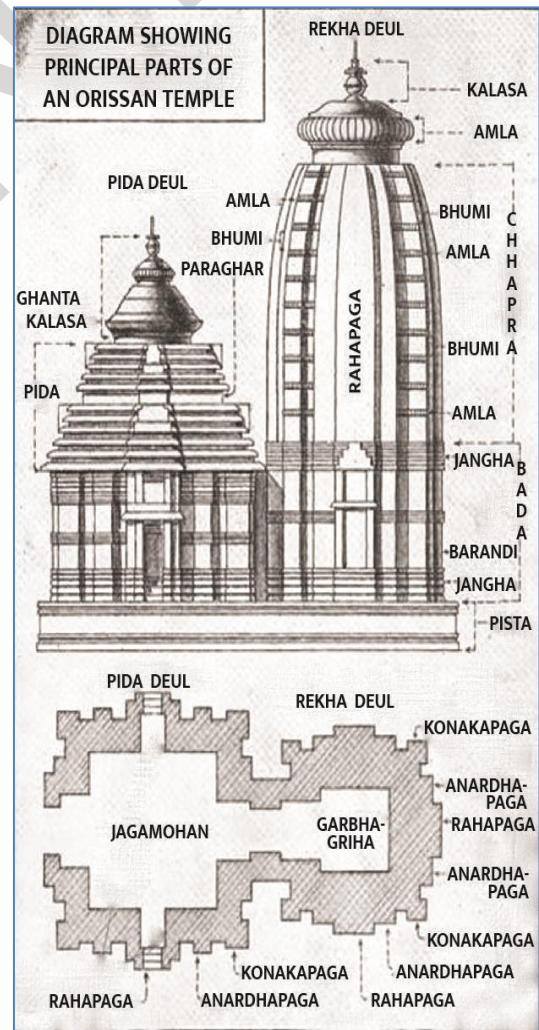
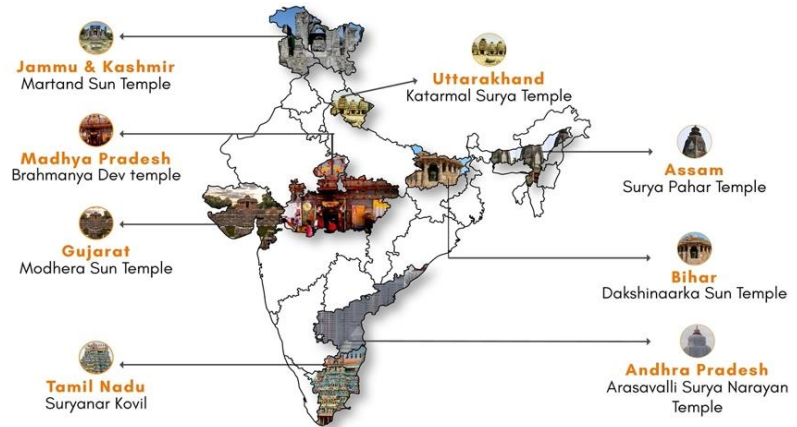
- The **Jagamohana** was filled with sand by British to avoid damage.
- In 2019, it was found to be settled down, creating a 17 feet gap between sand and the structure.

About Sun Temple of Konark

- Dedicated to the **Sun God**, the temple is located on the shores of the **Bay of Bengal**.
 - It is **also known as 'Black Pagoda'** due to its dark color stone used
- It was built by **King Narasimha Deva I** of the **Eastern Ganga dynasty** from 1238-1250CE (as per **Kenduli Copper plate inscription**).
 - The Old Legend links it to **Samba, son of Lord Krishna**, who built it.
- In **1984** it was included as **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
 - It is protected under the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act (1958)**.
- **Chandrabhaga**, its nearest beach, received **Blue Flag certification** for environmental cleanliness in **2018**.
 - In 2016, a study by IIT Kharagpur indicated **presence of lost Chandrabhaga River** in the proximity of the temple.
- **Konark Dance Festival** and **Chandrabhaga Festival** are celebrated here.
- It is a **Kalinga architectural style temple**, a sub-style of **Nagara Temple Architecture**, with a:
 - **Rekha Deula** or **Vimana** (principal sanctuary) with a Shikhara (Crowning cap);
 - **Jagamohana** or **assembly hall**;
 - **Natamandir** or **Dance hall**; and a number of other sub-structures.
- In its complete form, it represents an epic imagination of a celestial chariot carrying Sun, mounted on **24 intricately carved wheels**, 12 each on **North** and **South** side, with nearly **3 m diameter** drawn by **seven horses**, with:
 - Set of wheels representing 12 months of a year and the eight spokes as 8 prahar and symbolic motifs on cycle of seasons and months.
 - The 7 horses as the 7 days of week.
- **Decorative features on Wall/Pillars:** Lions, musicians and dancers etc.
 - Also, the wheels of temple are depicted on reverse side of **10 rupee note**.
- **Stones used in the temple:** Chlorite, Laterite and the greenish Khondalite.
- **Temple Destruction:** No fixed reason but due to any or a mix of the following reasons, most of the structure collapsed in **1837** with only **Jagamohan** remaining fully intact.



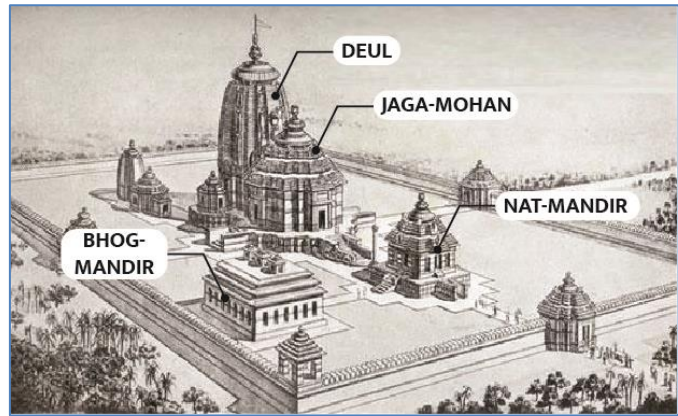
Other Prominent Sun Temples in India



- Reasons: Islamic invasion, structural flaws, stones unsuitability or weathering, removal of its magnets etc.

About Kalinga Architectural Style

- Flourished in the ancient **Kalinga region**, lying between the **Mahanadi and Godavari rivers** (present day West Bengal, Odisha and northern Andhra Pradesh).
- A sub-style of Nagara Temples, the **Kalinga temples** are further classified into **three distinct types of temples: Rekha-Deula, Pidha-Deula and Khakhara-Deula.**



- Rekha-deula** is a square plan topped with a curvilinear tower. The parts of the temple align along the same (east-west) line or axis. Dedicated to Vishnu, Shiva and Sun, it is the most common temple form.
- Pidha-deula** is also a square plan but topped with a pyramidal tower composed of horizontal tiers or platforms, usually arranged in three tiers. Dedicated to Vishnu, Shiva and Sun, it is mainly used for halls.
- Khakhara-deula** are the **barrel-shaped** (vault-shape) tower over a rectangular plan with an elongated roof, similar to **Dravida Gopuram** design. Dedicated to female deities (e.g. Chamunda and Durga), it is a rare form but used as sanctum sanctorum to house deity.

Phases of Temple Evolution

Formative Phase (6th-9th CE)

Major Dynasty

Bhaumakaras

Famous Temples

Parasurameswara ,
Vaital Deula

Mature Phase (11th-13th CE)

Major Dynasty

Eastern Ganga

Famous Temples

Jagannath Temple, Konark
Sun

Transitional Phase 9th-11th CE)

Major Dynasty

Somvanshi

Famous Temples

Mukteswara, Rajarani,
Lingaraj

Decline Phase (14th-16th CE)

Major Dynasty

Gajapatis

1.3. RECLINING BUDDHA

Why in news?

India's largest statue of the Reclining Buddha is being installed at the Buddha International Welfare Mission temple in **Bodh Gaya, Bihar.**

About Reclining Buddha

- A reclining Buddha statue **represents The Buddha during his last illness**, about to enter **Parinirvana** - the stage of great salvation after death that can only be attained by enlightened souls.
- Statues of Reclining Buddha show him **lying on his right side, his head resting on a cushion or on his right elbow.** It is meant to show that **all beings have the potential to be awakened and be released from the cycle of death and rebirth.**



- The Reclining Buddha was **first depicted in Gandhara Art** - which began in between **50 BC and 75 AD**, and **peaked during the Kushana period** from the 1st – 5th centuries AD.


Reclining Buddha in India

- Cave No. 26 of Ajanta** contains a 24-foot-long and nine-foot-tall sculpture of the Reclining Buddha, believed to have been carved in the 5th century AD.
- Kushinagar** (present day **Uttar Pradesh** – where Buddha attained parinirvana) has a 6-metre-long red sandstone monolith statue of the Reclining Buddha inside the Parinirvana Stupa.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The painting of **Bodhisattva Padmapani** is one of the most famous and illustrated paintings at **Ajanta**.
- The Bodhisattva is **holding a padma (lotus)**, has large shoulders, and has **three bents in the body creating a movement in the picture space**.

Gandhara Art Features




- Influence:** Greek or Hellenistic also called Indo-Greek.
- Types of Sandstones:** Grey/Bluish Grey
- Religious influence:** mainly Buddhist
- Patron:** Kushana dynasty
- Areas:** North West Frontier
- Features of Sculptures:** Spiritual Buddha (bearded, moustache), wearing less ornaments, wavy hair, large forehead, large ears, eyes half closed, protuberance on his head.

Reclining Buddha outside India





- In Sri Lanka and India, the Buddha is mostly shown in sitting postures, while the **reclining postures** are **more prevalent in Thailand** and other parts of **South East Asia**.
- The **largest Reclining Buddha** in the world is the **600-foot WinseinTawya Buddha** built in 1992 in **Mawlamyine, Myanmar**.
- The **Bhamala Buddha Parinirvanain Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province** is considered the **oldest statue of its kind in the world**. It is over 1800 years old.
- In the **late 15th century**, a **70-metre statue** of the Reclining Buddha was built at the **Hindu temple site of Baphuon in Cambodia's Angkor**.

Related News

- Miniature sculpture of the Buddha** was found at **Alembi in Udupi district (Karnataka)**.
- Sculpture, made out of soft sandstone, **looks like a replica of the Sarnath Buddha**.
- Buddha is seated on a lotus pedestal in **Dharma Chakra Pravarthana Mudra**.
- The sculpture is in the **Gupta style**.



Four major schools developed under Buddhism are

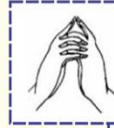
Hinayana Buddhism	Mahayana Buddhism	Theravada Buddhism	Vajrayana (Tantric Buddhism)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It means the lesser vehicle. It is more of an orthodox school. It includes the followers of the original preaching of the Buddha. It did not believe in idol or image worship. Scholars used Pali language to interact with the masses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It means the greater vehicle. It is more liberal. It believes in the heavenliness of Buddha and Bodhisattvas embodying Buddha Nature. It believes in idol or image worship of Buddha. Scholars predominantly used Sanskrit language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is one of the subsects of Hinayana (Sthaviravada) It refers to the school of elder monks. The ultimate goal is the cessation of the kleshas (include states of mind such as anxiety, fear, anger, jealousy etc) and the attainment of the sublime state of Nirvana. It believes in the concept of vibhajjavada i.e., "teaching of analysis." Pali is sacred language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is one of the sub-sects of Mahayana. It was influenced by Hinduism. It involved combining Brahmanical (Veda based) rituals with Buddhist philosophies. The main deity is Tara (a lady). It believes in Tantra's, Mantras and Yantras. Classical Tibetan is the main language used for students 

VARIOUS MUDRAS RELATED TO BUDDHA



Bhumisparsha Mudra

- Buddha sitting with right hand touching the earth, palm facing inward and left hand in his lap
- Symbolises Maravijaya
- Earth as witness to the truth of his words
- Related only to Buddha



Uttarabodhi Mudra

- Two hands placed together with index finger together and other fingers intertwined.
- It means supreme enlightenment.
- This Mudra is known for charging one with energy and symbolises perfection.



Varada Mudra

- The left or right arm is extended the way down, with the palm of the open hand facing outwards.
- It indicates charity, compassion or granting wishes.
- This Mudra signifies five perfections: Generosity, Morality, Patience, Effort and Meditative Concentration, through the five extended fingers.
- Used by God, Goddesses and Kings



Dhyana Mudra

- Both hands placed in lap with tips of thumb and fingers touch each other
- Indicates Meditation and is also called 'Samadhi' or 'Yoga'
- Mudra was used by Buddha during the final meditation under the bodhi tree.
- Related to Buddha, Monks and ascetics



Anjali Mudra

- Both hands close to the chest, palms and fingers joined against each other vertically.
- Symbol of respect, greetings, and salutation
- This is for Bodhisattvas (devotees), who aim and prepare to attain perfect knowledge



Karana Mudra

- Hand is stretched out, either horizontally or vertically, with the palm forward.
 - The thumb presses the folded two middle fingers but the index and little fingers are raised straight upwards.
- It indicates warding off evil, expelling demons and negative energy.



Vitarka Mudra

- The tips of the thumb and index finger touch each other, forming a circle
 - The circle maintains the constant flow of energy, as there is no beginning or end, only perfection.
- It indicates teaching and discussion or intellectual debate
- Used by ascetics, monks in discourse



Dharmachakra Mudra

- This Mudra involves both hands, right hand is held at chest level with the palm facing outwards. A mystic circle is formed by joining the tips of the index finger and the thumb.
- The left hand is turned inward and the index finger and thumb of this hand join to touch the right hand's circle.
- It means 'Turning the Wheel of the Dharma or Law'
- This gesture used only by Buddha at first sermon in the Deer Park of Sarnath.



Abhaya Mudra

- Palm of the right hand faces outwards and the fingers are upright and joined
- It indicates fearlessness
- This gesture was shown by Buddha immediately after attaining enlightenment.
- Gods, Goddess and Buddha in this mudra



Vajra Mudra

- In this mudra, the erect forefinger of the left hand is held in the fist of the right hand.
- This mudra signifies the importance of knowledge or supreme wisdom.






Kshepana Mudra

- Two hands together in gesture of pouring out and letting go
- Used as a means of draining negative energy and attracting positive energy

1.4. OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

1,600-yr-old site found in Haryana

- Archaeological site has been discovered near **Haryana's Sandhai village (Yamunanagar district)** with its ties to lost habitations along the legendary Saraswati river.
- **Key Findings**
 - **Evidence of habitation:** Bricks, earthenware and remains of a statue.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Religious evidence: Nagara-style temple of stones, scriptural evidence of a pillar apart from material related to the base of a construction. ○ Indo-Sasanian (Iranians) coins of Sri-ha type which belong to the 7th century in this region. ○ The artefacts found here look like the post Gupta empire to the Gurjara-Pratihara period (8th-9th Century AD). ○ This site may be between the Kushanera to the Gurjara-Pratihara period. However, some bricks apparently belong to the Kushan period. 
<p>Porunai River (Thamirabarani) civilization</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A carbon dating analysis of rice with soil, found in a burial urn at Sivakalai in Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu has yielded the date of civilization at 1155 BC, indicating that the Thamirabarani civilisation dates back to 3200 years. ● This is the oldest civilization perhaps, older than the Vaigai civilization which is believed to be 2600 years old. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vaigai Civilisation' is an indigenous, well developed self-sustaining urban culture with an industry and script, indicating that the people of that era were highly literate. ● More archaeological excavations would be carried out in other States and countries in search of Tamil roots. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ States to be covered: The ancient port of Muziris, now known as Pattanam, in Kerala to establish the ancientness and culture of the Chera empire along with Vengi in Andhra Pradesh, Thalaikadu in Karnataka and Palur in Odisha. ○ Countries to be covered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Egypt (at Quseir al-Qadim and PernicaAnekke) and Oman (at Khor Rori). Potsherds bearing Tamil scripts have been found in these countries. ✓ Southeast Asian countries, such as Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam, where King Rajendra Chola had established supremacy. 
<p>Ellora Caves</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ellora caves (6th to 8th century CE) lie in the Sahyadri hills in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. ● Listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 1983 and known for its Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain temples and monuments. ● Group of 34 caves – 17 Brahmanical, 12 Buddhist and 5 Jain. ● One of the largest single rock cut monastic cave complexes in the world. ● Contains the largest single monolithic excavation in the world, popularly known as the Kailasha Cave. 

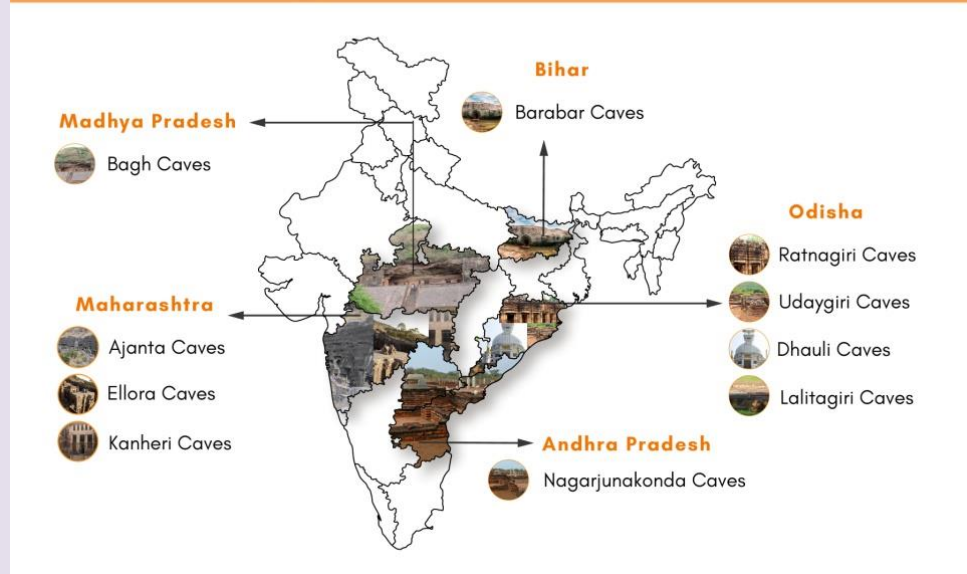
PT 365 - Culture

Trirashmi Buddhist caves

- 3 new caves were discovered in the Trirashmi Buddhist cave complex of Nashik, Maharashtra.
 - All the caves have verandahs and they also consist of a square stone platform for monks.
- Trirashmi caves, also known as Pandav Leni, are a group of 24 caves that were carved out of Trirashmi Hill between the 2nd century BC and 6th century AD.
 - The caves complex was documented in 1823 by one Captain James Delamaine;
 - The caves are both viharas and chaityas.
 - Viharas are monasteries and chaityas are the halls of congregation.
 - They belong to both Hinayana Faith (did not believe in idol or image worship) and Mahayana faith (believes in idol or image worship of Buddha) in Buddhism.



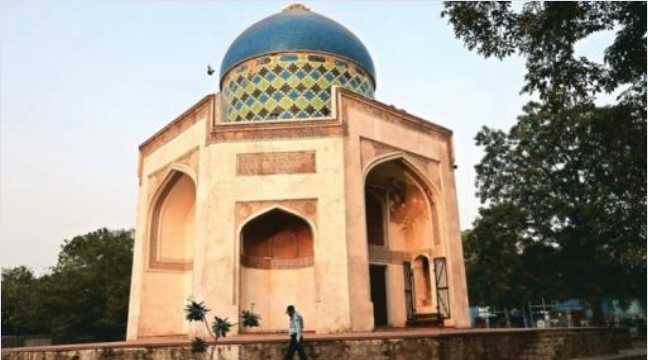
Other Major Buddhist caves in India



Ramna Kali temple

- President of India inaugurated the renovated Sri Ramna Kali Mandir in Dhaka (Bangladesh).
 - Revived shrine is considered a symbol of the spiritual and cultural bond among the people of India and Bangladesh.
- The temple was destroyed by Pakistani forces during their Operation Searchlight in March 1971, the brutal crackdown that led to the Bangladesh War of Liberation.
- The original Ramna Kalibari was built during the medieval era and was famous for its tall structure.
- In 1929, the temple complex acquired an additional building for the devotees of the famous saint Anandamayee.



