The history of human existence can be identified through the bones—skeletons, stone weapons, utensils of prehistoric age but the development of the inner conscious can be recognized by the art works of the particular time period or the age. This development of expression is much important for the history of cultural development of mankind.

On the art works not only the impact of human behavior, struggle of life, outer situations can be seen but the impact of creativity, originality and beautification of the awareness of management can also be noticed.

Through the ages human has expressed his fear, sorrow, pleasure, achievement with the unmanaged lines. Gradually these lines have become the forms of stick lines, rectangular and triangular forms. In this process human being has created the difference in the forms of male-female forms, various animals, birds, trees, sun, moon, stars, water, weapons, etc.

As the time has passed the human has invented the fire, weapons, pottery, agriculture, script writing, animal husbandry, vehicle, ornaments, cloth, architecture etc. Thus the human has collected the experience and identified the needs for development. During the period of development human has also interacted with his belief. That belief was on the natural phenomena like sun, moon, stars, wind, rain, tree, river, earth and sky. Human has expressed his fear, joy and wishes to these natural powers. As nature has became the source of growth and development as well
as destruction. Human has started to pray and worship it in many ways.

"As humanity progresses from the stage of mere savagery to that of an early form of culture, it’s thought turns towards higher powers, it begins to believe in god. But because the view of life at this stage is not end cannot be spiritual, it does not believe in things and power that are unseen. Its god, therefore, whom it loves, fears, and worshiped, are not invisible powers"¹.

Human has imagined their natural powers in forms and manifested them. This belief of human on nature further developed as the religion and the natural powers named as gods and goddesses. Thus human has created the images of natural powers in the form of gods-goddesses. Human has expressed himself before these images. The unfinished art forms of prehistory and proto-history are the good examples of it. As "casting the glance at the pre-Aryan period of Indian Civilization as revealed by the finds in Mohenjo-Daro, we discover the same relationship between religion and art. Among the finds are the traces of religious culture, prevalent about 3000 B.C. in icons, which include the mother goddess (Fig. 1.1) and a male god (Fig. 1.2) , who has been regarded as Shiva"².

Because of these small expressions of art forms human had developed his imagination for creativity of skills. Thus the beautiful relation of Art and Religion has founded through the ages. Further Religion and Art has flourished together and individual as well as. Sometime both are completed individual and sometimes became complimentary to each other. "Religion and Art are closely related. Hegel supported this view. According to him, Art logically precedes religion in the final triadic manifestation of the absolute spirit. Art is thesis, Religion is antithesis and Philosophy is synthesis"³.
Religious scriptures played an important role later. As "the earlier hymns of Rig-Veda are addressed to the shining sun, the gleaming moon in the nocturnal sky, the fire, blazing on the hearth or on the alter or even lightening, shooting forth from the cloud, the bright sky of the day, or the starry sky of night, the roaring storms, the flowering water of the river, the glowing dawn and the spread-out fruitful earth. All these natural phenomena are, as such glorified, worshipped and invoked. But gradually is accomplished, in the song of Rig-Veda itself, the transformation of these natural phenomena into mythological figures into gods and goddesses such as Surya (sun), Soma (moon), Agni (fire), Dyaus (sky), Maruts (storms), Vayu (wind), Apas (water), whose name still indubitably indicate what they originally were. So the songs of Rig-Veda prove indisputably that the most prominent figures of mythology have proceeded from personifications of the most striking Natural Phenomena." ⁴

As religion is antithesis, so it is well known that common man cannot understand it completely. For this purpose intellectuals and learned ancestors had collected some stories from their and others life and created scriptures. Through the ages scriptures has traveled by the oral tradition from generation to generation and spread among the common mass.

These scriptures are the store house of the abundant of knowledge about every part or stage of life like skills of household, business, medicine, battle, war, politics, psychology, entertainment and many other disciplinary. These scriptures have teaches about the duty of a good teacher, mother, father, brother, sister, king, queen, servant, businessman, warrior, politician, etc. so every religion have its own mythology. It (mythology) is the only method that shows the path of humanity, code of conduct, the way of living life in an easy and friendly manner.
Mythology is a way of communication through the images and stories. It is one of the richest treasures of Indian culture, which enriches it further and makes it a unique one in the world. Indian art has a rich tradition of mythology and other socio religious background which have a tremendous Indian identity. Fables related to scriptures having fantastic notions of fantasy and reality too.

