

AN ALGORITHM FOR DIGITAL AUTHENTICATION OF BUDDHA PAINTING ON THANGKA

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Pattern Recognition has developed itself into a mature engineering field with varied practical applications. This increased applicability leads to a direction of new research areas. An attempt has been made to apply pattern recognition technique in the field of feasibility study of digital authentication of the images of Buddha that appear on Thangka. Thangka or scroll depicting Buddha with his various supernatural attainments as believed is used for meditation and other methods for spiritual significance. The paper represents the methodology for digital authentication of the images of Buddha painted on Thangka. An iconometric analysis of images of Buddha reveals much more on religion and culture that have changed through ages. The research attempts to develop a prototype system that automatically divulges some religious inferences and authenticity of Buddha images. The prototype is expected to clear the difference between authentic and other images of Buddha that are not drawn according to the accepted authentic artistic norm of Thangka painting. The images of Buddha to be used are obtained from well-known authentic sources as prevalent in many monasteries of Sikkim.

Keywords: Sect, Mudras, Thangka, Tibetan Buddhism, Sor, Thig khang, Cha chung, Cha chen.