Sabz Burj	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subz Burj is an octagonal tomb situated beside Humayun's Tomb, New Delhi.• The structure is crowned with a blue dome and it is popularly known as the Neeli ("Blue") chhatri.• Some historians consider the Sabz Burj tomb is constructed to be for Fahim Khan (died in 1626 AD) who was an attendant to Abdur Rahim Khan during 4th Mughal emperor Jahangir's reign.• It demonstrates Timurid architectural style synonymous with Central Asia.• It does not have any markings pointing to the identity of those buried under it.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ However, it is of immense significance due to the ceiling on its double dome structure painted in pure gold and lapis and revealed after conservation efforts began.○ Lapis lazuli is a deep-blue metamorphic rock used as a semi-precious stone that has been prized since antiquity for its intense color. 
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DELHI: 21 APR, 1 PM | 7 APR, 5 PM | 9 MAR, 1 PM
23 MAR, 9 AM | 1 MAR, 9 AM

LUCKNOW: 10th May, 1 PM | 9th Feb, 5 PM **HYDERABAD:** 16th May, 3:30 PM | 11th April, 7 AM **PUNE:** 7th Mar, 9 AM

CHANDIGARH: 7th Mar, 5 PM | 15th Feb, 5 PM **AHMEDABAD:** 21st April, 4 PM **JAIPUR:** 10th May, 7 AM & 5 PM

2. PAINTINGS AND OTHER ART FORMS

2.1. MANGAR BANI CAVE PAINTINGS

Why in News?

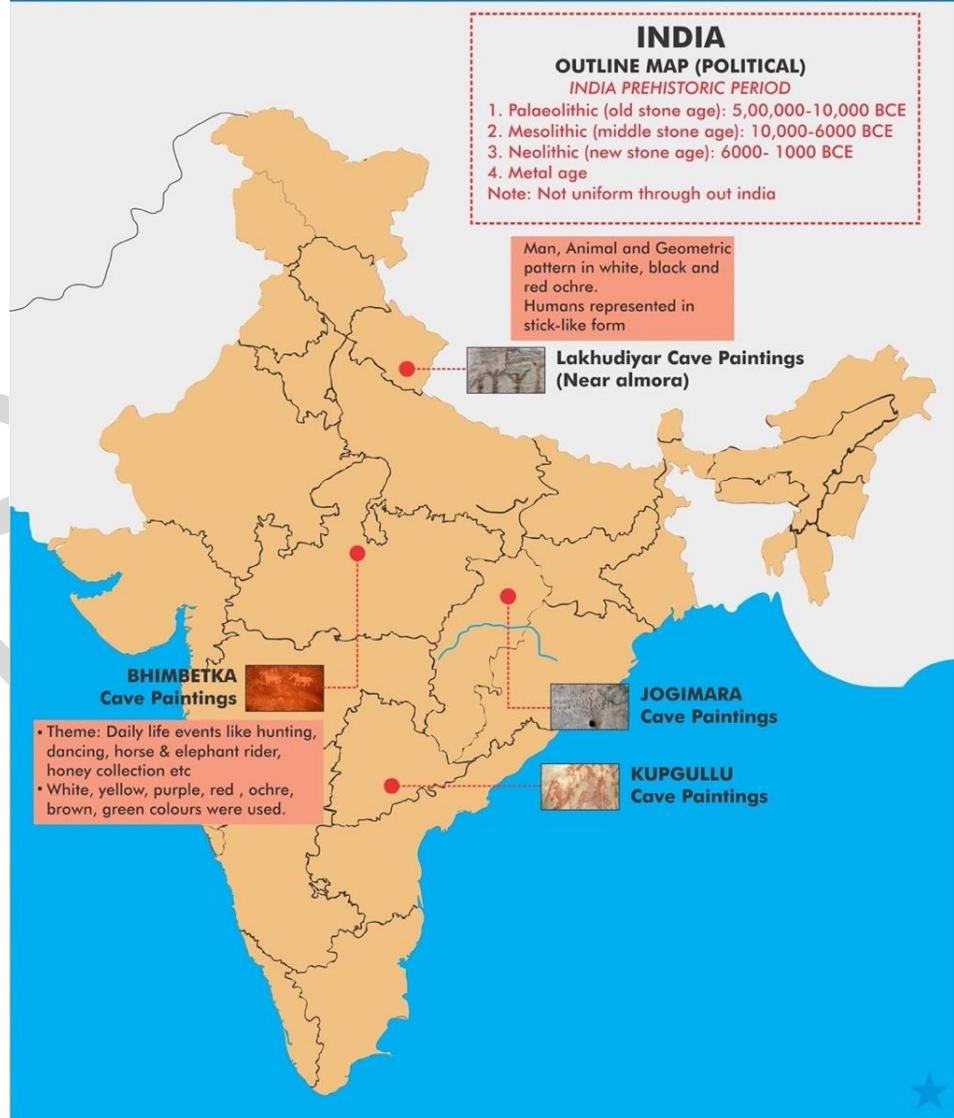
Archaeologists discovered cave paintings, believed to be of upper Palaeolithic age amongst the quartzite rocks of the Aravalli Mountain ranges and forested holy grove called Mangar Bani in Haryana.

About Mangar Bani Cave paintings


- The cave paintings comprise images of human figurines, animals, foliage, and geometric figures. (see image)
 - The paintings are reminiscent of Bhimbetka (Madhya Pradesh), which has one of the oldest known cave arts in India (Mesolithic Age, around 10,000 years ago).
- The colour of most paintings is ochre, but some are white.
 - Ochre is an earthy pigment containing ferric oxide, typically with clay, varying from light yellow to brown or red.
- According to experts, Mangar cave art is 20,000-40,000 years old.
- Archaeologists view the painting in continuation of the Soanian culture.
 - Soanian is an archaeological culture of the Lower Paleolithic in the Siwalik region of the Indian subcontinent.



Major Prehistoric Cave paintings of India




Salient features of prehistoric cave painting

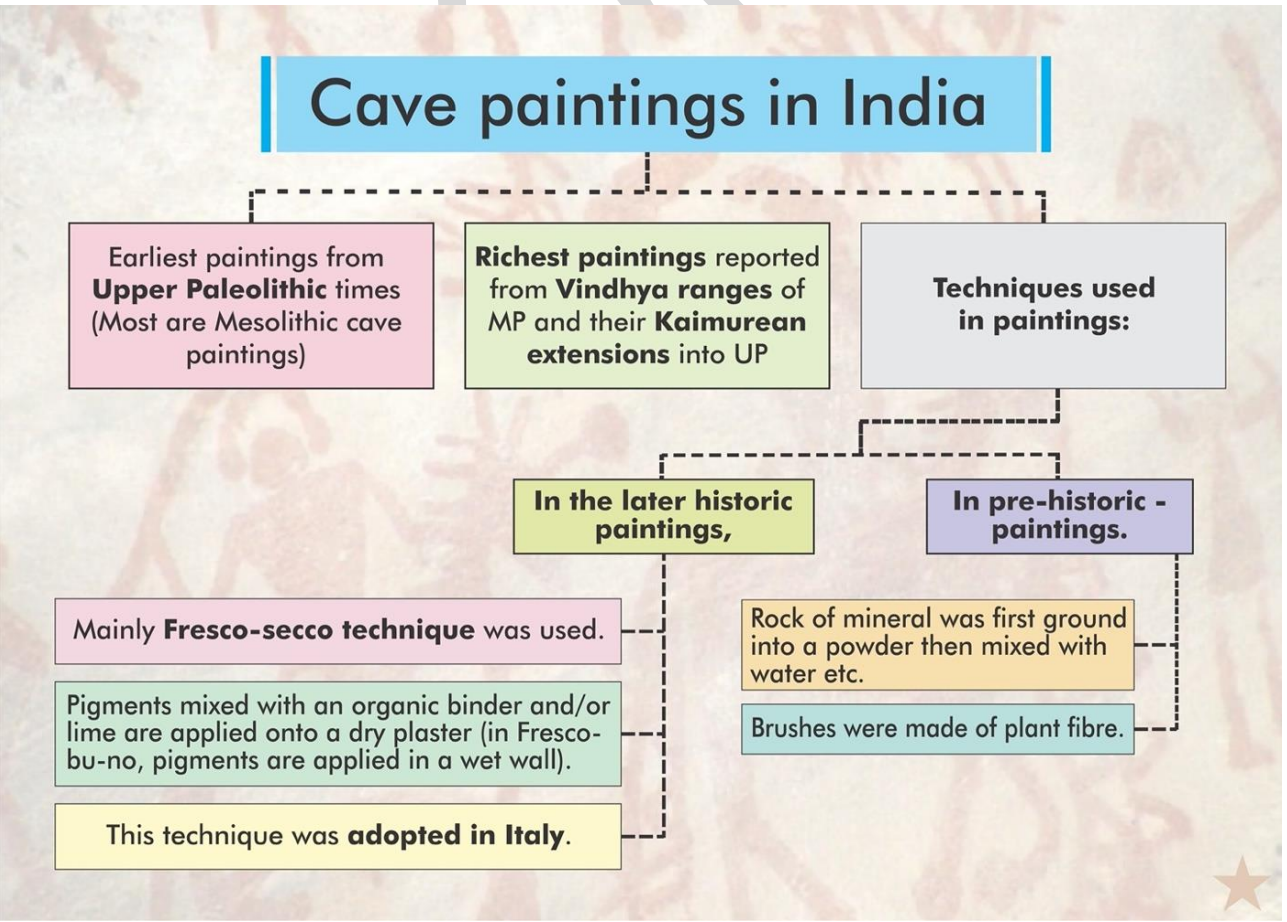


- 3 categories: man, animal and geometric.
- Wavy lines, rectangle-filled geometric designs, and groups of dots.
- Theme: Depiction of day-to-day life like hunting, dancing.
- Some superimposition of paintings.
- Humans are represented in stick-like forms.
- Few are wash paintings but mostly are with geometric patterns.
- White, yellow, orange, red ochre, purple, brown, green and black colours.
- More Animal figures than Human figures

Salient features of historic painting



- Main themes: religious, mythological, palace scenes.
- Floral motifs near the ceiling, geometric designs.
- Red ochre, yellow ochre, indigo, lamp black (Kajjal), chalk white, terraverte, green etc.
- Movements in the figures are rhythmic.
- Vibrant and luminous colours.
- Brown thick dark lines are used as contours.
- Various skin colours also used.
- Lines are forceful and full of energy.
- Highlight the figural compositions.
- Typological variations in the caves.



Evolution of the prehistoric cave paintings		
Upper Paleolithic paintings	Mesolithic Cave paintings	Neolithic Cave paintings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple iconic animal and human forms appear for the first time. • Animals were shown in their natural outlines and humans always in the dynamic action of hunting or dancing executed in abstract form. • Characterized by perfect 'S' shaped human figures depicting activities that look as if they are hunting, dancing and running. • Upper part of the rocks in the shelter was mostly painted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosion of creativity in the form of numerous motifs, designs with figures in gently flowing fine lines reflecting dynamic action. • Hunters are shown wearing simple clothes and ornaments, elaborate head-dresses and masks. • Animal forms are naturalistic depictions while human figures are static and abstract. • Male figures are stick like while the women are bulky box shaped with intricate body designs as infilling consisting of spiral or honey-comb. • Mythical stories depicting huge defied animals chasing diminutive human beings, medical treatment and burial like activity. • Dance, pregnant women, childbirth and a mother with a child are also drawn. • Example: Lakhajuar (Fishing scene, family feasting in a hut), Bhimbetka (Magical treatment of an ill person), Chaturbhujnath Nala (dynamic archers). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paintings lose their sense of movement, figures are repetitive signs, humans and animals start becoming more and more schematic and stylized. • Size, in general, goes on reducing, though a few big figures are also there. • Hunting scenes are there, but hunting as an act of a large group is absent. From now onwards, the solitary hunter is shown. • Example: Chaturbhujnath Nala (Chariots appeared), Kupgallu, Piklihal and Tekkalkota

2.2. KALAMKARI PAINTINGS

Why in News?

Karuppur kalamkari paintings from Tamil Nadu recently received the geographical indication (GI) tag.

More about News

- Tamil Nadu, kalamkari paintings are done on **pure cotton cloth, predominantly used in temples for umbrella covers, cylindrical hangings, chariot covers and asmanagiri (false ceiling cloth pieces)**.
- Kalamkari paintings are **done in Karuppur and its surrounding villages in the Udayarpalayam taluk in Ariyalur district**, and in and around Sickhanayakanpatti and Thirupanandal in Thiruvudaimaruthur taluk, Thanjavur district.



About Kalamkari Painting

- It is a **type of hand-painted or block printed cotton textile** produced in parts of India (**mainly South India**) for hanging on walls.
- Kalamkari literally means, **Kalam - pen & kari - work**, i.e., art work **done using a pen**.
- It is **done on cotton or silk fabric** with a tamarind pen using natural dyes.
- This colourful art **dates back to more than 3000 B.C.**
- The traditional style of Kalamkari flourished in **Kalahasti (north of Chennai) and Masulipatnam (east of Hyderabad)**.
- The paintings at that time used to **depict Hindu Deities** and scenes from **Hindu mythology**.
- This art was **patronised by the Mughals** particularly in Golconda.
- **Mostly natural dyes** are used in Kalamkari, which involves twenty-three steps.

Distinctive styles of Kalamkari art in India

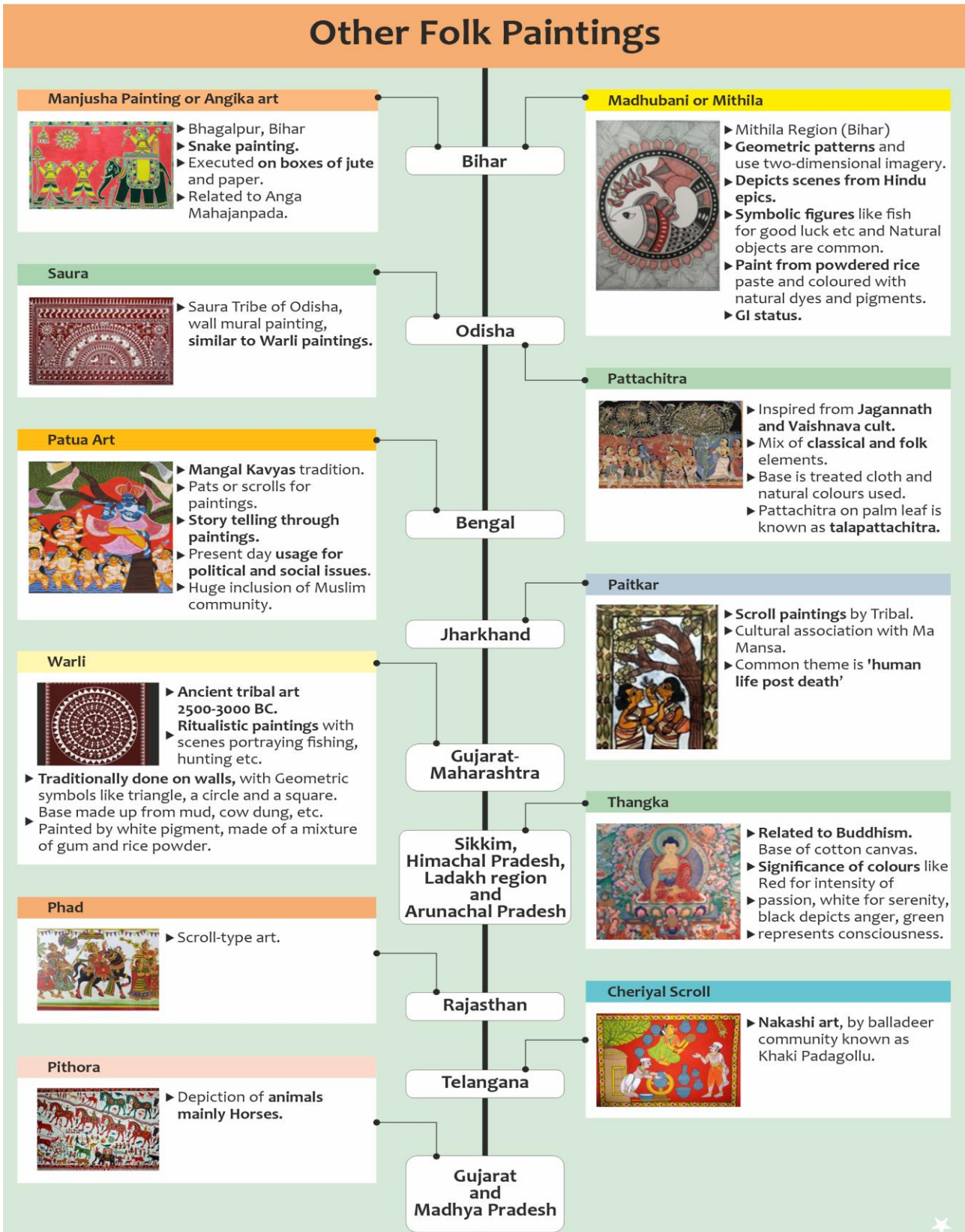
- **Srikalahasti style:**
 - It flourished **around temples with Hindu patronage**, thus has an almost religious identity.
 - Here the **kalam or pen is used for freehand drawing of the subject**, and filling in the colours is entirely done by hand.

DID YOU KNOW?



- **Bani Thani is an Indian painting in the Kishangarh school of paintings.** Bani Thani was painted by an artist by the name of **Nihâl Chand**.
- The painting's subject, **Bani Thani, was a singer and poet** in Kishangarh in the time of king **Savant Singh**.

- The themes and deities are drawn from **great epics like Ramayana, Mahabharata, Puranas and other mythological classics.**
- These are depicted on **scrolls, temple hangings and chariot banners.**
- **Machilipatnam style:**
 - Pedana Kalamkari also known as Machilipatnam style involves vegetable dyed block-painting of a fabric.
 - It is **influenced by Persian art.**
 - The motifs **used are trees, flowers and leaf designs** are printed using blocks.



2.3. PUTUL NAUTCH

Why in News?

Recently, in collaboration with UNICEF an Assam based Trust has produced three short videos using Putul Nautch for creating mass awareness on COVID appropriate behaviour.

About Putul Nautch

- It is the rod puppetry form of Assam, West Bengal and also extends to parts North-East India.
- These puppets are carved from wood. Dolls are 1.5 meter tall and are made of hollow wood or bamboo.
 - The heads are made of terracotta.
 - These puppets have mostly three joints. The heads, supported by the main rod, are joined at the neck and both hands attached to rods are joined at the shoulders.
- In Assam, it is performed in three areas with distinct characteristics.
 - Lower Assam: Putala-Bhoariya and Putala-Bhaona.
 - Upper Assam (Majuli island): In the style of the Ankia Nat form developed by Sankaradev.
 - North Assam: borrow largely from the mobile theatre of Assam (Bhraymaman) in terms of themes and costumes.

