

PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY



Pattachitra Painting

Origin

Pattachitra (Sanskrit: pata = cloth, chitra = picture) refers to scroll painting traditions from:

Odisha - associated with Jagannath cult (esp. Puri)

West Bengal - distinct regional form

Themes

Mythological and devotional depictions:

Jagannath, Krishna Leela, Hindu gods & goddesses

Episodes from Puranas and Vaishnava lore

Technique

Painted on:

Treated cloth (coated with chalk-gum paste, polished)

Palm leaves (in some variations)

Natural pigments: vegetable & mineral-based

Artists are known as Chitrakars

Stylistic Features

Bold black outlines, rich natural colors:

Red, yellow, blue, green, white

Characteristic elements:

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Almond-shaped eyes, ornate jewelry, compact storytelling

Intricate decorative borders

Note

A key form of narrative visual storytelling deeply linked to temple rituals, especially Rath Yatra in Puri.

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