

## Unit 2 -HERITAGE - ROCK ART PAINTINGS TO MODERN ART – SCULPTURE

### Part A

1. **What is a hero stone?**

A hero stone is a memorial stone erected to honor the bravery of a warrior who died in battle. It often features inscriptions and carvings depicting the heroic act.

2. **Write about wooden handicrafts.**

Wooden handicrafts are art pieces or functional items carved from wood, often showcasing intricate designs. These include sculptures, furniture, and decorative items that reflect cultural heritage.

3. **Write notes on Tanjore dolls.**

Tanjore dolls are traditional Indian bobble head dolls made from terracotta or papier-mâché. They are characterized by a wide base and a head that wobbles when moved, symbolizing prosperity.

4. **Write about Aaimpon idols.**

Aaimpon idols are ancient statues made from a blend of five metals—Gold, Silver, Copper, Brass, and Lead—crafted to depict deities and used in religious worship.

5. **Mention any two metals present in Aaimpon idols.**

Bronze, Copper, Lead, Gold and Silver.

6. **List out any two wind musical instruments (Thulai isai karuvigal).**

Flute (pullong kuzhal) and Nadhaswaram.

7. **List out any two musical instruments (isaikaruvigal).**

Veena and Mridangam.

8. **What are the types of Yazh musical instruments?**

Types of Yazh include the Periyazh (large Yazh) and the Siriyazh (small Yazh), both are ancient stringed instruments.

9. **Write about village deities.**

Village deities are local gods and goddesses worshiped in rural areas, often associated with nature, protection, and fertility. They are typically represented by simple statues or stones.

10. **Write about protecting deities.**

Protecting deities are gods or goddesses believed to safeguard people from evil and disasters. They are often worshiped to invoke protection and blessings for the community.

### Part-B

1. **Explain making of bronze icons using lost wax technique**

The **Lost Wax Technique** (also known as **Cire Perdue**) is a traditional method used to create bronze sculptures, particularly for religious idols and artistic pieces. Here's a brief explanation of how it is done:

1. **Model Creation:**

- The process starts with creating a detailed model of the sculpture using **wax**. The model is shaped to the desired form of the idol or icon.

2. **Mold Preparation:**

- Once the wax model is ready, it is coated with a layer of **clay** or **sand** to create a strong mold. This coating is allowed to dry and harden.

3. **Wax Removal:**

- The mold is then heated in a kiln to melt the wax, which is drained out, leaving behind a hollow cavity inside the mold. This is the **lost wax** phase.

4. **Metal Pouring:**

- After the mold has cooled, molten **bronze** (a mix of copper and tin) is poured into the cavity, filling the space left by the wax.

## 5. **Cooling and Hardening:**

- The mold is left to cool, solidifying the bronze into the shape of the sculpture.

## 6. **Mold Removal and Finishing:**

- Once cooled, the outer mold is broken away to reveal the bronze idol.
- The sculpture is then cleaned, polished, and sometimes coated with additional layers or patina for decoration.

## 2. **Describe the art of Temple Car making**

Temple car making is a traditional craft that involves creating large, ornate wooden structures used in temple processions.

1. **Purpose:** Temple cars are used to carry deities during religious festivals and processions in temples.
2. **Materials Used:** The main material is wood, but metal, stone, and sometimes ivory are used for decoration.
3. **Design:** The cars are intricately designed with carvings of gods, goddesses, and mythological themes.
4. **Size:** Temple cars can be very large, with some being several stories tall.
5. **Craftsmanship:** Skilled artisans are responsible for the detailed carving and painting of the temple car.
6. **Construction Process:** The structure includes wheels, pillars, and a roof, all made to withstand heavy loads and long journeys.
7. **Cultural Significance:** The creation of temple cars is an important part of religious and cultural heritage, often passed down through generations.
8. **Rituals:** After completion, the cars are used in special rituals to honor the gods during festivals.

## 3. **Explain the construction process of temple car making**

The construction process of a temple car (chariot) involves several meticulous steps to ensure its strength, durability, and aesthetic appeal.

