

Decorative Patterns in Ancient Egyptian Art as a Source of Inspiration in Design, An Experimental Analytical Study

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Abstract:

The Egyptian artist has known the arts of decoration for thousands of years and excelled in designing units and arrays that were not used for the purpose of decoration only, but rather carried symbolic connotations inspired by the artist's sensory translation of nature or the embodiment of life's requirements. The ancient Egyptian artist was able, through his use of the artistic alphabet of line, color, space and shapes, to formulate multiple decorative systems that carry abstract values with geometric controls derived from realism based on insight (as the mind perceives it, not as the eye sees it). This is what is revealed by the drawings and mural engravings that the ancient Egyptians left on the walls of their temples and tombs, as the drawings and shapes do not represent itself, but rather point to deeper and broader connotations. Ancient Egyptian art has always been an important source of artistic vision throughout the ages and a source of inspiration for artists and designers in various fields. Therefore, the study aimed to invest in the data of the decorative system in ancient Egyptian art as an inspiring source in design. It also aimed to emphasize opening horizons for students to learn about the mechanism of dealing with the source of inspiration and to engage in the aesthetic experience and practice it to obtain innovative ideas. The study adopted the analytical experimental method, and the researcher applied a practical experiment that relied on investing the data of the decorative system in ancient Egyptian art as a source of inspiration for ideas in design. The practical experiment included three stages: analyzing a selection of decorative systems in ancient Egyptian art, to reveal their philosophical nature, design characteristics, symbolism of the formative vocabulary and their color connotations, then investing what was reached to obtain ideas and solutions in design that carry within them the features of the original inspiring decorative style in a new innovative formulation, by applying design processes that rely on reformulating the formal vocabulary in the decorative system using Adobe Illustrator, then designing a questionnaire to determine the extent of the success of the outputs of the practical experiment in achieving the desired goal. The research results show that the decorative patterns in ancient Egyptian art are an extremely rich source of inspiration in design, capable of activating cultural integration and intellectual communication in contemporary designs. It also concluded the importance of training art and design students to engage in the aesthetic experience and practice it to obtain innovative ideas and to form their own design visions and ideas. In conclusion, the researcher recommended conducting more studies on the design dimensions in ancient Egyptian art represented in the decorative pattern as one of the sources of vision and inspiration in design, especially in light of our contemporary world that is teeming with influences that impose different models of thinking, while emphasizing the conduct of more studies that specialize in the mechanism of dealing with sources of inspiration and investing their data with conscious steps of the nature of the formal vocabulary in them and their symbolic connotations.

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