

Now and Then: The Neckline History of Women

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Abstract

Neckline is an important part for every dress. It is directly related for changing shape and beauties of a dress. From ancient period to till now neckline hold an important part for every women. Neckline is becoming more useful for creating fashion design, illusion and changes the shape of face in some way. It is repeated from ancient period to modern period .There has been some change in ancient necklines, while they are using in modern time due to the reason of changing tradition, culture, trend ,fashion and demand. But the origin may have same. In my research I have showed that the changes of necklines and the modern implementation of the ancient necklines. The purposes of the research are to find out the changes of neckline throughout Mesopotamia to 1990 of European fashion history and find out the development Neckline.

Keywords: History; implement; modern; Neckline; women.

1. Introduction

Currently, the fashion industry plays an influential role in many countries. Neckline is an important part for a garment. The top edge of a garment that is surrounding the neck is called neckline. It refers to the total line between all of the layers of clothing and the neck and shoulders of a person. The neckline is primarily a style line above the waistline [1]. A perfect neckline can make someone charm, smarter. There is some main factor that defines someone's neckline. Those are body shape, bust, décolleté line, face, neck, shoulder [2]. Neckline plays a vital role in every costume. In this research secondary data is used. The research was conducted to show a development of neckline fashion from ancient period to till now.

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2. Objectives

- a) The research will help people to understand about neckline variation & also able to know past neckline history.
- b) The research will make easier to find out the changes of neckline fashion, so it's a new way for design history.
- c) The research establishes the proper background evidence of neckline fashion and it also finds out the development of neckline fashion.
- d) The research give a new dimension in the fashion industry of Europe and this work will introduce new perspective and scope for our upcoming neckline fashion inspiration, young fashion designer, costume designer and costume manufacturer.
- e) It will develop a neckline fashion cycle and the research can open a great opportunity for a museum research and we can create an archive on neckline history.
- f) The research will find out the condition of neckline design which is being inspired from ancient Fashion.

3. Literature review

To strengthen theoretical background of the research we study different local and international published books and articles, websites, which can represent past and present. This work will introduce new perspective and scope for upcoming neckline fashion inspiration, young fashion designer, costume designer and costume manufacturer.

This research will serve the purpose of develop a new horizon of fashion sense. The research is organized in such a way, which will enable the reader to grasp the subject matter of the study from top to bottom. It also provides the image of neckline on different period & find out the change of neckline fashion through period.

The research was designed to confine the current status of the neckline fashion of ancient period to modern time 1990 and the inspired work of neckline fashion history.

4. Limitations

There are some limitations which held in the research process. They are-

- a) There are limited source of documents and picture of Fashion history.
- b) The information of neckline history is not available and not arranged yet.
- c) Some picture can't show actual design of neckline.
- d) Websites can't tell the proper picture sometimes.

5. Methodology

The research was designed to collect information from Internet, books, journal. It is very important to our research to collect data from literature review. The main methodology of our research is to collect neckline history and the modern implementation. The study based secondary data. Our research focused on the changes of necklines through the passage of era. The research intended to confine the current condition of using necklines for making design in fashion industry.

5.1. Mesopotamia

In Mesopotamia most of the women used V necks and round neckline to their daily wear .We can see from Figure 1 that the necklines is repeated in modern dress also. V neck is used because of their draped garments. Actually V and round neckline is common in almost all civilization. Now a day, we can seen the huge implementation of round and V neck in our modern attire.



Figure 1: Mesopotamian dress [3-7]

5.2. Egypt

In Egyptian period the neckline was either deep or wide, or narrow, converging down to the waist. Some dresses covered only one shoulder, the other shoulder and breast remaining bare, except when concealed behind a light veil or the edge of wrap or cloak. This type of neckline is used today also. It is clearly seen from Figure 2.



