Research on Contemporary Interior Design under the Influence of Regional Culture

Hanao Liu1,a, Shuchen Liu2,b,*

1College of Art and Design, Yunnan University, Kunming, Yunnan, 650091, China
2School of Architecture, Yantai University, Yantai, Shandong, 264005, China
a1666109944@qq.com, b625655926@qq.com

Abstract: In the study of contemporary interior design based on the influence of regional culture, the significance of using regional culture in contemporary interior design is clarified firstly, and then combined with the characteristics of contemporary interior design influenced by regional culture, the primary forms of contemporary interior design under the influence of regional culture are analyzed. Finally, we put forward three strategies, including designers' need to consider integrating the environmental characteristics of various regions, the improvement and innovation based on traditional culture, and the choice of appropriate regional cultural carriers in the design. We hope the research can contribute to the further organic integration between contemporary interior design and traditional regional culture in China.

Keywords: Regional culture; Cultural influence; Modern design; Interior design

1. Introduction

With the deepening of economic and cultural globalization, Western architectural theory and design philosophy have become the focus of interior design in China in recent years. They are promoting the interior design industry through vector production and industrialization. Although this is of great help for China's interior design to meet customers' needs, keep up with the times and develop more diversified, it has dramatically affected the local cultural connotation and characteristics of the previous design. For example, the traditional culture of interior design accumulated for thousands of years in China has almost disappeared, unfavorable to the inheritance and promotion of Chinese traditional culture. Therefore, designers must make appropriate innovations and optimization in integrating interior design and regional culture by applying the essence of regional culture to give a solid impetus for protecting traditional culture and satisfying people's aesthetic concepts in the new era.

2. The Significance of Regional Culture in Contemporary Interior Design

The essence of interior design is based on the expansion and promotion of architectural design. Because the country is getting more prosperous and robust, people's living standards gradually improve; they also appear in the interior design of higher aesthetic pursuit. In other words, if designers can focus on the impact of regional culture on interior design and combine it with the unique feel of the Chinese people on traditional culture, in-depth understanding and appreciation, a large part of the people's demand for interior design aesthetics will be met. But it isn't easy to make the building show its vigorous vitality because designers must comprehensively consider the natural landscape, geographical environment, humanistic thought, and climatic characteristics in various places and then express these factors through regional culture [1].

At the same time, two critical issues in Chinese contemporary interior design reflect the significance of the organic integration of traditional regional culture and interior design. First, the most popular interior decoration style in the world is European and American fashion style. To attract more customers, most interior designers pursue the trend of Europe and America in their designs. Local culture's connotation must be displayed to consider the cultural characteristics and actual conditions of various regions in the country. Second, some interior designers are completely blinded by interests and no longer consciously abide by the basic principles of interior design. They mindlessly cater to the public's taste, and the quality of their works cannot be guaranteed. If the status quo is not changed, then "utility" and "homogeneity" will become synonymous with Chinese interior design. In addition to the gradual
disappearance of distinctive regional culture, the protection of interior design and traditional culture will be hindered. Therefore, Chinese designers must abide by their original intentions, adhere to design principles, and strive to design in line with the mainstream aesthetics of society and to create excellent works that inherit regional culture [2].

3. Characteristics of Contemporary Interior Design Influenced by Regional Culture

3.1 Attention to the Protection and Inheritance of Historical Context

Although culture has no specific form, we can use certain material carriers to express it, such as antique plaques and couplets, simple wooden furniture, subtle and meaningful bamboo curtains, and beautiful poems and paintings. These are representative furniture and decorations in traditional Chinese architecture. After thousands of years of tempering and saving, people can feel their irreplaceable unique charm in contemporary architecture and interior. For example, in the 1987 reconstruction project of the old Beijing Ju'er Hutong, Professor Wu Liangyong used Beijing's traditional courtyard structure as a reference and applied many processing to strengthen its cultural characteristics. In addition, while retaining the characteristics of traditional culture, architecture and interior display the necessary modern elements and functions. To sum up, on the one hand, Wu protected the traditional national architectural art; on the other hand, he made the architectural concept of a modern new courtyard house widely accepted by the world. It reflects traditional architectural art's perfect inheritance and development and lays a solid foundation for integrating Chinese regional culture and contemporary interior design [3].

3.2 Strengthen the Embodiment of Regional Style from Material Texture

From ancient times to the present, the overall picture of the interior space environment of buildings worldwide is composed of materials, structures, and spaces, as well as ancient and modern Chinese interior design. The material carrier of design philosophy and architectural aesthetics is material texture. In other words, according to color, texture, luster, and structure, designers use rich and diverse artistic vocabulary to express aesthetic intention to enrich the interior space. Therefore, designers should put respect for materials in the first place, combine the specific environment to make excellent and ingenious selections, combine and transformation of materials, and create an interior environment containing regional culture [4].

