

**GS Advanced Program 2023****Generic Booklet**Test Name/Code/No. : 691043

Name			
Email ID.			
Roll No.			
Mobile No.		Date	

Allotted Time : 60 Minutes**Instructions to Candidates -**


- There are 7 Questions in this Question paper.
- All Questions are Compulsory.
- For all updates, please visit the noticeboard -
<https://noticeboard.forumias.com/gsap-2023/>

Important -

- Answers must be attempted in the QCA Booklet only.
- To upload the Answer Copies please visit to "My Course" section on -
<https://academy.forumias.com/>
- Only those copies will be evaluated which will be submitted before the next class.

Q. No.	Grade/Score
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Overall Grade/Score	

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 **Forum IAS**

Start Writing Here

Q.1) Compare and contrast Dravida, Nagara and Vesara temple architecture

Temple architecture emerged in India during the Gupta period. Later under the patronage of local rulers, different styles of architecture developed in different regions of India.

Comparison of Dravida, Nagara and Vesara Temple architecture

<u>NAGARA</u>	<u>DRAVIDA</u>	<u>VESARA</u>
(i) Found in <u>northern parts</u> of India	Found in <u>southern parts</u> of India	Found in the <u>Deccan region</u>
(ii) <u>Towers</u> are called <u>Shikhara</u> ↓ They are <u>circilinear</u> in shape	Towers are called <u>Vimana</u> → <u>Pyramidal</u> in shape	<u>Miniature</u> <u>Vimanas</u> exist
(iii) <u>Multiple towers</u> exist	Generally <u>one tower</u>	<u>Multiple towers</u>

(iv) Gopurams are absent

Gopurams are present

Gopurams may or may not be present

(v) Compound walls are absent

Compound walls are present

Compound walls may or may not be present

(vi) Icons like Navagraha, Mithuna, River goddesses etc are found

Fierce looking creatures like icons are found

Both Nagara and Dravida style icons are found

(vii) Regional variation

Dynasty wise variation

Both types of variation

eg. Jagannath Temple, Lakshmana Temple

eg. Bihadeeswara Temple, Airavateeswara Temple

eg. Badami Temples, Vijayalakshmi Temple

Despite differences, temples across India showcase India's rich history and culture

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Q.2) Synthesis of indigenous and Islamic art and architecture led to creation of hybrid art forms in India. Elucidate.

The intertwining of Islamic art and local art during the Medieval period gave birth to a hybrid form of architecture known as Indo-Islamic or Indo-Saracenic architecture.

Features

- (i) The use of arch and dome gained prominence
- (ii) Arabesque method was used for decoration → use of geometry and floral patterns for ornamentation
- (iii) Introduction of Charbagh style of garden e.g. In Taj Mahal
- (iv) Usage of Pietra dura technique - especially under Jahangir.

Regional styles

Bengal
Use of Bamboo
roofs
eg. Adina mosque

Jaunpur
Avoided use
of mirrors
eg. Atala mosque

Bijapur
Use of
Bulbous dome
eg. Gol Gumbaz

Imperial styles

Mamluks
Remodelled
existing
Hindu buildings
eg. Qutb
Minar

Khilji
Use of
red
sandstone
eg. Alai
Darwaza

Lodis
Double
domes
eg. Sikander
Lodi's
tomb

Mughals
Jali
work
eg. Taj
Mahal

It also impacted the Nayaka temple
architecture and introduced spaciousness
and breadth to local architecture

Overall Grading (✓)

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Q.3)

'Gandhara school of art' is the confluence of Indo Roman and Greek art forms. Analyse

Gandhara school of art belongs to the Post Mauryan period and came into existence during the 1st century A.D.

Gandhara school of art

- (i) It was patronised by Kushana ruler, Kanishka
- (ii) It is dedicated to Mahayana sect of Buddhism
- (iii) For the 1st time, Buddha was represented in human form

Confluence of Indo Roman and Greek art

- (i) The Gandhara school is also known as Graeco Buddhist school of art because it has Graeco-Roman influences
- (ii) Regions where Gandhara sculptures are found → Taxila & Bamiyan

(iii) This school of art is inspired from Western Hellenistic realism

Roman influence



Use of drapery
which was inspired from Roman art

Greek influence



Focus on anatomical accuracy



Curly hair and moustache.

