History of Architecture and Culture – I

Lecture 7

Welcome to UGC lecture series architecture, in this particular lecture I will be taking through History of Architecture and Culture I AR6101, this lecture covers the third and the final part of the classical period Greece chapter which is Unit IV. In the part 1 and 2 you would have seen how classical architecture of Greece evolved, what are the various socio cultural religious and political factors than an even influence the growth of Greece classical architecture of what which we called classical today. How various orders of architecture evolved like Doric and Ionic and then we saw the examples of the Doric and Ionic columns we saw the Parthenons and in this particular lecture I will be covering

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The Corinthian Order

Moving on the first and foremost thing that will learning today is Corinthian order which is the most toughest and decorated Classic order of all time

The Corinthian Order is the third and the final Greek order among the classic order, mainly this particular order was utilize more by romans than the Greece, even though the origin was Greek in nature, the Greek usually use Doric and Ironic column and by the time the Corinthian this slowly roman started adopting the Greek column techniques and this particular column was much use and romans and Greek as even in St. Peter's Basilica this particular column has been used, the most important feature of the Basilica

So moving on first of all to understand the Corinthian order is very important to understand entablature of this particular column. This is the Corinthian order and this is the base, the base stands in the stylobate or the plinth of this particular column, above that is the shaft, shaft is nothing but along gated of the cylindrical part of this particular column is called shaft above that is the capital. The capital of this particular column is made of acanthus leaves which is the most predominant part of the particular column that is what makes the column different from other columns. These are the acanthus leaves which is used for decorating this particular column is one is acanthus leaves and then there is caulicolus and then there is button and there is bud, these are the main part of the particular order, in the Doric order you would have seen it was made of just a plane top and later you would have seen in the Ionic order and how the volute was introduced

in that was used in order to nake in ionic order different from the Doric order and this particular order again evolved into something which has volute being used as well as in that acanthus leaves were used and then they introduced acanthus leaves, the caulicolus, the button and the bud and this is how it vary from the Doric order and how it evolve from the Doric order and Ionic order became to what is an Corinthian order. So above the capital is architrave and then the frieze and then the cornice which is entablatures of particular column. So it's the third and the final architectural order as I said before the Corinthian order and it's from the ancient city of Corinth and that's why it's called the Corinthian order and it's most elaborate and engraved system of architecture, distinguished by the stylized acanthus leaves and stalks found in the Corinthian capitals

These columns appeared much later and were more popular in subsequent periods than its own, as I said before it came into existence but it was later used by the roman more because subsequent period shown the maximum use of this particular column than it was actually made in the Corinth,

So overall the disciplined and ordered approach of the architecture was clearly effective in the making of this particular order

The column, the base ad shaft of which resemble those of the Ionic, is generally about ten times the diameter in height, including the capital, and is placed on a stylobate in the same manner as the other orders as I said stylobate is the plinth on that the column is placed like both the other orders like Doric and Ionic, so the particular column the base and the shaft so much of the Ionic column that the capital changed lot I can say

The distinctive capital is much deeper than the Ionic, being about one to one and one sixth diameters in height

So the origin of the capital is still unknown may have been derive from the Ionic column as I said because archaeologies believe that volute was very much established in this evident in this particular column so it might have been derive directly from their Ionic Column so that's what they believe

Else, it may have been borrowed from the bell-shaped capitals of the Egyptians, with the addition of the Assyrian spiral

So other than that there is very similar shaped capitals of the Egyptians there is even a theory that might have been directly evolved from the Egyptian column of the bell shaped capital rather than the Ionic column. So these two are the possibilities on how it would have been derived so else the origin of the capital is still actually unknown it may have been derived from the Ionic also

It consists normally of a deep bell on which were carved two tiers of eight acanthus leaves and between those of the upper row eight caulicoli caulis a stalk which I showed before, it is

surmounted by a curled leaf or calyx, from which spring the volutes like this you can see volutes like become of specific features which is like existing on the top of the order like Ionic capital. To also become the part of the columns it looks as it springs out from the leaves and standing it's part of the leaves you have to look very clearly very very intensickly find out it is volute and part of the arrow relief

The entablature which is usually one-fifth of the height of the entire order, bears a general resemblance to the ionic, having the usual triple division of architrave, frieze and cornice, the mouldings of the latter having additional enrichments as I said before it also split into architrave, frieze and cornice that f from the part of the entablature just like the Ionic and that's why they believe that this might be derive from the Ionic columns. So you can imagine the intrackisy of the architectural feature of that particular era, they actually thought about creating something which has volute but still make it look like a feature of that particular leaves or abacus leaves been using this particular column that's how developed architecture was the Greek classic period