Figure 2: Egyptian Dress [8-13]

5.3. Greek

Greek women mostly used U or V neckline, and low neck line in their dress and fashion. The modern version is also here. [14-16]

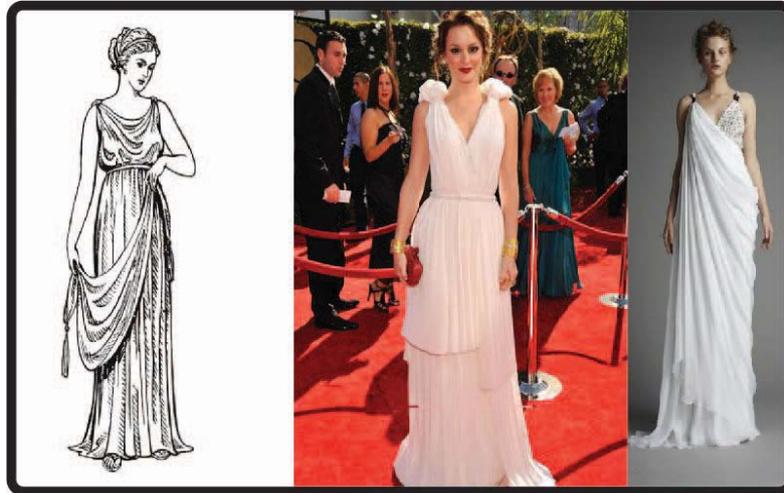


Figure 3: Greek dress [14-16]

5.4. Rome

In Roman period v-neck effect is commonly seen in women garments. Here I collect some modern version.



Figure 4: Roman dress [17-20]

5.5. Middle age

The V neck low cut is super popular in fashion at the moment. I managed to find a few current versions.



Figure 5: Middle age dress [21-25]

5.6. Renaissance

In Renaissance (both early Renaissance & High Renaissance) high or low neckline *is used*. Low necklines were popular at the beginning but toward the end of Elizabeth's reign, necklines were high. Alexander MaQueen also represents that high collar ruff in his Fashion show.



Figure 6: Renaissance dress [26-29]

5.7. Baroque

In 17th century flowing lace collars, deep necklines are common fashion of necklines. That is also used in modern times.



Figure 7: Baroque dress [30] - [34]

5.8. Rococo

In rococo period (18th century) Low, square, oval, Plunging neckline was used. From this picture we can see that those necklines are also used in modern times also. May be it can implement by different ways or different style. But the origin is from ancient period.



Figure 8: Rococo dress [35] - [39]

5.9. Directories or empire

Low cut, round, square, higher necklines, small ruff is used in Directoires and empire period. Now a day it is very trendy fashion of neckline.



Figure 9: Directories or empire period costume [40-43]

5.10. Romantic

High, to the throat and finishing off with a small collar or ruff and V shaped neck is very fashionable in Romantic period. It can be seen from some modern picture that those collar also used today's fashion. [44-47]



Figure 10: Romantic period costume [44-47]

5.11. Crinoline period

High, without attach collar, finished in bias piping are the variation of necklines in crinoline period.

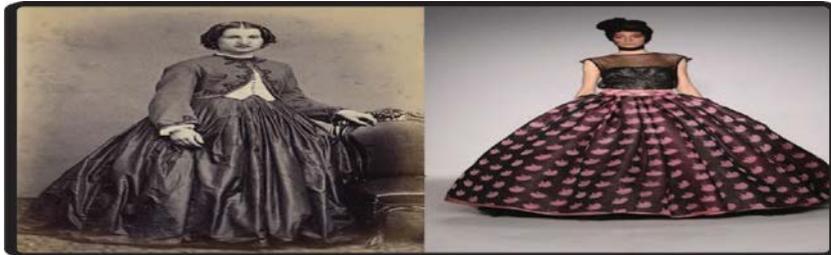


Figure 11: Crinoline period costume [48-49]

5.12. Bustle period

High, closed, square, round, v shaped opens necklines, low cut in front high at the back of bodice, off the shoulder are commonly used in Bustle period. This neckline also used in modern time [50]



Figure 12: Bustle period costume [51-52]

5.13. Edwardian period

High boned collars, square, v shaped sailor collar, low and round neckline is used in daily wear of Edwardian women's.



