

Rainbow Book

Art & Culture | One Shot

UPSC 2026 | CSE PRELIMS

CHAPTERS

- 01 Introduction, IVC & Mauryan Period
- 02 Sculptures
- 03 Buddhist & Jain Architecture
- 04 Temple Architecture
- 05 Indo-Islamic Architecture
- 06 Paintings
- 07 Bhakti & Sufi Movements
- 08 Religious Philosophies
- 09 Hindustani & Carnatic Music
- 10 Classical & Folk Dances
- 11 Literature, Science & Education

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PYQS TAGGED

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MINDMAP TREES

14

COMPARISON TABLES

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CHAPTERS

• PYQs 1991-2025

• NCERT + Singhania + Dimaag

• Visual Mindmaps

• Comparison Tables

• Keywords Highlighted

BY

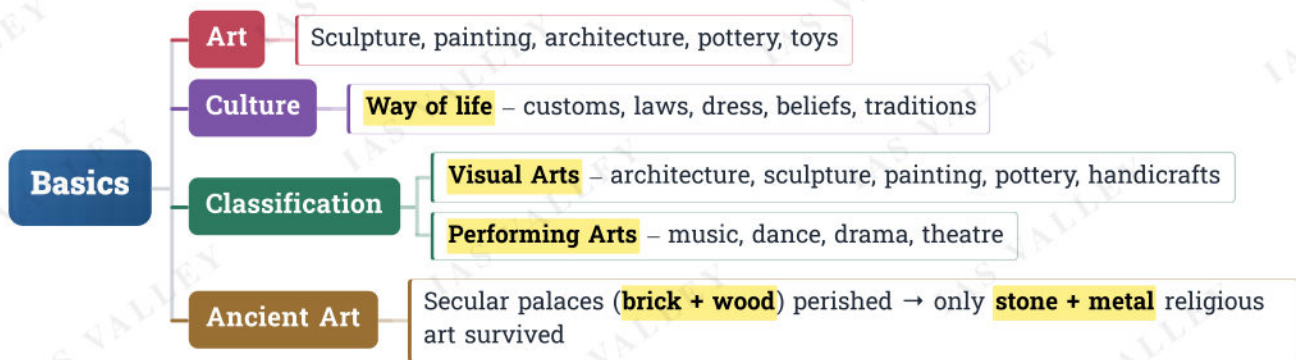
IAS Valley

Complete Visual Revision in One Shot

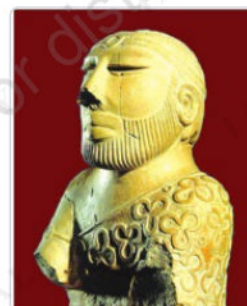
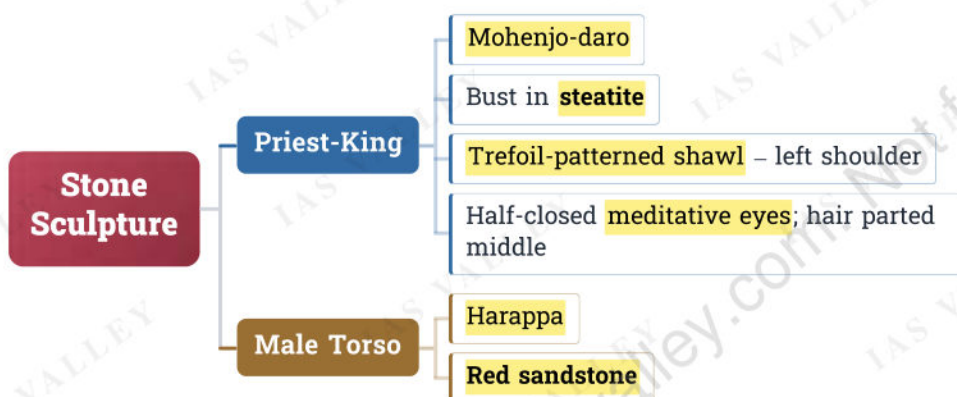
Chapter 1. Introduction, IVC and Mauryan Period

PYQ THEMES

IVC Sculpture & Crafts, Archaeological Sites, Ashokan Pillars, Ashokan Edicts, Mauryan Rock-cut & Sculpture, Rigvedic vs IVC Culture



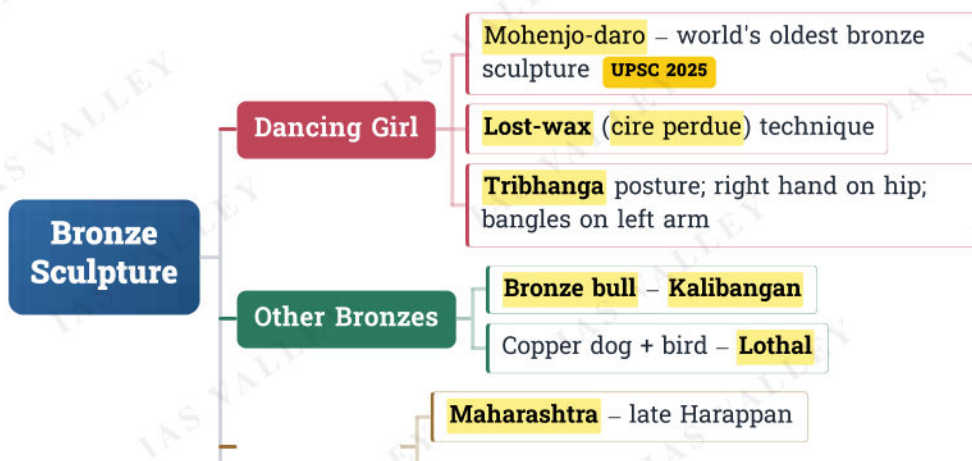
IVC ART



Priest-King (steatite)



Male Torso (red sandstone)



Bronze Bull + Dancing Girl

Daimabad

Famous "Chariot" bronze



Daimabad Chariot



Mother Goddess

Terracotta

Mother Goddess

Crude compared to stone/bronze

More realistic in Gujarat + Kalibangan

Other Figures

Bearded males – coiled hair, rigid upright posture

Horned deity mask

Toys

Toy carts with wheels; birds, animals, gamesmen, whistles

Seals

Material

Steatite (main); also agate, copper, gold, ivory

Intaglio carving

Purpose

Commercial – stamping goods; also amulets

Depictions

Unicorn bull – most common animal

Rhino, tiger, elephant, bison, buffalo, goat

Cow NOT depicted UPSC 2001

Peepal tree – sacred motif

Pashupati Seal – Proto-Shiva yogi; surrounded by tiger, rhino, elephant, buffalo



Unicorn Seal



Pashupati Seal

Pottery

Mainly wheel-made

Plain ware > painted

Red + black common; polychrome rare

Known as centre of **diamond trade**

Kalinjar

Bundelkhand, UP – built by **Chandela** dynasty (same builders as **Khajuraho**)

Strategic hilltop fort with Chandela-era sculptures

Features

Forts + minars = defining feature of **Indo-Islamic architecture**

Built with **rugged walls** as defence against Mongol invasions

Materials: **red sandstone**, yellow sandstone, marble; often included **gardens + water channels**



Gwalior Fort



Chittorgarh Fort



Daulatabad Fort



Golconda Fort



Kalinjar Fort



Chand Minar



Vijay Stambha



Kirti Stambha



Teli Ka Mandir

Babur

Only 2 mosques; did **NOT** introduce arch + dome

UPSC 2015

Humayun

Iran exile → brought **Persian elements**

Humayun's Tomb (UNESCO) – **true beginning** of Mughal architecture