

**DEPICTIONS ON WOOD: ACCEPTATION AND
INTERNALIZATION OF WOOD, WHICH IS AN
INTERCULTURAL INTERACTION TOOL, AS “A
VALUABLE OBJECT” (THE DISCOVERY OF WOOD IS
NOT OVER YET)**

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Abstract- As it is accepted and internalized as a valuable material within intercultural interaction, wood, which is most well-known material for its naturality and versatility in the world since ancient times, and which provides solutions for a wide range of different applications, has been depicted in this article in the following 3 original depictions with distinctive compositions constructed with styles and structures as different as possible with a mentality foresight upon the basis of “The Discovery of Wood is not Over Yet”. The implications forming a basis for these depictions were internalized with professional/technical knowledge and in these depictions that were made with a woodlover approach; certain theoretical explanations to strengthen wood awareness and general depictions to introduce wood (considered as an exquisite natural material in intercultural interaction) were made.

Key Words- Wood, Intercultural Interaction, Natural Material, Creativity, Unending Solutions.

1. INTRODUCTION

In this article, wood, which is an intercultural interaction tool, have been depicted with distinctive compositions constructed with styles and structures as different as possible with a mentality foresight upon the basis of “The Discovery of Wood is not Over Yet” through 3 original depictions. The focus of this article is to highlight the importance of wood for us in terms of its acceptance and internalization as a valuable object.

2. DEPICTIONS

The implications forming a basis for the following depictions were internalized with professional/technical knowledge and in these depictions that were made with a woodlover approach; certain theoretical explanations to strengthen wood awareness and general depictions to introduce wood (considered as an exquisite natural material in intercultural interaction) were made. The content of each presented depiction has its unique construct and the detail forming the depiction is emphasized in the first line of the depiction.

2.1. The First Depiction: 1091 words

It is obvious that wood, which is a renewable natural and organic material obtained from trees and can be decisively adapted for a wide variety of purposes to meet the needs and requirements of people on a daily basis, is an important and valuable material that has served humanity in the whole world since the beginning of time in the context of its anatomical structure, chemical composition, physical properties and mechanical properties. In this way, wood, which has contributed to the development of civilization from its beginning to the present day, is matchless material for conversion into a wide variety and extensive number of products to satisfy all aspects of human life, even though other competitive materials are almost always available to have many versions of a product from which to choose. In this sense, it is fundamental fact experienced with observational learning or direct experience that wood can be converted into a large numbers of products in different types of purposes and at different levels of demands. This makes it clear that wood is a versatile and functional material for the satisfaction of human needs and aspirations in the major objectives of development and life on Earth since its inception. Curiously, however, the discovery of wood in the context of the all possible appropriate uses is really not over yet as well as all its features, functions and other details. This is not surprising, because the discovery, as an endless process, is an ongoing process since the beginning of human history. Although we are quite familiar with wood today, we have not been able to fully unveil all the features of wood as a versatile and functional natural material.

Just as Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951) has suggested, discovery never ceases. According to Wittgenstein [1], the problem of life remain completely untouched, even if we feel that even when all possible scientific questions have been answered. If we make a conclusion from Wittgenstein's suggestion, we can clearly state that all questions that are waiting to be answered need to be evaluated thoroughly in the context of science, because scientific investigation is essential for solving a problem and revealing the details of the questions that need to be explained. Science is such that, like the rays of light splashing on a dark surface, it falls on the dark surface in strips to illuminate the darkness and clarify the shaded surfaces. Certainly, science always reveals details in both the light and dark areas of the subject studied. In this context, we can say that while science revealing the details by investigating a research problem in a comprehensive and in-depth manner, it provides a way out the details in the dark area to look better, and it brings out the details rather grey in the light area to see sharp and contrasty. At this point, if we look at this topic from Wittgenstein's point of view, we may conclude that because there are plenty of dark areas in the life, the transformation of darkness into enlightenment takes time as a long-lasting process.