1. **Wood Selection:** High-quality, durable wood like teak or rosewood is chosen to withstand heavy loads and last for many years.
2. **Base Construction:** The foundation or platform is built first, with strong beams to support the weight of the chariot and the deity.
3. **Wheel Making:** Large wooden wheels are crafted with precision. They are often carved from single blocks of wood and fitted with iron rims for strength.
4. **Framework Assembly:** A wooden framework for the pillars, canopy, and roof is built. This forms the basic structure of the chariot.
5. **Carving:** Skilled artisans carve intricate designs, including images of deities, floral patterns, and mythological scenes, on the wooden panels.
6. **Painting and Polishing:** The carved wood is painted with vibrant colors, and polishing enhances its appearance and protects it from weather damage.
7. **Assembly of Decorative Elements:** Ornamental pieces like bells, cloth canopies, and garlands are added to enhance the aesthetic appeal.
8. **Testing and Adjustments:** The finished chariot is tested for balance and stability to ensure it moves smoothly during the procession. Necessary adjustments are made before final use.

## 4. **Explain handicrafts made by Tribals**

Handicrafts made by tribals are unique and reflect their culture, traditions, and connection to nature. Here are some key points about tribal handicrafts:

1. **Natural Materials:** Tribals use locally available materials like wood, bamboo, cane, clay, stones, and leaves for their crafts.
2. **Weaving and Basketry:** They create woven items like baskets, mats, and storage containers using bamboo, cane, or grass.
3. **Pottery:** Tribals craft earthen pots and other utensils for daily use, often decorated with simple designs.
4. **Jewelry:** They make ornaments from natural items such as seeds, shells, bones, feathers, and metals like silver or copper.
5. **Textiles:** Tribal groups are known for weaving fabrics, dyeing them with natural colors, and creating traditional patterns.
6. **Wood and Stone Carving:** Carved wooden masks, figurines, and stone idols are common, often used in rituals or as decorative items.
7. **Metal Crafts:** Some tribes specialize in making tools, weapons, and decorative items using iron or brass (e.g., Dhokra art in India).

## 5. Explain about Terracotta (suduman sirpangal)

**Terracotta**, known as "**sudumansirpangal**" in Tamil, is a type of earthenware made from natural clay that is shaped and then baked in a kiln or under the sun.

1. **Material:** Terracotta is made from natural clay, which is readily available and eco-friendly.
2. **Process:**
  - The clay is mixed with water to form a malleable paste.
  - Artisans shape the clay into various forms, such as pots, sculptures, tiles, and decorative items.
  - Once shaped, the items are dried and then baked to harden them.
3. **Cultural Significance:** Tamil Nadu has a rich tradition of terracotta horse sculptures, especially in temples dedicated to Ayyanar, the guardian deity.
4. **Uses:**
  - **Household Items:** Pots, pans, water storage vessels, and lamps.
  - **Decorative Pieces:** Statues, murals, and garden ornaments.
  - **Architectural Elements:** Tiles, bricks, and carvings used in temples and traditional homes.
5. **Eco-Friendly:** It is biodegradable and doesn't harm the environment, making it a sustainable choice for crafts.
6. **Symbol of Heritage:** Terracotta represents a blend of functional and artistic craftsmanship, showcasing the cultural richness of Tamil traditions. It remains popular for its utility, beauty, and cultural significance.

## 6. Write about Thiruvalluvar Statue at Kumari Node

The **Thiruvalluvar Statue** at Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu, is a magnificent monument dedicated to the celebrated Tamil poet and philosopher **Thiruvalluvar**, the author of the timeless work *Thirukkural*.

1. **Location:**
  - The statue stands on a rocky islet near the southernmost tip of India, Kanyakumari, where the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, and Indian Ocean meet.
2. **Height and Structure:**
  - The statue is **133 feet tall**, symbolizing the 133 chapters of *Thirukkural*.
  - It rests on a 38-foot pedestal representing the first 38 chapters, which emphasize **virtue** (*Aram*).
3. **Symbolism:**
  - The statue represents **Thiruvalluvar's universal teachings** on virtue, wealth, and love (*Aram*, *Porul*, *Inbam*).
  - The 10-foot fingers of the statue signify the three core themes of *Thirukkural*.

4. **Inauguration:**
  - The statue was unveiled on **January 1, 2000**, after years of effort to honor Thiruvalluvar.
5. **Construction:**
  - Designed by sculptor **V. Ganapati Sthapati**, the statue was made with over 3,000 blocks of granite.
  - The total weight is estimated to be around 2,000 tons.
6. **Tourist Attraction:**
  - Visitors can reach the islet via ferry services and enjoy a panoramic view of the ocean.
  - The statue stands close to the **Vivekananda Rock Memorial**, another iconic structure.
7. **Cultural Significance:**
  - The Thiruvalluvar Statue is a tribute to Tamil literature, culture, and the poet's universal message of ethical living.
8. **Engineering Marvel:**
  - The statue is designed to withstand harsh weather conditions, including strong ocean winds and earthquakes.