Use of Halo and Bun

The Gandhara school of art was solely focused on Buddhism and it is showing the growing relations with West as seen through the Greco-Roman influence.

Overall Grading (✓)

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Q.4)

The rock-cut architecture represents one of the most important sources of our knowledge of early Indian art and history. Discuss

Rock cut architecture refers to a type of rock art wherein art is created by carving out from a solid rock.



Important sources of History

(i) Mauryan period

The Barabar caves in Bihar were used as viharas. They were also used by the Jivaka sect → Patronised by Ashoka

(ii) Post Mauryan period

Ajanta caves and Karle caves shows us the development of assembly halls called Chaityas along with Viharas.

(iii) Gupta period

The earliest version of a temple can be found in Udaygiri hills where the Varaha avatar of Vishnu is found.

(iv) Pallava dynasty

The Pallava rulers developed temples that were rock cut. The Ratha temples were constructed along with intricate sculptures by Narasimhavarman.

(v) Rashtrakutas

The Kailash temple built in Ellora caves were a work of art developed by the Rashtrakuta rulers which shows architectural works based on Puranas.

Rock cut architecture portrays the religious, cultural and political life of the people of these periods.

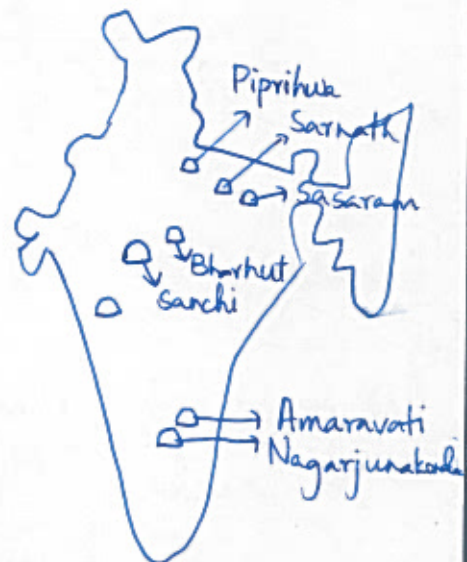
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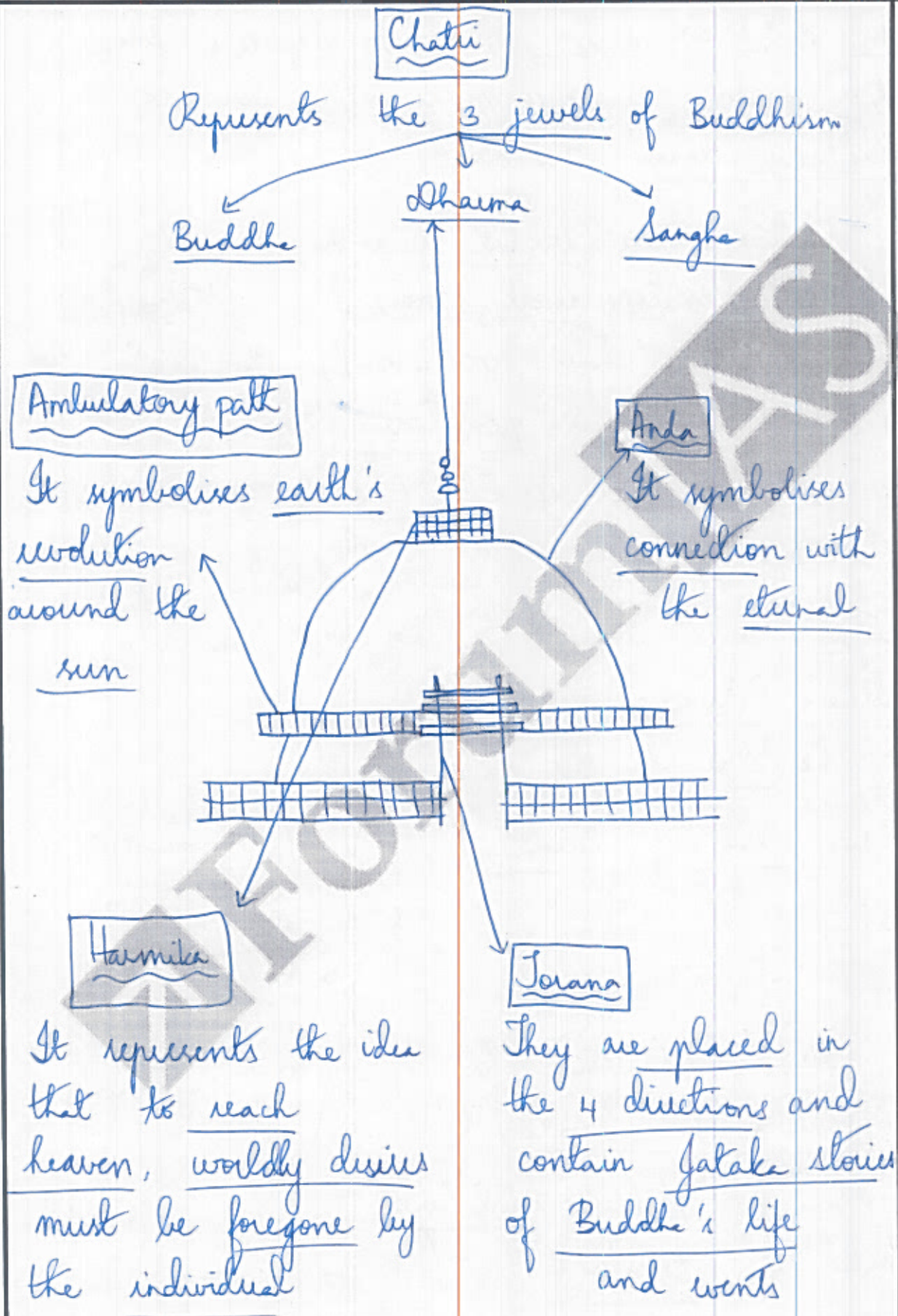
Q.5) Early Buddhist stupa art while depicting folk motifs and narratives successfully expounds Buddhist ideals. Elucidate.

