

Reinventions of women's clothing in the Roman era for trendy modest dresses

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Abstract:

Abstract: this paper presents suggestions of dresses designs Through trendy design vision for women's modest clothing. Clothes are regarded as a significant aspect of human history and a rich source of information that lends numerous traits to each historical era that a person lived through in the past. The research problem lies in many fashion designers struggle, as one of the qualities of a competent designer is the translation and study of clothing terminology in all prior historical times, as well as the degree of his ability to utilizing this data to inspire the creation and invention of innovative designs that are specific to the needs and fashions of the present day. Roman clothes were characterized by simplicity, elegance, and loose shape, with a lot of folds and ruffles in the fabric. The research importance lies in This study aims to benefit from all the details of women's clothing in the Roman era, the external shape, internal lines, and silhouette of these clothes, and to reformulate them into a modern image that suits modest women's clothing. The research followed two methods: (the descriptive and analysis method)&(Experimental method).through the reformulation of four contemporary women's designs that take on the character of modesty using an analytical approach to the vocabulary of women's clothes in the Roman era. Applying one of these designs to a simulation program Clothing CLO 3d was the second method. This program is considered one of the latest simulation programs for the ready-made garment industry, which has greatly contributed to saving time and giving an image that is very close to the final implementation of the design. As a result of the research, Ancient civilizations are a rich source for any designer in general and the fashion designer in particular, with all the artistic and architectural aspects that these historical periods carry, especially the clothes that were worn in these periods, as they are a good reflection of what these civilizations carry. They are a rich source for any fashion designer, and the use of Motifs as a source of embroidery design on the designs give elegance and add the spirit of the times to the design.

Keywords:

Ancient roman clothing, Ancient Roman women clothing, modest dresses, trendy fashion.

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Introduction:

As a vehicle for expressing one's standing in society, fashion goes beyond its original function as visual. The ancient world would not be included in the history of the field according to fashion history. However, the role of clothing in Social hierarchies in modern society today have undoubtedly been influenced by ancient nations like Rome. present even today. Roman culture was significantly shaped by clothing, just as class, race, and It was sexuality, clothing serves as an element of a system of signs. According to this study, the concept of clothing in ancient Rome goes beyond this (Kelly Olson,2002). A clean-shaven man is the typical representation of Roman attire. donning a dazzling white toga that reached the ground. For a very small percentage of men, for a very brief period of time, in a particular region of the Empire. In reality, regional differences in Roman attire country, and they have continuously altered throughout time. To study such a vast subject, and there are still many topics and places that require much deeper exploration(Alexandra Croom,2010). The phrase "modest fashion" or "modest dressing" is a current tendency among women to dress in

less-skin-revealing ways, particularly when doing so meets their spiritual and stylistic needs due to their beliefs, religion, or personal preferences. Different cultures and nations have different definitions of what is considered modest. There is no clear interpretation because it depends on the socio cultural traits of each nation .Beyond the many meanings, everyone agrees that modest fashion refers to lose clothing, comfortable attire, and concealing of the body in a manner that is comfortable for the individual(<https://locaria.com>). Therefore, it is important for designers to be able to recognize the characteristics of modest fashion that women prefer in this type of clothing and to help them find modern clothes that suit their clothing trends. Modest clothing fashion is a trend that has become global with more than one fashion house, and in different brands they compete in providing everything. It is new in this direction and meets women's needs in this direction.

Research problem:

- 1- The research problem lies in trying to answer the following questions:
- 2- To what extent is a clothing designer able to benefit from the ancient heritage of previous

civilizations in preparing appropriate modern designs?

- 3- To what extent are the clothing designs of the Roman era inspiring the design of modern modest clothing?
- 4- To what extent can the vocabulary of women's clothing in the Roman era be reformulated into modern modest clothing for women?

Objectives:

- 1- Enriching the field of women's clothing design with modern modest clothing that suits current fashion trends for modest clothing.
- 2- Revealing the effectiveness of reformulating and renewing the clothes that characterized previous eras in a way that suits the spirit of the current era.

Importance:

- 1- Ancient civilizations are a rich source of all types of art, especially the art of clothing design.
- 2- The Roman era is an era filled with many clothing details that inspire many designers.

Methodology:

The research followed two methods: (the descriptive and analysis method)&(Experimental method).

