

Art of church colored glass

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The church building has been an integral part of our communities for several centuries. The ultimate purpose of the church is to bring glory and honor to God. It does this as it fulfills its three purposes related to God's plan for the world - worship, evangelism and edification. Mainly church building and structures are for worship. Church building is constructing under religious architectural theories. Throughout its thousand years history the term stained glass (colored glass) has been applied. Almost exclusively the windows of churches and other significant religious buildings. Although traditionally made in flat panels and used as windows in church buildings. The glasses that are used in church windows are cathedral glass. Cathedral glass is the name given commercially to monochromatic sheet glass. Stained glass is the material and the art form of making colored windows of elaborate or pictorial design. Very early architectural glass was manufactured by glassblowing pipe was in common use and hand – blown sheets were made by the cylinder glass or crown glass method. Today they use modern methods like pouring molten glass onto a metal or graphite table and immediately rolling it into a sheet using a large metal cylinder. So they are traditional and modern methods of making cathedral glass. Stained glass windows goes before the protestant reformation when the lay people didn't have the Bibles only the church priests has Bible with them. So they portrayed Bible stories in the church windows. Example – the stained glass windows of St. Paul's church kandy. A magnificent stained glass window depicting the crucifixion, the ascension, the angel in the tomb and the nativity and was erected above the high altar. Stained glass windows are made by fitting together within the windows frame with grooved strips of lead hundreds of pieces of translucent glass which are stained in rich colors. Example – all saints church borella. The interior of the church is very colorful with stained glass windows with the main window above the altar depicting mother of perpetual help. The aim of this research is to discuss the art of the church under the principles, meaning and construction concepts of religious architecture with a focus on church glass.

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