APPLIED ARTS AND DESIGN FROM AN ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE
PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

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Research Management Centre
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA
Applied Arts and Design from an Islamic Perspective: Past, Present, Future

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Editor and Contributor

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ABBREVIATIONS

ANSI  American National Standards Institute
JKMM  Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Malaysia (Department of Social Welfare)
JPOKU  Jabatan Pembangunan Orang Kurang Upaya
KPWKKM  Kementerian Wanita, Keluarga dan Masyarakat (Ministry of Woman, Family and Community Development)
MCB  Muslim Council of Britain
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Article Two

The Concept of Beauty in Islamic Arts Decoration: Its Importance and Relationship to Mosque Interiors

Noorzalifa Zainul Abidin

Introduction

In this article, the concept of beauty in decoration as defined in the Islamic Arts is described and its importance in relation to mosque architecture and functions are highlighted. Also, the concept of ‘ibādah or worship in Islam is explained to highlight the importance of the mosque and it is then related to the Islamic Arts and its decoration roles principles, characteristics, typologies and elements. Besides that, the way Islam perceived Arts is explained by referring to Imam al-Ghazzâli’s perception of Beauty in Islam. This element of Beauty is translated into the functions of decoration in Islamic Arts. However, the views of other Muslim scholars on the application of decorations in mosques are also highlighted to identify the limitation of excessive usage of decoration. This study focuses on relating the functions of mosques and their decorative functions with the feeling of remembering Allāh and the acts of worshipping.