## Mosaic...the art of miniatures Prof. Abeer Qassem Professor of Greek and Roman Archeology - Vice President of Borg El Arab Technological University <u>abirkassem3012@gmail.com</u>

## Abstract:

Mosaic...a word that is associated in people's minds with everything that is small, precise, and stacked next to each other.

The arts are the key to learning about ancient civilizations, and mosaics are considered one of the most prominent types of arts used in decoration. The art of each civilization teaches us a lot about its historical era and the development and prosperity it has achieved. In contemporary times, the arts are still an essential focus of the culture of life and the mirror of peoples.

Until the beginning of the last century, mosaics were viewed as small stones or the remains of pebbles that people find in nature, and stack them next to each other to fill spaces, decorate surfaces, or perhaps pave floors. They were seen as miniatures that allowed those who used them to create mosaic paintings from cubes or small pebbles. It was used in tiling floors and decorating walls by attaching it with mortar to rough or smooth surfaces. Materials such as pebbles or stones may be used. Sometimes glass, metal, pottery, and the remains of marble pieces are used...

Mosaics have been known since ancient times, and the methods for their implementation and the purposes for which they were made varied. The mosaic styles and themes varied between geometric, botanical, human, mythological, and others. It expressed the civilization, life and traditions of every people through the themes, ideas and scenery it reflected.

The colors used in the mosaic paintings played a prominent role in adding beauty and value to the work. With the development of this art, the artist has tended in the modern era to use fiery colors made of osmalt, such as red, orange, and yellow.

The most ancient civilization that used mosaics was the civilization of the Greeks, who decorated the floors of public and private buildings with mosaic panels. The Romans were influenced by this and followed the same artistic approach as the Greeks, but on a larger scale, whether in operational methods or in topics, while adding some innovations.

## **Keywords:**

Mosaic, embroidery, miniature art