



Tripurāntaka

The painting on the north wall of bay 11 portrays a picture of Tripura-samhāra-mūrti. The main central figure is Tripurāntaka Śiva with eight arms wielding various weapons and standing in aṅghra pose. The hand holding a bow and the corresponding one pulling out an arrow from the quiver is a magnificent delineation of a vigorous combat. Śiva stands on a chariot with Brhamā at the charioteer's seat and is accompanied by Kālī, Kuli, Subrahmaṇya, and Gaṇeṣa and their respective mounts. Behind them, represented by the chaos and commotion, is the defeated army of the Tripurāsuras.

The top-centre portion of the panel represents Gautama-the Buddha, seated on a simhāsana; beside Him are seated the Tripurāsuras. According to a legend, Viṣṇu assumed the form of Buddha and taught the Tripurāsuras a tradition. This lured the Aśuras to swerve from their path; the reason why Śiva punished the Tripurāsuras.

