

RELIGIOUS PLACES — FULL MIND MAP

Topic-wise · Fully Explained · Hinglish · SSC / BPSC / BSSC / Railway

Questions 1808 – 1855

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1. Temple Architecture Styles — Nagara, Dravida, Vesara

- **3 main temple architecture styles: Nagara** — North India (Himalayas aur Vindhya ke beech). **Dravida** — South India. **Vesara** — Nagara+Dravida ka mixture. [Q1822]
- **Nagara style features:** stone platform + steps, elaborate boundary walls/gateways **usually NAHI hote**, **Amalaka/Kalash Shikhara par installed hote hain**, garbhagriha hamesha tallest tower ke directly niche hota hai. Sub-divisions: Rekha-Prasad/Latina, Shekari, Bhumija, Valabhi, Phamsana. [Q1838]
- **Shikhara** — North Indian temple architecture mein sanctum + pillared mandapas ke upar superstructure/tower (convex curve mein progressively inclined). **Amalaka** — notched stone disk (ridges ke saath), Shikhara ke top par, Nagara style ki Uttar Bharat mein khaas pehchan. **Garbha griha (Sanctum Sanctorium)** — temple ka innermost chamber, main deity ki murti yahan hoti hai — **earliest Hindu temples ka sabse important part**. [Q1822, Q1835, Q1826]
- **Gopuram** — South Indian temples ke courtyard mein lofty entrance gates, Dravidian style mein banaye jaate hain (tallest — Ranganathaswamy Temple, TN). **Vimana** — main temple tower ki shape. [Q1818]
- **Rekha Deula (curvilinear superstructure) style** — Konark Sun Temple isi style mein bani hai (Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva ne banaya, Kalinga-style architecture, 'White Pagoda' bhi kehlata hai, Char Dham ka part). **Panchayatana style** — main shrine + 4 subsidiary shrines corners par (5 total) — **Dashavatara Temple (Deogarh)** isi style ka example hai. [Q1823, Q1848]
- **Kandariya Mahadeva Temple (Madhya Pradesh)** — **Nagara style**, king Dhangadeva (Chandela dynasty) ne 999 CE mein banaya, **Garbha griha** ritual worship ki jagah thi (sirf king/family/priests aate the). Temple parts: Mahamandapa, Antarala, Amalaka. [Q1832]

2. Famous Temples — State-wise

- **Brihadeshwar Temple — Tamil Nadu** (Thanjavur, **Chola King Raja Raj Chola I** ne banaya, Lord Shiva Nataraj pose mein; **4 km long incline se 90 tonnes stone tallest shikhara par rakha gaya tha**). Doosre TN temples: Meenakshi (Madurai), Ramanathaswamy (Rameshwaram), Kapaleeshwarar (Chennai). [Q1810, Q1819]
- **Sri Brahmapureeswarar Temple — Tamil Nadu**. **Shore Temple — Tamil Nadu** (Mahabalipuram, Dravidian style, Narasimhavarmam II ke reign mein bana, UNESCO 1984). **Virupaksha Temple (Pampapathi**

Temple) — Hampi, Karnataka (Lakhan Dandesha ne banaya, Dravidian style, Tungabhadra river, Lord Shiva ko dedicated, UNESCO 1986). [Q1833, Q1830, Q1827]

● **Kamakhya Temple — Assam. Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga — Madhya Pradesh. Somnath Jyotirlinga — Gujarat. Jagannath Temple — Odisha** (Puri, isme **Odissi dance** depict hota hai). **Badrinath Temple — Uttarakhand. Golden Temple — Punjab. Meenakshi Temple — Tamil Nadu. Hoysaleswara Temple — Karnataka.** [Q1809, Q1820]

● **Lingaraja Temple — Odisha** (Bhubaneswar, Lord Shiva). **Konark Sun Temple — Odisha** (1984 World Heritage Site, King Narasimhadeva I, Eastern Ganga Dynasty, 13th century). **Biraja Temple, Rajarani Temple, Samaleswari Temple — sab Odisha** mein hain. **Mukteshwar dance festival — Odisha** (Mukteswar temple, 14-16 January). [Q1828, Q1829, Q1853, Q1814]

● **Khajuraho Temple — Madhya Pradesh** (Chhatarpur district, Hindu+Jain temples, **Vesara/mixed style**, UNESCO 1986). **Ramappa Temple (Rudreshwara/Ramalingeswara) — Telangana** (Palampet, Warangal, Kakatiyan style, UNESCO 2021). [Q1836, Q1824]

● **Dilwara Temples — Mount Abu, Rajasthan** (Nagara style, Vimal Shah ne banaya, designer Vastupala). **Bhitari Temple — Uttar Pradesh** (Ghazipur; Skandagupta ki Huns par victory ka mention Bhitari Inscription mein hai). **Bhitargaon Brick Temple — Kanpur, UP** (5th century AD, Gupta period, India ke earliest surviving brick temples mein se ek). [Q1825, Q1811, Q1813]

