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## Colour preference in traditional headgear on various occasions by Rajput community of Marwar region

Shikha Dashora and Meenu Srivastava

### Abstract

The Rajasthanian headgear or turban has a unique position in the life of the general populace, called *Safa*, *Paaga*, or *pagri*. The turbans and their hues vary with occasions as well. Different communities in Rajasthan are known by the colors and patterns on their *pagris*. There is variation in size, style of tying and also in shades and hues. Present paper is a part of the research work being conducted on *Traditional Headgears of Rajasthan*. The researcher explored and documented the colour preferences in traditional Headgears on various occasions by Rajput Community of Marwar Region. A sample of 90 Rajput males from each of the three cities namely Jodhpur, Pali and Jalore were selected randomly for data collection using an structured interview schedule which was developed for the said purpose. Findings highlighted the colour preferences in headgears of three generations of the families namely, oldage, adult and youth specifically for festive and religious occasions.

**Keywords:** Colour, preference, traditional headgear, Marwar, Rajput, community

### Introduction

'Mhaaro Rang Rangeelo Rajasthan' is truly blessed with vivacious cultures, royal heritages, holy traditions, communities living in harmony and enchanting nature. It is also, literally and in every sense, the "Land of Kings" [1]. The word "Marwar" comes from the word 'Maru,' a Sanskrit word, which means desert and from a Rajasthanian slang 'wad' which means a particular area. Marwar is basically known as 'The Region of Desert'. The Rajasthanian headgear has a unique position in the life of the general populace, called *Safa*, *Paaga*, or *pagri*, it is a bit of fabric average nine meters in length, the Rajput Kings brandished this conventional turban in various hues and styles as per the events during their reign. Headgears signify the social, religious and economic status of a user in the society' [2]. Turbans worn in Rajasthan vary in style, colour and size. They also indicate a wearer's social class, caste, region and the occasion it being worn for. Its shape and size may also vary with the climatic conditions of the different regions [3].

In Rajasthan, one can easily observe some variety in turban and its tying technique at a distance of every 30 - 45 km, which signifies its importance in day to day life of people. Today the Jodhpuri "Safa" has turned into the most well-known headgear all over Rajasthan. The turbans and their hues vary with occasions as well. Different communities in Rajasthan are recognized by the colors and patterns on their *pagris* [4]. Saffron is the most admired shade of headgear at weddings. Different hues, for example, red, maroon, are additionally worn. Dull hues of blue, dark, khaki is worn amid the grief-stricken moments [5].

### Methodology

Researcher tried to collect data regarding colour preference in headgears of different generations of Rajput community on common festive and religious occasions. The data was gathered from three selected cities of Marwar region, i.e. Jodhpur, Pali and Jalore city. A sample of 90 subjects from each city was purposively selected having three generations in the family to get complete data through well designed structured interview schedule which was personally administered by the researcher. The information collected by statistically analyzed.

### Findings

With regards to two types of head gear wear used by Rajput males, it was observed that

among safa/turban and pag, the old people used to wear, “pag” in daily use, whereas young adults wear Safa on ceremonial occasions [6]. In Rajasthan turbans are dyed either in one colour or with the resist technique [7]. Different colours of Pagri commonly used by young adults and old people among Suryavansi Rajputs. In Udaipur 25 per cent, 23.33 per cent, and 20 per cent, Rajput families liked to wear mahroon, red and yellow coloured pagri, while 16.66 per cent and 15 per cent people liked Laheriya and orange coloured pagri, respectively [8]. The colour preference of all the three generations of Rajput

community of Jodhpur, Pali and Jalore city has been presented using different colour codes ranging from A to E, where A stands for kesariya colour, B for kasumal colour, C for motiya colour, D for multi colour and E for any other colour for each festive and religious occasions in following tables city wise.

**A. Colour preference in headgears of Jodhpur city**

Percentage distribution of respondents of Jodhpur city by colour preference of different generations on festive and religious occasion has been presented in table-1.