"India’s recorded civilization is one of the longest in the course of the world history and its mythology spans the more of that time. Furthermore the mythology is distinguished that of the most other lands, and certainly from those of the west, by the fact that it is still a part of the uneducated masses but of every level of the society."5

To know the place of Art in society and literature in one has to go through some texts. Although there are very few living examples exist, yet it had described in the Veda, Vedic literature, Ramayana, Mahabharata, Puranas, Neetishastra, Kamsutra, Jyotish, Aurveda, Shilpashastra, Kuya, Natak, and Katha Aakhyayika. Chitrasutra of Vishnudharmottarpurana, Samarangan— Sutradhar of Maharaja Bhoj, Maansollas of Someshwar Bhupati are some of the texts which are placed in the category of the texts that discuss the Art. Through the study and meditation of such ancient and medieval text of Sanskrit literature, the chronological history can also understand."6

Same as the mythology, art also have some purposes that are important to be fulfilled in the artworks by the artist. i.e.:

- Creation of beauty
- Beautification of things
- Show the reality
- Immortalization
- Became the expression of Religion
• Express the flight of imagination
• Show the knowledge and emotion together
• Transmission of experience
• Reflect (Mirror) the cultural and social issues
• Protest against injustice and create awareness in society
• Depiction of Daily Life
• Satisfaction (Gratification) of own wills of artist

To understand and read the artworks it is necessary to understand the purpose of art in details.

**Creation of beauty** - Every time creation of beauty became an essential part of one’s life. Artist followed nature as the inspirational source, it is the biggest or largest source of creativity among human. Elements from nature got place in art works from the beginning.

Greek philosopher Aristotle too stated in his philosophy on the nature and its imitation in the artworks through artists. “Imitation is not merely production of a thing, so like what we perceived in nature as to create an illusion of reality, but of things better or worse than they are to be found in the external world. It is the presentation of an advance on a given reality. It is not confined to the perceptible. It extends to the mental. Voices and figures are to be imitated no less than the passions and feelings”8 To depict the nature and human form some parameters has formed. These parameters can be found in Sanskrit text like *Natyashashtra*, *Vishnudharmottarpurana*, *Samarangan-Sutradhar*.

As the Greek and Italian art, Indian art also got its recognition in the world scenario. The beauty of the frescos of *Ajanta* is well known to everyone. These frescoes are very strong
in technique like proportion of forms, especially female forms, remarkable ideal compositions and linear style. “In Ajanta caves the two traditions of sculpture and paintings has thrived side by side and present contemporary aesthetics concepts.” The beauty of ideal forms can also be seen in the sculptures of Ellora.

Every country has its own culture, idealism and vision that reflect in the artworks of the artist of that country. Thus human (artist) has created the beauty, as it is well said by Plato that beauty lies in the eyes of beholder. With the creation of beauty, appreciation of beauty is equally important. So the development of such skill is much essential.

**Beautification of Things**—Although everyone is not the artist, yet every human being has persisted the sense to beautify the things. Every human being has selected different colours not even for clothes but also to paint the houses. Even they replace the posters and paintings on the walls and use indoor plants, artificial flowers to decorate the houses. Beautification of surrounding is very necessary to get rid off from monotonous life. Thus art works are playing important role to decorate the interior of any architectural space.

In architecture many buildings has patterns as its part to solve the purpose of decoration. Temples of south India are the great example of it. *Akshardham* temple (Fig. 1.3) in Delhi is also a good example where marble stone had carved so beautifully that the building itself became a master piece or an art work.

Monuments and statue has placed in parks, crossroads and at other public places. In city Kurukshetra approximately at every round about, life size sculptures has placed. Even the crossroads known by the name of sculptures that placed there *i.e. Agrasen Chownk, Maharana Pratap Chownk, Vishwakarma Chownk, Ambedkar Chownk, Ahilyabai Holkar Chownk* etc. All these things
create a pleasant environment all around and increase tourism. A huge sculpture of *Krishna driving chariot with Arjuna* (Fig. 1.4) standing at Brahmsarovar in Kurukshetra city, is a great point of attraction for tourist.

Not even residential space but the religious centers are also decorated in different manners or styles. For example metal like gold and silver had used in the *Golden Temple* (Fig. 1.5) at Amritsar. Wall painting in different medium was an ancient way to beautify the space. Now it is known and developed as a different genre named mural and frequently using to decorate or beautify the public space *i.e. Delhi-Shahdara, NCR, Central Secretariat, Badarpur* line metro station etc.

**Show the Reality**- It is very important to know that art is one of the strong medium of communication. Through art one can present the bitter truth in a beautiful manner. Some of the artists had depicted the world as it is in a real some manner. But on the other hand artist has tried to depict the inner truth which is beyond the reality of the world. It is not necessary that both the aspects of truth must be beautiful, it can be ugly and weird on other aspect.

The artist has truthfully represented the inner and outer world in their style. Artist has depicted the pleasant environment through their artworks. In the same manner they made people cry through the depiction of weird reality. Sometimes artist meet himself through his own artworks.

