CHAPTER - IV

SPECIAL EXHIBITION ON INDIAN CALLIGRAPHY

Aside from Indian miniature paintings and Indian Islamic architecture which are both rich in calligraphy, the unknown scripts and those been identified "Shell script, Ornate Brahmi, Ancient Bengali, Vikramkhol and Swat inscriptions" as old features, and the scattered inscriptions which were found mainly on stone in the old Hindu Temple like "Khandela stone inscription from about the 9th Century A.D., Rewah stone inscription from the 11th Century A.D. and Mandhata inscription found on the inner side of the southern wall in the Mandapa of the Amaresvara Temple" may be considered as a notable sign in Indian architecture. As all old scripts of other nations, the development of the Indian Deva-Nagri script which is appearing in "the pre Jain and Jain palmleaf manuscripts", was passing through several periods of active use having a remarkable monumental quality. For inevitable illustrations, the following exhibition is presented in order to provide a helpful guidance for unbiased study and to raise a new issue for further studies to explore the art of Indian calligraphy.

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1. Monument: Dvisa - Ranchi
   a. Site: Patna Museum, Patna, Bihar (Arch. No. 102)
   b. Date: 1721 Samvat = Late 18th A.D.
   c. Kind of Script: Devnagari
   d. Language: Hindi
   e. Material: Stone
   f. Size of Inscription: 51 x 65 cm
   g. Calligrapher: Unknown
   h. Technique: Relief carving
   i. Subject: Historical record
   j. Date of Photograph: 10.2.2001
2. **Painting: Illustrated Folio from the Jain Kalpasutra**

   a. **Site**: National Museum, New Delhi (Acc. No. 48.29)
   b. **Date**: Saka Samvat 1216 = 1292 A.D.
   c. **Kind of Script**: Devnagari/Ardhamagahi
   d. **Language**: Prakrit
   e. **Material**: Gold, tempera and paper
   f. **Size of Inscription**: 4 x 7 cm
   g. **Size of Panel**: 9.5 x 22.8 cm
   h. **Calligrapher**: Unknown
   i. **Technique**: Reed-pen writing on paper
   j. **Subject**: Religious record
   k. **Date of Photograph**: 12.7.2000
3. Painting: Illustrated folio from the Udyoga Parvan of Mahabharata.

a. Site: National Museum, New Delhi (Acc. No. 54.31)
b. Date: Saka Samvat 1613 = 1691 A.D.
c. Kind of Script: Devnagari
d. Language: Sanskrit
e. Material: Black ink, red ink and paper
f. Size of Inscription: 12 x 14.5 cm
g. Size of Panel: 20 x 48 cm
h. Calligrapher: Unknown
i. Technique: Reed-pen writing on paper
j. Subject: Religious record
k. Date of Photograph: 12.7.2000
4. **Painting : Illustrated folio from Krisna Lila**

a. Site : National Museum, New Delhi (Acc. No. 79-175)
b. Date : Circa 17th A.D.
c. Kind of Script : Oriya
d. Language : Sanskrit
e. Material : Black ink, tempera and paper
f. Size of Inscription : 5.4 x 28.5 cm
g. Size of Panel : 22 x 30.2 cm
h. Calligrapher : Unknown
i. Technique : Reed-pen writing on coated paper
j. Subject : Religious record
k. Date of Photograph : 12.7.2000
5. **Painting**: Illustrated folio from the **Bihari Sat Sari**.

   a. **Site**: National Museum, New Delhi (Acc. No. 62-396)
   b. **Date**: V.S. 1836 = 1779 A.D.
   c. **Kind of Script**: Devnagari
   d. **Language**: Hindi
   e. **Material**: Black ink, red ink and paper
   f. **Size of Inscription**: 11.9 x 5.9 cm
   g. **Size of Panel**: 14 x 24 cm
   h. **Calligrapher**: Unknown
   i. **Technique**: Reed-pen writing on paper
   j. **Subject**: Religious record
   k. **Date of Photograph**: 12.7.2000
6. **Painting: Illustrated folio from the Saraswati Satotra.**

   a. **Site:** National Museum, New Delhi (Acc. No. 63-30)
   
   b. **Date:** Circa 18th century A.D.
   
   c. **Kind of Script:** Sarada
   
   d. **Language:** Sanskrit
   
   e. **Material:** Black ink, red ink and paper
   
   f. **Size of Inscription:** 8.5 x 5.4 cm
   
   g. **Size of Panel:** 9.5 x 16 cm
   
   h. **Calligrapher:** Unknown
   
   i. **Technique:** Reed-pen writing on paper
   
   j. **Subject:** Religious record
   
   k. **Date of Photograph:** 12.7.2000
7. **Painting: Illustrated folio from the Mahabharata.**

a. Site: National Museum, New Delhi (Acc. No. 76-570)
b. Date: Circa Early 19th century A.D.¹
c. Kind of Script: Gurumukhi
d. Language: Punjabi
e. Material: Red ink, black ink and paper
f. Size of Inscription: 14.2 x 14.5 cm
g. Size of Panel: 27 x 29 cm
h. Calligrapher: Unknown
i. Technique: Reed-pen writing on paper
j. Subject: Religious record
k. Date of Photograph: 12.7.2000

1. Though the miniature is out of the limit of this study, I present it for its interesting kind of script and language.

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