

Examining The Effect of Rural Landscape of Rize on Local Handicrafts

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Abstract

Rural landscape can be defined as the whole of the environment in nature where people engage in activities that are not related to urban purposes. Handicrafts or traditional handicrafts can be regarded as inventions that facilitate people's living conditions and are developed to meet the needs in living spaces. It is known that handicrafts have emerged with the intent of covering, protecting, and nourishing depending on natural conditions since the existence of human beings. As it is understood from the definitions, handicrafts have first appeared in rural landscape.

In this study, the effects of rural landscape on handicrafts reflecting Rize society's feelings, artistic taste and cultural characteristics were examined. The effects of natural conditions, underground and ground sources and living conditions on handicrafts were analyzed with the help of literature, on-site examination and photographs. In this way, it is aimed to contribute to social development, urban tourism and thus to local and country development by introducing handicrafts reflecting the natural beauties of Rize, which has a rich cultural landscape besides its natural landscape.

Keywords: Rural Landscape, Handicrafts, Rize, Ecotourism

INTRODUCTION

As a general definition, handicrafts are regarded as products which are based on knowledge and skills of craftsmen, change according to environmental conditions, provide usefulness as well as beauty, facilitate human life, meet people's needs, are produced at home or workshops all day, in leisure time, or in certain periods, are symbolic of traditions, regions, functions, aesthetics, art, adornments, religions, and society, and are produced by hand, tools, or mechanical devices [1]. Handicrafts can be also defined as "an area of occupation which basically aims to meet people's essential requirements, benefits from every kind of materials in nature as a raw material, especially from agricultural products and their residuals, uses simple tools and appliances and requires intense efforts and imagination [2].

In addition, handicrafts are products that are developed by using simple tools and appliances, include cultural elements, and benefit from best examples of society's experiences. They function as a cultural bridge between past and future generations. This bridge does not only provide the use and function of a product, but it also reflects society's human relations, economic structure, traditions, customs, and religious characteristics [3].

Handicrafts, which initially met people's basic needs of such as nourishing, dressing and accommodation and have developed in time and adapted to the environmental conditions, have become "traditional" by reflecting society's feelings, artistic pleasures, and cultural characteristics and this tradition has been handed down from master to apprentice or from father to son [1].

Handicraft products are regarded as the oldest, most vivid and concrete documents that will contribute to handing the culture down from generation to generation and to keeping it alive. In addition to having an artistic character, these products also have a characteristic that reflects the nature, climate and plant characteristics of the region in which they are produced. Moreover, they give us information about the social relations and lifestyles of people living in that region

[9].

Our handicrafts traditionally have a regional diversity. It is common to observe carpet-rug, blanket and local fabric weaving in regions where animal husbandry has developed. In regions rich in stones and trees, varieties such as tree and stone processing have become widespread in order to provide raw materials, employment opportunities, and economic booms, and to meet the demand and needs.

For example, traditional hand-woven fabric and wood carving in Kastamonu, and meerschaum processing in Eskişehir continue traditionally depending on the existing raw materials. Siirt blanket can be also held up as an example of the above-mentioned situation. Besides, it is possible to give many examples in this regard. Woven carpets, rugs, and blankets are designed, qualified, and entitled according to their regions [4].

Rize which has the unique beauty of the Eastern Black Sea region stands out thanks to a wealth of handicrafts peculiar to the region as well as to its natural beauties. In this study, it is aimed to reveal the effects of natural conditions, underground and ground sources, agricultural products, and living conditions on handicrafts of Rize by using some examples.

Local Handicrafts Of Rize

The Seljuk State and the Ottoman Empire's popular plastic arts in Turkey have continued to be exercised, although limited, by the people who continue their life on this geography. This is one of the illusions that these arts are applied to.

The local handicrafts in Rize can be listed as follows:

Copper: Examples of copper in Rize which are boiler, hand bain, bowl, churn, ewe etc. generally show to apply technique of dövme. Copper tattoos made in Rize today for touristic purposes are different from copper tattoos in neighboring states in terms of shape and art of tattooing. Rize copper forging is based on fine hammer beating,

which requires more workmanship. It is not as rare as it is elsewhere.

Among the examples of Rize's stone work, there is a distinct position of the tandırs, which are called pelki. Bread, anchovies, etc. to cook food items like made of stone, round RIM, round, oval, flat base is typical of cubes. Karatas taken from the quarries in Rize with the audience before rounding the outer surface are formed by inward after carving. This stone of the pedestal of the cubes in anchovy during baking is a hole that can be opened to the flow of water.

