Research on the Flame-shaped Backlight Modeling of Buddhist and Connotation

Jing ZHANG and Nian-Ting GU
School of Art and Design, Xi’an University of Technology, ShaanXi, 710054, China.
ajingzhang@xaut.edu.cn
b137087174@qq.com
*Corresponding author

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Abstract. The background of Flame-shaped Backlight of Buddhist went through the whole process in China. The Buddhism came from the India, so, Buddhist backlight was not only remarkably influenced by the foreign Buddhist doctrine but also with China's unique life experience, emotional and aesthetic psychology of integration. Flame-shaped backlight shape from simple to complex, from religious propaganda purposes and developed to a strong and simple decorative patterns, it has a rich connotation of the concept and cultural accumulation, and convey the human long-term hope for auspicious.

Introduction

The Flame-shaped back light symbolizes flourishing of Buddhism and is an indispensable part in Buddhist statues. It is not only an important element Buddhist statue of the art, but also the performance characteristics of Chinese culture. It recorded objectively integration process about the Buddhist culture and the Chinese traditional culture. According to In Buddha's dictionary records, back light is the Buddha of the light, refers to the Buddha issued by the light. It means to Buddha illuminates, safe and happy. Paradise on death the flame pattern is origin the early religion. In 138B.C., when Zhang Qian mission to the western territories, he introduced Chinese cultural to the western region, and the Zoroastrianism of Persia also been introduced to China.

It is said that Zoroastrianism of Persia is one of the oldest religions in the world history. It respects the fire and often gather together and take the sacrificial ceremonies, and religious rites. Its purpose is to express the desire for the harvest of agriculture through the sacrifice of fire, so the flame pattern become the totem symbol and symbol meaning. And the mystery of totem art evolved the social function that shows taboo. The Buddhist statues gradually absorb the Zoroastrianism of Persia statue, so, in the Indian Buddhist appeared flame shoulder, this is Buddha’s shoulder both erupt the flame. With the development of the Silk Road, the Chinese the regions, the political, economy and culture of continuous integration to the central Asia, Persia and the other countries, at the same time, the Chinese artist combine fire worship and Buddhist worship and form the unique flame pattern backlight.

The Modelling Beauty of the Flame Pattern

Dynamic of Beauty

Flame pattern modeling has simple structure which is composed of straight lines of rotation symmetry, it is not the feeling of dull; on the contrary, it has an active rhythm. Whether it is clockwise or not and it like a rotating wheel, turn on the same direction, the cycle continues, and it is full of repeated philosophical. And in the same time, the Flame-shaped back light contains a kind of internal tension and artistic movement. Flame pattern twists and turns up the line of free turning, exaggerating
the fluttering flames, and the lines being rhythmic upward, it has feeling of bright holy, majestic up, and never extinguished.

This is a dynamic beauty that attracts and engages.

The static dynamic, make people feel very touching, a strong beauty.

Repeat of Beauty

Chinese tradition fire grain design use the lots of repeated techniques, makes Flame pattern produce a rhythm, outward expansion, change infinite, and showing a variety of decorative form, at the same time, consistent with eternal life meaning. In the modelling, the ancient artist pays attention to rhythm and density of relationship, so that there are changes in unity, unity in a change, and enhances the human content. This repetition of beauty told happiness and auspicious of the expectations at China for thousands of years on, especially for life and the hope continue. It also describes the original ancestors of the worship of the sun.

The Cultural Meaning of the Flame Pattern

Auspicious Worship

"The picture must be intentional, and the meaning is auspicious." The figure of the Buddha's Flame back light and other decorative patterns are both rich and auspicious, which contains the characteristics of Chinese traditional culture. The human beings try to communicate with the outside world through graphic symbols to pray for the protection. The Flame is appearance, it is people thirst for power, in the light of advocating, no matter from the appearance and connotation, flame grain reflects the tradition of the Chinese nation, to worship of the sun and the strength of the psychological, to fully demonstrate the patterns of the flame, moral and spiritual form, not only express the thirst for light and peaceful life and hope for people, it also conveys a feeling of the human worship of the sun is infinite and all along the auspicious hope for a lasting, expressed the people to the pursuit of happiness life, the desire of the blessing to the people for safety.

Sun Worship

The German anthropologist Lipps believed that all fire worship originated from the sun worship.[1] The most of the Buddha's backlight is made of the sun, which is round and radiated in flames. In the original condition of poverty and low productivity, the original human understanding of nature and deal with things is very lacking, so they attempted to communicate with the outside world by graphic symbol, pray to god in charge of the life to give blessing and protection. Flame grain as a symbol of the Buddha wisdom and compassion, it shows people’s thirst for power and the light. It is winding up, swaying flexible modelling is materialized psychological pursuit of life force, it is people from dark to bright light. As Mueller points out, "the sun has innumerable powers to see the right and wrong of people,"[2] Buddhist Beliefs

The Flame-shaped back light decoration that it main show is the Buddha's holy and symbol the sunshine. If believers view its, and can get wisdom from ignorance, it show the meaning of Buddha purdue beings. The ancient People use the flame to paint the Buddha light, and there is a sense of upward lift, and symbolizing the spiritual strength and divine power of the Buddha.

According to The Han dynasty records, "the Buddha was six feet long, and the gold neck of the middle is light, and the lots of change, so that it could make all the living things."[3] This the expression of the Flame-shaped back light, it make people put hope to the god, and must make it shine to all, the degree of insight into everything.
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