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CORRELATING VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS' ELEMENTS WITH INTERIOR SPACES AND USER'S EMOTIONAL RESPONSES

A way to stimulate *Bhava* (emotion) through *Nav-rasa*(artistic elements)

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KEYWORDS

Aesthetics, Navrasa, Interiors, Spaces, Elements, Expression, Emotion, User experience, Interior Design.

ABSTRACT

This paper describes the interrelationship of Bhav and Rasa (emotion and experience) with the design of a space in context to the elements used. The research will portray the analysis on a few existing spaces through which we can understand how the elements used in the space can influence the mood of a person, which element has an impact on which sense and how these elements are used to ignite the desired particular bhav (emotion) and give that kind of rasanubhuti (experience) to the user. Importance of studying, all these Bhav, Rasa, its elements and rasanubhuti, is not only the aesthetic perception, rather it will create awareness amongst the designers and users about the impact of designed spaces on one's mood that will lead to once mental health as well.

INTRODUCTION

Aesthetic means a sense of beauty, which is ignited through the application of the elements of art and design: line, form, colour, texture, tone, tint, shade, which are the basic elements of art. In Indian philosophy aesthetics were explained in reference to visual art like painting, sculpture etc. and performing art like drama, theatre, music etc. There is no any particular structural guide lines for aesthetics of design even RASA were also explained in the terms of performing art i.e. theatre. But we know very well that theater accumulates every art form in itself. So if RASA and BHAV are related to theatre, it means it is connected to the interior spaces as well, because design spaces are the places where drama is played. And these design spaces plays major role to support the situation of the play and stimulate the emotion of the viewer accordingly. In the same way these design spaces gives different pleasure to the user in real life. According to the indian philosophy pleasure means Rasanubhuti received by NAVRASA. And these RASA and BHAV can be generated in the design spaces through the different application of basic elements of art and design.

METHODOLOGY

Literature review of various research papers and study of bharatmuni's natyashashtra, study of elements of visual and performing art and establishment the interrelationship of these theories and elements is the methodology of this paper. This paper also includes survey data on people's perception on colour and feelings associated with it. Attached mood boards in the paper also gives the clear picture of the elements used for the various emotion.

Generating rasanubhuti of these nav-ras through design elements

Using these elements of art in interior design one can create the situation and ambience responsible to bring out various emotion which leads to stimulate Rasanubhuti to the user. As we all know design of living and working spaces influences the mood of user.

So by manipulating or composing six limbs in a way by which Bhav and Rasa can be generated as per designer's choice. So to know the way of composing these six limbs to create bhava and rasa one should understand its deep meaning and their interrelationship.

The meaning of nav-ras experienced by different philosophers

1. Śringāra rasa: Associated with love
2. Hāsyā rasa: Associated with Humour
3. Raudra rasa: Associated with Anger
4. Karuṇa rasa: Associated with Compassion
5. Bibhatsa rasa:
6. Bhayānaka rasa:
7. Veera rasa:
8. Adbhuta rasa: Associated with Amazement
9. Śānta rasa: Associated with peace

1. Śringāra rasa: The rasa dealing with love, attraction and acts pertaining to them. The presiding deity of this rasa is Viṣṇu, while the colour attributed to it is green and yellow. Interior spaces, which flare up the emotion of love and attraction, are water bodies, interior landscapes, ambience of bedroom, dressing room etc. the origin of the shringar rasa is based on the varied application of the six limbs and elements in the interiorspaces. curvilinear forms, natural elements, small pockets of sitting in big spaces, light green colour, yellow diffused light, some symbolic art forms, flowing water, light music, and floral smell gives the feeling of warmth, privacy, intimacy, restfulness, love and attraction.

Predominant representation

Colors- Red, Pink

Lines- Curvilinear

Textures- Smooth

Spaces related: Bedrooms, Dressing Room



Source:

ActiveInteriorDesignNZ/photos/a.218805828260491/1688908191250240/?type=3

Source: <https://www.ivsindia.com/blog/romanticism-in-interior-designing/>



Source:

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.essentialhome.eu%2Finspirations%2Fmoodboard%2Fbest-vintage-moodboards-inspired-2019-decor-trends%2F&psig=AOvVaw21H50pzGgCFVv2bVz9n2yN&ust=1683806937190000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CBMQjhxqFwoTCMCKgufb6v4CFQAAAAAdAAAAABAJ>

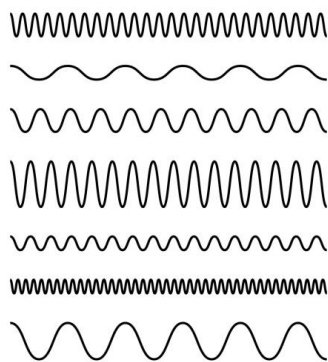


Fig: Lawson Arm Chair

Source: <https://colorpalettes.net/tag/palette-of-romantic-colors/>

2. Hāsya rasa: Laughter, humour and mirth are included in the Hāsya rasa. It is associated with the colour white and the deity Pramatā. The sense of humor, laughter and happiness as well take place in the spaces like living room, family room, courtyards, banquet halls, entertainment zones etc. Generally the elements used in the such spaces are free flowing spaces, informal sitting, cultural elements.