Stupas are burial mounds covered with a hemispherical mound. Although stupas do not have exclusively Buddhist significance, it is popularly known for being shrine of Buddha's relics.

During Ashoka's reign, around 84,000 stupas were built by Ashoka. Initially Buddha's relics were stored in the core of the stupas. Later, relics of Buddha's disciples and monks were enshrined.



Stupas were used for propagating the ideals of Buddhism. They symbolise Buddhist teachings.



Stupa art

Stories from Jataka represented Buddha's life. They were depicted in panels and Torana.

- Events from Buddha's life - Birth, death, attainment of knowledge, dhammachakrapavartane, mahaparinirvane
- Representation of animals like lion, elephant etc
- Ornamenting using lotus, vines etc.

Thus Buddhist philosophy is expressed through the stupas. While acting as places of worship, they also propagate the ideals of Buddhism.

Overall Grading (✓)

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Q.6) How will you explain the medieval Indian temple sculptures represent the social life of those days?

Medieval temple sculptures have been an important source of history in trying to study the social lives of people during that era.

Based on the styles of temple architecture seen in India, distinct features of social lives in these regions can be identified. Sculptural images in bronze and stone give accurate ideas from the medieval age.

i) Buddhist stupas

Representation of Jataka stories in the Koranas present a picture of life of Buddha. Further teachings of Buddhism of Dharma, Buddha and Sanga is

expressed through the Chattri.

(ii) Nagara temple architecture

Khajuraho temples

- These temples contain erotic sculptures depicting sexual themes.
- Large scale emphasis on horsemen shows the importance of cavalry.

Odisha temples

The sculptures in these temples depict everyday life themes using animals and human figurines.

