

SYMMETRY IN ARTS OF INDIA

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Indian culture abounds in symmetrical constructions. Artforms of India from classical to folk and from tribal to popular - exhibit a great preference for symmetry. From the geometry of *mandalas* and *yantras*, to movements in dance; from the rhythmic metres of poetry to the structure of musical *ragas*; from architecture of temples and palaces to iconography of divine forces - Symmetry is a recurrent element.

The reason for this abundance of symmetry is perhaps rooted in the Indian belief that all man-made creations must be designed and constructed to be in harmony with the Cosmic order. So the same symmetry principles which prevailed the Cosmos- also become the organising principles of the visual and the performing arts in India.

In spite of such abundance of symmetry in the Indian Arts, no study seems to have been done to classify, analyse and explain the symmetry principles in Indian Arts. The proposed exhibition "*Symmetry in Arts of India*" - will attempt to present the enormous richness and variety of symmetry examples in Indian Arts, and also establish the deeper philosophical, metaphysical and semantic connections between the form and meaning of symmetrical constructions in Indian Arts.

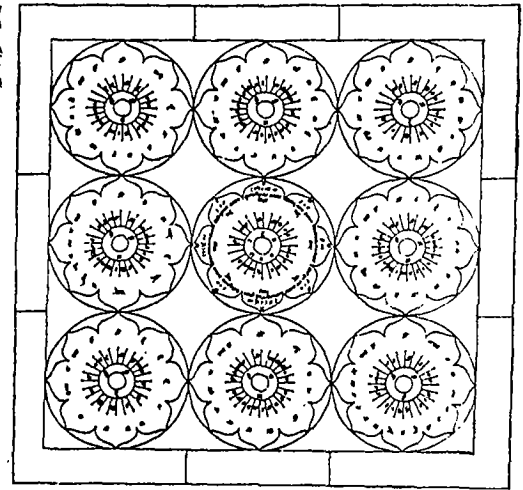
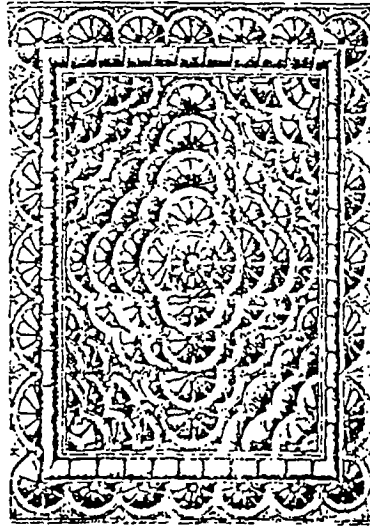
The exhibition will consist of a series of visual panels dealing with examples of symmetry in Indian Arts, arranged thematically in sections.

Section Themes

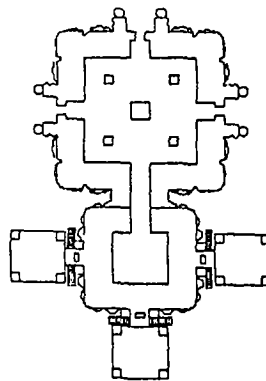
- Symmetry principles of Indian Arts.
- Symmetry in ritual diagrams - *Mandalas*, *Yantras* & *Chakras*.
- Symmetry in Architecture - the symmetry of plan and superstructure.
- Symmetry in Iconography.
- Symmetry in Indian Sculpture and Paintings.
- Symmetry in Indian Poetics.
- Symmetry in Indian Classical Music.
- Symmetry in Indian Performing Arts - dance, drama & music.
- Symmetry in Indian Decorative Design and Patterns.
- Symmetry in Indian Folk Arts and Tribal Arts.
- Symmetry in Daily Life.
- Symmetry in Indian Philosophy.
- Symmetry Symbolism.
- The semantics of Symmetrical Representation.

The panels will have illustrations, photographs and visual diagrams, along with explanatory text.

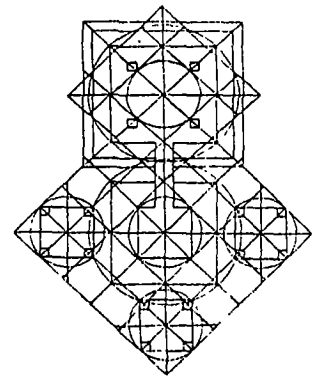
Symmetry in Architecture
Diagram of Navapadma Mandala



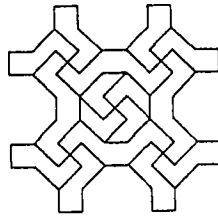
Reflected roof plan of the Ceiling in *Bhava Gazi's tomb*



Ground Plan of *Mahaprasasta pancharatha prasada* according to the *Silpasarini*.

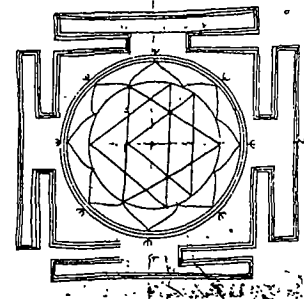


Ground Plan : Geometrical relationship between the various parts.



Symmetry In Daily Activities

Yantra drawn in front of the houses daily and also during festivals



Symmetry In Ritual Diagrams

Rituals marks carried in the forehead and arms of a person

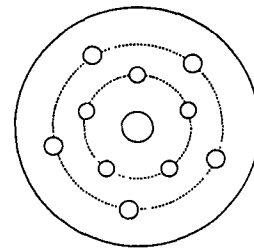
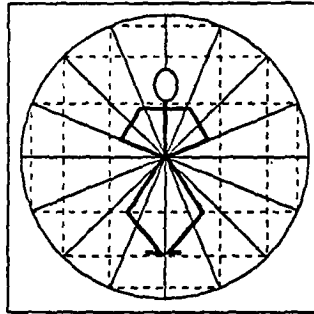
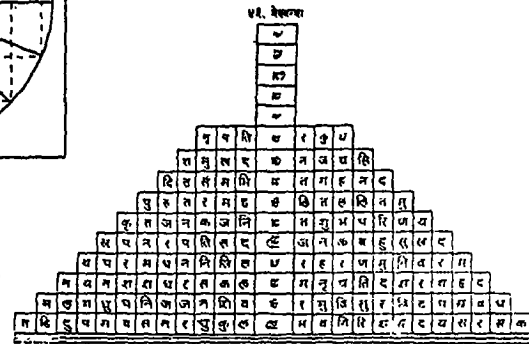


Diagram illustrating the circumambulation of the physical space of the stage to synchronize with a number of metrical cycles of rhythm.



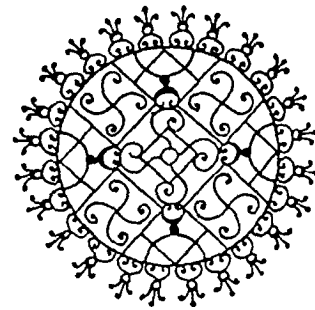
Symmetry in Indian Dance form

Diagram representing the grid that underlines the Indian dances as envisaged by the Nāṭyaśāstra.



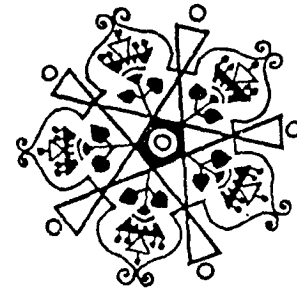
Symmetry in Indian Poetry

Poem from Chitra-Kaviya tradition



Symmetry in Indian Decorative Design & Patterns

Decorative motif used in textiles



Symmetry in Indian Iconography

Images of Sri Aniruddha Murthy & Sri Krishna Avatara Murthy