The abacus is moulded and curved on plan on each face the mouldings at the angles either being brought to a point, so the first and foremost example, the major example of the particular feature or particular order in Greece was the Olympieion in Athens

THE OLYMPIEON IN ATHENS

- The Olympieion is also called the temple of Jupiter in Olympius, so you can see this is the whatever is the part existing in the particular site right now, there is all gone, this is the particular capital Jupiter is talking about, this is all that is existing in the site right now
- It stands on the site of an earlier Doric temple commenced by Pisistratus in B.C 530
- It was commenced by Antiochus Epiphanes of Syria in B.C 174, Cossutius/ a Roman architect being employed hence it is often designated Roman architecture, so even though this was an Greece as I said this particular architecture was Roman in nature so this is also consider very similar to be roman architecture than Greek architecture in this nature
- Colossal ruined temple in the center of the Greek capital Athens that was dedicated to Zeus, king of the Olympian gods, this is particular temple is dedicated to Zeus and the Zeus was the king of the Olympian gods and that's why the temple was dedicated to him
- The building was completed by Hadrian in A.D 117 but only fifteen columns of the original one hundred and four forming the peristyle are standing. So you can actually count it to 15 columns but in fact this particular temple had 104 columns which is built
- It was dipteral-octastyle on plan exactly like other temples of the Greek architecture having twenty columns on the flanks occupied by area of 354 feet/ 154 feet which equades the Hypostyle Hall of Karnac
- So this is the particular plan of the temple and you can see the number of columns around only these many are standing right now to think about many columns were missing from

previous thing was like very monumental sculpture it would have been you can see these are the different views of the particular columns and temple from various angles

- It was place on the centre of a magnificent peribolus or enclosure measuring 680 feet by 424 feet part of the retaining wall of which still remains at the south east end of the corner
- It is described by Vitruvius as hypaethral but it was unfinished in his time that when Vitruvius called the hypaethral like this the particular temple had now been finished. The peristyle columns were 6 feet 4 inches in diameter and had a height of 56 feet a proportion of about one to nine. The capitals are very fine speciments of the Corinthian order and appear to date from both periods mentioned above you can see still some part of the capital is still existing even though many part is still rusted of as in it went of most of the part of the capital is existing this shows forms particularly important example of Corinthian capital

The Greek Architecture or The Greek Theatres

The Greek theatres why have the important, the Greek theatres are important because the found the bases of modern theatre you know designed, the Greek and Roman theatres were the major example which formed the base of the modern theatre design

- The Greek theater history began with the festivals honoring their gods. So they also like write today also they had their own festivals which honors the multiple gods for that they use this theater and that's where the idea of constructing the theater or the public place were public come together and celebrate started. A god, Dionysus was honored with a festival called by "City Dionysia". In Athens during this festival, neb used to perform songs to welcome Dionysus. Plays were only presented at city Dionysia festival. So this particular festivals are the creation of theaters forbidden men use to perform to invite the god amongst us and invite the god to be with them and you know it for prosperity later
- The Greek theatre was generally hollowed out of the slope of a hill near the city, and was unroofed the performances taking place usually in the day time, so you can see this is the basic look of the Greek theatres and as I said it is unroofed it doesn't have a roof, the performances never use to take place in the evening and it usually took place in the morning and it was actually curved out of particularly existing hill rather than creating new
- In plan it was usually rather more than a semicircle, being about two-thirds of a complete circle. The auditorium consisted of tiers of marble seats, rising one above the other, often cut out of the solid rock. So this is the plan of the particular theatre which I am taking about you can see this is more than the semicircle and cut out of anasisty hill, so this is the stage and this is the back stage you have a colonnaded area we separates major interior part from the exterior part. So the Greek theatre was constructed more for coral

for than dramatic performances and circular “orchestra” or dancing place corresponding to the stalls and pit of a modern theatre in which the chorus chanted and danced this is the circular space which I am taking about.

- The spectators who sat in the extremities of the two wings the face towards the orchestra but away from the stage
- The stage was known as the logeion or speaking place and its back wall being the skene booth or tent for changing in the latter name being preserved in the modern word scene, so as it said the speaking place is circular in shape and behind that area was used as what we called changing room or the back room right now
- The theatre of Dionysos, Athens was monumented example of Greek theatres, it was completed in B.C. 340 in which thirty thousand spectators could be accommodated is the prototype of all Greek theatres of all time because that’s form the landmark of the Greek theatre architecture and was one in which the place of great Athenian dramatics was produced
- After the theatre, Epidauros, was constructed by the architect Polycleitos which is also a very very very important part of the Greek architecture and is the most beautiful as well as preferred example right now and the circle of orchestra is complete is about 66 feet across and the entire theatre was 378 feet in diameter