**Table 1:** Percentage distribution of respondents of Jodhpur city by colour preference of different generation on festive and religious occasion, n = 90

Occasion	Colour preference of different generations																													
	Old age						Adult						Children																	
	A*		B*		C*		D*		E*		A*		B*		C*		D*		E*											
(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%											
<b>Festive occasion</b>																														
Diwali	10	33.33	6	20.0	-	-	10	33.33	4	13.33	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	5	16.67				
Holi	10	33.33	6	20.0	-	-	4	13.33	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	10	33.33
Rakhi	6	20.0	6	20.0	-	-	15	50.0	3	10.0	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	5	16.67	10	33.33	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	-	15	50.0	
Gangour	5	16.67	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	10	33.33	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	-	
Any	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	12	40.0	8	26.67	10	33.33	5	16.67	-	-	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	-	
Mean	8.2	27.33	5.6	16.67	-	-	9.2	30.67	7	23.33	8	26.67	4	13.33	1	3.33	6	20.0	5	16.67	5	16.67	3	10.0	2	6.67	2	6.67	6	20.0
<b>Religious occasion</b>																														
Havan	10	33.33	10	33.33	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	10	33.33
Navratri	15	50.0	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	-	-	15	50.0	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	-	-	15	50.0	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	-	-
Pooja	10	33.33	10	33.33	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	15	50.0	5	16.67	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67
Katha vachan	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67	10	33.33	10	33.33	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	10	33.33	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	-	-
Any	15	50.0	5	16.67	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	5	16.67	-	-
Mean	12	40.0	9	30.0	2	6.67	5	16.67	2	6.67	12	40.0	9	30.0	2	6.67	5	16.67	2	6.67	11	36.67	7	23.33	-	-	3	10.0	5	16.67

\*Alphabets are symbol of colour codes, A = Kesariya, B = Kasumal, C = Motiya, D = Multi, E = Any other

\*\*Multiple Responses

Table-1. depicts that majority of the old aged used multi coloured headgear (30.67%), while 27.33 per cent old aged like to wear Kesariya (Orange) coloured headgear followed by 23.33 per cent who preferred to wear any other colour headgear like Satrangi, Shaded, Black and red combination on Diwali, Champai colour on Holi, Peeliya, Faguniya etc. and 16.67 per cent old aged like to wear Kasumal (red) coloured headgear on festive occasion.

Date also throws light on inclination of adult generation towards wearing of different coloured headgear. Majority of the adults (26.67%) preferred Kesariya (Orange) colour headgear. Few adults (3.33%) like to wear Motiya colour of headgear on festive occasion. Children were also found to be interested in wearing different colour of headgear and data shows that 20.0 per cent children used any other colour of headgear like Blue, double coloured headgear etc. A good percentage of children (16.67%) used Kesariya (orange) coloured headgear and an equal number of children (6.67%) like to wear Motiya (baby Pink) and Multi coloured headgear on festive occasion.

Table further indicates that majority of the old aged (40.0%) used to wear Kesariya (Orange) colour of headgear on religious occasion, 16.67 per cent old aged used Multi colour of headgear and an equal number of old aged liked to wear Motiya (pink) colour and any other colour of headgear on religious occasion. Adults also used to wear headgear of different colours, majority of the adults (40.0%) preferred Kesariya (Orange) coloured headgear and an equal number of adults (6.67%) used Motiya and any other colour of headgear. Majority of the children (36.67%) liked to wear Kesariya coloured headgear, while 10.0 per cent children used multi colour of headgear o religious occasion.

On the whole, majority of the Rajput community people likes to wear Kesariya (Orange) colour of headgear, because it is the symbol of religious faith and chivalry.

**B. Colour preference in headgears of Pali city**

Percentage distribution of respondents of Pali city by colour preference of different generations on festive and religious occasion has been presented in in table 106.

