



PAINTING ON GLASS AS A CHALLENGING MEDIUM FOR ARTISTS

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ABSTRACT

India has that rich heritage, home of arts. The history of the Indian painting of the traditional base is marked by the murals of Ajanta. Painting has also appeared in the east, and the pre historic painting is the most ancient of the manifestation of primitive human beings. But the Indian traditional painting is made by Ajanta's murals. Later, the art was undergoing shelter and nurturing in different parts of the country.

KEYWORDS: Rich Heritage, Glass as New Medium, Techniques of Glass, Challenge for Artists, Creation of Glass Painting, As Popular Art, Manifestation, Traditional, Aristocracy, Portraying, Reflection of The Image, Bazar Art, Popular Art, Romantic Scenes, Temples and Monasteries.

INTRODUCTION

In the 18th century, a centralized regime ended and the local vassals came to a standstill. Founded in these states, painting factors gradually closed without royalty. While some of the artists in the factory took refuge in the provincial or country's aristocracy, others resorted to the government officials of the European Company, which had already come to power. This has naturally appeared in the Indian traditional painting of European style. At the same time, many arts of the European strategy appeared in India. Glass painting is also an important art.

Glass painting in India in the 18-19th centuries grew into a popular art medium for a time. It can be said that the painting imported by Westerners was an introduction to the business connections of Europeans with India. The art has been prevalent in Europe since the Middle Ages. Apart from the windows of the shrine (the discussion), the heritage of the use of colored glasses to groom the walls was once a separate art form and became a glass painting. Although Transilevia is a major center of glass work, the art has grown as a popular art in European nationals, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Germany. This art was introduced to Asia and the artists of China. China's traders were in trade with Europeans, and they imported glass pictures. So the art became more popular in China's ports.

Chinese artists who learned the techniques of glass painting, a European art medium, began to create images of this medium. After China, the art has increased its scope in India. The art was introduced in the coast of India, which was a correction of the European trade. Along with European artists, Chinese artists also took refuge in the country and introduced a glass of painting. India's Kolkota, Visakhapatnam, Chennai, Mumbai, as well as cities like Hyderabad, Thanjore, Mysore, Pune, Satara, Akkalakot were the main centers of glass painting.

Creation of Glass painting: The innovative technique of

portraying a glass that appeared with new experiments was more attractive during the tradition of creating a mural or paper. The glass has its own structure to be painted. The draft has to be prepared before creating an image on the glass. If the usual painting technique is used on a paper or wall, it has a structure technique that can make a reflection of the image if it is painted in the back of the glass. In a sense this glass image formation expresses the manipulation of artists.

The artist has succeeded in creating a fine composition in the painting on glass and in creating the idea of silver and gold for the clothing and ornaments of the figures. While painting gold ornaments in the picture, a thin sheet of gold color is cut and pasted according to the design of the ornaments. Later, apart from coating the colors that match the composition of the image, by mixing the necessary colors, the idea of three dimensions can be created in the image. Shapes such as background environment, buildings, foreground scene etc. can be incorporated into the image as required. A peculiarity of this technique is that the foreground figures are drawn first and the background figures are drawn later to complete the picture. Finally, when the image formation is final, a black color is applied uniformly over the image. By doing this, the image will not be damaged in any way.

As popular art: As explained earlier, Glass painting, a European art style, was introduced to India in the 18th-19th century, and painting in this medium became more popular then. Even today this art is popular. Glass painting has appeared mostly in amateur and commercial settings. While hobbyists, especially housewives, were seen creating glass paintings for curiosity, merchants used to hang glass art works to enhance the beauty of their shops. So this art also appeared in a commercial context.

In the 18th-19th centuries, another group of traditional painters who lost their patronage developed the tradition of making images of the place or the gods and goddesses on the

spot for the devotees visiting the holy places of that time for their livelihood. Places like Tirupati, Srishailam, Thanjore, Madurai, Pandharapur, Tuljapur, Hyderabad were important sightseeing and religious centers at that time. At these places, the artists would sell their paintings and the pilgrims would buy them. These works of art, which were painted to be bought by common people, were called 'Bazaar Art' or 'Popular Art'. It is admirable how the artists of glass paintings who commercialized the traditional art, shaped the collection trend of the art lovers and popularized this art. Although the descendants of artists of about four generations may have died out, we can see the traces of their artistic legacy still alive.

