

# Interpretation of the harmony culture phenomenon of Hami Uyghur embroidery patterns from the perspective of the Silk Road

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**Abstract.** This article takes the Hami Uyghur embroidery patterns from the perspective of the Silk Road as the research object, explore the embodiment of harmony thought of Chinese traditional culture in Hami Uyghur embroidery patterns. Through field investigation, literature analysis, analytical induction to systematically orders and studies the embroidery patterns of Hami Uyghur, further summarizes the cultural causes of embroidery patterns and the harmonious cultural phenomenon. The research shows that: Hami Uyghur embroidery patterns of the skills, themes and forms are reflected in the thought of harmony, and presents compatible with a variety of famous embroidery techniques, the theme of multiple integration, and the characteristics of harmony in form. It also puts forward the contemporary value of the research on Hami embroidery patterns and culture, which provides an important reference for the inheritance and development of Hami embroidery culture.

**Keywords:** iHami Uyghur embroidery patterns; The Silk Road; Harmony culture; Intangible cultural heritage

Hehe culture is the essence of traditional Chinese culture with the concept of "the unity of man and nature" as the core, and it is also a universally recognized humanistic spirit. The word harmony and harmony has long been rooted in the Chinese national culture and runs through the history of Chinese philosophy, which contains the value pursuit of Confucianism, Taoism, ink and law. China's harmony culture is based on the implication and integrity of heaven and earth, and heaven holds people in it and forms a unified and harmonious relationship[1]. Hami, located in the eastern part of Xinjiang, is the throat of the Silk Road. The prosperity of the Silk Road has promoted the continuous integration of Central Plains culture and world Silk Road culture into Hami region, making multiple cultures gather, contact, collide and exchange here, and becoming a holy palace for the coexistence of Eastern and Western civilizations. As the harmonious crystallization of the eastern and western cultural exchange and collision along the Silk Road, the Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern is an important example of the cultural phenomenon of harmony.

At present, the study of Hami Uyghur costume embroidery pattern is mainly from the cultural industry[2][3], dress culture[4][5]Inheritance and innovation[6][7]From the perspective of its embroidery pattern, but the study of the harmony and cultural phenomenon reflected by the Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern is lacking. Therefore, this paper will be the silk road town-Xinjiang Hami as a regional research background, on the basis of literature analysis, combining with the Hami museum collection of Hami Uighur clothing, through the systematic study of Hami Uighur embroidery pattern, discusses the embroidery pattern reflects the cultural phenomenon, and to strengthen the research and promotion of social value and practical significance.

## 1. The causes of the Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern culture on the Silk Road

As an important part of the traditional Chinese culture, the Xinjiang Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern is the history of embroidery on the Silk Road and the pearl of the Silk Road produced in the process of symbiosis and integration of various ethnic cultures. Based on the background of the Silk Road, the cultural causes mainly include three factors: region, economy and culture.

### **1.1 Special geographical location**

Hami is located in the most eastern Xinjiang, across tianshan mountain north and south, south and east respectively in bayingolin Mongolian autonomous prefecture and Jiuquan city of Gansu province, west and Changji hui autonomous prefecture, turpan, and bordering north Mongolia, is located in the east and western culture, western regions and the central plains culture intersection, special location makes Hami is the throat of the silk road, communicate the mainland and Hami, for the world's four ancient civilizations in Hami communication laid a solid foundation.

During the period of prosperity and development of the Silk Road, Hami had economic and cultural exchanges with the Central Plains were particularly frequent and close. Merchants who did import and export trade all chose Hami as the midway supply point, which ushered in various cultural communication and exchanges. The superiority of the geographical location for multicultural communication on the silk road, communication and fusion provides more opportunities, prompted the Hami Uighur embroidery pattern under the influence of different cultures to the diversified direction of development path, and become the Hami Uighur embroidery pattern presents the potential motivation of eclectic artistic characteristics. On the premise of inheriting the original Hami Uygur cultural characteristics, its embroidery patterns absorb and draw on the excellent multi-ethnic cultures and aesthetic features and colors, forming a Hami Uygur embroidery pattern art with the blending characteristics of Eastern and Western cultures and distinctive Qing Dynasty characteristics.