**Table 2:** Percentage distribution of respondents of Pali city by colour preferred of different generations on festive and religious occasion, n = 90

Occasion	Colour preference of different generations																												
	Old age						Adult						Children																
	A*		B*		C*		D*		E*		A*		B*		C*		D*		E*										
(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%										
<b>Festive occasion</b>																													
Diwali	10	33.33	12	40.0	-	-	8	26.67	-	-	12	40.0	8	26.67	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	10	33.33
Holi	12	40.0	10	33.33	-	-	8	26.67	-	-	10	33.33	8	26.67	-	-	-	-	6	20.0	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	5	16.67
Rakhi	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	5	16.67
Gangour	10	33.33	8	26.67	-	-	12	40.0	-	-	9	30.0	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Any	12	40.0	12	40.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	30.0	12	40.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	
Mean	10.8	36.0	10.5	35.0	-	-	9.5	31.67	2	6.67	10	33.33	8.6	28.67	-	-	3	10.0	4.2	14.0	8	26.67	-	-	-	-	-	4	20.0
<b>Religious occasion</b>																													

Havan	20	66.67	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	20	66.67	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	15	50.0	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	-	-	
Navratri	20	66.67	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	15	50.0	10	33.33	-	-	5	16.67	-	-
Pooja	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	12	40.0	10	33.33	-	8	26.67	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	-
Katha vachan	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	10	33.33	12	40.0	-	8	26.67	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	-
Any	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mean	14	46.67	10	33.33	-	-	6	20.0	-	12.4	41.33	10.4	34.66	-	5.2	17.33	-	-	12	40.0	10	33.33	-	-	4	13.33	-	-

\*Alphabets are symbol of colour codes, A = Kesariya, B = Kasumal, C = Motiya, D = Multi, E = Any other.

\*\*Multiple Responses

Table-2 shows the colour of headgear preferred by respondents on festive occasion by different generation, less than half of the old aged preferred Kesariya (Orange) colour (36.0%) followed by Kasumal (Red) (35.0%) coloured headgear. The preference of multi coloured headgear (i.e. pachranga, Satranga, Shaded, etc.) was reported by 31.67 per cent old aged while few old aged respondents (6.67%) also preferred to wear any colour of headgear i.e. Morgardani, Nibu (Yellow), Haldi Peela etc. on festive occasion. Adults were found interested to wear different colours of headgear, table shows that 33.33 per cent adults used Kesariya Colour, 28.67 per cent adults used Kasumal colour of headgear, 14.0 per cent respondents used any other colour i.e. Yellow, peach, pink, blue etc. while cent per cent adults used multi coloured headgear. A good percentage of children (26.67%) preferred to wear Kesariya colour, while 20.0 per cent children go for any other colour of headgear i.e. Yellow, Peach, Pink, Blue, Maroon and combination of two or more colours on festive occasion.

Table further shows that less than half of the old age (46.67%) used to prefer Kesariya (Orange) coloured headgear, 33.33 per cent used Kasumal (Red) coloured headgear while remaining 20.0 per cent used any other colour of headgear.

Similarly, 41.33 per cent adults used Kesariya (Orange) coloured headgear followed by 34.66 per cent adults who preferred Kasumal (Red) colour headgear. Multi coloured headgear was preferred by good number of adults (17.33%). Children also used different colours in headgear, 40.0 per cent children used Kesariya (Orange) colour of headgear, 33.33 per cent children used Kasumal (Red) coloured headgear while 13.33 per cent children used multi coloured headgear.

**C. Colour preference in headgears of Jalore city**

Percentage distribution of respondents of Jalore city by colour preference of different generations on festive and religious occasion has been presented in in table 107.