Rize Bezi (Feretico): Feretico which is one of the traditional weaves of Rize region has a solid, natural structure, a stylish appearance and a local artistic understanding. Kökü is a traditional hand-crafted art that has been carried out up to 15 centuries and is carried out every day. Rize Bezi (Feretiko) weaving woven from hemp rope on hand loom is knitted with beige weave pattern. It is a local product that is woven from natural hairs and cotton yarns.

Socks Knitting: Socks, especially Hempen socks are our sought-after handicrafts. The main material of Çorab is sheep wool. It is a rich hand craft product in terms of variety, model and pattern. But basically it is divided into two and one wire. The one-stringed ones, that is, the ones that are colorless, are usually for males and the tongue is not long. Women's socks are also short. But generally it is long [5]. The stamps and shapes used in hemp stockings and family stamps tradition overlap with the historical Turkish culture geography. The stamps used in traditional socks, especially in the Hamshen region of Rize, are extremely important in terms of cultural research. For example, you can easily see all of the stamps used in the socks in this region from the Siberia to Urals, or from the Siberia to the Balkans (Turkish) [6].

Basketry - Mesh Knitting: Because of the land structure, most of the transportation is done in the back with basket. Even so, the pointed feet are used to stop the basket on the ground. The basket is usually bifurcated with various shapes and has two ties for taking it out. The ones made from the chestnut bar are more durable, but the majority are in the hazelnut bar.

The wicker is made of corn cobs or of reed plants. It has been worn as a chair since ancient times [5].

Woodworking: When it comes to handicrafts in our province where the climate and structure are very varied and the different kinds of trees grow, of course, the tree works are the field that gives the most abundant products. There are many kinds of trees here. Some of them are very thick, carved, carved like a pot, made of pots and articles. Some are soft, easy to handle, some are hard and heavy. Chestnut, walnut, fir, hornbeam, ash, linden, hazelnut, comar, pear, and cherry are the main tree varieties. The main tools made from these trees are Cadillac, gerdel, kayak, console and chest, koppa (scoop), lamb (spoon) and churn [5].

Wood Carving and Wooden Ornamentation: A person from Rize does not only need to take care of his/her house, mosque and nayla structures but also wants them to

be beautiful. Devrin masters did not neglect the aesthetic elements such as symmetry and perfection in doing these works. Wood carvings and wooden ornaments are often used in wooden houses, in glass houses, in houses, in various parts of buildings such as nayla (serender or voicemail). Hardwood trees such as boxwood, pear, and mulberry are preferred. Walnut, chestnut, elm and cherry were used in house, nayla and glass [5].

Apart from the handicrafts mentioned above in the city of Rize, it is possible to talk about many other handicrafts such as tin works - quarrying, quilting, and slabs.

Rize city is a component of rural landscape in handicrafts as it is in every region of our country. The effects of natural conditions, underground and aboveground resources, agricultural products and living conditions are clearly seen. Besides, the creativity, intelligence and aesthetic understanding of the people of the Black Sea show themselves as a distinctive taste and feature in Rize city handicrafts.

Rize city handicrafts have emerged from basic needs such as nutrition, dressing and accommodation as they are in our other regions, developed in time by adapting to the environmental conditions and have become a reflection of the cultural characteristics, artistic pleasures and feelings of Rize society. The rural landscaping effects of the main Rize city handicrafts listed above are examined one by one:

Copper: The main reason for the emergence of copper handicrafts in Rize is undoubtedly the presence of Çayeli-Madenköy copper-lead-zinc area, which is one of the most important mineral fields of our country. After the exploitation of the copper mine, many items of equipment, especially kitchenware, were started to be made from this mineral.

The effect of living conditions, especially ewes and bulls, is clearly seen in the products made. These appliances, which are used for water supply for food and cleaning, have a long thin kaiden with a smaller diameter than the base diameter (Fig. 1), so that they can be fully seated in the fire except for the bottom to make maximum use of the fire. This base was placed in a direct fire while the rest was used to place the hair on the feet and the chimneys (Figure 2). It is also said that another purpose of this base is to use handles with their baskets to take ablution, to have a perforated cover and to sit on this lid so that the dirty water used and poured into these basins is not visible.

It is known that ewrikes, which have a widespread use in Anatolia, differ from the ones used in Anatolia in terms of base, body, neck, cover, pacifier and handle.

Stone Workers: One of the most important works of stone work is the rural landscape product that emerges from the need for nutrition. The people living here used these pilafs made from stone materials to cook corn bread and anchovies. Their material is obtained from stone quarries in the districts of Çayeli and Iyidere [7]. The stone used in the construction of the pilquette is easy to shape due to its soft and fine crystalline nature. Today, the widespread use of pilots until the 1980s has begun to receive cousins and electric cookers. However, there are still people from Rize who do not give up their traditions and use their wines to bake bread (Figure 3).



