

PLATE XIII

PAINTINGS FROM BEZEKLIK

Bez. i. H, I

THESE three rows of seated *devatās* come from the projection at the end wall of the shrine. They look towards the right, where doubtless a figure of the teaching Buddha occupied the centre of the wall. They are in the usual pose of devout attention, with hands folded. The general colour scheme resembles that of the groups in plate XII.

The figure in the top row has black hair and a red halo bordered with grey and yellow. Skirt and *upavīta* (over the left shoulder) are red, and the stole green. In the second row, the figure on the right has black hair and red halo with green border. The *upavīta* is green. The next has red-brown wig-like hair, plaited, and studded with gold ornaments. The halo is green with red and yellow borders. *Upavīta* and skirt are red. On the arms are dark red bands supporting golden cloud-scroll palmettes. The next has black hair and red halo bordered with grey and yellow. The *upavīta* is green; the stole dull pink and the skirt red. The left-hand figure in the lowest row has the same colouring as the last, but with a thin white line between the red and grey of the halo. The centre figure has red-brown hair and seems privileged to wear elaborate ear ornaments consisting of gold rosettes covering the end of the ear-lobe, two red beads below the rosette, and a large green one below these. The tiara, with white taenia, has a gold palmette in the centre with two beads below and, at the side, a red rosette with cabochon centre. The *upavīta* is red. The last figure is coloured like the one immediately above.

Bez. i. J, K

These three *devatās*, seated against a rich crimson-brown background, are from the same wall as L, in plate XII, and are similar in their ornaments and drapery to those of Bez. i. M, N in that plate. Of the first to the left, only part of the left side remains. This *devatā* seems to turn towards the others, signalling, by the position of the thumb against the first joint of the forefinger of the upraised left hand, information of the progress of the discourse delivered by the Buddha who would have been further to the left, in the centre of the wall of the recess. The second figure receives and copies the signal with the right hand while the left hand, resting on the knee, appears to anticipate, by registering a point on the third joint of the finger. The