



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATION AND INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION (IJIREV)



www.ijirev.com

# INTEGRATING TRADITIONAL CHINESE CLOUD PATTERNS INTO MODERN INTERIOR DESIGN: A VISUAL SYMBOLISM STUDY

Liu Zeyu 1\*, Nurul 'Ayn Ahmad Sayuti 2

- College of Creative Arts, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Malaysia
  - Email: 2022139115@student.uitm.edu.my College of Creative Arts, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Malaysia
  - Email: nurulayn@uitm.edu.my
- \* Corresponding Author

#### **Article Info:**

#### **Article history:**

Received date: 01.05.2024 Revised date: 13.05.2024 Accepted date: 15.06.2024 Published date: 30.06.2024

#### To cite this document:

Liu, Z., & Sayuti, N. 'A. A. (2024). Integrating Traditional Chinese Cloud Patterns Into Modern Interior Design: A Visual Symbolism Study. International Journal of Innovation and Industrial Revolution, 6 (17), 220-231.

**DOI:** 10.35631/ IJIREV.617017

This work is licensed under CC BY 4.0



#### Abstract:

Cloud pattern is a typical representative of traditional Chinese patterns, which contains rich cultural connotation and aesthetic value and is widely used in modern interior design. This paper aims to explore the specific application of cloud pattern in modern interior design and its cultural and aesthetic value as a visual symbol. By analysing the history, cultural background and artistic characteristics of cloud patterns, the paper examines the decorative function, semiotic significance, emotional value and global application of cloud patterns in modern design. It is emphasised that cloud pattern not only retains the essence of traditional culture in modern design, but also satisfies modern people's aesthetic needs and emotional experience through innovative application, and demonstrates its cross-cultural communication power globally. This paper provides modern designers with inspirations and methods for integrating traditional cultural elements, and promotes the inheritance and innovation of traditional culture.

# **Keywords:**

Chinese Traditional Pattern, Interior Design, Cloud Pattern, Symbolism

#### Introduction

Chinese traditional culture has a long history, and traditional tattoos are an important part of it, carrying profound cultural significance and historical value. The formal expression of "tattoo" has become another language of expression in addition to language, and signifies that people

can consciously use this mode of expression to sketch objects for conveying emotions and expressions. The art of "tattooing", such as tattoos and pictorial symbols, also emerged in this process (Li. 1993). From this, it can be seen that patterns for the purpose of decoration are not only the portrayal of external objects by human beings, but also reflect the emotional life of human beings, which is a microcosm of human society and culture. Among them, auspicious patterns, as a unique cultural symbol, have evolved over thousands of years, not only as part of decorative art, but also as an expression of the Chinese people's good wishes and auspicious symbols. In particular, the art of cloud pattern, with its smooth lines and varied forms, has been widely used in various carriers such as buildings, utensils and fabrics in various dynasties of China, and has become an important part of traditional Chinese culture. However, in the field of modern interior design, it has become a challenge for designers to combine these traditional elements with modern aesthetics in order to preserve the flavour of traditional culture and meet the aesthetic needs of modern people. As shown in Figure 1 so, the authors can see that development, problem, challenge, technology and structure are the keywords that appear more frequently in the 491 papers related to this study in Web of Science Core Collection. Many researchers are thinking about this situation and trying to solve it, but at the same time few studies related to interior design can be found.

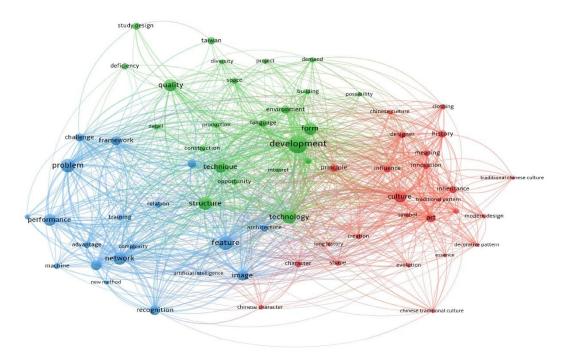


Figure 1: Network Diagram Of Keywords In The Titles And Abstracts Of 491 Articles Source: Vosviewer Software Analysis

