

Reviving Islamic Architectural Heritage through Fashion: Adaptation of Terracotta and Decorative Motifs from Historic Mosques of Bangladesh Using CAD Design Tools

Author : Md. Tuhin Islam
Supervisor: Dr. Md. Samaun Hasan



1. Abstract

The Islamic mosques of Bangladesh, dating from the Sultanate and Mughal eras, are adorned with ornate terracotta and ceramic motifs that showcase the region's rich cultural and artistic legacy. Over time, these elements have deteriorated due to climate, neglect, and urbanization. This research explores the revitalization of these endangered design elements by transforming them into fashion through digital surface pattern design using Adobe Illustrator CS6. By incorporating mosque motifs into contemporary garments, the study offers a method of cultural preservation that is wearable, scalable, and accessible to modern consumers.

2. Problem Statement

Bangladesh's historic mosques such as Bagha Mosque, Choto Shona Mosque, Goadi Mosque, and Chini Mosque contain invaluable terracotta and decorative motifs. Some, including the Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat, are UNESCO World Heritage Sites, while others remain unprotected and vulnerable. To ensure this heritage lasts, innovative preservation methods are essential. One such method is adapting these motifs into fashion design, allowing individuals to physically carry heritage with them in the form of clothing.

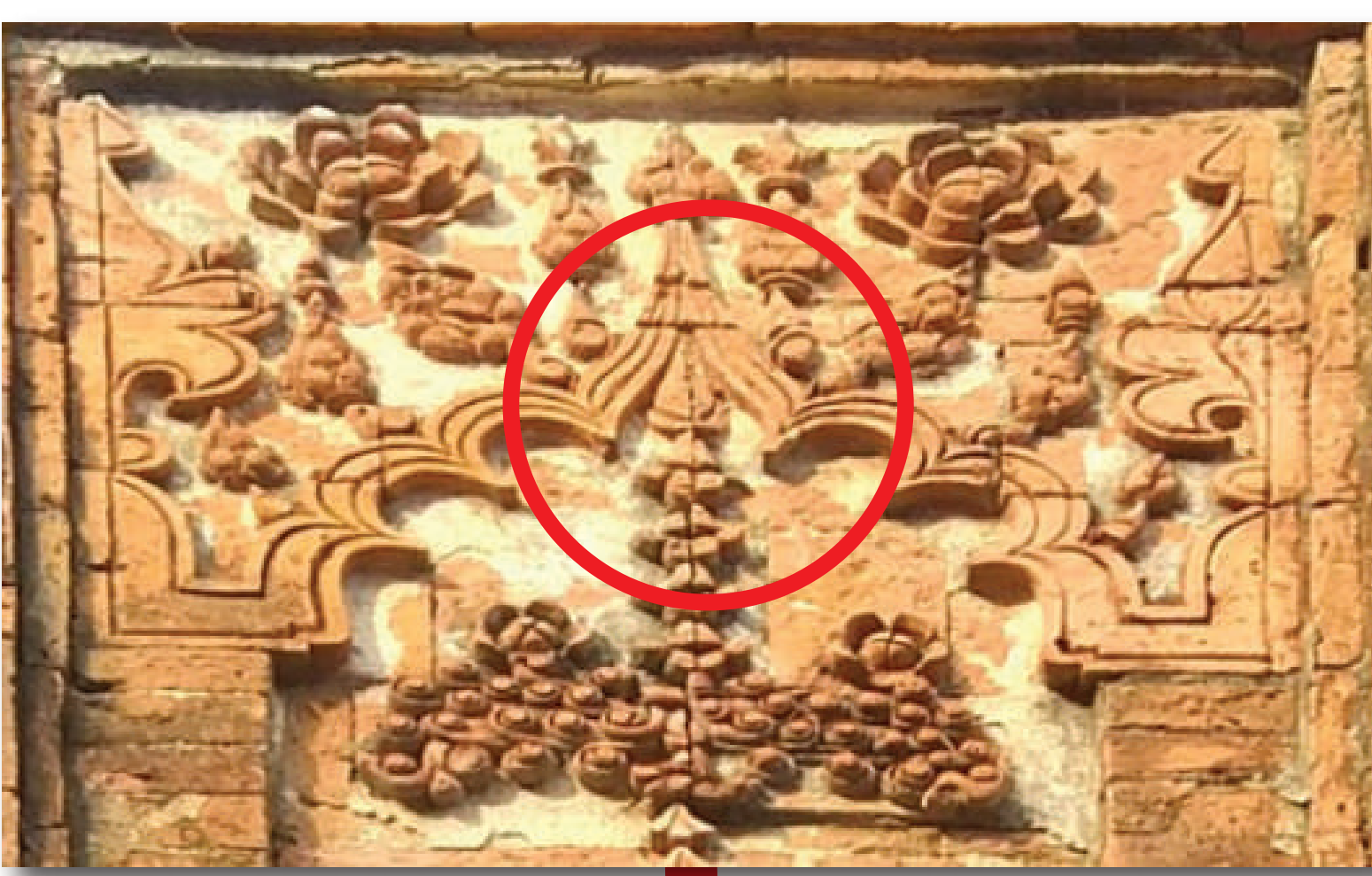
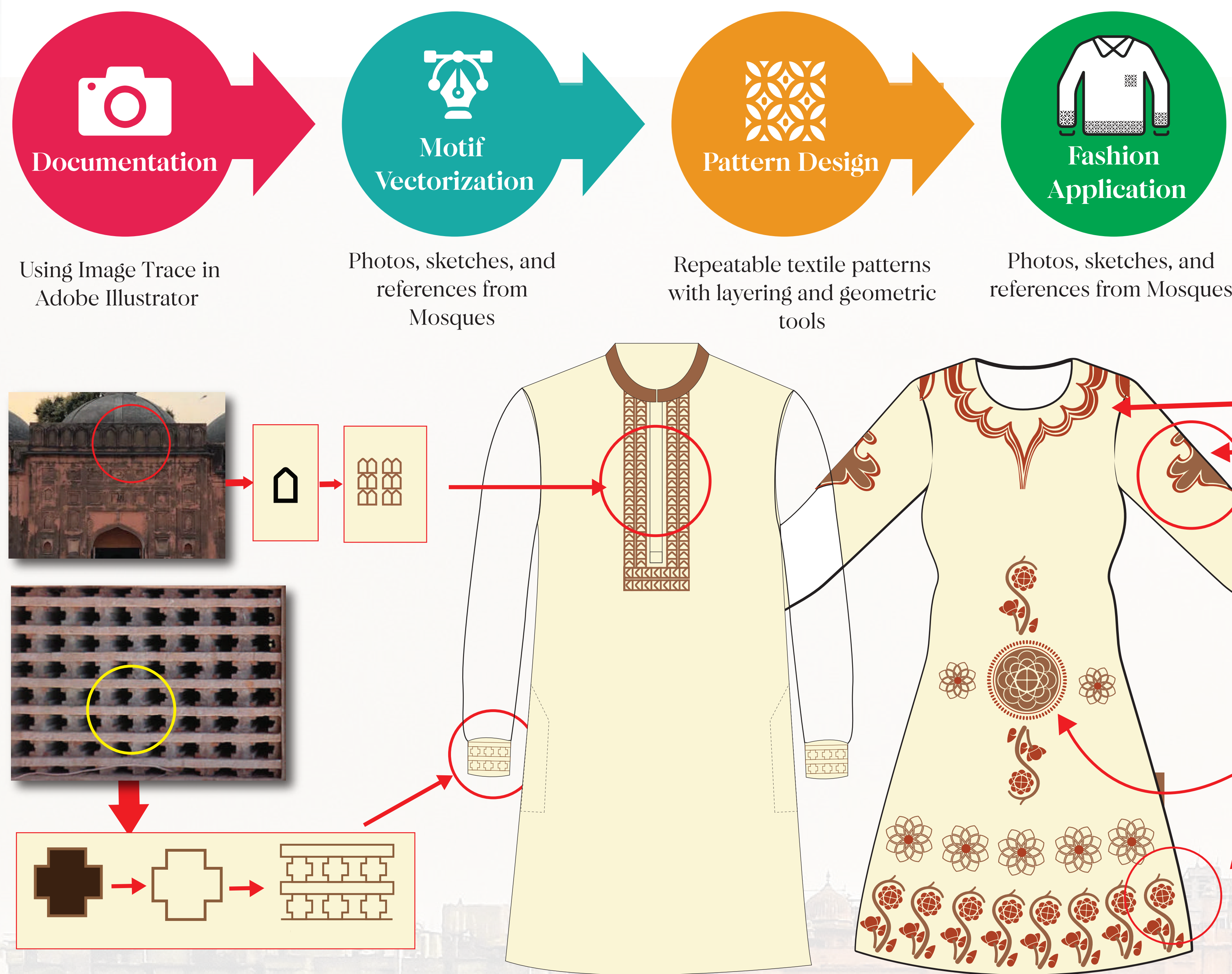
3. Objectives

