



# The Art of India: From the Indus Valley to Independence

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Saturday, February 1, 2025 - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET

## Partial Guide to Pronouncing Sanskrit

### Vowels

- a – always pronounced like “uh” as the second “a” in “America” not “man”
- ā – like the “a” in “father”
- e – pronounced like “ay” as in eight (think of the name Nehru)
- i – Pronounced like the “i” in “it”
- ī – like “i” in machine.
- u – Pronounced like the “u” in “put” (think of the word “Buddha”)
- ū – pronounced “oo” like “rule”
- o – Pronounced like the “o” in “go”
- au – Pronounced “ow”
- ai – Pronounced “aye”
- ṛ – Pronounced like “ri” (As in the name “Krishna”)

### Consonants

- c – always pronounced as “ch”
- g – Always pronounced hard as in “get”
- s – Pronounced like the “s” in sand
- ś – Pronounced like “sh”
- ṣ – Pronounced like “sh” but with the tongue curled forward on the roof of the mouth
- n - “n” as in “gentle”
- ṅ - pronounced as “n” with the tongue curled as in “tongue”
- ñ - as in “canyon” -- similar to the same character in Spanish  
When an “h” follows as consonant try to sound the “h” by breathing out.  
For example, the “bh” is pronounced like the “bh” sound for “clubhouse”.

## Recommended Readings:

Dehejia, Vidya. *Indian Art*. Art and Ideas Series (London: Phaidon Press, 1997).

Eck, Diana L. *Darsan: Seeing the Divine Image in India*. Second revised Edition (Chambersburg, PA: Anima Press, 1981).

*The Jataka or Stories of the Buddha’s Former Births*: E.B. Cowell trans. 6 volumes bound as 3 (Cambridge, Cambridge UP, 1851)(reprinted Motilal Banarsidass: Delhi, 1994)

Goswamy, B.N.. *Essence of Indian Art*. (San Francisco: Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, 1986)

Partha Mitter. *Much Maligned Monsters: A History of European Reactions to Indian Art* (Chicago: Chicago UP, 1977)

Davis, Richard H. *Lives of Indian Images* (Princeton UP. 1997)

Aitken, Molly Emma. *The Intelligence of Tradition in Rajput Court Painting*. (Yale UP, 2010)

Falconer, John. "A pure labour of love': A Publishing History of the *People of India*" *Colonialist Photography: Imag(in)ing Race and Place*. Hight and Sampson eds. (Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group, 2004).

Guha-Thakurta, Tapati "Westernisation and Tradition in South Indian Painting in the Nineteenth Century: The Case of Raja Ravi Varma (1848-1906)". *Studies in History* (1986)

van Lohuizen- de Leeuw, J. E.. "New Evidence with Regard to the Origin of the Buddha Image" in *South Asian Archaeology 1979*. H. Hartel ed. (Dietrich Reimer Verlag: Berlin 1979) 373-400.

Rhi, Juhyung "Images, Relics, and Jewels: The Assimilation of Images in the Buddhist Relic Cult of Gandhāra: Or Vice Versa" *Artibus Asiae*, Vol. 65, No. 2 (2005)169-211.

## Books by the Lecturer

DeCaroli, Robert. *Haunting the Buddha: Indian Popular Religions and the Formation of Buddhism*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2004).

DeCaroli, Robert. *Image Problems: The Origin and Development of the Buddha's Image in Early South Asia*. (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2015).

## Timeline:

Harappan Civilization 2500-1700 BCE

Vedic Period 1700-600 BCE

Origin of Jainism 6th c. BCE

Origin of Buddhism 5th c. BCE

Mauryan Dynasty 4th-3rd c. BCE

Shunga Dynasty 2nd c. BCE

Satavahana Dynasty 3rd BCE-2nd c. CE

Kushan Dynasty 1st-4th CE

Pallava Dynasty 3rd-9th c. CE

Gupta Dynasty 5th -5th c. CE

Post Gupta Period 5th-6th c. CE  
Rastrakuta Dynasty 7th-10th c. CE  
Chalukyan Dynasty 6th-9th c. CE  
Chandella Dynasty 10th-13th c. CE  
Ganga Dynasty 11th-15th c. CE  
Chola Dynasty 9th-13th c. CE  
Mamluk "Slave" Dynasty 13th c. CE  
Delhi Sultanates 13th-16th c. CE  
Kingdom of Vijayanagar 14th-17th c. CE  
Mughal Dynasty (and Rajput States) 16th-19th c. CE  
The Raj 1879-1947  
Independence 1947-Present