As it is mentioned by Tsoumis [2], although admirable remarks and curious details on wood are found in the work of ancient writers such as Theophrastus (371–287 BC), a student of Aristotle (384–322 BC), and the pioneer of botanical science with his book “Enquiry into Plants, and Minor Works on Odours and Weather Signs” translated by Arthur Hort in 1916, comprehensive investigations of wood on a scientific basis were undertaken only since the beginning of the twentieth century; while, according to Mantel [3], Robert Hooke (1635-1703) first discovered cells by looking at cork through a microscope and named the cells in his book “Micrographia: Some Physiological Descriptions of Minute Bodies made by Magnifying Glasses with Observations and Inquiries Thereupon” published in 1667. In this regard, Schmucker and Linnemann [4] pointed out that while studies on wood seemed to be progressing very fast nowadays, however, only macroscopic and empirical observations have been made for a very long period of time. This statement is very important in terms of the reliability, validity, and representativeness of previous findings about wood in order to ensure the accuracy and adequacy of information. In this frame, as it is expressed by Schweingruber [5] depending on the context of Schmucker and Linnemann's explanation, it is beneficial to consult old publications for any dendro-ecological and dendro-anatomical research, because there is a fairly large consensus that considerable knowledge in the field of wood science already existed by the end of the nineteenth

century. Indeed, despite popular belief to the contrary, and with being overly contentious and being a perfectionist, we need more of it to boost scientific research about wood. This is why, according to Tsoumis [6], the field of wood science is rapidly progressing through research carried out in universities and specialized research institutions in various parts of the world focusing on understanding the nature of wood, specifically in relation to its complexity, and hence, considerable information has been already acquired about wood dealing with its structure and properties.

According to the preceding paragraphs, scientific research on wood shows us that the end in itself has a value. Thus we can say that advancement of scientific investigations about wood is a very important consideration to humanity or is perhaps the most important gain of taking a broad view of the role of wood in civilization. Moreover, because wood is a source of innumerable products in our contemporary world, and it is also probably the most complicated natural raw material on Earth, further research and studies are needed to shed more light on wood, and also to expand its serviceability with a wider scope of clientele. It is within this context that intelligent utilization of wood material requires not only a thorough knowledge of its anatomical structure, chemical composition, physical properties, and mechanical properties, but also of the machinery and handling processes involved in its manufacture and treatment including design and preparation.

Accordingly it may be said that although wood is an outstanding material that has served all people directly or indirectly since the establishment of the world, it has not yet been fully exploited within the context of possible material properties. It is true that the discovery of wood is not over yet, and hence, wood, which is unrivalled material in the growth and development of civilization, science, technology, economy, culture, education, and arts, continuous to be the essential object of scientific and technological interest, as well as in socio-economic and human sciences along with other issues.

2.2. The Second Depiction: 1032 words

Wood is a versatile and an efficient material facilitating the meeting of basic human needs and a number of requirements that appear as an integral part of daily life activities. In this sense, wood enables to promote comfort and the welfare whether for individuals or societies throughout the world due to its versatility and functionality. Regarding the ability of wood for enhancing the well-being of all members of the communities in terms of its endless possibility by transforming into a large number of goods and items, wood can provide comfort and the welfare of humanity as a whole because each individual member of community is a member of the humanity. Wood, which can be used in many different applications with a wide range of goods and tools within the scope of the needs and requirements that must be met in the ordinary course of everyday life, is very valuable as a material utilized in the mundane routines of daily life directly or indirectly, alone or in combination with other materials. As a general comment it may be said that wood, of course, can be designed for many different types of items and a variety of goods that become an integral part of the regularized activities that constitute everyday life. And it is absolute truth in this context that wood has now become a normalized part of everyday life with its contribution to everyday life at many different levels based on a range of degrees of necessity and of the arbitrary, and at a range of different sizes from the smallest to the largest. An astounding variety of uses of wood is the most prominent and widely recognized phenomenon in our contemporary times, and it is of course inevitable to consider wood as a significant material that has an unpredictable number of usages. In this perspective, to determine what characteristics and features wood has and to investigate whether these characteristics and features can be adapted to needs and requirements is indeed an important issue to reach new horizons.

