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Studies on Traditional Heritage in Shekhawati Havelis and Wall Painting: Creative Design

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Abstract

Shekhawati is the region in Rajasthan is famous for the world largest open-air Art Gallery. For its hundreds of beautiful muraled havelis. Credit goes to all The Marwari merchants, who financed by them made their fortune the beautiful havelis and its artworks. Businessmen of the Vaishya and Agrawal community built these havelis. They started Business with opium and spices the region is made up of several lawns with thousands of painted buildings that include havelis, temples, shops, and cenotaphs. Shekhawati art can be found in Nawalgarh Mandawa, Churu, Jhunjhunu, Bissau, Ramgarh, Fatehpur. There major themes in the painted havelis of Shekhawati. Most of the themes are related to Indian gods like - Lakshmi, Krishna, Ganesha, Shiva, Ramayana & Mahabharata Painting, Ramayana are popular. Festivals like Holi, Gangaur. if we talk about the technique of the Shekhawati art Fresco wall paintings of Shekhawati are unique in themselves. The painters used only natural colours like kajaal, kesar etc. We can see the art of Shekhawati in some famous havelis like Arjun das Goenka havelis (museum), Roop Niwas Kothi, Morarka Havelis & Uttara Haveli, Dr Ramnath A Poddar Haveli Museum. Ramgarh Fresco Hotel. saw Alka Havelis. In Nawalgarh, Morarka Haveli, Banshidhar Bhagat. The architecture of the towns in Shekhawati is a mix of Rajput and Islamic styles, and the main feature of the area is still its many beautifully painted havelis. Haveli, in recent years, the government has made some steps to make people aware of this unique art heritage. Both the Jawaher kala Kendra and the National Craft Museum in Delhi have Shekhawati paintings on their walls that were made for them.

Keywords: Shekhawati murals, Havelis of Shekhawati, Shekhawati art.



Introductions

Shekhawati is the region in Rajasthan is famous for the world largest open-air Art Gallery. for its hundreds of beautiful muraled havelis. the regions made up of several loans with thousand paintings decorative art included havelis, temples and beautiful architecture. Credit goes to all The Marwari merchants, who financed by them made their fortune the beautiful hawelis and its artworks. Businessmen of the Vaishya and Agrawal community built these havelis. These Marwari merchant families found the place outskirts of the city. They started Business with opium and spices the region is made up of several lowns with thousands of painted buildings that include havelis, temples, shops and cenotaphs. As the shekhawati region is spread out over around 100 km. (62 miles) We can found Painted havelis of Shekhawati in Nawalgarh, Mandawa, Churu, Jhunjhunu, Bissau, Mahansar, Ramgarh, Fatehpur. Painted Hawelis of Shekhawati can be found in every town we can see outside the city gates, wherever there are gates, or outside the main Bazar area. The reason being most of these families came together to the region and got the land close to each other [1-7].

History

The Marwari Baniya families, who made their money through trade and building Havelis to show off their wealth in the 19th century, The designs on the havelis show how the artists were influenced by many different things. The geometric designs of the early frescos show that they were influenced by Mughal art, while the later ones were inspired by the Rajput royal courts. As with most art, mythology and religion were a steady source of ideas and inspiration. Krishna was a common theme in the frescos [8-9].

Nawalgarh

Shekhawati's most up-to-date town is Nawalgarh. The rulers of Nawalgarh are from the Shekhawati sub-clan (Bhojraj ji ka September) of the Kschwaha Dynasty of the earlier Jaipur royal State. This used to be a haveli, but it has been fixed up and turned into a hotel. The rooms are as nice as any haveli that has been fixed up and turned into a hotel. Nawalgarh is a beautiful, lively town with great places to stay that you won't find in smaller towns and villages. Here you can find some of the best paintings and hundreds of havelis. Some havelis are the Aath haveli complex, the Jodhraj Patodia haveli, the Chokdhani, and the Bansidhar Bhagat Haweli. The town's market place and the way the haweli is set up show that the original city was well-planned before it was built. Check out the town's fort and colourful market as well [10-14].

Murarka Haweli

This is one of the most beautiful painted haweli in this Deserted Town of Nawalgarh. This havelis murals painting are still their original form and there is some traditional restoration

taking place in an adjoining courtyard which is interesting to see. Beautiful view of shiva temple from upstairs, entry fee is very reasonable [14].

I. Roop Niwas Kothi

Roop niwas kothi is situated in Nawalgarh, Rajasthan, part way between the pink city Jaipur 145km and Bikaner 216 km is a beautiful haveli with in today it's called Horse lovers Paradis.