The purpose of this study is to explore the visual presentation and semiotic significance of the art of cloud pattern, a traditional Chinese auspicious pattern, in modern interior design, aiming at exploring how the application of cloud pattern in modern interior design can be concretely expressed? What are the cultural and aesthetic values of cloud pattern as a visual symbol in modern design? What is the emotional value of cloud pattern in modern design? How is the application of cloud pattern in the context of globalisation? By analysing the history, cultural background, artistic characteristics of cloud pattern art and its application in modern interior design, we aim to provide a source of inspiration for modern designers and promote the

innovation and application of traditional Chinese cultural elements in modern design. At the same time, from the perspective of semiotics, we analyse the transformation of meaning and cultural value of cloud pattern art as a cultural symbol in modern society, so as to provide new ideas and directions for the inheritance and development of traditional culture.

# **Literature Review - Origins And Development**

The history of the cloud pattern is traced back to the "Yunqi pattern" of the Chu and Han Dynasties, the "scrolling cloud pattern" of the pre-Qin Dynasty, and the "cloud and thunder pattern" of the Shang and Zhou Dynasties. If these scrolling and swirling motifs in the ancient times do have the meaning of "cloud", then further primitive tracing naturally goes back to the Neolithic pottery swirl motifs, which are very similar in form (Wang, 2014). Cloud motifs have different distinctive features throughout the dynasties and have been combined with other shapes to create different forms and give new meanings, such as cloud dragons, cloud phoenixes, etc. The shape of the motifs has also developed into many other features. Its shape characteristics are even derived from many forms, such as the yi pattern, the scroll pattern, and so on.

Starting from the simple, rough, simple and clear primitive whirl patterns on primitive coloured pottery and stone tools, which are interlocked in an "S" shape and undulate in bands, constituting a flowing style with a sense of rotation, the curves are varied in thickness and used flexibly, which appear to be dashing and natural, harmonious and vivid (Xu & Zheng. 2010). Initially, cloud motifs may have originated from people's imitation and worship of natural phenomena, especially the changes in the sky and clouds. With the passage of time, this pattern was gradually endowed with the symbolism of good luck and longevity, and became a way to express people's wishes for a better life. In the evolution of history, the art of cloud pattern has been continuously enriched and developed, forming a variety of styles and forms of expression, and showing its unique artistic charm and cultural value in many fields such as ceramics, fabrics, architecture, calligraphy and painting.

The transition from the Shang and Zhou to the Spring and Autumn and Warring States periods marks a shift in the aesthetic appreciation of these motifs. More complex and interconnected cloud motifs became prominent, reflecting a shift towards more vivid and dynamic representations, in contrast to the orderly and rigid styles of earlier periods. This evolution continued into the Qin and Han periods, when the cloud motifs not only displayed majestic dynamism, but also incorporated elements such as "cloud tails," which enhanced the sense of movement and vitality. These motifs are said to have evolved from the ancient chi dragon and bird motifs, retaining their original elements while adopting new forms.

As history moved into the Wei, Jin, and Northern and Southern Dynasties, there was a remarkable shift in pattern design in the face of political upheaval and changing worldviews. The once free-flowing cloud patterns became more structured, reflecting a society that looked to religion and spirituality for solace and meaning. Designs of this period emphasised simplicity, naturalness and inner confidence, expressing a refined aesthetic through direct lines and elegant shapes.

During the Sui and Tang dynasties, the golden age of cultural prosperity and unity in ancient Chinese society, the complexity and sophistication of the cloud motifs picked up, employing smooth, wavy lines that symbolised a harmonious blend of stability and change, roundness and

sharpness. These designs embodied the Taoist philosophy of balance and were highly regarded as standards of aesthetics.