### **1.2 Good business environment**

The prosperity and development of the Silk Road has provided a stable and convenient business environment for the economic communication between the East and the West. The friendly trade between Hami along the Silk Road and the Central Plains has further strengthened the cultural exchanges between Hami and the Central Plains, and laid an economic foundation for the development of Hami embroidery patterns in a diversified direction. Compared with other regions of Xinjiang, Hami has a geographical advantage closer to the Central Plains. Through frequent exchanges with the mainland along the Silk Road, business exchanges were promoted. Hami Uygur people made rich profits in the trafficking trade with the mainland[8]. At the same time, as a large number of the Han people in the Central Plains moved to Hami and brought advanced production tools and textile technology to Hami, the Hami Uyghurs actively learned advanced technology from the Han nationality, thus greatly improving the level of handicraft. Therefore, the good trade circulation environment makes Hami area achieve rich economic benefits, drives the rapid development of the textile industry, makes Hami costume embroidery art more complicated and the pattern more delicate, and provides great technical support for the development of Hami Uygur embroidery pattern.

### **1.3 Multi-ethnic cultural integration**

As a bridge between the Chinese and Western civilizations on the ancient Silk Road, Hami region is also undergoing the collision and integration of multi-ethnic cultures while conducting foreign trade. In the long process of historical development, due to the continuous migration of the tribes to the west, and the continuous economic and trade of various ethnic groups on the Silk Road, the han, Manchu, Hui, Kazakh and other ethnic groups have migrated to the Hami region, and the Hami region has gradually formed a multi-ethnic distribution pattern. In this context, the Central Plains culture of China and the Silk Road culture of the world are continuously integrated into the Hami region, making the diverse culture gather, integrate and deposit here. The multi-ethnic cultural exchange activities conducted through Hami are the direct driving force for the diversified prosperity and development of Hami culture. Hami has the characteristics of diversified culture and is directly reflected in the Hami Uygur embroidery pattern. On the basis of inheriting the tradition, there is also the Confucianism and Taoism of the Central Plains culture and the essence of Buddhism and coat education of the Silk Road culture. It can be seen that after the Hami Uygur

embroidery pattern has experienced the refining of the multi-ethnic cultural melting pot on the Silk Road, it has formed the embroidery pattern highlighting the regional and diversified characteristics.




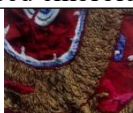


## 2. Harmony and cultural characteristics contained in the Hami Uygur embroidery patterns


And refers to the recognition of "different" things under the premise of contradiction, differences, unify different things in a interdependent and fit, and in the process of different things, absorb the advantages of each things and its short, make it achieve the best combination, thus promote the generation of new things, promote the development of things[9]. Hami Uygur embroidery patterns are created in the process of complementarity and integration with multiple cultures. Their harmonious cultural characteristics are fully reflected in the skills, themes and forms of Hami Uygur embroidery patterns.

### 2.1 Compatibility and sum of embroidery pattern techniques

Harmony culture reflects the process of multiple things constantly generating new things in the conflict and fusion[10]. Through the Hami uygur embroidery pattern main skills summary and representative embroidery specific analysis of the Hami uygur embroidery pattern due to the influence of the central plains culture, embroidery skills absorbed in the su embroidery, Cantonese embroidery and xiang embroidery essence, presents the central plains embroidery meaningful elegant and Uighur embroidery plain fusion of unique embroidery pattern skills. This reflects the compatibility of the Hami Uygur embroidery patterns and a variety of famous embroidery patterns, and the "harmony" willingness contained in it is self-evident.

Table 1. Main skills of Hami Uygur embroidery patterns

Techniques	Techniques characteristics	Decorative pattern
 Flat embroidery	Smooth, fine line trace. (Hunan embroidery techniques)	Embroidery flowers, branches and items that need to be smooth
 Ma yi embroidery	It has a strong texture	Back with scales and goldfish
 Seed embroidery	Strong sense of texture, full of decorative sex. (Su embroidery techniques)	The stamens of flowers, the texture of melons and fruits
 DiLin embroidery	Vivid and three-dimensional, decorative sense is strong. (Cantonese embroidery techniques)	Dragon, goldfish and other animal pattern scales
 Plate gold embroidery	Round, fine, even, and clean (Su embroidery techniques)	Shou character pattern
 Rows of embroidery	Neat, even, and rounded	Butterfly and other animal patterns

