

METHOD OF PROCEDURE

The aim of the investigator in conducting this research was to study the diversity in costumes of North West region of India. The location of the study was Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana States.

The method of procedure has been focussed under the following heads :

- 4.1 Research Design.
- 4.2 Selection of Sample.
- 4.3 Collection of Data.
- 4.4 Analysis of Data

4.1 Research Design

The collection of mere facts without theoretical framework is not a very meaningful intellectual pursuit. Facts do not speak for themselves unless viewed in a pertinent theoretical perspective. It includes such aspects as conceptualization of the term diversity of costumes, geographical and physiographical information, the historical influences, socio-cultural factors and availability of resources (Diagram I).

The location and physiography of the states are mostly responsible for varying climatic conditions. The arctic cold of Ladakh, the temperate climate of the Kashmir valley and the

Conceptual frame work

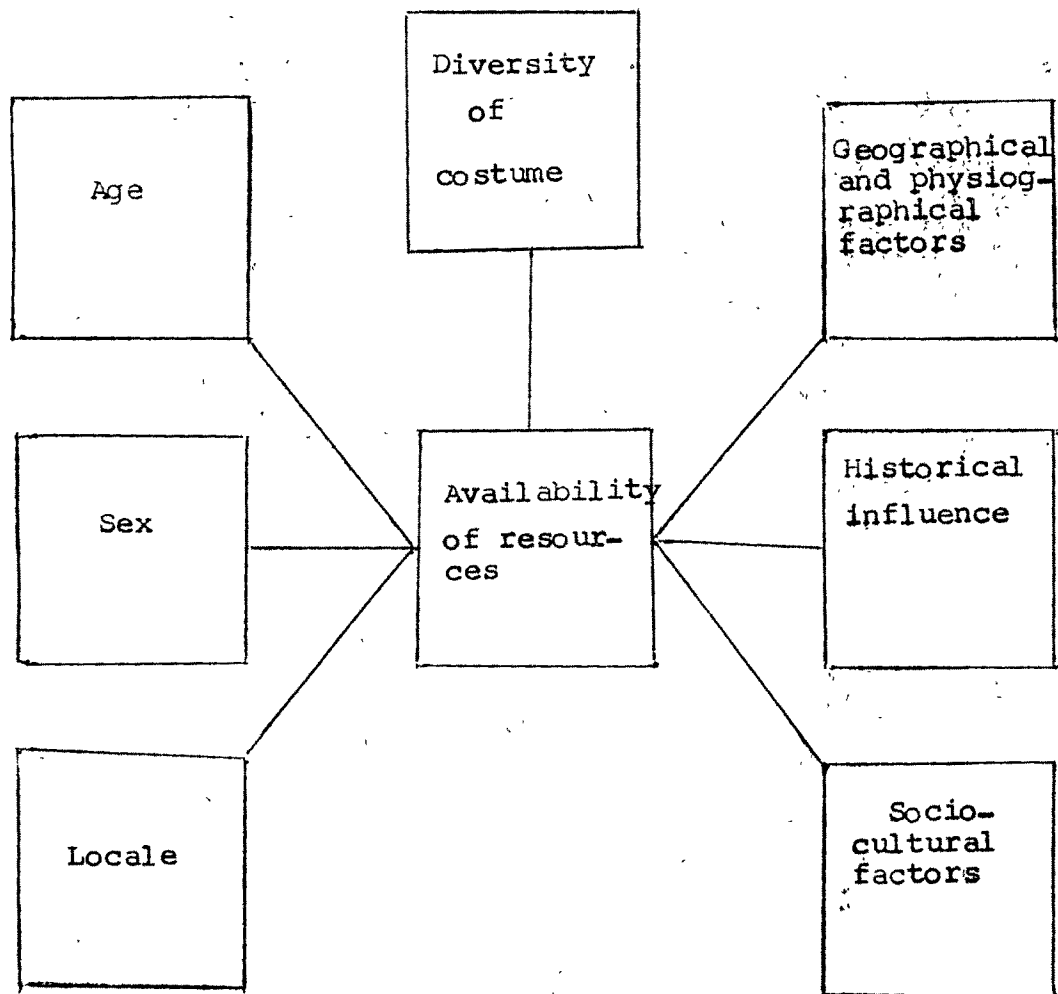


DIAGRAM - 1

tropical heat of Jammu affected the type of garment worn.