Puppetry in India

- There are four major puppetry types in India which are categorized into

String Puppets



- String puppets (or marionettes) having jointed limbs, controlled by strings allow far greater flexibility and are, therefore, the most articulate of the puppets.
- Rajasthan, Odisha, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu are some of the regions where this form of puppetry has flourished.
- Puppetries that come under string puppetry are Kathputli (Rajasthan), Gombeyatta (Karnataka), Bommallattam (It is a mix of Rod and String puppetry) (Tamil Nadu), Kundhei (Odisha).

Shadow Puppets



- Shadow puppets are flat figures. They are cut out of leather, which has been treated to make them translucent.
- Survives in Odisha, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu.
- Ravanachhaya (Odisha), TogaluGombeyatta (Karnataka), TholuBommallata (Andhra Pradesh) are some popular shadow puppetry.

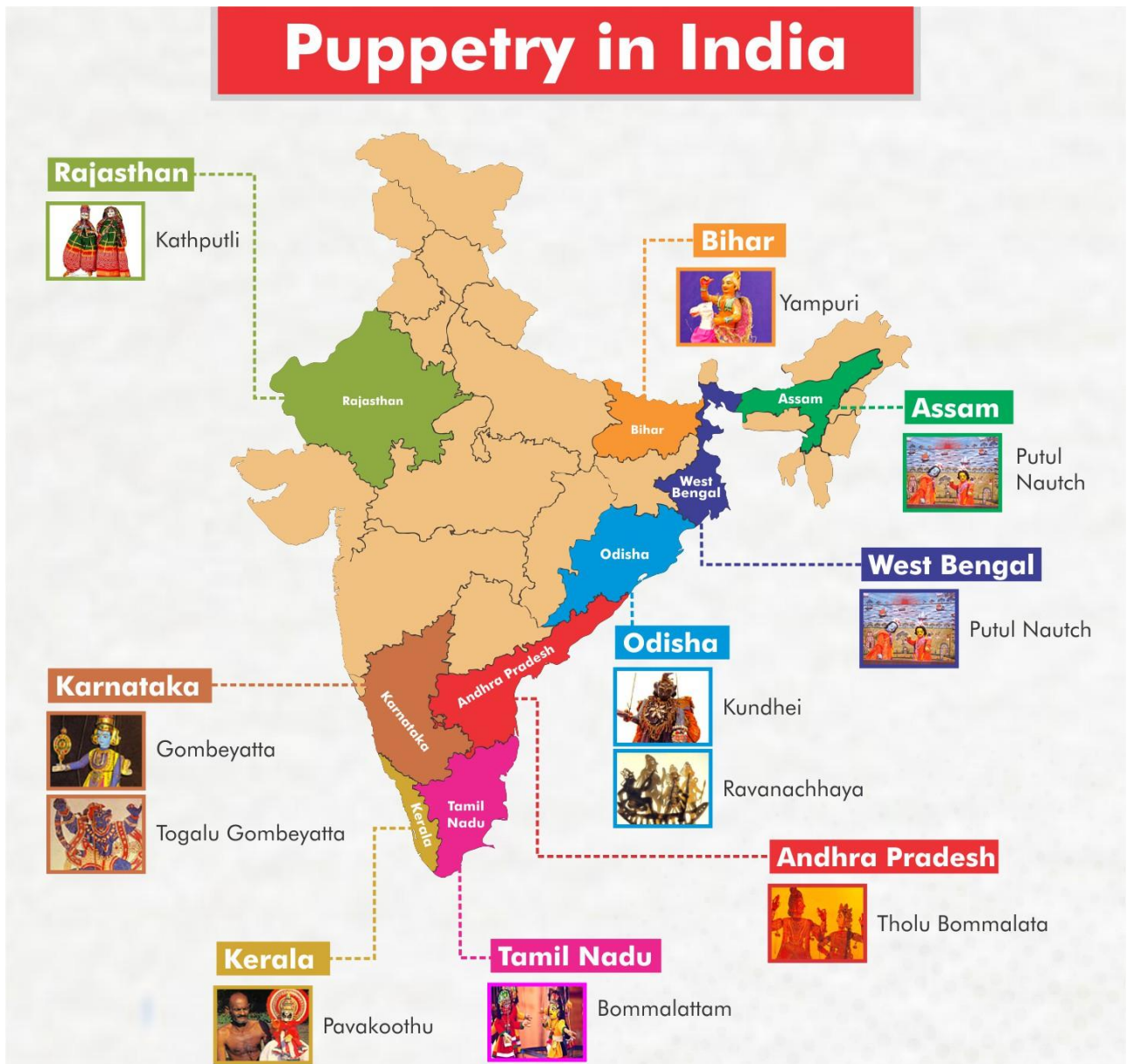
Glove Puppets



Rod Puppets



- Glove puppets are also known as sleeve, hand, or palm puppets.
- Popular in Uttar Pradesh (UP), Odisha, West Bengal, and Kerala.
 - In UP, glove puppet plays usually present social themes, whereas in Odisha such plays are based on the stories of Radha and Krishna.
 - Pavakoothu is the traditional glove puppet play of Kerala.
- Rod puppets are an extension of glove-puppets, but often much larger and supported and manipulated by rods from below.
- This form of puppetry now is found mostly in West Bengal and Odisha.
- Putul Nach, Yampuri (Bihar) are some popular Rod puppetry.



2.4. TOYCATHON 2021

Why in News?

Toycathon 2021 grand finale was inaugurated virtually.

More on News

- Toycathon focuses on conceptualizing new and innovative toys using local materials which are economical, affordable, safe, environment friendly, with exceptional high quality for both Indian and global markets.
- Toycathon 2021 was organized by Ministry of Education in coordination with five other Ministries.

Need to promote local toy industry

- Toys can help connect the young minds with India's history and culture which is helpful in social mental development and cultivation of Indian outlook.
- India imported around \$1.5 billion worth toys in 2020, with China and Taiwan accounting for around 90% of domestic toy market.
- Study by Quality Council of India (QCI) had revealed that 67% of imported toys failed a testing survey, prompting an aggressive effort to produce safe toys locally.

About Traditional Toys of India

- India has a rich legacy in toy-making. Historically Indian toys date back to 5000 years.
 - The excavated toys and dolls found in Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro included small carts, dancing woman, etc.
- India has a rich culture of storytelling through its toys and also show a perspective of life.
- The religious influence also led to a different set of toys depicting stories from epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata.
- State and culture-specific variation provide unique sets of toys for children even on the basis of material used such as terracotta, wooden, iron, and cloth made toys.

Other initiatives taken to promote domestic toy industry

- Under the Scheme of Funds for Re-generation of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) of the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises assistance is provided for creation of common facilities centre with latest machines, design-centres, raw material bank, skill development etc.
 - A total of 14 toy clusters across the country have been approved under the SFURTI scheme.
- National Action Plan for Indian Toy Story to boost local manufacturing and incentivise toy and handcraft manufacturers.
- Under National Education Policy 2020 toy-making will be introduced to students from the sixth standard onwards.



2.5. OTHER ART FORM IN NEWS

<p>Climate Change Affecting World's Oldest Cave Art</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, Researchers have reported that Pleistocene-era rock paintings dating back to 45,000-20,000 years on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi are weathering at an alarming rate. • The Researchers found flakes of rock detaching from these cave surfaces. The artwork made with pigments is decaying due to a process known as Haloclasty, which is triggered by the growth of salt crystals due to repeated changes in temperature and humidity caused by alternating wet and dry weather in the region. • The cave art of Sulawesi is much older than the prehistoric cave art of Europe. • Some of the Stone Age rock Paintings found among the Bhimbetka rock shelters in India are approximately 30,000 years old. 	
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<p>Meenakari</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister has gifted ‘Meenakari’ chess set to US Vice President • About Meenakari <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is the process of painting and coloring the surfaces of metals and ceramics through enameling. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ There are various kinds of Meenakari work depending on whether the enamel is to appear opaque, transparent or translucent. ○ It usually involves intricate designs and is applied as a decorative feature to servicing dishes, containers, vases, frames, display ornaments and jewelry. ○ It was introduced to India by the Mughals. ○ Raja Man Singh of Mewar is regarded as the patron of the meenakari art in 16th century Jaipur. ○ Banaras Gulabi Meenakari Craft has got GI certificate in 2015.
<p>Apatani Textiles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, GI tag application has been filed for the Arunachal Pradesh Apatani textile product. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Woven fabric by the Apatani tribe is known for its geometric and zigzag patterns. ○ They predominantly weaves shawls known as jig-jiro and jilan or jackets called supuntarii. • Apatani Tribe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They are settled in the village of Ziro (Arunachal Pradesh). ○ They are known for their fish and paddy culture, along with cane and bamboo crafts ○ They speak a local language called Tani and worship the sun and the moon. ○ Important festival: Dree and Myoko festivals. <div data-bbox="933 201 1436 705" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1109 750 1436 1086" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="327 1153 1101 2060" data-label="Figure"> <p>“TEXTILES/EMBROIDERIES OF INDIA”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KASHIDA, PASHMINA, JAMMU & KASHMIR • PHULKARI, PUNJAB • KOTA, BANDHANI, LEHERIYA, RAJASTHAN • KULLU SHAWLS, HIMACHAL PRADESH • PANCACHULI, UTTARAKHAND • BANARASI, CHIKANKARI, UTTAR PRADESH • LEPCHA, SIKKIM • MUGA, ASSAM • APATANI, ARUNACHAL PRADESH • ANGAMI, NAGALAND • MOIRANGPHEE, PHANEK, MANIPUR • PUAN, MIZORAM • TANT, KATHA, WEST BENGAL • PATOLA, GHARCHOLA, BANDHANI, GUJARAT • KUCHAI SILK, JHARKHAND • BOMKAL, SAMBALPURI, ODISHA • PAITHANI, MAHARASHTRA • POCHAMPALLY, IKAT, GADWAL, TELANGANA • KUNBI, GOA • VENATAGIRI, MANGALGIRI, KALAMKARI, ANDHRA PRADESH • MYSORE SILK, KARNATAKA • KANCHIPURAM/KANJIVARAM, KONRAD, TAMIL NADU • KASAVU, KERALA </div>

<p>Kaavi Art</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaavi, a form of wall art introduced by Portuguese, is done in bright red and white shades. • It is done on wet plaster in a manner similar to frescoes (technique of mural painting executed upon freshly laid lime plaster). • It gets its name from kaav, a red pigment found in laterite soil that is used to create images on white background of plaster. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red is the only colour used in kaavi art. • It is found in the Konkan region, especially in temples of Goa, Maharashtra and Karnataka. 	
<p>Langa-Manganiyar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rapidly disappearing narrative traditions of Langa-Manganiyar artistes are being preserved through an initiative aimed at documentation and digitization of these communities. • Langas and Manganiyars are hereditary communities of Muslim musicians residing mostly in western Rajasthan's Jaisalmer and Barmer districts and in Pakistan's Tharparkar and Sanghar districts in Sindh. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Langa's patrons are Muslim Sindhi Sipahis, whereas the Manganiyar's patrons are mainly Hindus. ○ The Langa's main traditional instrument is the sindhi sarangi; Manganiyar's is the kamaicha. • The music of the two marginalised communities, who were supported by wealthy landlords and merchants before Independence, forms a vital part of Thar desert's cultural landscape. • Travel is an integral part of their livelihood. 	

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फाउंडेशन कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन

प्रारंभिक एवं मुख्य परीक्षा 2023

इनोवेटिव क्लासरूम प्रोग्राम

लाइव/ऑनलाइन कक्षाएं भी उपलब्ध

- प्रारंभिक परीक्षा, मुख्य परीक्षा और निबंध के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सभी टॉपिक को विस्तृत कवरेज
- मौलिक अवधारणाओं की समझ के विकास एवं विश्लेषणात्मक क्षमता निर्माण पर विशेष ध्यान
- एनीमेशन, पॉवर प्वाइंट, वीडियो जैसी तकनीकी सुविधाओं का प्रयोग
- अंतर - विषयक समझ विकसित करने का प्रयास
- योजनाबद्ध तैयारी हेतु करंट ओरिएंटेड अप्रोच
- नियमित क्लास टेस्ट एवं व्यक्तिगत मूल्यांकन

- सीसेट कक्षाएं
- PT 365 कक्षाएं
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- निबंध टेस्ट सीरीज
- सीसेट टेस्ट सीरीज
- निबंध लेखन - शैली की कक्षाएं
- करंट अफेयर्स मैगजीन

DELHI: 5 APR, 9 AM | 1 FEB, 1 PM

LUCKNOW: 17 MAY | 9 AM

JAIPUR: 10 MAY | 4 PM

3. INITIATIVES OF UNESCO

3.1. UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

3.1.1. WORLD HERITAGE TAG

Why in News?

Recently, **Kakatiya Rudreswara Temple** (also known as the **Ramappa Temple**) and **Dholavira** have been inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage list.

More on News

- With the addition of these two sites, **India now has 40 sites in the UNESCO's World Heritage list** (32 cultural, seven natural and one mixed).
 - **Italy (58)** followed by China (56) and Germany (51) **has the largest number of sites (2021)**.
- Dholavira is the **first site of the ancient Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC) in India to get the tag**.

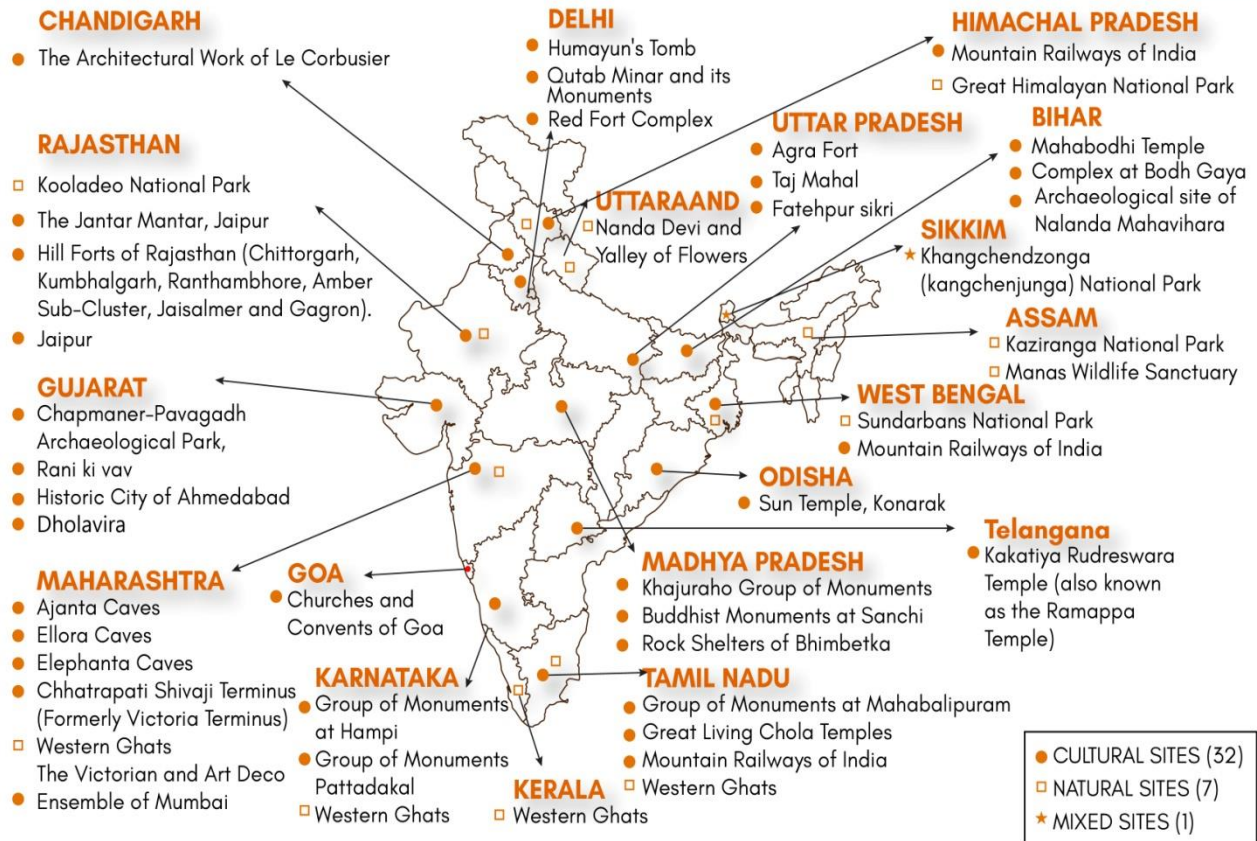
About World Heritage Sites

- A World Heritage Site is a **location with an “outstanding universal value”**. This signifies “cultural and/or natural significance which is exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity”.
 - These sites are nominated by UNESCO as embodied in an international treaty called the **‘Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage’ adopted in 1972**.
- **Nomination process:**
 - **Tentative List:** It is the first step a country must take by making an ‘inventory’ of its important natural and cultural heritage sites located within its boundaries.
 - **The Nomination File:** After UNESCO includes a property in the Tentative List, that country has to prepare a nomination document with necessary documentation and maps. This is sent for evaluation to the advisory bodies.
 - **Final Inscription:** Once a site has been nominated and evaluated, it is up to the World Heritage Committee to make the final decision on its inscription on the World Heritage Lists.

What UNESCO tag means for these sites?

- It will galvanise national and international tourism not only to these sites but also to other historical sites in these states.
- A higher number of tourists automatically translates into better amenities and more money for the community where the heritage site is located.
- Once a site is inscribed on the World Heritage List, the resulting prestige often helps raise awareness among citizens and governments for heritage preservation.
- A country may also receive financial assistance and expert advice from the World Heritage Committee to support activities for the preservation of its sites.
- The inscribed site also gains protection under Geneva Convention against destruction during war.

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN INDIA



Related News

- Recently, UNESCO's 'Historic Urban Landscape Project (HULP)', for Gwalior and Orchha cities (Madhya Pradesh) was launched.
- Gwalior was established in 9th century and ruled by Gurjar-Pratihara Rajvansh, Tomar, Baghel Kachvaha and Scindias.
 - Gwalior is known for its palaces and temples, including Sas Bahu Temple.
- Orchha is in the Bundelkhand region of MP and was the 16th century capital of the erstwhile Bundela dynasty.
 - The famous spots in the town are Raj Mahal, Jehangir Mahal, Ramraja Temple, Rai Praveen Mahal, and Laxminarayan Mandir.
- HULP was started in 2011 as an approach for the management of heritage resources in dynamic and constantly changing environments.
 - It is based on the recognition and identification of a layering and interconnection of natural and cultural, tangible and intangible, international and local values present in any city.
- Significance of HULP
 - It aims to enhance and integrate the urban heritage of the cities, especially in the context of the Smart City initiative.
 - Chemical treatment of historic spots will be done so that art inscribed on them will become more visible.
 - UNESCO will suggest best measures and resources for the development of these places.
 - Extensive survey work and mapping of the urban characteristics of the historical cities will be carried out.

Related News

- Recently, Liverpool (UK) was removed from the World Heritage List.
- Decision was taken citing concerns about overdevelopment including plans for a new football stadium.
- Liverpool was added to World Heritage List in 2004 in recognition of its role as one of the world's major trading centres in the 18th and 19th centuries – and its pioneering dock technology, transport systems and port management.
- It is only the third location to lose its World Heritage status. Arabian Oryx Sanctuary in Oman (2007) and Elbe Valley in Dresden, Germany (2009) are the other two sites.