Taking the typical wooden temples in the South as an example, ancient designers considered the most common and available wood in the South when designing this form of a temple. In addition, the temple appears exquisite, such as roofs, eaves, and interior furnishings. Each design represents a unique meaning, to the greatest extent, reflecting the formation of a unique and strong cultural heritage in the southern regions under the influence of climate and geography. In contrast, the Potala Palace is a commemorative building, but it looks very mysterious and solemn because of its different materials and cultural characteristics. Another example is between the Pyramid and the Louvre; the grand and light styles are in stark contrast. The locations of the two are different, and the time of construction is very far apart. Therefore, the materials used by the designers and the understanding of the combination are also very different in the case of inconsistent materials, construction methods, and design concepts. As a result, the architecture and interior environment are entirely different, but reflect the regional culture.

4. The Main Form of Contemporary Interior Design Influenced by Regional Culture

4.1 The Integration of Environmental Characteristics in Various Regions

China has a vast territory, and each region has different environmental characteristics. Therefore, in the interior design of contemporary architecture, designers can use the external environment side foil: Before the design, taking into account the natural environment characteristics of the place, they focus on the method of perfect integration into the local natural environment to ensure that the interior space can meet the spiritual needs of building users while meeting their functional needs. In particular, people who have lived in urban area for a long time are longing for nature and a green environment. Therefore, designers must integrate the surrounding environment as much as possible when designing interior space with regional culture and use appropriate regional natural factors to enrich the design techniques [5].

Taking the interior design of southern China as an example, considering the humid climate in the south, the objective environment of "small bridge flowing water," and the beautiful artistic conception
given by many literati, most areas still retain many ancient buildings. Therefore, designers can take advantage of the landscape around them and make the choice of multiple methods to carry forward the regional culture in the creation. In particular, for many areas with developed tourism, the use of the natural climate characteristics of people's attention to creating the interior space with distinctive regional characteristics, to the greatest extent to enhance the cultural atmosphere and beauty of the building. In addition, designers should pay attention to the appropriate use of cultural symbols in China, such as carved beams and painted buildings, window grilles, bucket arches, wooden screens, plaques, and lanterns. Through this, people get more substantial visual impact and regional recognition.

4.2 The Improvement and Innovation Based on Traditional Culture

Going through a long history into the new era, although thousands of years of culture is the precious wealth of the Chinese people, in fact, much of traditional architectural art is only applicable to the social conditions at that time, its shape and function have been unable to meet modern people's requirements for living and use. Therefore, contemporary designers should extract the essence of the wisdom of the working people and enrich and innovate a large number of precious elements, vocabulary, ideas, symbols, and spirits that can be used in combination with modern society so that they can play an essential role in the field of interior design [6].

In addition, scholars at home and abroad have found through research and practice that national boundaries do not affect the progress and application of architectural science and technology. Since most of the construction technologies in the world are similar, the architectural spiritual culture will be completely different in the independent development of regional culture. In addition, we must realize that the characteristics of the era of globalization and the development of civilizations in different regions are not contradictory but a process of integration and symbiosis. We should move in the direction of proper preservation and continuous innovation. Based on the above, in contemporary interior design combined with regional culture, designers should learn from or copy and use professional knowledge, rich experience, and a deep understanding of regional culture to transform and regenerate interior design. Moreover, while people demonstrate the charm of classics, they make modern elements simple and pure.

4.3 The Choice of Appropriate Regional Cultural Carrier in the Design

The three most vital elements of interior design are materials, furnishings, and color, with materials being the most important. The texture of the selected materials in interior design brings people different psychological feelings. Therefore, proper selection and use can protect the original structure of the building and also facilitate the subsequent furniture choices and color decorations.

In addition, the focus of interior design is to design and adjust the layout structure, which can be mainly divided into two parts: functional and decorative. The former refers to furnishings with high practical value, such as fabrics, furniture, lamps, and utensils, which are ornamental to a certain extent. The latter includes mainly souvenirs, paintings, handicrafts, plants, or sculptures, which are less practical and highly ornamental. To sum up, both functional and decorative furnishings are the medium for expressing regional culture and national spirit in interior design. Appropriate furnishings are an effective means of enhancing the effect of interior design, allowing users to feel the spiritual culture and ideological connotation in the details. They are the focus of interior design that cannot be ignored [7].

The most intuitive impression and feeling of people in the building's interior come from the visual impact of color. Many related research reports also show that various color designs in the room can give people different psychological feelings. Appropriate color design can make the regional culture more vivid and unique and strengthen the interior space's shape, making the interior design more attractive and artistic. In general, there are some kinds of interior color planning, including key color, primary color, and background color. To achieve the unity and integrity of the theme as much as possible, designers need to make reasonable collocation and layout of color for each part and detail of the interior in the building to integrate the regional culture furthermore naturally and ideally [8].

5. Conclusion

To sum up, with the increasing attention of the country and people to the protection and inheritance of traditional regional culture, the influence of regional culture on contemporary interior design has become increasingly evident in recent years. It is responsible for carrying forward regional culture and making buildings fit the social environment of the new era. Designers should deeply understand the rich
and profound traditional culture and design buildings and interiors with unique local cultural characteristics and the spirit of the times. In addition, promoting excellent traditional culture will enhance the intimacy and pride of the Chinese people and encourage designers to create a beautiful and unique living environment.

References