Figure 13: Edwardian period costume [53-56]

5.14. 1920s

In 1920 necklines usually ended at the base of the throat or lower, with round, v shaped, and bateau or cowl style.



Figure 14: 1920 costumes [57-59]

5.15. 1930

High, cowl, v neck are the common neckline fashion in 1930s, which is very fashionable now a days.



Figure 15: 1930 costumes [60-63]

5.16. 1940

Boxy or square neckline are very much used in 1940. Necklines could be square, slit, sweetheart, keyhole, shirred, cross front (wrap), or V cut.



Figure 16: 1940 costumes [64-67]

5.17. 1950

Scooped, halter v-neck, boat-neck, square-neck, or sweetheart neck is very popular in 1950 for the fashionable lady [68]



Figure 17: 1950 costumes [69-72]

5.18. 1960

In 1960 there are many type of necklines used for women's fashion. Cowl back necklines, boat or bateau necklines, funnel necklines, rounded or jewel necklines, square necklines, sweetheart necklines and plunging necklines are the common version



Figure 18: 1960 costumes. [73-77]

5.19. 1970s

Halter neck, high necked, pussy bow collar, Chelsea collar, plunging are mostly used in 1970s.



Figure 19: 1970 costumes. [78-86]

5.20. 1980

Turtle neck, V shape collar or some had the crew neck collars in 1980s necklines fashion for women, Which is also the modern fashion of today's.

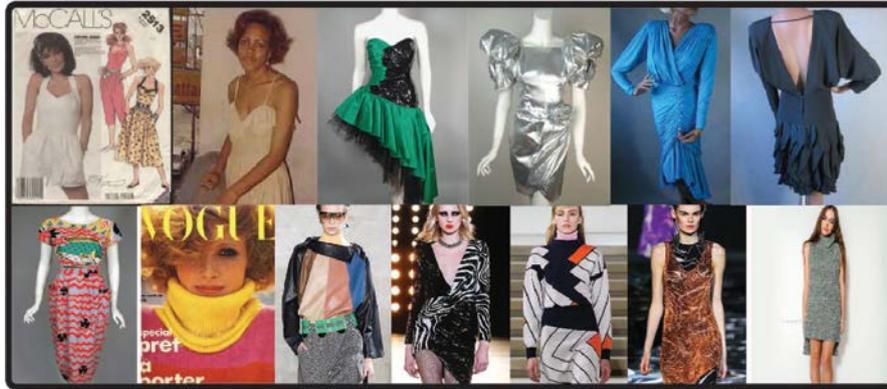


Figure 20: 1980 costumes [87-93]

5.21. 1990

Plunging neckline, Scooped Neckline, V Neckline is highly used in 1990s fashion which is used in today's fashion also.



Figure 21: 1990 costumes [94-97]

6. Results

There are many reasons for changing the fashion of necklines through the passage of time. Here we can see the implementation of necklines of ancient time to modern fashion like Mesopotamia to 1990 [98]. Some necklines repeated after 20 or 40 years. This fashion repeated in a cyclic process. Modern time neckline fashion is based on ancient fashion. Those are the root or base of fashion. New generation always wants something new, trendy and fashionable. So it is important to collect and reuse the necklines in modern time. So that new generation can know about their past history and fashion properly.

7. Conclusion

A country can't develop without its past. Every country holds its own culture, history, tradition for development

and empowerment. So it is necessary to know about the fashion of necklines of ancient period to modern time and use them properly to current trend. It's good to modernize fashion & trend but still have to stick the glorious past history. In this research we can see that the balancing of neckline in both ancient & modern time.

8. Recommendation

The fashion world has a long, inspiring and various artistic histories. This research briefly discussed the past & present condition of neckline and requirement to develop this sector and to face the next challenge. So, to face the future challenge of fashion industry need to develop fashion business. The research will provide the talented resources of neckline fashion to develop this sector. The scope of this study is to clear vision to make Trends change and often reflect the overall sentiment of culture. Taking inspiration from both modern and historical fashion can be a great way to fusion something new. To understand what good design is and why it is important & also to cultivate others interest to this sector is the main purpose of this research.

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