

Research Paper :

## Study on traditional costumes and coiffure of male and female Rajput community of Mewar region of Rajasthan

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### ABSTRACT

Rajasthan is the largest state of the republic of India in terms of area. It is often called the shoppers "paradise" as it is famous for textiles, semi-precious stones and handicrafts. The attractive designs of costumes and coiffure are eye catching and inviting to any shopper. Rajasthani costumes are always in demand wherever sold. The present study deals with the rich heritage of Rajputs and their traditional costume and coiffure.

**Key words :** Costume, Coiffure, Rajput community

In India, Rajputs have a great identity and substantial contributions. As Rajputs are known for their rich treasure of culture although, it is not sporadically explored.

In the colourful Indian state of Rajasthan, many communities are living. In each community, different style of costumes and coiffure are worn. Costumes/coiffure are often made from textiles using either traditional or modern printing. The main work of costumes and coiffure is covering of human body and protect on from natural calamities like rain, sunlight, winter and sense of bare body.

In present time costumes are not only the basic demand of human beings but also the expression of the social status by means of decoration. Rajasthani people are fond of decorated costumes by nature and remain attractive towards costumes and ornaments since the early age.

Rajputs are sub-sect of Hindi speaking "Kshatriyas". In older times, the term was applied only to kinsmen of ruling dynasties. The present study was undertaken to study and document the traditional costumes and coiffure of male and female of Rajput community of Rajasthan.

### METHODOLOGY

Preliminary survey was conducted to collect the information about costumes and coiffure used by Rajput male and female on the basis of heavily populated Suryavanshi Rajput in Udaipur and Bhilwara districts of Mewar.

A sample of 60 respondents was selected from each district comprising of 30 male and 30 female respondents of Suryavanshi Rajput community to fulfill the purpose of the present study. The data were collected and analyzed in the light of the objectives of the present study.

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The study was conducted in Udaipur and Bhilwara districts, as the heavy population of Suryavanshi Rajputs is found in both these district.

#### Rajput female costumes:

Upper garment:

The garments of daily use have been described in Table 1.

From Table 1 it can be seen that 60 per cent of respondents used to wear traditional clothes while 40 per cent used modern clothes in Udaipur district. Similar trend of wearing was found in Bhilwara district also were 51.6 per cent of respondents were wearing traditional and 48.3 per cent modern clothes.

In response to the question about traditional dress of female Rajputs, cent per cent respondents from both the areas informed that traditional female clothes is Lehanga, Kachali, Kurti (Plate 1).

#### Traditional clothes:

The use of traditional clothes has been depicted in Table 2. All the respondents said that due to requirement