The mountains in Ladakh are mostly bare devoid of vegetation and animal life. The people are friendly and pleasant. Their colourful dress spread the cheerfulness in the atmosphere. The long woollen garments save them from severe cold.

The people of Himachal Pradesh have developed their own peculiarities in life due to the marked physical characteristics of this Himalayan region. The dresses in many parts of Himachal Pradesh were mainly woollens due to adverse cold climate. In Punjab and Haryana, the variation in costume existed due to the tropical climate, i.e. very cold winter and hot in summer.

Diversity in costume, however, is the prime trait of the clothing culture of this vast country. The costume of Kashmir was the outcome of the unique culture which sprang out from Aryans and was influenced by Jews, Turks and Muslims. In Himachal Pradesh, the demand of woollen fabric made sheep rearing and breeding as one of the main occupations, spinning and weaving was a community activity.

History has left the impact on the costume of the north western region of India. Prior to partition of 1947, the Hindu and Muslims of West Punjab dressed themselves in the same style. The art, culture and costumes of this zone presented a sharp contrast to the north eastern area of Punjab. Amritsar, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur had distinctive culture of their own and had deep influence of the culture of hilly region of Kangra.

4.2 Selection of Sample

It was difficult to visit each place within the selected four states. So, prior to the actual survey work, the investigator first reviewed the literature on costume for selected states by consulting the libraries situated in the above four states, Baroda and Delhi.

Twenty people each in Srinagar, Jammu, Chamba, Simla, Kulu, Hisar, Rohtak and Ludhiana were interviewed to know the inter-state variations existed in the costumes of each state, and the various places needed to be included to obtain representative data on the diversity of costumes on the basis of available information. The following places were decided to be included for data collection:

States	Selected places
1 Jammu & Kashmir	Ladakh Kashmir Jammu
2 Himachal Pradesh	Kangra Chamba Kinnaur Lahaul & Spiti Sirmaur Kulu Kotkhai
3 Punjab	Amritsar Jalandhar Ludhiana Patiala.
4 Haryana	Hisar Mahendergarh Rohtak Gurgaon

4.3 Collection of Data

To collect the data regarding type of costumes and accessories worn by men and women, an interview schedule was

prepared on the basis of the literature reviewed, and the information obtained from the subjects interviewed earlier.

The respondents selected were men and women in the age group of 50 years and above who could recall the costumes and accessories their elders wore. From each selected place, 30 men and same number of women were interviewed. It was not possible for the investigator to visit Ladakh in Jammu & Kashmir, Lahaul & Spiti, Kinnaur, Kotkhai, Bhramaur and Pangl regions of Chamba district. The respondents belonging to these places were selected from other areas of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The respondents of Ladakh were selected from Srinagar. Lahauli & Spiti were selected from Manali, Kulu and Simla : Kinnaurs from Kulu, Simla and Palampur. Kotkhai respondents were from Simla. The respondents of Bhramaur and Pangl region were from Chamba and Palampur.

The Educationist, Public Relation Officers, Personnel of Cultural Academies and Museum Curators were also interviewed.

Information was also obtained from the tailors regarding the method used for stitching the garments by them and their forefathers.

Costumes preserved in the museums and by the respondents were studied for constructional details and fabrics. The available garments were carefully observed, measured and the necessary sketches were made for them on a sheet.

Available photographs of the costumes, jewellery, foot-wears were collected from different sources.

4.4 Analysis of Data

The data collected was analysed as given below :

- 1 The data was analysed statewise.
- 2 The places selected within the states were organised on the basis of variation in garments for men and women separately.
- 3 The costumes of men and women were categorised as upper and lower garments : wrappers, head dresses, waist bands, jewellery and footwears.
- 4 The constructional details of the garments were analysed for design, out style material used, colour and any other specific variation.
- 5 Ornaments were seen for their use on different parts of body, metal, jewel and design.
- 6 Footwears were described for their design, use and material.
- 7 These garments were listed in the table form for similarity and differentiation for a comparative comprehension, i.e. to study the inter-state and intra-state diversity in the costumes of men and women.