Exemplar for internal assessment resource Classical Studies for Achievement Standard 91397 Assessment Resource A

A purpose of propaganda was shown in the architecture of Rome. In Ara Pacis Augustae, the Rome's Divine origin reliefs of Aeneas and The Lupercal

Student 5: Low Achieved

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confirmed the connection between Augustus, Aeneas and Romulus. Not only was Augustus descended from both of them, he was a great leader who had great achievements such as founding a new age of peace and prosperity, just like Aeneas was the founder of the Roman people and Romulus was the founder of Rome. This put Augustus at a height similar to his ancestors and people might be more willing to support him and respect him. This is also shown in Maison Carree by the acanthus scrolls which are highly symbolic of the benefits -fertility and prosperity brought to the provinces by Augustus. This again emphasizes Augustus' achievements and showed a propaganda purpose.

Idea of religious belief was clearly shown. The name 'Pantheon' interpreted as meaning to many of (or all) Gods, or to the seven planetary Gods. There were also statues representing each of the planetary Gods, adorned with coloured marble and gilding. This shows that the Emperors and people believed in the Gods and saw them really respectfully. On the screen wall of Ara Pacis Augustae, there is a relief of a swan and it was sacred to God Apollo who was one of Augustus' patron deities. This shows that Augustus believed that 'Apollo helped him win victory in the Battle of Actium in 31 BC' (Ramage and Ramage, 1991, page 104). Also, the reliefs of Mother Earth Tellus, the God of War Mars with Romulus and Remus and Aeneas who brought his household gods from Troy all showed that the gods represented people's hope and expectation, and they believed the gods would help them. The Temple of Bacchus had a relief of the god's birth and life which suggested whom the temple was dedicated to. Bacchus is the god of wine equivalent of the Greek Dionysus. The spectacular interior of the cella showed people's belief and respect of the god.

Different cultural influences and styles were shown in the Roman architecture. The temple of Bacchus had two non-Roman influences – Semitic and Greek. The Semitic influence was shown by the towers, use of local stone, inner shrine inside the cella and a much greater scale; the Greek influence was shown by the decoration from the life of Bacchus, the fluted columns, Corinthian capitals and the Freestanding peripheral colonnade. The Maison Carree showed features of both Greek temple and Etruscan temple. The Greek influence was shown in the use of the stone, acanthus leaf design, forms of columns and the mouldings. The Etruscan influence was shown by a high pordium, a cella fronted by a deep porch and the strongly frontal orientation. And in the Ara Pacis Augustae, the same acanthus leaf decoration was used to separate the upper and lower sessions which shows that it was also influenced by Greek styles. These different influences showed that the emperors and the people were willing to accept different cultures and styles of art and architecture, therefore the idea of being open-minded and accept and respect the difference in culture was expressed.