**Immortalization**- In the history of human existence there are so many incidents and heroes existed. Through the ages they are immortalized with the help of oral tradition, art works and literature etc. Development and progress of human has noticed through the evidence of prehistory and proto-historical time
period. At that time there could not be found any developed verbal language in evidences.

It is still doubtful that in time period of prehistory and protohistory people used to communicate in any verbal language or artistic symbols and shapes had become a medium of communication for them. Those shapes and symbols are still very important because that immortalize their expression truthfully. To immortalize any thought, feeling, philosophy of anyone it is important to reflect that in literature or in arts. As in Ajanta caves (Fig. 1.6) Buddhist literature and religious texts has painted. Thus Buddhism has been immortalized through the ages. The depiction of Buddhism better than Ajanta cave cannot be found in all over the world.

Sculpture and architecture are also played the significant role as Taj Mahal (Fig. 1.7) became a symbol of unconditional love.

God has never seen by anyone so to imagine his (God) shape and form is difficult but Raja Ravi Verma has immortalize the image of gods and goddesses (Fig. 1.8) through the low price printed images of gods and goddesses. Now everyone has visualized the god and goddesses like Raja Ravi Verma.

**Became the expression of Religion**- Art and religion both are associated with each other. In all over the world religion has spread with the assistance of art. From the prehistory to the modern era, even from the undeveloped to the developed level people has expressed their religious belief through the art. Art has placed on the heights in religions. Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Christianity had spread all around in the different form of art. In Hinduism sculpture played important role as the religious symbol of god.
The motive of art is not only to spread the religion but create a way of concentration in meditation. Thus in art symbols has created to represent the different god of various religions. Through arts priest and sages has narrated the story of early life, re-birth and incarnation of god of every religion. So that common man can understand the stories or moral in easy way. Thus artworks became the essential part of every religion in whole world.

Express the Flight of Imagination- Artist has expressed his imagination through the art sometimes. It seems that artist has depicted an unseen, different world from his imagination. That world of imagination full of pleasure happiness has painted by artist in his artworks. By seeing those artworks it seems that artist is living in a world which is indifferent from the real world. For such imaginative art works day dreams, dreams, unfulfilled, impossible wishes things became the major sources. Artist reflects inner most expressions.

To understand such art works the theory given by philosopher Sigmund Freud is very helpful. In the support of artworks Karl Jung had also explain that some early powers worked in the sub-conscious mind. Artworks of the Spanish artist Salvador Dali are the good example of imaginative artworks. His imagination took such a flight that his work has mentioned in Surrealism. As he has shown the melted and flexible quality in metal watches hanged on the tree in the art work Persistence of Memory. In Swans Reflecting Elephants (Fig. 1.9) Dali has made double images and visual illusions through the reflection of swans and tree in the water. In the painting artist has painted three swans in front of bleak, leafless tree are reflecting in the lake so that the swans’ necks became the trunks of elephants and the trees became the legs of elephants. In the background landscape
and still water has painted. Both artworks attract the viewer through the imaginative depiction.

Like **Salvador Dali**, **Russian** artist **Mark Chagall** has expressed the emotions and passion of a woman on her birthday and depicted the intimacy of both male-female with an imaginative way in his painting *Love and fantasy go hand in hand* (Fig. 1.10) and **German** artist **Max Beckman** was also famous for their flight full expressions in his paintings.

In India so many artist has depicted their imaginative world in the paintings and other artworks as **Bikas Battacharya**, **Vijender Sharma** (Fig. 1.11). Figure are seems to be coming out from the framed canvas.

**Show the knowledge and emotion together**- Through the ages art has became a medium to reflect skill and emotions of living being. Even in pre-historical time in the absence of language human has expressed their knowledge and emotions through the lines and undeveloped, unmanaged forms of arts. Those forms became the source of information about them and for the coming generation.

As the time has passed artist has invented and developed many fundamentals and theories that helped the artist for the depiction. **Leonardo da Vinci** has given the theory of perspective and **sfumato** (softness of light and dark shades in painting). Human has invented the fire, method of pottery, agriculture and other skills to develop their living same as artists has invented different rules. Art student practice that and further express their emotions in art.

But these fundamentals are not followed in folk and some other arts. In these arts emotions of the artist became the supreme.
Transmission of Experience- Art is the transmission of the feeling which the artist has experienced in his life time or through others. Human has expressed himself through the different ways from the beginning of humanity. Human has collected and expresses himself with signs, symbols, drawings, thus the way of communication has invented. So that the coming generations will get inspiration from it.