Literature review:

1- Ancient roman era:

There were at least 250 years of kingly rule and 500 years of the Republic before the Empire even existed, as Rome was officially founded in the eighth century BC. In the West, the Empire lasted for close to 500 years, and it lasted even longer in the East, where it gradually evolved into the Byzantine Empire of the Middle Ages(Alexandra Croom:2010).

a) Ancient roman clothing

The toga, a loose garment with large folds draped over the body to cover a tighter garment called the tunic (tunica), was the typical male attire. Romans typically wore no headwear, only sandals for their feet. The three components of a Roman woman's attire were the close-fitting tunica, the stola, a floor-length gown, and the palla, a shawl big enough to cover the entire body(William C. Morey:2006).

For men and boys, the typical article of clothing in ancient Rome was a knee-length tunic with short or no sleeves, and for women and girls, a longer tunic with typically sleeves. Adult male citizens might don a woolen toga over their tunic for formal events, while married citizen women wore a woolen palla over a stola, a straightforward, long-sleeved, voluminous dress that modestly hung to cover the feet. Gender, status, rank, and social class were indicated through the clothing, accessories, and footwear worn. This was particularly clear in

the distinctive, privileged official attire worn by judges, clergy, and members of the military(Eliza Burbano,2016).

b) Women clothes in Ancient roman

Identical to those of men's clothes, with the exception of size or length. Some goods, like socks, seem to be identical to one another. Male versions and living instances can be classified as either male or On the basis of the items they had with them, only female. There was, however, a handful men's clothes that aren't typically worn by males Women and a few distinctly feminine pieces of clothing. The significance of Roman women's dress might be considered as a social status indication(Racinet,A:1988). The interior of the tunica was very similar to the previously described tunic for men in terms of both material and shape. It may have fit the figure more closely than the man's, occasionally had sleeves, and because it barely went to the knee, there was no need for a belt to prevent it from restricting the freedom of movement. However, a soft leather band (strophium) that resembled a sash was occasionally worn over it, just under the breasts, but only to support them. The more broad terms zona and cingulum are occasionally used to refer to this sash. Only young girls would typically wear this garment by themselves, even inside the home(<https://factsanddetails.com>).

composed of linen and secured at the waist with a zona. The tunic was constructed several centimeters longer than necessary and pushed up over the girdle, giving it the appearance of a skirt and blouse that has persisted to this day (Rodgers& Nigel ,2007).

The Stola, the defining garment of the Roman matron, was worn over the tunica interior. It was different from the male tunic used as a housedress in a number of ways. It was open above the waist on both sides, and brooches secured it at the shoulders. When ungirded, it was much longer, reaching to the feet, and had a broad border (instita) at the bottom edge. Additionally, there was a border around the neck that appeared to have been colored, possibly frequently crimson. If the interior of the tunic had sleeves, the stola was sleeveless; but, if the tunic itself lacked sleeves, the stola had sleeves so that the arm was always covered (<https://factsanddetails.com>).

c) Ancient roman fabrics, colors

In the past, color played a considerably bigger role in indicating status than it does today. Up until very recently, the color and quality of clothing actually played a significant role in class distinction, and during the Middle Ages, there were sumptuary laws that forbade members of certain social groups from donning certain hues or fabrics (Leventon. M, 2016)

Wool and linen were the two main fabrics used. Although in considerably smaller amounts, cotton and silk were also utilized. One of the most prominent colors during the Roman era was purple, which quickly came to stand for luxury and indulgence. Later, it began to represent the Emperor personally. Romans used leather and created tannery techniques that were quite advanced. Shoes were a symbol of social rank, and leather was utilized as money (<https://factsanddetails.com>).

Of course, white wool might be dyed a variety of colors. Plant-based threads, like linen, accept dye color very poorly while animal-based threads, like wool, absorb them quite well. Silk and cotton are in the middle (Alexandra Croom:2010)

2- Modest fashion:

The definition of modesty and the associated dress code are arbitrary and frequently rely on culture, generation, ethnicity, and social class. Despite the fact that trends drive the fashion industry's



Fig(1) Moschino Pre-Fall 2019 Collection It's All About Ancient Rome, source: <https://www.modicmag.com>

Maria Grazia Chiuri, the designer behind Dior, restrained the volumes frequently associated with high couture fashion for her autumn collection instead presenting a line-up of lean gowns and capes with hints of gold and silver. "The complexity is not so visible," Chiuri told Reuters,



pointing to tiny stitches holding down dress pleats. The designer, who was inspired by classical antiquity because she was raised in Rome and surrounded by statues from that time period, provided long, column dresses, opera coats, and capes as an alternative to cinched waists.



Fig(2) Dior Showcases Haute Couture Inspired by Classical Rome. Source: <https://www.abouter.com>

b) Trendy in modest women fashion:

For both the younger digital generation and older ladies, the internet and digital media have been crucial in locating stylish answers to modest guidelines. Additionally, e-commerce has promoted modest buying for a demographic that transcends religious boundaries, and online forums like blogs

and social media have facilitated discussions about modesty and style (Lewis & Tarlo, 2011).

