

THE ANCIENT TEXTILE AND DECORATIVE ART OF ASIA

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The decorative textile art of Eastern peoples is a testimony to centuries of accumulated skills, colors, and symbolism. It unites practicality and spirituality, transforming everyday objects into carriers of cultural memory and aesthetic philosophy. In the fabrics are woven not only threads, but also rituals, beliefs, and the pursuit of harmony with nature. Ornaments, shapes, and colors reveal not just beauty, but also the idea of balance, humility, and interconnectedness between people and the world.

Of particular importance are the natural materials and dyes that for centuries have been the main sources for creating textiles – wool, silk, cotton, linen, as well as dyes from plants and minerals. They convey a sense of authenticity and purity, and today, in an age of global challenges, they are also an inspiration for artists and consumers who turn their attention to sustainable fashion.

The return to natural materials and handcrafted mastery is not only an aesthetic choice but also an ethical gesture – a striving for responsible consumption and respect for the earth.

In contemporary fashion and design, ancient motifs and techniques find new life – serving as a source of inspiration for creativity and sustainability. They connect the past with the present, giving modern creations depth, symbolism, and meaning that transcend fleeting trends. Thus, the ancient textile and decorative art of Asia remains alive and relevant – not only as a museum treasure but as a source of beauty, inspiration, and a new cultural ethic that teaches respect for tradition, nature, and the future.



Keywords: *Textile decorative art, Asian traditions, Natural materials, Symbolism in textiles, Sustainable fashion.*

References:

Grey silk kimono decorated with landscape Edo period (19th century) G. Manos Collection [Inv. no. 2048]
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