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A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF BROCADE WEAVING ART MOTIFS AND DESIGNS IN IRAN AND MALAYSIA

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Abstract

The art of brocade weaving has a long history in Iran and has had a worldwide fame on its flourishing and prosperity ages. According to some written and historical documents, weaving brocade in Iran was highly fashionable from the Achaemenid Empire to the Sassanid dynasty, so that a plenty of pieces were used for decorating the palaces and churches all over the world. Entering Islam, brocade weaving has experienced lots of vicissitudes but could go on and during Safavid age the art met a revival by supporting the artists and developing several workspaces. According to the historians, the art of brocade weaving is developed in Malaysian peninsula by trading, migration and political marriages, since the 15th century. The Malay cloth is made with different names and various designs, some of which share numerous similarities with the Iranian brocade textiles. The methodology is comparative-analytic, and the sources are documents and field reports.

Keywords: brocade weaving, Safavid, brocade textiles, Malaysian handicrafts