Source: <https://in.pinterest.com/pin/124412008445623389/>

Predominant representation

Colors- White and Yellow
Lines- Free Flowing

Textures- In material texture

Spaces related: living room, family room, courtyards, banquet halls, entertainment zones

3. Raudra rasa: Anger and fury are encapsulated in the Raudra rasa. Naturally, it is associated with the Lord Rudra and its colour is red. Washing areas, store rooms , playing zones are the spaces gives the feeling of anger, hazards, and irritation. Messy planning, wet area, dark colour, untidety and rough look, background sound are the responsible elements for evoking feeling of anxeity and anger.

Predominant representation

Colors- Red

Line – break lines

Texture- Rough textures

Shady Areas

Spaces related: Washing areas, store rooms , playing zones



Source: Adamariffrizaldesigns.com

Karuṇa rasa: Compassion, mercy, tragedy and pathos fall under the purview of Karuṇa rasa. With grey as its colour, the rasa's deity is Yama. Terrace, entrance, and balconies are the areas where one gets feeling of compassion and tragedies because of the uses of the elements like narrow space division, natural elements like plants, birds, etc.

Predominant representation

Colors- Grey

Line – weavy lines

Texture- uneven surfaces

Spaces related: Terrace, entrance, and balconies having narrow space division, natural elements like plants, birds



Source: <https://in.pinterest.com/pin/713820609676476426/>

4. Bibhatsa rasa: The emotions of repulsion and horror comprise the Bibhatsa rasa. Śiva is its presiding deity, while its colour is blue. Washing areas, toilet, common spaces creates the feeling of repulsion. But now a days amazing accessories, hi tech gudjets, proper clean and maintainable materials relaces the feeling of repulsion with the feeling of comfort.
5. Bhayānaka rasa: The deity Kāla reigns over this rasa, which is about fear, horror and terror. The colour given to it is understandably black. Store rooms, home theatres, basements, locker room, are the places associate with the feeling of fear, where darkness, lack of ventilations, no antural light, safocatingand closed forms supports the emotion of fear.

Predominant representation

Colors- Black

Line – proceeding lines

Texture- uneven surfaces

Spaces related: Store rooms, home theatres, basements, locker room,



Source: <https://in.pinterest.com/pin/316166836328977356/>

6. Veera rasa: The king of gods, Indra, represents this rasa of heroism, courage and valour. The colour of veerya is a shade of yellow. Kitchen, study room, gym, with elements of working objects like books , appliances, machines, free moving spaces, bright light, skitless floor, gives the atmosphere to work which leads to the feeling of heroism.

Predominant representation

Colors- Yellow

Line – Curve

Texture- Flat surfaces and pattern on surfaces

Spaces related: Kitchen, study room, gym



Source: <https://michelleogundehin.com/colour-yellow/>

7. Adbhuta rasa: Presided over by Brahmā, the Adbhuta rasa brings within its fold the emotions of wonder and amazement. Its colour is yellow. Drawing rooms, staircase, court yards, amusement spaces, with the elements like, double heightened ceilings, embellished material, decorative artifacts, levish embience, comfortable sitting spaces, circular way to go upstairs, presentable space division trigger the emotion of wonder to the user.

Predominant representation

Colors- Yellow

Line- Angular and curve lines

Texture- Undulation in surfaces

Spaces related: Drawing rooms, staircase, court yards, amusement spaces



8. Śānta rasa: This rasa was formulated by Abhinavagupta in his treatise, Abhinavabhāratī in 10th century CE. Its scope were the emotions of tranquility and peace, its deity, Viṣṇū, and its colour, blue. Puja room, worship places, bed rooms, back yards are the spaces promotes the feeling of peace with the elements like environment of tranuality, one centre of attraction rather multiple centres, no clutter of objects, calm background music, isolated space division, etc.

Predominant representation

Colors- Blue

Line – Horizontal

Texture- Smooth

Spaces related: Puja room, worship places, bed rooms, back yards



Source: <https://www.beautifulhomes.com/magazine/home-decor-advice/design-and-style/vastu-for-pooja-room-colours.html>

One 2020 study that surveyed the emotional associations of 4,598 people from 30 different countries found that people commonly associate certain colors with specific emotions. According to the study results:

- **Black:** 51% of respondents associated black with sadness
- **White:** 43% of people associated white with relief
- **Red:** 68% associated red with love
- **Blue:** 35% linked blue to feelings of relief
- **Green:** 39% linked green to contentment
- **Yellow:** 52% felt that yellow means joy
- **Purple:** 25% reported they associated purple with pleasure
- **Brown:** 36% linked brown to disgust
- **Orange:** 44% associated orange with joy
- **Pink:** 50% linked pink with love

RESULT

The basic elements for art and design are the same. But the basic difference between art and design is art is the expression of feeling, or we can say it can be feel but design is an experience. For both of these the elements of expression are almost similar. In indian philosophy these elements were explained on the basis of the feeling which is felt by sensory organ but experienced by soul. That means in Indian philosophy aesthetic sense is the experience of a soul. Six limbs and Nav rasa are the axis of Indian aesthetics, all art forms revolves around these theories. Rasanubhuti can be used in the terms of visual arts and design as well because this study proves that the use of visual elements stimulates bhav and ras in a same manner experiencing any performing art like dance or drama. So the feeling while experiencing any art form or design is the same depending on the elements used in that creation.

CONCLUSION

The significance of the paper is for the designers who can better understand the uses of different art and design elements for provoking desired emotion and can give better experience to the user of the space. One can easily associate the type of element used and its impact on the mood of viewer. This study can be used to create sets or spaces for drama, theatre, or any scene which helps to evoke particular bhav and rasanubhuti through the elements used in designed spaces. Further this topic can be connected or used for other art forms and designs.

Reference

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