Art & Culture · GS - I

'The sculptors filled the Chandella artform with resilient vigor and breadth of life.' Elucidate.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2025	GS - I	Art & Culture

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Khajuraho, Chandella dynasty, Nagara architecture, humanism, divine-human themes, erotic sculptures, everyday life, dynamism

Model Answer

Introduction

Chandella art, particularly the Khajuraho temple complex, represents a remarkable synthesis of religious devotion, human emotions and dynamic sculptural expression.

1. Resilient Vigor

The sculptures display movement, vitality and physical energy through elaborate poses, expressive faces and dynamic human figures. Their detailed ornamentation enhances their visual intensity.

2. Breadth of Life

Chandella sculptors portrayed gods and goddesses alongside dancers, musicians, warriors, animals, household activities and ordinary social life. Thus, sculpture extended beyond purely religious themes.

3. Celebration of Human Experience

Erotic sculptures represent one dimension of a broader representation of human desire, fertility and worldly existence. They coexist with spiritual and mythological imagery.

4. Artistic Synthesis

The sculptures were integrated with the architectural form, creating a visual narrative reflecting both sacred and secular dimensions of life.

Conclusion

Chandella art achieved vitality by portraying the complete spectrum of human existence, making Khajuraho an outstanding expression of India's artistic and cultural pluralism.

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