

Contributions to Art, Science and Literature

Chapter 7: India's Cultural Roots · Topic 2

Key Concept

In science and mathematics, ancient Indian scholars like Aryabhata contributed ideas about zero, place value, and astronomy, influencing mathematics worldwide.

In literature, ancient India produced great works like the Ramayana and Mahabharata, along with poetry and drama by writers like Kalidasa.

In art and architecture, ancient India created stunning cave paintings (like Ajanta), intricate temple carvings, and sculptures showing advanced artistic skill.

These contributions reflect ancient India's rich intellectual and cultural achievements, showing how knowledge and creativity flourished across many fields.

Quick Revision Notes

- Aryabhata contributed ideas about zero and astronomy.
- Ancient India developed important mathematical concepts.
- The Ramayana and Mahabharata are great ancient literary works.
- Kalidasa was a famous ancient Indian poet and playwright.
- Ajanta caves have famous ancient paintings.
- Ancient India created intricate temple carvings and sculptures.
- These contributions reflect rich intellectual achievements.
- Ancient Indian knowledge influenced the world.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research one contribution of Aryabhata.
- 2 Read a short summary of the Ramayana or Mahabharata.
- 3 Research the Ajanta cave paintings.
- 4 Discuss why the concept of zero was important.
- 5 Find an example of ancient Indian architecture.
- 6 Discuss how ancient Indian achievements still matter today.