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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q1

The rock-cut architecture represents one of the most important sources of our knowledge of early Indian art and history. Discuss.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2020 · GS I · 10 marks · Indian Heritage and Culture

Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2020/the-rock-cut-architecture-represents-one-of-the-most-important-sources-of-our-knowledge-of-early-indian-art-and-history-discuss/>

Ajanta

Deccan cave complex whose murals and viharas are a chief source for early Buddhist painting and Vakataka court culture.

Ellora Kailasa

Rashtrakuta living-rock temple that proves large-scale Hindu excavation beside Buddhist and Jain caves.

Mahabalipuram

Pallava rathas and open-air reliefs that document the shift from cave to structural stone on the Coromandel.

Chaitya and vihara

Standard Buddhist rock-cut types whose plans can be read as a chronology of worship and monastic life.

Donative inscriptions

Records of kings, merchants, and monks that date caves and name the social base of patronage.

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