Figure 3. Stone workers

Rize Bezi (Feretico): The effect of rural landscaping elements on the production of raw material and whitening in Rize beige production is very clear. Namely, it is seen that the hemp plantation after conclusion of pre-tea climate is done in wide areas in Rize.

The production of hemp rope made of corn is also a traditional product that contributes to the Rize economy before Rize Bezi and tea which is widely known as. Rize climate is very sunny and rainy and therefore prevents the hardening of the fibers. The rope construction in Kastamonu, the beneficial formation of fine yarn and cloth in Rize is born from this. The presence of ozone in the rivers and stream waters plays an important role in the whitening of the cloths. Sometimes whitening was done on the beach, thanks to the chlorine present in the sea water. This quality also plays an important role in the production of Rize waters, as the scale of lime is less than 4 (Figure 4) [8].



Figure 4. Rize bezi

Sock Knitting: It is seen that the dressing which has emerged from the need of protection and covering is shaped by the effect of rural landscape in Rize as raw material and usage purpose. Socks, among the important handicrafts in Rize, are made especially for the Rize women because of the protection women against the cold and because of the dense vegetation and wet grass that is mostly wet due to the rain and because the socks that get wet by thickening when they get in between the trees can easily be changed. It is possible to see this effect not only in socks but also in other clothing items. For example, in Rize, a piece of clothing that is wrapped around the back of a woman protects her from the harm of the place she is sitting in and her clothes from dirtiness while working on a wet floor throughout the day (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Sock Knitting

Basketry - Mesh Knitting: Communities started to grow various plants in rural landscape, with residential life starting to make some of the things they used in daily life from the plants they grew in the regions they live in. In Rize, corn consumed in abundant quantities as food is harvested from the shells of waste raw material as mesh and bedding (Figure 6). Rize has a steep and rugged area with vegetation covered by abundant and dense forests. Most of the transportation is carried out in the back with basket. Rice folk arts have an important place in baskets with pointed legs to stand on the ground because of the land structure. Again, the type of trees and basins used differs according to the intended use (Fig. As it is understood from this, it is seen that the rural landscaping is influential in the emergence and shaping of the Rize baskets.



Figure 6. Basketry - Mesh Knitting

Woodworking: The woodwork is the most abundant product in the province of Rize where the climate and structure mostly vary and different tree species are grown. For the first time, the woodworking that has emerged in rural landscape draws attention to the necessity of making kitchen utensils and the need for housing. Later, as the properties of

the trees were discovered, other household utensils began to be made (Figure 7). The residential and plateau house has a unique architectural style that is shaped by the rural landscape characteristics and the woodworking is clearly seen. This wood is a type of structure that is mainly based on stone. The houses are usually constructed with two battens on the basement, matching the slopes. Wood is preferred because it is a building material that can be easily found and processed. The climatic conditions in the roof establishment of the Rize constructions are significant. The fringes are kept as wide as possible to protect the walls from rain. Roof interventions prevent moisture-induced decay (Figure 8).



Figure 7. Wood working



Figure 8. Wood working

Wood Carving and Wood Decorating: Wood carving and wood decorating are often used in wooden and glass houses and in various parts of buildings such as nayla, and in home furnishings. The exterior walls of the houses are emphasized in terms of decoration and architecture (Figure 9). The diversity of tree species possessed by Rize and the presence of species suitable for woodworking among these species have been effective in the development of this art branch.



Figure 9. Wood carving

RESULTS and DISCUSSION

The effects of natural conditions, underground and above ground resources and living conditions on handicrafts are seen all over the world as well as in Rize province handicrafts. The influence of the rural landscapes clearly manifests itself in the handicrafts, which are first known to human beings in rural landscapes and are known for their covering, protection and nourishment according to natural conditions. . This effect is confronted as raw material and functional feature in all handicrafts from clothes to home equipment.

How to form materials such as wood, mining, leather, animal and vegetable fiber with the help of various tools has been handed down from father to son, mother to daughter and grandfather to grandchild in rural areas of Rize. . . The production of Rize handicrafts has been continued in this area by a limited number of artisans. Opening of workshops for the support of these craftsmen, the cultivation of new individuals to convey these arts to future generations, and the revitalization of our perishable traditional arts have been performed. Thus, thanks to these works that shed light on the history of Rize city, both national and cultural contribution will be provided and the tourism in Rize city will be also contribute to the local and national economy.

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