Solanki temples

There are step tanks built into these temples which is necessary in a region short of water and for ritual purposes.

(iii) Chola sculptures

→ The bronze sculptures of Nataraja shows Nataraja in Tandava position.

→ The ideas of salvation and benediction shown through the statue signifies the importance of Hindu ideals during the period

(iv) Ellora caves

The depiction of Nyajasur Shiva and rock cut architecture of Kailash temple shows the patronage given by Rashtrakuta rulers.

The sculptures shows everyday life scenarios and they convey history, mythology and religious views of that period.

Overall Grading (✓)

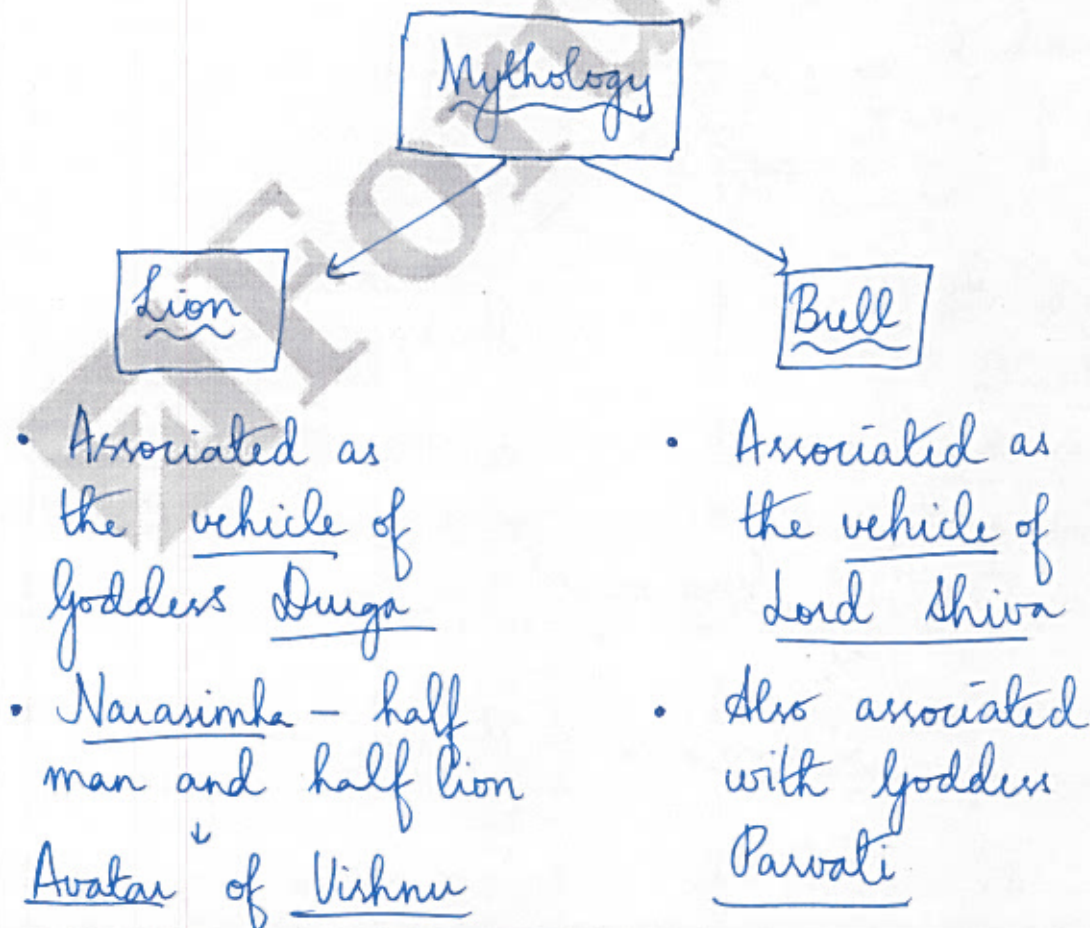
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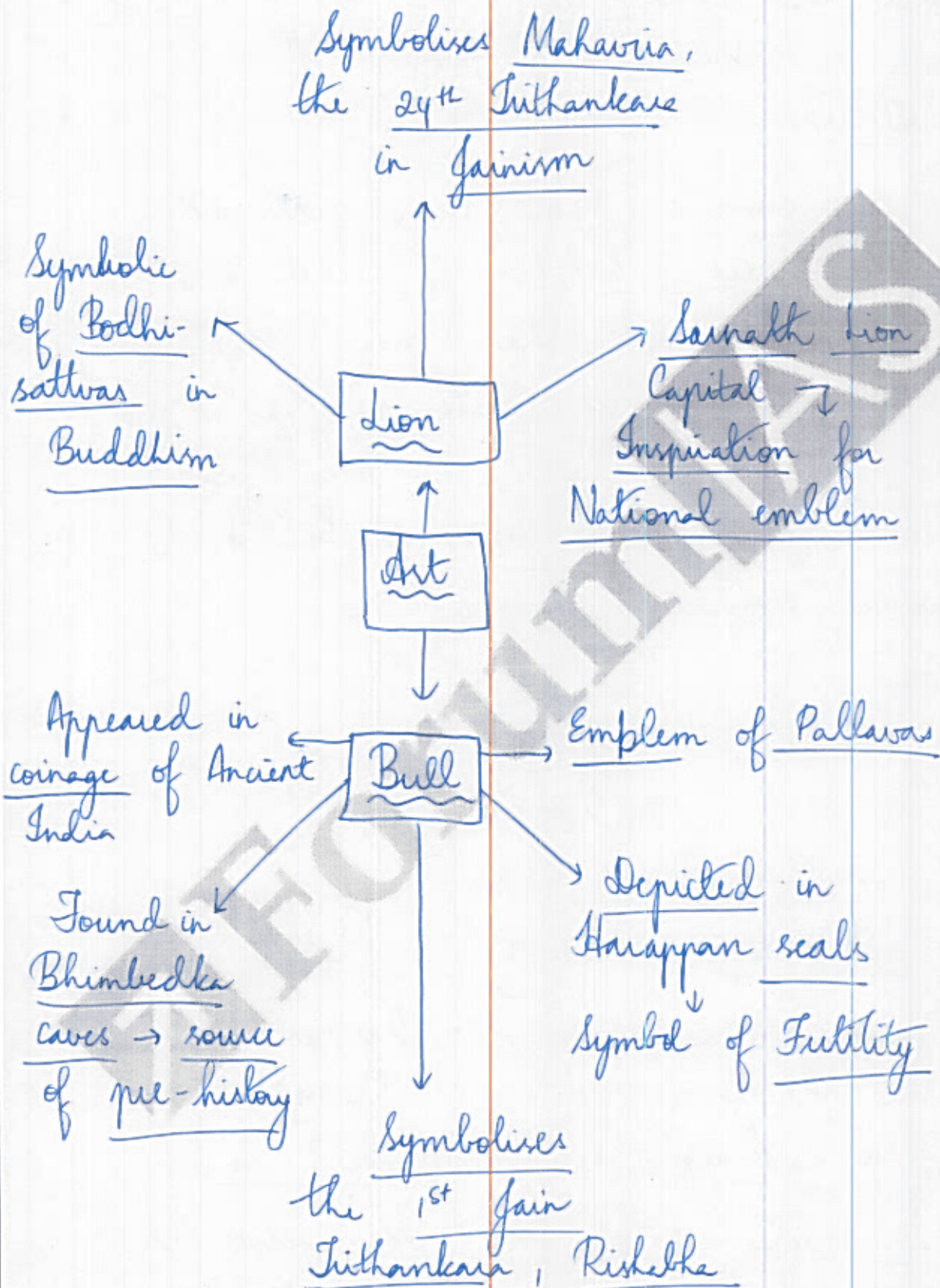
Q.7)