In the Tang Dynasty, the cloud pattern became more stylised and was widely used in various art and decorative forms, emphasising symmetry and balance, capturing the dynamism of the static and the intangibility of the tangible, an aesthetic philosophy that reflects the Chinese appreciation of the beauty of the "ethereal", and which is in line with the aesthetic psychology of the Chinese nation.

With the accumulation of aesthetic experience and the development of expressive forms, the cloud patterns of the Song and Yuan dynasties gradually shifted towards more delicate and refined designs, with the emphasis placed on smaller and finer cloud patterns. Cloud decoration in the Yuan Dynasty began to get rid of its dependence on objective objects and became a relatively independent form of decoration, signalling a trend towards abstraction.

The Ming Dynasty demonstrated a diversified development trend on this basis, and the regimental cloud pattern, with its distinctive planar combinability, constituted a pattern rich in a sense of symmetry and order. The cloud decoration of the Qing Dynasty became more colourful, in addition to the scrolling cloud, dolomite cloud, regimental cloud, Ruyi cloud pattern, lingzhi cloud pattern, the superimposed cloud pattern became the most characteristic decorative form of the period, through the composition of the cascading cloud head and the curved cloud torso, which is often used in full or edge decoration, and combined with the Fukushou pattern, which is meant to be auspicious and shows the decorative habit of the pursuit of opulence in the Qing Dynasty.

It can be seen that the cloud pattern changed from simplicity to complexity in form, and the cloud pattern evolved from a simple and simple symbol to a lively, delicate and decorative pattern. With the development of the economy and the improvement of productivity, people's knowledge of nature gradually deepened, and the cloud pattern on the artefacts became more and more delicate and complex, and at this time, the image of the cloud pattern has been separated from the single form of the natural clouds, and the form has become more beautiful.

Period	Pattern	Trait	Phase	Moulding
Primitive	Primary spiral	Primitive and rough	Foundation prototype	
Shang and Zhou	Cloud and thunder pattern	Pure and simple	Lay moire S-shape format	100) aaa
Spring and Autumn Warring States	Cirrus moire	Beautiful and lively	The appearance of a cloud head	@ 00
Qin and Han	Cloud pattern	Sense of movement and speed	The appearance of a cloud tail	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Wei and Jin	Flowing moire	Smooth, curved, short body	The head of the cloud combines with the tail	
Sui and Tang	Cloudlet pattern	The head of the cloud is round and full, the tail is graceful	The combination of cloud head and cloud tail is simplified	D
Ming	Cloud cluster pattern	Sense of cohesion, sense of scale	The pattern form established in late Ming Dynasty	
Qing	Stacked clouds pattern	Thick cloud head, curved cloud body	The pattern form established in late Ming Dynasty	

Figure 2: Changes In Cloud Patterns In Different Dynasties

Source: Author's Hand Drawing

# Literature Review - Cultural Symbolism

In traditional Chinese culture, the cloud pattern is not only a symbol of natural beauty, but also contains a deep cultural significance and philosophical thinking. The Yi - Department of Rhetoric Biography said; "The heavens and earth are dense, and all things are made pure." The giving of universal vitality or meaning of life makes the clouds a spokesman for the hope of the forefathers of the Chinese nation (Xu. 2000). Cloud, as a flowing and changing element between heaven and earth, symbolises change and immortality, and embodies the ancient Chinese philosophical theories of yin and yang and the five elements, signifying harmony and balance. The ancients always believed that people would return to heaven after death, so heaven was lofty and sacred, and the cloud's extraordinary ability to keep them safe and healthy during their lives and in heaven after death, therefore, the cloud was pinned to people's subjective desires, becoming a spokesperson for ideals and goodness, which was a hope for goodness (Xiao. 2013). Because of their continuous nature, cloud motifs also symbolise continuous good fortune and endless life, and are a symbol of good fortune, happiness and longevity. In different historical periods, the cloud pattern was used in the decoration of royal imperial items, showing its honourable status and cultural connotation. Starting from the embryonic form of the pattern in primitive society, it has never been an individual independent of the context of its time, but a cultural product dependent on different eras (Gu & Wei. 2021).

