

Glossary

Antahpur – zenana

Ashrama –hermitage

Angika abhinaya – gestural enactment in drama

Bande Mataram - salute to the motherland

Book of Chitrugupta –The book in which Chitra gupta ,the assistant of Yama keeps the account of everybody's sins

Brahmosamaj-an organization found by Raja Ram Mohan Roy in 1828

Chandi –The religious text on the Goddess Chandi

Grihasutra – rules of Vedic domestic ceremonies

Gunas –The three Gunas mentioned in the Samkhya Philosophy

Guru – teacher

Jorasanko Thakur bari-the residence of the Tagores

Kalighat – a place in Kolkata

Nautch girls – dancing girls; coined during the colonial period

Potolchera –slit like the pointed gourd

Panchali – a class of Bengali poems celebrating the glory of a deity and often set to music

Rasabodh –the sense of aesthetic pleasure

Rupavidya –the knowledge of forms

Rupadaksha –one who envisions forms

Sakta – pertaining to Sakta cult

Shilpa shastras –texts on the art practice

Shakti – power

Sadrishyabodh –imilitude

Tapovan – forest for meditation

Vaishnavis – a woman belonging to the Vaishnava sect and is well versed

Vahanas – vehicles

Ashwath – an Indian fig tree considered to be sacred

Champalata – a creeper having the form of Champaka flower

Kutirshilpa – handicrafts

Kantha – embroidered quilt from Bengal

Kala lata – creeper having the form of banana

Kalmi lata –creeper having the form of Kalmi

Kairi –a mango shaped motif

Kincobs – kinkhab, textile

Kaloyati –classical

Mayamatya – a shilpa text

Striachar –rituals of the women

Shankho lata – creeper resembling the shape of the conches

Bibis – a south Asian title for women,in this context the prostitutes of Kalighat

Bouthan – sister -in - law

Chakri – job

Santhal – a tribe found in West Bengal

Zamindar – feudal lord

Alpona – floor painting

Pidis – small wooden stool

Khoai – the earthen mounds