II. Dr. Ramnath Poddar Haveli

This haveli was built by Anandilal Poddar in 1902. His grandson, Kantikumar R. Poddar, turned it into a museum and a place for art, culture, and heritage. He named the museum after his father Ramnanth podar and fixed up 750 frescos on an area of 11,200 square metres. It has a lot of interesting galleries about the lifestyle, music, festivals, and original form of miniature art in Rajasthan, as well as turbans.

Mandawa

Thakur Nawal singh built castle Mandawa in 1755. Mandawa is a small market town that feels more like a village in rural Rajasthan. It has a lot of Shekhawati havelis that are all painted. Some of them, though, are in sad shape. The town is dominated by a large fort that has been turned into a hotel. It used to be a trading post on the road between Delhi and Bikaner. The Gulab Rai Ladia Haveli and the Murmuria Haveli are both good examples of Shekhawati art.

- **Ramgarh Fresco Hotel**

This place was started by the Agrawal people and the Rao Raja of Sikar. It is also called Sethon ka Ramgarh. Ramgarh shows how much money they had and how much they spent to make their havelis look nice. Today, this town in Shekhawati has the most paintings.

- **The Alsisar Mahal** is where the Magnetic Field Festival takes place. The town has a lot of Alsi who moved to this water source, which is why it's called Alsisar, and a lot of Malsi who moved to a place close and gave it the name Malsisar. In addition to alsisar mahal, which is where the magnetic festival is held, the town has a lot of temples, wells, dharamshalas, and houses, such as Indrachand Kejriwal's Indra villas, which has 100 rooms and is set in a 10-acre area. It was built in 1595. Set Kasturimal built the two Jhunjhunwala ki havelis 170 years ago.

- **Sawalka Haveli**

Outside the city walls, Motilala Swalika built a beautiful home. Gurdayal Khemka built the Shani temple in 1840, and it is just a short walk away. The proch ceiling shows

scenes from mythology, but around 1850, the inner walls were painted with glass. By the end of the 1st century, camels and elephants were painted on the walls, and then a western woman was shown with a gramophone.

- **Kheri Mahal**

Khetri mahal was built in year 1770, Khetri mahal is in Jhunjhunu this is one of the most beautiful fine art and structural design of Shekhawti region.

- **Dundlodh**

An old fort turned in to heritage hotel for tourists for riding holidays the fort is less frescoes in darbarbut the regal appeal remains unfaded. But usually, it is beautiful full of adventures.

This old fort built in 1750 A.D.by thakur Kesari Singh, Stands today as an epitome of cultural amalgamation of Rajputana and Mughal School of art.

Jhunjhunu

- **Modi Haveli:** The inside of a Modi haveli is covered with colourful frescos that are very detailed. The city has both wood carving and painting. On one, a woman in a beautiful blue saari is listening to a Gramophone record. On another, a group of soldiers on horseback are racing a train.
- **Tibrewala Hakaniram Narsingh Das Haveli:** It's closed most of the time, but there are frescos on the outside walls that show how creative the artist was. For example, one shows a passenger train and a goods train.
- **Mohanlal Ishwardas Modi Haveli:** The front of the building also has a train and scenes from the story of Krishna. Scenes from what looks like a courthouse, with judges, kings, and Indian maharajas, are set against these themes.
- **Sone Chandi Ki Haweli:** This haveli is so beautiful in this haveli all fresco work is in well condition. we can see the golden work in paintings.



Figure 1. (a) Modi ki haveli

(b) Dipicted Radha Shringar with gopi's

FATEHPUR

15 km. south of Ramgarh Fatehpur is one of the oldest towns in Shekhawati a haveli is known as Nand Lal Devraj haveli.

1. **Nand all Devraj haveli.** was purchased in (1999) by French artist now this is known as Nadine le Prince Haveli Nnadine has restored the frescoes and indeed the haveli itself. This is most well preserved haveli in the whole region.

2. **Jagannath Singhania**

we can say that this haveli is new compared to Haveli Nadine le prince in the dates back to 1855. painting of Radha Krishna is most Popular hear.

3. **Narain Niwas Castel, Mahansar**

The murals were based on diverse themes social and folk tales, stories from the epics, contemporary lifestyles, Raagmala paintings, people from various walks of life, portraits of the merchants' families, etc. In the later paintings, the European influence, especially in the lifestyle images, became prominent. So do not be surprised if you find motor cars, aeroplanes or gramophones finding a place in the murals.

Themes of Shekhawati Haveli Paintings

the themes of Shekhawati changed with the time The murals were based on diverse themes – social and folk tales, stories from the epics, contemporary lifestyles, Raagmala paintings, people from various walks of life, portraits of the merchants' families, etc. In the later paintings, the European influence, especially in the lifestyle images, became prominent. So do not be surprised if you find motor cars, aeroplanes or gramophones finding a place in the murals. The murals were involving different stories of Krishna Lila, ragmala, decorative designs, daily life, animals like elephant, peacock, dancing circle including Krishna with gopika' folk mythology, historical events and changes like we can also see impact of the British and Contraption. The murals were based on diverse themes social and folk tales, stories from the epics, contemporary lifestyles, Raagmala paintings, people from various walks of life, portraits of the merchants' families, etc.