3.1.1.1. RUDRESHWARA TEMPLE

Rudreshwara Temple, at Palampet, Mulugu district, near Warangal in Telangana, is a masterpiece of Kakatiyan style of Temple architecture with the use of engineering innovation by creating floating bricks, sand-box foundations, material selection knowledge and ingenuity in stone sculpting as technological ensemble.



- Its construction started in 1213 AD during the reign of Recherla Rudra, a general of Kakatiya king Ganapati Deva.
 - It has been built over 40 years by sculptor Ramappa.
- It is a sandstone temple dedicated to Ramalingeswara Swamy (Shiva). Ramappa is the main Shiva temple in a larger walled temple complex, which includes several smaller temples and structures.
 - It is close to the shores of the RamappaCheruvu, a Kakatiya-built water reservoir.
- The temple building stands on a 6 feet high star-shaped platform with intricate carvings on beams and pillars of carved granite and dolerite.
 - It includes pyramidal Vimana (horizontally stepped tower) made of lightweight porous bricks, so-called 'floating bricks', which reduced the weight of the roof structures.
 - ✓ Bricks were made of clay mixed with acacia wood, chaff, and myrobalan (a tree), making it sponge-like and allowing it to float on water.
 - The chamber of the temple is crowned by a 'shikharam' and surrounded by 'pradakshinapatha'.
- There is high artistic quality illustration of regional dance customs and Kakatiyan culture on walls, pillars, and ceilings.
- Famous Italian merchant and explorer Marco Polo had remarked that temple was "brightest star in the galaxy of medieval temples of the Deccan".

About Kakatiyas (1123–1323 CE)

- Kakatiyas were the political successors of the Kalyana Chalukyas (Kannada speaking region) in the Telugu speaking region ruled by the Chalukyas.
 - The Kakatiyas, along with the Hoysalas and Yadavas had announced themselves as rulers independent of the Chalukyas.
- Kakatiya ruled most of eastern Deccan region comprising present day Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, and parts of eastern Karnataka and southern Odisha.
 - Their capital was Orugallu, now known as Warangal.
 - Motupalli was the chief port of the Kakatiyas and this port was visited by the Venitian traveller, Marco Polo.
- Important rulers of Kakatiya dynasty
 - Prola II: He was the first independent ruler of Kakatiya dynasty.
 - Rudradeva (1163-1195): His exploits are described in his famous inscription in the Rudresvara temple at Anumakonda. From this inscription it is evident that he had defeated a large number of Chalukyan feudatories round his kingdom.
 - ✓ Rudradeva was succeeded by his brother Mahadeva (1195–1198), and Mahadeva by his son Ganapati (1199–1261).
 - Ganapati had no sons and was succeeded by Rudrama Devi, one of the few queens in Indian history. She was able to repulse the Pandyas of southern Tamil Nadu, Eastern Gangas of Orissa, and Seunas of Devagiri.
- In 1303, Alauddin Khilji invaded the Kakatiya territory which ended up as a disaster for him.

Contribution of Kakatiyas to art, architecture and literature

- Kakatiyas have carried forward the stellate temple form and adopted the Vesara style of Vimana from the Chalukyas and have very well adapted it to the cultural geography of Telangana.
 - The use of simple material like sand in the construction of foundation of a lofty temple making it an earthquake resistant structure is a masterpiece of the creative effort of the Kakatiyas in the field of construction and geo-technology.

- The distinct style of Kakatiyas for the gateways to temple complexes, unique only to this region confirms the highly evolved proportions of aesthetics in temple and town gateways in South India.
- **Well planned irrigation systems** - devoid of any perennial water source, stand as characteristic features of Kakatiyan kingdom.
 - Recently, **Telangana Government also started ‘Mission Kakatiya’** to restore tanks and irrigation network taking inspiration from Kakatiya Dynasty.
- **Telugu literature reached a level of maturity** in the 14th century during the Kakatiya period.
- **NrittaRatnavali authored in 1253 A. D.** by Jayasenapati was inspired from the dancing female figures carved in Ramappa Temple.
- The study of Rudreshwara temple’s dance sculptures give an **understanding of the desi dance traditions such as perini, prekhana, gavundali, rasaka, danda rasaka ghatisisrinrttam** performed in the temple and the thrust on desi sthankas, charis and karnanas.

3.1.1.2. DHOLAVIRA

- **Dholavira (Occupied between ca. 3000-1500 BCE)**, the southern centre of the Harappan Civilization, is **sited on the arid island of Khadir (located within Rann of Kachchh)** in Gujarat.
- It was discovered in 1968 by archaeologist Jagat Pati Joshi.
- At Dholavira an entire sequence spanning the history of Harappan cities, **from early Harappan town / pre-urban phase to the height of the Harappan expansion and the late Harappan is observed.**



Key Features of Dholavira

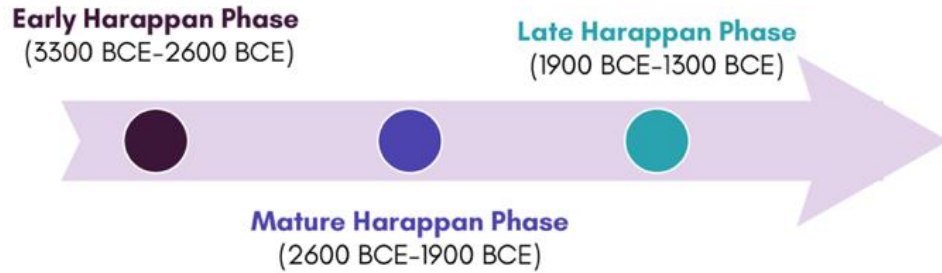
Town Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Comprises of two parts: a walled city and a cemetery to the west of the city. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The walled city consists of a fortified Castle with attached fortified Bailey i.e., outer wall (very similar to the Harappan settlement at Kalibangan) and Ceremonial Ground, and a fortified Middle Town and a Lower Town. ○ A series of reservoirs are found to the east and south of the Citadel. ○ The great majority of the burials in the Cemetery are memorial in nature.
Water Management/ Conservation systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The city had an impressive and unique water harvesting and management system. ● Two seasonal streams provided water, a scarce resource in the region, to the walled city. ● Water diverted from seasonal streams, scanty precipitation and available ground was sourced, stored, in large stone-cut reservoirs which are extant along the eastern and southern fortification. ● To further access water, few rock-cut wells are evident in different parts of the city.
Artistic and Technological advancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bead processing workshops and artifacts of various kinds such as copper, shell, stone, jewellery of semi-precious stones, terracotta, gold, ivory and other materials have been found. ● Design, execution, harnessing of local materials in an effective manner.
Strategic location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Location in the island of Khadir was strategic to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Harness different mineral and raw material sources (copper, shell, agate-carnelian, steatite, lead, banded limestone, among others). ○ Facilitate internal as well as external trade to the Magan (modern Oman peninsula) and Mesopotamian regions.
Other Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Settlements like Surkotada, JuniKuran in Gujarat indicates considerable inspiration drawn from Dholavira.

- **A stratified social order is demonstrated** by heavily fortified castle and ceremonial ground as well as streets and houses of different proportion quality.
- **Walls were made of sandstone or limestone** instead of mud bricks used in many other Harappan sites.
- **Some unique features of Dholavira include:** a cascading series of water reservoirs, outer fortification, two multi-purpose grounds, nine gates with unique designs, and funerary architecture featuring tumulus — hemispherical structures like the Buddhist Stupas.

About Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC)

- It is the **earliest known urban civilisation** of the Indian subcontinent.
- Also called the Harappan culture, **named after Harappa**, the first site where this unique culture was discovered.
- It was a **Bronze Age Civilization** with three distinct phases.
- Part of **four contemporary urban civilizations** (along with **Egypt, Mesopotamia, and China**), IVC people had:
 - Know-how on **geometric calculations and standards of measurement.**
 - A surplus and complex economy with **deep trade and commercial links spreading from South India to West Asia.**
- They produced **wheat, barley, peas, sesame, mustard and rice.**
- Various materials were used in **Harappan civilisation to make beads:** stones like carnelian, jasper, crystal, quartz and steatite; metals like copper, bronze and gold; and shell, faience and terracotta or burnt clay.

Distinct phases of Bronze Age Civilization

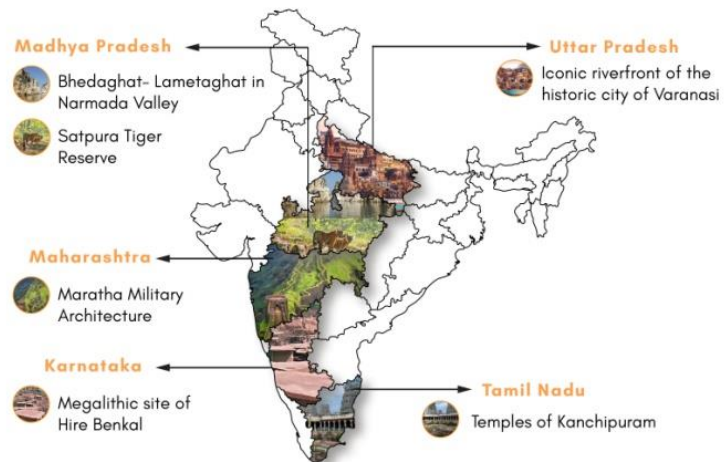


3.1.2. TENTATIVE LIST OF UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage Sites

Why in news?

Six sites submitted by the Archaeological Survey of India had been accepted by UNESCO for inclusion in the tentative list in 2021, which is a requirement before the final nomination of any site.



About the six sites:

<p>Iconic riverfront of the historic city of Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 6.5 km long riverfront of River Ganga presents a view of the magnificent architectural row of lofty buildings, holy sites and ghats. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 84 stepped ghats, which is a unique Indian typology of an architectural interface of the river with the land Five ghats called Panchatirthis are mentioned in the ancient text Matsya Purana: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asi, named for its location at the former confluence of the Asi and Ganga Rivers Dashashvamedha, where according to myth, Brahma performed the-ten horses sacrifice Manikarnika, which is popularly eulogized as ‘the cremation ground’ Panchaganga (believed to be the meeting point of the five rivers- Ganga, Yamuna, Sarasvati, Kirana and the Dhutpapa) Adi Keshava, which is believed to be the original site of Lord Vishnu Besides Hinduism, Varanasi is also linked to the cultural, spiritual and religious traditions of other major religions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lord Buddha gave his first sermon "Turning the wheel of Law" in 528 BC at Sarnath near Varanasi. According to Jain tradition, it is the birthplace of the 4 Jain Tirthankaras- Suparshvanath (7th), Chandraprabhu (8th), Shreyanshnath (11th) and Parshvanath (23rd) Guru Nanak visited Varanasi twice in the 16th century. The Alamgir mosque on Panchganga ghat was built by Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. Other traditions practiced here include wooden toy making, saree making, silk weaving, metal, wood and terracotta handicrafts, paintings, the use of Sanskrit language and Vedic chanting.
<p>Temples of Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Situated on the banks of River Vegavathi, the historic temple town of Kanchipuram once had 1,000 temples, of which only 126 (108 Shaiva and 18 Vaishnava) now remain. Kanchipuram was the capital of the Pallava dynasty from 6th to 9th century CE, under whom the Dravidian style of temple architecture began and flourished. Of the 11 temples identified under this nomination, some important ones are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kailasanathar Temple: Built by the Pallava king Rajasimha I (Narasimhavarman II), it is the oldest structure in Kanchipuram. The temple’s sanctum sanctorum contains a unique 16-sided shivalinga carved out of black granite. Ekambaresvara temple: It is one of the five major Shiva temples of PanchaBootha Sthalams (each representing a natural element) representing the element – Earth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The temple’s Raja Gopuram is one of the tallest (57m) in south India and was built by the Vijayanagara king Krishnadevaraya. ✓ One notable feature is the Aayiram Kaal Mandapam, or the “hallway with a thousand pillars”. Varadharaja Perumal temple: Dedicated to Lord Vishnu, it is one of the 108 Divya Desams visited by all the 12 Alwar saints. It has a ‘hundred pillar’ Mandapam built by the Vijayanagara kings.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ulagalanda Perumal Temple: This temple has a unique feature of having four Divya Desams in the same complex, which is not seen anywhere. Temple is dedicated to Vishnu's Vamana avatar. ● Kanchipuram is also famous for its silk weaving. Temple motifs such as gopuram, peacocks, nightingales, rudraksham beads and floral designs are part of the intricate weaving found on Kanchipuram sarees.
Megalithic site of Hire Benkal (Karnataka)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The site of Hire Benkal consists of almost 1000 megalithic burial structures situated on a granite peak for more than 2500 years. Major architectural varieties found are dolmens, cairns, passage chambers, stone circle, menhirs, anthropomorphic figure carved from granite, etc <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Megalith is derived from two greek words-‘megas’ meaning large and ‘lithos’ meaning stone. They are constructed either as burial sites or commemorative memorials. ● Another unique feature of Hire Benkal is prehistoric rock paintings. 11 rock shelters have been discovered with motifs like human figures, horse rider holding battle-axe, row of deers, bull with long horns, peacock, etc. ● The site provides an exceptional insight into the funerary and ritual practices of the Iron Age – Megalithic Culture of Indian Protohistory. ● In India, megaliths are seen in Peninsular South, Deccan plateau, Vindhya and North West region of Indian subcontinent. ● Megalithic sites in India are dated to a period ranging from 1300 BCE to 12 century CE.
Bhedaghat-Lametaghat in Narmada Valley (Madhya Pradesh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bhedaghat is the only place in river Narmada's course where it falls into a 30-meter deep gorge forming the Dhuandhar fall and flows through the narrow gorges. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Here the towering marble rock rises perpendicularly on both sides, creating a stunning spectacle. It is referred to as the Grand Canyon of India. ● Bhedaghat area is the only example of regional metamorphism in limestone within a short distance of 2 to 3 km in the world. ● Besides, dinosaur fossils have been found in the Narmada valley particularly in this area. ● Narmada originates at Amarkantak and flows west in the rift valley between the Satpura and Vindhya Range.
Satpura Tiger Reserve (Madhya Pradesh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Located in Hoshangabad, Satpura Tiger Reserve (STR) is a prime example of a central Indian highlands ecosystem. ● Satpura, basically meaning "Seven Folds", forms a watershed between Narmada and Tapi River is triangular in shape. ● It is part of the Deccan bio-geographic zone of India and is also known as the northern extremity of Western Ghats. ● It supports 17% of India's tiger population and 12% of its tiger habitat. ● STR was declared as the first biosphere reserve of Madhya Pradesh in the year 1999. It consists of three protected areas- Satpura National Park, Bori Sanctuary and Pachmarhi Sanctuary. ● Archaeological significance: There are 55 rock shelters which are 1500 to 10000 years old with wall paintings depicting animals like elephants, tigers, deers, and porcupines.
Maratha Military Architecture in Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This consists of 14 forts from the era of 17th century Maratha king Chhatrapati Shivaji. Important among them includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shivneri Fort: It is the birthplace of Chhatrapati Shivaji in 1630. ○ Alibag/ Kulaba Fort: It was chosen as one of the forts to be modelled as a naval base by Chhatrapati Shivaji. ○ Rajgad Fort: It is one of the forts kept out from the Mughals when Shivaji signed the Treaty of Purandar (1655) and also the longest occupied by him (26 years). ● The networks of forts built on hills, land and sea are excellent examples of how existing terrain/ landscape was used for developing the guerrilla warfare strategy by Shivaji and Maratha army to combat the Mughals on the landside and European coastal powers from the seaside.

3.2. DURGA PUJA

Why in news?

UNESCO's **Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage**, recently, put "Durga Puja in Kolkata" on the **Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity**.

More on news

- This inscription will offer **encouragement to the local communities** that celebrate Durga Puja, including all the traditional craftspeople, designers, artists, and organisers of large-scale cultural events, as well as tourists and visitors.

- It is **celebrated in the month of Ashvin** (September – October). It marks the **ten-day worship of the Hindu mother-goddess Durga**.
- In literature from around the 16th century we find the **first mentions of the grand celebration of Durga puja by zamindars** (landlords) in West Bengal.

Cultural heritage

- According to UNESCO, "cultural heritage does not end at **monuments and collections of objects**", but "also includes **traditions or living expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts**".

Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)

- ICH, according to UNESCO, is "**traditional, contemporary and living at the same time**", "**inclusive**", "**representative**", and "**community-based**".
- It is "**an important factor in maintaining cultural diversity in the face of growing globalisation**" — and "**an understanding of the ICH of different communities helps with intercultural dialogue, and encourages mutual respect for other ways of life**".

2003 Convention for safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)

It has 4 primary goals:

- Safeguard intangible cultural heritage;
- Ensure **respect for ICH** of the communities, groups and individuals concerned;
- Raise **awareness** at the local, national and international levels of the importance of ICH;
- Provide for **international cooperation** and assistance

Other related conventions

- 1972 World Heritage Convention** deals with tangible heritage: monuments, as well as cultural and natural sites.
- 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions** aims to provide citizens of the world to enjoy a wide range of cultural goods, services and activities.
- India is a signatory of all the Convention.**



The List of the ICH elements from the UNESCO website includes 14 entries from India		
ICH element		Year of Recognition
1.	Durga Puja of West Bengal	2021
2.	Kumbh Mela	2017
3.	Yoga	2016
4.	Nowruz	2016
5.	Traditional Brass and Copper Utensil making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab	2014
6.	Sankirtana of Manipur	2013
7.	Buddhist Chanting of Ladakh	2012
8.	Chhau Dance of Seraikella, Purulia and Mayurbhanj	2010
9.	Kalbelia dance of Rajasthan	2010
10.	Mudiyettu of Kerala	2010
11.	Ramman festival of Garhwal, Uttarakhand	2009
12.	Kutiyattam Sanskrit theatre of Kerala	2008
13.	Ramlila	2008
14.	Vedic Chanting	2008

3.3. UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK (UCCN)

Why in News?

Recently, Srinagar joins UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) under the Crafts and Folk Arts Category.

About UCCN

- UCCN was created in 2004 to **promote cooperation with and among cities** that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development.
- **These cities work together towards a common objective:** placing creativity and cultural industries at the heart of their development plans at the local level and cooperating actively at the international level.
- UNESCO is responsible for **coordinating international cooperation in education, science, culture and communication.**
- It was established in 1946 and is based in **Paris.**
- **From India other cities in UCCN includes**
 - Jaipur (Crafts and Folk Arts).
 - Varanasi and Chennai (Music).
 - Mumbai (Film).
 - Hyderabad (Gastronomy).



About Srinagar

- **Srinagar** is the homeland to various decorative and renowned arts and crafts like **Paper making, Kashmiri Shawl, Kashmiri Silk, Art of Woodwork, Kashmiri Carpets, Silverware work** etc.
- It is situated in **the centre of the Kashmir Valley on the banks of the Jhelum River.**
- By joining the Network, **cities commit to sharing their best practices and developing partnerships** involving the public and private sectors as well as civil society to strengthen creation, production, distribution and dissemination of cultural activities, goods and services.