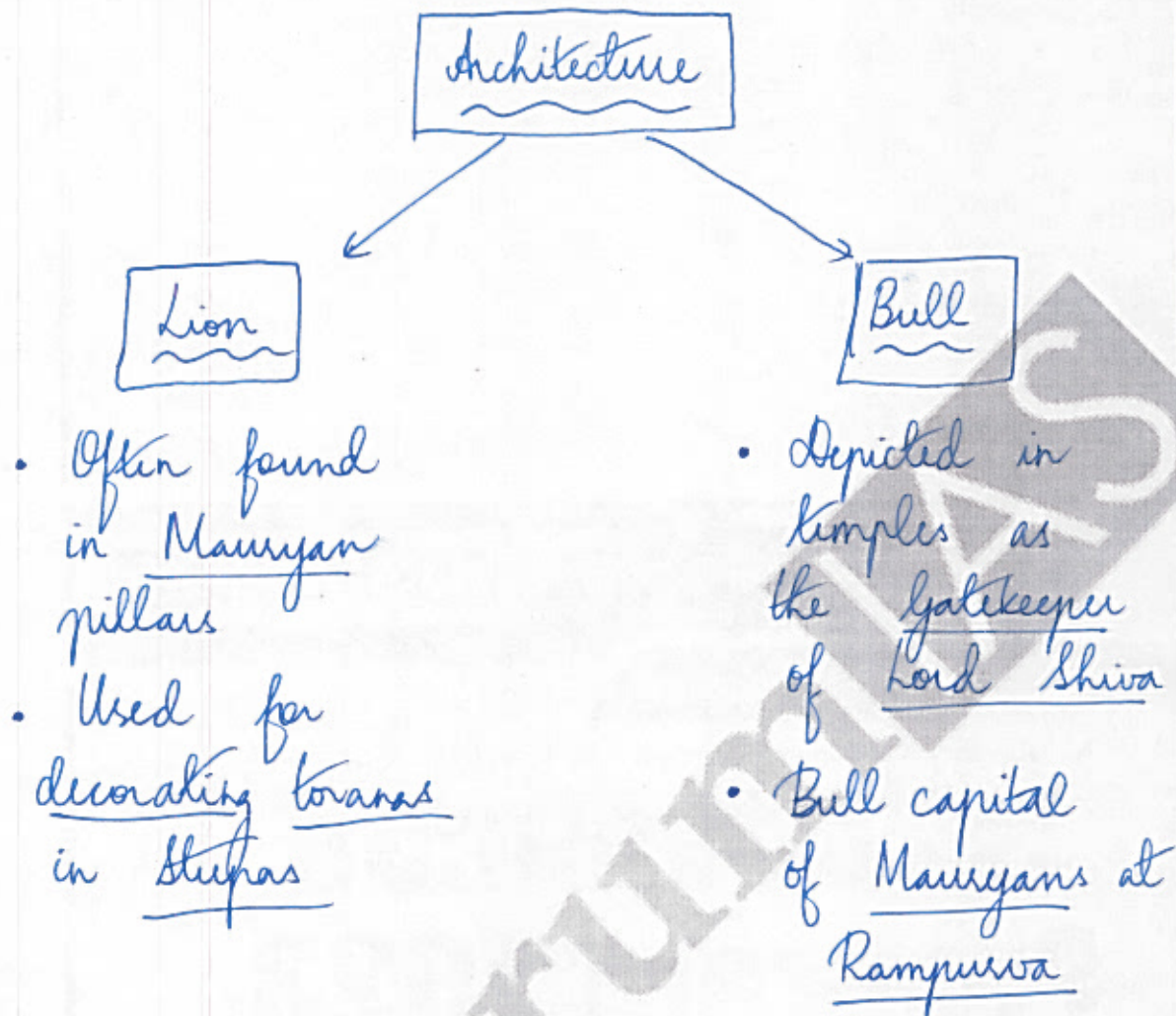
Discuss the significance of the lion and bull figures in Indian mythology, art and architecture.

Animals have been portrayed in sculptures, art and architecture of India since the ancient times.

The Lion and Bull play a significant role here as they have been found across ages while continuing to hold massive importance.







The symbolic nature of Bull and Lion causes them to continue being popular as seen through the celebration of Pongal in South India.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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