

## The Metaphysical Trend of Islamic Symbolism and Its Utilization in the Design of Printed Textile Pendants

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### Research Summary:

Islamic art is distinguished from other arts by being the most widespread art for the expansion of the Islamic empire that extended from China eastward to Spain westward. The Muslim artist discovered his own aesthetic principle, which transcends the visual world to an independent and regular world, taking the metaphysical trend of Islamic symbolism and placing it according to the justifications of pure aesthetic beauty with the aim of showing the beauty of creation and the divine power in it. It also sought for higher self-expression.

The Muslim artist built his metaphysical philosophy (thought) by sensing the constant existence of God and his certainty of His existence, which allowed the existence of a reciprocal relationship between him and the universe with all its wonders confirming the greatness of divine presence.

The history of art carries with it a reciprocal relationship between the symbolic and doctrinal thought. This relationship influenced the thought and conscience of the Muslim artist, which crystallized the link between symbolism in Islamic art and the content of metaphysical ideological thought.

Whereas printed textiles have an important role to play in enriching tourism facilities in various aspects, they affect the recipient and reflect the extent of culture of the community in which these facilities are found, which requires studying the design ideas and solutions stemming from the spirit and heart of the surrounding society to achieve design results that reflect the spirit, thought, culture and consciousness of Egyptian society. The metaphysical trend came to go beyond Islamic symbolism as a kind of improved perspective towards Islamic thought compared to what it currently suffers from in being described with terrorism and brutality.

### Research Problem:

The research problem lies in the answer to the following question: Does the metaphysical trend of the Islamic symbol achieve aesthetic characteristics that can be used in the design of textile pendants?

### Research Objectives:

- Derivation of symbolic indications of Islamic units and their implications.
- Utilization of Islamic symbolic formulas in the creative designs suitable for textile textiles.

### Research Hypotheses:

1- Symbolic semantics of some Islamic units help to deepen the Islamic philosophy and improve the perspective towards Islamic art as a moral and spiritual art and is not intended for any materialistic aspects.

2- The Islamic symbolic formulas are considered to be the inspiration for the design ideas of printed textiles.

### **Research Limitations:**

Studying the metaphysical trend of some formulas of Islamic symbolism.

### **Research Methodology:**

The research follows the descriptive, analytical and empirical method.

### **Research Aspects:**

#### **First: Theoretical Framework:**

Symbolism – Islamic symbolism – The metaphysical trend of Islamic symbolism – philosophy of Muslim metaphysical artist – aesthetics in the direction of metaphysics - symbolism of (the crescent - the Arabic calligraphy - the triangle unity – star patterns) metaphysics.

#### **Second: Empirical Framework:**

It includes the applied experiments of a number of textile pendants printed in the ink jet style and a presentation on how to benefit from them in the halls of exhibitions, conferences and tourist hotels inspired by the elements of the crescent, star patterns and the element of the triangle individually and mingling them in proportion to the spirit of the age.

**Keywords:** metaphysics – symbolism – pendants – printed.

**Metaphysics:** Al Ma’ani and Al Waseet dictionaries defined the term of metaphysics as related to the unseen. Metaphysics is something beyond nature. Descartes defines the concept of metaphysics as the interpretation of the main attributes to God and forgets that our souls are not material <sup>(1)</sup>. It is also called the divine science because the most important aspect therein is God as the first existence. Therefore, we find that its meaning to Muslim philosophers became contrary to the concept of the divinities <sup>(2)</sup>.

**Symbol:** symbol (inf), symbols (pl.), and symbol: gesture and sign. Allah, the Almighty, says: “*Your sign is that you should not speak to men for three days except by signs*” <sup>(3)</sup>. A symbol in Al Ma’ani Al Jamea Dictionary means a sign indicating a stand-alone meaning. It can represent and replace it, and may use the symbol for the purpose of briefing.

Ernst Casper presented a definition of the symbol showing inclusiveness by saying: “Symbols are not just a set of connotations or signs that refer to some meanings, ideas or perceptions, but they are a complex network expressing the feelings, passions, emotions, hopes and beliefs of human beings <sup>(4)</sup>.”

**Pendants:** Pendants Al Ma’ani Al Jamea Dictionary means: suspended (object), the feminine formula for the object “suspended”. “Pendant” is a visible body in areas that allow the shutter to hang above the walls, containing a registered content for artistic treatments <sup>(5)</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> www.blog.saeed.com

<sup>2</sup> The philo.blogspot.com.eg

<sup>3</sup> The Holy Qur’an, Al Imran, 41

<sup>4</sup> Cassipée., Essayan Man, New York. Ya54

<sup>5</sup> Hassan Mohamed Haggag: “**A Combination of Printing Methods for the Creation of Pendants with Large Surfaces in One Piece**”, PhD thesis, Faculty of Applied Arts, Helwan University, 1995, p. 44.

**Print:** Print, in Al Ma'ani Al Jamea Dictionary, means the way in which the drawings or designs are obtained on different fabric types of cotton, wool, silk or other fibers <sup>(6)</sup>.

### Findings:


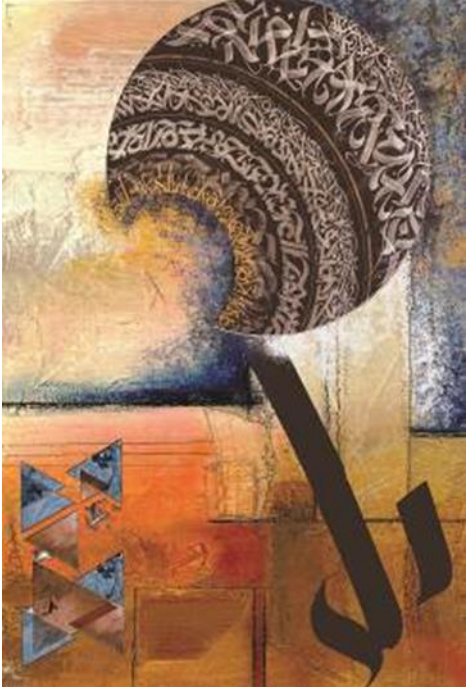
- 1- Understanding the Muslim's metaphysical philosophy.
- 2- Knowing the symbolic of metaphysical Islamic decorative elements.
- 3- Concluding that the metaphysical trend of Islamic symbolism has aesthetic characteristics that could be used in the creation of 12 different design ideas suitable for textile pendants in tourist places, conference rooms and others.

### Recommendations:

- 1- Studying the ideological philosophical thought in the arts of its own heritage to stop the distortion that occurred in the Western society's view of our religious arts and beliefs.

### Examples of design ideas and employment:

**Presented of collection of textile pendants designs inspired by crescent and triangle:**

	
<p><b>Design tdea recruitment(1)</b></p>	<p><b>Design idea description (1)</b>  The work is divided into two halves, in the upper half, the crescent is divided into thr interior, the stripes are decorated with inscription, and the lower half is divided into geometric areas and the element of the triangle is highlighted.</p>

<sup>6</sup> Kawthar Al Zuabi: "Studies in Textiles", Arab Thought House, Cairo, 2005, p. 405

	
<p>Design idea description (2)</p>	<p>Design tdea recruitment (2) A design idea consisting of a crescent element with islamic writings, letters and decorations</p>

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