

# Art and Culture Notes for UPSC

## Indian Art and Culture Notes for UPSC

The NCERT Books for UPSC are an important source to start the preparation of Art and Culture NCERT Notes. Following this, one can refer to the UPSC Books, CCRT, and NIOS material . The topics that are essential and should be covered for the UPSC Exam are:

### Language and Literature

- Trends in Medieval Literature
- Modern Indian Literature
- Classical languages: Evolution & impact on society
- Tamil language and Sangam Literature
- Vedic Literature

### Paintings in India

- Prehistoric Rock Paintings
- Ancient Period
  - Murals Paintings
  - Bagh Caves
  - Sittanavasal Paintings
  - Armamalai caves
- Medieval Period
  - Pala school of miniature paintings
  - Mughal miniature paintings (synthesis of Indian and Persian styles)
  - Development of Pahari, Rajput and Deccan Paintings
- Modern Period
  - Bengal school of Art
  - Renaissance or revivalist painting
  - Madras School of Art
- Decorative Art
  - Madhubani
  - Kalamkari
  - Kalighat
  - Warli
  - Pattachitra
  - The theme of decorative paintings in India
- Religious Philosophies
  - Buddhism and its impact
  - Jainism and its impact
  - Sufism and its impact
  - Vedanta Philosophy

- Bhakti Traditions

## Music

- Hindustani Music evolution, features and impact
- Carnatic Music evolution, features and impact
- Regional music and its impact
- Contribution of Some personalities: Amir Khusro, Mohammad Shah
- Modern Music
- Evolution of Indian Music
- Hindustani and Carnatic music differences and similarities

## Dance

- Well-known Classical dancers of India.
- [Classical Dances of India](#)
- Themes in Indian folk dances
- Tracing Evolution of Dance (Rig Veda, Harappa, Nataraja)

## Drama

- Introduction ( Natyashastra)
- Famous Modern Dramas and Dramatists.
- Various texts relating to the Drama period wise (ex Mahabhasya, mrichhakatika)
- Evolution of Drama in India

## Bronze Sculptures in India

- Harappan "Dancing Girl"
- Nataraja
- Pala school of Art (Bronze images, Manuscripts)
- Chola Bronzes
- Jain Tirthankaras Bronze Images
- Pallava Bronze Images
- Buddha bronze Images (ex Guptas and Vakatakas)

## Visual Arts

- Buddhist Sculpture
- NayakaTemples
- Temples of Assam

- Temples of Khajuraho
- Temples of Gujarat
- Sculptures of Harappan Civilisation
- Sculptures of the Mauryan Age
- Vijaynagar Period Temples
- Indo-Islamic Architecture
- Architecture
- Post-Mauryan Period
- Jain Sculptures
- Temples of Odisha
- Coinage
- Temples of Bengal
- Regional Paintings
- Medieval School of Sculpture
- Pahari School of Painting
- Modern Paintings
- Mauryan Architecture
- Rashtrakuta Period Temples
- Gupta Sculpture
- Temples of Kerala
- Contemporary Paintings
- Temples of Himachal Pradesh
- Gupta Period
- Post-Mauryan Period
- Temples of Gwalior
- Chola Period Temples
- Temples of Rajasthan
- Modern Architecture
- Cave Paintings
- Modern Indian Sculpture
- Paintings in the Deccan
- Miniature Painting in South India
- Temples of Jammu and Kashmir
- Pallava Period Temples
- Pandya Temples
- Tradition of Mural Paintings in India
- [Temple Architecture](#)
- Tradition of Miniature Paintings in India
- Harappan Period
- Rajput School of Painting
- Pottery Tradition
  - Ochre: Coloured Pottery(OCP)
  - Black and Red Ware (BRW)
  - Painted Grey Ware (PGW)
  - Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW)
  - Glazed and Unglazed Pottery

