

THE AESTHETIC FUNCTIONS OF ORNAMENTAL FORMS IN ISLAMIC MANUSCRIPTS PAINTING IN LIGHT OF THE FORMAL THEORY

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ABSTRACT _ *Islamic manuscripts regarded as one of the outstanding arts in Islamic civilization. It is considered as a major revolution and flourishing in the development of Islamic manuscripts painting, which is rich in subjects, and involves various ornamental forms in nature, images of humans, animals, and plants, in addition it involves artistic and aesthetic values. The form topic considered as one of the controversial topics in Islamic art. The problem of current research is the lack of critical scientific studies that relate to the topic of ornamental forms in Islamic manuscripts. In spite of the existence of some studies that dealt with the subject of ornamental forms in Islamic manuscripts, actually, they were focused on the artistic and philosophic aspect. Therefore, the current research seeks to present a new reading to study the aesthetic functions of ornamental forms in selection of Islamic manuscripts, in light of the formal theory. Six miniatures were chosen from different Islamic painting schools, and artistic analysis applied on them.*

KEY WORDS: *Aesthetic Functions, Formal Theory.*