

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Changing World of Visual Arts

Q1. Describe the paintings of Raja Ravi Verma.

Ans. _____

Q2. Why did the scroll painters and potters come to Kalighat? Why did they begin to paint new themes?

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Q1. Describe the paintings of Raja Ravi Verma.

Ans. Paintings of Raja Ravi Verma

- i. He was one of the first artists who tried to create a style that was both modern and national.
- ii. He mastered the western art of oil painting and realistic life study, but painted themes from Indian mythology.
- iii. His mythological painting became a rage among Indian princes and art collectors, who filled their palace galleries with their work.
- iv. He dramatised the scenes of Ramayana and Mahabharata on the canvas.
- v. He set up a printing press on the outskirts of Bombay.

Q2. Why did the scroll painters and potters come to Kalighat? Why did they begin to paint new themes?

Ans. In the nineteenth century, Calcutta was expanding as a commercial and administrative centre. Colonial offices were coming up, new buildings and roads were being built, markets were being established. The city appeared as a place of opportunity where people could come to make a new living. Village artists including scroll painters too came and settled in the city in the hope of new patrons and new buyers of their art.

After the 1840s, we see a new trend within the Kalighat artists. Living in a society where values, tastes, social norms and customs were undergoing rapid changes, Kalighat artists responded to the world around, and produced paintings on social and political themes.