

Hots (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q.1. How were miniatures part of traditions?

Ans. (i) Miniatures are small size paintings done in water colour on cloth or paper.

(ii) The Mughal emperors Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan hired highly skilled painters to illustrate their manuscripts containing their accounts and poetry.

(iii) These were generally painted in bright colours and portrayed court scenes, scenes of battle or hunting and wedding.

(iv) These were even exchanged as gifts between the emperor and his close associates.

Q.2. How is Bengali literature divided?

Ans. The Bengali literature is divided into two groups:

- The first, which owes its origin to Sanskrit, and
- The other which is independent of it.

Bengali Owes its Origin to Sanskrit

This includes translations of Sanskrit epics, the Mangalakavyas (poems dealing with local deities) and Bhakti literature like that of leaders of Vaishnava Bhakti movements like Chaitanyadeva. These texts are easily available as several manuscripts composed between late 15th and mid-18th centuries have been found.

Bengali is Independent of Sanskrit

This includes Nath literature like the songs of Maynamati and Gopichandra, stories dealing with the worship of Dharma Thakur and fairytales, folk tales and ballads. This source was popular in Eastern Bengal, where the influence of Brahmins was weak. This was circulated orally and has no precise date.