#### **Literature Review – Cloud Patterns And Chinese Aesthetics**

The art of cloud pattern reflects the core values of traditional Chinese aesthetic concepts - the pursuit of natural harmony and the beauty of mood. In traditional Chinese art, imitating natural



forms and pursuing the conveyance of imagery are common creative techniques. With its flowing lines and layered shapes, the cloud pattern not only expresses the beauty of nature, but also stimulates people's imagination and emotional resonance, reflecting the philosophical idea of "unity of heaven and man" in Chinese culture. The shape of cloud pattern is full of dynamism, and it can be combined with round, square, angular and other shapes to form suitable patterns in any space and carrier. "Vividness" is the aesthetic ideal pursued by the Chinese nation, and it is the embodiment of the philosophy of qi theory in the aesthetic thought, and the cloud pattern conveys the people's aesthetic needs and aesthetic demand for the principle of life with its extended, undulating and gyrating shapes, as well as the flowing curves. principle's aesthetic demand and aesthetic psychology. (Wang. 2014)

#### **Analyse – Cultural Symbolism Of Cloud Patterns**

The famous American philosopher and symbolic aesthetician Susan. According to Lange, art is a symbolic means of expressing human emotions for appreciation and displaying them in visible and audible forms (Lu. 2007). The reason why ancient Chinese cloud decoration is so prosperous has a deeper cultural heritage behind its beautiful form. Symbol refers to the geometrical abstraction of certain images of inanimate things to form a standardised and concise graphic style, and auspicious patterns are a class of symbols that have been incorporated into the specific culture of Chinese civilisation. It is a process of deepening from pictorial symbols to indicative symbols and then to symbolic symbols, with a wider information content. As a pictorial symbol, the meaning of the auspicious pattern is a symbol (Ding. 2010). The representation of symbols is never learnt by the individual, but can be regarded as a relic of racial development (Duan. 1995).

Analysed from the perspective of semiotics, cloud art is not only a visual decorative element, but also a multi-meaning symbol full of deep meaning due to the rich cultural meanings and historical information it carries. The semiotic perspective provides us with a new way of interpreting the art of cloud pattern and its changes, especially when exploring the changes of its meaning in different cultural backgrounds and aesthetic concepts. In traditional Chinese culture, cloud pattern symbolises auspiciousness, harmony and eternity. In modern interior design, the use of cloud pattern goes beyond its traditional symbolism and becomes a bridge between the past and the present, between tradition and modernity.

In semiotics, the cloud pattern is regarded as a "polysemous symbol", i.e., a symbol that can have multiple meanings, which change according to the recipient's cultural background, personal experience and social environment. The cloud pattern is a polysemous symbol because it has been given a variety of symbolic meanings throughout history, which have evolved over time and space.

The design of cloud motifs often originated from ancient people's observation and imagination of natural phenomena, in which the cloud, as an ever-changing and unending celestial phenomenon, was endowed with multiple symbols such as auspiciousness, change, and sublimation. It was believed that the changes in the sky signified the changes in the world, and "through its changes, it became the text of heaven and earth" illustrates the significance of clouds as symbols conveying the imagery of heaven and earth in the sky (Lan.2021). In ancient literature and art works, cloud motifs were often regarded as heavenly auspicious objects, often combined with dragons, phoenixes, and other auspicious objects to symbolise heavenly good fortune and the legitimacy of royal power. The use and evolution of cloud motifs in Chinese

culture is closely related to ancient Chinese philosophical thought and cosmology. In Taoism, the philosophy of "Tao gives birth to one, two gives birth to two, two gives birth to three, and three gives birth to all things" symbolises the process of creation and change of all things through the changes in the shape of the cloud pattern. At the same time, the fluidity and changeability of the cloud pattern reflects the ancient Chinese understanding of the unending flow of all things in the universe and their harmonious symbiosis.

