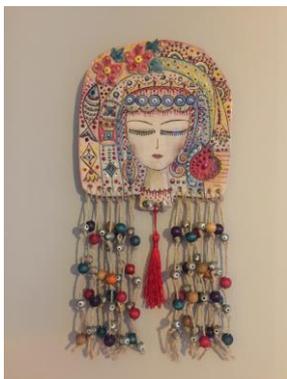


THE CHEST GAZETTE

The best information tabloid of cultural and nature heritage since 2021
Najlepsza tabloid informacyjny o dziedzictwie kulturowym i przyrodniczym od 2021 roku



Evil Eye Bead

*I am a dream wandering on your shores,
Feel the sea rustle with blue evil eye beads
Look and see how the sea winks at you
Put the evil eye bead on your chest
Never take it out of there like the endless sea in our hearts*

Is it a superstitious belief?

First, let me claim that it is a handicraft in which the glass is shaped to a blue bead with an eye figure in the middle with hand tools in fire. That bead is used for the protection against the evil eye.

It is known from the archaeological findings that the evil eye belief dates back to the neolithic age. There are green glass beads found in the Pharaoh tombs in 3500 BC. According to the Egyptian history, the eye shaped bead symbolizes the eye of Horus, the falcon shaped God whose one eye is the moon and the other is the sun. Horus became the king of life after his victory over his enemy Seth. So the eye of Horus has the power to defeat the evil glance. There are also beads of Sumerians in 3000 BC, and eye shaped glass beads found in Ephesus excavations, Romans put a blue eye shaped bead representing Osiris eye on babies in the 1st century.

When considering the Turks, the roots go back to Shamanism. The blue color was related to the sky, and their god's name was Sky God. So they believed that the holiness would continue to be conveyed in some way, if they wear the blue color. Today this color is the national color of Turkey in ceremonies and it is called "turquoise".

It is believed that some people have harmful power in their own glance even though these people never notice that they have any bad intentions. But somehow they leave a negative influence on others. Against these evil eyes some objects are used before the first touches like horseshoe, egg shell, blue bead; and after the first touches it is different. Smoke is turned over the affected person's head by melting lead in pot or burning harmful seed.

And here is the most common tradition. It is necessary to keep pregnancy away from being the target of gossip, to keep pregnant away from evil eyes. Later when the baby is born, an evil eye bead is attached to a golden gift that friends and relatives put on the baby. The gifts are needed on the cradle. All children carry this bead as visibly pinned to clothes on their shoulders. After getting a little older, the ladies usually wear evil eye bead jewellery.

Tell me now.

What is your answer?



Cradle of 1 month old baby



Evil eye bead in an eye shaped gold on a girl shoulder



Evil eye bead shaped gold necklace on a girl chest

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Reporter, Hakki Bilgen, 30.05.2021