

TRADITIONAL CLOTHS OF RAJPUT COMMUNITY IN PARTS OF WESTERN RAJASTHAN, INDIA

BHAVANA DWIVEDI AND VIJAYA LUNIYA

See end of the article for
authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :
BHAVANA DWIVEDI
Department of Home
Science, Jai Narain Vyas
University, JODHPUR
(RAJASTHAN) INDIA

Accepted : April, 2008

ABSTRACT

Survey and study conducted revealed that 96.71% Rajput community wear their traditional cloths as per the geography and season in seven tehsils of Jodhpur district in Rajasthan. The impact of geographical area and seasons was recorded on make of the cloths (06.95%), fabrics of the cloths (17.86%), colour of the cloths (06.67%), make and colour of the cloths (21.67%) and on fabric and colour of the cloths (43.76%). The people belong to upper income class wear hundred per cent their apparels according to the area and season. While those of lower and middle income class wear 91.57 and 98.29 per cent cloths according to the areas and seasons, respectively.

Key words : Traditional cloths, Rajput community,
Seasonal Cloths, Rajasthan

The dress and ornaments of the people present a vital clue to their mood and taste, their aesthetic temper, their art and skill to adjust their social and geographical environment, their resilience to various influences, in short to their way of living (Biswas, 1985). Traditional clothing of various castes and communities varies from state to state depending upon geography and climatic conditions in India (Raman *et al.*, 1992). Rajasthan, is famous as "Rangeela Rajasthan" because of its colourful and attractive cloths and beautiful ornaments of various designs (Dwivedi and Luniya, 2007). Though by nature, the western part of Rajasthan, consisting of Barmer, Bikaner, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts is a dry province having high temperature, low and erratic rainfall, high wind velocity and less greenery (Misra, 1967). The people of this part of state wear different types of cloths on various occasions either it may be social, religious or cultural. Rajput community also has its unique costume which distinguishes from other community (Raman *et al.* 1992; Bhandari, 2004 and Dwivedi and Luniya, 2007). Present study deals with the traditional geographical and seasonal cloths of Rajput community in Jodhpur district of western Rajasthan.

METHODOLOGY

Study was undertaken during the year 2005 and 2006 in 168 different villages of seven tehsils (Bhopalgarh, 21; Bilara, 18; Jodhpur 28; Luni, 25; Osian, 25; Phalodi, 21

and Shergarh, 30) and city areas of Jodhpur district. Systematic random sampling method was followed. Fifty families belonging to lower, middle and upper income classes of Rajput community were interviewed from each tehsil and different colonies of Jodhpur city. Observations were recorded from men, women, unmarried girls and boys, old aged women and men and children. Data obtained were expressed in mean, frequency and percentage.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is observed in present study that Luni, Jodhpur, Osian, Phalodi and Shergarh tehsils fall under arid region while Bhopalgarh and Bilara tehsils belong to semi-arid region in Jodhpur district. During this study, it was recorded that 96.71 per cent of rajput community wear cloths as per the geography of the area and as per the season (Table 1).

Rest of the population of the community (3.43%) use to wear usual dresses. The people belonging to upper income class of the community wear hundred per cent their apparels according to the area and season. While people of lower and middle income class, who are resident of all the seven tehsils of Jodhpur district, wear 91.57 per cent and 98.29 per cent cloths according to the areas and seasons, respectively (Table 1).

On the basis of present study (Table 2) it was noticed that impact of geographical areas and seasons is on make of the cloth (6.95%), in fabric of cloths (17.86%), in colour of the cloths (9.67%), on make and colour of the cloths (21.67%) and in the fabric and colour of the cloths