Material content of Glass paintings: A desire for a religious, social base can be discerned in the images on the glass. It is not that there is no reason for this. Royal artists expressed their expression in the blissful veil of the palace. It is also a fact that they have inevitably made the desire for glorification the basic ideology of their expression to increase their fame.

Scenes with Shiva-Parvati, Ganesha, Saraswati, Romantic scenes of Lord Krishna, Venkateswara with Sridevi-Bhudevi are commonly seen in the art works based on religious background. In these paintings, the healthy personality has been dwarfed by the artist. For the artists of that time, the feeling of Gandharva, the King was expressed in the painting. Similarly, not only the queen was depicted as a Gandharva maiden, but the king also felt like a Gandharva maiden.

Feeling is portrayed in the context of beauty in beautiful figures. The artists who have boldly revealed the beauty events of the palace, which were kept secret, to the outside world through painting, filled the figures with evocative qualities. It appears that the figure of kings and queens were created by the artists influenced by the luxurious life of the palace. The artists who have painted decorative costumes for the figures, the designs of the pillars seen in the palace as the background of the picture, the curtains have also been painted on the basis of glorification and have succeeded in attracting the attention of the common people.

Although glass painting is an advanced form of company painting, regional features of India can be seen in this art. This art is known as Thanjore style, Maratha style and Mysore style. The Maratha kings, Mysore and Thanjore gave great encouragement and patronage to glass painting. As a result, glass painting spread throughout South India and became one of the many regional arts in Dakhani painting. Famous historian Jaya Appaswamy has done some work on this art which has a history of more than 200 years. Apart from the published articles on this art in some books, no serious studies have been done so far. (It is welcome that a research studies on Glass painting at State and Central Institutions, Academies, Universities)

State of the Glass paintings: Glass paintings preserved by art patrons abound in this country. While some have these works of art permanently displayed in their homes, others take them out and worship them only during festivals. Similarly, glass

artefacts have been collected in many temples in addition to the monasteries of this region. Today most of the works of art are perishing without any preservation. Especially since the frames of these pictures have been torn off, the paintings will suffer a lot of damage. As water seeps into the torn frame, the colors applied to the pictures come off. So by re-framing the traditional glass paintings, the lifespan of these works of art can be increased. This preserves a dying legacy.

Thus, glass painting, which has a very ancient history, is taking on a new form even in today's modern age with various experiments. This art is becoming more popular for decoration in big hotel or commercial complex buildings. Mainly using glass in window, door and roofs, pictures and designs are being created on them.

GLASS PAINTINGS



Characteristics of The Glass Paintings

- In the 18th-19th century, glass painting, which was imported from European countries to India, also appeared in the country with the features of the European art style.
- As some of the artists who created images on glass took refuge with the officials of the company government, these officials painted not only their favorite architectural structures, but also animals and birds and nature as the background of their portraits. Also, the background screen, table, clock etc. equipment incorporated in these pictures are of European style.
- Mythological and religious subjects are important in the glass paintings that appeared in the Local interest. It includes images of gods and goddesses as well as images of historical events.
- Although this art has a flat painting technique that creates a reflection of the foreground if painted on the back of the

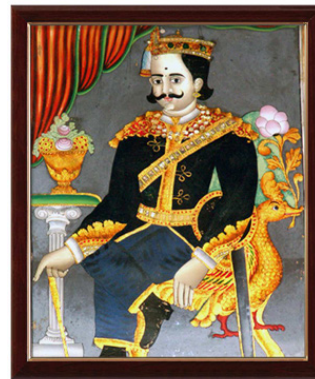
glass, the idea of three dimensions to enhance the beauty of the images is appreciated by artists.

- The images in the paintings appear dwarfed unlike the figures seen in other traditional pictures. However, the characteristics of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Mysore can be easily identified in these artefacts.
- Specially in the context of drawing on wall, paper or cloths, the artistry of glass paintings who introduced the innovative technique of painting on glass with a smooth surface to the art world must be admired here.

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PAINTINGS ON GLASS FROM VARIOUS STYLISCIT INFLUENCES



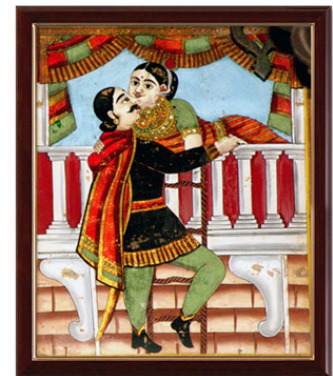
Influence of Colonial Style



Maratha Style Painting



Mysore Style Painting



Social Expression in Glass Painting