

**EXTENDED
ABSTRACT****Common Motifs in No Knot Handwoven Products of Sistan, Iran****Abolqasem Nemat Shahrabaki^{1*} Somayeh Mirnejad²****1. * Faculty Member, Carpet Department, Faculty of Art and Architecture, Sistan and Baluchestan University, Zahedan, Iran Email: Shahrabaki@arts.usb.ac.ir****2. Faculty Member, Carpet Department, Faculty of Art and Architecture, Sistan and Baluchestan University, Zahedan, Iran**

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Introduction

Handwoven products of Sistan, with their specific motifs and uses, are divided into two categories: "with loom" and "without loom". With loom products are the ones that their weaving requires a loom and a specific location. However, without loom products are woven without such equipment, such as woolen and hairy twine, and mat which are woven by nomadic women. These various handicrafts have some similar motifs that are used in various no knot products. Therefore, the present study aimed to investigate the common motifs used in different no knot products of Sistan. Regarding the unique no knot handwoven products of Sistan, Hall et al. (1998) stated that "This art began by using the simplest methods of weaving using plant and animal fibers and has progressed from providing the everyday necessary equipment to such delicate and deluxe products. Today, various kinds of weaving products are often used as ornaments or manifestations of the collective identity." Ali Hassouri (1993) also deals with these handwoven products and their weavers in his book Sistan Carpet.

Keyword:Common motifs and designs
No knot handwoven products
Sistan**Methodology**

The present study aimed to investigate the usages of the common motifs and designs used in different types of no knot handwoven products of Sistan. For this purpose, 10 handwoven samples, including with knot and no knot handmade products were analyzed which were manufactured in villages of "Hagoon", "Hirmand", "Nimruz", "Zabol", and "Zahak" in Sistan province. The required data were obtained through field research in the above-mentioned sites as well as library research. This research has a descriptive and analytical design and introduces different types of no knot handwoven products and categorizes them based on their common motifs.

Results

There is no equivalent for no knot handwoven products in the literature on the Persian carpet. By definition, no knot stands in contrast to knotted woven products, such as carpets and rugs. no knot handwoven products are woven using warp and weft. Therefore, woven products that are warp-based, weft-based, and knot-free are classified as no knot products and in this study, we refer to them as no knot handwoven products. However, most of the

practical handicrafts are woven in a variety of ways other than no knot. No knot handwoven products are less aesthetically appealing than knotted products, such as carpets and rugs, due to their functional role in the maintenance of objects and the carriage of necessary supplies.

No knot handwoven products of Sistan can be divided into two categories: the first category includes “kilim”, “tablecloth”, “floor mat”, “saddlebag”, “woolen sack”, and “floor cloth” which have no knots (Table 1). The second category consists of “carriage harness”, “yekteli”, “backrest”, and “salt shaker” that have a knotted layer (Table 2). However, carpets and rugs are knotted products. Furthermore, Table 3 demonstrates the different and similar motifs and their usages in no knot handwoven products.

Table 1. No knot handwoven products of Sistan. Source: Authors


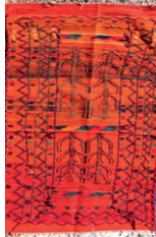
















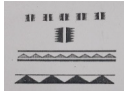
 <p>Flour mat (authors)</p>	 <p>Tablecloth (authors)</p>	 <p>Kilim (Hasouri, 164 :1371)</p>
 <p>Floorcloth (authors)</p>	 <p>Woolen sack (Hasouri, 165 :1371)</p>	 <p>Saddlebag (authors)</p>

Table 2. Two-sided handwoven products of Sistan with knotted and no knot sides (no knot side as the outer layer), Source: Authors

 <p>Yekteli (authors)</p>	 <p>www.vistacarpet.com)) Salt shaker</p>
 <p>Carriage harness (authors)</p>	 <p>Kilim lining of the backrest (authors)</p>

Table 3. Investigation of the similar and different motifs in no knot handwoven products , Source : Authors

Carriage harness	Woolen sack	Yekteli	Salt shaker	Tablecloth	Saddlebag	Kilim	Picture	Motif
-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓		Monster's feet
-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓		Scorpion
-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓		Running water
-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓		Star
-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Cross
-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓		soormehr
-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-		Moon and sun
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Eight eyes
-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		tas kot
-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-		Earing
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Armband
-	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-		Claw
✓	-	✓	-	-	✓	-		Amulet
-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓		Comb

Conclusion

Based on the findings, motifs used in no knot products, include “monster’s feet”, “scorpion”, “running water”, “star”, “soormehr”, “comb”, “cross”, “earrings”, “moon and sun”, “eight Eyes”, “tas kot”, “armband”, “claw” and “amulet”. All the above-mentioned motifs are used in the saddlebags. Moreover, except for the amulet motif, all the other ones are used for the tablecloth. Furthermore, the motifs of the moon and sun, amulet, earrings, and claw are not used for carpets and the motifs of soormehr, amulet, and earrings are not used for the salt shaker. The motif of the cross, soormehr, moon and sun, eight eyes, and amulet are used in yekteli, which is used as a decoration. For woolen sacks, monster’s feet, running water, moon and sun, eight eyes, tas kot, and claws are used. The carriage harness usually has motifs like eight eyes, armband, and amulet. The lining of the backrests and floor cloths are simple kilim with no motifs.

References

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