Palaces and Domestic Buildings

Why are we learning of this architecture right now? Because the domestic building architecture is very very very different in Greece and its lot of lot feature which is similar to the palaces itself in constructions

- The excavations of the palace of King Minos, Knossos, show the remains of a remarkable structure laid out on a plan afterwards used in the Roman palaces and camps
- So the building is believed to date from about B.C 2000 and was like so long back and was unfortified. So underneath the upper palace were found the remains of an earlier one, which is believed to date from about B.C 3000
- So B.C 3000 there was a structure there about after demolishing structure and after the structure went off done what happened about that is particular palace of king of Minos was made in B.C 2000
- The apartments, around a central oblong courtyard about 180 feet by 90 feet are constructed in several stories which are reached by staircases.
- Some remarkable wall frescoes and colored plaster ceilings an olive press with huge oil jars and the remains of a system of drainage with terra-cotta drain pipes were discovered you can see this is how the particular palace would have looked like had it been present today
- This is all that available right now you can see beautiful paintings and beautiful colors were using this particular palace like no other Greek architecture was

- At Mycenae, flights of steps lead to an outer courtyard from which by travelling on a public portico and vestibule the megaron or principal men's apartment is reached. So there is the particular apartment called the principle men's apartment and there was something called women's apartment.
- For this Megaron surrounded by the roof and opened to sky in the centre were reached to other chambers whose uses are not identified
- They were many rooms were like in the modern day house in the Greek architecture and then this rooms in the particular palace we couldn't find out what exactly those rooms were for
- The women's chambers are considered by some authorities to be planned so as to afford the greatest seclusion from the normal rooms or the men's room and some some other people believe that almost no seclusion at all like out in the open, so they were like two contradicting believes about the women architecture for women in Greece
- The plans of the domestic buildings appear to have resembled on a smaller scale the general arrangement of the palaces as is seen in the remains at Athens, Delos and priene dating from the Hellenic period.
- So you can see the next thing which will be learning about what is the domestic architecture of the houses which is very similar to the palaces of the architecture than houses, so you can see this is the major plan of the Greek architecture houses and this is the court and around the rooms were made like you can see stairs, entrance, kitchen, bedroom anything
- There was no atrium but a peristylium with a portico on three sides and chambers grouped around. It is generally held that the Graeco Roman houses of Pompeii may be taken as typical examples

Moving on to the major architectural feature of Greek is the Agora

AGORA

Agora is nothing but public places, public building it's an open meeting places for the transaction of public business were large open spaces surrounded by stage or open colonnades giving access to the public buildings such as temples basilicas stadion racecourse and the palaestrae or gymnasia. So this is the example of colonnades and how it started and how it differentiate one area to other become like a major part of the architecture moving on to the public building

COLONNADES

Colonnades were formed for the protection of pilgrims from the various shrines, as connections between public monuments or as shelters adjoining open spaces, and were an important class of structure. The most important of these were the stoa Poecile or Echo Colonnade about 300 feet by 30 feet at Olympia

Moving on to the next major architectural feature of the Roman architecture was the Stadion or the horse racing area

THE STADION

It was the foot racecourse found in the cities and the games were conducted there and celebrated there eventually to be used for other athletic performances area later as slowly evolved to be an Athletic area. It was usually straight at one end, the starting place and semicircular at the other you can see just went andstraight suddenly becomes semicircle towards the end it was always 800 Greek feet in length although the foot varied, and was sometimes planned with the semicircular end on the side of the story. So you can see this particular area had what to say there were so many seats this is again what cut out from the existing landscape area like the theatre was long before you can see here and there, this steps were not actually made at later it was actually cut out from the existing slopes so they find out the areas from the end of from this part of mountanteous part of the Greece and their they kind of step out and they create areas like theatres, the stadion were the whose races conducted, so what happens as particular area becomes lie really cenic in nature many parts which is still existing is may be used even now use as Athleticoases the area in Olympia. So Thebes and Epidauros or else and Olympia where the use of this were the example of this particular stadion

Moving on to the last and the major feature of the Greek architecture is

THE PALAESTRAE OR GYMNASIA

Gymnasia was very much seen in Olympia and Ephesus were the prototypes of the Roman thermae was there, so it comprise of an exercise courts, tanks for bathers exedrae or recesses for lectures you can see Rome and Greek architecture many public areas, public architecture was predominant you know you can see in the next chapter how roman public were made then the Greece and Rome why the public even created the public bats were people could come and take back together and that's how the beautiful public architecture of Greece was where you know every small small small parts about since life let it be games let it be bathing let it be theatres let it be temples let it be playing let be anything they had public places dedicated to each of this minor minor things which happens in person's life. So you would have saw in public building saw the agora we saw the colonnades we saw the stadion and we saw the Gymnasia these are the four major public area of the Greek architecture