

The symbol in Egyptian folk art

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The symbol in folk art The symbol is technically an authentic plastic language that the folk artist uses to express his feelings and the feelings of the people of his environment and their emotions towards what shakes their feelings of events, beliefs or ideas. It usually represents the feelings, emotions, ideas, beliefs and viewpoints of the group. Forms do not rise to symbols unless they are loaded with social, cultural and intellectual values of the environment, because the symbol is not just a form in itself, but rather relates to a topic in the life, customs, traditions and society of the popular artist. Physical things have meaning and become symbols. So the symbol is a part that represents the whole, and the part (which is the symbol) must carry the values of the whole (which is the environment). The popular artist turns to symbolism without prior planning. When he chooses his artistic symbol, he performs a process of abstraction of the form and turns it into a line, a group of lines, or a simple geometric shape..., and when he is excited by a specific incident or situation, he creates a form that symbolizes it. This position is recognized by the community and becomes a symbol that lives on over the years. _ The emergence and development of symbols It is certain that the emergence of symbols began with the emergence of civilization and art, that is, during the early Stone Ages, when most primitive groups lived on hunting animals and used them as food, drink and clothing (the era of the human hunter), and this was reflected On arts that have a formal value characterized by sensitivity and accuracy, as simple geometric designs appeared to symbolize the phenomena surrounding him that formed his beliefs, he used to worship what he feared at times, and what he saw in it as useful at other times, such as ibex and oxen... and he found in recording them and He painted it on the walls and ceiling of the cave as a form of worship, and this is a victory and closeness to the idol, and the best evidence of this is the caves that were discovered in Asia, southern France and Tuscany, as well as in the ruins of Badari, the Lahun desert, Naqada and the Suez Road, where they were found. Goods dating back to the various stone eras, including cutting tools and stone axes. Men and animal symbols and waterfowl and boats, and it was z The first Naqada left almost geometric, where the human elements were drawn so that the essential qualities of the human being appear in few lines and brief details, as there were drawings of animal elements and scenes from nature, while the second Naqada

civilization was rarely used in which geometric shapes and images of natural objects abounded. The artist did not rely on the straight line, but used the corrugated and spiral line. It is interesting in the ancient drawings that they deliberately formulate shapes in a geometrical decorative mould. Birds and animals were expressed in a simplified manner, predominantly magical or totemistic, and most of them look as if they were drawn by pens. They depend on lines and are rarely interspersed with color spaces. The color spaces were expressed by a network of intersecting lines. The decorative tendency of the Stone Age man was manifested in the decoration of some pottery vessels with units such as the spiral lines, which symbolize the flow of water, and the sinuous lines to indicate the flow of water. The human being, and we see him drawing squares and triangles to express other symbols associated with agriculture....and so on. As for animals and birds such as crocodiles, hippopotamuses and swans, their depiction was brief, consisting of calligraphic inscriptions of a decorative nature. The Egyptian pharaonic art is a symbolic art for everything. The columns and Its capitals, walls, windows and high gates are all meaningful forms that refer to mythical symbolic themes as well. Even the pieces of furniture each piece have meaning and are loaded with symbolic meanings. The best example of symbolism in the life of the ancient Egyptian is the hieroglyphic writing and its alphabet letters derived from the elements of the environment, whether they were shapes Of a person, animal, or tools that people know, and the number of drawings in which they are written is more than seven hundred forms of things that the ancient Egyptian knew, and it is likely that this writing was known before the era of the Egyptian dynasties, where we find the name of King Min The founder of the first dynasty engraved on his solidity (the hardness of King Mina) in letters of hieroglyphic writing, and some antiquities dating back to the pre-dynastic era were found with hieroglyphic writing on them.