Pre Historic and Late Ancient (5000BC – 1st Century AD)

Objective

To provide an insight into the architecture of prehistoric period and late ancient civilizations, and the architecture of Classical antiquity of late ancient period. Social, religious and political character, construction methods, building materials and how they influenced their built form and settlement pattern shall be explained with suitable examples. Combined influence of geology, geography, climate, beliefs, religion and culture on the architecture must be highlighted so as to appreciate how architecture is embedded in place specific context. The study must enable students to do a comparative evaluation of various civilizations, appreciate chronological developments along the timeline and across geographies.

Module1

PRE-HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE & SETTLEMENT:

Introduction to human settlement: People, their shelter, settlement (growth, factors influencing the development of a settlement), burial systems, megaliths, memorials. (Structures: Different types of graves, Stonehenge; & Settlements – World: Catal Hoyuk, Jericho; India: Mehrgarh etc.)

INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION (IVC)

Indus - People, their shelter & civic buildings (typology, planning, construction & aesthetics), settlement pattern & citadel (Structures: Great Bath/Great Granary, simple Harappan house; & Settlements – Mohen-jo-daro/ Harappa)

VEDIC:

People, their shelter & buildings (typology, planning, construction & aesthetics), settlement (typical village, planning, shelter types, materials) (Structures – Vedic houses, Torana, railing around villages; & Settlements – Patliputra)

Module 2

NILE VALLEY CIVILIZATION

People, their shelter & buildings, settlement (growth, factors influencing the development of architecture & character, settlements of NVC) and religious (cult temples) & burial structures (typology, planning, construction & aesthetics) (Structures: Mastabas, Pyramids: stepped, bent & Great Pyramids of Cheops; Temple of Abu-Simble/Amun-Ra)

MESOPOTAMIAN (EUPHRATES & TIGRIS) CIVILIZATION:

Sumerian, Babylonian & Persian people, their shelter & buildings, settlement (growth, factors influencing the development of architecture & character, settlements) and religious structures. (Structures – Ziggurats, Persepolis; & Settlements – Planning of Ur & Babylon)

Module 3

CLASSICAL ARCHITECTURE OF ANCIENT GREECE (AEGEAN CULTURE):

Evolution of city states, Hellenic & Hellenistic period, factors influencing Greek Architecture, orders in Greek Architecture, proportion, optical correction. (Structures – Parthenon, Theatre, Agora, Stoas, & Settlements – Athens & Acropolis of Athens and Delphi)

Module 4

ROMAN ARCHITECTURE (ETRUSCAN CULTURE)

Evolution of Republican States, Roman construction techniques (masonry, vaults, domes, orders, use of concrete), building typology (Structures – Forum, Pantheon, Thermae, Basilica, Circus, Colosseum, etc.)

Module 5

Assignments on innovative interpretation of the periodic architectural styles. (To be decided by the subject teacher.)

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