



ZAYKA Natalya,
senior researcher,
National Historical and Ethnographic Reserve
«Pereyaslav» (Pereyaslav, Ukraine)
muzvist@ukr.net
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6714-250X>

TOWELS OF THE XIX-XX CENTURIES IN THE COLLECTION OF THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL AND ETHNOGRAPHIC RESERVE «PEREYASLAV»: ORNAMENTAL MOTIVES, COMPOSITION

Summary

The article examines the ornamental decoration of the collection of the Ukrainian folk towels of the National Historical and Ethnographic Reserve «Pereyaslav» (hereinafter – NHER «Pereyaslav»), which includes more than four thousand items from various ethnographic regions of Ukraine. It is mainly made up of the rugs of the Middle Dnipro region, Poltava region, Polissia, Slobozhan region. The chronological limits of this collection are determined by XVIII-XXI ct. The Museum objects differ in the technique of execution: woven, embroidered, punched.

The purpose of the article is to reveal the peculiarities of the ornamental decoration of towels of the Middle Dnipro region, Poltava region, Polissia, Slobozhan region, taking into account the technology of their production. The methodological basis is general scientific principles and methods of research. Among them – search, analysis and synthesis, generalization that allowed to investigate this issue and reveal it.

The production of towels has been known throughout Ukraine since ancient times.

During the analysis of the items in the collection, it was established that in these ethnographic areas, plant, geometric, anthropomorphic and ornithomorphic motifs are common on towels. Special attention should also be paid to towels with plot compositions, on which, in some cases, there is a calligraphic element introduced into the ornamentation.

According to the production technology, woven and embroidered towels using various techniques are presented. Among the collection, the «godly» towels, monastic and «Krolevets» towels are distinguished by their compositional structure and ornamental decoration.

A characteristic feature of towels is the preservation of archaic ornament elements. The image of the anthropomorphic figures of the progenitor woman, the Goddess and the «tree of life» also attract attention.

In towels of the late 19th and early 20th centuries two-color decoration prevails, whether on home-made or manufactured «Krolevets». At the same time, for the manufacture of such products using various embroidery techniques, the craftsmen got the opportunity to use a slightly larger color range. We note that on woven towels of the second half of the 20th century from Pereyaslavshchyna, the use of multi-colored threads and the change of ornamental motifs are also fixed.

The color range of the towels of the art product factories kept in the collection remains mostly constant, that is, two colors for the ornaments and with a white background of the cloth.

In general, it was established that local peculiarities in the compositional and ornamental design of towels were preserved throughout the 19th and 20th centuries.

Keywords: *towel, embroidery, weaving, ornamental motif, Middle Dnipro region, Polissia, Pereyaslav region, Poltava region, Chernihiv region.*