3.4. OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

<p>Darjeeling Toy Train</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than two decades after the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, India has registered the two logos of the iconic ‘Toy Train’ internationally as its intellectual property. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The use of these logos anywhere in the world will now require written permission from India and the payment of a fee. • This will put the Darjeeling Toy Train’s ‘Iron Sherpa’ blue steam locomotives of the Darjeeling heritage train on the same pedestal as the legendary transalpine Rhaetian Railway in Switzerland. 	
<p>Best Tourism Villages (BTV) by UNWTO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTV is a global initiative to highlight those villages where tourism preserves cultures and traditions, celebrates diversity, provides opportunities and safeguards biodiversity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It aims to support villages to enhance their rural tourism potential through training and access to opportunities for improvement. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pochampally Village (Telangana) was selected as one of the BTV by United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pochampally is often referred to as Silk City of India for the exquisite sarees woven through Ikat style. ○ Pochampally Ikat received GI Status in 2004. ○ Acharya Vinobha Bhave launched Bhoodan Movement from Pochampally in 1951. • Ministry of Tourism had recommended three villages Kongthong in Meghalaya, Ladhpora Khas in Madhya Pradesh, and Pochampally in Telangana.
<p>Nizamuddin Basti</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation initiative at Delhi's Nizamuddin Basti bagged the UNESCO's Award under 2 categories 'Award of Excellence 2021' and 'Special Recognition for Sustainable Development Award'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project restored over 20 historic monuments clustered around the 14th century mausoleum of Sufi saint Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya. • The award recognizes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outstanding achievement in placing heritage at the heart of the sustainable development agenda. ○ Overcoming major socio-economic challenges and improved health, education and well-being, particularly for women and youth through an innovative People-Public-Private partnership model.



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4. PERSONALITIES

4.1. ADI SANKARACHARYA

Why in news?

Adi Sankaracharya's birthplace Kaladi in Ernakulam, Kerala will likely be declared as national monument.

More about news

- **Significance of Adi Sankaracharya's birthplace** stems from a legend as per which Sankaracharya was caught by a crocodile that refused to leave him until his mother let him accept Sanyas (renunciation).
 - This location is called **Crocodile Ghat** and holds religious value.
 - The place is blessed with important temples dedicated to **Sri Sankara, Sarada Devi, Sri Krishna and Sri Ramakrishna.**



About National Monument status

- It is designated by the **Archeological Survey of India (ASI) under Archeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958** which authorizes the central government to **“maintain, protect and promote the site”**.
- Currently, there are around 3,600 monuments of national importance being protected by the ASI.

About Adi Sankaracharya (788 and 820 CE)

- He was an Indian philosopher and theologian, Sankara (Jagatguru) and was a **firm believer in ancient Hinduism.**
- He is considered as an **incarnation of Lord Shiva.**
- He took **guidance from guru GovindaBhagavatpada** under whom he studied **‘GaudapadiyaKarika’, ‘Brahmasutra’, Vedas, and Upanishads.**
- He **propagated ‘Advaita Vedanta’ and ‘Dashanami Sampradaya.**
- **Shankara came to be known as Shankaracharya** among his disciples. **His 4 main disciples were:**
 - Padmapada,
 - Totakacharya,
 - Hasta Malaka,
 - Sureshvara.

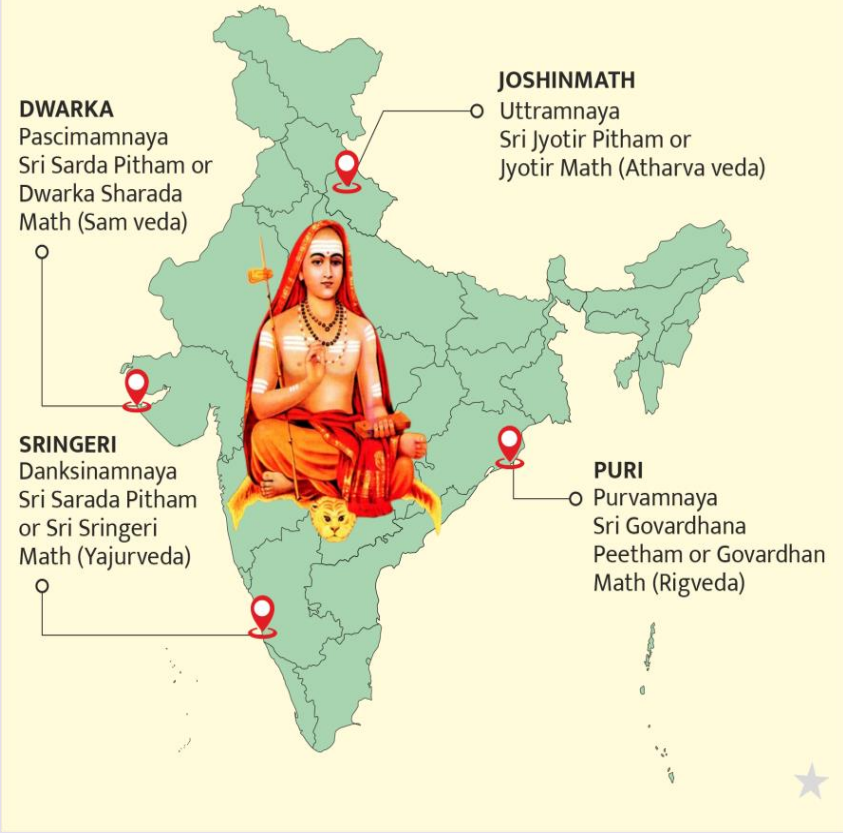
About Sanakracharya's philosophy, Advaita Vedanta

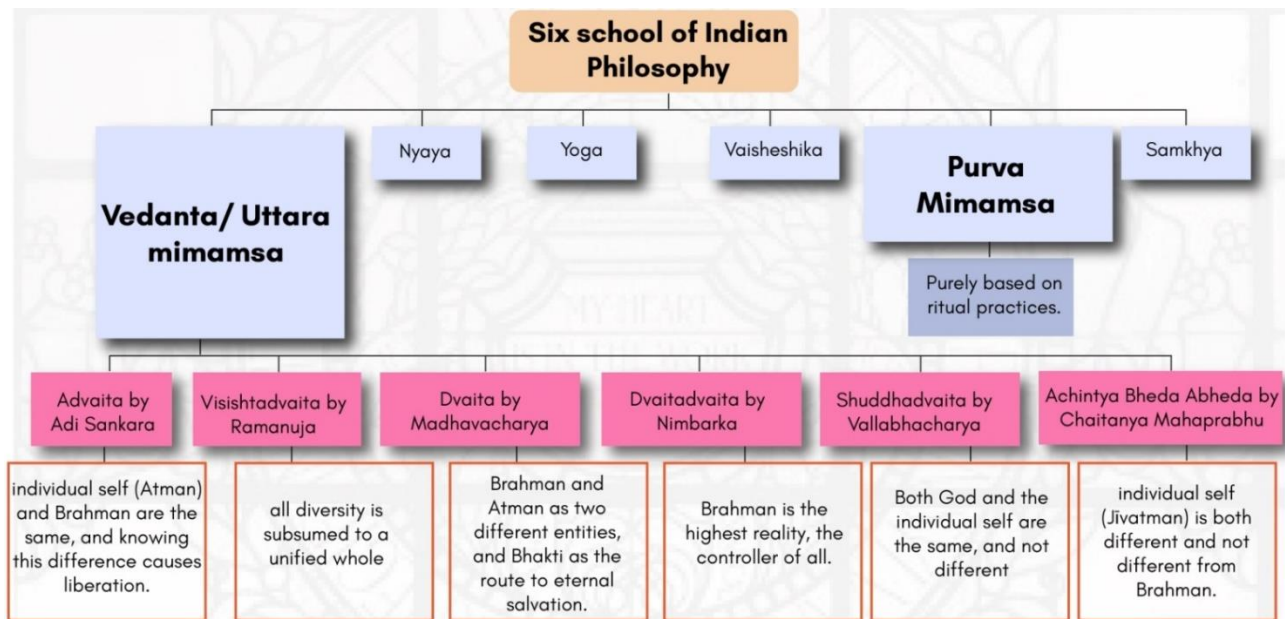
- It is a version of Vedanta translated as **non-dualism.**
- According to it, **Brahman** - the ultimate, transcendent and immanent God of the latter Vedas - **appears as the world because of its creative energy (māyā).**
- The **world has no separate existence apart from Brahman.**
- The **experiencing self (jīva) and the transcendental self of the Universe (ātman) are in reality identical (both are Brahman),** though the individual self seems different as space within a container seems different from space as such.
- These cardinal doctrines are represented in the verse **“brahma satyamjaganmithya; jivobrahmaivanaaparah”** (Brahman is alone True, and this world of plurality is an error; the individual self is not different from Brahman).
- **Plurality is experienced because of error in judgments (mithya) and ignorance (avidya).**
- **Knowledge of Brahman** removes these errors and **causes liberation from the cycle of transmigration** and worldly bondage.

Kedarnath Temple

- Recently, **PM unveiled a 12-foot statue of Adi Shankaracharya at Kedarnath,** where the acharya is believed to have attained samadhi at the age of 32 in the 9th century.
- **Dedicated to Lord Shiva,** the Kedarnath temple has exquisite architecture Built of extremely large, heavy and evenly cut grey slabs of stones
- Kedarnath temple is located **on the bank of the Mandakini river.**
- A conical rock formation inside the temple is **worshipped as Lord Shiva in his Sadashiva form.**
- The temple was **originally built in the 8th century A.D. by Jagad Guru Adi Shankaracharya** and stands adjacent to the site of an even earlier temple built by the Pandavas.
- It is a **part of Char Dhams and PanchKedar in Uttarakhand** and one of the 12 Jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva in India.

Contributions of Adi Sankaracharya

<p>Philosophical contributions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulated the six sect system of worship ('Shanmata') which brought to the fore five main godheads – Vishnu, Siva, Shakti, Muruka, Ganesha and Surya • Empowered the sannyasa tradition by revitalizing the dasanami structure (Dashanami Sampradaya,) where in monks were organized under 10 titles.
<p>Literary contributions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composed 72 devotional and meditative hymns like Soundarya Lahari, Sivananda Lahari, Nirvana Shalkam etc. • He authored books on the fundamentals of Advaita Vedanta including VivekaChudamani, AtmaBodha, VaakyaVritti, UpadesaSahasri. • Wrote 18 commentaries on the major scriptural texts including the Brahma Sutras, the Bhagavad Gita and 12 major Upanishads. • His review of 'Brahma Sutra' is known as 'Brahmasutrabhasya', and it is the oldest surviving commentary on 'Brahma Sutra'.
<p>Healing of a religion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the time of Shankara's birth, Hinduism had become paralysed by its own inflexible practice of orthodoxy, ritualism and formality, and was in retreat. • It was challenged by rise of ascetic Mahavira Jaina (c. 599 BCE-527 BCE) and Gautama Buddha (c. 563 BCE-483 BCE), whose followers branched out into new religions distinct from Mimamsa Brahminism practised by mainstream Hindus. • Adi Shankara's Advaita Vedanta was the philosophically robust response to that era of confusion, integrating diverse thoughts and Hindu practices into a philosophy based on the Vedic dictum of 'One Truth, Many Expositions'.
<p>Four ashrams</p>	<div style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;"> <p>4 Vedic Maths established by Bhagwan Adi Shankaracharya</p> </div>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He established 4 ashrams in four corners of India. • JyotirMatha in Badrinath, Uttarakhand - It advocates 'Ayamatma Brahma' (This Atman is Brahman) and was formed on the basis of Atharva Veda. Totakacharya was the head of this matha • Govardhana Matha in Puri, Odisha -part of the famous Jagannath temple, it advocates 'Prajnanam Brahma' (Consciousness is Brahman). It was formed on the basis of Rig Veda. Padmapada was made the head of this monastery. • Sringeri Matha in Sringeri, Karnataka - Located along the banks of Tunga, it advocates 'AhamBrahmasmi' (I am Brahman) and was formed on the basis of Yajur Veda. Sureshvara was made the head of this matha. • Sarada Matha in Dwarka, Gujrat - It advocates 'Tattvmasi' (That thou art) and was formed on the basis of Sama Veda. Totakacharya was made the head of this matha



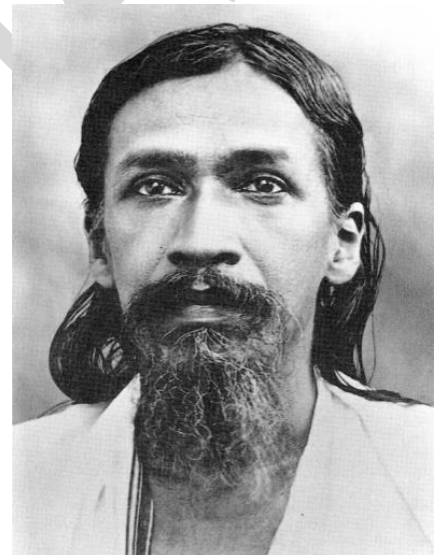
4.2. SRI AUROBINDO

Why in News?

Recently, the **High-Level Committee (HLC)** constituted to commemorate the **150th Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo** held its **1st meeting** under the **chairmanship of PM**.

About Sri Aurobindo

- **Early Life:**
 - Born in **Calcutta** (now Kolkata) on **15 August 1872** as **Aurobindo Ghose**, he received his early education from a convent school in **Darjeeling**.
 - At the age of seven, he was taken to England along with his brothers. He studied at **St. Paul's School London** (1884) and **King's College in Cambridge** in 1890.
 - He scored 11th rank in the **ICS examination** but didn't clear the probation.
- **Part of the Freedom Struggle:**
 - He joined a secret society working for India's freedom, sometimes known as **Lotus and Dagger**.
 - In **1893**, he joined the State Service of **Maharaja of Baroda** (Sayajirao Gaekwad III) and learnt about **Indian culture, languages** (e.g., Sanskrit) etc. during his work.
 - He joined the Indian freedom struggle in **1902** in indirect manner by inspiring revolutionaries through committees such as **Anushilan Samiti**.
 - After the '**Partition of Bengal**' in 1905, he became active in the Indian political movement. He joined the **Indian National Congress (INC)** in **1906** and worked as principal of **Bengal National College**.
- **Spiritual Journey:** He remained active in Indian Freedom movement till **1910**, when he stopped political activities due to **spiritual awakening**. From 1910, he spent rest of his life at **Puducherry** (a **French Colony**) till his last breath on **05 December 1950**.



Contributions of Sri Aurobindo

A **patriot, poet, educationist, philosopher and yogi**, he made significant contributions to Indian independence and its spiritual awakening through his works like-

<p>Indian Nationalism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘New Lamps for Old’, articles written by him in <i>Indu Prakash</i> from 1893-94, criticizing moderate politics of Congress. • Edited Bande Mataram (English Daily), started Karmayogin (English newspaper) and Dharma (Bengali Weekly). • Wrote articles in Jugantar Patrika (Bengali revolutionary newspaper) to inspire revolutionaries and the Bhawani Mandir, a pamphlet published by the Anushilan Samiti. • During the Surat session of INC in 1907, known for the Surat Split, he joined the extremist group led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak against the moderates. • In 1908, he was arrested in relation to Alipore Bomb Case, acquitted later. • On 15 August 1947, in his message he wished the partition as temporary expedient and to be reversed. He shared his dreams (as given in image). 	
<p>Spiritual Philosophy</p>	<p>Inspired by philosophy of Sat-Chit-Ananda and Yoga, he focused on the spiritual evolution of humanity through inner knowledge or true nature of Human. His contribution can be seen through-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Life Divine (1939) to transform man from mental to supramental beings. • The Arya, a philosophical monthly (1914). • Other Books compiled as poems, letters and essays such as Essays on the Gita (1922), Collected Poems and Plays (1942), The Synthesis of Yoga (1948), The Human Cycle (1949), The Ideal of Human Unity (1949), Savitri: A Legend and a Symbol (1950), etc. • In 1926 he established Sri Aurobindo Ashram with Mirra Alfassa. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Mirra Alfassa founded the Auroville, i.e. the city of dawn, a universal town for a peaceful, progressive and harmonious existence. 	

4.3. NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE



Why in news?

Recently, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose **125th birth anniversary ('Parakram Diwas')** was celebrated.

More about news

- On the occasion, a **holographic statue of Netaji was unveiled at central Delhi's India Gate**.
- The statue is symbolic of **exhorting citizens to build a new India before the 100th year of Independence in 2047**.

Related News

Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar

- Award is to honour invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by **individuals and organizations in India in the field of disaster management**.
- It is **announced every year on 23rd January**, birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
- The award carries a cash prize of **Rs. 51 lakh and a certificate in case of an institution and Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in case of an individual**.
 - There are **up to three awards** (every year).
- For 2022, **Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management and Professor Vinod Sharma** have been selected.

About Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

<p>Early life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born on January 23, 1897 in Cuttack, Orissa, to father Janaki Nath Bose (lawyer) and mother Prabhavati Devi. • He was strongly influenced by Swami Vivekananda's teachings. • In 1920 he qualified the Indian Civil Service competitive examination.
<p>Towards a life of Politics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netaji's career took a turn after the horrific incident of Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar in April, 1919. • Shook by the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, Netaji left his Civil Services apprenticeship midway to return to India in 1921.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After returning to India, Netaji came under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi and joined the Indian National Congress. On Gandhiji's instructions, he started working under Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das (C.R Das), whom he acknowledged as his political guru.
Netaji in mainstream politics and clash of views with Gandhiji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1928, the Motilal Nehru Committee appointed by the Congress declared in favour of Domination Status, but Netaji along with Jawaharlal Nehru opposed it, and asserted complete independence for India. In 1931, he protested against the Gandhi-Irwin pact and opposed the suspension of Civil Disobedience movement specially when Bhagat Singh and his associates were hanged. He was elected President of the Haripura Congress Session in 1938. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the President he mentioned the need of a comprehensive scheme of industrial development under state-ownership and state-control. He talked of economic development of the country through planning and was instrumental in setting up a National Planning Committee (under the Chairmanship of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru) later. He was also re-elected president for the Tripuri Congress session defeating Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya who was backed by Mahatma Gandhi and Congress Working Committee. In the backdrop of World War II, he brought a resolution to give British six months to hand India over to Indians or else face revolt. This was opposed by many following which Netaji resigned as president and formed a progressive group known as the Forward Block (1939).
Towards establishment of Indian National Army	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1941, Netaji disappeared from his home in Calcutta and reached Germany via Afghanistan. Working on the maxim that "an enemy's enemy is a friend", he sought cooperation of Germany and Japan against the British Empire. After reaching Germany in 1942, Netaji started 'Azad Hind Radio' and established 'Free India Centre' (a precursor of the Azad Hind Government). In Singapore, he formed an Indian government-in-exile 'the Azad Hind Government'. This provisional government also had its own currency, court, civil code, Army (the INA) and national anthem. In 1943, as the Head of the State of the Provisional Government, he declared war on Britain for the liberation of India. The INA under the clarion call of "Chalo Delhi" reached Moirang in Manipur and shook the British confidence. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The INA was able to win back Rangoon, Imphal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Netaji renamed Andaman and Nicobar (A&N) Island as Shaheed and Swaraj. In 2018, the Ross Island, Neil Island and Havelock Island of (A&N) Islands were renamed as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep, Shaheed Dweep and Swaraj Dweep respectively. However, defeat of Japan and Germany in World War II, forced INA to retreat. Subhas Chandra Bose was reportedly killed in an air crash over Taipeh, Taiwan (Formosa) on August 18, 1945.
Other Significant Contributions of Netaji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literary Contributions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1921, Bose edited the newspaper 'Forward' and later started his newspaper 'Swaraj'. He authored the book 'The Indian Struggle', which covered the country's independence movement in the years 1920-1934. Women upliftment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He worked towards 'Gender Equality'. Netaji establishing an all Women Regiment within the INA in 1943 and named it "The Rani Jhansi Regiment." Promoted Secularism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He introduced common worship and celebrations of all religious festivals in the INA. Many from the minority Communities occupied high positions in the Provisional Government of Free India and the Azad Hind Fauj.







