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Q.

Grandhara School of art was a mixture of Indian themes + Greeko-Roman art. Comment (300 words).

Ans

Grandhara School of art is a form of visual art especially Buddhist visual art which flourished during the Kushana dynasty along with contemporary Mathura school of art. It was mainly based in North western India, now Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Buddha being the main theme of this art is what influences most of the art forms of this art. It depicts Buddha beautifully inspired from both Indian and Greeko-Roman art.

The relations of Kushana rulers with Rome and Greece has ~~what~~ surely influenced it. Whether they are the prediction of Buddha as 'man-god' or his 'unexpectedly beautiful features, masculinity all <sup>are</sup> what same as that of Roman art where gods are seen as man and depicted the same. Depiction of Buddha as a human is inspired from Roman anthropomorphic tradition, along with his resemblance in clothes is same to the attire of Roman gods.

The legendary representation of Buddha is sure a part of Roman culture. Apart from Roman influence, Greek ~~thought~~ <sup>small</sup> has also made a huge impact on this art, like his ~~affo~~ ~~affo~~ Apollo like face, Natural realism, wavy hair etc, which very much resembles the Hellenistic tradition.

Not only physical features but the material used i.e., the stucco plaster and grey colour have made a direct way from Greek culture.

Possibly, the reason for such influence might have been the proximity of area to Greek and Rome along with trade relationships of various rulers present in that area. Moreover, the patronage and the promotion they got from those rulers who might have been the appreciators of such an art form.

Buddha himself is what that makes this art Indian along with more stress put on his physical features, external beauty which makes him nearer to the Greco-Roman culture, along with equally being influenced due to presence of school at such a prime location which itself is an example of confluence of cultures make it overall visually beautiful.

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