PLATES
Plate I
Elephant, Chhaddanta Jataka, 2nd century AD, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh

Plate II
Elephant, Hasti Jataka, 2nd century BC, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh
Plate III
Elephant, Bodhisattva, 2\textsuperscript{nd} century AD, Sannati, Karnataka

Plate IV
Hare, Sasa Jataka, 3\textsuperscript{rd} century AD, Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh

Plate V
Winged-Horse, Valahassa Jataka, 2\textsuperscript{nd} century BC, Pithalkhora, Maharashtra
Deccan region distinctly mention stonecutters, masons and the chief artists, who supervised the construction work. The stonecutters were called pāshanikas, whereas the masons were known as the selavaddhaki. The names of stonecutters and other artisans are also known from Deccan region. The Indian sculptor had a glorious tradition through the centuries, which resulted in several different schools of sculptural art developing in various parts of the country.

These sculptors must have worked very hard in presenting things from nature like lotus and other vegetative forms, born of the primeval waters, trees with abundant foliage and fruits, reptiles, animals from the hare to the lion, birds like cranes, swans, quail, etc. On the monuments of the Deccan region till-date there is no single comprehensive work that has studied this by combining together empirical data from the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. There are some scholars, namely, H. C. Raychaudari, R. G. Bhandarkar, Sumati Mulay, M. Dhavalikar, G. Yazdani, V. V. Krishna Sastry, B. Subba Rao, M. L. K. Murthy, M. S. Nagaraja Rao, O. C. Gangoly, R. N. Nandi, A. S. Altekar, who were interested in focusing on the Deccan at the macro and micro levels but they primarily studied pre and proto-historic period of the region or on general aspects of the history of the Deccan. Even for historical periods few studies have taken up the theme of nature as depicted by the sculptors on religious monuments. For historical periods the studies have in particular emphasized on the social, cultural and political conditions of the Deccan. Therefore, the present work is a humble endeavour in the direction of documenting the depiction of nature in the sculptural art of the Deccan.
Plate VI
_Hamsa_, Bodhisattva, 2\textsuperscript{nd} century AD, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh

Plate VII
Quail, Bodhisattva, 2\textsuperscript{nd} century AD, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh
Plate VIII
Snake, *Champeyya Jataka*, 3rd century AD, Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh

Plate IX
Elephant, Birth of the Buddha, 2nd century BC, Nadsur, Maharashtra
Plate X
Bull, Birth of the Buddha, 2nd century AD, Nasik, Maharashtra

Plate XI
Horse, Great Departure, 2nd century BC, Pitalkhora, Maharashtra
Plate XII
Horse, Great Departure, 3rd century AD, Nagarjiinakonda, Andhra Pradesh

Plate XIII
Elephant, Assault of Mara, 2nd century BC, Ghantasala, Andhra Pradesh
Plate XIV
Elephant, Assault of Mara, 5th century AD, Ajanta, Maharashtra

Plate XV
Nāga Mucilinda, Protection of the Buddha, 2nd century AD, Sannati, Karnataka
Plate XVI
*Naga Mucilinda*, 2\textsuperscript{nd} century AD, Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh

Plate XVII
Deer, First Sermon, 3\textsuperscript{rd} century AD, Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh
Plate XVIII
Deer, First Sermon, 5th century AD, Ajanta, Maharashtra

Plate XIX
Elephant, Niligiri, 3rd century AD, Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh
Plate XX
Elephant, Worshipping Stūpa, 2nd century AD, Kanheri, Maharashtra

Plate XXI
Fish, and bird, Incarnation of Vishnu, 10th century AD Alampur, Andhra Pradesh

Plate
Tortoise, Incarnation of Visnu, 6th century AD, Badami, Karnataka
Plate XXIII
Lion-Man, Incarnation of Visnu, 4th century AD, Kontomotu, Guntur District

Plate XXIV
Elephant and Tortoise, Gajendramoksa, 6th century AD, Pattadakal, Karnataka
Plate XXV
Boar-Man, Incarnation of Visnu, 8\textsuperscript{th} century AD, Ellora, Maharashtra

Plate XXVI
Elephant-Man, Symbol of Luck, 8\textsuperscript{th} century AD, Olumpatta, Andhra Pradesh
Plate XXVII
Calf, Krishna's Story, 6th century AD, Badami, Karnataka

Plate XXVIII
Cow-mother, Krishna's Story, 6th century AD, Badami Museum, Karnataka
Plate XXIX
Sesasayi, Creation of Universe, 7th century AD, Aihole, Karnataka

Plate XXX
Sesasayi, Creation of Universe, 6th century AD, Badami, Karnataka
Plate XXXI
Snake, Emblem of Siva, 6th century AD, Aihole, Karnataka

Plate XXXII
Buffalo, Mahisasuramardini's Story, 8th century AD, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh
Plate XXXIII
Boar, Ramayana Story, 10th century AD, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh

Plate XXXIV
Garuda, Symbol of Auspiciousness, 6th century AD, Badami, Karnataka
Plate XXXV
Jatayu, Ramayana Story, 7th century AD, Pattadakal, Karnataka