Gandhiji vs. S.C. Bose - A Comparison


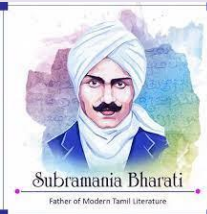
- Bose hailed Gandhiji as the '**Father of Nation**'. He recognised and admitted Gandhi as the **undisputable, unrivalled leader of the masses**.
- Gandhiji honoured Bose as a **patriot among patriots.**' Gandhi wrote in Harijan: '**Netaji was like a son to me.**'

- **Mentorship**
 - Gandhi belonged to the tradition of discussion and talks with the British like **his mentor Gokhale and Tagore**.
 - Young Bose, deeply influenced by the Russian revolt and rise of the Japanese empire, was a firebrand nationalist who believed **in the tradition of Tilak and Aurobindo**.
- **Means vs end debate**
 - Gandhi had a **moralistic stand of opposing the Nazi regime**. To him, the means were as important as the ends.
 - Bose, on the contrary, was more pragmatic and wanted to work **with Germany and Japan to destabilize the British**.

4.4. OTHER PERSONALITIES IN NEWS

Ancient/Medieval	
<p>Queen Heo Hwang-ok</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She was a Korean queen who is believed to have been born Princess Suriratna of Ayodhya, daughter of King Padmasen and Indumati. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Padmasen ruled Kausala, a region that extended from present-day UP to Odisha. • Princess Suriratna travelled to Korea and married King Kim Suro and became Queen Heo Hwang-ok in 48 AD. • Her story is described in SamgukYusa (Memorabilia of Three Kingdoms), a 13th-century work on Korea's three kingdoms- Goguryeo, Baekje and Silla. • Many Koreans trace their ancestry to her and she has been part of Korea's popular culture for years.
<p>Guru TeghBahadur</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 400th birth anniversary of Guru Teg Bahadur was celebrated. • He was the youngest son of Guru Hargobind Sahib, the sixth Sikh guru. He was 9th of 10 Sikh Gurus. • His 115 hymns are included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib. • In the year 1675, Guru Tegh Bahadur was executed in Delhi under the orders of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.
<p>Dara Shikoh</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was eldest son of Shah Jahan and was executed after losing the war of succession against his brother Aurangzeb in 1659. • He is described as a "liberal Muslim" who tried to find commonalities between Hindu and Islamic traditions. • He translated into Persian the Bhagavad Gita as well as 52 Upanishads, which were earlier known only to a few upper caste Hindus. • He showed keen interest in Sufi mysticism and was initiated into the Kadiri order of Sufis.
<p>St. Francis Xavier</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PM greeted the people of Goa on the day of the Feast of St. Francis Xavier. • He was one of the founders of the Society of Jesus, who arrived in Goa in 1542. • Personality Traits: Religious Philosophy, service of God and humankind, spirit of harmony and brotherhood. • Xavier established a network of Jesuit mission centres. • 3rd December marks the anniversary of St Francis Xavier's death. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He died of a fever on a Chinese island in 1552, at just 46 years old, and was brought back to Goa a few years later. • At the Basilica of Bom Jesus church, mortal remains of St Francis Xavier still exist. • Feast of St. Francis Xavier is celebrated in Goa each year.
<p>Rani Kamlapati</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rani Kamlapati was a Gond Queen and daughter of Raja Kirpal Singh of Salkanpur (Sehore). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gond are one of the largest tribal communities in India, spread across Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar and Odisha. • She was married to Nizam Shah of Ginnorgarh, son of Suraj Singh Shah, who built Kamlapati Palace of Bhopal in her name. • She was a skilful warrior and fought battles along with her father and husband and ruled the then Ginnorgarh till her death in 1723.

<p>Maharaja Ranjit Singh</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was born in Gujranwala (in modern Pakistan) he was the Misalder (chief) of SukerchakiaMisl from 1792 to 1801, and also the first Maharaja of the Sikh empire (founder) for 38 years from 1801 to 1839. • He was a secular leader with a modern army and had signed two treaties with the British - Treaty of Amritsar and Treaty of Lahore • Given title Lion of Punjab (Sher-e-Punjab) for his success in freeing Lahore (his capital) from the Afghan invaders. • He owned the koh-i-noor diamond and reconstructed the Golden Temple at Amritsar.
<p>Modern India</p>	
<p>Pandurang Mahadev Bapat</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popularly known as 'Senapati Bapat,' he is famous figure of the Indian Independence movement. • Born on 12 November 1880, Bapat was raised in a lower-middle-class Chitwpawan Brahmin family in the Parner town of Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra. • Bapat was called 'SENAPATI' or 'commander' for his leadership during the Mulshi satyagraha (world's first anti-dam movement) in 1921 leading to "first recorded organised struggle against the forced displacement" of farmers. • In 1904, after passing out of college, he earned a scholarship and left for England to study at Heriot-Watt College in Edinburgh.
<p>Khudiram Bose</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tributes were paid to fearless freedom fighter Khudiram Bose at Muzaffarpur central jail in Bihar on his death anniversary. • Bose was born in 1889 at a small village in Midnapore district. • Being inspired by a series of public lectures given by Sri Aurobindo and sister Nivedita, he was drawn towards revolutionary activities. • Bose joined the Anushilan Samiti, an early 20th century organisation that propounded revolutionary activities in Bengal. • In 1908, he, along with another revolutionary, Prafulla Chaki, attempted to assassinate the British judge, Magistrate Douglas Kingsford, which ultimately led him to be sentenced to death at the young age of 18.
<p>Madan Lal Dhingra</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madan Lal Dhingra's martyrdom day (17th August) observed at the Town Hall in Amritsar. • On this day, in 1909, he was executed at the age of 26 in London for assassinating a British official Sir William Hutt Curzon Wylie. • He had gone to attain higher education in England. • He was pained over the partition of Bengal in 1905 and came in contact with other revolutionaries Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Shyam ji Krishna Varma.
<p>Madan Mohan Malviya</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born at Prayagraj (earlier Allahabad), He was a famed freedom fighter and educationist, famously known as Mahamana. • Role in Indian National Congress (INC): Was INC President in 24th (1909) and 33rd (1918) Session at Lahore and Delhi respectively. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Was President in 1932 and 1933 as well but due to arrest he could not preside. • Major contribution and achievements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Worked as editor of the Hindustan and started Abhyudaya(Hindi weekly) in 1907, Maryada (Hindi monthly) in 1910 and The Leader (English Daily) in 1909. ○ Founded Hindu Mahasabha in 1906 and served as member of Imperial Legislative Council. ○ In 1916, he founded Banaras Hindu University. ○ Honoured with Bharat Ratna (posthumously) in 2015.
<p>Rani Gaidinliu</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum was inaugurated in Manipur • Rani Gaidinliu was born in Rongmei tribe of Manipur, she joined the freedom struggle when she was 13. • She was at the forefront of Heraka movement, which aimed at revival of Naga tribal religion and establishment of self-rule of Nagas. (Similar to Non-cooperation Movement). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ She was arrested in 1932 and was released only after India's Independence in 1947. • Jawaharlal Nehru described Gaidinliu as the "daughter of the hills" and gave her the title of 'Rani' for her courage.

<p>Dr. Bhagwan Das</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was an Indian Theosophist. • In 1921, he was sentenced to one-year imprisonment by the British for association with the Non-Cooperative Movement. • He was the founder of the Kashi Vidyapeeth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kashi Vidya Peeth is the first Indian University founded by Indians. • In 1955, he was awarded the Bharat Ratna, for his achievements in literature and education.
<p>Subramania Bharati</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamil Nadu government commemorated the 100th death anniversary of Subramania Bharati on September 11, 2021 as "Mahakavi" Day. • He was a pioneer of modern Tamil poetry, fondly called Mahakavi (great poet). • Raja of Ettayapuram impressed with his poetry had given him the title of 'Bharati' which means the one blessed by Goddess Saraswati. • He had proficiency in 14 languages including three foreign languages. • He used his writings to imbibe feelings of national pride among Indian citizens. • He raised concern against child marriage, stood for reforming Brahminism and religion. • He was also in solidarity with Dalits and Muslims. • His motto was "Ariveluthellivu" – clarity of mind.

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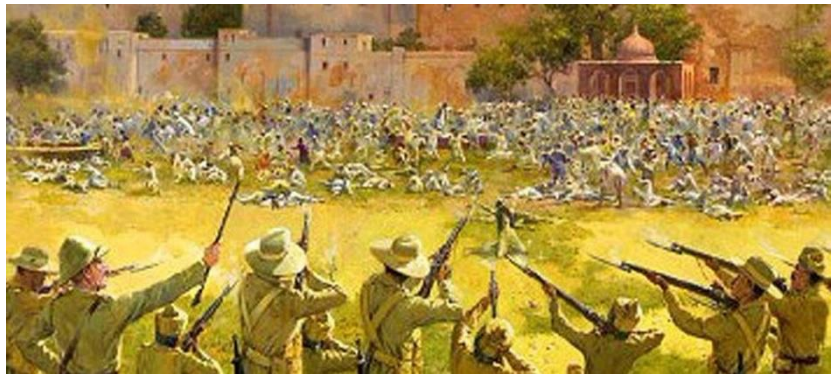


5. HISTORICAL EVENTS

5.1. JALLIANWALA BAGH MASSACRE

Why in News?

Prime Minister of India recently unveiled the plaque and dedicated the renovated complex of Jallianwala Bagh Smarak at Amritsar to the nation and inaugurated Museum/Galleries.



More on the news

- The Jallianwala Bagh Smarak commemorates the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre that occurred on **April 13, 1919**.
- The memorial was set up by the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951 (recently amended in 2019), making it the first national monument of the country governed by an Act of Parliament that had the **Prime Minister as its chairperson**.
- The massacre wasn't an isolated incident, rather an incident that happened with a multitude of factors working in the background.

Aftermath of the Massacre

- The news of Jallianwala Bagh spread and led to widespread demonstrations to which the government responded with brutal repression. Seeing the violence, Mahatma Gandhi called off the **Anti-Rowlatt Satyagraha**.
- **Rabindranath Tagore renounced his Knighthood in protest**.
- In **October 1919**, the **Disorders Inquiry Committee**, also known as the **Hunter Commission**, was formed to inquire about the massacre.
- In 1920, the Commission censured Dyer for his actions, directed **him to resign** from his appointment as Brigade Commander and informed him that he would receive no further employment in India.
 - However, **House of Lords had voted in favour** of General Dyer's action.
- Later in **1940**, at Caxton Hall in London, **Udham Singh, an Indian freedom fighter, killed Michael O'Dwyer**, the Lieutenant Governor of Punjab during the massacre, who had approved of Dyer's action and imposed martial law in Punjab after the firing, thereby ensuring that the news did not get out.
- The **shock and outrage led to the non-cooperation movement of 1920-22**, which proved a step in the direction of ending the British rule of India 25 years later.

EVENTS THAT LED TO THE MASSACRE

Passage of Rowlatt Act and Initiation of Rowlatt Satyagraha

- The Rowlatt Act (Black Act) authorized the government to imprison or confine, without a trial, any person associated with seditious activities. This led to nationwide unrest.
- Gandhiji initiated **Satyagraha** to protest against the Rowlatt Act and the British issued to **prohibit him from entering Punjab**.

Arrest of leaders in Amritsar and Unrest in Punjab

- **Dr Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr Satyapal**, the two prominent leaders organised a peaceful protest against the Rowlatt Act in Amritsar and were subsequently arrested.
- Soldiers fired upon demonstrators demanding release of the 2 leaders, resulting in violent outbreaks where railway lines, telegraph posts and government buildings were destroyed and Europeans and Indians killed.

Punjab placed under Martial law

- Most of Punjab was under martial law and civil liberties, including freedom of assembly, were curtailed.
- **Brigadier-General Dyer** banned gatherings of more than four people.

Gathering at Jallianwala Bagh

- A crowd of around 10,000 had gathered at Jallianwala Bagh to celebrate the festival of Baisakhi on **April 13, 1919** and to protest against the arrest of the 2 leaders.

The Massacre

- **Brigadier-General Dyer**, headed to the Bagh with his troops, blocked the only exit and ordered them to open fire without giving any warning.
- The firing continued for 10-15 minutes and ceased only after the ammunition had run out.
- The total estimated figure of the dead as given by General Dyer and Mr Irving was 291. However, other reports including that of a committee headed by Madan Mohan Malviya put the **figure of dead** at over 500.

5.2. MALABAR/MOPLAH REBELLION

Why in news?

Malabar Rebellion leaders Variamkunnath Kunjahammed Haji, Ali Musaliar and 387 other “Moplah martyrs” will be removed from the **Dictionary of Martyrs of India’s Freedom Struggle**.

More on the news

- A three-member panel, which reviewed the entries in the fifth volume of the dictionary, brought out by the **Indian Council for Historical Research (ICHR)**, is understood to have recommended the deletion as it felt that the 1921 rebellion was never part of the independence struggle but a **fundamentalist movement**.
- It concluded that **Haji was a rioter who had established a Sharia court** and a large number of “Moplah martyrs,” who were under-trial prisoners, died due to diseases such as cholera and natural causes hence cannot be treated as martyrs.



About Malabar rebellion/ Moplah riots

- It was an **armed uprising of Muslim tenants** against British rulers and local Hindu landlords in 1921.
- It has often been perceived as one of the first nationalist uprisings in southern India and has even been described as a **peasant revolt**.
- It occurred within the broader spectrum of the **Khilafat/Non-cooperation movement (1920-1922)** led by Mahatma Gandhi.

Causes of The Revolt

Course of the rebellion

- It largely took the shape of **guerrilla-type attacks on janmis, police and troops**.
- **Symbols of the colonial state** – telegraph lines, train stations, courts, post offices etc. and homes of landlords were **attacked**.
- When the rebellion spread

History of feudal conflicts in the Malabar region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Peasant-landlord relations were historically strained in the region. ○ Evidently, about 32 uprisings were organized by the Moplahs, between 1836 and 1919, against high caste Hindu landlords, their relatives or assistants and British officials.
Agrarian discontent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The economic condition of Mappila tenants had deteriorated overtime due to oppressive British policies resulting in increased taxation, insecure tenancy, rack renting, forced evictions etc. ○ This had given rise to anti-British and anti-feudal sentiments.
Political mobilization of mappilas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Congress reached out to the Mappila cultivators to mobilize support for independence through Khilafat movement and support agrarian reforms in the region. • A Khilafat committee was formed in Malabar in June 1920, which became increasingly active. • In August, 1920, Gandhi along with Shaukat Ali (the leader of the Khilafat movement in India) visited Calicut to spread the combined message of non-cooperation and Khilafat among the residents of Malabar. • By January 1921, the Mappilas, under their religious head Mahadum Tangal pledged support to the non-cooperation movement.
Immediate cause 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mappilas under the leadership of Variamkunnath Kunjahammed Haji took up arms in August 1921 due to the arrest of Khilafat leader Ali Musaliyar and a widespread rumour that a prominent mosque in Thirurangadi has been raided.

across the Malabar district, British officers and the local police escaped, leaving **vast tracts of territory firmly under the control of the local rebels**:

- The **territory was declared an ‘independent state’ in August 1921** with Haji as its ruler.
- For nearly six months, he ran a **parallel Khilafat regime headquartered in Nilambur**, with even its own separate passport, currency and system of taxation.
- Tenants were granted the power over the lands they cultivated along with tax incentives.
 - ✓ Although the movement started off largely as a protest against British authorities, it acquired communal overtones that culminated into **communal violence**.

5.3. PAIKA REBELLION

Why in news?

Recently, Centre stated that the **Paika rebellion** cannot be called the **first War of Independence**.

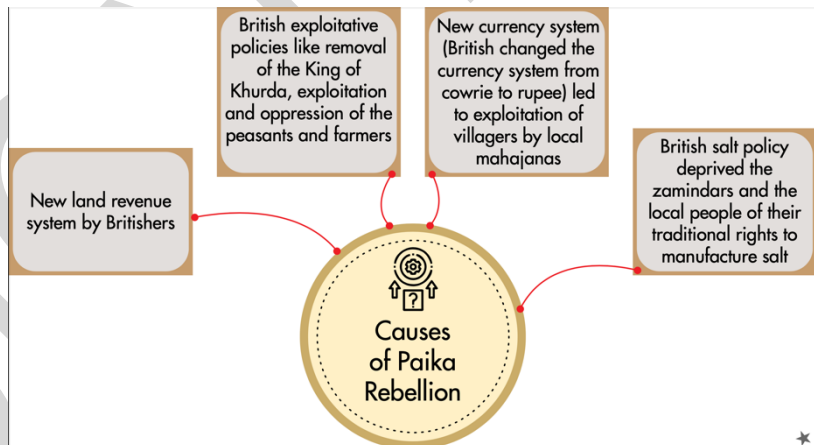
More about news

- Since 2017, Odisha has urged the Centre to declare the Paika rebellion as the first war of Independence.
 - At present, the **Indian Mutiny or Sepoy Mutiny of 1857** is called the **first war of Independence** against British Rule.
- Ministry of Culture suggested that it would be **included as a case study in the Class 8 history textbook** of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- In 2018, Indian Prime Minister released the **commemorative stamp and coin on Paika Rebellion**.



Paika Rebellion (1817-1825)

- It was an **armed rebellion** that took place in **Odisha** against the British East India Company (EIC). It took place nearly 40 years before the first sepoy mutiny.
 - The **Paikas were peasant militias of the Gajapati rulers of Odisha** who offered military services to the king. They owned **rent-free land** that had been given to them for their military service to Kingdom of Khurda.
- The British established themselves in Odisha when the **EIC dethroned the King of Khurda, Raja Mukunda Deva** in 1803.
- The Paikas under **Bakshi Jagabandhu Bidyadhar**, the hereditary chief of the militia army of the Gajapati King, rose in rebellion, taking support of tribals and other sections of society.
 - They attacked British symbols of power, setting ablaze police stations, administrative offices and the treasury during their march towards Khurda, from where the British fled.
 - They were supported by the zamindars, village heads and ordinary peasants.
- The uprising spread like a wildfire across the state resulting in several confrontations and encounters between the British and the Paika forces. The revolt was **eventually overpowered by the British army**.
 - Bidyadhar was imprisoned in 1825 and died in jail in 1829.



Consequences of Paika Rebellion

- **Administrative changes:** Odisha people (Odias) were employed in the government services and entrusted with responsible works.
- **Reduction in salt prices** and more salt was made available for the smooth purchase of the people.
- **Reduction in revenue burdens** of the local zamindars. In several cases, the government purchased the estates of the defaulters and restored them to the original proprietors.
- **Paikas were forced to leave the profession of militia men** of the king and to adopt cultivation and other works as means to earn livelihood.
- **Management of the Jagannath temple of Puri** was handed to Ramachandradeva III, son of Raja Mukundadeva II.

5.4. OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

Battle of Saragarhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 12, 2021 marks the 124th anniversary of the Battle of Saragarhi which was fought in 1897 between the Sikh soldiers of the British Indian army and Pashtun Orakzai tribesmen in the North West Frontier Province (NWFP). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twenty-one soldiers were pitted against over 8,000 Afridi and Orakzai tribals but they fought courageously, facing death head on. Saragarhi was a communication relay post between Fort Lockhart and Fort Gulistan (also known as Fort Cavagnari) in the Sulaiman Range of the NWFP.
Tai Khamti Mutiny of 1839	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1839, Tai Khamti people resisted British colonisation which resulted in killing of 80 British soldiers. About Tai Khamti <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the major tribe of Arunachal Pradesh, they inhabits the district of Namsai. The word 'Khampti' means 'a land full of gold' They follow Theravada Buddhism and have their own script which the people call it Tai script (Lik-Tai). Khampti dance is also known as ka pung (ka implies dance and pung means story).



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6. MISCELLANEOUS

6.1. JANJATIYA GAURAV DIVAS

Why in News?

Recently, Union Cabinet decided to declare November 15 as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas' to mark the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda and honour the contributions of Scheduled Tribes to Indian history and culture.

More on News

- The day will be celebrated every year and would recognize the efforts of the tribals for preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of Indian values of valour, hospitality and national pride.
- India's freedom struggle was strengthened by several movements by tribal communities such as Santhals, Tamars, Kols, Bhils, Khasis and Mizos.
- Tribal movements in different regions of the country against the British colonial rule got linked with the national freedom struggle and inspired Indians all over the country.

Major Tribal movements in India

- Tribal movements can be analysed better if categorised into mainland tribal revolts and frontier tribal revolts concentrated mainly in the north-eastern part of India.
 - **Mainland Tribal Revolt**
 - ✓ Land settlements of the British affected the joint ownership tradition among the tribals and disrupted their social fabric.
 - ✓ As agriculture was extended in a settled form by the Company government, the tribals lost their land, and there was an influx of non-tribals to these areas.
 - ✓ Shifting cultivation in forests was curbed and this added to the tribals' problems.
 - ✓ The government further extended its control over the forest areas by setting up reserved forests and restricting timber use and grazing.
 - ✓ Exploitation by the police, traders and money-lenders (most of them 'outsiders') aggravated the tribals' sufferings.
 - ✓ With the expansion of colonialism, Christian missionaries came to these regions and their efforts interfered with the traditional customs of the tribals.
 - **Movements of the tribes of the north-eastern frontier**
 - ✓ Their revolts were often in favour of political autonomy within the Indian Union or complete independence.
 - ✓ These movements were not forest-based or agrarian revolts as these tribals were generally in control of land and forest area.

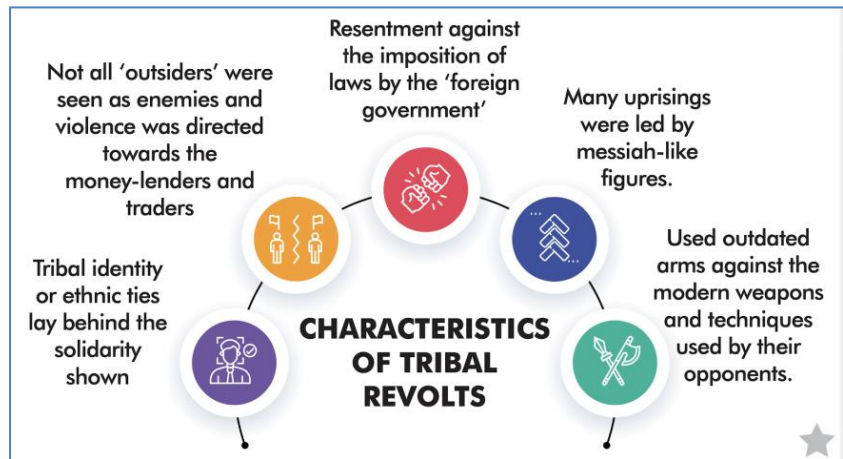
Birsa Munda



- **Birsa Munda**, also known as Bhagwan Birsa Munda or DhartiAaba, was born in Munda tribe at Khunti district of Chotanagpur Plateau region (Jharkhand).
- After initial conversion to Christianity and education from missionary school, soon he realised the exploitation of local tribes from British and Zamindars, also known as Dikus or outsiders.
- Birsa wanted to reform the tribal society and so, he urged them to let go of beliefs in witchcraft and instead, stressed on the importance of prayer, staying away from alcohol, having faith in God and observing a code of conduct.
- Based on these, he started the faith of 'Birsait'.
- Birsa started a movement called 'Ulgulan', or 'The Great Tumult' against the exploitation and discrimination against tribals by the local authorities.
- It resulted into passing of Chotanagpur Tenancy (CNT) Act, 1908.
- CNT Act provided for the creation and maintenance of land record. It also created a special tenure category of "Mundari Khuntkattidar" (considered to be the original settler of the land among Mundas) and restricted the transfer of tribal land to non tribals.
- Birsa Munda also actively opposed Beth Begari system, a type of system applied on tribals and meant 'forced labour'.
- Munda died of cholera in 1900. Although it was said that he did not show symptoms of cholera while he was in jail, the British government had declared that he died of cholera.

✓ The frontier tribal revolts under the British continued for a longer time than the non-frontier tribal movement.

- Some of the popular languages spoken by the tribes of India are as follows: Bhatri, Bhilli, Halbi, Ho, Kui, Kolami, Kui, Konda, Koya, Gondi, Oraon/Kurukh, Parji etc.



Issues with Tribal Movements in India

- The tribal uprisings were doomed from the beginning, given the outdated arms they fought with as against the modern weapons and techniques used by their opponents.
- Most of the revolts were localized in nature and lacked all India participation.
- The revolts were poorly organised with little coordination.

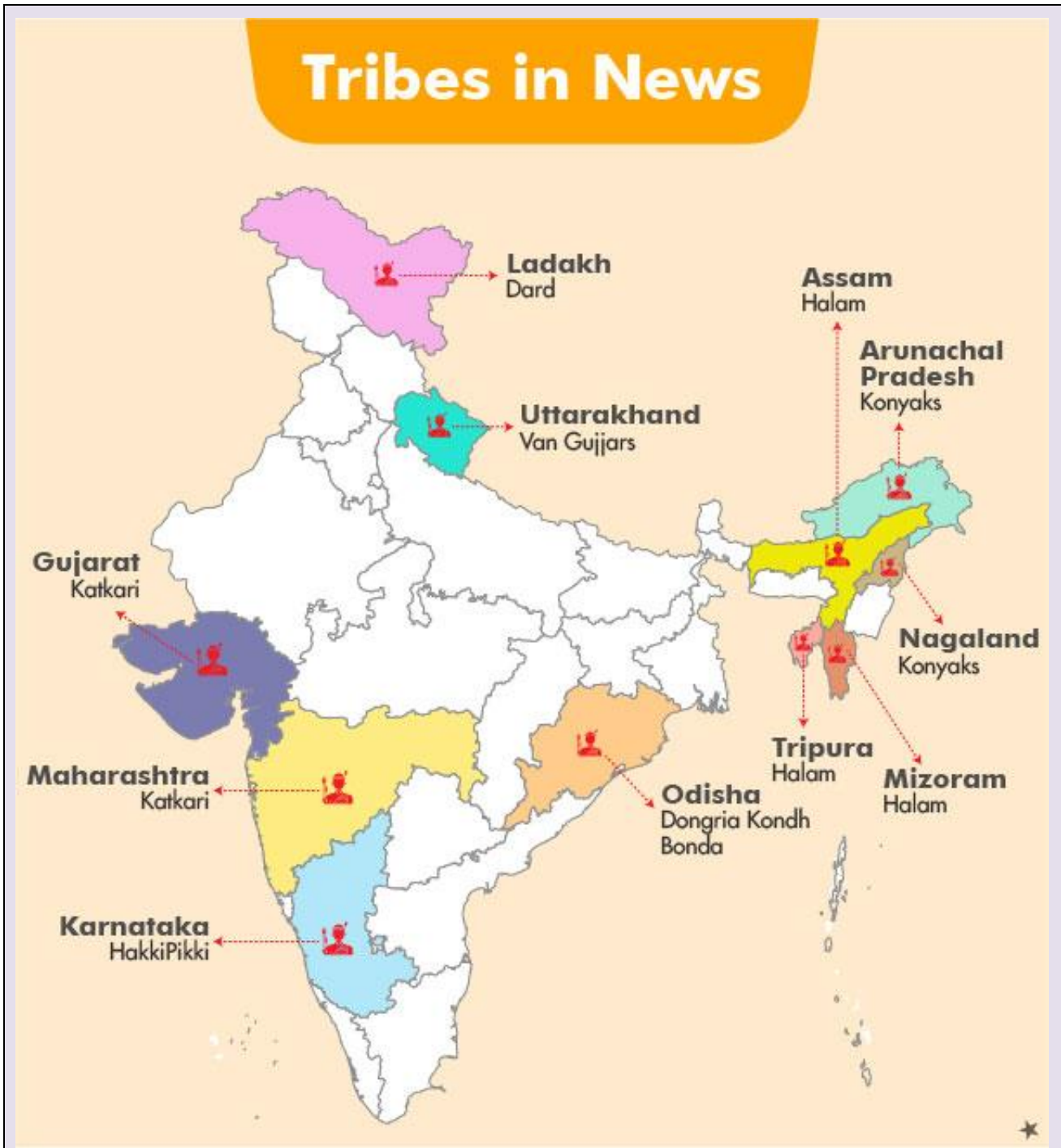
Mainland Tribal Revolt

Name	Place of Origin	Events	Outcome
Pahariyas (1778)	Raj Mahal Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British expansion on their territory led to an uprising by the martial Pahariyas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British were forced to usher in peace by declaring their territory as damni-kol area.
Chuar Uprising (also called Revolt of the Jungle Mahal)	In Midnapore district between 1776 – 1772 and 1795 – 1816.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Famine, enhanced land revenue demands and economic distress forced Chuar tribesmen to take up arms. • The most significant uprising was under Durjan Singh in 1798. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The revolt was brutally suppressed by the British.
Kol Uprising (1831)	Chhotanagpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large-scale transfers of land from Kol headmen to outsiders like Hindu, Sikh and Muslim farmers and money-lenders. • British judicial and revenue policies affected traditional social conditions of the Kols. • Famous leader: Buddho Bhagat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large-scale military operations were done to restore order.
Ho and Munda Uprisings (1820-1837)	Singhbhum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Raja of Parahatorganised Ho tribals to revolt against occupation. The revolt was extinguished in 1832, but Ho operations continued till 1837. • Later in 1831, they joined Mundas to protest against new farming revenue policy and entry of Bengalis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The revolt was extinguished in 1832, but Ho operations continued till 1837.
Santhal Rebellion (1855-56)	Rajmahal Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money-lenders with support of police and zamindars subjected peasants to oppressive exactions and dispossession of lands. • Under Sidhu and Kanhu, two brothers, the Santhals proclaimed an end to Company rule, and declared the area between Bhagalpur and Rajmahal as autonomous. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prolonged military action by Warren Hastings to control the revolt. • The territories called 'Santhal Paraganas' were created. • It became illegal for a Santhal to transfer land to a non-Santhal.
Khond Uprising (1837-1856)	Odisha to Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chakra Bisoi, a young raja, led the Khonds to oppose the suppression of human sacrifice, new taxes, and the entry of zamindars into their areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Later with Chakra Bisoi's disappearance, the uprising came to an end.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Another revolt was triggered in 1914 in the Orissa region by the hope that foreign rule would end and they could gain an autonomous government. 	
Koya Revolts (1803, 1840, 1845, 1858, 1861, 1862) and (1879-80)	Eastern Godavari Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Their complaints were oppression by police and moneylenders, new regulations and denial of their customary rights over forest areas. 	
Bhil Revolts (1817-19)	Lived in the Western Ghats and controlled the mountain passes between the north and the Deccan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revolted as they had to face famine, economic distress and misgovernment. Bhils revolted again in 1825, 1831 and in 1846. Govind Guru helped the Bhils of south Rajasthan to organise themselves to fight for a Bhil Raj by 1913. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> British used both force and conciliatory efforts to control the uprising.
Koli Risings (1829, 1839 and 1844-48)	Neighbourhood of Bhils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resented the imposition of Company's rule which brought with it large-scale unemployment for them and the dismantling of their forts. 	
Ramosi Risings	Hill tribes of the Western Ghats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Had not reconciled to British rule and the British pattern of administration. They resented the policy of annexation. They rose under Chittur Singh in 1822 and plundered the country around Satara. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A superior British force restored order in the area. Generally the British followed a pacifist policy towards the Ramosis.
Munda Revolt (1899-1900)	Chhotanagpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rebellion began as a religious movement but gathered political force for fight against feudal, zamindari tenures, and exploitation by money-lenders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> British armed forces were then deployed at Chhotanagpur. Birsa was captured and imprisoned.
Other revolts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Naikada Movement (1860s; Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat); against British and caste Hindus. Kharwar Rebellion by the Kharwars (1870s; Bihar); against revenue settlement activities. Bastar Revolt (1910; Jagdalpur); against new feudal and forest levies. Tana Bhagat Movements among the Mundas and Oraon tribes led by Jatra Bhagat, Balram Bhagat (1914-1915; Chottanagpur); against interference of outsiders; began as Sanskritisation movement. Rampa Revolts led by Alluri Sitarama Raju of the Koyas (1916, 1922-1924; Rampa region in Andhra Pradesh); against British interference. Gond Uprising (1940s) to bring together the believers of Gondharma 		

Tribal Movements of the North-East

Name	Place of Origin	Events	Outcome
Ahom Revolt (1828)	Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> British did not fulfill their promise to withdraw after First Burma War (1824-26). Rebellion sparked under the leadership of Gomdhar Konwar in 1828. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uprising was suppressed by the Company by dividing the kingdom.
Khasi Uprising (1833)	Garoland and Jaintia Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> British wanted to develop a road which led to influx of labourers from outside. The tribes organized themselves under Tirath Singh. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English military suppressed the revolt.
Other Major Movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Singphos' Rebellion (1830s; Assam) Kukis' Revolt (1917-19; Manipur); against British policies of recruiting labour during the First World War. Revolts in Tripura; against hike in house tax rates and against settlement of outsiders in the region (1863, 1942-43, 1920's). Zeliangsong Movement (1920s; Manipur); led by the Zemi, Liangmei and Rongmei tribes; Naga movement (1905-31; Manipur); led by Jadonang; against British rule and for setting up of a Naga raj. Heraka Cult (1930s; Manipur); led by Gaidinliu; the movement was suppressed but Kabui Naga Association was formed in 1946. 		



Tribes name	Description
Konyaks tribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tribe is at the centre of the recent violence that erupted in Nagaland after Indian forces ‘mistakenly’ killed civilians. Konyaks, the largest tribal group in Nagaland (settled in around hundred villages in the Mon district), are also found in Arunachal Pradesh and Myanmar. Recognized by their tattooed faces, they are traditional hunters and warriors but now their main occupation is agriculture. They were the last to give up the practice of head-hunting, severing heads of enemies after attacking rival tribes.
HakkiPikki Tribe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HakkiPikki are a nomadic tribe which migrated from Northern India and now mainly settled in Karnataka region and other South Indian states They are known as Bird Catcher (Hakki means Bird and Pikki means catcher in Kannada language) They speak Indo Aryan language named as ‘Vaagri’ by scholars

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UNESCO has listed Hakkipikki is one of the endangered languages. ● Today, they are mainly engaged in selling of herbal products like herbal oils
Katkari Tribe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Katkari tribe is one of the 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups living in areas of Maharashtra and parts of Gujarat ○ They are also known as Kathodis because of their old occupation of making Katha (Catechu) the thickened sap from wood of Khair (Acacia catechu). ● Recently, some of them have engaged in collecting Minor Forest Produce like Giloy through SHGs under Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana run by TRIFED.
Halam Tribe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Over 700 Halam people return to Tripura after fleeing violence. ● Ethnically Halam belong to the Cocase-Mongoloid origin of Kuki-Chin tribes. Their language is also more or less similar to that of Tibeto-Burman family. ● They are native to the state of Tripura, Assam and Mizoram in India. ● Halams are basically Hindus and followers of Sakti-cult though Vaishnavism is spreading among some of the sub-clans like Murasingh, Rupini and Kaloi. But Christianity is also being embraced by Halams. ● Halams live in typical "Tong Ghar" specially made of bamboos and Chan grass.
Van Gujjars Nomadic Tribe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Uttarakhand High Court in Nainital recently passed an interim order upholding the right of Van Gujjars to migrate to their summer homesteads in the bugyals (Himalayan alpine meadows) located within the Govind Pashu Vihar National Park. ● The Van Gujjars are nomadic pastoral community in Uttarakhand Himalayas that pursue transhumance from the Terai-Bhabar and Siwalik region to the higher bugyals in summer and vice versa in winter to enable their livestock to feed on the meadows/pastures.
Other tribes in news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The COVID-19 infections are being reported among the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in Odisha namely Dongria Kondh and Bonda tribe. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dongria Kondh is settled in the Niyamgiri hills of Rayagada district in Odisha. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Their language Kui is not written. ○ Bonda tribe is known for its secluded lifestyle, lives in highlands of Malkangiri in Odisha, near the junction of Odisha, Chhattisgarh, and Andhra Pradesh. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ They belong to a Munda ethnic group. ● Dard in Aryan Valley: It is a Buddhist tribal group in Ladakh. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Dard Aryans inhabit Dha, Hanu, Beema, Darchik and Garkone villages in Leh and Kargil districts. The 5 villages are together called the Aryan valley. ○ The word 'Dard' is derived from a Sanskrit word, 'Daradas', which means people who live on hillsides,". People of this region are culturally and linguistically different from those in other parts of Ladakh. ○ Their culture is the Aryan Culture. ○ Dard Aryan' is not among the list of notified Schedule Tribes.

6.2. GEO-TOURISM SITES IN NORTH EAST

Why in News?

Recently, it was reported that Geological Survey of India (GSI) proposed Geo-tourism sites in North East to visit.

More on News

- Twelve locations in Northeast are **proposed to be included** in 32 approved **geo-tourism or geo-heritage sites in the country**.

Proposed Geo-tourism sites in North East



- Of the 12 sites, **three are in Meghalaya, two each in Assam and Tripura, and one each in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim.**
- GSI declares geo-heritage sites/ national geological monuments for protection and maintenance. GSI or the respective State governments take necessary measures to protect these sites.
- **Globally too, UNESCO declares Global geoparks.** Currently, there are **no Global geo parks in India.**

About the sites	
Meghalaya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mawmluh Cave, near Cherrapunjee in the East Khasi Hills district, provides important records of Holocene paleo-climate and paleo-monsoon. ● Mawblei or God's Rock, near Syntung village in East Khasi Hills district, belonging to the Khasi group of cretaceous age. ● Therriaghat, also in East Khasi Hills district, is probably one of the best-preserved and most complete Cretaceous-Paleogene boundary sections in India.
Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Majuli River "island", among world's largest, in river Brahmaputra. ● Umananda: One of the smallest inhabited islands in the Brahmaputra.
Tripura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chabimura, known for its panels of rock carving on a steep hill wall on the bank of river Gomati. ● Unakoti has numerous rock-cut sculptures and temples made between the 7th and 9th centuries.
Arunachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sangetsar Tso, Popularly known as Madhuri Lake, was formed due to the damming of a river during a major earthquake in 1950.
Manipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Loktak Lake: largest freshwater lake in Northeast which hosts ' phumdis' or floating biomass and 'phumsangs' or huts of fishermen on them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Keibul Lamjao National Park, only floating wildlife habitat on earth, is on southwestern part of lake and is last natural habitat of sangai or brow-antlered dancing deer.
Mizoram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reiek Tlang hill is a cuesta formed due to erosion of the tertiary sand shale alternations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cuesta means a ridge with a gentle slope or dip on one side and a steep slope or scarp on the other.
Nagaland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Naga Hill Ophiolite consists of a variety of Mesozoic and the subsequently Cenozoic rocks that originated at the India-Myanmar convergent plate boundary.
Sikkim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stromatolite Park, comprising stromatolitic (algal) development provides one of the rare examples of early life on earth in the Sikkim Himalayas.

