

## **Gypsies Women Costumes in Egypt Analytical and Field Study On Sharqia and Beni-Swiff Governorates**

**Prof. Sanaa Ezz El-Din Khalil**

**Professor of Design, Department of Fashion - Academy of Art and Design - 6th of  
October**

[SanaaEZZ52@gmail.com](mailto:SanaaEZZ52@gmail.com)

**Prof. Khaled Mahmoud Abdo El-Shikh**

**Professor, Department of Ready-made Garments - Faculty of Applied Arts, Helwan  
University**

[dr.elsheikh@hotmail.com](mailto:dr.elsheikh@hotmail.com)

**Assist. Lect. Ola El-Tokhy**

**Assistant Lecturer - Faculty of Design and Creative Arts - Al-Ahram Canadian  
University**

[olaaeltoukhy@gmail.com](mailto:olaaeltoukhy@gmail.com)

### **Abstract:**

Gypsies are rough people spread over the community marginally all over the continents in the form of closed groups. Their conditions are characterized by mystery, they are highly adhering to their own customs in terms of life style, behaviors, morals and art passion. They are distinguished in one of the most important life contexts namely costumes or fashion in every environment they reside within and they consider it as a mandatory type of social adaption and consistency. They are tribes having no unified identity, nor nation combining them nor homeland to control over or return to one day. They are groups believing that all countries are their homeland but their delay is their curse. They have no customs nor traditions.

In real life, we cannot talk about the race nor identity of gypsies. Their identity is the same, i.e labyrinth, they are stranger travelers. When those gypsies appears in the world, they arouse great wonder and the thesis behind their origin are disappearing. Along centuries, they succeeded in keeping their distinguishable identity and showing great ability on adaption and survival. Naturally, any people within which the gypsies live, see them as different and distinguish groups as they do not belong to special culture in the world as they do not adopt certain culture. The historical study of Gypsies shows that they are people holding over other peoples' culture whether those Gypsies have their own culture or not and this is reflected on their costumes and accessories and this will be handled in this study.

In the light of this, we have no doubt that Gypsies costumes and their characteristics are affected by the peoples they passed through during their travelling and the peoples with which they were living or are living. This illustrates the similarity in some elements and basis of costumes among certain Gypsies group and non-gypsies people. For example, the costumes of Gypsies women in Egypt as the costumes of gypsies women include often the images of the environment where they grow up as well as some details of the life they live. Similarly, we can see the linkage between the nature of women life in their own community, the geographical conditions and the costumes, its form, structure, the materials of which it is made and its accessories. The study aims at studying the nature of gypsies in Egypt in public and Al-Sharqia and Beni-Swiff

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governorates in particular as well as studying the impact of the social environment on Gypsies through studying and analyzing women costumes.

**Key words:**

Gypsies of Egypt; Roma groups; Gypsy clothing; Gypsy heritage