## 7. Explain about the music instrument Nadhaswaram along with its types

The **Nadhaswaram** is a traditional South Indian wind instrument, often referred to as the "Mangala Vadyam" (auspicious instrument). It is widely used in temple rituals, weddings, and other cultural ceremonies. The **Nadhaswaram** is both a musical and cultural icon, representing the rich heritage of South Indian music.

### Key Features:

1. **Structure:**
  - It is a long, double-reed instrument made of wood, with a flaring metal bell at the end.
  - It has seven finger holes to produce various notes and melodies.
2. **Sound:**
  - Known for its loud, rich, and resonating sound, the Nadhaswaram is ideal for outdoor performances.
3. **Cultural Significance:**
  - It holds a sacred place in Carnatic music and is often played alongside the percussion instrument **Thavil**.
  - It symbolizes divinity and is associated with auspicious events.

### Types of Nadhaswaram:

1. **Timiri Nadhaswaram:**
  - Smaller in size, it produces sharper and higher-pitched notes.
2. **Bari Nadhaswaram:**
  - Larger in size, it produces deeper and lower-pitched tones.

## 8. Explain the making of musical instrument Parai

**Parai** is one of the oldest percussion instruments in Tamil Nadu, traditionally used in rituals, festivals, and as a communication tool. Here's a brief explanation of how it is made:

1. **Material Selection:**
  - The frame is typically made of **neem wood** or **jackfruit wood**, which is durable and resonant.
  - The drumhead is made from **animal hide**, usually cow, buffalo, or goat skin.
2. **Frame Preparation:**

- The wooden frame is shaped into a circular ring and smoothed for evenness.
- The size can vary depending on the purpose, but it is usually around 1-2 feet in diameter.
- 3. **Drumhead Attachment:**
  - The animal hide is cleaned, treated, and stretched tightly over the wooden frame.
  - It is secured using strong ropes or adhesive to ensure a firm and resonant surface.
- 4. **Tuning:**
  - The drumhead is tuned by adjusting the tension in the ropes or by heating the surface slightly to tighten it.
- 5. **Playing Stick (Adi Kol):**
  - A small, curved wooden stick is crafted to strike the drumhead and produce sound.
- 6. **Decoration:**
  - Some Parai drums are decorated with paint or designs, reflecting their cultural or ceremonial significance.

The **Parai** produces a powerful, rhythmic sound and is integral to Tamil culture, especially in folk music, temple rituals, and traditional events.

## 9. Explain different types of Yazh

The **Yazh** is an ancient Tamil string instrument, resembling a harp, widely mentioned in Sangam literature. It is known for its melodious and divine sound. There are different types of Yazh, classified based on the number of strings and their use:

1. **Periyazh:**
  - Large in size and has **21 strings**.
  - Produces deep, rich tones and is used in formal and grand performances.
2. **Ceniyazh:**
  - Medium-sized with **7 strings**.
  - Known for its soothing and melodic sound, often used in softer, emotional renditions.
3. **Sakottiyazh:**
  - A smaller Yazh with **14 strings**.
  - Used for simpler compositions and personal enjoyment.
4. **Makara Yazh:**
  - Shaped like a mythical creature (Makara) and has **19 strings**.
  - Known for its unique appearance and vibrant tones.
5. **Sakoda Yazh:**
  - Features **17 strings** and is often associated with folk traditions.

## 10. Write about the evidences of existence of musical instruments during the Sangam period.

The Sangam period, dating from around 300 BCE to 300 CE, is known for its rich literary tradition and evidence of a well-developed musical culture.

- a. The literature from this period, including works like "Silappatikaram" and "Thirukkural," contains numerous references to musical instruments, indicating their significance in daily life and rituals.
- b. Instruments mentioned include the "Yazh" (a stringed instrument similar to a harp), "Parai" (a type of drum),
- c. The Sangam literature also describes the role of music in festivals, religious ceremonies, and court entertainment, suggesting a sophisticated understanding of rhythm, melody, and musical scales.
- d. Archaeological findings, such as sculptures and carvings on temple walls, also depict musicians playing instruments, further supporting the literary evidence.