

History of the Art of India, Part I: Origins to Mughals

Week 5. Post-Gupta Art

Important points covered:

- The rock-cut caves and their sculpture at Bādami
- The caves' Vaishnava iconography and religious eclecticism
- The development of architectural plans and elements in Chalukya temples at Bādami, Aihole, Pattadakal
- The basic architectural elements of the temples, e.g., gopuram, mandapa, garbha griha, shikhara
- The repetition of religious iconography across time, and the religious eclecticism of temple complexes
- The relation of the Virupaksha temple at Ellora to earlier temples
- The combination of excavation and interior carving in the Virupaksha temple
- The iconography of Siva in the rock-cut Great Cave at Elephanta

General Introduction

A. Chalukyas: Bādami, Aihole, Pattadakal

A1. Chalukyas Introduction

MAP. Chalukya Empire with capital Bādami, 636-740 AD (and other cities)

TERM: Deccan

A2. Malegitti Shivalaya temple at Bādami (6-7C, probably ca.600) (temple 1)

IMAGE: Malegitti Shivalaya temple, Bādami, early 7C; photo from 1880-86 by Henry Cousens or James Fergusson, British Library, London

TERMS: shikhara, garbha griha, mandapa

A3. Siva temple (Ladkhan) at Aihole (5-8C, probably 600-650) (temple 2)

IMAGE: front view of Siva temple (Ladkhan)

IMAGE: plan of Siva temple (Ladkhan)

TERM: hypostyle hall

TERM: Nandi

IMAGE: Interior of Ladkhan temple with view of Nandi and lingam

TERM: lingam

IMAGE: View of Ladkhan temple from the side

TERM: jali

IMAGE: Siva and Parvati, medium relief of on column of Chalukya Siva temple, 600-650

A4. Durga temple at Aihole (6-8C, probably 675-725) (temple 3)

IMAGE: View of Durga temple, Aihole, apse end, ca.550 (with damaged shikhara)

IMAGE: Plan of Durga temple, Aihole (Craven, Fig. 92)

TERM: āmalaka

IMAGE: View of Durga temple, Aihole, from front end, ca.550 (with view of mithuna reliefs)

IMAGE: Mithuna couple on exterior front of Durga temple, Aihole, ca.550

TERM: mithuna (also maithuna)

IMAGE: Durga Mahishasuramardini, high relief, Durga temple, Aihole, ca. 700

TERM: Durga Mahishasuramardini

IMAGES: Compare: Reprise (from earlier slide): Durga Mahishasuramardini, Aihole &

Reprise (from week 4): Durga Mahishasuramardini, Udayagiri cave 6

A5. Virupaksha temple at Pattadakal (ca.740) (temple 4)

IMAGE: Pattadakal temple complex

IMAGE: Virupaksha temple, Pattadakal, ca.740

TERM: kalasha

IMAGE: Plan of Virupaksha temple, Pattadakal, ca.740

TERMS (again): gopuram, mandapa, hypostyle hall, garbha griha

IMAGE: South elevation of Virupaksha temple, Pattadakal, ca.740

TERM: Nataraja

IMAGE: Relief sculpture, Virupaksha temple, Pattadakal, Panchatantra fables, ca.740

IMAGE: Relief sculpture, Virupaksha temple, Pattadakal, Siva Nātarāja, ca.740

IMAGE: Relief sculpture, Virupaksha temple, Pattadakal, Mithuna couple, ca.740

B. Rashtrakutas: Ellora

B1. Introduction

MAP: Rashtrakuta Empire, ca.750-900, with capital at Manyakheta

TERMS: Kailasha, Kailashanatha

IMAGE: Panorama of Ellora caves with Kailasha temple

B2. Rock-cut Kailasha Siva temple, ca.757-790

IMAGE: Aerial view of Kailasha temple, Ellora, ca.757-790

B2a. History

IMAGE: Reprise (from previous slide): Aerial view of Kailasha temple

TERM: dressed stone

B2b. Techniques: Excavation overview

B2c. Excavation

IMAGE: Plan of Kailasha Siva temple: rock-cut exterior

IMAGE: Reprise (from earlier slide): Aerial view of Kailasha temple

IMAGE: Kailasha temple, Ellora, shikhara

IMAGE: Kailasha temple, Ellora, shikhara, kudu, detail of previous image

TERM: shala & kudu motifs

IMAGE: Kailasha temple, Ellora, obelisk

B2d. Carving interior details (from excavated exterior)

IMAGE: Plan of Kailasha Siva temple” rock-cut interior

B2e. Excavation, sculpting, painting

IMAGE: Kailasha temple, Ellora, view of sculpture on exterior walls

IMAGE: Kailasha temple, painting of elephants on ceiling

B3. Rock-cut caves, 6-9C

IMAGE: Ellora Cave 21 Plan

IMAGE: Ellora Cave 21 entrance

C. Rashtrakutas: Elephanta

C1. Introduction

IMAGE: Map of Mumbai Harbor with Elephanta Island

C2. Great cave

IMAGE: Plan of Elephanta Great Cave

TERMS: Trimūrṭi Siva Mahādeva, Gangādhara, Ardhanārīśvara

IMAGE: Siva Gangādhara, medium relief, 17 ft., Elephanta Great Cave, mid-6C

IMAGE: Siva Ardhanārīśvara, medium relief, 17 ft., Elephanta Great Cave, mid-6C

C3. Trimūrṭi Siva

IMAGE: Trimūrṭi Siva high relief with flanking door guardians

IMAGE: Trimūrṭi Siva, high relief, 18 ft., Elephanta Great Cave, mid-6C