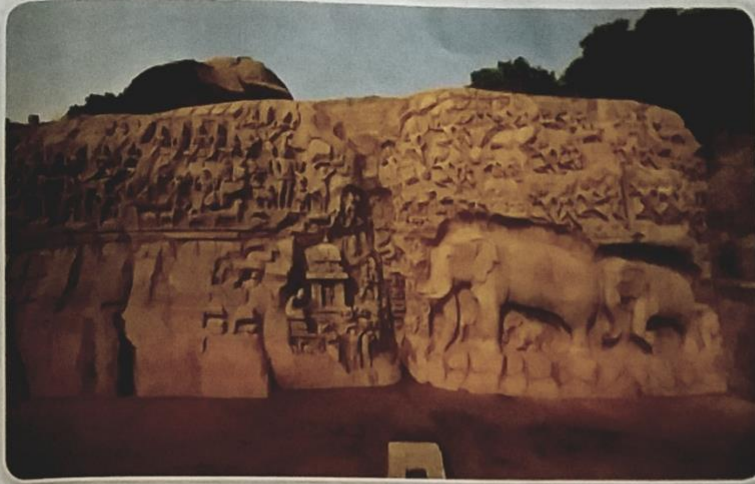


PAINTING STUDY MATERIAL FOR CLASS 11TH BASED ON NCERT

Radha kishor Mondal Date : 26.12.20

Study of Temple-Sculptures

1. Descent of Ganga (Pallava Period)



Name	: Descent of Ganga (Pallava Period)	Artist	: Unknown
Place	: Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu, India.	Collection	: Archaeological Survey of India
Medium	: Granite Rock, Relief Sculpture		
Circa	: 7th Century A.D.		

DESCRIPTION

Descent of Ganga is the most remarkable sculptural composition at Mahabalipuram. It is one of the largest and oldest sculptural panel known in the world. In this famous relief, the story of the descent of Ganga has been engraved on the two large boulders of granite rocks. In between them, there is a narrow fissure in which the Nagraj and Nagkanya (the god and goddess of serpentines) have been carved out. On this relief panel, the sculptor had carved out celestials like the Sun, the Moon and the Earth, water and Rumph's. Among the numerous humans, animals, and deities and other creatures, a prominent bearded figure is identified as *Bhagirath*, who is standing on one leg and stretching his arms upwards to pray Lord Shiva to release one stream of the Ganga from his hair locks and flew her down on the earth for the sake of human being. Two well modelled and life-like elephants along with one cat balancing on her two rear legs, a deer, lion and ducks have also been shown. This relief, measured about thirty meters in length and more than fifteen meters high. It was engraved during the regime of MahendraVarman-I and his son Mamalla. This sculptural panel is also known as the 'Arjuna's Penance'.

To be continues.....