

Research Article

Using Moluccas Ornament in Church Interior Aesthetics

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Abstract.

Interior design is the process of arranging and creating interior elements to form an interrelated unity and achieve certain goals in every aspect of aesthetics, safety, and comfort of space. Aesthetics an important aspect of interior design, because it is related to beauty and encompasses all aspects of what is called beauty. Currently we are in a modern era, that popularizes certain designs and styles. The interior design of prayer rooms also aligns with today's modernist times and designs. Cultural elements are rarely found in modern times. Therefore, this author aims to implement Maluku cultural ornaments into the interior of churches. The integration of these ornaments into the design also introduces elements of locality to everyone who is in the prayer room.

Keywords: interior design, aesthetics, ornaments, Maluku, church

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1. Introduction

One branch of fine art that focuses on designing spaces and creating interior elements to achieve certain goals in terms of aesthetics, comfort and safety of the room is interior design.

When planning interior design, it is also necessary to apply locality elements in order to introduce elements of locality to everyone who enters and is in the room. Locality elements consist of language, culture, arts and religion. Local elements such as decoration are widely applied to the design of residences, offices and other public buildings. One application of decoration in interior design is Moluccas decoration.

Moluccas is a province that covers the southern part of the Moluccas Islands, Indonesia. The capital and largest city is the city of Ambon and is also known by the slogan Ambon Manise. Moluccas Province is in 28th place in terms of population in Indonesia, where in 2021, the population of Moluccas province will be 1.88 million people. Moluccas has many kinds of cultural decoration inherited from ancestral values in the form of



ethnic ornaments which are arts and craft skills. Each ornament has a philosophical value and meaning. Philosophical values and meaning show the depth of understanding of the local values of the Moluccas region which to this day still survive and continue to be developed.

When designing, aesthetics are also needed. Aesthetics is a condition related to beauty that can be felt, but this beauty can only be felt if there is a harmonious combination between the elements of beauty contained in an object.

Architectural aesthetics is not only related to visual beauty such as color, texture, symmetry, harmony and so on. However, it is also related to several factors such as economic factors, social, cultural, technological, ergonomics, anthropometric and psychological factors. In architectural works, 19 aesthetic values are based on several design elements and principles that can be explained rationally (measurable and logical).

Interior planning can also be done on houses of worship. The church can also be an object of planning. The church is a house of worship for Christians. The word "Church" is a word taken from Portuguese: igreja, which comes from Greek: *ἐκκλησία* (ekklêsia) which means to be called out of a group of people who are called out of the world. Remembering one of the Church Liturgies where every 5th Sunday an Ethnic Service is held, where every Sunday service uses Moluccas language and is dressed like typical Moluccas, for this reason there is no harm in bringing typical Maluku ornaments into the Church, so that directly also introducing Moluccas ornaments to every congregation that worships, and also so that every ethnic worship service takes place, the atmosphere of Moluccas is more pronounced.

2. Literature Review

2.1. Interior Design

Interior design is something related to the creative field along with technical solutions applied to building structures. Design is the organization or arrangement of parts that are related to each other and form a coordinated whole. Designing is a systematic thought process in planning an object in order to achieve optimal results. The optimal design must be created according to the goals and needs.

Interior is also a term that refers to the indoor side of a building. Meanwhile, according to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, interior is intended for the inside of a building, including furniture, for example decoration inside a building.

2.2. Aesthetics

The word aesthetics comes from the Greek, namely 'aisthetica' which means things that can be absorbed by the five senses (Kusumastuti, Nita & Sinaga, 2013). Aesthetic understanding itself has been known since Greek times. Plato and Aristotle were Greek philosophers who discussed the meaning of aesthetics a lot. They have an understanding that aesthetics is related to truth and beauty simultaneously.

Only in the 17th century, the term aesthetics began to be popularized by a German philosopher, named Alexander Gm Baumgarten (1714-1762). Da states that beauty is a sensory experience through the five senses, different from logic that uses scientific or intellectual knowledge.

It is said by Baumgarten that the aim of aesthetics is beauty while the aim of logic is truth (Sumarjo, 2000). Therefore, Baumgarten has a contradiction with what Plato and his friends understood. This is based on the time when Plato and his friends were in the 4th century BC, heavily influenced by elements of natural beauty, whereas in the time of Baumgarten in the 17th century, elements of beauty were heavily influenced by applied arts in the form of architecture and decorative arts.

The development of aesthetics itself experienced further developments in science in Europe which occurred in the 18th and 19th centuries. For this reason, aesthetics was appointed as a separate branch of science and separate from philosophy and other fields of science.

2.3. Local Ornaments

Ornaments are a form of creative expression by ancient humans. Ornaments are used to decorate the body, carved on wood, on pottery, decorations on clothes, weapons of war, buildings, and other art objects [1]. Ornaments also have symbolic values or certain purposes that are related to the worldview (philosophy of life) of or the society of its creator, which has the meaning of certain hopes.