**Table 3:** Percentage distribution of respondents of Jalore city by colour preferred of different generations on festive and religious occasion, n = 90

Occasion	Colour preference of different generations																												
	Old age					Adult					Children																		
	A*		B*		C*	D*		E*		A*		B*		C*	D*		E*		A*		B*		C*	D*		E*			
(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)	%	(f)		
<b>Festive occasion</b>																													
Diwali	10	33.33	5	16.67	-	-	10	33.33	5	16.67	10	33.33	-	-	-	20	66.67	-	-	5	16.67	5	16.67	-	-	10	33.33	-	-
Holi	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	10	33.33	12	40.0	-	-	-	12	40.0	6	20.0	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	-	-
Rakhi	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	15	50.0	5	16.67	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	10	33.33	5	16.67	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	-	-
Gangour	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	-	-
Any	10	33.33	14	46.67	-	-	-	-	6	20.0	-	-	-	-	14	46.67	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mean	10	33.33	7.8	26.0	-	-	7	23.33	4	13.33	9.6	31.99	2	6.67	-	8.4	28.0	8	26.67	3	10.0	3	10.0	-	-	2	6.67	6	20.0
<b>Religious occasion</b>																													
Havan	15	50.0	15	50.0	-	-	-	-	-	15	50.0	-	-	-	10	33.33	5	16.67	12	40.0	8	26.67	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	
Navratri	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	15	50.0	10	33.33	-	5	16.67	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	-
Pooja	12	40.0	18	60.0	-	-	-	-	-	12	40.0	6	20.0	-	12	40.0	-	-	5	16.67	15	50.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Katha vachan	10	33.33	20	66.67	-	-	-	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Any	10	33.33	10	33.33	-	-	10	33.33	-	-	15	50.0	10	33.33	-	5	16.67	-	-	10	33.33	5	13.33	-	-	-	-	-	
Mean	11.4	37.99	14.6	48.67	-	-	4	13.33	-	-	13.4	44.67	7.2	23.99	-	8.4	28.0	1	3.33	9.4	31.33	9.6	31.33	-	-	4	13.33	-	-

\*Alphabets are symbol of colour codes, A = Kesariya, B = Kasumal, C = Motiya, D = Multi, E = Any other.

\*\*Multiple responses

Table-3. shows that majority of the old aged (33.33%) liked to wear Kesariya (Orange) coloured headgear, while minimum number of old aged (13.33%) preferred any other coloured headgear i.e. yellow, mango, peach etc. on festive occasion. Adult generation also preferred variety of colours in headgear, majority of the adults (31.99%) reported their preference to Kesariya (Orange) coloured headgear, Kasumal coloured headgear was the preference of minimum number of respondents (6.67%) adults. Good number of children (20%) had no choice, they used to wear any colour in headgear i.e. maroon, off white, pink, peach etc. An equal number of children (10.0%) liked to wear Kesariya and Kasumal coloured headgear while 6.67 per cent children used multi coloured headgear on festive occasion. Table further shows that majority of the old aged (48.67%) liked to wear Kasumal (Red) Colour in headgear. Kesariya

(Orange) coloured headgear was the first choice of 37.99 per cent old aged while 13.33 per cent old aged respondents liked to wear multi colour headgear i.e. Pachrangi, Satrangi, Lehariya or Shaded safa on religious occasion.

In line with the colour preference of adult respondents of Jodhpur and Pali city, similar results were reported by adults of Jalore city, when it comes to preference of different coloured headgear. Majority of the adults (44.67%) used Kesariya (orange) coloured headgear, multi coloured headgear (28%), Kasumal (Red) coloured headgear (23.33%) and very few adults (3.33%) used any other colour of headgear. Children preferred different colours of headgear, majority of the children (31.33%) liked to wear Kesariya (Orange) colour of headgear and the same number of children used Kasumal (Red) colour of headgear and

13.33 per cent children were used multi coloured headgear on religious occasion.