As a result, modest fashion is quite diverse, with designers with extremely diverse tastes that overlap with those of the nations it is aimed at, from North Africa to Asia, from the United States to European nations. There is a stereotyped image of Muslim

women in the West who are oppressed and covered from head to toe in dark clothing(Maha Radwan&others,2019). This realistic but frequently incomplete representation (Macdonald, 2006) ignores the many

women who want to feel beautiful and fashionable while adhering to the rules of "halal" or "modest" clothing, which includes non-adherent and non-transparent clothes that cover the majority of the body.



Fig(3)Russian modest fashion council may 2023 source: <https://mnemagazin.me/>

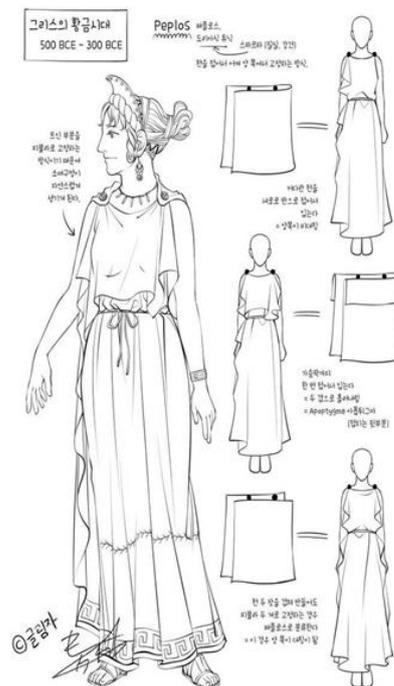
Senegalese fashion designers draw inspiration from regional practices while making garments out of natural fabrics popular in West Africa, such as bazin, man jack, and cotton wax print fabrics. Their appearances are reminiscent of traditional African clothing with regional motifs, such as the bubu and sarafans that Russians are familiar with.

Mixed-methods approaches were the first was used four modest and trendy dresses designed was made by using the renewable the ancient roman women clothing In line with the requirements of modest women's clothing while preserving the aspects of modernity and design innovation, the second method is applied the fist design Through the use of its realistic 3D clothing simulation technology CLO 3d Virtual Fashion.

Experimental work:

1-Practical designs:

The first design:



Fig(4) stola in modest and trendy design vision

Description of historical image: From the early Roman Republic to the start of the second century CE, the stola was a mainstay of ancient Roman fashion. Margarete Bieber was the first to notice the attire on statues. The stola/vestis longs was originally documented in the third century BCE.

Fig(5) stola in ancient roman clothing
Description of modest and trendy design vision: It consists of two pieces, the main piece has wide, wide sleeves, and the neckline is controlled through an embroidered ribbon, as well as the middle and sleeves, to give the shape of a regular ruffle, the second piece The second separate piece is a rectangle at the front and back, connected by a small embroidered ribbon at the top of the shoulder.

The second design:



Fig(6)Chiton in modest and trendy design vision

Description of historical image: Both men and women in ancient Greece and Rome wore chitons, a type of tunic that fastens at the shoulder. The Doric and the subsequent Ionic are the two types of chiton. based on Herodotus. (Radicke, Jan :2022).

The third design:

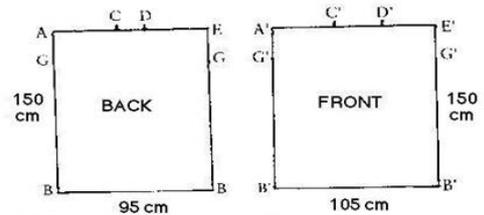


Fig(8)tunica in modest and trendy design vision

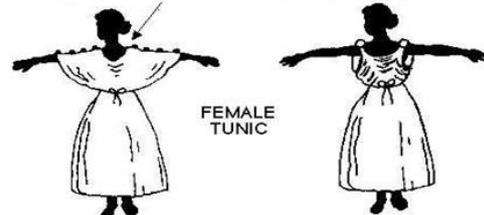


Fig(7)Chiton in ancient roman clothing

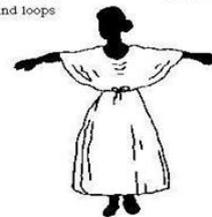
Description of modest and trendy design vision: It consists of two pieces, a separate wide belt made of plisse fabric, and the main part of the dress is a square piece according to the length, and the width is controlled through the straps installed inside the dress.



