Demographic Investigation of Traditional Clothing and Womanly Culture in the city of Manoujan

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ABSTRACT: The present paper tries to investigate demography of traditional clothing of women in Manoujan in 2000 and studies this cultural phenomenon from demographic viewpoint. Research methodology includes sections like analysis design, research methodology, research technique analysis and study limits of the research. This demographic study is a field study and its complementary method was historical. Interview, observation and library study was used for data collection. Results of the research showed that colors have special places in traditional clothing of Manoujan women and women always try to use happy and light colors in clothing decorations. For instance, red color is used widely because it is the symbol of heat and warmth and Manoujan people are used to heat and warmth. Blue color symbolizes solace, sea and sky and green color symbolizes palm orchards and citrus fruits orchards. Therefore, the shapes and designs of Manoujan women are inspired by nature, sea, farming, dryness, sky and sun.

Keywords: Demography, Traditional women-wear, Culture and Clothing

INTRODUCTION

Clothing is in fact a reflection of cultural and social capabilities, religious beliefs and traditional and formal adherences, economic power and political attitude. Therefore, like other cultural phenomena, is a function of climatic and geographical conditions, lifestyle and customs and also social beliefs and taste. In general, historical investigation of clothing is not possible without investigation of social civilization and history of mankind because clothing is indicator of social transformations and indicates differences among social categories and classes. Iran has rich material and spiritual background and achievements. These material and spiritual achievements which are the very culture and civilization of a society have roots in pre-history era and Mesopotamia civilization. Iranian folkloric clothing has undergone changes over the passage of time and has sometimes been simplified.

Statement of the problem and importance of research
Clothing is one of the most visual and most animate samples of cultural life of a society. Familiarity with history of Iranians history of clothing not only reveals the hidden aspects of historical life but also it provides us with weaving styles, tastes and models and designs, different fabrics, imitation from other regions people, allocation of clothing to a special social group and also trend of different types of cloths.

Northern areas people's clothing differs considerably from clothing of southern areas people (this difference is still obvious). For example, scarf is used in southern regions as skirt which reminds us of past Persians skirts. Further, scarf was used as a cover against cold. Anyway, since wearing clothes is a necessary matter, everyone tries to wear the most beautiful cloths. Therefore, clothing should have beautiful and artistic color and design and be coordinated with.

**Traditional clothing of women in Manoujan**

Traditional clothing of Manoujan City women includes Lachac (a kind of scarf), Roubandeh (veil), Borgha (a kind of veil), different types of shirts, Chador Bandari, ShalvarJgousi (a kind of trousers), Balouchi clothing, Charouk (a kind of scarf) and different types of jewelry which all have special weaving styles and different types of arts like Khosdouzi, needlework, Borudaridouzi and Golabetoundouzi have been used in them. In the past, these clothes were used widely in different ceremonies and considering age and social class. However, many changes have been made in traditional clothing styles of women due to spread of wearing stylish clothes, use of satellite channels and impact of mass media especially television. Further, mass supply and reasonable prices of new apparels has changed the traditional clothing a lot. This has sometimes led to disappearance of traditional clothing styles.

**Structure of women clothing in Manoujan**

Structure of women clothing in Manoujan, just like other Iranian cities, is first a coverage and then body shelter against weather conditions and adaptation to climatic and environmental conditions. Further, its color, fabric material and type and also weaving style and ornaments and decorations indicate symbols and concepts.

In addition to body cover against natural factors and covering body against stranger which is a religious aspect, the type, material, color, weaving style, clothing form and culture of the words concerning traditional clothing is combined with a collection of values, cultural and ethical criteria like modesty, attraction and charm, social and economic validity, poverty and richness. Furthermore, the clearest characteristic of women clothing in Manoujan City is the impacts it has received from Provinces Hormozganand SistanBalouchestan women clothing.

**Women clothing features in Manoujan City**

In the near past, i.e. about 40 years ago, women clothing was different and they prepared their clothes on their own. At that time, most clothes were prepared by white Karbas (a type of fabric) and this Karbas was taken by Hobo (businessman who brought fabric and other materials on donkeys) from Minab to Manoujan. Further, cotton works and wool work used to be present but fabric weaving did not exist. At present, traditional clothing of Manoujan City come in various designs and colors and its decorations and shapes and designs have increased a lot.

**Design and shapes in traditional clothing of Manoujan women**

Manoujan women clothing was prepared mainly from white Karbas which was brought to Manoujan by Hobos from City of Minab. Sometimes, those who had more artistic taste and were wealthy painted their clothes and decorated them by means of Kiton and Khos on sleeves and cuffs. Needlework and Rudouzi on women clothes usually did not go beyond that. Those who were more wealthy, decorated their Lachacs (=scarves) using white coin which was called Ashrafi or practiced Khosdouzi and they also decorated their clothes by means of more various shapes and designs. At present, they are used for decoration of clothing and more stylish clothes are used by wealthier women.