 Grab needle embroidery	The layers are clear, uniform and decorative (Su embroidery techniques)	Flower pattern
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From Table 1, it is concluded that Hami Uygur embroidery patterns mainly apply the famous embroidery techniques such as flat embroidery, seed embroidery, pan gold embroidery, set needle embroidery and Diilin embroidery. These famous embroidery techniques were prevalent in the Qing Dynasty. With the spread of the Central Plains culture on the Silk Road, they were integrated into the embroidery techniques in Hami area, which greatly enriched the decorative effect of Hami Uygur embroidery patterns. For example, a large number of flat embroidery belongs to Hunan embroidery techniques, making the surface of the embroidered flowers more fine and smooth. At the same time, it also draws lessons from the seed embroidery, plate gold embroidery and set needle embroidery, which are mainly used in Suzhou embroidery techniques. Due to the strong sense of texture, the seed embroidery is often used in showing the pattern and texture of flowers and fruits and other patterns of Hami Uygur embroidery, making the embroidery more three-dimensional and dazzling. As shown in figure 1 Hami peony watermelon embroidery, is a typical flat embroidery and seed embroidery, the embroidery with seed embroidery is mainly reflected in representing the characteristics of Hami watermelon embroidery, and represents the characteristics of the peony with flat embroidery, the overall craftsmanship, mutual harmony and colorful, it also proves that the central plains culture and Hami Uighur culture on the embroidery skills. In addition, Jilin embroidery, as a kind of gold and silver line embroidery in Guangdong embroidery, is mainly used in the scale patterns of dragons and fish and other animals in Hami Uygur embroidery patterns, making the animal patterns embroidered full of vitality and more lively.



Fig. 1 Hami Peony and watermelon Embroidery products

To sum up, the harmony characteristics of Hami Uygur embroidery patterns compatible with a variety of famous embroidery skills fully show the beauty of harmony with the harmony culture.

## 2.2 The sum of the diversity of embroidery patterns

Hami Uighur embroidery patterns in preserving local embroidery pattern, on the basis of characteristics, presents the central plains culture and the silk road cultural integration characteristics of diversity, on the expression of the pattern subject content mainly in plant patterns and animal patterns, other patterns including implements patterns, celestial patterns, characters,

geometric patterns and text patterns, etc., shows its pattern subject integration of multiple "harmony" charm. Behind the characteristics of diversified patterns, the theme of Hami Uygur embroidery patterns is precisely absorbing Confucian culture, Taoist culture, Buddhist culture and coat culture, thus reflecting the spiritual connotation of "harmony".

In the Hami Uygur embroidery patterns, it is mainly influenced by the Confucian culture in the Central Plains culture, among which the Confucian thought of "the unity of man and nature", which advocates the harmonious coexistence between man and nature, is also the essence of harmony culture. Figure 2 bright red front straight collar pine branches ruyi type arrow robe, the dress pattern in the most use of animal and plant patterns and "nature and man" thought is closely related, the plant pattern is mainly reflected in the arrow robe collar, front and hem at the age of cold three friends-pine bamboo plum pattern, using realism and butterfly lines set each other off, beautiful. In addition, the embroidery patterns are "pine crane", "more than every year", "phoenix flying together", as shown in Figure 3, the exquisite pine branches and delicate and vivid crane patterns combined together, inspiring. In this way, the image of animals and plants is shaped by the expression technique of "freehand shape, both shape and spirit", and to achieve the harmonious correlation effect of things and mood, which properly reflects the core concept of "the unity of nature and man", and expresses people's love and yearning for a better life.



Fig. 2 Red opposite straight collar pine branch Ruyi pattern arrow robe



Fig. 3 Songhe Yanhe Embroidery Products





Fig. 4 Hami Uyghur Eight Immortals robes

In Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern of the most Taoist culture characteristic is in the eight opera as the subject, figure 4 shows the Hami Uyghur fairy robe, mainly decorated in the main part of the robe, and with local flower pattern decoration around the eight immortals, presents the characteristics of integration with opera culture, it also shows the inheritance of Chinese traditional opera culture. The lotus decoration derived from Buddhism is placed in the hem, so that the harmonious coexistence gives people a refreshing, fully embroidered eight fairy robes full of Hami Uyghur characteristics. The Hami Uyghur embroidery patterns are also about grape patterns and honeysuckle patterns representing Buddhist culture and pomegranate patterns of Persian coat culture, which also confirm the collision and communication and integration of the Silk Road culture in the embroidery patterns.

