

DEVELOPMENT OF PICTORIAL ART AND MINIATURE ART IN CENTRAL ASIA AND THEIR ROLE IN SOCIAL LIFE

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Abstract. *The article says that the art of miniature, created under the influence of local cultural and spiritual beliefs and literature in Central Asia, was presented in a unique way in the field of world art.*

Keywords: *archaeology, afrosiyo, money, art lover, character, calligraphy, paperless art, decorative, Paleolithic pictorial art, mosaic, decoration, illuminator, table maker, graphics, painted manuscript, material heritage.*

The beginning of pictorial art in the history of world art is related to the Paleolithic era when various images were drawn on the walls of caves (Altamira cave, Spain) by ancient people. The method of drawing to depict animals and hunters in Central Asia was developed during the Mesolithic era. During the Neolithic era, various methods of drawing were developed and advanced to a higher level. In the territory of Central Asia, there were two types of rock drawings - some were made with ochre and others were made by scratching and drawing.

There are many rock drawings in Uzbekistan and they are very diverse. Through rock drawings, it is possible to learn about the hard work and heroic deeds of ancient people as well as their ways of using them. In addition, the drawings on the rocks also provide important information about the beliefs and religious practices of our ancestors. It should be emphasized that the most developed stage of ancient art corresponds to the Neolithic era. Many types of art related to the Joytun, Kaltaminor and Hissor civilizations have been discovered from ancient burial sites. For example, the ancient people of the Neolithic era drew various images of animals and humans with different colors of ochre on stones. Along with this, the painted female figurines are considered as the finest examples of Neolithic art.

Pictorial art is divided into various types such as calligraphy, painting, and graphics. Pictorial art involves depicting objects, characters, and scenes using various techniques, styles, and genres. The development and diversity of pictorial art reflect significant social, economic, and political events. In Central Asia, pictorial art, particularly miniature art and painting, played an essential role in the cultural and religious life of people. Miniature art is a unique form of pictorial art that involves the use of colors and graphics to create small-scale paintings.

The techniques and styles used in miniature art are distinct and differ from other forms of pictorial art. The use of three-dimensional perspective is a crucial aspect of miniature art that distinguishes it from other forms of pictorial art. However, the creation of miniature art requires special skills and knowledge, and the artists who create these works are considered to be highly skilled.

Miniature art has significant cultural and historical importance in Central Asia. It is often used to adorn ancient manuscripts and books, which are considered to be valuable cultural artifacts. The artworks in these manuscripts reflect the cultural and religious beliefs of people in Central Asia. In addition, these artworks also depict their ideas about beauty and aesthetics.

During the 9th to 12th centuries, miniature schools were established in cities such as Baghdad, Tabriz, Samarkand, Bukhara, Herat, and Shiraz. These schools were known for their unique artistic characteristics and styles. The Eastern miniature art is distinguished by its use of soft and vivid colors, delicate lines, and decorative techniques.

In conclusion, pictorial art played a significant role in the cultural and religious life of people in Central Asia. The development and diversity of pictorial art reflect significant social, economic, and political events in the region's history. Miniature art is a unique form of pictorial art that has significant cultural and historical importance in Central Asia.

The Uzbek people have a rich history that is evident in the archaeological findings throughout Uzbekistan. These findings include beautiful examples of pictorial art, such as miniatures, calligraphy, titles, borders, and other decorative elements. The decorative characteristics of these book illustrations reflect the cultural and religious beliefs of the time and the aesthetics of the people.

Fine miniature art has been used to decorate scientific, artistic, and historical works. The images within these manuscripts depict the ideas and stories of the time, using colors to express the characters and ideas. The Eastern style of miniature art is characterized by soft, vivid colors, delicate lines, and decorative techniques.

Some of the most famous artists in the history of miniature art include Muhammad Musa al-Khwarizmi, Abu Rayhan al-Biruni, poets such as Firdausi, Nizami Ganjavi, Amir Khusraw Dehlavi, Abdurrahman Jami, and Ali-Shir Nava'i, as well as famous historians like Fazlullah Rashiduddin and Sharafuddin Ali Yazdi. These artists created masterpieces that reflected their love for humanity and their own unique perspectives on the world.

One of the most beautiful examples of pictorial art found in Uzbekistan is the Zarautsay Gory painting. This painting depicts ancient artists' unique styles and techniques. The painting is named after a hill in the area where it was discovered. The top portion of the painting shows the sun shining brightly on a mountain peak, while the lower portion depicts a golden temple or palace. The use of gold and silver in this painting reflects the meaning behind the words used in ancient times.

Pictorial art is one of the oldest and most diverse forms of art, with genres such as fine art, graphic design, and illustration. The study of pictorial art is unique and requires its own set of techniques and methods. Pictorial art captures reality through shapes, lines, colors, and textures, making it a valuable tool for recording historical events and ideas.

In conclusion, pictorial art is a vital aspect of Uzbekistan's cultural heritage. Miniature art, calligraphy, and painting have played important roles in the cultural and religious lives of the Uzbek people. The development and diversity of pictorial art reflect significant social, economic, and political events in Uzbekistan's history. These artworks are not only beautiful but also valuable cultural artifacts that tell the story of the people and their beliefs.

The delicate bridges that connect us with our ancestors' history are evident in the valuable and rare artistic examples that reflect their cultural and religious beliefs. These artistic treasures not only serve as examples of art but also as perfect teaching tools for modern aesthetic and spiritual education. The first human beings depicted their hunting experiences through primitive drawings of animals, plants, and other objects.

