

Sources:

1 book

2 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yakshini>

3 <http://biharmuseum.org/story/the-magnificent-didarganj-yakshi/>

4 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanchi_Yakshi_Figure

5 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salabhanjika>

6 <https://www.typeathought.com/c/bollywoods-impact-on-body-image>

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<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/science/Ideal-body-size-identified/articleshow/17733284.cms>

8 <http://factsanddetails.com/world/cat55/sub354/item1353.html>

9 <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Brahma-Hindu-god>

(10) <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Vishnu>

(11) <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Shiva>

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26 <https://www.ancient.eu/Brahma/>

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Hinduism article and Read cast pdf

Boil down most important elements of 4 gods

Focuses:

looked at a certain sculpture and found the role of women within that culture

Look at how women depicted and what they symbolise

Brahma vishnu

Shiva

Avatar how yajshi relates to hinduism and how it relates in the circle of reincarnation

Did indian beauty standards change find modern version of yakshi

Amy sherald

Book

Research Old Yakshinin find how it is relevant in modern indian culture and make something that

Research hinduism

How 3 gods work

Research

Focus:

What do Yakshins symbolize/what are they associated with

Major features

Do Yakshins have a role in reincarnation

What are historic beauty standards in india

What are current beauty standards in india

Research cycle and gods involved in reincarnation

New research focus

Location of temples where gods are worshiped

- What are the physical characteristics of these regions?
-

1 book:

Ex: using(detail on east gate, great stuo) sanchi india (Pg 345)

- (1) Ancient india (first century B.C)
- (1) Has rounded for and sensuality of the torso
- (1) A nature spring spirit representing fertility
- (1) Flexible and look natural in a normally awkward pose

2 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yakshini> (go back and read linked articles)

- (2) nudity, smiling face and evident (often exaggerated) feminine charms that lead to their association with **fertility**.
- (2) Often depicted as voluptuous with chauri in right hand fleshy cheeks wide hips and narrow waists broad shoulders knotted hair and exaggerated breasts
- (2) Usually benevolent but some have malevolent characteristics in **Indian folklore**
- (2) Ashoka tree associated with yakshins
- (2) Ancient motif indicating fertility

Buddhism

- (2) Three places Bharhut (village), Sanchi (capital of pardes), adn Mathura (a city in uttar pradesh)

- (2) Yakashins commonly found on stupas (meditation buildings)
- Yakashi are depicted in a tribhanga pose
 - (2) Used in classic indian art where the body bends one way at the knees and another way at the hips and a different way at shoulder and neck
- (2) Became Shalabhanjika ("sal tree maidens)
- (2) Eventually became apart of indian culture and temple architecture
- (2) 36 Yakshinis (specific) sculptures

Yakshini in Jainism

- (2) 24 Yakshins
- (2) Ex Chakreshvari Ambika and Padmavti (often represented in Jain temples)
- (2) Each is a guardian of one of the 24 Jain Tirthankara (savior and spiritual teacher of dharma)
- (2) Kalliyankattu Neeli
 - (2) Modern Kerala christian legendary story of Yakshis
 - (2) Kalliyankattu Neeli was a powerful demoness who had finally been stopped by christian priest Kadamattathu Kathanar

3 <http://biharmuseum.org/story/the-magnificent-didarganj-yakshi/>

- (3) Has close to perfect body standards for historic indi
- (3) Voluptuous full bust slim waist and wide hips 3 folds lines on neck and fold on waist
- (3) Posture stoops forward instead of upright
- (3) Elusive smile
- (3) Right leg bent

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_India

4 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanchi_Yakshi_Figure

- (4) Associated with the fertility symbol and fruit bearing

The 3 gods/figures associated with reincarnation

- (4) yakshi was originally installed on one of the gateways that surrounded the Great Stupa at Sanchi
 - (4) A place of meditation
- (4) Shalabhanjika Yakshi from ancient buddhist site Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh India

5 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salabhanjika>

- (5) Sculpture of a woman with stylized feminine features standing near a tree grabbing a branch
- (5) Standard element of **indian sculpture**
- (5) Poses include dancing growing herself or playing an instrument
- (5) Breast and hips often exaggerated
- (5) Often have complex hairdos or lots of jewelry
- (5) Origin from ancient **tree deities**
- (5) Related to fertility

- (5) Concept stems from ancient symbolism linking chaste maiden with al tree through ritual called Dohada
- (5) most renowned salabhanjika sculptures are to be found in the 12th-century Hoysala temples of Belur, Halebid and Somanathapura, in south-central Karnataka.

