

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**A CASE STUDY OF DOORS AND
WINDOWS AS TRADITIONAL
DECORATIVE ARTS IN THE
SOUTH YANGTZE RIVER REGION**

WANG LUKUN

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ABSTRACT

After the Southern Song Dynasty, the economic center of China moved steadily southward, especially in the Ming and Qing Dynasties. The South Yangtze River Region (the abbreviation is SYRR) eventually became China's economic, cultural, and artistic center. As representative building structures and decorative components, doors and windows have practical features corresponding to actual needs and artistic features closely related to history, culture, and production technology. The traditional doors and windows in this region are influenced by politics, environment, economy, culture, history, literature, and art have produced distinctive aesthetic characteristics. This study will explore this area's artistic characteristics of traditional doors and windows from structure, sculpture, colour, pattern, and practicality. This study adopts literature research methods, investigation, questionnaire, interview, and case analysis. The research objectives include 277 professionals and twenty experts engaged in traditional buildings-related industries in China. The researcher constructs the evaluation system of Doors and Windows heritage value by using an analytic hierarchy process, which can be used to evaluate the Doors and Windows heritage value in various regions. Using SPSS and SPSSAU software, the researcher analyzed the artistic characteristics and influencing factors of traditional Doors and Windows decoration art in the SYRR through weight analysis. This study holds that doors and windows, as traditional material heritage, have high artistic value and deserve to be protected. The way of protection should be to "repair the old as before" and try to preserve the authenticity of history and the original features and traces of the times of traditional architectural decoration. In addition, based on the artistic characteristics of traditional doors and windows in this area, traditional doors and windows in the SYRR can also be applied to modern design. The researcher made relevant case analysis from interior art design, environmental landscape design, and display design. In a word, the traditional Doors and Windows decoration art in the SYRR has historical heritage and artistic application values, which can be expanded and applied in many design fields.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

According to Shichao Li and Hao Ying (2021), "as the most important living place for people, buildings is an important carrier of regional culture in different regions". Through the in-depth analysis and research on the traditional architectural form of a certain region, human beings can more comprehensively understand the regional cultural characteristics, formation causes and development laws of the regions.

The ancients in China paid special attention to various decorations of traditional buildings. With the progress of history, the increase of building types, the change in building structure, the diversification of building materials and the development of national culture, architectural decoration is constantly enriched by these situations. With the continuous enrichment from architectural decoration form to architectural decoration content, the people of China have created architectural artistic images with unique national charm. Among them, the People in China have also made various artistic treatments on the structure and decoration of building doors and windows. "The people of China constantly pursue the beauty of its form in the decoration of doors and windows, which is permeated with cultural implication and aesthetic sentiment everywhere, reflecting the cultural consciousness and philosophical thought of ancient people learning from nature and pursuing stability and harmony" (Zhou Xueying & Li Siyang, 2020).

People need to admire the exquisiteness and wisdom of ancient people in China, and even beautiful stories can be carved on doors and windows. "The modeling features of doors and windows not only directly affect the decorative style