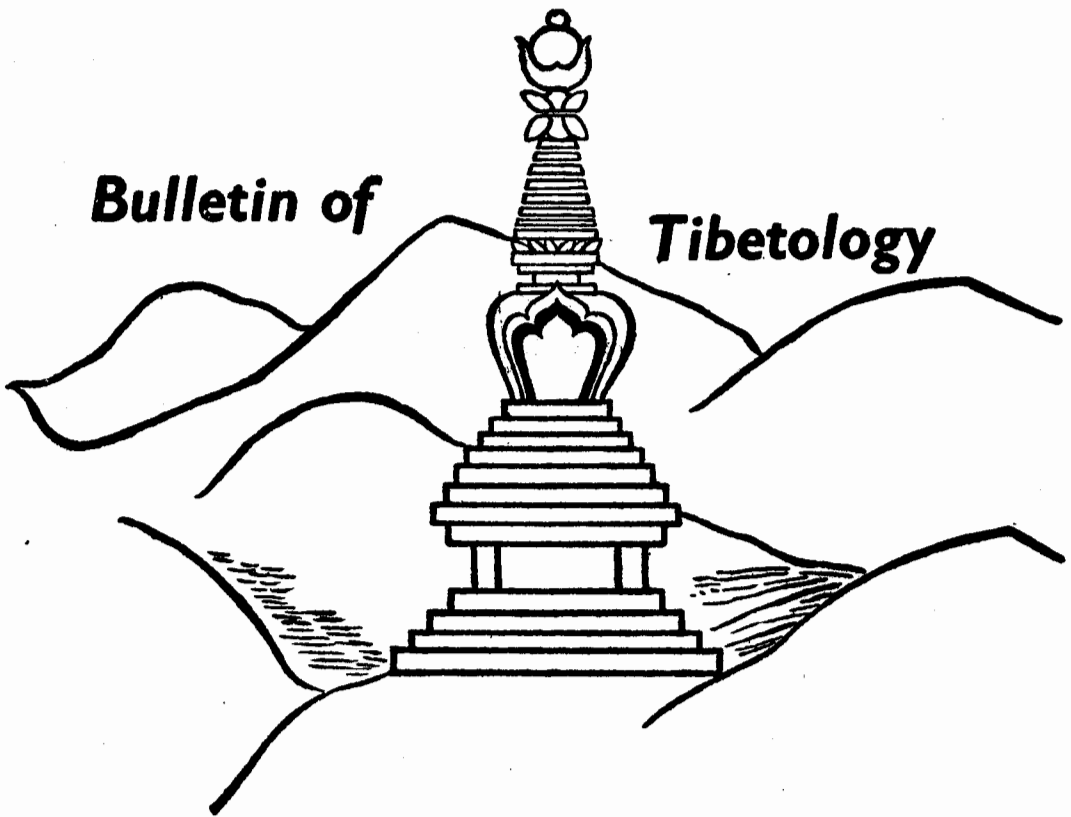


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SIR TASHI NAMGYAL
Commemoration Lectures

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SIR TASHI NAMGYAL
MEMORIAL LECTURES

1973

BUDDHIST ART OF AJANTA AND TABO

By

M. N. DESHPANDE

Director General

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

New Delhi

PREFACE

When I received an invitation from the Director, Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, to deliver Sir Tashi Memorial Lectures at Gangtok (Sikkim), I decided to talk about the paintings in the Tabo monastery situated in the Himalayan region of Himachal Pradesh. To give it a broader perspective, I thought I should also describe the art of Ajanta which led to the development of the art of painting in different parts within and outside the country. The lectures were delivered on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of November, 1973. I hope the lectures will be found useful by scholars and lay-men for the proper understanding of Buddhist art.

Mr. Denjong Chogyal Palden Thondup Namgyal, Chogyal of Sikkim, was gracious enough to be present at all the three lectures. He also extended all facilities during my stay at Gangtok and I had the pleasure of discussing with him some of the problems of Buddhist art. I am indebted to him for arranging the lectures and to the Director of the Namgyal Institute for their prompt publication.

The photographs and drawings accompanying the text have been supplied by the Archaeological Survey of India. I am grateful to my colleagues in the Photo and Drawing Sections for preparing them with great care and to Shri B.M. Pande for his help in making the text press-ready.

M. N. DESHPANDE

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