6.3. GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION (GI) TAG PRODUCTS IN NEWS

About GI tag

- GI is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin typically used for **agricultural products, foodstuffs, wine and spirit drinks, handicrafts, and industrial products.**
- GIs are part of intellectual property rights that comes under Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.
 - **GI is covered under Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement.**
 - A GI Tag is valid for a decade, after which it can be renewed for another 10 years.
- A GI right **enables those who have the right to use the indication to prevent its use by a third party** whose product does not conform to the applicable standards.
- In India, GIs registration is administered by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act of 1999.
 - The first product to get a GI tag in India was the Darjeeling tea in 2004.

State	GI Product	About
Tamil Nadu	Madurai Malli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GI certified Madurai malli (a variety of jasmine flower) and other traditional flowers such as button rose, lily, chamanthi and marigold are being exported from Tamil Nadu to countries such as USA and UAE. ● Madurai Malli is the Jasmine flower, known for its strong and powerful, mysteriously attractive & seductive fragrance. ● Madurai has emerged as a major market for the malli, and has evolved into the 'jasmine capital' of India.
	Kallakurichi wood carvings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kallakurichi wood carvings entail the application of ornamentation and designs, derived from traditional styles by the craftsmen. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The woodcarving skill evolved as an indigenous art when Madurai was an important town in the ancient times.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other GI tag in Tamil Nadu: Kanyakumari cloves, Dindigul locks, Mahabalipuram stone sculpture, Nilgiri (orthodox) tea, Virupakshi hill banana, Thanjavur doll, Thanjavur paintings, Kancheepuram silk saree, etc
West Bengal	Lakshmanbhog Mango	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was displayed in week-long Indian mango promotion programme that was organised in Bahrain. • It is known for its splendid taste and appearance, it is considered a viable alternative to the famous Alphonso mango.
	Khirsapati	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was displayed in week-long Indian mango promotion programme that was organised in Bahrain. • It is highly popularised in India and abroad for its yellow-orange color and distinct taste. • It is widely considered as the ‘Champagne of mangoes’. Another specialty of this species is that it does not have any fiber.
	Fazil Mango	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consignment of GI certified Fazil mango variety sourced from Malda district of West Bengal was exported to Bahrain.
Bihar	Zardalu Mango	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was displayed in week-long Indian mango promotion programme that was organised in Bahrain. • Zardalu received the GI tag for its creamy texture, natural bright yellow colour and an enticing aroma.
Gujarat	Bhalia Wheat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First shipment of GI certified Bhalia variety of wheat has been exported to Kenya and Sri Lanka from Gujarat. • The crop is grown mostly across Bhal region of Gujarat which includes Ahmadabad, Anand, Kheda, Bhavanagar, Surendranagar, Bharuch districts. • The unique characteristic of the wheat variety is that it is grown in rainfed condition without irrigation. • It has high protein content and is sweet in taste.
Assam	Judima Rice Wine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judima, a home-made rice wine of Assam’s Dimasa tribe, has become the first traditional brew in all of northeast to bag a GI tag. • To produce Judima, Dimasa tribe uses glutinous rice called Bora (indigenous to the region) and bark of a plant called Thembra (Acacia pennata) collected from forests surrounding the region. • Some other registered GI tagged products from Assam: Muga Silk, Joha Rice, Tezpur Litchi
Maharashtra	Alphonso Mango	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The king of mangoes, Alphonso, better known as ‘Hapus’ in Maharashtra, is in demand in domestic and international markets for its taste, pleasant fragrance and vibrant colour. • Alphonso from Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Palghar, Thane and Raigad districts of Maharashtra have acquired GI tag.
	White Onion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, White onion of Alibaug in Maharashtra’s Raigad district got GI tag. • GI tag will bring worldwide recognition to its unique sweet taste, no-tears factor, as well as its medicinal properties. • It boosts immunity, helps with insomnia, blood cleaning, blood pressure and heart-related ailments.
Uttarakhand	7 indigenous products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 indigenous products include: Kumaon’schyura oil, Munsyari rajma, Bhotiadann (a rug made by Bhotias, a nomadic community), aipan (traditional art made on special occasions), ringal craft (art of making items by knitting bamboo strands), copper products and thulma (blankets spun from locally-sourced fabrics). • Tejpatta, Indian bay leaf, was the first product in the state to get the GI tag

GI Tag Products in News



6.4. INDIAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT & THE ROLE OF SCIENCE

Why in news?

Recently, a two-day National Conference on 'Indian Independence Movement & the Role of Science' was organised.

More on news

- This national conference was held as a part of **the 75th year of India's independence celebrations**.
- Conference was organized by CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication & Policy Research (**CSIR-NIScPR**) in association with **Vigyan Prasar, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA)**.
- The conference was focused on **science as tool for subjugation and liberations**, the roles of scientists, institutions, movement, policy and planning and the vision of scientists were also discussed.

Science as tool for subjugation

Strategy	Examples
Science as a Tool of British Exploitation of India	Survey of India (founded in 1767), Great Trigonometrical Survey of India (GTS) (established in 1818) & Indian Railways (established in 1853) all were established for exploration of rich metal areas and their transportation to the presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras
Science 'Apartheid' in British Raj	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radhanath Sikdar was the first person to calculate the height of the highest mountain the Mount Everest. • Kishori Mohan Bandhopadhyay played vital role in discovery of malarial parasite for which Sir Ronald Ross received the Nobel Prize. • Seebchunder Nandy and rendered excellent services to the British government during the Mutiny of 1857 as the inspector. • However, none of them got their due credits and were discriminated in terms of low salary, no promotion, etc.

Science as tool for liberations

The opening of new educational institutions in Calcutta, Madras and Bombay by the British was in line with their intention to prepare a more skilled and learned workforce. The young brigade of scientists coming out of these institutions wanted to **break the shackles of the myth that Indians could not think scientifically**, did not have logical thinking, and could not do original research in the prevailing fields during those days. This led to birth of many scientific institutions by Indians:

- **Indian Association for Cultivation of Science (IACS):** It was established by **Dr Mahendralal Sircar** with an objective to enable natives of India to cultivate science in all of its departments with a view to its advancement by original research. The IACS started with seven frontline areas of work viz. Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, Systematic botany, Systematic zoology, Physiology, and Geology.
- **The Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Workshop:** It was established by **Acharya P. C. Ray in 1901**. It was the foundation stone of indigenous industry in our country.
- **Indian Institute of Science (IISc):** It was established **Sir Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata in 1908** on the suggestions of Swami Vivekananda made during their voyage from Japan to Chicago in 1893.
- **Calcutta Mathematical Society:** It was established in 1908, to generate opportunities and contribute to mathematics by Indian students.
- **Bose Research Institute:** It was established by **Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose in 1917** who also dedicate this institute - not merely a laboratory but a temple which was later known as **Basu Vigyan Mandir**.
 - Bose was an extraordinary physicist, botanist and biologist of the time, demonstrated **wireless transmission of electromagnetic radiations**. Bose lived his life with the Indian philosophical thoughts of '**VasudhaivaKutumbakam**' by **not patenting his research in the interest of humanity**. A man of high calibre, his experiments discovered and proved the existence of life and sensitivity in plants through his innovative techniques and instruments.
- **Maharashtra Association for Cultivation of Science (MACS):** Inspired by Sircar's IACS, MACS was established by **Prof Shankar Purushottam Agharkar in Pune in 1946**. The institute was named after him in 1992 as the Agharkar Research Institute.
 - He was an **Indian morphologist and an expert on the biodiversity of Western Ghats**, where he discovered the freshwater jellyfish, generally found in Africa.

6.5. FESTIVALS IN NEWS

Festival Name	Description
Paryushan and Das Lakshan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. President extended Paryushan and Das Lakshan wishes to Jain community. • These are festivals for celebrating the qualities and essence of the Soul. • They are marked by strict observance of the ten cardinal virtues: Forgiveness, Charity, Simplicity, Contentment, Truthfulness, Self-restraint, Fasting, Detachment, Humility and Continenence. • Paryushan: An annual 8-10 days period of fasting and meditation for Jain worshippers observed by Shwetambar Jains. • Das Lakshan: A 10-day festival that takes place after Paryushana and observed by Digambar Jains.
Jallikatu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jallikattu is a bull-taming sport of Tamil Nadu that has traditionally been part of the festival of Pongal.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The festival is a celebration of nature, and thanksgiving for a bountiful harvest, of which cattle-worship is part. There are references to Jallikattu in Sangam literature too. Also, a reference to bull taming is found in a seal discovered at Mohenjodaro, which is dated between 2,500 BC and 1,800 BC. Other states will similar sports include–Kambala (Andhra Pradesh), Bullock Kart races (Maharashtra), Cock Fight (Andhra and other states), Camel Race (Rajasthan).
Raja Parba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a unique three-day festival of Odisha celebrating the onset of monsoon and beginning of earth's womanhood. As a mark of respect towards the earth during her menstruation days, all agricultural works, like ploughing, sowing are suspended for three days.

6.6. PRIZES AND AWARDS

Prizes and Awards Name	Description
Padma Awards Presented by the President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These awards were instituted in the year 1954 and announced every year on the occasion of Republic Day except for brief interruption(s) during the years 1978 and 1979 and 1993 to 1997. The award is given in three categories, namely, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Padma Vibhushan for exceptional and distinguished service; Padma Bhushan for distinguished service of a high order; and Padma Shri for distinguished service. The award seeks to recognize achievements in all fields of activities or disciplines where an element of public service is involved. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year. Even self-nomination can be made. However, Government servants including those working with PSUs, except doctors and scientists, are not eligible for these Awards Total number of awards to be given in a year (excluding posthumous awards and to NRI/foreigners/OCIs) should not be more than 120. The awardees are presented a Sanad (certificate) signed by the President and a medallion. There is no cash prize.
Sahitya Akademi Awards (SAA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sahitya Akademi announced SAA in 20 languages. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards in Gujarati, Maithili, Manipuri and Urdu languages will be announced later. It is a literary honour, conferred annually on writers of most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Besides 22 languages enumerated in Constitution, English and Rajasthani language are also recognised. Award includes a casket containing an engraved copper-plaque, a shawl and an amount of Rs. 1,00,000/-. Sahitya Akademi functions as an autonomous organisation. It is registered as a society under Societies Registration Act, 1860. Sahitya Akademi award is the second highest literary honour by the Government of India, after Jananpith award.
Nobel Peace Prize 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded to: Journalists Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov. Contribution: For their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2012, Ressa co-founded Rappler, a digital media company for investigative journalism. Ressa has focused on Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's controversial "war on drug" campaign that has claimed thousands of lives. Russian journalist Dmitry Andreyevich Muratov co-founded the newspaper Novaya Gazeta. Muratov has for decades defended freedom of speech in Russia under increasingly challenging conditions.
Nobel Prize for Literature 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded to: Tanzanian writer Abdulrazak Gurnah Contribution: For work that explores uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugees in the gulf between cultures and continents.
National Sports Awards for 2021 announced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports. Following are included in list of National Sports Awards:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award is given for the spectacular and most outstanding performance over a period of the previous four years. ○ Arjuna Award for outstanding performance in Sports and Games is given for good performance over a period of the previous four years and showing qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline. ○ Dronacharya Award is given to coaches for doing outstanding and meritorious work on a consistent basis and enabling sportspersons to excel in International event ○ Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement in Sports and Games is given to honour sportspersons who have contributed to sports by their performance and continue to contribute to the promotion of sports events after their retirement. ○ Rashtriya Khel ProtsahanPuruskar is given to corporate entities (both in the private and public sector), sports control boards, NGOs including sports bodies at the state and national level who have played a visible role in the area of sports promotion and development. ○ Overall top performing university in inter-university tournaments is given Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy
Order of the Druk Gyalpo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is Bhutan highest civilian award. ● The award was honoured upon the Indian Prime Minister on the occasion of the Bhutan's National Day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It was awarded in recognition of a lifetime of service to the people and Kingdom of Bhutan.

6.7. OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

Bhaskarabda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In addition to Saka and Gregorian, Bhaskarabda will be used in the official calendar by the Assam government. ● Bhaskarabda era is counted from the date of the ascension of Bhaskaravarman, a 7th-century local ruler of the Kamrupa kingdom. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He was a contemporary and political ally of northern Indian ruler Harshavardhana. ● Unlike the Gregorian, where a day starts at midnight, the Assamese calendar begins and ends at sunrise over 24 hours. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The gap between Bhaskarabda and Gregorian is 593 years. ● While the Gregorian goes by the solar cycle, the Saka and Bhaskarabda use a lunisolar system based on both the phases of the moon and the solar year.
National Mission On Cultural Mapping (NMCM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Having made little progress since its launch in 2017, NMCM has now been handed over to Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IGNCA will soon start cultural mapping in 75 villages. ● NMCM was set up to compile data of artists, art forms & geo location with inputs from Central Ministries, State Governments & art and culture bodies. ● Three important objectives of NMCM are: National Cultural Awareness Abhiyan, Nationwide Artist Talent Hunt/Scouting Programme, National Cultural Workplace.
India Institute of Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To promote higher education and research in fields related to India's rich heritage and its conservation, the Ministry of Culture has decided to set up the Indian Institute of Heritage at Noida. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It will offer post graduate and PhD courses in history of arts, conservation, museology, archaeology etc. ● It will function as a 'deemed to be University', integrating a number of schools across India like NRLC (Lucknow), School of Archival Studies under National Archives of India (New Delhi) etc.
Vatan Prem Yojana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Launched by the Gujrat Government to assist people of Gujarat settled outside India (NRIs) in donating for development works in their native villages. ● Such NRIs can contribute 60% of the cost of a village-level project, while the remaining will be borne by the state government. ● Scheme will cover village-level projects like smart classes in schools, community hall, primary health centre, etc. ● Goal - To create development projects worth ₹1000 crore by December 2022.
Whistling Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ministry of Tourism has nominated Meghalaya's Kongthong village, also known as the 'Whistling village', for the World Tourism Organization's "Best Tourism Villages" award. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two other villages that have also been nominated- Pochampally in Telangana and Ladhpora Khas in Madhya Pradesh. ● The Whistling Village has a very unique tradition 'Jingrwailawbei' whereby a mother gives a tune or lullaby to her child at birth and the villagers have two names, a regular name and a song name.

<p>Kartarpur Corridor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government reopened the Kartarpur Corridor with Pakistan ahead of upcoming Guruparab, the birth anniversary of first Sikh guru 'Guru Nanak'. Kartarpur Corridor was inaugurated in 2019 to commemorate the 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak. Corridor connects the Dera Baba Nanak (in India) with Sri Kartarpur Sahib Gurudwara (in Pakistan), located on the east bank and west bank of River Ravi respectively. Guru Nanak spent last 18 years of his life at Kartarpur and the Kartarpur Corridor allows a visa-free day only travel to Sri Kartarpur Sahib for devotees. 	
<p>Nihangs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nihang is an order of Sikh warriors, characterised by blue robes, antiquated arms such as swords and spears, and decorated turbans surmounted by steel quoits. The order can be traced back to the creation of the Khalsa by Guru Gobind Singh (10th Sikh Guru) in 1699. The term 'Nihang' signifies the characteristic qualities of the clan — their freedom from fear of danger or death, readiness for action and non-attachment to worldly possessions. Nihangs are today divided into several groups, loosely organised into two "dals" (forces) — Buddha Dal and Taruna Dal, names initially given to the two sections into which the 'Khalsa' army was divided in 1733. Nihangs had a major role in defending the Sikh panth after the fall of the first Sikh rule (1710-15), and during the onslaught of Afghan invader Ahmed Shah Durrani (1748-67). Gatka (martial arts in Punjab) is performed by Nihangs. 	
<p>Bharitalasuchustapani</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a carnivorous reptile species that lived 240 million years ago and it might have been the largest predators in that ecosystems. It belongs to a genus and species previously unknown called Bharitalasuchustapani. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Telugu, Bhari means huge, Tala means head, and Suchus is the name of the Egyptian crocodile-headed deity. Fossils have been found on the rocks of the Yerrapalli Formation (Rock formation in the Pranhita-Godavari Basin in Telangana). 	
<p>Dinosaur species footprints in Thar Desert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footprints of 3 dinosaur species found in Thar Desert, Rajasthan's Jaisalmer district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the three species, belonging to the early Jurassic period, were carnivorous. Thar Desert is the 18th largest subtropical desert land and also one of the most populated ones as 40 percent of the human population of Rajasthan lives in Thar Desert. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It extends from Sutlej river and is enclosed by the Great Rann of Kutch, the Aravalli Mountains and the Indus River. 	
<p>Discovery of 'Dragon Man' Skull in China</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientists discovered at least 140,000 years old massive fossilized skull which is a new species of ancient human. Since new species are being considered to be more closely related to humans than even Neanderthals this could fundamentally alter understanding of human evolution. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The name is derived from Long Jiang, which literally means "Dragon River." It forms a third lineage of later humans alongside the Neanderthals and Homo sapiens. 	

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Heartiest Congratulations to all successful candidates

10 IN TOP 10 SELECTIONS IN CSE 2020

FROM VARIOUS PROGRAMS OF VISION IAS



1
AIR

SHUBHAM
KUMAR



2
AIR

JAGRATI
AWASTHI



3
AIR

ANKITA
JAIN



4
AIR

YASH
JALUKA



5
AIR

MAMTA
YADAV



6
AIR

MEERA
K



7
AIR

PRAVEEN
KUMAR



8
AIR

JIVANI KARTIK
NAGJIBHAI



9
AIR

APALA
MISHRA



10
AIR

SATYAM
GANDHI

ABHYAAS 2022

ALL INDIA PRELIMS

(GS + CSAT)

MOCK TEST SERIES

3 TEST

TEST-1
17 APRIL

TEST-2
1 MAY

TEST-3
15 MAY

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- 🎯 Comprehensive Evaluation, Feedback & Corrective Measures
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BENGALURU | BHAGALPUR | BHOPAL | BHUBANESWAR | BIKANER | BILASPUR | CHANDIGARH | CHENNAI | CHHATARPUR | COIMBATORE | CUTTACK | DEHRADUN
DELHI MUKHERJEE NAGAR | DELHI RAJENDRA NAGAR | DHANBAD | DHARWAR | DIBRUGARH | FARIDABAD | GANGTOK | GAYA | GHAZIABAD | GORAKHPUR
GREATER NOIDA | GUNTUR | GURGAON | GUWAHATI | GWALIOR | HALDWANI | HARIDWAR | HAZARIBAGH | HISAR | HYDERABAD | IMPHAL | INDORE | ITANAGAR
JABALPUR | JAIPUR | JAMMU | JAMSHEDPUR | JHANSI | JODHPUR | JORHAT | KANPUR | KOCHI | KOHIMA | KOLKATA | KOTA | KOZHIKODE (CALICUT) | KURNOOL
KURUKSHETRA | LUCKNOW | LUDHIANA | MADURAI | MANGALURU | MATHURA | MEERUT | MORADABAD | MUMBAI | MUZAFFARPUR | MYSURU | NAGPUR | NASIK
NAVI MUMBAI | NOIDA | ORAI | PANAJI (GOA) | PANIPAT | PATIALA | PATNA | PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD) | PUNE | RAIPUR | RAJKOT | RANCHI | ROHTAK | ROORKEE
SAMBALPUR | SHILLONG | SHIMLA | SILIGURI | SONIPAT | SRINAGAR | SURAT | THANE | THIRUVANANTHAPURAM | TIRUCHIRAPALLI | UDAIPUR | VADODARA
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