● **Madan Mohan Temple — Vrindavan, UP** (Sanatana Goswami ne 1580 AD mein banaya). **Sirpur Shrine — Chhattisgarh. Mahabodhi Temple — Bihar** (Niranjana River ke kinare, Buddha's enlightenment site, Mauryan emperor Ashoka ne 3rd century BC mein pehla temple banaya). [Q1837, Q1817, Q1812]

● **Sabarimala Sree Dharma Sastha Temple — Kerala** (Lord Ayyappa Swamy ko dedicated). **Swaminarayan Akshardham — New Delhi** (world ka largest comprehensive Hindu temple, 356ft x 141ft x 356ft, 6 November 2005 inaugurate hua). [Q1845, Q1850]

3. Rock-Cut Caves & Ancient Monuments

● **Kailasa Temple — Ellora Caves, Aurangabad, Maharashtra** mein hai (multi-religious rock-cut complex, 6th century CE se inscriptions, world ki largest monolithic structure). **Ajanta Caves — 29 rock-cut Buddhist cave monuments, Aurangabad mein** (**Jataka tales** — Buddha ke previous births ki Buddhist legends — inki paintings/sculptures se associated hain). **Khandagiri-Udayagiri Caves — Bhubaneswar, Odisha.** [Q1808, Q1855]

● **Elephanta Caves — 'Sadashiva' sculpture (7m high, Shiva ke 3 aspects)** yahan milti hai (Creator/Preserver/Destroyer — Aghora-Bhairava, Taptapurusha-Mahadeva, Vamadeva-Uma). [Q1840]

● **Lion Capital (Sarnath) — base lotus flower, drum par 4 animals** (horse-west, ox-east, elephant-south, lion-north), 4 lions top par (4 directions). **Deer/cow component NAHI hai** (trap — sirf horse/ox/elephant/lion hain). [Q1831]

● **Panch Rathas, Mahabalipuram — Dharmaraja (Yudhishtir) Ratha, Bhima Ratha, Arjuna Ratha, Nakula Sahadeva Ratha, aur 5th — Draupadi Ratha.** [Q1854]

4. Sikh Shrines (Gurdwaras)

● **Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple) — Amritsar, Punjab** mein hai, Sikhism ka preeminent spiritual site. Doosre Sikh sites: Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur (Pakistan), Gurdwara Janam Asthan (Nankana Sahib, Pakistan). [Q1839]

● **Kartarpur Sahib Corridor — Dera Baba Nanak Shrine (Gurdaspur, India) ko Kartarpur Gurudwara (Pakistan) se connect karta hai, River Ravi ke kinare** (1999 mein Atal Bihari Vajpayee aur Nawaz Sharif ne propose kiya tha). **Nankana Sahib (Guru Nanak ka birthplace) — pehle 'Rai Bhoi di Talwandi' kehlata tha** (Guru Nanak born 15 April 1469, Pakistan). [Q1851, Q1852]

5. Buddhist & Jain Pilgrimage Sites

- **Mahamastakabhisheka** — Jain festival, har 12 saal mein **Shravanabelagola, Karnataka** ke Digambara complex mein (Gomateshwara statue, Ganga dynasty ne banayi). [Q1815]
- **Kardang Monastery (Buddhist)** — **Himachal Pradesh** (River Bhaga ke left bank par, 1912 CE mein Lama Norbu Rinpoche ne renovate kiya). **Phodong Monastery** — **Sikkim** mein hai (Hemis Monastery — Ladakh, Leh se 45km). [Q1834, Q1842]
- **ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness)** — **A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada** ne 1966 mein New York City mein establish ki, Bhagavad Gita/Bhagavata Purana aur Gaudiya Vaishnava tradition par based. [Q1841]

6. Sufi Shrines & Other Religious Places

- **Dargah Sharif (Ajmer, Rajasthan)** — Sufi saint **Moinuddin Chishti (Shaikh Muinuddin Sijzi)** ki tomb, unki grave (Maqbara) yahan hai. **Kadam Rasul Mosque** — **Gaur, Malda (West Bengal)** mein hai (bricks+black marble, Sultan Nasseruddin Nusrat Shah ne 1530-31 mein banwayi). [Q1843, Q1846]
- **Govardhan Math** — **Puri, Odisha** mein hai (4 cardinal peethams mein se ek, 8th century philosopher-saint Adi Shankara ne establish kiye, Sanatana Dharma ke liye). **Bishnupur (terracotta temples)** — **West Bengal** mein hai (Rasmancha temple, ~1600). [Q1847, Q1849]

7. Temples Outside India

- **Pashupatinath Temple** — **Nepal** (Lord Shiva ko dedicated, Bagmati river ke dono taraf, UNESCO World Heritage Site 1979). **Chandranath Hill (Shakti Peeth)** — **Bangladesh** mein hai (Sitakunda ke paas). [Q1816, Q1821]

8. Miscellaneous Religious Facts

- **'Vahana Masterclass' book (Lord Ganesha par based)** — Italian screenwriter-producer **Alfredo Covelli** ne likhi. [Q1844]