IRELAND AND CHINA. TEXTILE FROM MASHAN (FIFTH TO THIRD CENTURY BC, CHINA) AND THE CELTIC REPETOIRE OF ORNAMENTATION

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Identifiers (Article)
DOI: https://doi.org/10.11588/ao.2012.0.8608

Identifiers (Files)
URN: http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:bsz:16-ao-86086 (PDF)

Abstract
In a short article the author presents the hypothesis that certain aspects of Celtic Art has Chinese origin. She compares the decoration of textiles found in 1982 in Mashane, province of Hupei in China with the Celtic system of ornamentation, known from books illumination, sculptures of Celtic crosses and metal products. Among the motifs known to Celtic art she indicates: skulls, tête coupe, pelts, spirals and triskeles. The author also indicates the similarities in the field of color symbolism, animal symbolism (crane), the special role of women and femininity, and Nature (on the basis of philosophy and poetry) in both cultures.

Statistics

Published
2019-03-15

Issue
Vol 1 (2012): Art of the Orient

Section
Article

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Language
EARLY INVASIONS. The Celts Between the sixth and the third century BC, the British Isles were invaded by Celtic tribes who settled in southern England. They originally came from central Europe. Their culture goes back to about 4500 BC. The Celts fled north and west taking their ancient arts and languages with them. Celtic languages have disappeared from most of Europe, but are still spoken in parts of Wales, Ireland and Scotland. Celtic Christians later returned to England from Scotland and Ireland as missionaries. The Anglo-Saxons in southern England were converted to Christianity following the arrival of Saint Augustine of Canterbury in 597. As Christianity spread, churches and monasteries were built all over England. The Vikings started to invade England. Zoroastrianism From the fifth century BC to the first century BC, Zoroastrianism spread into the Western Regions of China. It was regarded as the earliest religion passing to this area. It was once the state religion of Persia. The cultural exchange between China and the West offered mutual benefit and achieved common progress. The Chinese Four Great Inventions (paper making, printing, gunpowder and compass) as well as the skills of silkworm breeding and silk spinning were transmitted to the West. This greatly sped up the development of the entire world. Apart from Chinese exquisite goods, many Chinese advanced technologies were also exported to the west, such as the silkworms breeding, silk spinning, paper making, printing with movable type and gunpowder. Chinese silks were prized in ancient Rome, which led to the forging of a trade route between the East and West. Whereas scholars have amply documented the complex long-and short-distance trade between China and the Mediterranean world and between China and Korea and Japan, few have examined the contemporaneous exchange of goods to the north and south, such as between the pastoral nomads, who roamed seasonally across the pastures to the north of ancient Iran and China, and the sedentary agriculturalists in China. The extensive representation of nomadic legacies in Secrets of the Silk Road—in China - The Qing empire: After 1683 the Qing rulers turned their attention to consolidating control over their frontiers. Taiwan became part of the empire, and military expeditions against perceived threats in north and west Asia created the largest empire China has ever known. Central Asia was another matter. Tribes on the northwestern and western frontiers had repeatedly invaded China, and the Manchu, who had been part of the world of the steppe, were keenly aware of the need to maintain military supremacy on China’s northern borders. Central Asian affairs were handled by a new agency, the Court of Colonial Affairs, that was created before 1644.