

HISTORY OF NEPALESE ARCHITECTURE

ENAR 154

Lecture : 3
Tutorial : 0
Practical : 1

Year : I
Part : II

Course Objectives:

The main objective is to develop a comprehensive understanding of the historical development of Nepalese architecture, spanning from the ancient to the Rana sub-periods and investigate the impact of cultural and contextual factors, including politics, religion, society, climate, and geography, on Nepalese architectural vocabulary. This course emphasizes the significance of preserving Nepal's architectural heritage and understanding its relevance in the broader context of global architectural history.

1 Pre-historic Period (3 hours)

- 1.1 Study of the Gopal and Mahishpal periods with reference to Purans and Vamshsvali
- 1.2 Architecture development in the Kirat period: Studying sites, palaces, deochhen, etc.

2 Lichchhavi Period (6 hours)

- 2.1 Architectural development in the Lichchhavi period studied sites, palaces, temples, chaityas, water spouts, etc.
- 2.2 Study of planning and design concepts, form development, symbolism, ecological aspects, materials, and know-how technologies

3 Malla Period (28 hours)

- 3.1 Malla architectural development focused on palaces, temples, house forms, streetscapes, stupas/chaityas, bahal/bahil, pati/sattal, and other structures
- 3.2 The study should focus on planning, design, form, function, symbolism, and so on
- 3.3 The study also highlights how climate, geography, technology, and other factors shaped Malla era architecture

4 Shah Period /Rana Sub-period (4 hours)

- 4.1 Palaces, temples, Dharahara, and other structures were the focus of Shah architectural development
- 4.2 Rana architecture focuses mostly on palaces, gardens, clock towers, and riverside development
- 4.3 The study also discusses the planning, design idea, materials, and building techniques used throughout that time period

5 Development Outside the Valley (4 hours)

- 5.1 A brief architectural introduction to historical locations including Kakrebihar, Lumbini, Tilaurakot, Gorkha, Janakpur, Makwanpur Gadhi and Ramgram
- 5.2 A brief explanation of traditional Terai, hill, and mountain architecture, such as Tharu settlements, the Jhong cave in Chhoser, upper and lower Mustang villages, hilly settlements, etc.

Practical (15 hours)

1. As part of their coursework, students are required to visit a historical site and compile inventory documents detailing the architectural features of traditional buildings
2. To ensure that students do their allocated work, the campus or college will manage their field visit

Final Exam

The questions will cover all the chapters in the syllabus. The evaluation scheme will be as indicated in the table below:

Chapter	Hours	Marks distribution*
1	3	4
2	6	12
3	28	36
4	4	4
5	4	4
Total	45	60

* There may be minor deviation in marks distribution.

References

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15. Harrison, J. (2019). *Mustang Building: Tibetan Temples and Vernacular Architecture*.
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21. Pant, M., Funo, S. (2007). *Stupa and Swastika: Historical Urban Planning Principles in Nepal's Kathmandu Valley*. Kyoto University Press.