

# The Attire and Ornamentation of Andhra People Gleaned from the Travellers

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## ABSTRACT

Dress is being worn for warmth in all civilizations in the world. It may be treated as a second skin, because it covers the body like a house and gives shelter for human being to protect from cold, dirt, heat and rainfall. There was an adage says that “the body is the shell of the soul, and dress the husk of that shell”. Dress is not only meant for protection but also to enhance the appearance of the wearer which proclaims his place in society that indicates rank, occupation, age, gender, place of origin, conjugal status and religion. Dressing is a secondary human character even though it enhanced the dignity of a person. In every land and every period of history the way of people dress styles were influenced by various factors and conditions like social, political, economic, religion and geography. The way of attire is different from male to female and it is also true in the case of ornamentation, jewelry and forms of body decoration.

The hot climate of Deccan or South Indians not necessitates much clothing like Westerns. When the travellers visited India in general and particular in Andhradesa depicted the insufficient or lack of dress, ornamentation and decoration of natives. The present paper has been made an attempt and focuses the light on travel accounts which referred the dress of both Hindu and Muslim women as well as men, coiffure of women, ornaments of men and women, decoration of women.

**Key words:** Attire, Coiffure, Travellers, Decoration, Ornamentation