The art of cloud art is found in cultures across the globe, and although the meanings vary, they are universally associated with the sky, spiritual symbolism, and the beauty of nature. This universality has made cloud patterns a visual language of cross-cultural communication. In Japan, cloud motifs (called "yunryu") are also a common traditional motif, often used in clothing and ceramics. It symbolises change and flow, echoing the Japanese culture's deep sense of nature and seasonal change. Although the use of clouds in Western culture is not as symbolic as in the East, in certain periods of history, such as the Renaissance, they were used to decorate churches and palaces, along with other natural elements, to symbolise the heavens and the divine.

### **Analyse – Modern Significance Of Cloud Patterns**

Auspicious cloud patterns are widely used in home space design and public space design of Chinese style hotels, clubs, tea houses, exhibition halls and other public spaces with their beautiful and smooth forms and flexible combinations (Qin. 2015). In traditional Chinese architecture, the requirements for interior decoration are more focused on the pursuit of cultural atmosphere (Qu. Zhou & Wang). The application value of cloud pattern in modern interior design is mainly embodied in the three aspects of satisfying aesthetics, emotional expression and manifesting culture (Qin. 2015). The application of cloud pattern goes beyond its traditional symbolic meaning and becomes a bridge connecting the past and present, tradition and modernity. This transformation reflects the dynamic and culture-dependent nature of symbolic meaning in semiotics. In modern design, cloud pattern is not only a way to look back to tradition and history, but also a means of innovation and modern expression. It conveys respect and nostalgia for traditional culture, but also demonstrates how modern designers can reinterpret traditional elements and incorporate them into modern aesthetics to create designs that have both historical depth and contemporary lifestyles.

The change in symbolism of cloud art during its transformation from traditional to modern is an important case for semiotic research. This transformation not only reflects the development of cultural and aesthetic concepts, but also reveals how the symbols maintain their continuity and relevance in the ever-changing socio-cultural context. As a bridge, the cloud pattern constantly bridges the gap between tradition and modernity, the East and the West, and promotes cross-cultural exchange and understanding.

Through the perspective of semiotics, we can have a deeper understanding of the multiple meanings carried by the art of cloud pattern in different times and different cultural backgrounds, and how it has adapted to and reflected the ever-developing cultural and aesthetic needs of mankind. We can also see that the application of cloud pattern art in modern design is not only a tribute to traditional culture, but also a rediscovery and reconstruction of its cultural value. In the process, cloud pattern not only connects the past and the present, but also promotes the continuous cultural inheritance and innovation, as well as the key role played by designers in reinterpreting traditional symbols. It proves that traditional cultural elements can

be translated through semiotics and integrated into modern life with new forms and meanings, inspiring people to explore and identify with their cultural roots.

#### **Analyse – The Application Of Cloud Pattern In Modern Interior Design**

Interior design is mainly concerned with the design of the interior space that is closely related to people's life and work, and it applies the knowledge system of related disciplines and the technical means of related fields to create an interior environment that meets people's growing needs for a better life by taking the principles of safety and practicality, green health, intelligence and efficiency, comfort and pleasure, and inheritance and innovation, and creating "beautiful" environment is the initial starting point interior of (Chen&Yan&Zhang.2023). Creating a "beautiful" environment is the initial starting point of interior design (Chen&Yan&Zhang.2023). Traditional Chinese decorative elements contain the cultural deposits of the Chinese nation over thousands of years, with rich content, diverse art forms and a wide variety of themes, which is a form of artistic expression dependent on Chinese culture (Wang.2012). In modern design, the use of traditional cloud pattern mainly retains its spiritual connotation, and the shape is appropriately adjusted to meet modern aesthetics. At the same time, modern new materials and processes are integrated into it to give new vitality to the traditional culture, so that the feelings of the old times are still retained in the new environment, and the classical elegance and serenity blossom in the modern space. Cultures of different time and regions are intermingled in a small space, so that the spiritual pursuit and the prayer for a better life contained in the cloud pattern bring visual impact to the modern space. The designer starts from the symbol features and symbols of the cloud pattern elements, uses some translation methods to characterise the cloud pattern elements, conveys the landscape information through symbolisation, realises the modern and appropriate translation of the form, and forms a harmonious and beautiful entity which has the reinterpretation of the auspicious cultural concepts as well as conforms to the aesthetics of the times.

