



TYPES OF ARTISTIC ELEMENTS IN BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

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ABSTRACT

This article provides a scientific analysis of the types of artistic elements used in buildings and structures. Artistic elements not only enrich architecture aesthetically but also play a significant role in enhancing the cultural, historical, and philosophical meaning of buildings. The article discusses key artistic elements such as ornaments, frescoes, sculpture, mosaics, stained glass, materials, and color, highlighting their place and significance in architecture. Special attention is also given to the development of artistic elements through modern technologies.

KEY WORDS

Building, structure, artistic elements, ornament, fresco, sculpture, mosaic, stained glass, architecture, color, material.

INTRODUCTION

Architecture is an essential part of human culture. It not only provides conditions for living and working, but also expresses art and aesthetics. The uniqueness of buildings and structures is manifested through the artistic elements used in them. These elements play a crucial role in decorating the exterior and interior of architectural works and in imparting cultural and historical significance. Today, with the help of modern technologies, artistic elements are further developing, expanding the aesthetic and functional possibilities of architecture. Therefore, conducting scientific research on the types, characteristics, and significance of artistic elements in buildings and structures is highly relevant.

The Concept and Importance of Artistic Elements

Artistic elements in architecture are shapes, patterns, colors, materials, and other decorative tools used to adorn the exterior and interior surfaces of buildings and to enhance their aesthetic appearance. These elements not only ensure the uniqueness of buildings but also convey cultural and historical information. Furthermore, artistic elements positively influence the psychological state of individuals, creating a comfortable and attractive environment. They are closely intertwined with architecture and play a significant role in forming the overall artistic image of a structure, enhancing its functional and emotional impact.

Architecture is not merely a constructive technical discipline but also a means of artistic expression. Every building or structure creates a certain aesthetic impression on people. The strength and direction of this impression largely depend on the artistic elements applied. For example, arabesque patterns in

Islamic architecture, Gothic sculptures in Western architecture, or LED lighting elements on modern facades—all exemplify traditional and contemporary artistic elements. These do not merely beautify the appearance but also serve a communicative function in social and cultural contexts, expressing historical periods, national traditions, religious beliefs, or philosophical views. Thus, artistic elements in architecture serve as vital tools for preserving spiritual heritage and ensuring cultural continuity across generations.

Types of artistic in buildings and structures

Ornaments and patterns

Ornaments are decorations located on walls, ceilings, doors, and window frames of buildings. They can be geometric, floral, animalistic, or abstract in form and often reflect the architectural style of the building, enriching its appearance. In Uzbek architectural art, ornaments hold a special place. Particularly, buildings from the Timurid era—such as madrasas, mosques, mausoleums, and minarets—feature highly complex and colorful patterns. For instance, the tile, brick, and marble ornaments on the walls of the Shohi Zinda complex and the Registan ensemble in Samarkand reflect their cultural and religious significance.

Typical ornament types include:

- **Geometric patterns:** straight lines, circles, polygons, and their symmetrical combinations.
- **Floral motifs:** stylized representations of flowers, leaves, and branches.
- **Calligraphic ornaments:** decorative inscriptions of religious or philosophical texts in Arabic script.



“The Shohi Zinda Mausoleum”



“The Registan Ensemble”

These are not only aesthetic enhancements but also convey conceptual messages such as eternity, perfection, and harmony. Architects use them to represent both beauty and symbolism.

Frescoes and wall paintings

Frescoes are artworks painted or drawn directly on wall or ceiling surfaces. These elements often depict religious or historical themes and enrich the interior space of buildings, enhancing their spiritual and cultural essence.



“Alexander the Great from the House of the Fauns”

Sculpture and reliefs

Sculptural elements include small statues, carvings, and reliefs placed inside or outside buildings. They enhance the decorative function of a building and often reflect historical or cultural themes.

Historical context

In ancient Egyptian, Greek, Roman, and Central Asian architecture, sculptures and reliefs were widely used, becoming integral parts of temples, palaces, and mausoleums. For example:

- The friezes of the Parthenon in Athens depict Greek mythology.
- Roman triumphal arches feature war scenes in reliefs.
- The decorative reliefs on the Samanid Mausoleum in Bukhara are prime examples of Islamic architecture.

In modern architecture

Sculptural elements are also used in modern public buildings, museums, universities, and monuments. Statues are usually placed at the main entrance or central interiors, symbolizing the building's function, or commemorating a person or event. For example:

- The Amir Temur statue in Tashkent – a central symbolic landmark.
- Reliefs at the Ulug'bekh Observatory Museum in Samarkand – representing the history of science.

Material and Texture

The uniqueness of materials in architecture also constitutes an artistic element. Appropriately chosen materials and their textures add charm and identity to buildings. Common materials include wood, stone, brick, metal, and glass, each associated with different architectural styles.

Wood

- Symbol of naturalness, warmth, and eco-friendliness.
- Widely used in traditional housing, especially in carvings.

Stone (marble, granite, limestone)

- Extensively used in historical monuments.
- Represents grandeur, durability, and timelessness.

- Example: Mausoleums in Islamic architecture (e.g., Shohi Zinda).

Brick and Tiles

- Integral part of Central Asian architecture.
- Colorful patterns and inscriptions are expressed through tilework.
- Example: Facade decorations in the Registan ensemble.

Metal (copper, bronze, stainless steel)

- Frequently used in modern architecture.
- Smooth and shiny surfaces convey a sense of modernity and technological progress.

