

Geometric Shapes in Sadu as Element to Maintain the Kuwaiti Identity in Interior Design

Assist. Prof. Dr. Abdulaziz Saad Alsallal

Assistant Professor Doctor in Interior Design Department - Basic Education College -
The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training.

aalsallal78@gmail.com

Abstract:

This research is an attempt to find an objective system to preserve the cultural identity in design. The proposed framework will guide designers to identify the main features and the specific design language of traditional cultural products, then take advantage of these features to give more diversity to the traditional style and help it keep pace with the rapid developments in the field of design. There is no doubt that traditional crafts are an important source of inspiration when generating new ideas, so this paper includes an analysis of a popular traditional Kuwaiti product called Sadu. The results of the analysis showed the most common features of geometric shapes present among the Sadu products that directly affect the approach suggested by the study. Then a group of designs inspired by Sadu were created based on the results of the questionnaire.

Keywords:

Heritage - Identity - Handicrafts - Sadu - Geometric shapes

The Introduction :

This work came from the need to find a solution to the fact that there is a lack of identity culture in the field of design such as furniture, decoration and building facades, especially in the State of Kuwait. The lifestyle of the people of Kuwait has changed dramatically since the discovery of oil, and this transformation was not imposed on Kuwaitis, but rather their choice, as the development in the economy led to a more affluent and modern society. Good salaries and secure jobs attracted the majority of indigenous people to work in the government sector, leaving behind the traditional crafts that enabled their ancestors to form and develop their identity. The problem is not in modernity, but in the rush towards it without realizing its consequences.

Research problem: There is a conflict between heritage identity and modernity in the field of interior design, people have begun to adopt a more global attitude towards design to the extent that the Kuwaiti heritage style has retreated a lot and has become almost extinct in the field of interior design. And also the shortcomings of some designers in understanding the design elements with their heritage, which is represented in traditional crafts

Research Objective: The aim of the research is to help designers understand the design elements present in their heritage, preserve their cultural identity, and re-present it to the world in a form commensurate with the rapid development in the field of design to restore the heritage identity to its previous position.

The importance of the research: the design language represented by traditional crafts will be used to revive the Kuwaiti identity in the field of design by identifying one of the design

elements in it, and then using this element, which is the engineering forms of development in order to preserve the style of heritage identity.

Research Methodology:

Analytical descriptive: selected elements of the Kuwaiti heritage to obtain intellectual and creative values

- **Applied approach:** applying the research results to obtain the most appropriate designs with a Kuwaiti identity, which can be implemented in commercial and private residential projects.

Research limitations: The Sadu product was used as a case study, as it was considered one of the important products that represent the traditional Kuwaiti identity.

Objective limits: Analytical study of the Kuwaiti Sadu.

Spatial boundaries: State of Kuwait.

Temporal boundaries: linked to the history of the craft, which is one of the oldest traditional crafts in the Arabian Peninsula.

Research hypotheses: the analytical study of the design of craft products and the extraction of the geometric shapes that make up the design can achieve richness in the sources of inspiration for designers while preserving the identity

Research Results:

This work discussed a very important issue because it would be an immeasurable loss if a country's traditional design style were to be lost forever. The researcher hopes that by publishing this research and bringing it to the attention of various interior designers and researchers interested in the field of design, the heritage identity in the field of design may regain its former status. The case study presented in this paper is only a sample of possible ideas that aim to raise awareness of the decline of the heritage style in the field of design and show how inspiration can be taken from culture and applied in contemporary design, while preserving its original identity.

The search results showed the following:

- The most frequent geometric shapes among the different Sadu designs are: triangle, square, rectangle, and rhombus.
- There is a similarity in the visual analysis of Sadu between the two groups. First-year design students and final-year design students apply a similarity model based on feature matching theory.
- The success of applying the geometric shapes that formed the identity of the heritage Sadu to the abandoned pieces of furniture.

Recommendations:

The researcher sees the importance of applying research analyzes in colour, texture and various design elements in order to know the limits that tell us to what extent a style can be developed without losing its original identity. The results of this type of field study will provide a baseline for any further exploration, and the resulting guidance may contribute to the debate about what future designs will look like in Kuwait.

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