

## Adaptation of traditional designs on sarees of Meitei community of Manipur

■ ANGOM INDIRA DEVI AND MEENU SRIVASTAVA

See end of the paper for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to:

**MEENU SRIVASTAVA**  
Department of Textile and Apparel Designing, College of Home Science, M.P. University of Agriculture and Technology, UDAIPUR (RAJASTHAN) INDIA  
[meenuclt@yahoo.com](mailto:meenuclt@yahoo.com)

### ABSTRACT

Various motifs collected from traditional textiles and costumes of Meitei community of Manipur were documented followed by screening of designs in terms of suitability for adaptation on apparel items by the researchers. In this, 30 motifs were selected. Adaptation of designs on Sarees were done on computer by using suitable software. Out of 15 developed designs, three designs for Sarees were selected by judges to develop final products. Stencil and hand block printing techniques were used for printing apparel items. The three designed apparel items were highly acceptable and have enough market potential.

**KEY WORDS :** Tradition, Costume, Design, Motif, Adaptation

**How to cite this paper:** Devi, Angom Indira and Srivastava, Meenu (2011). Adaptation of traditional designs on sarees of Meitei community of Manipur. *Asian J. Home Sci.*, **6** (2) : 254-257.

**Article chronicle: Received:** 09.06.2011; **Accepted:** 20.11.2011

The human race universally wears articles of clothing- also known as dress, garments, or attire-on the body in order to protect it against the adverse climate conditions (Balagopal, 2010). Apart from the practical functions of placing a piece of garment above the skin, wearing clothes also carry specific cultural and social meanings. A style of dress, including garments, accessories and hairstyle, especially as characteristic of a particular state/country, period or people is known as costume (Grover, 2005). The rich textiles and costumes of Manipur show the great heritage of traditional and indigenous garment making in the whole of North-Eastern region of our country. It has the potential to become an established cottage industry and even go further into realms of large scale merchandising (Devi, 1998). Knowing about the traditional richness and the expertise of the Meitei, one will understand that the contribution of this little state in the development of the contemporary textile designing is phenomenal. In view of this, investigation was carried out on the traditional designs of Meitei community of Manipur and its adaptation on Sarees. To collect the traditional motifs/ designs from textiles and costumes of Manipur, developed the apparel items using those motifs/ designs and to assess the market potential.

### RESEARCH METHODS

The present research work was based on the traditional textiles and costumes of *Meitei community*, hence the study was conducted purposively in Imphal East and West districts, as the majority of *Meitei community* is settled in these districts. Data collection and in Udaipur,

Rajasthan.

### Selection of the sample:

Three types of sample were selected for the present study *i.e.*

- Sample for collection of information about textiles and costumes of Meitei community of Manipur.
- Samples for design evaluation.
- Sample for assessment of market potential.

### Collection of data

In the present study, interview schedule and rating scale were used for data collection. The study was conducted in the following two phases.

#### Phase 1:

Survey and collection of information about the traditional textiles and costumes of Meitei community of Manipur with the help of interview schedule.

#### Phase 2:

- The various motifs collected from traditional textiles and costumes of Meitei community were documented followed by screening of designs in terms of suitability for adaptation on apparel items by the researchers. In all this, 30 motifs were selected and developed using traditional Manipuri motifs with the help of suitable softwares. These designs were shown in four different colour ways and were evaluated by a panel of judges to select the three designs in terms of five parameters, *i.e.* suitability of combination of motifs to the end use,