To sum up, the theme of Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern is an interdependent blend of the historic Central Plains and the Silk Road culture and the ancient Western Regions culture. By absorbing the excellent strengths, it achieves the harmony beauty of a hundred schools of thought.

### 2.3 The sum of the structure of the embroidery patterns

Hehe culture is the exploration of the overall stability of the changing cosmic world, and emphasizes the harmonious, orderly and symmetrical picture presented in the dialectical movement of Yin and Yang[11]. This visual effect of orderly symmetry and balance achieves a high degree of harmony and unity due to the influence of the balance and stability of the doctrine of the Confucian culture, and realizes the sum of the structure of the embroidery pattern form.

Hami embroidery pattern form structure is mainly used through the application of independent pattern and comprehensive pattern, which is mostly symmetrical and balanced layout, showing the form characteristics of uniform density and uniform center of gravity, so that the embroidery pattern has a harmonious and unified static and beautiful, to achieve a strong decorative effect. As shown in Figure 6, it is an independent pattern with obvious left and right symmetry characteristics. The whole dress is divided into two parts with the central vertical line of the brocade robe, and the embroidered patterns made on both sides are symmetrical, with harmonious distribution and distinct combination. Specifically, the central and symmetrical cranes are used as the main pattern of the brocade robe, surrounded by butterfly flowers to form a round and symmetrical suitable pattern. From the neckline to the front of the front, the embroidered peony and chrysanthemum are combined to form an orderly and symmetrical layout with moderate density and changes. The layout of the symmetrical and suitable pattern is rigorous and orderly, stable and orderly, which not

only shows the beauty of symmetry, but also loses the aura. Such a structure layout is inseparable from the moderation emphasized by Confucianism, and pays attention to stability[12].