3.1 Fashion Integration

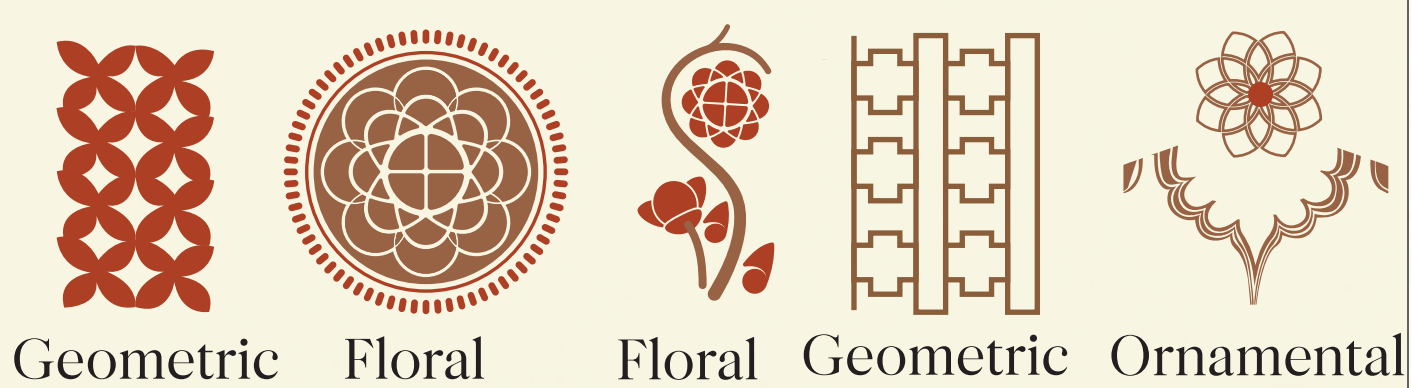
3.2 Fashion Integration

3.3 Cultural Awareness

4. Methodology



5. Findings



Heritage Motifs Used:
Baghah Mosque: Floral medallions, Ornamental, symmetric grids
Choto Shona Mosque: Arabesques, mihrab details
Goadi Mosque: Creeping vines, leaf scrolls
Chini Mosque: Glazed borders, geometric mosaics

CAD Tools Applied:
Image Trace, Pattern Options, Gaussian Blur, Gradient Mesh, Layer Masks
Fashion Design Outcomes:
Men's: Chest and cuff placements
Women's: Border layering with arabesques

References
1. Pingki, M. J., Sajiba, M. T. H., & Nizam, M. E. H. (2017). Adoption of Heritage-Based Inspiration (Kantojir Mondir) for Design Development Using 2D Design Software. International Journal of Scientific & Engineering Research, 8(1)
2. Ghosh, P. (2006). Temple to Love: Architecture and Devotion in Seventeenth-Century Bengal. The Journal of Asian Studies, 65(3).
3. UNESCO. (1985). Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat. <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/321>