Glass (panels, stained glass)

- Distinguished by light permeability.
- Connects interior spaces with the external environment.
- Harmoniously integrated with artistic elements.

Literature review

Studies on artistic elements in architecture reveal the close connection between architecture and art. The main sources reviewed approach the topic from various angles, highlighting the conceptual and formal aspects of artistic elements.

- **Karimov A. (2018)** in his book *"Uzbek National Architecture and Art"* deeply analyzes the spiritual-philosophical foundations and compositional harmony of ornamentation in Timurid architecture.
- **Islomov B. (2020)** discusses the theoretical and practical link between architecture and art, especially how modern technology transforms artistic elements.
- **Sobirov D. (2017)** in *"Art and Architecture: History and Modernity"* provides a comprehensive overview of the evolution of art forms such as stained glass, mosaics, and sculpture.
- **Jalilov M. (2019)** focuses on the semantic and stylistic functions of ornaments in architectural decoration.

Foreign sources, such as **Smith J. (2015)** and **World Architecture News (2022)**, address modern design trends, materials, and technologies. Smith's work on interior decorative design informs the "Material and Texture" section. Online sources contribute to keeping the discussion current and practically relevant.

In general, this literature provides a comprehensive approach by addressing historical, aesthetic, functional, and technological dimensions. The analysis confirms that artistic elements in architecture fulfill not only aesthetic but also cultural, social, and communicative functions.

Research Methodology

The main goal of this study is to systematically investigate the types of artistic elements used in buildings and structures and determine their functional and aesthetic importance in architectural art. The research is based on the following methodological approaches:

1. Historical-Analytical Approach

The historical formation, developmental stages, and cultural significance of artistic elements were analyzed. Examples include architectural monuments such as the Registan ensemble, Shohi Zinda complex, and Samanid Mausoleum.

2. Descriptive Method

Each artistic element—ornament, fresco, sculpture, stained glass, mosaic, color, material, etc.—was described in detail with scientific explanations of their form, application, and aesthetic function.

3. Comparative Method

Similarities and differences in artistic elements across cultures (East and West), periods (medieval and modern), and architectural schools were compared. For example, Islamic calligraphic decorations were compared with Gothic sculptural elements.

4. Visual Analysis (Objective Observation)

Photographs, drawings, and diagrams of selected architectural monuments and modern buildings were visually examined. Aspects such as location, scale, symmetry, color harmony, and material selection were analyzed in detail.

5. Qualitative Content Analysis

Scientific articles, monographs, catalogs, and architectural publications were reviewed to analyze existing ideas and approaches. This enabled a deeper understanding of artistic elements and their role in contemporary architecture.

6. Analysis of Local and Foreign Sources

Materials published by Uzbek scholars (Karimov, Islomov, Sobirov) and international sources (Smith, World Architecture News) were utilized to ensure a comprehensive and scholarly approach to the topic.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

The conducted research has demonstrated that artistic elements in architecture function not only as material decorations but also as tools that convey deep aesthetic and symbolic meanings. The following key findings were identified during the analysis:

The intrinsic connection between art and architecture

The study shows that ornaments, frescoes, sculptures, stained glass, and material selection play a crucial role in shaping the artistic image of a building. Through these elements, a structure not only presents an aesthetic appearance but also conveys historical and cultural information. Art forms the visual language of architecture and influences the viewer's aesthetic perception.

Regional and historical distinctions

It was found that artistic elements vary depending on geographical and historical context. For example, Uzbek architecture is characterized by geometric and floral ornamentation, while Western architecture

often expresses identity through stained glass and sculptural elements. These variations also reflect the aesthetic views of each historical period.

Material and texture as enhancers of aesthetic impact

Materials such as wood, stone, brick, tile, metal, and glass significantly influence the effectiveness of artistic expression. For instance, the intricate tilework of the Registan Ensemble, the marble carvings of Shah-i-Zinda, or the glass facades of modern buildings—each allows the building to "speak" through art.

Functional and psychological significance

Art is not merely decorative but serves as a medium that creates a pleasant and emotionally resonant environment. For example, stained glass windows not only illuminate interior spaces but also enhance the viewer's emotional state. Additionally, symbolic and philosophical meanings expressed through patterns and decorations foster a spiritual connection between the user and the structure.

Art innovation through modern technology

Contemporary technologies, interactivity, and digital tools such as software and multimedia have elevated architectural art to a new level. These innovations not only give buildings a modern appearance but also transform them into communicative and expressive objects.

CONCLUSION

This study deeply analyzed the role of art elements in buildings and structures, as well as their significance in architectural aesthetics, functionality, and cultural expression. It was found that art elements not only serve decorative purposes but also express the historical, religious, and philosophical values of society. Ornaments, frescoes, sculptures, materials, and colors give each structure its unique character. Additionally, it was observed that in various regions, art elements act as national identifiers. With the help of modern technologies, these elements appear in new forms, expanding the interactive and functional possibilities of architecture.

Based on this research, it can be concluded that careful planning of art elements in buildings and structures, combined with modern innovations, is one of the key factors in architectural development. This, in turn, contributes to the advancement of urban culture. Overall, various forms of architectural art enrich the aesthetic appearance of buildings and transform them into modern and functional objects. Therefore, the rational use of art elements remains a relevant issue in the design of new constructions.

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