- Abstract-

This dissertation presents a comprehensive research on how art and interior design are interrelated. It begins with a discussion on the general principles that make a painting in terms of line, color, composition, style, concept, proportion, rhythm, repetition and hierarchy and then talks about the same elements in interior design. Since a painting is two dimensional, it is purely aesthetic and visual and has a psychological impact on the viewer. The same principles when applied into an interior space need to have functionality to create the same reactions. In this case there is functionality, as now the two dimensions are transformed into three dimensions.

Examples have been given on how influential architects have been inspired by art movements to design buildings, their interiors and in turn the furniture. By analyzing how one style and different approaches have been taken to one idea opens the mind to a variety of different options to create a dynamic and united space.

Interior design is all about creating aesthetically pleasing and functional spaces to enhance one’s experience of a space. Thus, a painting can be used as a basis of designing a space. A theme can be derived from a painting to make all parts of a space feel like they are part of one idea so that all elements are in harmony with each other. This establishes a certain mood within a space. Color, composition and symbolism are the most important elements that can add strength to an interior space; these are discussed in detail with examples.

The dissertation then covers my personal experience in designing a restaurant space based on a painting. I have studied two projects from my class which were successful and discussed them. These two serve as local examples sharing the same site.

Towards the end of the project I have shown different examples of paintings and spaces around the world and in Karachi to present a variety of ways in which a painting can be used as an inspiration to create an interior space. Through this study we can see how paintings can enhance a human’s experience of a space.