



Innovative Textile Designing for Ladies Apparels from Architectural Motifs of Sethi House

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ABSTRACT

This study describes the uniqueness of traditional architectural motifs of the Sethi house situated in city of Khyber Pukhtun Khawa, Pakistan with respect to the revival of these motifs by digital printing on Ladies apparel. Textile designs from historical motifs have initiated to be used frequently in various textiles industries. Goods designed in today's fashion world play a significant role in the conservation of historical and cultural ideas. The combination of contemporary styles with timeworn designs and motifs safeguards the existence of these motifs for looming products. The Sethi house comprise of superb architectural elements like engraved woodwork, ainah kari, and jali work etc. Sethi house interior is planned with so simple, yet complex pure Islamic architecture motifs that one could look at these features for hours. Designs from the ceiling of the rooms comprising unique jaliwork, naqqashi and courtyard decorating elements were selected for transformation in to textile designs through Adobe photo shop software. Various types of fabric specimens were digitally printed, stitched in to female costumes and exhibited for the students and numerous personnel belonging to fashion designing field. The data was collected through questionnaires by ranking the textile designs subjectively and statistically analysed regarding transformation of motifs, form, novelty, symbolism, aesthetics, texture, different color schemes, and commercial acceptability in the market. This work will help those designers who are striving to recover their own traditional details with the modern-day fashion movements. Architectural motifs of Sethi House can be a source of inspiration for current fashion designers to boost their culture in domestic as well as global market.

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1. Introduction

Pakistan is the land that portrayed cultural and traditional spirit through its expectable arts and crafts. Each region of it has its own style and pattern of art and designs. Current competitive market, the designers want to adapt contemporary practices to keep the traditional art, design and motifs alive (Nasim, 2019). Pakistan has amusing antique and cultural texture of architecture that incorporates social, economic, personal and intellectual fascinations. Numerous historical cities of our country express the statement of distinct and traditional identity as a mutual phenomenon in interior designing (Malik & Hassan, 2019). Creating innovative design forms, all the designs are progressed by converting, joining and adapting elements of other images and phenomena. A sources of inspiration for a textile designer can be natural and manufactured things like garment, building, art objects such as painting and architecture (Eckert & Stacey, 2000). The goods created in an era have an important role in renewal of antique motifs in various industries, which helps in preserving ancient values of the culture (Seth, 2014). Motifs are very important in designing as every motif has an origin, evaluation and diversity in shape and arrangement. Indian tradition (folk art and craft) are

imperceptible which is essential to preserve such crafts for next generation (Sharma, Singh, & Rose, 2016). Transformation of architectural motifs will help young designers to cherish their imagination, to assess innovative technologies to enhance individual, artistic and technical skills reproduced by imitation (Garcia, 2012).

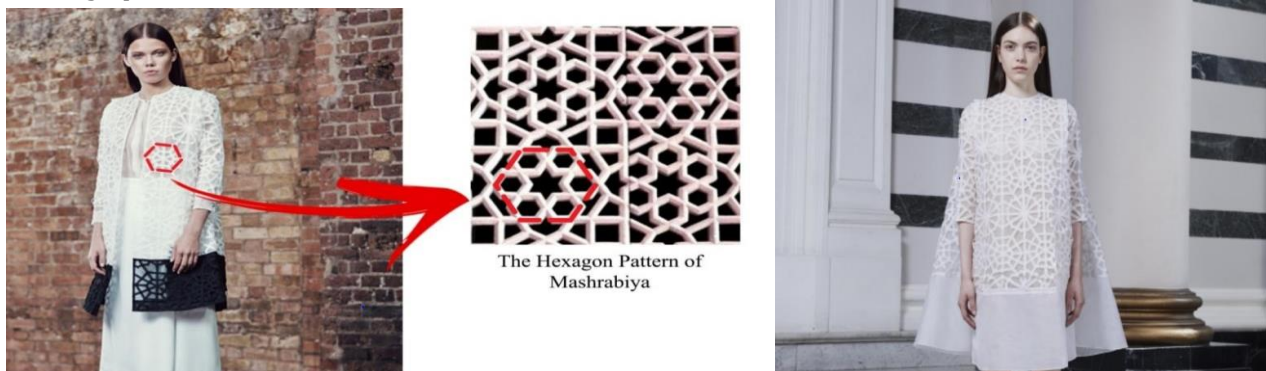
1.1. Association of Architectural Motifs with Apparel Designing