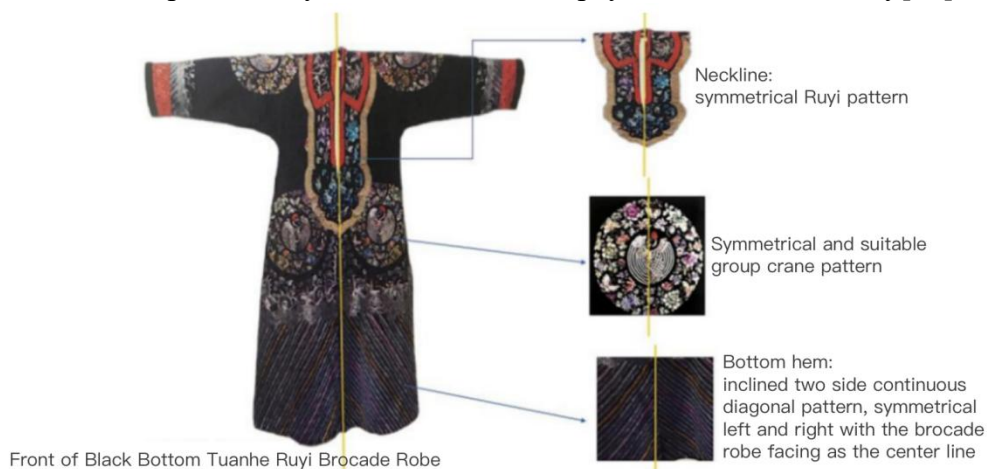


Fig. 5 Hami Uygur Black Base Group Crane Ruyi Golden Robe

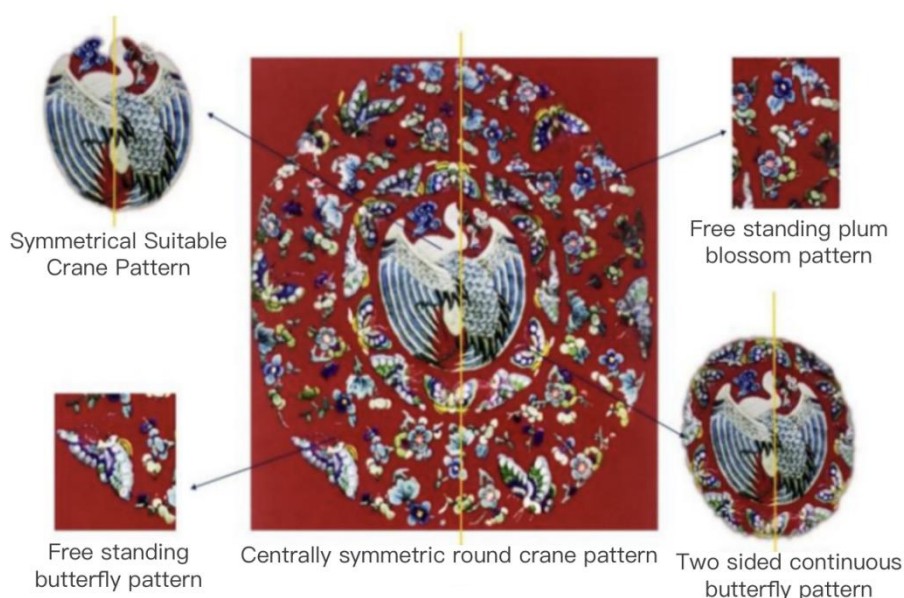


Fig. 6 Hami Group: Crane pattern embroidery products

In the comprehensive pattern of Hami Uygur embroidery, the group crane pattern is the most typical, from the overall pattern to the central crane pattern shows the structural characteristics of symmetry and equilibrium. As shown in Figure 7, the overall pattern is mainly centrosymmetric, and as the center of the circle, the crane is symmetrically suitable for the pattern, and there are three groups of concentric circles of different sizes around it. The first group consists of a circular binary continuous pattern of dynamic butterflies, and orderly around the crane pattern. The second and third groups are balanced with plum blossom and butterfly, and are densely arranged around the first group of patterns. These patterns are centered on the crane pattern as the outward to do layers of radial symmetrical arrangement layout, together integrated into an overall shape for the positive round, layout symmetrical and orderly full pattern.

To sum up, both the overall pattern and the single pattern layout tend to be stable in harmony state, which reflects the harmony and unity of symmetry and balance, so as to set off the beauty of the embroidery pattern form and harmony idea.

### **3. Contemporary value of Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern and harmony culture research**

#### **3.1 Enhance national feelings**

As an important gateway on the Silk Road, the Hami region, with the spread of the Central Plains culture and the Silk Road culture, has formed a cultural exchange area with strong vitality. The exchanges, exchanges and integration of the multi-ethnic people in the Hami region also reflect the cultural mark of inclusiveness, harmony and symbiosis in the pattern of the Hami Uyghur costumes. Hami uyghur embroidery pattern and culture research, is the traditional national pattern and Chinese excellent culture essence, is also an important way of national emotion into clothing culture, through clothing culture exchanges make different ethnic people connected into a whole, let the Hami clothing pattern become ethnic emotional ties, enhance the unity of all ethnic groups, enhance cultural identity, promote the common prosperity and development between various nationalities.

#### **3.2 Enhance the cultural heritage**

Hami Uyghur embroidery, as an intangible ethnic cultural heritage, is a pollution-free and innovative industry. It has low investment, low resource consumption and no environmental pollution, and has high economic and practical value, but the lack of design connotation has always been a weakness in its development. From the Angle of thinking and the culture of the embroidery pattern in-depth study and analysis, mining the embroidery pattern technique, subject and form reflect and cultural characteristics, Hami uyghur embroidery pattern under the action of the culture to create the heterogeneous elements and multiple elements and symbiosis as an organic whole, make its content beauty and form unified unique embroidery pattern art. The analysis of Hami Uyghur embroidery patterns from the perspective of harmony culture can inject cultural essence into the innovative application of Hami embroidery in modern design, highlight the unique charm of Chinese traditional excellent culture, and greatly promote the living inheritance of Hami Uyghur embroidery patterns.

### **4. conclusion**

By combing the development context of the Hami Uyghur embroidery patterns on the Silk Road, this paper analyzes that the cultural causes of the embroidery patterns are mainly influenced by regional, economic, cultural and other factors, so as to form the multi-ethnic, multicultural and integrated embroidery patterns. On this basis of the logic of the culture to in-depth study and analysis of the embroidery pattern, reveal the embroidery pattern skills, subject and form reflect and cultural characteristics, also shows that the Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern in the process of inheritance and culture plays a key role in it, to make the Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern can grow to development. In today's "Belt and Road" construction background, Hami Uyghur embroidery pattern "harmony" spirit connotation of "show the Chinese civilization and ideal, build cultural inclusive community" good vision, to strengthen the promotion of Chinese tradition and culture, promote cultural exchanges between various ethnic groups and living inheritance of traditional art has a positive realistic significance.

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