

Description of the Hejaz turban in the region of Mecca in the Saudi Era (From the 14th century AH / 20 AD)

Dr. Amal A. Basaffar

King Abdulaziz University - Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

abasaffar@kau.edu.sa

Researcher. Hanan S. Barri

King Abdulaziz University - Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Hanan_barri@hotmail.com

Introduction:

Every society has its own heritage, which is represented in its customs and traditions that distinguish it from other societies because of many factors, including climatic, social and cultural factors (Ali, 1993). Clothing is an important component of societies' heritage as it helps to clearly demonstrate these differences. Traditional clothing is a national and a cultural heritage that distinguishes peoples from each other. The study of traditional clothing is considered an urgent scientific necessity in which it prides itself on the national identity and cultural and historical heritage, especially in countries such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, whose heritage abounds in various elements whose influence extended to other cultures of the world (Al-Gohary, 1978).

The turban is considered the most popular head wear among Arabs and Muslims, and despite its great importance to give beauty, prestige and honor for men when wearing it (Saleh, 2018 AD), it is noticed that wearing a turban is on the verge of extinction in Makkah Al-Mukarramah region, after it has been their formal dress for long ages. In the Makkah region, wearing the turban is currently limited to the elderly and a few young people on some special occasions. All these factors urged the researcher to pay attention to studying and documenting an important part of the heritage, which is the Meccan turban in terms of its description and types, for fear of its extinction and to help preserve it as the heritage of the Makkah region.

The research problem can be summarized through the following questions:

1. What is a Meccan turban?
2. What are the different types of Meccan turban?
3. What are the methods used for decorating the Meccan turban?

Research aims:

1. Description of the Meccan turban.
2. Mention of the different types of Meccan turban.
3. Determine the methods used in the decoration of the Meccan turban.

Research importance:

1. Transferring the traditional heritage of the Hejaz turban of Makkah region to those interested in studying the traditional heritage.
2. Documenting the types of the Hijaz turban for Makkah region, using scientific research methods.

Methodology:

Research Methodology:

This study followed the descriptive approach that relies on studying the phenomenon as it is in reality and is concerned with being an accurate description and expressed in a qualitative or quantitative expression (El-Sherbiny, 2012). The descriptive method is more like a camera with which the researcher captures certain images as they are without increase or decrease, with the possibility of shedding them on parts of the past (Al-Ash'ari, 2015).

Methodology design

This study used the descriptive approach, as for the research method, it used the objective qualitative method, for its compatibility with the objectives of this research in collecting information on the Meccan turban in the Saudi era, and it is also the most appropriate method for small samples (Roumeliotis, 2014). Qualitative research is defined as “any research that provides results that are not obtained by statistical methods” (Obaidat, 2016).

Data collection:

1. Personal interview: Which is one of the tools of scientific research and is considered one of the primary sources for this research, as eyewitness testimonies and events are considered primary and basic sources for heritage research (Kandilji, 2009). It is a dialogue, conversation, or directed discussion between the researcher on one side and another person or persons on the other side, with the aim of arriving at information that reflects specific facts or situations, which the researcher needs to obtain (Qandalji, 2017 AD) to reach information in light of the research objectives. Oral testimonies are also known as in-depth interviews of contemporary eyewitnesses for the purpose of studying past and present incidents (Qandilji, 2009).

2. Field visit to local archaeological museums and shops: Field visit to local archaeological museums and shops located in Makkah Al-Mukarramah region to obtain information that serves the objectives of the research. Two museums containing the Meccan turban were visited, a governmental museum, which is the Makkah Museum and a private museum for Professor / Jamil Abdul Hakim Briali, to get acquainted with the old harams used. Photographs of the Ahriim used to wrap the Hijazi Meccan turban with a (Canon) camera. All information and pictures were extracted into one table to obtain information about the study.

Research tools:

- Interview questions form.
- Analysis form for the Meccan turbans available in local heritage museums.

The research tools were judged by (2) members of teaching staff from King Abdul-Aziz University, Department of Home Economics, clothes and textiles. As in the following table:

Research sample:

1.The human sample:

An intentional sample of the witnesses who saw and acquired the Meccan turban and have experience in wearing it, their number is (6). The sample was first accessed through the personal relationships of two people, and then the sample number increased until the researcher reached sufficient information.

2. The physical sample: It is represented in:

- A. The ancient Meccan turban available in the market or at individuals interested in the Meccan turban.
- B. Meccan turban found in heritage museums.