Plate XXXVI
Bull, Vehicle of Siva, 7th century AD, Pattadakal, Karnataka
Plate XXXVII
Bull, Vehicle of Siva, 9th century AD, Bikkavolu, Andhra Pradesh

Plate XXXVIII
Bull, Vehicle of Siva, 10th century AD, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh
Plate XXXIX
Horse, Vehicle of Surya, 1st century BC, Bhaja, Maharashtra

Plate XI.
Animals. Vehicle of Adista, 10th century AD, Gadambahalli, Karnataka
Plate XL.I
Lion, Vehicle of Mahisasuramardini, 8th century AD, Ellora, Maharashtra

Plate XL.II
Goat, Vehicle of Agni, 5th century AD, Badami, Karnataka
Plate XLIII
Buffalo, Vehicle of Yama, 8th century AD, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh

Plate XLIV
*Makara*, Vehicle of Varuna, 8th century AD, Aihole, Karnataka
Plate XLV
Crocodile, Vehicle of Yamuna, 8th century AD, Ellora, Maharashtra

Plate XLVI
Swan, Vehicle of Brahma, 6th century AD, Aihole, Karnataka
Plate XLVII
Peacock, Vehicle of Subramanya, 8th century AD, Dharwar Museum, Karnataka

Plate XLVIII
Asoka Tree, 3rd century AD, the Birth of the Buddha, Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh
Plate XLIX
Bodhi Tree, 2nd century AD, Decoration, Kanheri, Maharashtra

Plate L
Pipal Tree, Symbol of Mahaparinirvana, 6th century AD, Ajanta, Maharashtra
Plate LI
Banyan Tree, Decoration, 2nd century AD, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh

Palm Tree, Symbol of Victory, 10th century AD, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh
Plate LIII
Sitaphal Tree, Decoration, 3rd century AD, Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh

Mango Tree, 7th century AD, Symbol of immortality, Pattadakal, Karnataka
Plate LV
Kalpavriksha Tree, 8th century AD, Decoration, Aihole Museum, Karnataka
Plate LVII
Nāga, Roundel, 8th century AD, Decoration, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh

Plate LVII
Lotus, Symbol of birth, 1st AD, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh
Plate LVIII
Mango leaves, Birds and Ogre, Symbol of water, 8th century AD, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh

Plate LIX
Lotus, Symbol of prosperity, 6th century AD, Kuda, Maharashtra
Plate LX
Lotus, 10th century AD, Symbol of fertility, Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh

Plate LXI
Foliage, Decoration, 2nd century BC, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh
Plate LXII
Scroll, 8th century AD, Decoration, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh

Plate LXIII
Scroll, 8th century AD, Decoration, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh
Plate LXIV
Scroll, 8" century AD, Decoration, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh

Plate LXV
Honeysuckle, 9th century AD, Symbol of fecundity, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh
Plate LXVI
Rose-flower, Decoration, 2nd century BC, Nadsur, Maharashtra

Plate LXVII
Lotus-flower, Decoration, 1st century BC, Bhaja, Maharashtra
Plate LXVIII
Jasmine flower, Decoration, 1st century AD, Paithan, Maharashtra

Plate LXIX
Flower, Decoration, 7th century AD, Aihole, Karnataka

Plate LXX
Flower, Decoration, 8th century AD, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh
Plate LXXI
Garland, Decoration, 1st century BC, Bhaja, Maharashtra

Plate LXXII
Garland, Decoration, 7th century AD, Aihole, Karnataka

Plate LXXXIII
Horse, War Scene, 6th century AD, Badami, Karnataka
Plate LXXIV
Horse, Transportation, 3\textsuperscript{rd} century AD, Paithan, Maharashtra

Plate LXXV
Bullock, Transportation, 2\textsuperscript{nd} century AD, Gulbarga, Karnataka
Plate LXXVI
Cattle, Agriculture, 1st century AD, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh

Plate LXXVII
Elephant, Helper with rider, 2nd century BC, Bhaja, Maharashtra
Plate LXXVIII
Bull, Amusement, 2nd century BC, Bhaja, Maharashtra

Plate LXXIX
Buffaloes, Amusement, 6th century AD, Ajanta, Maharashtra

Plate LXXX
Elephant, Deer, Hunting, 8th century AD, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh
Plate LXXXI
Monkey, Lion, Forest Scene, 3rd century AD, Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh

Plate LXXXII
Lion, Forest Scene, 10th century AD, Alampur, Andhra Pradesh
Plate LXXXIII
*Makara*, Decoration, 2\textsuperscript{nd} century AD, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh

Plate LXXXIV
Elephant, Symbol of royal sovereignty, 1\textsuperscript{st} century AD, *Karle*, Maharashtra
Plate LXXXV
Lion, Elephant, Fighting, 7th century AD, Pattadakal, Karnataka

Plate LXXXVI
Lion, Transportation, 2nd century AD, Nasik, Maharashtra

Plate LXXXVII
Dove, Decoration, 6th century AD, Badami, Karnataka
Plate LXXXVIII
Parrot, Decoration, 5th century AD, Ajanta, Maharashtra

Plate LXXXIX
Parrot, Decoration, 8th century AD, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh