Contemporary Readings in Law and Social Justice

ISSN: 1948-9137, e-ISSN: 2162-2752

Vol 16 (1), 2024 pp. 1687 - 1707



# Women's Textile Designs Inspired by the Heritage of the Asir Region

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#### **Abstract:**

Small projects are among the most important projects that bring economic benefit to societies, especially developing societies, because of their effective role in training young people, investing in their energies, and urging them to establish their own small production units, which contributes to eliminating the problem of unemployment. The current research aims to benefit from the aesthetics of the Asiri heritage. To create women's designs that preserve the authenticity of the past, This has led to an interest in teaching industrial designers how to adopt inspiration from the decorations of Asiri art and the various types that this art includes, whether geometric or botanical, as a source of innovative and sustainable design in the field of clothing and fashion, through designs characterized by aesthetic and artistic values. Accordingly, we have made several designs. Suitable for use in clothing, inspired by the decorations of Asiri art in an abstract style, using the experimental descriptive approach. The research relied on basic axes, which are women's designs and the Saudi heritage art motifs and their combination. The results of the research showed that fabrics can be used to make women's designs derived from Saudi Asiri art motifs and benefit from them in the field of small projects and employ them in innovative plastic formulations that combine simplicity and modernity, both in terms of The prepared design aspect or method of performance.

Keywords: Women's textile designs, Asir region

Received: 10 June2024 Accepted: 29 August2024 Published: 2 October 2024

### Introduction

The textile industry is witnessing intense competition at the local and global levels, and in light of this, research and studies on fashion have increased, and global trends that have helped to bring about future developments for clothing products, so it is necessary to exploit technological development in this field and adapt it to serve and market heritage, and keep it vibrant for life, especially with the rapid social and economic changes.

A study (Al-Shehri, 2009) recommended the preservation of Saudi folk heritage.

Therefore, this research was mainly concerned with reviving the traditional heritage of Asiri, by enriching modern fashion fashions, and reformulating them in a new and innovative system that combines originality and novelty and contributes to marketing and respreading them again.

Nine designs were made, simulating originality and current development in fashion.

The research contributes to highlighting and documenting the elements of the Asiri heritage , which is an important step for generations to derive their culture from original sources that help them build the

present and prepare for the future, and benefit from them as a fertile source of designs and fashions derived from the distinctive authentic heritage of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(Al-Ajaji, 2013).

#### Search problem

The problem of research crystallizes in finding new ways and methods to preserve the fashion and heritage of the Asir region, which was and still is one of the most important features of popular fashion and the real definition of its diversity and richness in colors, inscriptions and composition.

In order not to lose the traditional fabric industry, we have to introduce the appropriate technology to revive, produce and develop it, and these designs are only a model of preserving our heritage and presenting it in a form that suits its presence in this era and transferring it to our children and youth to identify it and show its importance and aesthetics

### The research problem can be formulated in the following questions:

- 1- What is the possibility of finding new ways and methods to preserve heritage from extinction?
- 2- To what extent is it possible to create women's designs that keep pace with fashion, inspired by the heritage of the Asir region?

### **Research Objectives**

- **1-** Achieving the goals and vision of the Kingdom 2030 in preserving the popular heritage of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- 2- Identify the most important aesthetic features of the heritage of Asir region.
- 3- Taking advantage of the aesthetics of the Asiri heritage to create women's designs that retain the originality of the past.

### Importance of research

- 1- Providing design ideas for factories and those interested in producing traditional clothing .
- 2- Enriching modern fashions with inscriptions and colors of the Asiri heritage using the computer.

# Research hypotheses

**1-** The development of modern women's designs inspired by the Asiri heritage works to preserve the heritage from extinction.

#### Search terms

# **Design Design:**

It is "the organization and coordination of the sum of the elements or internal parts in a coherent form ,of the product, that is, the consistency that combines the taste and aesthetic aspect at the same time as it is the innovative form that achieves its purpose" (Al-Otaibi and Ahmed, 2017) for (Shukri, 2009)

#### :Inspired مستوحاة

Inspiration: An interactive process between the designer and one of the artistic sources that results in designs with innovative formulations that carry with them the spirit of the source, where the connoisseur sees the familiar thing from a new angle that radiates the sense of the original source, which is an artistic sensory process that aims to reformulate the source in a utilitarian aesthetic formulation with more than one vision in many designs according to the requirements of the era in which the designer artist is present and the customs and traditions of the society in which he lives. (Al-Otaibi and Ahmed, 2017) for (Suleiman and Ashraf, 2008)

# **Search limits**

**Objective limits:** The research aims to develop modern women's designs inspired by the Asiri heritage.

#### 3- Spatial boundaries:

The boundaries of the spatial study are confined to the Asir region in the southwest of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**4- Time limits: The** research was started for the academic semester 1442 AH - 2020 AD until the completion of the application.

### **Keywords:**

Asiri heritage, popular culture, national identity.

#### **Research Tools:**

- 1- Conducting a questionnaire to evaluate the implemented designs.
- 2- CNC design programs in the work of proposed designs.

#### **Search Procedure:**

#### **Theoretical Framework:**

The following points are identified:

- 1- Folklore arts in Asir region, which are:
- A- Women's clothing and decorations.
- B- Architecture and its styles in Asir
- C- Arts of crafts and handicrafts.

#### **Practical Framework:**

- 1- Compilation of photographs of the Asiri heritage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- **2-** Implementation of a collection of women's designs inspired by the Asiri heritage.

#### Previous studies and commentary:

The most important axes of the research: An axis concerned with the importance of preserving traditional costumes in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

• Aisha Al-Sahari's study (2018) aims to design a virtual museum featuring various traditional women's costumes in Saudi Arabia in an effort to preserve our heritage from extinction. This study was benefited by devising new ways to preserve folklore.

A study agrees with the current study in that it is concerned with traditional costumes and preserving them from extinction as a result of progress and globalization. While the difference is that the current study is interested in drawing inspiration from the Asiri heritage to make modern women's designs.

- As for the study of Al-Ajaji, Tahani et al. (2013). It is concerned with enriching modern fashion fashions with traditional fabrics. The study was used to know the traditional fabrics in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and how to develop them to keep pace with fashion. It agrees with the current study that it is concerned with the clothing heritage. While the difference is that the current study is interested in drawing inspiration from the Asiri heritage to make modern women's designs.
- The study of Ibrahim, Laila (2000) contributed to employing Saudi folklore in fashion by making designs inspired by folklore (Z-accessory) in order to preserve, register and revive heritage. It agrees with the current study in preserving, recording and reviving heritage to remain for our children. While the difference is that the current study is interested in drawing inspiration from the Asiri heritage to make modern women's designs.
- The study aims at Mujahid, Halima, Turkistani, Houria (2009). In knowing the costumes and accessories of folk arts at the Janadriyah Festival and creating contemporary designs from them. This study was used to clarify the importance of the Janadriyah Festival in knowing our heritage and fashion and the importance of preserving it. I agree with the current study on the importance of maintaining my fashion.

While the difference is that the current study is interested in drawing inspiration from the Asiri heritage to make modern women's designs.

- The study of Laila Saleh et al. (2017) aims to employ children's literature in introducing traditional costumes, in order to preserve the clothing heritage and introduce the child to it, and a group of books and stories have been selected to deal with traditional costumes either verbally or visually. The study recommended the exploitation of modern technologies in achieving the desired goals in the transfer of heritage to the child. This study was used to exploit modern technologies through the introductory booklet to transfer wealth to our children. Consistent with the current in the definition of the importance of the delivery of Heritage for our youth and children. While the difference is that the current study is interested in drawing inspiration from the Asiri heritage to make modern women's designs.
- Amal Al-Shehri's study (2019) aims to benefit from the aesthetics of traditional men's fashion in the Asir region in developing designs using computers. The study recommended the need to benefit from fashion design programs in the work of clothing designs. This study was used to know traditional men's fashion in the Asir region. It agrees with the current study in that it is concerned with traditional fashion in the Asir region, while the difference is that the current study is interested in drawing inspiration from the Asiri heritage to make modern women's designs.
- Abdullah Al-Shehri's (2009) study aims to preserve Saudi folklore. The study recommended the need to preserve the Saudi folk heritage by reviving it in official forums such as Janadriyah and the Saudi National Day and others. It agrees with the current study in the importance of preserving the Saudi folklore, while the difference is that the current study is interested in drawing inspiration from the Asiri heritage to make modern women's designs.

#### Theoretical framework

# -Folklore of the Asiri region:

- 1.1Women's clothing and adornment
- 1-2 Architecture and its patterns in Asir.
- 1-3 Arts of crafts and handicrafts.

## Folklore in Asir:

# 1.1Women's clothing and adornment:

Women's clothing varies according to the place, as women in Sarat Asir are better off than women in the east and west of Asir, as well as their clothing varies according to financial status and social level.

Women from the families of merchants, rich and princes wear clothes of different colors and types, such as cellars made of fur, cotton, woolen, silk, or linen, and those who wear these types are only a small percentage of the Asiri society, as the vast majority lived a simple and scarce life, so that some women have only one garment in which to practice their various activities. (Monthly, 2015)

#### Types of women's outerwear:

### -Headgear such as:

- -Yellow handkerchief, sheila, hat.
- -Mask, masked, desolate.
- -Al-Akfa, Al-Tafsha, Al-Burga.

# Types of outer clothing worn by women:

- -Al-Mujanab, Moqbel dress, Abu Baqair dress.
- -Tohami dress conservation, gagged or exposed dress.
- -Qahtani's dress, the Debek dress.

- -Karta, Shamla, Izar.
- -Foreground, Hilla, Bump.

### Types of women's panty:

-Pants, Shelha. (Monthly, 2015)

#### Women's jewelry and toiletries:

- -Kohl, henna, shather.
- Comb powder, aromatic plants.

### Ornaments for head, ears and nose:

- -Silver Band.
- -Reins, Aluj.
- -Beads, silver ring.

#### Neck and bust ornaments:

- -Spray, trembling, pulp.
- -Herz, neck, Dhofar.
- -Necklace of riyals, transfer of Nehud.

#### Wrist, palm and upper arm ornaments:

- -Shamilia, twisted, nagar.
- -Coupler, supporters, rings.

#### Foot and leg ornaments:

-Rings, rings, anklets.

#### **Ornaments for waist decorations:**

#### 1.2 Art of Architectural Heritage:

Architecture in Asir has a variety of styles due to the diversity of climatic conditions and the availability of building materials in the region, and these buildings were built together around each other or individually or far apart, but most of them are combined, adjacent and contiguous, and the proximity of housing was a result of security conditions in the past, such as what found ways and narrow corridors to reach outside these residential neighborhoods, which have the characteristics of protecting passers-by from sunlight, rain and wind. These dwellings may consist of one or several floors, and these buildings narrow as the building rises to provide the building with a broad base for stability and resistance. (Thaqafan, 2008)

# External architectural building patterns:

- 1- Stone pattern.
- 2- Clay pattern.
- 3- Stone clay pattern.

### Interior architectural building styles:

Interior architecture with its heritage artistic aspects is divided into (walls - floors - ceilings)

As for the houses from the inside, women in other architectural styles in Asir have been interested in decorating the dwelling from the inside, so there are many decorations and colors, as the lady of the house begins her work after the man finishes his role in building and installing doors and windows, so she smoothes the walls and then paints on them Various types of geometric decorations and is called the art of

"Al-Qat Al-Asiri" These symbols that make up the cat are characterized as abstract geometric and have connotations for these artists in The region has conveyed to us what they see in their homes and the nature surrounding them in a symbolic way that leads us to reflect on the aesthetics of the art of the Asiri cat. (Thaqafan, 2008)

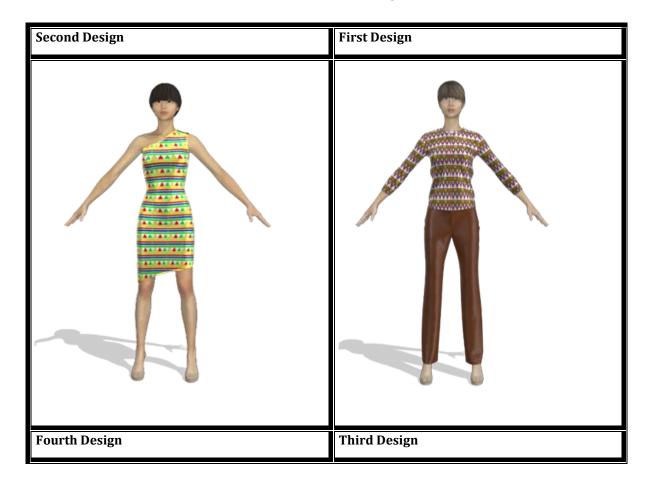
### 1-3 The art of crafts and handicrafts in Asir:

### Among the most important handicrafts are:

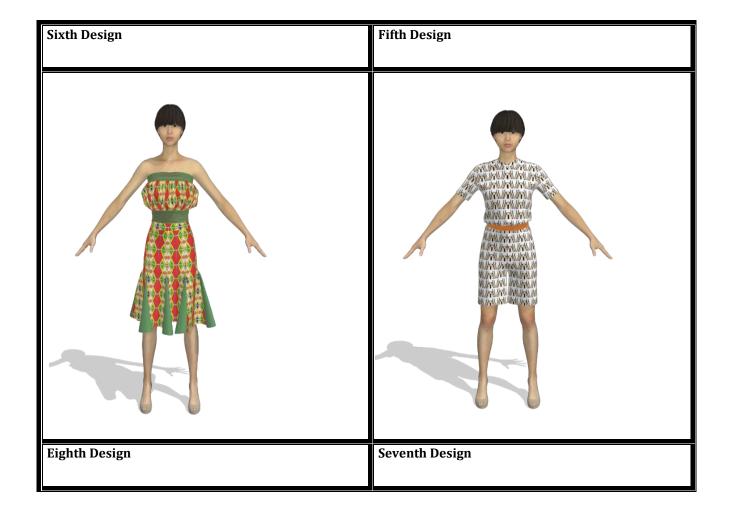
- Wood industries.
  - -Ceramic and pottery industries.
- -Leather and iron industries.
- Wicker industry.
- -Jewelry industry.
- -Knitting. (Mujahid, 2009)

### **Study Procedure**

- The work of 8 modern women's designs inspired by the heritage of the Asir region.
- I use Illustrator to make weaving.
- Use the Marvelous software to make the executed designs.









# **Building Research Tools**

• The researcher built a questionnaire tool directed to a simple random sample of 45 female consumers, 24 with a higher level than university, while 21 with a university level.

### The tool consists of 3 items in order to measure:

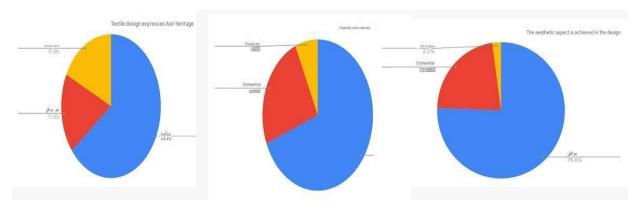
- **1-** The extent to which the aesthetic aspect of the design is achieved.
- 2- The extent to which originality and modernity are achieved in the design.
- 3- The design expresses heritage and originality.

# Discussion of the results of the study: based on the hypothesis of the study

1- The development of modern women's designs inspired by the Asiri heritage works to preserve the Asiri heritage from extinction.

# First design:

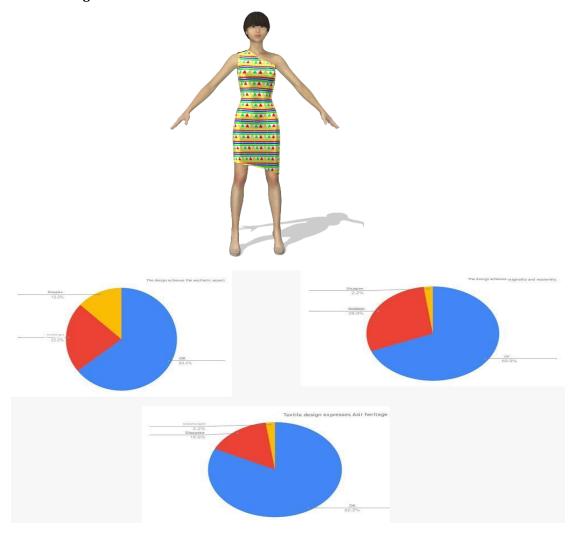




# Discussion of the results of the first design:

The results of the survey for the first design showed that there is a percentage of 76% achieved in the design aesthetic aspect, 69% that the first design achieves originality and modernity, as well as the results resulted that 64% of the design expresses the Asiri heritage, and this is what the study aims at in the neighborhoods of Asiri folklore, which is consistent with the goal of the study of Al-Bassam (2000) in the need to employ Saudi folklore in fashion.

# Second design:

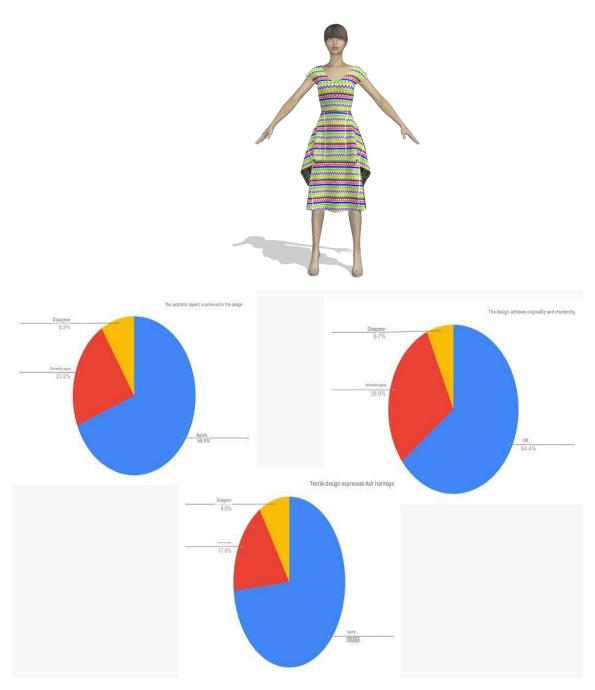


# Discussion of the results of the second design:

The results of the survey for the second design showed that there is a percentage of 64% achieved in the aesthetic design aspect, 69% that the second design achieves originality and modernity, as well as the

results revealed that 82% of the design reflects the Asiri heritage, and this is what the study aims at in the neighborhoods of Asiri folklore, and it is consistent with the goal of the study of Al-Ajaji (2013) to know the traditional fabrics in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and how to develop them to keep pace with fashion.

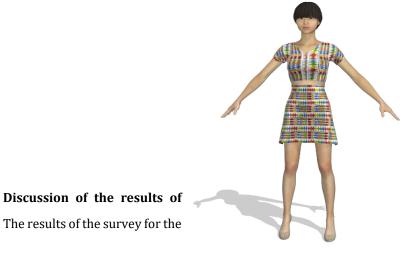
### Third design:



# Discussion of the results of the third design:

• The results of the survey for the third design showed that there is a percentage of 69% achieved in the design aesthetic aspect, 64% that the third design achieves originality and modernity, as well as the results resulted that 73% of the design expresses the Asiri heritage, and this is what the study aims to do in the neighborhoods of Asiri folklore, and it is in line with the recommendations of Al-Shehri (2019) to pay attention to the Asiri folk heritage, which needs to be preserved and documented through the intensification of studies and research in this region.

# Fourth design:

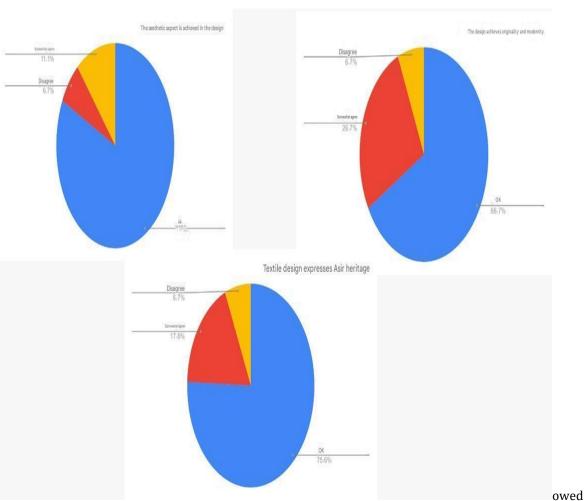


# the fourth design:

fourth

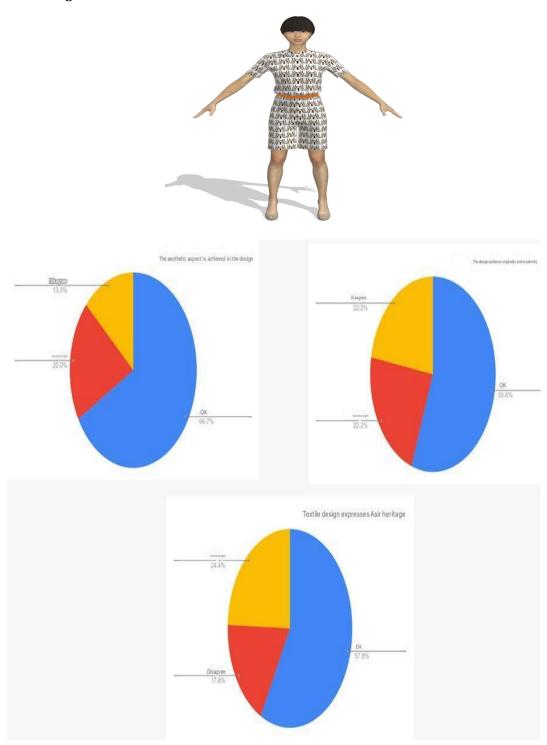
design

sh



that there is an 82% achievement in the aesthetic design aspect, 67% that the fourth design achieves originality and modernity, as well as the results revealed that 76% of the design expresses the Asiri heritage, and this is what the study aims at in the neighborhoods of Asiri folklore, and it is consistent with the goal of the study of Al-Sahari (2018) in the need to preserve the Saudi heritage from extinction.

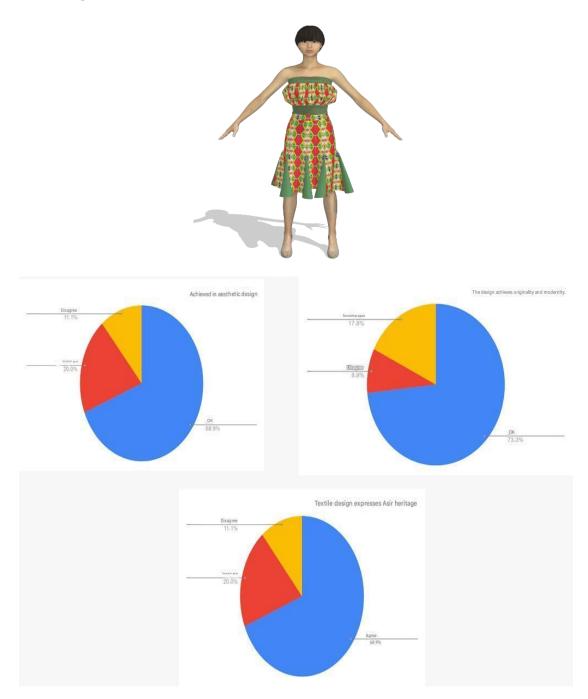
# **Fifth Design**



# Discussion of the results of the fifth design:

The results of the survey for the fifth design showed that there is a percentage of 67% achieved in the design aesthetic aspect, 56% that the fifth design achieves originality and modernity, as well as the results resulted that 58% of the design expresses the Asiri heritage, and this is what the study aims at in the neighborhoods of Asiri folklore, which is consistent with the goal of the study of Al-Bassam (2000) in the need to employ Saudi folklore in fashion.

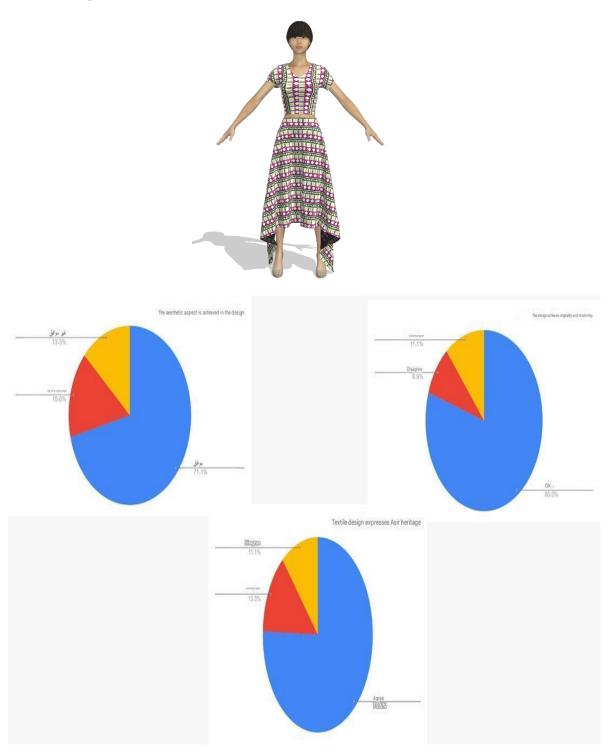
### **Sixth Design**



# Discussion of the results of the sixth design:

The results of the survey for the sixth design showed that there is a percentage of 69% achieved in the aesthetic design aspect, 73% that the sixth design achieves originality and modernity, as well as the results resulted that 69% of the design expresses the Asiri heritage, and this is what the study aims at in the neighborhoods of Asiri folklore, and it is consistent with the goal of the study of Al-Ajaji (2013) the importance of knowing traditional fabrics in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and how to develop them to keep pace with fashion.

### **Seventh Design**

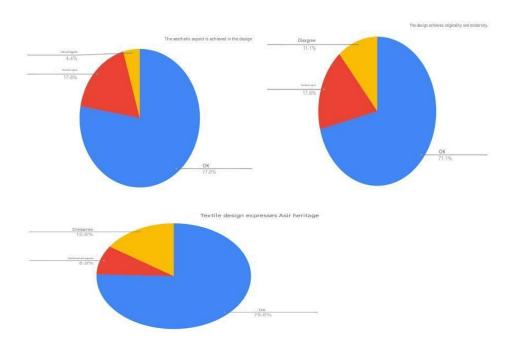


# Discussion of the results of the seventh design:

The results of the survey for the seventh design showed that there is a percentage of 71% achieved in the design aesthetic aspect, 80% that the seventh design achieves originality and modernity, as well as the results resulted that 76% of the design expresses the Asiri heritage, and this is what the study aims at in the neighborhoods of Asiri folklore, which is consistent with the recommendations of Al-Shehri (2009) in the need to preserve the Saudi folk heritage by reviving it in official forums such as Janadriyah and the Saudi National Day and others until it reaches our children and youth.

# **Eighth Design**



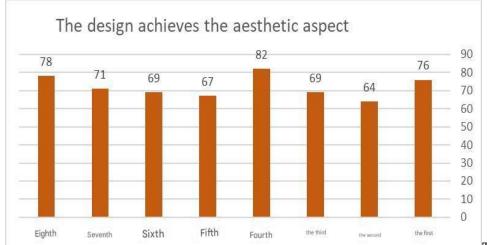


# Discussion of the results of the eighth design:

The results of the survey for the eighth design showed that there is a percentage of 78% achieved in the design aesthetic aspect, 71% that the eighth design achieves originality and modernity, as well as the results resulted that 76% of the design expresses the Asiri heritage, and this is what the study aims at in the neighborhoods of Asiri folklore, and it is consistent with the goal of the study of Mujahid, Turkistani (2009) in the importance of creating designs inspired by traditional costumes in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to preserve our popular costumes

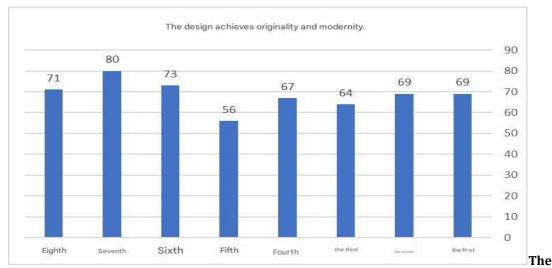
# **Summary of the results:**

The first item: the design achieves the aesthetic aspect.



The results of the

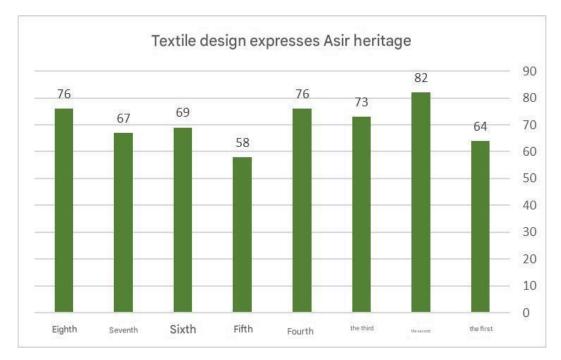
survey show that the fourth design received the highest percentage of votes with 82%, in terms of achieving the aesthetic aspect in the design, followed by the eighth design with 78%, then the first design with 76%, then the seventh design with 71%, then the sixth and third designs with the same percentage of 69%, then the fifth design with 67% and the lowest percentage of votes obtained by the second design with 64% from the point of view of consumers.



# second item: the design achieves originality and modernity.

• The results of the survey show that the seventh design received the highest vote with 80% in terms of achieving originality and modernity design, followed by the sixth design with 73%, then the eighth design with 71%, then the first and second design with 69%, then the fourth design with 67%, then the third design with 64% and the lowest percentage of votes obtained by the fifth design with 56% from the point of view of consumers.

The third item: The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.



- The results of the poll show that the second design received the highest vote with 82% in terms of textile design and its expression of the Asiri heritage, followed by the fourth and eighth designs with 76%, then the third design with 73%, then the sixth design with 69%, then the seventh design with 67%, then the first design with 64% and the lowest percentage of votes obtained by the fifth design with 58% from the point of view of consumers.
- Thus, the hypothesis of the study is achieved through the results of the survey:
- The development of modern women's designs inspired by the Asiri heritage works to preserve the Asiri heritage from extinction, as most of the results of the survey from the point of view of consumers that the designs implemented are achieved:
- The aesthetic aspect, as well as the realization of designs for originality and modernity, as well as the expression of the fabric of the Asiri heritage.

#### Recommendations

- The Asir region is rich in folklore, which needs to be preserved and documented through the intensification of studies and research in this region.
- The need for general and higher education curricula to include topics that deal with the inspiration and employment of elements adapted and inspired by heritage and reformulating them with a new contemporary vision, as this contributes to increasing students' awareness of heritage.
- Activating computer programs specialized in drawing and design in the field of fashion design in the faculties of clothing and textile in Saudi universities, and training students on them in order to obtain innovative and accurate design with the least time and effort.

### **Supplements:**

### Questionnaire

Textile designs for women's fashion inspired by the heritage of the Asir region

The study / Aisha Hassan Al-Shehri, Fashion Design Track, Department of Clothing and Textile, Faculty of Human Sciences and Designs, King Abdulaziz University, is preparing a study entitled "Textile designs for women's fashion inspired by the heritage of the Asir region" using the computer. To complement the requirement of the "Master" textile design course.

The study aims to: Make textile designs for women's fashion inspired by the heritage of the Asir region.

In order for the study to be completed, this requires your active participation and expression of your sound opinions in judging the implemented products.

Thank you very much.

- Specialization.
- College.
- Degree.



- (The first design) achieves in the design the aesthetic aspect.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The design achieves originality and modernity.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.



- (The second design) achieves in the design the aesthetic aspect.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The design achieves originality and modernity.
- I agree
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
  - The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- (Third design) The aesthetic aspect is achieved in the design.
- I agree.



- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The design achieves originality and modernity.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- (Fourth design) achieves in the design the aesthetic aspect.

### I agree.



- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The design achieves originality and modernity.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- (Fifth design) in the design achieves the aesthetic aspect.
  - I agree.
  - Somewhat agreed.
  - Disagree.
  - The design achieves originality and modernity.
  - I agree.
  - Somewhat agreed.
  - Disagree.
  - The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.
  - I agree.
  - Somewhat agreed.
  - Disagree.
- (Sixth design) The aesthetic aspect is achieved in the design.
- I agree.



- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The design achieves originality and modernity.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- (Seventh design) The aesthetic aspect is achieved in the design.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The design achieves originality and modernity.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.

### • (Eighth design) The aesthetic aspect is achieved in the design.



- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The design achieves originality and modernity.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.
- The textile design expresses the Asiri heritage.
- I agree.
- Somewhat agreed.
- Disagree.

#### Acknowledgments

"The authors extend their appreciation to the Deanship of Research and Graduate Studies at King Khalid University for funding this work through Large Research Project under grant number RGP2/436/45

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