It should be noted that, although the direct use of traditional patterns, but should not blindly copy wholesale, but according to the use of modern interior space requirements of the cloud pattern for the appropriate selection and tailoring, in order to better serve the design. According to the shape and colour of the cloud pattern, analyse the flow trend of the cloud pattern, compositional elements, colour matching, etc., grasp the characteristics of the design object, and extract the design elements from the cloud pattern for plane or three-dimensional highlighting and exaggeration, simplification or repetition. By disassembling and optimising the elements of the cloud pattern, the structure of the elements can be restructured. Dismantle the elements of cloud pattern in three parts: cloud head, cloud body and cloud tail, derive new elements through line restructuring and planning optimisation, and finally get the innovative unit pattern with the characteristics of the original cloud pattern through combination and arrangement. The cultural and aesthetic significance of the cloud pattern, combined with modern design concepts and technology for innovative design practice, such a design can not only enrich the aesthetic dimension of modern interior space, but also convey the deep value of traditional Chinese culture. The concept of globalisation provides a clear development path and direction for the transformation of cloud pattern into modern graphics (Liu & Fan. 2021). In the context of globalisation, the application of cloud pattern art also reflects the emphasis on and respect for local cultural identity. At the same time, its cross-cultural characteristics enable the design works to cross borders and communicate with the global audience, demonstrating a modern design concept that embraces and integrates multiple cultures.

Auspicious cloud pattern atmosphere changeable, suitable for a variety of decorative atmosphere, since ancient times often appear in a variety of partition decoration, now the use of new materials, for the auspicious cloud pattern provides more changes in the way to meet the functional division of space, increase the sense of spatial order, improve the aesthetic appeal. Commonly used design techniques will be auspicious cloud pattern as the main decorative patterns, large areas appear in the ceiling, or the use of auspicious cloud pattern of lights as a ceiling in the focus of the line of sight concentration area, commonly used in minimalist European style. Can also be auspicious cloud pattern to line the way carved out, with the use of light, to create a sense of hierarchy of the ceiling, this decorative method is mostly seen in the new Chinese decorative style and modern style. Walls as the main part of interior design hard furnishings, its demolition, new construction is the core aspect of interior design space pattern planning. Wall design usually occupies an important position in modern living space design, and the main ways of design include plastering, wallpaper, hanging decorative paintings, hanging wall decorations and so on. In the wall design of modern living space, the smooth and beautiful line characteristics of Han Dynasty Yunqi pattern determines that it is very suitable for wall design, with its rich variety and varied modelling, which can be flexibly applied according to the specific conditions of the interior space. Traditional cloud pattern is not only presented in modern interior design in the form of hard decoration, but also often appears in the form of soft decoration, directly or with a condensed image in the furniture, fabric, or other displays. Whether figurative or abstract, the auspicious symbolism of cloud pattern can be expressed in an artistic form that is more in line with the aesthetics of modern people. 2010 Shanghai World Expo in the National Olympic Village used a large number of cloud patterns, walls, floors, display screen background, monolithic vignettes, display boards, doorways and so on, all with round scrolls and clouds to do the decorative pattern. The cloud pattern here not only conveys the characteristics of traditional Chinese culture, but also recalls and echoes the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, which used the cloud pattern as the main decorative characteristic element.

As a cultural symbol, the application of cloud pattern art in modern interior design shows its charm beyond time and space. Through the modern interpretation and innovative application of cloud pattern, designers not only show the world the profound heritage of traditional Chinese culture, but also bring new inspirations and possibilities to the field of modern interior design. This cross-generation design practice not only promotes cultural heritage and development, but also provides a source of empathy and inspiration for designers and users worldwide.

