

## **PALLAVAS' ART AND ARCHITECTURE CONTRIBUTION (300-850 CE)**

### **Architectural Styles:**

1. Dravidian architecture: Introduced by Mahendravarman I (600-630 CE)
2. Pallava style: Characterized by simple, elegant designs
3. South Indian temple architecture: Influenced by Pallavas

### **Notable Monuments:**

1. Mamallapuram (Mahabalipuram) Temples (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
  - Shore Temple
  - Five Rathas (PanchaPandavaRathas)
  - Arjuna's Penance
  - Krishna Mandapam
2. Kanchipuram Temples
  - Kailasanathar Temple
  - VaikuntaPerumal Temple
  - VaradarajaPerumal Temple
3. Tiruchirappalli Rock Fort Temple
4. Chidambaram Nataraja Temple

### **Sculptural Contributions:**

1. Mamallapuram sculptures
  - Arjuna's Penance bas-relief
  - Krishna Mandapam sculptures
2. Kanchipuram temple sculptures
  - Kailasanathar Temple's intricate carvings
3. Tiruchirappalli Rock Fort Temple's sculptures

### **Painting Contributions:**

1. Ajanta-style paintings in Mamallapuram caves
2. Kanchipuram temple paintings

**Innovations:**

1. Introduction of granite as primary building material
2. Development of Vimana (tower) architecture
3. Use of ornate carvings, sculptures, and bas-reliefs
4. Incorporation of Hindu mythology in art and architecture

**Influence:**

1. South Indian temple architecture
2. Southeast Asian architecture (e.g., Angkor Wat)
3. Chola, Vijayanagara, and Nayaka dynasties' art and architecture

**Key Features:**

1. Simple, elegant designs
2. Use of granite and sandstone
3. Intricate carvings, sculptures, and bas-reliefs
4. Hindu mythological themes
5. Symmetrical, balanced compositions

**Artistic Techniques:**

1. Carving
2. Sculpting
3. Painting
4. Architecture

**Legacy:**

1. Shaped South Indian art and architecture
2. Influenced Southeast Asian art and architecture
3. Contributed to Hindu temple architecture
4. Established Tamil Nadu's reputation as a cultural hub