

THE HARMONY OF RELIGION AND ART

Tashkent State Medical University

Faculty of Treatment No. 2, Group 221-'A'

Student: **Azimova Laylo**

Scientific Supervisor: **Kamilov Jamshid Yo'ldashevich.**

Abstract

This article scientifically analyzes the interrelation between religion and art, as well as their role and influence in human spiritual life. It broadly discusses how religious values are expressed through art, the unique characteristics of Islamic art, and the reflection of religious ideas in modern culture. The article is prepared based on the 'Religious Studies Complex 2025–2026' study guide and contemporary sources.

Keywords: Religion, art, spirituality, Islamic art, aesthetics, calligraphy, ornament, spiritual harmony, culture, beauty.

Introduction

Religion and art are two inseparable components of human spiritual development. Religion purifies a person's inner world, calling them toward goodness, justice, and compassion. Art expresses that spirituality in an aesthetic form. Throughout the history of every civilization, religious beliefs and art have evolved in harmony. For instance, temple architecture in ancient Egypt, Christian iconography in Europe, and ornamentation, calligraphy, and architecture in the Islamic world became the highest artistic forms expressing religious ideas.

The Essence of Islamic Art

Islamic art differs from other forms of art by its profound spiritual meaning. It aims to lead a person toward spiritual purity through material beauty. In Islam, the concept of beauty is closely linked with divine truth. Therefore, works of art must awaken feelings of love and gratitude toward the Creator within the human heart.

The Nature and Philosophy of Religious Art

Religious art expresses a person's faith, spiritual world, and divine feelings. It strives not only to display beauty but also to reveal spiritual truth. Philosophically, religious art leads a person from materiality toward spirituality, encouraging them to sense the divine. Verses from the Qur'an, hadiths, mosque and madrasa architecture—all call humans to spiritual connection with the Creator.

Formation and Features of Islamic Art

Islamic art formed during the 7th–8th centuries under the Arab Caliphates and spread throughout the Muslim world. It is based on the idea of tawhid—monotheism. In Islamic art, depictions of humans or animals are avoided; instead, geometric patterns, arabesques, and calligraphy express the greatness of Allah symbolically. The Registan Complex in Samarkand, the Mir Arab Madrasa in Bukhara, the Sultan Ahmed Mosque in Istanbul, and the Alhambra Palace in Andalusia are among the finest examples of Islamic art.

Harmony Between Art and Spirituality

Art and spirituality are interconnected. Religious art brings peace, purity, and faith to the human soul. The colors, patterns, and calligraphic elements in Islamic art provide aesthetic pleasure and spiritual harmony. As the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, 'Allah is beautiful and loves beauty.' Therefore, art is one of the most delicate means of spiritual purification.

The Role of Art in Sufism

In Sufi philosophy, art is part of the path toward closeness to Allah. Thinkers such as Jalaluddin Rumi, Ahmad Yassawi, and Alisher Navoi expressed divine love through their works. Through na't, qasida, sacred songs, music, and dance (sama'), a person achieves spiritual purification. Thus, art becomes an aesthetic form of worship.

Symbolism in Islamic Architecture

Islamic architecture is not only about beauty but also a system of spiritual symbols. The dome of a mosque represents infinity and the sky, while the minaret symbolizes human aspiration toward divine truth. The square shape stands for earth and stability, while the

circle represents eternity. Muqarnas decorations signify the perfect order of the universe created by Allah. All these elements reveal the deep philosophical essence of Islamic art.

Religious Values in Modern Art

Today, religious values are also reflected in modern forms of art. Through religious films, theatrical performances, songs, graphic design, and visual arts, Islamic culture is strengthening among young people. This proves that religion is not only about worship but also an integral part of cultural and spiritual life.

Conclusion

Religion and art, in harmony, contribute to the spiritual elevation of humanity. Religion gives art soul and meaning, while art gives religion aesthetic beauty. Islamic art combines faith, spirituality, and aesthetics into a noble value. It leads a person toward spiritual perfection, strengthening feelings of beauty, peace, and faith in society.

References

1. 'Religious Studies Complex 2025–2026' – Tashkent State Medical University, Department of Social Sciences.
2. Norkulov S.D., Atamuratova F.S., Utaev G.G. – Lecture Notes on Religious Studies, TSMU, 2025.
3. The Holy Qur'an – Tashkent: Tashkent Islamic University Press, 2019.
4. Karimov I.A. – High Spirituality – Invincible Power. Tashkent, 2008.
5. Hojimatov A. – Harmony of Islam and Culture. Tashkent Islamic Institute Press, 2021.
6. Online sources: www.islam.uz, www.muslim.uz, www.kun.uz.