

Dress Code

The style of clothing worn by women across the Middle East at this time is partly a consequence of religious opinion. Differences between similar items (length of sleeves, neck style) depend upon the level of conservatism.

These items are not "traditional costume", but normal, day to day wear. Traditional clothing may still be worn by the bedouin (or berbers) and at weddings or other celebrations.

The four main items observed are the dress (most usually known as a *thob*, and worn in different styles by men also), a robe (known as an *abayeh* and worn over a thob, or frequently over western dress), a cloak (usually hooded, more conservative) and a burka (hooded, with the full face veil sewn in). Additionally, head coverings are worn separately from the gowns.

Key to regions and names.

1. **dress**: thin cloth gown, medium-long sleeves, high neck (with buttons/ties possibly)

a-*thob* (general), b-*gandoura* (North Africa/Levant), c-*kandourah* (Arabia), d-*dishdash* (Levant/Egypt - very plain, simple, for around the house, often with no decoration at all).

2. **robe**: robe open at front, loose sleeves, worn over thob/indoor clothes, etc.

a-*aba* (Arabia), b-*abayeh* (Levant), c-*kaftan* (Morocco/Turkey), d-*kasabia* (Tunisia), d-*jillayeh* (Palestine).

3. **cloak**: A long, usually hooded, cloak worn over indoor clothes.

a- *burnous* (general), b-*galabia* (Egypt), c-*djellaba/djellebia* (Maghreb*), d-*jibba/jalabia*, *thawh* (Saudi), e-*djebba* (Tunisia), f-*sitara* (Yemen) g-*jilbab** (Arabia).

4. burka

a-*chador* (widespread - one-piece rectangular piece of cloth, held together by hands or teeth), b-*burka* (Iran/Afghanistan), c-*sharshaf* (Yemen), d-*safsari* (Tunisia).

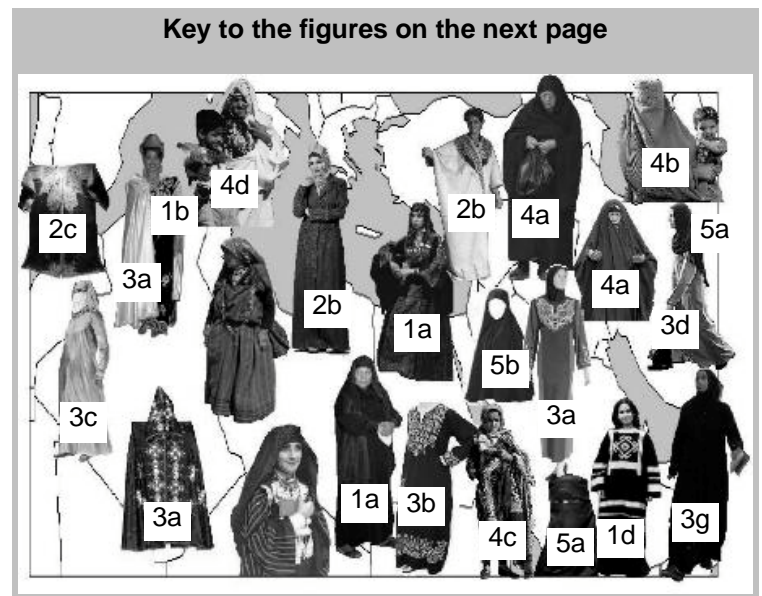
5. **hijab** the term means the covering of one's self, and particularly the head, for modesty. Here we use it to refer to the various head-coverings.

a-*niqab* (Arabia), b-*khimar* (general), c-*shayla* (Iran).

* **khimar** is a headcovering that may reach as far as the waist, made from a circular piece of material, with the face showing through a cut-out hole.

jilbab is a ladies' overcoat, probably worn with a scarf, since it normally has no hood. It is a more modern development.

Maghreb is a term describing the Muslim countries of North Africa, west of Egypt. It is also the name by which Morocco is known in the Arab world.