Knowledge and experience had travelled though the oral tradition from generation to generations, after that all has documented in tangible forms. Even today also seniors, teachers, elders has share their knowledge and experience with juniors, students and younger in different mediums. So that they can enjoy the life, face the problems and collect the new experience without repeating the same mistakes.

Such journeys of experience can also be seen in artworks. Then the artworks truly became the evidence of progress and development. Many of the artists have tried to depict their experiences rather than religion and imagination in the art works. Thus artist has expressed his personal experiences of the world in the artworks. Child art is good example of it. Children use to paint their experience truly without any hesitation and edition.

Reflect (Mirror) the Cultural and Social Issues- It is said art has worked as the mirror to the culture and society. Anyhow it has become a responsibility of an artist to depict the cultural and social environment of a nation in artworks. In fact it is a natural process that art has developed in its native environment.

The artists of Bangal School have developed through the cultural heritage of the country. India is very prosperous country on the cultural level. Artist from the different parts of the country has represented their culture in various arts i.e. painting, dance, drama, literature etc. Schools of miniature art are the good
example of cultural depiction in painting. In Rajasthani, Mughal and Pahari Miniature has shown the cultural as well as social values of the era. Thus the artwork became a visual source of history so another generation can see easily that time period in paintings. Not even the cultural and social values but also the geographical environment, trees, flowers and architecture-interior and exterior too.

In the artworks of modern and contemporary time artist has depicted the changes of social and cultural values of the human. Gradually theses changes became the essential aspect of the arts. Sometime such kind of documentation of vision in artworks has given the big shock to the society, to know the kind of reality human was living those days.

**Protest against Injustice and Create Awareness in Society**- As a medium of communication art, has a unique power that on one side it can appreciate and on the other side provoke revolt against of any deed. Art can provide pleasure and in the same manner became a source of sorrow, grief. Artist has depicted the world war, civil war and its consequences on the society. The destruction caused by nature or human itself became the subject of art works directly or indirectly. Sometimes the bombing events and incidents from political, economical, social and environmental issues took place in the artworks. Thus due to such artworks human became aware of his surroundings. Because of the visual, art has placed its impact for the long-lasting. During and after the revolting of Independence many artists have depicted *Bharat Mata*.

**Depiction of Daily Life**- Art is a mirror for the society. In all over the world artists can not restrict themselves by depicting the day routine life of the surroundings. From early morning when human opened his eyes till the night when went to sleep, he
did so many deeds and observe so many people that willing or unwillingly came in artwork. Somewhere theses routine work of common man became the subject matter (themes) of the artwork.

In the painting “Woman on Charpai”\(^{10}\) (Fig. 1.12) *Amrita Sher-gil* has depicted an indoor scene. A woman in red clothes is lying on the yellow *charpai*. Another woman is sitting at the side of *charpai*.

In the “Village Shop”\(^{11}\) *B.B. Mukherjee* has shown a scene of shop. In this tempura painting females are buying things. Such art works has reflected the daily life in an important manner.

**Satisfaction (Gratification) of Own Wills of Artist**- An artist is a normal human being but still has special qualities and abilities. According to their soul *i.e.*

1. Narrative
2. Sensitive
3. Imaginative
4. Appreciative, two more has mentioned concupiscent and passionate.”\(^{12}\)

As the inspiration of the soul human has converted into a creative human being. Thus a creative human being became the master of his field. As a creative human, he has his own wishes. To fulfill those wishes artist has expressed himself in different arts like painting, sculpture, printmaking, films, poetry, stories, drama etc.

After the fulfillment of basic necessities as food, cloth, home, human has flourished their creative side and try to explore possibilities and scope in the area. But the artist has explored the creative aspect and flourished his abilities with full devotion and dedication.
As above mentioned there are so many motives to create artwork. But if an artist can fulfill one of the motives in his artwork that artist became successful for the expression of his artworks. In every era the role of art has changed and it will also change in future. With the requirement of time and place artist and art has changed now and the circle will be continue in the future.

Like art Mythology has also many proposes as to spread out the history of the people (world) to the coming generation. History of different arts and their methods that is important for the development of existing nation. Mythology is the only way that connects human with old tradition and thoughts.

Thus art and mythology are associated with each other. Both has spread in every corner of the world as the rays of sunlight and enlighten the human being. Art and mythology together has established a harmony between the tradition and modernity. So the world can associate with one thread of divinity and creativity.

References:

2. *Ibid*, p. 06
4. Ibid, p. 04
5. Ions, Veronica, *Indian Mythology*, p. II
6. *गैरोला, चारसप्ति, भारतीय चित्रकला*, पृ. 81
7. *राम विरिजन, समकालीन कला*, पृ. 20-30
10. Mago, P.N., *Contemporary Art in India – A Perspective*, p. 38