Architecture can be a muse whether it is in the traditional or contemporary form from which one can root an artistic spark to the textile designer. Architecture in the overall theme of a building or just a detail can be an inspiration for textile designing (Paksoy & Yalcin, 2005). As stated by (Chinwendu, 2014), Fashion and Architecture have one thing in common that is "art", hence, the absence of art would be neither fashion nor architecture (Kishore, 2013). Lines and shapes impact architecture and fashion, akin to the human figure to create fashion forms, generate structures and designs according to the humans needs (N., 2008).. Both fields i.e. fashion designing and architecture are three dimensional and have space; both are structured; both are correlated with fine arts and visual (El-Gammal). Source of inspiration has an important role in defining the features of fresh design as well as imparting the progress of distinctive design (S. Khan, 2016). Various examples of architectural designs of different cultures, which have been used in costume designing, are mentioned below.

1.2. Mashrabiya (Arab culture)

Mashrabiya is a salient element used in Arab architecture for ventilation purpose to minimize the high temperature. The modern version of Mashrabiya in fashion offers the character of lightness for the clothes as well as a sense of comfort and ease heat on the human body, besides proving the identity and expression of Arabian's social role as done in architecture, Figure 1 (Akçay & Alothman, 2018).

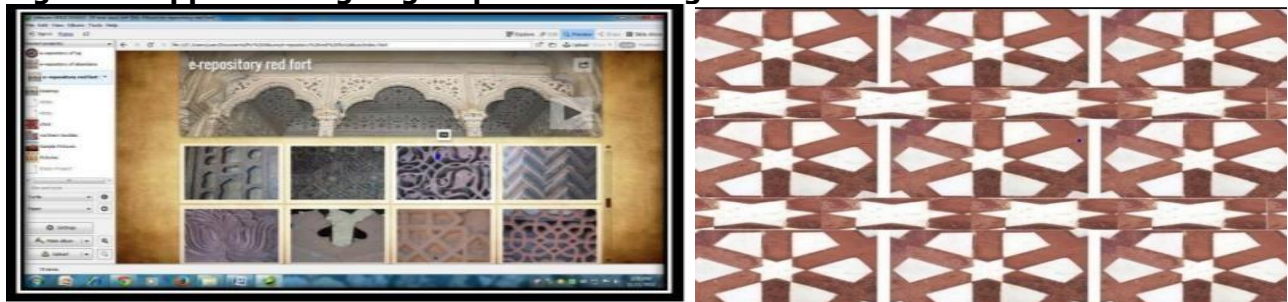
Figure1: Spring / Summer 2015 collection (Mashrabiya coat fro designed by Wadha Al-Hajri)



1.3. Indian Motifs (Agra)

Mughal motifs on monuments of Agra constructed in the 16th and 17th century in blend of Persian, Indian, Turkish and Islamic motifs are transformed into up-to-date designs on the textile artifact. It will preserve their uniqueness to the world and boost the global fashion market, Figure2 (Swami & Sadaf, 2016).

Figure 2: Apparel designing inspired from Mughal architectural motifs



2. Pakistani Designers (Mughal Motifs)

Pakistani brands (Sapphire and Khaadi) follows Mughal motifs in their collection e.g Mughal flora and fauna, in which swans, flying birds and birds in cages are the spur from 1667

tradition. Sapphire launched, digital prints of stitched and unstitched collection (Figure.3) in 2016-18, are the renewal of Mughal styles (Nasim, 2019).

