

↳ Gandhara school of art was a mixture of Indian themes and Greco-Roman art. (Doc W)

The Gandhara school of art is considered as a prominent and important institute in art and architecture in India as it has introduced many new art forms and acted as a catalyst for other art schools as well. It had a great impact in Indian art forms and introduced many new features.

It is considered as a mixture of Indian and Greco-Roman themes as it had used the Indian subjects with Greco-Roman features. Some of its specifications are:

- ① This school of art is basically called Greco-Buddhist school of art as it had used Buddha as its prime subject.
- ② It used various life incidences of Buddha and showed 4 basic poses eg. - Abhaya pose, Dhyan mudra, Dharmachakra mudra and Bhumisparshya mudra.
- ③ The features of Gautam Buddha was shown as that of Greek God Apollo.
- ④ Great detailing was done on body parts and Buddha was shown as well built man.

- ③ Buddha is depicted as a great personality by clear sharp features and wavy-long hair.
- ④ Grey coloured stone was used in statues and grey stone which was abundantly found in the surrounding area.
- ⑤ It was patronised by Yavan king 'Pushyamitru' which made it a blend of Indian and Greek Roman art style.
- ⑥ The location of school also made it open for both Indian and Greek influence.
- ⑦ The drapery was of statues was influenced by local and thick drapery was made with broad clean lines.

The Gandhara school of art is indeed a blend of Indo-Greek art styles. It had introduced Hellenistic art form which had influenced clarity in facial expression in Indian art. It highly influenced Mathura and Amravati school of art and hence is very important in Indian art.

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