**Sholas or Manoujan women trousers**
Before description of Manoujan Women Shola, we should mention that the word Shalvar (trousers) which is now used instead of Shola we use Shalvar instead of Shola in this text. Further, Shalvar is considered as one of the main elements of Manoujan women traditional clothing.

Common Shalvars which are used by Manoujan women are called Bandari (=related to a port). Its appearance is in the form of two legs with narrow ankle and loose top section (in upper parts of legs) and a large lozenge-shaped section connects these two legs.

It seems that due to continuous use of Shalvar with narrow ankle, the ankle of women remained thin and individuals looked taller. Further, loose top side caused women to feel comfortable when walking or sitting. In the waist part, Leefe was used and a lastic was used in it. As it was said, ankle of Shalvar cut inwards and zip was used in the cut section so that Shalvar was taken on more easily.

Manoujan Women footwear
Traditional footwear of Manoujan women has experienced many changes with respect to the past. Socks were not used in the past and they have become common within the recent decades and are usually used in cold days and in customs. Other clothes are as follows:

Traditional clothes of Manoujan women in different seasons
In the past, Manoujan women put on loose and everyday clothes in warm seasons and due to severe warmth, women usually wear lighter clothes. In other words, they wear only Charouk and use top-knee clothes. Today, women wear everyday clothes due to modern ventilation systems and air conditioners and do not feel hot. They wear woolen clothes including jackets and woolen scarfs in cold seasons. Those who kept sheep used its wool for weaving scarf in winters.

Undoubtedly, every research seeks some objectives. In the present research, the following questions are investigated:
- How has been the trend of changes in traditional clothing of Manoujan city women?
- What are the structural elements of Manoujan City women clothing?
- What is the function of Manoujan city women clothing?
- Do other cultural areas influence on traditional clothing of Manoujan city women?
- What do shapes and designs of clothing of Manoujan City women symbolize and what are they inspired from?

METHOD AND MATERIALS
Research methodology and research design is simple and non-credit and research methodology includes complementary and main methods.
Considering the research subject, the main method was field study and complementary method was historical and library. The main technique used for data collection was observation, interview and taking notes. Books and documents were used for complementary research. Then, some preliminary questions were propounded about research technique. The present research is a sectional study.

Statistical population, sample and sampling method
Statistical population of the research was the whole Kerman Province and Manoujan city was selected from this province for investigation. Multistage cluster sampling was used. Time period included 2000 to 2013. How has been the trend of changes in traditional clothing of Manoujan city women?
Clothing is one of the main cultural elements which have changed like other cultural items and this transformation has been accompanied and influenced by industry and technology development. Traditional clothing of Manoujan women is also investigated considering this trend.
In the past, about 40 years ago, Manoujan women clothing was different from present time and as it was mentioned before, most people prepared their clothes on their own. At that time, white Karbas was used as fabric and it was painted by local herbs and trees. Clothes were decorated very simply and they were prepared by hand and Gheitoun Douziwas the only decoration used in clothes which was mainly used in clothes cuffs. Trousers were also loose in
top and narrow in ankle and a button was woven to it. Of course, the primary design of the present trousers was like this but it had more changes and decorations. Even women ornaments and cosmetics underwent changes as a result of technology and advances and women footwear was also changed from Sevas to Sandal and then into present shoes. Of course, Sandal is the adapted form of Sevas because it is open in sides and helps cool foot and is suitable for warm temperature and prevents foot from sweating. Further, socks were added to women footwear and industry development helped speed up clothing changes.

What are the structural elements of Manoujan City women clothing?

Manoujan women traditional clothing structure is made up of three sections: Topwear, Bodywear and Footwear. Topwear: As it was mentioned in the previous sections, infants topwear was made up of scarf which is a triangular piece of fabric and is put on babies heads in order to prevent from cold. Further, it included hat, which was prepared by mother or grandmothers and was prepared in triangular form by waste fabric and also included headband, which was a rectangular fabric which was fastened around babies' heads in order to give a smooth form to babies' heads and foreheads. For girls, topwear like scarf and Charoukare used. Moreover, women and young girls wear Lachac which is a semi-circular hat with two bands which is placed on head and two bands are fastened below head on neck. Charouk is the very scarf and is rectangular and is fastened around head. Local Chador which is called Bandari Chador and is put on in a particular form. Further, Borgha or Roubandeh (=veil) is used by young girls and women.

Bodywear include babies bodywear which is made up of elements like sleeveless underwear, long-sleeved shirt, Bonhak which is the very Qondaq and it is a square string piece of fabric in which baby is spun. Children bodywear is made up of shirt, trousers and blouse and skirt and as it was mentioned before, young and old women bodywear was more diverse and included elements like Shahim Astin Farakh which is a long shirt with very loose sleeves and the looseness was so great that the sleeves were fastened at the back of neck. Shahin Kamarchin, Shahin Fon, Indian trousers and shirt, Shahin and Balouchi Shoula which is very loose and has many decorations, Tonic and Shoula and Blouse and skirt and Abayee sweatshirt which is common in Persian gulf countries and Khousi trousers which are narrow in ankles and loose in top of the legs and have zips in ankles which facilitate wearing and taking off and comes in different types. However, the primary design of trousers cut style is the same and the only difference is in shapes and Rouduzu. Of course, it must be mentioned that Shalvar (trousers) is the main element of Manoujan women clothing and is of top importance in women clothing.