There is no doubt that the scientific and technological progress has become one of the most important factors in the development of civilization to provide opportunities to better the conditions of human life. It is, of course, wood should be investigated scientifically and

technologically to improve the conditions of life of people around the world taking into consideration the fact that wood is a universal material, and can be adapted to many different purposes in order to fulfil a wide variety of needs and requirements that become part and parcel of everyday life. It is clear to see that each scientific and technological attempt can be useful to understand how things that are being questioned in the broadest sense hang together, or to assess reliability and validity of questions about a particular issue of interest, and to have sufficient information to solve a given problem. Therefore, all of possible scientific and technological actions which promote practical applications and the usability of wood help people to live more satisfactory lives. Although many features of wood have been revealed through investigations on wood throughout history, it is necessary to examine the existing properties of wood in terms of applicability to contemporary expectations, and also to determine how many a particular property or a specific set of properties there are in wood as a natural material within the current expectations.

From the point of view of an innovation and discovery, the scientific and technological examination of wood should be carried out with a generic competency framework that supports versatility and functionality. It is worth noting that the competency is not only a specific knowledge or skill area that relates to the ability of someone, but also it is amenability of something that has a particular formation based upon its own characteristics and features. In this statement, therefore, competency stands for the functional competency of the materials that are subject to be used within the field of manufacturing to manufacture different types of products depending on a specific function or set of functions. Because functional competencies of materials may be used for a wide variety of very different purposes within the expectations for how people approach their life as well as what they should do for their achievements and challenges in a normal way of life, the functional competency of wood as a natural material should be modified and improved beyond its current state, if we aim to utilize the full potential of wood, depending on a much wider range of its functional competencies. In this case, both properties and competencies of wood that belong to a particular tree species should be taken much more seriously and considered a special interest deserving of comprehensive research to be conducted to make a list of all possible properties and competencies of a given species in cooperation with universities, institutes, research institutions and organizations all over the world.

From its very beginning science and technology, and arts have benefited each and every society in all possible directions. At this point, it is certain that the development of civilization and its widespread worldwide has been realized with innovations that reveal discoveries. In other words, every new thing revealed in intensive efforts in a planned and organized manner for the progress and benefit to society and humanity is both a discovery and an innovation. Obviously, there are many indications that wood constantly displays a discovery and an innovation while serving the people for necessities and requirements occurring in the ordinary course of day to day life with a large number of applications. It is seen that people who are in a change of attitude and behaviour and beginning to change their feelings and thoughts in the context of organic lifestyle philosophy, which is one of today's prominent approaches, increasingly prefer wood to their daily life. This, of course, causes both wood to be examined in more detail and allows the properties of wood to be handled with a new and different point of view. It looks therefore promising that the usefulness and actual use of wood would be improved with new discoveries and innovations while maintaining its continuance in the ordinary course of life.

2.3. The Third Depiction: 1023 words

Wood, which is perhaps the most important tool of the intercultural interaction because of its contributing to the advancement of civilization, is subtly a part of the greater span of human

consciousness, and it has expanded to include various geographic locations traversing cultural barriers throughout the whole world. Since wood is such a universal material that helps people to communicate effectively with individuals who speak another language by transcending the limits of one's own culture, the role of wood in the evolution and expansion of civilization thanks to the cross-cultural communication and interaction has long been recognized. In this regard, it cannot be denied that connection of wood to all cultures plays a vital role in an increasingly connected world due to globalization which is rapidly becoming vast.

According to Usta [7], wood is a symbol of civilization which is closely associated with human welfare in order to maintain a life of prosperity both materially and spiritually, and it has always been the most distinguished material in the development of humanity and civilization by enabling individuals to communicate effectively and appropriately with people of other cultures in intercultural environments throughout the history of humanity. As mentioned by Sargut [8], culture, which is a way the individual or group reading human being and the universe, and is the form of building reality, is an important phenomenon that is very effective in determining the relations with other people through values and symbols. We agree, following Sargut [8] that, there is a trend towards universalization of cultural values under the influence of science, technology and arts, and hence numerous social values, which have reinforced social awareness in many ways, now become universal values that are recognized and assessed on a global scale. According to Sargut's account of the cultural differentiation, it may be said that communication and interaction, which have become compulsory among societies, remove the prejudices stemming from cultural differences, and despite the developmental differences between the societies, rising values in the face of recent progresses, discoveries, and new approaches affect the whole world.

