



INTEGRATION OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE FURNITURE IN MODERN INTERIOR DESIGN

Tetiana BULHAKOVA ¹,
Man YUHAN ²,

¹*Kyiv National University of Technologies and Design, Kyiv, Ukraine*

²*Kyiv Institute at Qilu University of Technology, Jinan, People's Republic of China*
e-mail: bulgakova.tv@knuud.com.ua, e-mail: maa13375589592@163.com

Abstract. *This study explores the harmonious integration of traditional Chinese furniture into modern interiors. It examines the possibilities of utilizing the form and functionality of traditional Chinese furniture, its materials, and manufacturing methods in contemporary interior design. The research emphasizes the importance of balancing tradition and modernity in furniture design, the need for cultural transmission, and the sustainable application of traditional furniture in interiors. Additionally, future trends in this field are outlined.*

Keywords: *Interior design, traditional Chinese furniture, integration, modernity, cultural heritage.*

Introduction

First of all, the analysis of the literary sources of this theme, the article on traditional furniture inspired by the Ming style furniture carving art book more, the author has been engaged in the collection and research of Ming style furniture carvings for many years, from the art form of many carving works of Ming style furniture, the author thinks that it is enough to summarize three quite prominent aesthetic principles: a finishing touch, which refers to the prominent position of Ming style furniture embellished with ornamentation, to install "eyes" on the furniture, so that the furniture is full of vitality. This decoration is often placed above the backrest in the chair to create a dynamic and thematic aesthetic. The second is the flowing line, which refers to the carving around the tooth plate of the table, so that the furniture can show a sense of dynamism in the static position, and wrap a flowing "streamer" around the furniture to produce the beauty of flow. The legs, feet and shoulders of these furniture are carved with animal faces, and the tooth plates are carved with glass patterns, phoenix patterns, and flower and grass patterns, and the ornamentation is extremely vivid and lively. The three are the charm of craftsmanship, which refers to the furniture carving to express luxury and sophistication to achieve a warm and gorgeous aesthetic effect. In terms of its overall shape, traditional Chinese furniture is based on calm and dignified, square and rigorous, but the carving and decoration have a very different style from the modeling, whether it is landscapes and flowers, birds, beasts, fish and insects, or character stories, myths and legends, most of them have the characteristics of enthusiasm and unrestrained. This is in stark contrast to the dignified and solemn shape of Ming-style furniture, adding a flowing temperament to the calm form.

With societal progress, interior design has become a focal point in creating pleasant living environments. As modern trends increasingly influence interior design, the integration of traditional elements offers a unique blend of old and new. This paper discusses the integration of traditional Chinese furniture in modern interior design, analyzing their interaction to provide new directions for the field.

Purpose. This study explores how traditional Chinese furniture can be harmoniously integrated into modern interior design. It examines the influence of traditional design on style, materials, and functionality to create aesthetically pleasing and culturally rich living spaces.



Methodology. The study employs case analysis and comparative research of representative interior design projects. It also gathers opinions from designers and consumers through questionnaires and interviews to understand the practical application of traditional Chinese furniture in modern interiors.

Significance This study provides valuable insights for interior design practitioners, promoting the harmonious blend of traditional and modern elements. It also offers non-professional readers a deeper understanding of the importance of traditional culture in modern design, emphasizing the role of cultural preservation in contemporary interiors.

Research Results

Form and Function in Traditional Chinese Furniture. Traditional Chinese furniture offers rich materials and inspiration for modern design. Each element — shape, material, craftsmanship, and function — reflects a deep cultural heritage that can be adapted to contemporary contexts.

The Luo Pot Tent Table (Fig. 1), also known as the Eight Immortals Table, is a significant example [1]. This table uses various mortise and tenon joints, such as open tenon, dark tenon, long and short tenon, and chuck tenon. It is designed to seat eight people, symbolizing unity and good fortune. The table's mythological and cultural connotations make it a unique piece that blends tradition with modern use. Modern adaptations of this table might include changes in materials, such as using contemporary finishes or integrating glass and metal components while retaining the original form and cultural essence.



Figure 1. The Luo Pot Tent Table

Traditional wooden furniture can be combined with materials like metal and glass in modern interior design. For instance, a traditional Chinese wooden bookcase might retain its classic lines and detailing but include modern elements such as glass shelves and metal frames, blending the old with the new to create a piece that fits contemporary aesthetics.

Balancing Tradition and Modernity Integrating traditional elements into modern design requires careful abstraction. Traditional motifs like bat patterns can be reinterpreted in contemporary furniture to retain cultural connotations while meeting modern aesthetic standards.



Traditional motifs (Fig. 2), such as the bat pattern symbolizing good luck, can be abstracted and integrated into modern furniture design. For example, the cloud motif, symbolizing auspiciousness, can be used in a modern sofa design, where the pattern might be subtly incorporated into the fabric or the sofa's contours, maintaining the traditional symbolism in a contemporary context.



Figure 2. Tables and chairs with bat motifs

Cultural Transmission and Sustainability The spread of traditional Chinese furniture culture promotes the preservation of traditional craftsmanship and values. Using traditional patterns and sustainable materials like wood and bamboo aligns with modern ecological concerns, offering durability and environmental benefits.

Traditional Chinese furniture often uses wood and bamboo, materials that are environmentally friendly and sustainable. Modern designers can incorporate these materials into contemporary pieces, such as bamboo dining chairs or wooden coffee tables, that not only pay homage to traditional methods but also align with current sustainability trends [7-8].

Future Trends. As global design trends evolve, the intersection of Chinese and Western styles will grow. Traditional Chinese furniture will play a vital role in this fusion, influencing future design trends and promoting cultural exchange. Designers will increasingly use sustainable materials and innovative techniques to create environmentally friendly furniture.

Conclusion

Modern trends significantly impact interior design, emphasizing simplicity, fashion, and technology. Designers skillfully integrate modern elements to create vibrant, functional, and aesthetically pleasing interiors. However, challenges like balancing modernity with comfort and practicality remain.

The integration of traditional Chinese furniture into modern interior design enriches the living environment by combining cultural heritage with contemporary aesthetics. This fusion not only enhances the visual appeal but also provides cultural depth and sustainability [6]. Future design trends will likely continue this integration, offering innovative and culturally rich interior spaces.



This study highlights the importance of integrating traditional Chinese furniture design concepts in modern interior design, offering specific directions and suggestions for future development. This approach not only promotes the growth of the interior design industry but also preserves and inherits traditional Chinese culture.

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