**D. Occasion wise colour preference of different generations of Marwar region:** Researcher also tried to

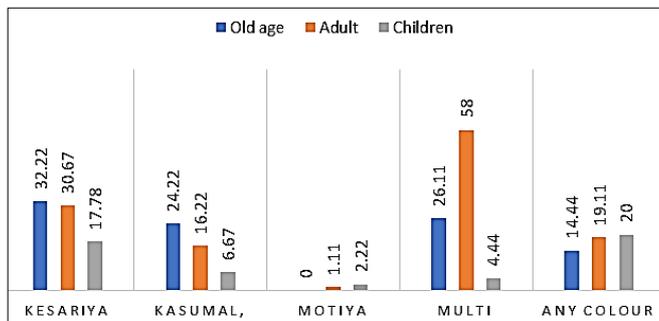
consolidate the results of whole Marwar region by calculating Mean Percent Scores as shown in Table-4. Fig.1 and Fig.2 further depicts MPS of respondents regarding occasion wise colour preference of three generations in Rajput families of Marwar region.

**Table 4:** MPS and Rank of respondents based on occasion wise colour preference of different generations of Marwar region, n = 90

Type of colour	Old age				Adult				Young (Children)			
	Festive	Rank	Religious	Rank	Festive	Rank	Religious	Rank	Festive	Rank	Religious	Rank
A-Kesariya	32.22	I	41.56	I	30.67	II	42.0	I	17.78	II	36.0	I
B-Kasumal	24.22	III	37.33	II	16.22	IV	29.63	II	6.67	III	29.56	II
C-Motiya	-	-	2.22	IV	1.11	V	2.22	V	2.22	V	-	-
D-Multi colour	26.11	II	16.67	III	58.0	I	20.67	III	4.44	IV	12.22	III
E-Any colour	14.44	IV	2.22	IV	19.11	III	3.33	IV	20.0	I	3.33	IV

On festive occasion, old age generation gave first preference to Kesariya colour followed by Multi colour (26.11) and Kasumal (24.22) headgear. It was interesting to note that adult Rajput preferred multi-coloured headgear as shown by higher MPS value (58) followed by Kesariya (30.67). The younger generation gave almost equal preference to Any colour and Kesariya colour headgear as compared to other colours.

highlights the colour choice of headgear on festive and religious occasions by different generations of male Rajput community in Marwar region. It was interesting to note that even today mostly all the old aged and adult men preferred to wear the specified colours of each occasion as it depicts their belongingness in the community. However, the data also points towards changing trend which is becoming visible in the colour choice of headgear of young generation.

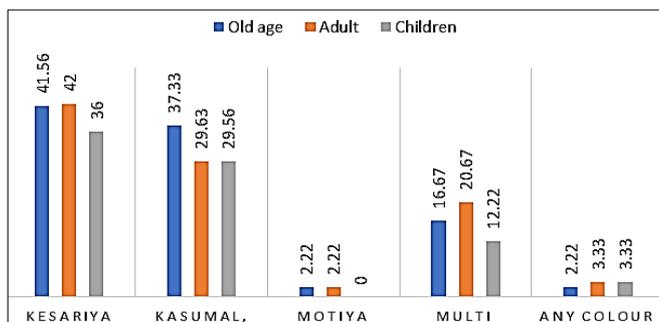


**Fig 1:** MPS of colour preference in headgear on festive occasion by respondents of Marwar region

The Mean percent score (MPS) of colour preference in headgear on religious occasion has been depicted in Fig-2. Here, it can be seen that all the three generations of Marwar region including old age, adult and young generation gave first preference to Kesariya colour (41.56, 42 and 36) followed by Kasumal (37.33, 29.63 and 29.56) coloured headgear respectively. Motiya colour was least preferred.

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**Fig 2:** MPS of colour preference in headgear on religious occasion by respondents of Marwar region

**Conclusion**

Headgear is always connected with one’s respect and symbolizes dignity and place in the society. The colour of headgear in Rajput community plays a significant role along with whole costume on various occasions. The present study