

**Research note :**

**TRADITIONAL COSTUMES AND THEIR CHANGING TRENDS AMONG RAJPUT COMMUNITY IN PARTS OF WESTERN RAJASTHAN**

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Costume is the language, which tells about the nature, culture, status, personality, creativity, interest and values of any individual. It provides visible index of the society and unity of the people. Garmets adorns the body and enriche its appearance, making a person gorgeous and enchanting besides safeguarding his or her body. Rajasthan state is famous as "Rangeela Rajasthan" because of its colourful and attractive cloths and beautiful ornaments of various designs. People of Rajasthan still like to wear traditional costumes on the various occasions either it may be seasonal, social, cultural or religious. The native of various villages of Rajasthan wear significant types of garments and ornaments, which indicates about their castes, culture, place of living, status etc. in spite of effect of western culture (Mathur, 1993; Sharma, 2001; Bhandari, 2004). Present study deals with daily wear garments of different classes and age groups of Rajput community found in Jodhpur district of western Rajasthan and changes in their traditional costumes due to urbanization and education.

Intesive survey and study was conducted during the year 2005 and 2006 in 168 villages of seven tehsils (Bhopalgarh, 21; Bilara, 18; Jodhpur, 28; Luni, 25; Osian, 25; Phalodi 21 and Shergarh, 30) of Jodhpur district. Systematic random sampling method was followed. Fifty families belonging to lower, middle and upper income classes of Rajput community were interviewed for 142 questions from each tehsil. Observations were recorded for men, women, unmarried girls, unmarried boys,

old women, old men and children. Data obtained were expressed in mean, frequency and percentage.

Traditional (*Men* : Safa, Kurta, Bandi, Dhoti; *Women* : Odhana, Kurati, Kanchli, Ghaghra; *Unmarried girl* : Puthia, Jampar; *Children* : Kurta, Jangia, Jhabla, Gaghari, Angarkhiyo, Potadiyo, Topaliyo) and modern (*Men*: shirt, Bushirt, T-shirt, Pant, Jeans, Chola Payjama, Baniyan, Underwear; *Women* : Sari, Blouse, Petikot, Bra etc; *Unmarried girl* : Kurta, Salwar, Frock, Skirt-Blouse, Jeans, Top etc; *Chidren* : Bushirt, Shirt, T-Shirt, Chola, Payjama, Frock, etc) garments were recorded.

It was recorded after data analysis that 55.53% and 44.47% of Rajput community wear traditional and modern costumes respectively (Table 1). The persons of lower, middle and upper income class of community wear 64.14, 54.71% and 48.19% traditional dress in daily use, respectively. Wearing of traditional apparels varies from 45.38% (Jodhpur tehsil) to 67.86% (Shergarh tehsil) (Table 1).

Use of traditional costumes among different age groups varies from one tehsil to another (Table 1). Men, women, unmarried girls, unmarried boys, old men, old women and children wear 22.48, 75.71, 79.43, 10.02, 68.76, 94.86 and 36.09% traditional cloths, respectively in their daily use. Maximum (94.86%) and minimum (10.02%) daily use of traditional garments were recorded for old women and unmarried boys, respectively.

It was further noticed that 83.52 % people of the community wear traditional