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Subject : Fine Art (painting) class : 12th science/com

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BENGAL SCHOOL OF PAINTING

Asit Kumar Haldar



Dhruva, Painting, published in *Myths of the Hindus & Buddhists* (1914).

Asit Kumar Haldar (10 September 1890 – 13 February 1964) was an Indian painter of Bengal school and an assistant of Rabindranath Tagore at Shantiniketan. He was one of the major artists of the Bengal renaissance.

Haldar was born in Jorasanko in 1890. His maternal grandmother was the sister of Rabindranath Tagore, making him Tagore's grandnephew. Both his grandfather Rakhaldas Haldar and his father Sukumar Haldar were accomplished in the art of painting. He began his studies at the age of 14. His education was undertaken at Government School of Art, Calcutta and began in 1904. Haldar learned sculpting from two famous Bengali artists in 1905: Jadu Pal and Bakkeswar Pal, and he also learned from Leonard Jennings.

Career

Haldar made a tour of Europe in 1923 and soon realized that Realism in European art had numerous limitations. He sought to balance physical attributes in proportion to the magnitude of the subject matter.

Haldar's *Yashoda and Krishna* was not just a religious painting but an artistic juxtaposition of the infinite (represented by Krishna with the finite (represented by Yashoda). Haldar also made thirty two paintings on the Buddha's life and thirty paintings on Indian history, attempting to embrace idealism in his art.

His media included: lacquer, tempera, oil, watercolors, and even ranged to some photography

His masterpieces include:

- *Krsna and Yashoda*

- *Awakening of Mother India*
- *Rai-Raja Lotus*
- *Kunala and Ashoka*
- *Raslila*

Haldar was a budding poet throughout his life. He translated Kalidasa's *Meghadoota* ("Cloud messenger") and *Ritusamhara* (Cycle of the seasons) into Bengali from Sanskrit. He also illustrated numerous poems in visual art, including twelve from Omar Khayyam. His art on the Buddha and the History of India fell under this poetic umbrella. He is also the author of various books in Bengali, viz. *Ajanta* (A travelogue to the Caves of Ajanta), *Ho-der Galpo* (The life and culture of the Ho tribe), *Bagh Guha and Ramgarh* (Another travelogue to the Bagh Cave and Ramgarh in Central India, etc.



To be continues.....

Radha kishor Mondal

P.G.T FINE ART

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