This Month

Sep	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S				
Africa	Nun killed in Mogadishu-3 suspects held		Kismayo surrenders to Islamists			Rebel battles force 10,000 to flee		1000s of Somalis arrive in Yemen		Sudan rebels fight army on Chad border		200 UN will support AU mission in Sudan		4 MSF aid workers attacked in Darfur		Sudan signs peace w/ eastern rebels																	
Darfur gets rapidly worse. African Union forces to remain through 2006	Car bomb attack on Somali president-12 killed		Interim govt calls for foreign troops																														
Pakistan	Wazir tribes capture 10 Taliban		Kashmir grenade attack kills policewoman		Rebels kill 3 soldiers in Baluchistan		US to train 30,000 teachers in Pakistan		6 killed in Baluch mosque in Zehri clan feud																								
Karzai & Musharraf disagree over war on Taliban		1.8m still at risk, 1 yr after quake		Army captures 45 Taliban in Baluchistan																													
Afghan.	NATO troops push Taliban back nr Kandahar		Suicide bomb kills 18 in Helmand		Suicide bomber kills policeman in Khost		Italian journalist abducted																										
78 suicide attacks this year. Large offensive in south.		4 Al Qaeda held in Kabul		Italian soldier killed		Bomb kills Canadian soldier		2 German journalists killed		Suicide bomb kills 7 nr Kandahar																							
19 workers killed in truck attack		Colombian aid worker released		Roadside bomb kills Canadian		6 killed in attacks, inc MP																											
Arabia	Saudis celebrate National Day		Sunni/Shia clerics promote reconciliation																														
Iraq	2 police killed in Taji		Ansaar al Sunna leader captured		Reports of Israelis training Kurd security		Shia MPs demand cabinet reshuffle		Tel Afar suicide bomb kills 8		Body of priest found in Mosul																						
US Deaths: 3/30: 2,317 5/31: 2,459 7/31: 2,578 8/31: 2,626 9/15: 2,670 9/30: 2,700	Pipeline sabotaged in Balad		Iraq PM calls for Ramadan unity		Saddam ejected from court as trial resumes		Baghdad market bomb kills 5		26 abducted at meat factory, killed		Kirkuk security sweep		Kurd govt. bans smoking ads.																				
Booby-trapped body kills 2 Iraqi soldiers		3 attacks on Shia kill 10		29 insurgents killed, 36 arrested		10 shot dead at Sunni mosque		59 arrested in Baquba		4 US killed in attacks		7 killed at satellite station																					
4 bombs kill 23 in Kirkuk		Mortars kill 10 in Baghdad		Sadr aide arrested		Kurd militia attacks new Arab police chief		Call for kidnapping of foreigners		8 US killed, 4 by bomb		Diwanayah raid-troops kill 30		Baghdad-60 bodies found		5 US killed																	
Baghdad morgue: Jul-1,815, Aug-1,550, Sept:1,440 A total of more than 240,000 estimated to have fled homes for safety since Feb bombing of Shia mosque sparked sectarian violence. Christians especially are leaving-35,000 to Syria 3,500 police reported killed in 2 years. 650 contractor deaths in Iraq since war began		Suicide bomb kills 13 recruits in Ramadi		Shia politicians protest cleric's arrest		UN claims torture is rampant in Iraq prisons		Mortars kill family in Baquba		Saddam judge relative killed		Bomb misses Industry minister, 14 die		11 militiamen in police gear killed after attacking US/Iraqi patrol		Roadside bomb kills 4		Shia family of 8 killed															
2 houses burned during clashes in Hurriya, Baghdad		Al Qaeda leader killed by UK troops in Basra		1-day curfew in Baghdad		Insurgent arrested at Dulaimi home (suspected involvement in coup plot)		Danish soldier killed in south		Kurd politician & guard killed		Mortar destroys US ammunition dump		Saddam ejected from court		Gunmen clash with police at Kut																	
US soldier killed in E Baghdad		Baathist killed in Diwanayah		Sadr City bomb kills 26		Basra mayor claims police tried to kill him		C Rice meets Barzani in Erbil		Federalism law is passed		Shia militia kill 31 in Balad																					
Iran	EU talks on nuclear issue resume		Pipeline bombed by Kurd separatists restarts																														
Turkey	Ocalan calls for PKK ceasefire		PKK declares ceasefire		Turkey wants US help to control Kurds		3 Kurd rebels killed in east																										
Lebanon	Hariri inquiry suspects suicide bomber		Hezbollah redeploy in S, resupplied with arms		Russian troops (inc Chechen Muslims) support army		2 grenades hit building near Beirut UN HQ																										
Jordan	Failed hotel suicide bomber sentenced to death		Deputies pardoned by king for Zargawi visit		US increases aid by \$50m to \$500m		Canada accepts 46 Palestinians from Ruweishid																										
Israel	Rocket hurts 1 in Sderot		Appeal upholds order to free Hamas MPs		2 rockets hit Sderot		Cabinet minister agrees Hezbollah's Nasrallah should be assassinated		US & EU criticise closures of Rafah crossing		Min. of Def. orders IDF to remove illegal settler outposts																						
Troops move out of Lebanon as UNIFIL II troops arrive. By Oct 1 only a few remain, protecting Ghajar. Report criticizes checkpoint delays-68 women have given birth during delays, 34 miscarriages, 4 deaths		At UN FM Livni talks with Abbas on reviving peace talks		IDF raids bank in Nablus		N Gaza air raid kills 2		6 rockets hit Sderot from Gaza		Rafah crossing opens for 48 hrs		2 IDF injured by grenade thrown during Nablus raid		Air strike kills 2 in Beit Hanoun, N Gaza		Air strikes injure 5 Gaza militants		Air strike on car kills 2 in S Gaza		Militant shot by IDF in Nablus camp-civilian shot while avoiding checkpoint		Gaza air strike on militant car kills 3											
14-yr-old girl killed in S Gaza air strike		Most IDF troops leave Lebanon by midnight. (200 remain at Ghajar)		Israeli jets overfly Lebanon		Rabbi arrested for threat on Al Aqsa mosque		2 Hamas jailed for 8 killings of Israelis		Air strike on house of Hamas woman MP		Tanks move into Jabalaya, 8 killed in raids & air strikes		Christian Zionists rally in Jerusalem		Pres. accused of rape																	
WB & Gaza	Strikers mob PM's car in Gaza		Gunmen attack Abbas' Gaza news agency		Israel frees Hamas deputy PM, Nasser al Shaer		Factional fighting kills 10 over 2 days		Al Qaeda claim assassination of Palestinian security chief		Gaza rally in support of Hamas		US student abducted, released in Nablus		Hamis-Fateh violence-50 injured																		
Factional fighting between Hamas & Fateh supporters increases in October. 92 children killed during incursions in 2006 (36 in July alone)		'Quartet' calls for govt. of National unity		Hamis refuses to recognize Israel		Al Aqsa militia threatens Hamas leaders		Hamis official killed in Hableh, WB		Abbas may dissolve Hamas govt.		Fateh man dies in Gaza & WB clashes		Missile from drone kills 2, inc. young girl, misses militant target, kills brother		Hamis rejects recognition of Israel																	