In searching, processing and placing decorations, the form takes three forms of life on earth, such as flora, fauna and nature. Floral ornaments, whose shape is close to the real

situation, are displayed as a background for field decorations in the form of ornaments or relief sculptures. Faunal ornaments, as decorative material, fauna are carved in floral forms which are fixed patterns, varied reliefs of various kinds of animals and statues of several kinds of animals. Natural ornaments express nature as an expression of beauty, displaying natural elements as decorative materials. Natural decoration is a naturalistic manifestation of the existence of natural objects in nature [1].

Indonesia is a country rich in culture, Indonesian ethnic themes which are featured in interior design works are an extraordinary attraction for other nations and local residents. Modern and ethnic are combined and processed in such a way to create a unique work. Currently, development development has developed rapidly so that the design process using a cultural approach is very possible throughout Indonesia because of the abundant availability of raw materials and technology that can simplify the design process [2].

The use of traditional elements gives an ethnic impression in a modern contemporary manner that prioritizes the principles of unity and harmony. The implementation of culture in building design refers to several variables implemented in buildings, namely, artefacts with building object parameters in the form of facades and roofs of traditional houses whose forms are adopted and modernized. And Icon dean visual parameters, ornaments and colors. Each region certainly has its own characteristics which become regional icons and have certain philosophies and meanings which become the culture of the community [2].

2.4. Moluccas Ornament

One area that has ethnic cultural potential is Maluku. Maluku is part of the eastern region of Indonesia which is rich in natural products in the form of cloves, gold, nutmeg, mace and pearls. Maluku has many forms, ornaments or cultural ornaments which are the result of human creativity and intention [3]. The continuity of this culture is a sign of the inheritance of ancestral values, one of which is art and certain skills.

Decorations in Maluku are often found in architectural buildings and household furniture. Ornaments are a form of visualization of a region's culture. One of the famous Maluku decorations is the Matahari Siwa Talang motif, and the Talang Bird element found in the Matahari Ornament.

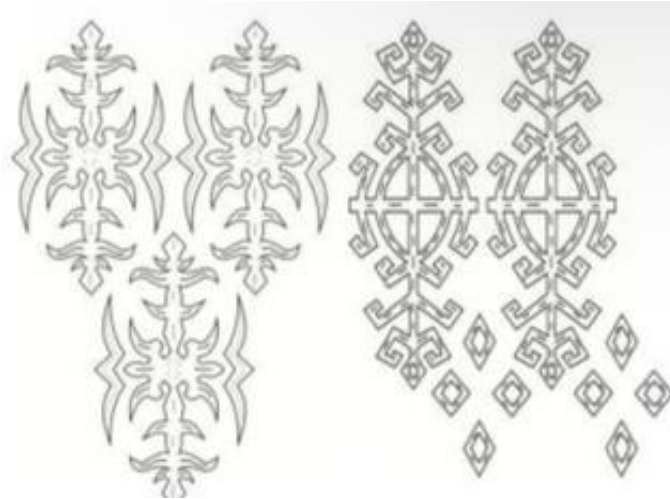


Figure 1: Siwa Talang Motif (left) and Siwa Talang Sun Motif (right).

Sun ornaments tend to have an emphasis on symbolic meaning related to the background of life, beliefs, social culture of the Alifuru community and customs in Moluccas province (Figure 1).



Figure 2: Element of the Gutter Bird found in the Sun Ornament.

The Talang Bird element as an animal character contains meaning and philosophical value which means the three suns rise from the surface of the earth, the talang birds fly above and surround the sea surface with nature, the aggressive predators of the talang birds prey on the fish that appear on the surface sea (see Figure 2).

Several churches in Moluccas have implemented Moluccas ornaments as the aesthetics of the church building. The aesthetics of Moluccas ornaments are also one of the designs that directly introduces Moluccas identity to every congregation present in the church building.

3. Methodology Research

The method used in this research is a Systematic Literature Review or SLR with discussion data regarding local/traditional ornaments applied to products, rooms and buildings, as well as understand aesthetics from a point of view interior. The method used in this research is a Systematic Literature Review or SLR with discussion data regarding local/traditional ornaments applied to products, rooms and buildings, as well as understand aesthetics from a point of view interior.

Literature obtained from search results using keywords local ornaments, interior, aesthetics, via the Google Scholar website page so that access to several international journals is found.

The use of the literature review method in research is more relevant because it helps researchers follow the latest research and to assess collective evidence in certain research fields [4]. Meanwhile, according to Davis J et al, systematic literature review is a process that systematically locates and collects all influential information [5].

4. Conclusion

The presence of cultural diversity shows that even though religions and beliefs can change, there are some people in these cultures who still hold tightly to the traditions and culture that have been passed down from their ancestors. Aesthetics is an important support for a design, having criteria and an understanding of the things that are the basis for assessment towards the beauty of a design. The presence of ornaments on churches has an important meaning as the identity of an area

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