3.6 Research limits:

3. Spatial: Makkah Al-Mukarramah region.

4. Temporal: Through the human sample and the physical sample, the study will give information about the Meccan turban during the Saudi era.

Data analysis and discussion:

This chapter presented the qualitative analysis of the study in terms of data collection and analysis. Where I conducted an interview with (6) persons of experience and expertise in the Meccan turban, by asking them open-ended questions as we mentioned before on the topic of the research, their opinions and experience may contribute to answering many of the research questions. The Meccan turban was also viewed in museums and commercial shops to note the different types and shapes of the Meccan turban and to note the motifs of all shapes and colors.

Results:

Through in-depth interviews with those interested in the Meccan turban, and see the turbans found in archaeological museums and commercial shops, this study sought to uncover the description of the Meccan turban in the Saudi era and to identify its types and decorations. Three specific research questions guided the study and led to the findings presented.

- The Meccan turban is a square-shaped Ihram with sizes ranging from 150 cm to 180 cm, worn on the head above the keffiyeh. What was mentioned in some references as a study confirms: (Fida, 2007) that the Hijazi turban consists of a keffiyeh and a shawl.
- The Meccan turban is distinguished by features that distinguish it from other countries or regions, 1. Its surrounded by a keffiyeh.
- 2. Ahrim may be plain without decorations, but most of them have inscriptions and many decorations. 3. It is characterized by its square shape and its size ranges from 150 cm to 180 cm (4) The Meccan turban is distinguished by its method of wrapping, that distinguishes it from other turbans in Islamic countries.
- The turban is worn in Makkah Al-Mukarramah as an extension of the ancient civilization, culture and custom that existed in the Arabian Peninsula and the pride of its people in it, as it protects against the bright sun's heat.
- Most of the Ahrim of the Meccan turban are imported from Syria according to the required Meccan specifications.
- The Meccan turban was worn during the Saudi era and after the standardization of the Saudi dress code on certain occasions, such as weddings and some occasions.
- There are many types of Meccan turbans according to the different inscriptions on them and the different colors and materials. The most famous types are: Al-Baghdadi, picture (1), Al-Prismy picture (2), Al-Rashwan picture (3), Al Hilal w Al-Negma picture (4), Magnonat Halaby picture (5), Amet Al-Sultan picture (6), Ahmadiyah picture (7), Abu Orouq picture (8), Louzat

picture (9), Azizi picture (10), Bali picture (11), Semsmya picture (12), Slemy picture (13), Zebdet Al-Rakhal picture (14).

- The decorations of the Meccan turban are distinguished by being one of the Islamic motifs, whether in the (kinar) or inside the turban, some of them come in veins, or flowers, or squares and figures, or decorative lines, the motifs may be embroidered with thread over the Ihram by hand or by using the machine, and most of them use the chain-link stitch, with dense or simple decoration depending on the type of Ihram, or the decorations are being woven in the same fabric (like: Bali and Semsmeya).
- The Meccan turban is made of several materials, including: “cotton, rayon, lasso, wool, acrylic, polyester, poplin or Duplin, organza, tartan, or a mixture of "cotton with viscose" or "cotton with polyester" or "cotton with rayon”.

Recommendations:

- Paying attention to conducting studies on traditional clothes and their accessories for each region of the Kingdom, and documenting them with scientific methods. Where the study of traditional clothing is necessary to link the past with the present and learn about the customs, traditions and cultures of society over the ages and the extent of their progress and development.
- To have a platform that collects studies interested in traditional clothing for different regions and countries.
- Creating an electronic directory that includes the traditional clothes for each region of the Kingdom, taken from scientific studies, to make it easier for those interested in traditional heritage to reach what they want, and to be a reference for the young generation.
- Paying attention to local government museums, as they include traditional clothes of various forms and types, with documenting the date and name of each piece of clothing.

Pictures:



Picture (1): Boghdady



Picture (2)



Picture (3): Rashwan



Picture (4): Najma w Hilal Halbi



Picture (5): Majnonat Halaby



Picture (6): Amet Al-Sultan



Picture (7): Ahmadya



Picture (8): Abu Orouq



Picture (9): Louzat



Picture (10): Azizi



Picture (11): Bali



Picture (12): Semsmya



Picture (13): Slemei



Picture (14): Zebdet Al-Rakhal

References:

Arabic references:

1. Ibrahim, Ragab Abdelgawad: “Arabic dictionary of clothing names”, International Printing Company, (2002).
2. Abkar, Abdullah Mohamed: “Images from the heritage of Makkah Al-Mukarramah in the fourteenth century hijri”, Jeddah, Manar for publishing and distribution, (2009), ed. 2, c 1.
3. Al-Albany, Mohamed Naser Aldeen: “The Summary of Muhammadiyah Merits”, Jordan, The Islamic Library, (1405).
4. Al-Ashari, Ahmed Bin Dawood Al-Mazjaji: “Al-Wajeez in the methods of scientific research,” 1st edition, Jeddah, Khwarazm Al-Alalmiya for Publication and Distribution, (2015).
5. Al-Gohari, Muhamed: “Saudi folklore is a national duty and a scientific necessity”, King Abdul Aziz University Journal (1978).
6. Al-Zaylai, Ahmed: “The turban is an authentic cultural heritage, the most famous is the Meccan”, 05/04/2019.
7. El-Sherbiny, Zakaria, Sadiq, Yousrya, Hashem, Samy, Al-Najar, Alaa: “Scientific Research Methods, Theoretical, Applied and Technical Foundations”, (2012).
8. Al-Qathami, Areej Meshal: “Makkah Al-Mukarramah, a Historical and Cultural Study”, Makkah Al-Mukarramah, King Fahd National Library, (2016).
9. Al-Qarawi, Suliman bin Saleh: “Makkah Al-Mukarramah is the Miracle of Its Location, Sanctity, Status and Expansion, Volume 6 Al-Ahsa, King Faisal University, (2005).
10. Diab, Mohamed Sadiq: “Jeddah of history and social life”, Jeddah, King Fahd national library, (1424).

11. Rafi`, Mohamed Omar: "Makkah in the fourteenth century hijri," Makkah Cultural Club, (1981).
12. Sejini, Rabaa Salem Mohamed Amin: A comparative study: "The traditional dress of a man between the old and the modern in the makkah region," Journal of Sciences and Arts, Helwan University, (2011).
13. Si, Snook Hirgronji: "Mecca in the late nineteenth century", translated by: Sabry Mohamed Hassan, Cairo: The National Center for Translation, (2007).
14. Saleh, Abdulaziz Hamid: "Fashion among the arabs through the successive ages", Dar Al-Kutub Al-Ilmiyya, (2018).
15. Al-Bayan Newspaper: "Traditional Fashion is an Identity that Resists Globalization", Dubai Media Corporation, 14/10/2019.
16. Traboulsi, Mohamed Youssef Mohamed Hassan: "Jeddah, the story of a city", Riyadh, King Fahd Library Indexes, (2006).
17. Obaidat, Thouqan, Abdel-Haq, Kayed, Adas, Abdul-Rahman: "Scientific research its concept, tools and methods", Amman, Dar Al-Fekr, (2016), 18 ed.
18. Fada, Laila Abdel-Ghaffar Abdul-Samad: "The traditional heritage of men's clothing in the western region of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia," Journal of Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies, Kuwait University, (2007).
19. Fahim, Mohamed Ali: "Features of Social Activity in Makkah Al-Mukarramah", Egypt: Zahraa Al-Sharq, (2009).
20. Kandilji, Amer Ebrahim, As-Samarrai, and Eman: "Quantitative and Qualitative Scientific Research", Jordan, Al-Yazoury House for Publishing and Distribution, (2009).
21. Kandilji, Amer Ebrahim: "Scientific research and using Traditional and electronic information sources", Amman, Dar Al-Masirah for Publishing and Distribution, (2017).
22. Keefi, Eman Ebrahim: "The social life in Makkah Al-Mukarramah during the Era of King Abdulaziz Al Saud", Makkah Al-Mukarramah, King Fahd National Library, (2015).
23. The Arabic Language Academy: "The Median Lexicon", Egypt, Al-Shrouq International Library, (2005).

Foreign references:

- 1. Roumeliotis, George "Athens as an international tourism destination: An empirical investigation to the city's imagery and the role of local DMO's", Athens University and Business, (2014).

Websites:

1. <https://www.my.gov.sa/wps/portal/snp/aboutksa/aboutksa>
Unified government services, for the Kingdom, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 1/10/2019.
2. <https://laws.boe.gov.sa/BoeLaws/Laws/LawDetails/16b97fcb-4833-4f66-8531-a9a700f161b6/1>
Expert Committee of the Council of Ministers, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. 10/4/2020.
3. <https://www.moi.gov.sa/>
Ministry of Interior "The Emirate of Makkah Al-Mukarramah", Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. 10/16/2019.