# Findings – Modern forms of application of cloud patterns

By studying the application of moire in modern interior design, it is found that the application of cloud pattern in modern interior design mainly manifests itself as a decorative pattern, a functional design element and a medium of emotional expression. By simplifying, abstracting and reorganising cloud patterns, modern designers keep the essence of traditional culture while meeting modern aesthetic demands. For example, in the design of the wall, the smooth lines and complex patterns of the cloud pattern are simplified to form a geometric pattern with a modern sense; in the design of the furniture, the elements of the cloud pattern are skilfully integrated into the structure and decoration of the furniture, enhancing the cultural atmosphere of the space.

# Findings – Symbolism of Cloud Patterns

From a semiotic point of view, the significance of cloud patterns in modern design has undergone an important shift. Traditionally, cloud pattern symbolises auspiciousness, harmony and eternity, while in modern design, cloud pattern is given more symbolic meaning of culture and innovation. Through the innovative application of the cloud pattern, designers have made it a bridge between tradition and modernity, the East and the West, demonstrating the importance and possibilities of symbol translation in design.

#### Findings – Emotional value of cloud patterns

Studies have shown that cloud pattern in modern interior design not only has a decorative function, but also has an important emotional value. As a cultural symbol, cloud pattern can not only arouse people's empathy for traditional culture, but also inspire people's desire for a better life. In practical application, designers create a serene and peaceful spatial atmosphere through the clever use of cloud pattern, which enhances the emotional experience and cultural identity of the occupants.

#### Findings – Globalised applications of cloud patterns

In the context of globalisation, the application of cloud pattern is not only limited to China, but also widely noticed and recognised in the international design community. It is found that cloud pattern, as a cross-cultural visual language, can be accepted and understood in different cultural contexts, demonstrating its strong cultural transmission and inclusiveness. This globalised application not only enhances the international influence of traditional Chinese culture, but also provides a rich source of inspiration for designers around the world.

In summary, the study of the application of cloud pattern in modern interior design shows that it has important decorative, semiotic significance and emotional value as a cultural symbol in contemporary design. Through the innovative application of cloud pattern, designers are able to meet the aesthetic needs and emotional experience of modern people while inheriting traditional culture. This research not only provides new ideas for modern interior design, but also opens up new paths for the inheritance and innovation of traditional culture.

#### **Conclusions**

Through an in-depth discussion of cloud pattern art as an important part of traditional Chinese culture, its profound historical and cultural background makes it have unique aesthetic value and cultural significance in modern interior design. By analysing the application cases of cloud pattern art in modern interior design, it is found that designers effectively combine cloud pattern art with modern design concepts through innovative design methods, which not only retains the cultural essence of traditional elements, but also meets modern people's aesthetic needs and functional requirements. The analysis of the significance of cloud pattern art from the perspective of semiotics reveals its translation and rediscovery as a cultural symbol in modern society, which reflects the vitality and adaptability of traditional cultural symbols and promotes the dialogue and integration of tradition and modernity. This study not only provides inspiration and reference for modern interior designers, showing how to innovatively integrate traditional cultural elements in design practice, but also provides new ideas for the inheritance and development of traditional culture.

The results of the study show that cloud pattern not only retains the essence of traditional culture in modern design, but also meets the aesthetic needs and emotional experience of



modern people through innovative application, and demonstrates its cross-cultural spreading power on a global scale. The modern application cases of cloud pattern art show that the combination of traditional cultural elements and modern design concepts can create design works with both cultural depth and modern aesthetics, which opens up a new way to promote the dissemination and application of traditional Chinese cultural elements on a global scale. In addition, the study found that the application of cloud pattern in modern interior design is not only limited to the decorative function, but also able to enhance the emotional experience and cultural identity of the occupants by creating a serene and peaceful spatial atmosphere. This further proves the multiple values of cloud pattern as a cultural symbol and its important position in modern design. Through the perspective of semiotics, the significance of cloud pattern in modern design has been further deepened and expanded, demonstrating its unique role as a cultural bridge.