Central Asia, Egypt, China, Japan, and India have a rich history of graphic design, which has been a challenging form of art. The Alexanderian school of graphic design was inspired by

Alexander the Great's troops' conquest of Central Asia before 329-327 BC. The blending of local and Greek art led to unique masterpieces such as wall paintings, frescoes, and other types of art.

The Great Silk Road played a significant role in the development of graphic design between different cultures. Trade relations between peoples led to the exchange of valuable artistic examples and cultural values. Uzbekistan's history is full of such examples, and the Great Silk Road played a crucial role in their blending.

Miniature art, painting, and calligraphy have been significant in the religious and cultural lives of the Uzbek people. The history and diversity of graphic design reflect significant social, economic, and political events in Uzbekistan's past. These works are not only beautiful but also valuable cultural artifacts that tell the story of the people and their beliefs. Therefore, studying them can be useful for both theoretical and practical purposes in understanding the meaning and significance of art.

The trade and economic relations between peoples have led to the exchange of valuable artistic examples and cultural values, resulting in the development of graphic design as a natural consequence. The Great Silk Road not only influenced the evolution of graphic design but also facilitated the blending of cultures and the exchange of valuable artistic examples. Graphic design has a rich history in Central Asia, including regions such as Sughdiana, Bactria, Parthia, Chach, and ancient Khorezm and Fergana. Miniature art, which is primarily associated with paper, has been a significant part of Uzbekistan's cultural and religious heritage. The first papermakers were Arabs who brought their craft to Samarkand in the 8th century, where it developed into a thriving industry. Uzbekistan has many famous artists, calligraphers, and miniaturists who have created beautiful and valuable works of art that tell the story of their people and their beliefs. The country is home to several important libraries and book collections, including the famous libraries of Said Muhammad Khiva Khan and Amir Alim Khan of Bukhara.

Based on archaeological sources, we can say that the history of miniature art in Central Asia is very ancient. We can prove the existence of famous artists, masters, calligraphers, and miniaturists in Central Asia based on historical facts, and refute the claims that there was no art or miniature art in Central Asia. We know that the centers of culture and art in Central Asia were established by various rulers, especially during the Timurid era. The art flourished in the Sharq kingdoms in the 15th-16th centuries, including in Central Asia, reaching a high level of development in the 18th-19th centuries. "The period of the Timurids is considered the greatest and most distinctive period in the history of art. The proximity of the artistic schools that had various traditions and techniques was due to the development of the Samarkand school, which had absorbed various traditions and techniques. However, the dissemination of examples of graphic art among various countries did not allow it to have a complete character. But in the 14th-15th centuries, the retransmission of manuscripts led to the emergence of many examples of graphic art and further development of book art. During this period, a large part of the miniatures created were works produced in albums called "murakka". These works mainly depicted the lives of courtiers in royal palaces. An important aspect is that these miniatures produced in murakka albums are considered independent, or freely created works of graphic art.

Overall, it is important to emphasize that graphic art flourished during the reign of Amir Timur. It is known that Timur expanded Samarkand into a major cultural center during his reign. Most of the beautiful miniature paintings from that period are kept in museums in Paris, Munich, London, and many cities in the United States, as well as in St. Petersburg, Moscow, Tehran, Cairo,

Afghanistan, India, and Uzbekistan. There are many scholars who have expressed their opinions on these paintings. However, the life and work of the graphic art masters who lived during the Timurid era are mostly unknown to us, and there are books that confirm this. Nevertheless, this fact does not prevent many historians and art scholars from presenting their scientific ideas. The history of Samarkand's graphic art has a very rich and diverse character.

During that time, the area now known as Afrosiab was a battlefield due to the Mongol invasion. People, including artists and craftsmen, who survived the devastation, moved to Samarkand during the Timurid era. Thus, the Sharq school of visual arts was established in Samarkand. However, we cannot ignore the relationship between this art school's full formation and Samarkand's Timurid-era cultural links with other states and peoples' visual art heritage. It is possible that the famous master Gung, who was a representative of the mystical tradition and was educated by representatives of this tradition during the Timurid era, was one of the artists who worked during Amir Timur's reign. Gung was the founder of the Timurid school of visual arts. It is possible to find records of the creative activities of other visual art representatives who lived and worked in Samarkand during Amir Timur's reign, such as Bukharan master Jahongir, Baghdadi Abdulhay and Ustad Shamsiddin, Tabrizi Pir Sayid Ahmad, Samarkand Ahmad Bogishamoliy, Shah Muhammad, and others. After Amir Timur's reign, visual arts flourished again during Mirzo Ulugbek's reign in Samarkand. N. Norkulov and I. Nizomiddinov tell stories about the Timurid era's exquisite visual arts in their book "Pages from the Miniature History." Thus, during the Timurid era, several schools of miniature art emerged, along with great artists. As a result, the Timurid era's fine art became famous worldwide. We can discuss the concept of "miniature" in Uzbekistan today, which is often used to refer to a book's illustration or small-sized exquisite paintings. However, this term was not used until the beginning of the 9th century. It refers to a picture (manuscript illustration) made for a book or small-sized fine art.

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The miniature art created during the Middle Ages was applied to small books or illustrated the entire page of a book in the form of a small-scale colored picture. These small-scale colored pictures were created using various materials (paper, metal, and silk). Therefore, the term "miniature" refers to all elements of the graphic part of a book, whether it is a small painting or an illustration that covers the entire page or sometimes only two adjacent pages. Thus, the term "miniature" has been widely used in relation to the fine arts of the Timurid era.

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