6 <https://www.typeathought.com/c/bollywoods-impact-on-body-image>

Modern indian body standards based on bollywood

Often want lighter skin

Message seen in advertising and famous people

7

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/science/Ideal-body-size-identified/articleshow/17733284.cms>

- (7) Study done with about 80 heterosexual men and women average age 19 asked what ideals were for partners and themselves
- (7) Found men beefed up legs and chest
- (7) Women over emphasised chest size
- (7) 39 out of forty women had higher BMI than their designed body
- (7) Half of men were heavier than their ideal body shape
- (7) Desired BMI of 19 lowest on healthy scale

Brahma:

How where he is depicted

8 <http://factsanddetails.com/world/cat55/sub354/item1353.html>

- (8) Brahma vishnu and shiva create destroy and upkeep world
- (8) Vishnu preserves the universe
- (8) Shiva destroys brahma created world and creatures
- (8) Brahma major god in hinduism from 500BCE to 500CE

9 <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Brahma-Hindu-god>

- (9) Overshadowed by Vishnu Shiva and Prajapati (goddess)
- (9) Brahma born from golden egg others say Brahma came from lotus issued from vishnu's navel
- (9) Middle of 1st millennium CE attempt to synthesize dividing sectarian traditions was clear in the Trimurti which considers Vishnu Shiva and Brahma as as three forms of the supreme unmanifested deity
- (9) Brahma lost title of supreme deity in 7th century but trimurti still included him
- (9) No sect that worships brahma (exclusively) and there are only a few temples dedicated to him
- (9) Usually depicted with four faces
- (9) Symbolic of wide ranging four square capacity expressed in four vedas (collection of poems and hymns)
- (9) Four *yugas* ages four *varnas* social classes four stages (*ashramas*) life ect
 - (9) Has four arms holding an alms bowl prayer beads and a book

- (9) Possibly seated or standing on a lotus throne, a goose (savitri and saraswati)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/hinduism/deities/vishnu.shtml>

focus :

Hinduism-

Vishnu

(10) <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Vishnu>

How where he is depicted

- (10) Vishnu combines lesser divine figures with local heroes through avatars
 - Ex Rama and Krishna
- (10) Said to have 10 avatars but not the same 10
- (10) Not a major deity in Vedic period
- (10) Rigvedic hymns from 1400-1000 BCE associated him with the sun
- (10) Another legend where he took 3 strides across the universe which became the foundation for one avatar Vamana (the dwarf)
- (10) Other avatars include fish that saves humankind from a great flood
- (10) Vishnu said it manifest portion of himself whenever he needs to fight evil and to (10) protect the Dharma (moral and religious law)
- (10) Parashuram (rama with the ax) and Krishna bring death
- (10) Buddha corrupts pious anti gods ???
- (10) His heaven called vaikuntha
- (10) Often depicted
 - (10) sitting with consorts Lakshmi (shri) and Bhumidevi (earth)
 - (10) Or laying in coils of Shesha (a serpents)
 - (10) Also in standing position in royal garments with 4 (maybe 2) hands the Shankha (conch) chakra (discus), gada (club), or padma (lotus)
 - (10) Chest has curl of hair known as shrivatsa mark
 - (10) Wears auspicious jewel kaustubha
 - (10) Often has dark complexion

Shiva

(11) <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Shiva>

How where he is depicted

- (11) Represented in multiple ways
 - (11) Consort Parvati and son Skanda
 - (11) Cosmic dancer Nataraja
 - (11) Naked ascetic
 - (11) Mendicant beggar

- (11) Yogi
- (11) Dalit with a dog (Bhairava)
- (11) Androgynouse union of SHiva and Consort in one body that is half male and half female (Ardhanarishvara)
- (11) Great ascetic and master of fertility
- (11) Master of poison and medicine through ambivalent power over snakes
- (11) Lord of cattle Pashupata can be benevolent hersman or merciless slaughterer of beasts that are the human souls in his care
- (11) Shiva's female consort is known under several manifestations including Uma, Sati, Parvati, Durga, Kali
- (11) Shiva's vehicle into the world (vahana is the bull Nandi)
- (11) Sculpture Nadi sits opposite the main sanctuary of many shiva temples
- (11) Shival is also worshiped in the form lingam
- (11) Cylindrical votary object embedded in a yoni or sprouted dish
- (11) Usually depicted in painting and sculpture
 - (11) as white (from ashes of corpses that are smeared on his body) with a blue neck from holding poison that emerged at the churning of the cosmic ocean (that threatened to destroy the world)
 - (11) Hair is arranged in coils that are locks with crescent moon and the Ganges
 - (11) Three eyes and the third eye bestows inward vision but can bring destruction when focused outward
 - (11) Wears garland of skulls and serpent around his neck
 - (11) has 2 (sometimes 4) hands a deerskin, a trident small hand drum, or a club with a skull at the end
 - (11) Skil identifies shiva as Kaplika (skull bearer) refers to when he decapitated the fifth head of brahma
- Uttar pradesh india is a sacred city to shiva

