



Traditional ornaments and accessories of Rajput community of Mewar region

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ABSTRACT

Rajasthan is a land of rich tradition, it enjoyed the privilege of being a Rajput kingdom for several centuries and in the later ages become a princely state under the British colonial rule. It's also 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. As Rajputs are known for their rich treasure of culture in which accessories is one of important aspect. Heavy gold, Kundan and Diamond jewellery is worn by Rajput males and females in their different body parts. The present study deals with the documentation of rich heritage of Rajputs in terms of traditional and contemporary accessories used with their costumes.

INTRODUCTION

In the colourful Indian state of Rajasthan, many communities are living and in each community different style of traditional and contemporary accessories are used. Rajputs have a great identity and substantial contributions to the Indian culture. In present time accessories are used as an expression of personality and also as status symbol (Kothari, 1995; Bhandari, 2004).

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

METHODS

Preliminary survey was conducted to collect information

about traditional and contemporary accessories used by Suryavanshi Rajputs from their heavily populated native place of Udaipur and Bhilwara district of Mewar region. 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 present study. The data were collected and analyzed in the light of the objectives of present study.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

Rajput community is really very fond of using ornaments on various parts of body as per gender and age groups.

Ornaments:

Human being is fond of ornaments since very beginning. There are many ways to decorate the body by various types of ornaments meant for each part of body. There are two types of apic "Ang-Vijja" describes two types of ornaments from the