Although this study provides an in-depth analysis of the application of cloud pattern art in modern interior design, there are still some limitations, such as the scope and depth of case selection and the diversity of research methods. Future research can further explore the application of cloud pattern art in different design fields, as well as the innovative design practice of combining cloud pattern art with other traditional patterns. In addition, research on the translation and acceptance of cloud pattern art in the global multicultural context is also an important direction for future work.

In conclusion, this study demonstrates the multiple values of cloud pattern as an important cultural symbol in modern design through a comprehensive analysis of the history, cultural background, artistic characteristics of cloud pattern art and its application in modern interior design. Cloud pattern not only connects tradition and modernity, East and West, but also shows its potential for cultural heritage and innovation through semiotic translation. The results of the study show that the cloud pattern not only retains the essence of traditional culture in modern design, but also meets the aesthetic needs and emotional experience of modern people through innovative applications, and demonstrates its cross-cultural communication power on a global scale. This paper provides modern designers with inspirations and methods for integrating traditional cultural elements, and promotes the inheritance and innovation of traditional culture.

#### Acknowledgements

First of all, I would like to thank my advisor professor, Dr. Nurul 'Ayn Ahmad Sayuti, who gave me very professional advice and guidance. Thank you very much for your carefulness and patience, which is my honor. Secondly, I would like to thank all my classmates and friends for helping me find information and advice time and time again. Finally, I would like to thank my family for their support.

#### References

Chen, Y., Yan, J., & Zhang, D. (2023). A new species of the genus Pseudourostyla (Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Braconinae). *Science China: Technological Sciences*, (05), 743-754.

Ding, Y. (2010). Exploring the deconstruction of traditional auspicious patterns in the digital age [Master's thesis, Shanghai Jiaotong University]. Retrieved from https://kns.cnki.net/kcms2/article/abstract?v=9w9hjx65dQSEld5OT1luup5A31M-

Duan, J. (1995). Chinese auspicious decoration design. China Light Industry Press.



- Gu, H., & Wei, R. (2021). The application of traditional Chinese patterns in modern graphic design. *West Leather*, 43(1), 114-115.
- Lan, T. (2021). Exploring the imagery structure and cultural connotation of cloud symbols. *Daguan (Forum)*, (03), 93-94.
- Lee, Y. Z. (1993). The way of decoration. Renmin University Press.
- Liu, K., & Fan, C. H. (2021). Innovative application of traditional Chinese cloud pattern modelling in the context of the new era. *Art Education Research*, (01), 40-41.
- Lu, X. (2007). Interpretation of traditional decorative arts from the perspective of symbols. Guangxi Social Science, (6), 104.
- Qin, H. (2015). The application of auspicious cloud patterns in modern interior design. *Journal of Zhengzhou Institute of Aviation Industry Management (Social Science Edition)*, (04), 173-175. doi:10.19327/j.cnki.zuaxb.1009-1750.2015.04.043
- Qu, Z., Zhou, Y., & Wang, D. (2009). Semiotics of traditional patterns in interior design. Journal of Consumerism, (08), 222-223.
- Wang, F. (2012). Research on the application of traditional Chinese decorative elements in modern interior design [Master's thesis, Northwest Normal University]. Retrieved from https://kns.cnki.net/kcms2/article/abstract?v=9w9hjx65dQRvKl9xFA83H
- Wang, L. (2014). On the influence of cloud patterns on modern design. *Beauty and Era (upper)*, (09), 80-83. https://doi.org/10.16129/j.cnki.mysds.2014.09.071
- Xiao, Y. (2013). Research on the application of Han Dynasty cloudy air patterns in furniture design [Master's thesis, Central South Forestry University of Science and Technology]. Retrieved from https://kns.cnki.net/kcms2/article/abstract?v=9w9hjx65dQQB6w7ULQhs7j7DbaId3Tj WCJ5psBPyxEZ4jsGJ9bFwgh
- Xu, L.-H., & Zheng, J. (2010). The art of Chinese cloud patterns through the ages. *People's Fine Arts Publishing House*.
- Xu, W. (2000). Chinese cloud decoration. Guangxi Fine Arts Publishing House.