



**INTERNATIONAL
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ANATOLIAN MOTIFS
FROM TRADITION TO THE FUTURE**



Digital Jewelry Designs and Jewelry Applications from Traditional Motifs: Elibelinde and Tree of Life Motifs

Rezzan Bora Koç¹

Betül Elibol²

Abstract

In Turkish decorative arts, motifs are more than just elements that aesthetically enrich a surface; they are visual vehicles that convey social memory and symbolic expression. The elibelinde motif, which holds a significant place in Anatolian culture, embodies meanings such as the female figure, fertility, productivity, and abundance. The depiction of arms placed on the waist is interpreted as a posture representing the cult of the mother goddess and feminine power. While representing the life-giving woman, this motif also incorporates aesthetic elements of symmetry, repetition, and rhythm.

The tree of life motif encompasses meanings of eternity and immortality. Its roots represent the underworld, its trunk the earth, and its branches the sky. This schematic structure offers a composition that expresses the continuity of life and the bond between generations. From an aesthetic perspective, it provides a powerful visual balance through its vertical composition, symmetrical branching, and organic structure. These motifs are considered robust resources for contemporary design applications as visual carriers of cultural and social memory.

This study aims to reinterpret traditional motifs within a contemporary design framework in a digital environment and apply them to jewelry design. During the research process, the historical and cultural significance of the elibelinde and tree of life motifs were examined, and their formal characteristics were evaluated. Based on the findings, the motifs were digitized and adapted into contemporary jewelry forms using simplification and re-composition methods.

¹Lect., Rezzan Bora Koç, Muğla Sıtkı Kocman University, Jewellery and Jewelry Design Program, rezzanbora@mu.edu.tr

² Betül Elibol, Vakıflar Genel Müdürlüğü, betull.eliboll@gmail.com



Throughout this stage, a balance was maintained between the inherent meanings of the traditional motifs and modern design aesthetics. Sample designs developed from these motifs were transformed into physical jewelry during the implementation phase. The digital design environment enabled the controlled and practical production of motif variations. Integrating traditional motifs into contemporary design processes while preserving their historical and cultural essence ensures the preservation of cultural heritage within a modern design language.

Keywords: *Motif, Elibelinde Motif, Tree of Life Motif, Digital Design, Jewelry Applications.*
