Hindu Temple Architecture:

Hindu temples – are identified by several names in different parts of India. Commonly known as Mandir in Hindi, devasthana in Kanada, devalaya, in Telugu, koil or kovil in Tamil, etc. But at the core, a Hindu temple is an Symbolic house, seat, and body of the God. A structure that was designed and built to bring humans and the supreme power of God together.

The practices and traditions followed in each of the temples in India exist not only in history but also in the present time. These traditions greatly influence the socio-cultural life of the people and give endurance to traditional Indian values. The evolution of India's Hindu temple architecture is marked by a strict adherence to the original ancient models which were derived from religious consideration- and that remained constant over many centuries.

The main elements of Hindu temples:

Hindu temple architecture varies across the country, but the basic elements remain the same. This section describes the common elements of Hindu temples:

1. Sikhara – This is the tower or the spire. Shikhara is the pyramidal roof which represents the mythological 'Meru' or the highest mountain top. The size and shape of the Shikhara vary from region to region.

2. Garbhagriha – Garbh means womb, in this context it is the innermost chamber of the temple where the idol of the deity is placed. Garbhagriha is also called the womb chamber; it is a square-shaped room which is entered by a door facing the east direction.

3. Pradakshina Patha – This is the ambulatory passage for circumambulation. It comprises of an enclosed corridor that is carried around the exterior of the Garbhagriha.

4. Mandapa – A pillared hall right in front of the Garbhagriha used by the devotes to sit, pray, chant and meditate. Also, it is used by the devotees to sit and watch the priests performing the rituals, pray, chant, and meditate.

5. Natamandira – In olden days, rituals of music and dance were performed in Natamandira; this area is also known as the hall of dancing.

6. Antarala – Means the atrium or the intermediate chamber. This chamber unites the main sanctuary and the pillared hall of the temple.

7. Ardhamandapa – The main entrance or the front porch of the temple leading to the mandapa.

8. Gopurams – The monumental and ornate tower present at the entrance of the temple. These are more prominently found in the temples of South India.

9. Pitha – It is the plinth or the platform of the temple.

10. Toranas – The distinctive gateway of the temple mostly seen in north Indian temples.

Now about the materials used in the construction of the electric Indian temples. Materials play an imperative role in the overall appearance, construction techniques and monumental character of these temples. These temples were built using all types of materials depending upon the availability in different regions. From timber to mud, stones, plaster, and bricks Hindu temple architecture displays true expertise and craftsmanship of the historical era.

Budist Architecture:

Buddhist religious architecture developed in the <u>Indian subcontinent</u>. Three types of structures are associated with the <u>religious architecture</u> of <u>early Buddhism</u>: monasteries (<u>viharas</u>), places to venerate relics (<u>stupas</u>), and shrines or prayer halls (<u>chaityas</u>, also called *chaitya grihas*), which later came to be called temples in some places.

Medieval architecture:

Medieval architecture is <u>architecture</u> common in <u>the Middle Ages</u>, and includes religious, civil, and military buildings. Styles include <u>pre-Romanesque</u>, <u>Romanesque</u>, and <u>Gothic</u>. While most of the surviving medieval architecture is to be seen in churches and castles, examples of civic and domesti can be found throughout Europe, in <u>manor houses</u>, <u>town halls</u>, bridges, and residential houses.

Theatre of India:

Theatre of India is one of the most ancient forms of theatre and it features a detailed textual, sculptural, and dramatic effects which emerged in mid <u>first millennium BC</u>. Like in the areas of <u>music</u> and <u>dance</u>, the Indian theatre is also defined by the dramatic <u>performance</u> based on the concept of *<u>Nritya</u>*, which is a <u>Sanskrit</u> word for drama but encompasses dramatic narrative, virtuosic dance, and music.

Indian puppet theatre:
<u>Yakshagana</u> is a popular semi-classical theatre art from coastal Karnataka. It uses rich costumes, music, dance, and dialogue. Puppet shows in parts of Karnataka uses all these elements of <u>yakshagana</u> to depict stories from
the *<u>Ramayana</u>* and *<u>Mahabharata</u>*.

Mobile theatre:
Mobile theatres are a kind of popular theatre form that exist mainly in <u>**Assam**</u>. For staging their plays, theatre groups travel different places with their casts, singers, musicians, dancers and entire crew. Even the tent and chairs for the audience are carried with them. Mobile theatre was first staged on 2 October 1963.

Historically, Indian theatre has exerted influence beyond its borders, reaching ancient China and other countries in the Far East.

With the **Islamic conquests** that began in the 10th and 11th centuries, theatre was discouraged or forbidden entirely. Later, in an attempt to re-assert indigenous values and ideas, village theatre was encouraged across the subcontinent, developing in a large number of regional languages from the 15th to the 19th centuries. Modern Indian theatre developed during the **period of colonial rule** under the **British Empire**, from the mid-19th century until the mid-20th. From the last half of the 19th century, theatres in India experienced a boost in numbers and practice. After **Indian independence** in 1947,

theatres spread throughout India as one of the means of entertainment. As a diverse, multi-cultural nation, the theatre of India cannot be reduced to a single, homogenous trend.
In contemporary India, the major competition with its theatre is that represented by growing television industries and the spread of films produced in the Indian film industry based in Mumbai (formerly Bombay), known as "Bollywood". Lack of finance is another major obstacle.

Cinema of India:

Cinema of India consists of films produced in India. where more than 1,600 to 1,800 films are produced annually. Major centres of film production in the country include Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kochi, Kolkata, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar–Cuttack, and Guwahati.[details 1] For a number of years the Indian film industry has ranked first in the world in terms of annual film output.[28] In terms of box office it ranked third in 2019.

The history of cinema in India extends back to the beginning of the film era. The first Indian film released in India was *Shree Pundalik*, a silent film in Marathi by Dadasaheb Torne on 18 May 1912 at Coronation Cinematograph, Bombay. **Bhakta Prahlada** (transl. *Prahlada, the Devotee*) is a 1932 Indian Telugu-languageThe period from the late 1940s to the early 1960s is regarded by film historians as the Golden Age of Indian cinema. Satyajit Ray is recognised as one of the greatest filmmakers of the 20th century. K. Viswanath's *Sankarabharanam* (1980) won the "Prize of the Public" at the "Besançon Film Festival of France" in the year 1981. S. S. Rajamouli's epic duology *Baahubali*, and alternate history film *RRR* are the only Indian films to receive the American Saturn Award nominations in various categories.