Understanding Hinduism:

(12) <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Hinduism>

- (12) Dominated southeast Asia for more than 1,000 years
- (12) Hinduism was the religion for about 80% of India's population
- (12) Roots of hinduism traced back to 2nd millennium BCE in text and visually through Yakshas and nagas
- (12) (yakshas(illumious spirits associated with specific locales and natural phenomena
- (12) Nagas) cobra like divinities which were worshipped in around 4000 BCE
- (12) Hinduism believes that truth must be sought in multiple source (through tradition) **not dogmatically (explain)**
- (12) Anyone's perspective of the truth (even if it is(ex guru) or someone with superior authority) is conditioned by specific of time age gender, state of consciousness and social and geographic locations, and stage of attainment .
- (12) The purpose of that is to have a large range of perspective and enhance the broad view of religious truth

- (12) More of a way of life not religion
- (12) Many ideas(dharma) customs obligations and traditions
- (12) Opposite of wester religions because they tend to believe in a system of beliefs
- (12) Five elements of Hinduism
- (12) doctrine , practice, society, story, and devotion
- (12) Doctrine
 - (12) Connected to the Veda (knowledge)
 - (12) “Characteristic tensions” between devine and world, disparity between world preserving idea of dharma and Moksha (release from a flawed world, and the tension between individual destiny shaped by karma and the individual bonds with family society and divinities associated with these concepts)
 - (12) Practice
 - (12) A tradition or ritual that connects places, strata and periods of Hindu life
 - (12) Broadly called Puja (honouring the deity)
 - (12) When performed in temple by a priest called Archana
 - ex : eating food and offering it to a deity
- Society
 - (12) Used the caste system
 - (12) Ancient story explains how caste system came to be
 - (12) Primordial person Purusha “underwent sacrifice and produced a sour part cosmos and a human counterpart
 - (12) Brahmins (priest)
 - (12) Kshatriyas (warriors and nobles)
 - (12) Vaishyas (commoners)
 - (12) Shudras (servants)
 - (12) Distinct way a person or group approaches truth which reflects their own perspective
 - (12) Says that hinduism needs social classes because without them one group can easily dominate another (?)
- Story
 - (12) How literature illustrate avatars and gods and interactions between humans and gods
 - (12) Focus on “genealogies of the human experience” ex forms of love the struggle between order and chaos and between duty and play
 - (12) Certain stories are only performed by a specific caste
 - (12) Ex north india lower caste musicians do Alpha or Dhola because it reflects their own experience of the world rather than the upper caste
- Devotion
 - (12) Bhakti is the sharing or devotion of a bread tradition of a loving God that is associated with the lives and words of **Vernacular** poet saints in india
 - (12) Poems made for specific figures that represent both genders and all social classes
 - (12) Inclusive

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(13) Combatting Caste article:

- (13) As communities have grown larger caste distinctions have become more pronounced in the west
- (13) Rise of hindu fundamentalism has promoted “be proud of your culture” syndrom
 - (13) Cause greater segregation and separate temples and gurudwaras
- (13) 4,000 year old manu shastra or laws of Manu
- (13) Society divided into four branches Varnas arising from certain part of the Creator’s body
- (13) head = Brahmins a priestly class and the most pure
- (13) Arms = kshatriyas the warriors and rulers
- (13) Lower limbs = vaishyas the traders
- (13) Feet = sudras meant to serve the other three
- (13) Removing the caste system would allow equal education
- (13) Allow access to temples and equal treatment in restaurants
- Lowest cast can't be touched
- Don't have equal access to resources
- Not supported by the law
- Often assaulted, sexually assaulted and humiliated by village
- Some areas don't allow cast to live in village or “caste zones”
- Require to remove shoes or can't walk on certain paths when in village
- 2 cup system
-