## Architecture

- Post Mauryan Architecture
- Colonial Architecture

- Architectural Style of Harappan Civilisation
- Medieval Period architecture
- Impact of Persian and Greek invasion on Indian culture
- Monolithic Temples
- Emergence of Nalanda as centre of learning
- Rock Cut temples
- Early Temples
- Influence of Buddhism and Jainism on Indian architecture
- Spread of Indian Culture to Southeast Asia
- Free Standing Temples
- Indo Islamic Architecture
- Pallavas as great temple builders
- Gandhara and Mathura school of Art
- Conservation and Preservation of Architectural Structures
- Mauryan Architecture (322-182 BC)
- Nagara and Dravida Styles
- Cultural development during Gupta Age

## Religion

- Sufism
- Saints of Bhakti Movement
- Buddhism
- Islam
- Jainism
- Hinduism
- Sikhism
- Bhakti Movement
- Christianity
- Judaism
- Pre-Vedic Religion
- Zoroastrianism
- Philosophy in India

## Performing Arts

- Music in India
- Classical Indian Music
  - Main Pillars of Indian Music
  - Forms of Indian Music
  - Musical Instruments
  - Institutions Related to Music in India
  - Folk Music
- Dances in India
  - Concept of Dance in India
  - Concept of Ashta Nayika
  - Rasa and Bhava
  - Eight Classical Dance Forms in India
  - Folk Dances
  - Modern Dances

- Sports in India
  - Various Type of Sports
  - Genesis of Martial Arts
  - Forms of Traditional Martial Arts
  - Animal Sports
- Indian Theatre
  - History of Theatre in India
  - Traditional Theatre
  - Regional Theatre
  - Modern Theatre in India
  - Renaissance of Indian Theatre
  - Cinema in India
- Indian Puppetry
  - String Puppets
  - Shadow Puppets
  - Rod Puppets
  - Glove puppets
  - Modern Puppetry
  - Tribal Puppetry

## Miscellaneous

- Government Cultural Institutions in India
- UNESCO's List of Cultural Heritage in India
- Protection and Promotion of Indian Culture and Heritage: Legal Provisions
- Schemes and Awards
  - Awards and Honours Associated with Culture
  - International Yoga Day
  - Indian Handicrafts
- Schemes for Cleanliness of Tourist Places
- Bathu Kamma
- Muziris Heritage Site
- Mahapushkaram
- Chapchar Kut Festival
- Swadesh Darshan
- Project Mausam
- Bharat Parv
- Ganga sagarmela
- Losar festival
- Prasad Scheme
- The Calendar & the Eras
- Rashtriya Ekta Diwas
- International Buddhist Conclave
- Schemes for Serious Literature and Litterateurs
- Cultural Mapping of India
- Schemes for Development of Cultural Heritage
- National Mission on Manuscripts
- Orange Festival Nagpur
- Important Festivals
- Swachh Bharat Swachh Smarak
- Wangala Festival

- 'Swachh Bharat Swachh Paryatan'
- Personalities Related to Culture
- Jallikattu
- Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission
- National Virtual Library of India
- Manipur Sangai Festival
- Sanskriti App
- Incredible India 2.0 Campaign
- Schemes for Monument Development
- Hornbill Festival
- UNESCO inscribes Yoga in the representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity
- World's Heritage
- Nabakalebar Rath Yatra
- International Initiatives for Cultural Development and Recognition
- Paryatan Parv
- Sankalp Parva-Sankalp se Siddhi'
- National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities
- Kheer Bhawani festival
- Intangible Cultural Heritage under UNESCO has inscribed 'Kumbh Mela'
- Protest against Sunburn fest
- [GI Tag](#)
- Kambala
- 2017 Teesta Rangit Tourism Festival
- Places of Cultural Interest
- UNESCO Creative Cities Network
- Schemes for promotion of Culture
- Adarsh Smarak Yojana
- Cultural Scheme Monitoring System
- UNESCO Global Geopark
- Science and Technology in Ancient India
- HRIDAY