

Art Tiles on Historical Architectures: Deterioration and Conservation

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The art of tile emerges as one of the most significant ornamentation facts and construction materials used in Turkish architecture. Art tiles have been commonly employed on interior and exterior sites including mainly dome, iwan, window pediments and altars. Art tiles possess unique features as a construction material and they have period-specific implementation styles and manufacturing techniques. This study dealt with the causes regarding deteriorations occurred on tiles used in architecture and also with the recommendations of restoration and conservation. The reasons causing the deterioration of the tiles used in construction consist mainly of the interior and exterior factors. In the framework of the deteriorations occurred due to the interior effects, the structural parameters covering the features of the tile production, and also the failures emerging from the implementation techniques employed on the structure have been evaluated. Additionally, the deteriorations due to external influences such as atmosphere, water, humidity, earthquake, fire, vegetal-animal, and also the human induced effects have been examined with the visual examples. In this context, suggestions regarding the implementation process in restoration and conservation have been submitted. The presence of the tiles comes forward as a decisive fact in determination of the deteriorations observed on the historical structures together with their reasons, and also in identification of the restoration and conservation methods. With this study, it has been proved again that it is mostly possible by the conscious and interdisciplinary studies to maintain the existence of the cultural heritages and to convey them through the next generations with their unique characteristics.

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