What is the function of Manoujan city women clothing?

As it was mentioned in the previous section, Manoujan women clothes cover their bodies from heat and cold and stranger and in the next step, they are used for beauty and indicate social class of individuals. Further, ornaments, fabric type and jewelry used in clothes indicate individual’s social class. Footwear like Sandal is used for walking as well as keeping feet cool because their sides are open and air moves beneath and most Manoujan women use Sandal in weddings and other ceremonies as well as walking. Those who use Borgha (veil) aim to prevent their faces from sunlight and prevent from skin tanning. Further, loose shirts and thin chadors makes it possible to tolerate hot weather in most months of a year. Moreover, protection of local tradition and culture in Manoujan is one of the main functions of Manoujan Women clothes which can be a hidden function.

Do other cultural areas influence on traditional clothing of Manoujan city women?

Undoubtedly, traditional Manoujan clothing has been largely influenced by other cultural areas. Due to neighborhood with Hormozgan Province and close relationships with Persian Gulf countries, Arabic countries, African countries and India, gradually their some clothing items have become common in Manoujan. For instance, Khos weaving is believed to be originated
from Egypt or other African countries or even India and businessmen have brought this craft to Manoujan. Further, due to close relationship with Sistan and Balouchestan Province, some articles of clothing have become common in Manoujan women clothes. This is while Balouchi shirt and trousers is one of the structural elements of Manoujan women clothing. Further, some of the shapes and designs which are used in clothes have been influenced by other cultures. Even accent and culture of Manoujan have been influenced by neighboring provinces. Bandari and Balouchi accents are also used by Manoujan people.

What do shapes and design of clothing of Manoujan City women symbolize and what are they inspired from?

Since clothing is one of the most necessary items of use in human life and it indicates culture, it sometimes refers to some symbols and reawakens some human characteristics.

CONCLUSIONS

Manoujan City has a humid and warm weather and its humidity is resulted from neighborhood to Hormozgan and Persian Gulf. It has a moderate weather in winters and annual winds influence weather changes. For instance, Lavar or TashBad (fiery wind) which is a simmering wind and blows during day and “Shobad” are a kind of wind which blows mainly in summer nights and makes weather less warm. Further, Northern wind or Khoshkiz is a kind of wind which blows mainly in cold seasons of year. Culturally, Manoujan is very similar to Hormozgan and Sistan Balouchestan provinces and therefore Manoujan accent and clothing is close to the two provinces. In addition to Bandari accent and local Manoujani accent, Balouchi dialect is also common among Balouchi tribes who live in Manoujan. There are many nomadic tribes in Manoujansome of which are permanent and some are temporary residents.

Traditional clothing is still common in Manoujan although men's clothing has changed a lot within the last few decades and few men use local and traditional clothing. However, Manoujan women traditional clothing is very special and women still wear traditional clothes in spite of changes.

Manoujan women clothing is made up of three elements: top-wears, body-wears and footwear. Further, Manoujan women jewelry and ornaments are very interesting and attractive. Even there are some jobs regarding local clothing of women like Khos weaving, Shak weaving, Tailoring, golabetounduzi, Kame Zani and. All these works are done by women and for preparation of local clothing. All these jobs are done by Manoujan women. Women traditional footwear includes Sevas, which is a kind of shoe prepared from palm tree strings. Chapi, Maleki and are also footwear which are interesting. Manoujan women use specific jewelry. For instance, they use a gem called Pedari, they use a gem called Ghoflaki or Talouk for lip decoration and use Khalkhal and large ring for ankle decoration and use amber and Gasar for hand decoration and also use different types of bangles. In spite of this, we find that Manoujan women traditional clothing is very diverse and attractive.

Recognition of cultural and social phenomena and their analysis helps protect original culture of a region in order to pass the customs to future generations. Since Iran is cradle of civilization and cultures and intact local cultures can be seen in different areas. Clothing is a cultural element which is not an exception and has experienced many changes. Some shapes are symbols. For instance, flowers and bushes symbolize beauty and happiness, Khosi symbolize green, fish eye in Shakweaving symbolizes earnings from sea, and Kajouk shape in Shak weaving symbolizes farming.

In traditional clothing of Manoujan women, colors are very important and women try to use lighter colors in clothes. For instance, red color is used widely because it is the symbol of heat and warmth and Manoujan people are used to heat and warmth. Blue color symbolizes solace, sea and sky and green color symbolizes palm orchards and citrus fruits orchards. Therefore, the shapes and designs of Manoujan women are inspired by nature, sea, farming, dryness, sky and sun.
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