Figure 2. Haveli in side painting view

In the later paintings, the European influence, especially in the lifestyle images, became prominent. So do not be surprised if you find motor cars, aeroplanes or gramophones finding a place in the murals.

- **INDIAN THEMES:** In the mural's different stories depicted from Ramayana, Mahabharat, and Vishnu Bhagwan different avatars.



Figure 3. (a) Vishnu with Lakshmi in Mandava (b) Krishna depicting with Gopika's

- **Folk Mythology:** folk methodology is also depicted in shekhawati frescoes.
- **Decorative Designs:** we can see the decorative motifs on wall and ceiling.
- **Portrait's:** There are many portraits in Havelis, in all these murals painting all portrait are painted by European manner some of them depict the people from different lands with

different ways that how they dressed Different headgears, there are portraits of English men or women.



Figure 4. (a) Portrait examples in Shekhawati Haweli (b) Portrait with golden color



Figure 5. Painting Krishna & Gopi's image



Figure 6. festival celebrative painting image

A station platform and a train from a fresco in a Nawalgarh haveli. Image: Shutterstock/By Radiokafka.

Religious Ganesh always sits on the top of the main gate. Lakshmi and Ganesh are the prime deity of business families. We can see Ganesh always sits on the top of the main gate and Lakshmi prominently in and ground the Baithak that is where business was conducted.



Figure 7. (a) Shekhawati region in God Image painting (b) Shekhawati region in God Image painting

Painting and techniques

Shekhawati images are painted in a new way. It is a usual way to paint right on a wall or ceiling that has just been plastered. It is the oldest known way to paint, and most artists need to know a lot about art, mediums, and skills to use it well. Because natural pigments are used, this way of drawing is also called the "green method." It is a type of art on a wall. The fresco painting method was a cheaper alternative to marble because it gave the walls the same smooth, shiny look as marble. Shekhawati is unique because of its colouring style. When people there made murals, their religion rules said they couldn't use people or animals as subjects.

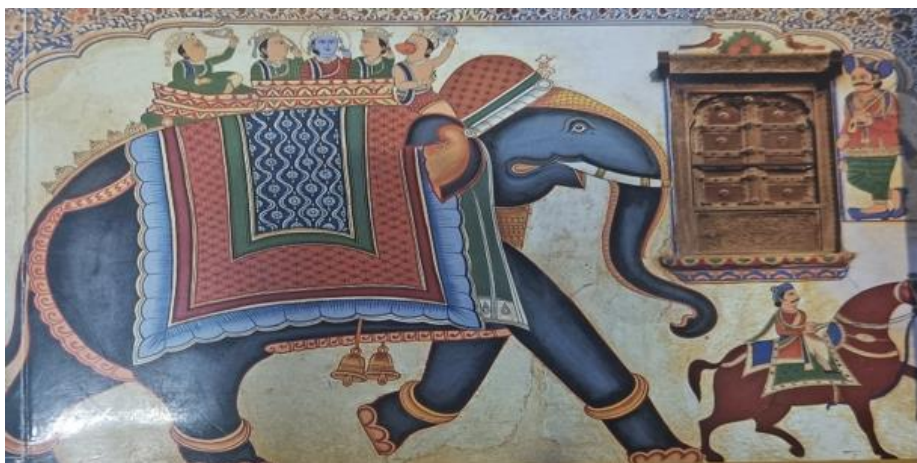


Figure 8. Painting image (Shekhawati haveli murals)

Shekhawati Haweli (resource: google Aurag Mallick)

Murals of Shekhawati are an elaborate process, involving different materials, layers and techniques. Colouring: before the 19th century artist used natural colours such as green, ochres, yellow red and lampblack. later some other colour added like ultramaine, vermilion, gold and silverware for prayer rooms and bad rooms.

Narain Niwas Castel, Mahansar

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Conclusions

Rajasthan is where you can find Shekhawati haveli. In several towns in the area, we can see the paintings on the outside of Shekhawati havelis. As tourism grows, more towns are being built in the area. All murals are in frescoes technique and they are telling our culture stories .in the world of new techniques and design we have an amazing collection of own traditional art, art lovers and researcher can develop them own thing by learning old techniques, or can inspire by their work. It will help for saving our Indian subject, tradition and Art. Most of the havelis are not inhabited by the families who own them but if we calculate then Havelis of Shekhawati were inhabited for 20-40 years on average. Most of the families moved from there after 1947 some of them have care takers.

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