



Ravindra's IAS

ART & CULTURE

(for prelims & Mains)



UPSC & STATE PSC'S

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ART & CULTURE

The English word '**Culture**' is derived from the Latin term 'cult or cultus' meaning tilling, or cultivating or refining and worship. In sum it means cultivating and refining a thing to such an extent that its end product evokes our admiration and respect.

This is practically the same as 'Sanskriti' of the Sanskrit language. The term 'Sanskriti' has been derived from the root 'Kri (to do)' of Sanskrit language. Three words came from this root 'Kri; prakriti' (basic matter or condition), 'Sanskriti' (refined matter or condition) and 'vikriti' (modified or decayed matter or condition) when 'prakriti' or a raw material is refined it becomes 'Sanskriti' and when broken or damaged it becomes 'vikriti'.

Culture may be defined as the way an individual and especially a group live, think, feel and organize themselves, celebrate and share life.

Culture has different characteristics. It can be acquired, lost or shared. It is cumulative. It is dynamic, diverse and gives us a range of permissible behaviour-pattern. It can change. Culture includes both material and non-material components.

In deeper sense it is culture that produces the kind of literature, music, dance, sculpture, architecture and various other art forms as well as the many organizations and structures that make the functioning of the society smooth and well-ordered.

Culture provides us with ideas, ideals and values to lead a decent life.

Self restraint in conduct, consideration for the feelings of others, for the rights of others, are the highest marks of culture.

A cultural heritage means all the aspects or values of culture transmitted to human beings by their ancestors to the next generation.

Architectural creations, monuments, material artifacts, the intellectual achievements, philosophy, pleasure of knowledge, scientific inventions and discoveries are parts of heritage.

Art

Art can be defined as a diverse range of activities executed by human beings, as well as the products of these activities. Art can be of many forms, as well. A **visual art** is the creation of images that can be seen by the eyes and these include sculpting, painting, photography and other visual media. Music, theatre, dance, film and other arts that require performing fall under the **performing arts** category. Literature and other forms of interactive arts fall under the broader definition of the arts while fields such as interior design, architecture, industrial design and the likes fall under the category of **applied arts**.

Art can also be defined as the representation of reality, communication of emotion, expression or other qualities. **Aesthetics** is the branch of philosophy that explores arts and the related concepts such as interpretation and creativity. Art has existed from the pre-historic times and continue to thrive even today.

What is the difference between Art and Culture?

Art and culture are most definitely two things that go hand in hand. Works of art created by a society is a product of the culture that prevails within that community and, therefore, one can see that art and culture are definitely interlinked. However, it is important to discern the many differences between these two concepts in order to understand them better.

- Culture is the ensemble of social forms, material traits, customary beliefs, and other human phenomena that cannot be directly attributed to a genetic inheritance of a