NB Extra 10 cm between C' and D' allows V-neck at front



a. fastened by buttons and loops
b. fastened by brooches



c. fastened by sewing

Pattern for woman's tunic made from two rectangles of cloth. The Romans often used fabric pleated into tiny folds, GB = side seams, AC and DE shoulder seams.

Fig(9)tunica in ancient roman clothing

Description of historical image (tunica) served as the most fundamental piece of Roman attire. It served as Rome's uniform. The majority of Romans and slaves would have clothed entirely in a tunic before venturing outside. Men's tunics would typically end around the knees, while women's tunics would typically be longer, some even reaching the floor. Sleeves on female tunics were frequently lengthy. But it wasn't until the second or third century AD that men started wearing long sleeves. Wearing one was previously seen as extremely effeminate

Description of modest and trendy design vision: A dress with wide sleeves. In the front and back of the dress, the width of the fabric is controlled by making pleats, and the middle is defined by a thin belt in the form of a braid made of the same fabric. There is also a separate piece on the neck made of pleated fabric.

The forth design:



Fig(10)dalmatic in modest and trendy design vision

Description of historical image: It is a long shirt with very broad, long sleeves. It has embroidered straps on the front, back, and sleeves, and it is worn over the tunic. After King August, it was given the name August straps (Eliza Burbano: 2016).

Description of modest and trendy design vision: The dress consists of three pieces. The main piece is a dress with long, wide sleeves with ruffles at the

sleeves. Wearing one was previously seen as extremely effeminate

Description of modest and trendy design vision:

A dress with wide sleeves. In the front and back of the dress, the width of the fabric is controlled by making pleats, and the middle is defined by a thin belt in the form of a braid made of the same fabric. There is also a separate piece on the neck made of pleated fabric.



Fig(11)dalmatic in ancient roman clothing

end. The second piece is a Dalmatica-shaped skirt open on both sides. The waistband of the skirt is embroidered, and on both sides of the skirt along the length there is an embroidered strip, As for the third part, it is a rectangular piece cut in the round. The short part drapes over the left shoulder, and on the right shoulder there is a wide embroidered band.

2-Applied design:

The first design was applied on CLO3d program

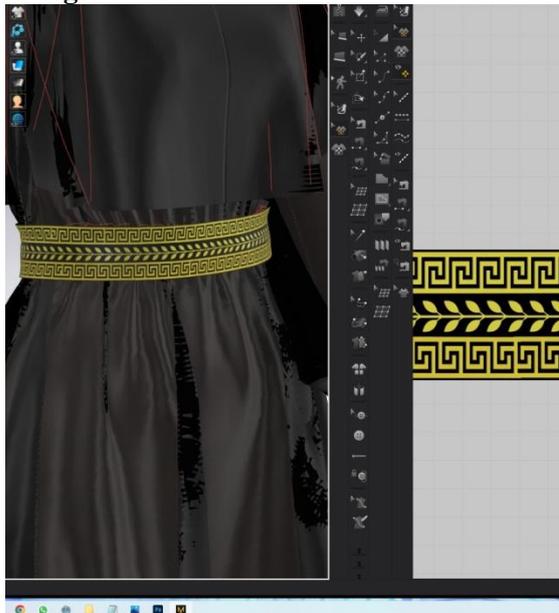


Fig(12) front view



Fig(13) back view

Applied design details:



Fig(14) details of embroidery roman motive



Results&discussions:

It is necessary to benefit from studying the arts of civilizations, renewing them, and linking them to contemporary designs, which enriches the thought of the designer in general and the fashion designer in particular. The Roman era and all the ancient arts it brings are very rich, from which it is possible to draw inspiration from and obtain a modern design vision that keeps pace with contemporary trends and fashion requirements in women's clothing.

Therefore, Designers can supporting the fashion of modest clothing for women by searching for sources of inspiration that are different and rich in aesthetic elements and lines, especially ancient historical eras and what is characterized by different aesthetics that are a source of innovative thinking for any designer.

Conclusion:

Modern technologies and social media platforms have played a crucial role in the growth of modest fashion and its emergence into the mainstream,

with influencer marketing at the forefront, This research relied on reformulating the types of women's clothing in the Roman era and how to renew them and benefit from the aesthetics of these clothes in a way that suits the requirements of the modern era and placed them within the framework of trendy modest clothing.

Researchers should Study more ancient civilizations, learn about their aesthetics, and study them in depth so that they are able to draw inspiration from them and benefit from all their details in creating unique designs.

As well as benefiting from modern technological programs to enrich the field of fashion design and save a lot of time and effort.

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