As it can be understood from the numerous examples that help to clarify the importance of the intensification of the interaction of people on a world wide scale in light of the events and situations in which individuals and communities are participating, the technological changes accompanying scientific discoveries has increased the intensity of communication among societies with different cultures, and has supported to the rapid development of political and economic partnerships that has led to the formation of multicultural structures in manufacturing and marketing around the world. Thereby, wood could be special issue in many different areas of socio-technical research that bring together social, technical and natural environment in order to provide a broader and more comprehensive answer for the potential to enrich its usage to a very great extent. Noting that the term socio-technical is a kind of system theory prospected to cope with organizational change according to Geels and Schot [9], it focuses mainly on technical innovations, natural environment, and social aspect including interactions with respect to human behaviour and the other elements of a system, and also it aims to help make sense of individual trajectories in order to create flexible and integrated structures to prepare suitable organizational design, and also to provide the satisfaction of everyone within the system involved with human and organizational interactions, wood may be included on a number of scenarios and instances in this topic due to its wide range of uses as a material and an entity.

Wood, which is used every day for a wide variety of purposes, is a universal material that serves the whole humanity, and therefore it is easier for people to communicate each other with the universal power of wood. In this respect, communication, which is at the heart of close relationships between societies and individuals, is critical for everyone to understand each other, and also it is the most important reason for human interaction. At this point, while the technology accompanying scientific discoveries expands the range of communication and causes interaction, likewise wood enables interaction between people communicating with each other by providing an immense variety of products for a diverse assortment of purposes. In this sense, assuming that individual consumers have different wants and needs, wood is not only a material used to produce goods and products including associated services, but also an object used to influence people's thoughts, feelings, emotions, values, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviours. And of course, wood,

which is an extraordinary resource for provisioning the greater number of options in everyday life situations, is a very valuable object within a much smoother and effective communication which is a specific way of strong interaction.

In a general way we can say that in order to understand and make predictions about the future, it is necessary to learn from the past by providing historical insights regarding the goods and items made of wood, things made from wood, and applications constructed with wood. This qualification can be elaborated into a long list, considering that wood is a commonly used material in everyday life. This manner is quite useful for gaining reliable knowledge, because all sorts of information from the previous usage history of wood allow us to learn from past behaviours, and understand how they might influence future outcomes. This particular endeavour also helps us to learn and understand the feelings and thoughts, attitudes and behaviours of those who have lived in the past according to the way they use wood as a natural and organic material, and how they value wood as an entity with its own particular characteristics.

Consequently we can say that, even if it is convenient for discussing in detail and is sufficiently plausible for being accepted, there are so many things that need to be investigated about the preciousness of wood in our life as a material and as an entity that is impossible to be counted, so that there really is no limit to the scope of the design subjected to include wood, and there is absolutely no end to the extent to use wood in our lives.

3. CONCLUSION

Wood, which is a natural and organic material obtained from trees grown by sustainable forestry activities, is a fascinating material that touches almost every aspect of our lives with its subjective attributes or qualities, i.e. it has characteristics in terms of anatomical structure and chemical composition, and also features in terms of physical properties and mechanical properties. In other words, wood, which is almost indispensable to our life, is a valuable material that helps us in almost every area of our life from beginning of humankind by making our lives a lot easier, more convenient, and more comfortable thanks to its characteristics and features. Wood, which is widely used in daily life since ancient times, is the most important renewable natural material on Earth, and is the most valuable tool in intercultural interaction throughout history. In this regard, the importance and worth of wood have been well-recognised since the development of human civilisation due to its versatility and wide range of functions in everyday life, and continue to play a prominent role in improving the lives of people throughout the world, likewise play a distinctive role in influencing people's attitudes, behaviour, feelings, and thoughts. Although almost all of the characteristics and features of wood are well-known with the substantial efforts of science and technology, as well as the applied and fine arts, and the artistic experiments, it is necessary to constantly investigate what kind of properties wood has as a material and as an entity due to the new situations arising from new living conditions. Wood, which is the most effective and appropriate material to produce many things that are being used in everyday life, is always subjected to various tests to determine the level of its serviceability by the relevant person or authority, involving ordinary people because wood is a matter of the subjective choice making with multiple objectives.

In summary, research on wood should be carried out with a deeper perspective, including creative and innovative approaches. And of course, scientific, technological, and artistic exertions for wood should continue without interruption to improve its availability for use as a material and as an entity, and to search its potential impact on our lives, and also to develop an even broader understanding of what wood could contribute to the society future in view of the past and present.

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