



# Aesthetic Aspects of Persian Art and Design

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Due to the geographical situation and as the connection road between western and eastern civilizations, believes, religions and material cultures, Iran has been changed during all these thousand years. This country played its role as an intermediate land that not only received and transferred ethnics, cultures, languages, artifacts and so on, but also innovated and created.

According to archeologists' investigations, primitive inhabitants in plateau of Iran were tasteful people who were fond of jewelries and ornaments. They were initiators that were exploring to find better ways to live in this life and in the other life as well! They were combining their functional necessities and taste to create their everyday and religious stuffs. Although their taste was restricted in natural patterns and colors from their own regions and experiences, but it is pure and elegant which also demonstrate itself as that people's necessity to communicate with objects. This becomes more interesting as it could be found out these ornamental patterns are directly related to objects' specific functions or try to make semantic connections between objects and users. Supposedly these attempts to make communication ways led to invent signs and pictographs in primary type of written language. Such combinations would

be found later in engravings of Persepolis palace as a narrative visual story which communicate as a part of architecture. Due to researches in Persian art may be it could be concluded that the Persian art is a narrative and descriptive in its nature, which try to employ signs and symbols to make intellectual beauty.

During the history, if it could be possible to title the Persian art, it would be right when it is categorized as a conventional and thoughtful one; the art which in its full emotional and individual type -in paintings and miniatures- is still restricted. One of the most important rules is following the function of the objects in order to design and decorating them. Perhaps the best example of such a rule is the Pasargad's spoon which is designed to have a transformation to a delicate duck head at the end of its handle. In this example; form, ornament and intellectual aspects are respecting the function of the spoon and it is inspired by the natural elements (ducks) of that region.

As archeological results show people in prehistoric time had neo-naturalistic view in their artifacts both in forms and ornaments. They formed objects in shapes and sizes in the way they used it and human being and nature elements were the pivot motives





on their works. Due to the Imperial attitude in Persian historic art, dominance, unity and exaggerating the royal elements in dimensions were respected in design elements.

In the other hand, in Islamic period, the importance of visualizing the Holy Spirit in everyday life made balance, dominance, unity and simplicity as the visual frameworks in arrangement and design. As it could be seen, in this era like Imperial period, sizes and dimensions were magnified due to the necessity to feel the greatness and glorious. Once more the style of the artistic elements in arrangements and the rules which are employed in order to visualize the master pieces contribute on the importance of emotional and intellectual expressions in Iranians' artifacts.

Another significant aspect of Persian Art is the summarizing the forms and motives which exists in all fields of art and design. Employing single shapes to simulate the animals perfectly or creating the marvelous rhythms to imitate surfaces in prehistoric or-



naments to geometrical shapes repetitions in Islamic Arts prove that Persian Art could be considered as the Abstract Art. Simplifying the forms and employing pure colors collections emphasize on presenting the importance of the simplicity in Persian culture.

Due to such simple arrangements of design elements to express the valuable meaning of God, life, thoughts and empire, Persian Art is an active and energetic type. Repetition and rhythm for simulating stories like hunting, battles, religious ceremonies and funerals make this art distinguishable as a first graphical animation in all history. Different attributes like this have made Persian Art unique and honorable which was established by nature, thoughts, believes and life.

As the matter of fact, art invented by people and seemingly it is tightly engaged with people's lives in all periods of history of Iran. Although humanism had a little portion in this Art as the theme but to get better realizations of Persian Art, having more belief and understanding of these people, their lives and natural treasures are definitely necessary.