Figure 3: Use of Mughal's Flora & Fauna in Up-to-dated Designs



2.1. Architectural Elements of Sethi House: Source of Inspiration for Fashion Designers

Sethi House serve as an important heritage buildings and landmarks of the Khyber pukhun khawa city of Pakistan. This heritage needs to be preserved not only in material way but also in immaterial way for future generation by applying the embellishment of architecture in textile industry with combination of new technology. Design of Sethi House is an inspirational source for architects since it holds an aesthetic appeal. Sethi family of merchants and bankers has precious and distinct antiques in the form of beautiful residences, inspired by the impression of Central Asian mansions and these styles have travelled through generations, as residents continue to beautify them (Lari, 2015). Art of Sethi house design inspires the architects throughout Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and are renowned for their aesthetic appeal (Mehmood, 2016). Architectural features of sethi house includes jail work *Chini khana*, *aina kari*, wood work etc. *Jalli* screens in sethi house were used due to multiple reasons, such as ventilators to resist the severe sunlight out of their palace as well as to maintain the privacy for ladies (S. Khan, 2016).

2.1.1. Chini Khana

Symbolized the gateway to paradise which is decorated with flowers, floral bouquets in vases themes.

2.1.2. Naqqashi

were used in *chini khana* for decoration with solid colour combination that retained their customary character. Design within *chini khana* of house-comprised fruits, floral bunches in vases: depicts the spiritual paradise.

2.1.3. Ainah Kari

Walls of chinikhana are embalished in the form of split panels of *aina kari* work. Chini khana during present time reserved their traditional character and beauti with the use of gilding, *naqqashi*, *gachbori* and *aina kari* or colorful mirror (S. M. Khan & Imdad, 2011).

3. Application of Architectural Elements through Digital Printing

Sethi house elegant motifs can be divided in to three distinctive sorts; floral, vegetal and geometrical. One of the common motifs as 'vase with bouquets' symbolizes the tree of life (S. Khan, 2016). Fashion designing and architecture are the two vital fields, which have similarities like relationship amongst art, design, science & technology. Many designers in fashion and architecture used an artistic creation as their concept and designed patterns accordingly (Gully, 2008). The designers can design clothes with the assisted by the latest technology in printing systems. Textile printing is the most significant and adaptable techniques used to add design, color, and beauty to textile products (Technical bulleton 2003).

Fashion industry is a vibrant part of any country, as it reveals the cultural values of that nation. After surveying the market of latest fashion brands, it was observed that currently, the textile designers have been influenced by other than Pakistani cultures, overlooking the rich

heritage of our province. The Architectural designs of Sethi house have not been adopted by the fashion designers of Pakistan to promote our local heritage, therefore they are needed to be explored and restored by the fashion designers. The aim of this research is to identify historical motifs, patterns on Sethi house and their revival on the textiles designs and costumes with the artistic mind and hand. In the current study, classified motifs from the Sethi house were selected from distinctive *jaliwork* and *naqqashi* work for the transformation in to textile designs. The blend of historic and contemporary styles through Adobe photo shop software with digital printing techniques will attract the new fashion designers and help in boosting domestic and global market.

4. Material and Methods

The entire research design comprised on the following stages:

4.1. Documentation

A survey was piloted through video and still photographic shoots to collect the primary data after a comprehensive visit of Sethi house. The architectural details included decorative carved woodwork, *Jaaliwork*, and *naqqashi* work etc. that were selected for setting themes of research board.

4.2. Collection of Data

The photographic data of various architectural motifs of different sites of house were selected as sample for apparel designing and arranged in to mood boards.

4.3. Designing & Printing

The architectural motif on research board were converted in to various designs by using a software "Corel draw CS6X64, followed by digital printing on various fabrics for female attires.

4.4. Display

The dresses with transformed designs were showcased for the local fashion designers and numerous personnel relevant to the career of fashion designing.

5. Results and Discussion

The transformation of sethi house motifs to novel textile designs and textile printing was carried out in various steps and the results expressed in this section as following.

5.1 Development of Mood Board

The primary data of photographic images was converted in to the research board. The mood board containing numerous plates, of which few selected ones, are presented here. Some suitable motifs were reinvented for apparels of different age groups by using the entire motif or single component by the computer software and then digitally printed.

5.2. Development of Designs

5.2.1. Design 1

The basic inspiration for the first shirt (Textile sheet1) was taken from plate 2 of *Chini khana* applied in the neckline area of the shirt in original form and variant colors. Plate.1 and 3are used for the borderline design to give a distinction of vertical lines in the floral setting along with unique dark colored lines at lowest edge of the shirt. The hem line at the back is designed with semi-circular shapes in rhythmic motions.

Plate 1: Ceiling of Bedroom

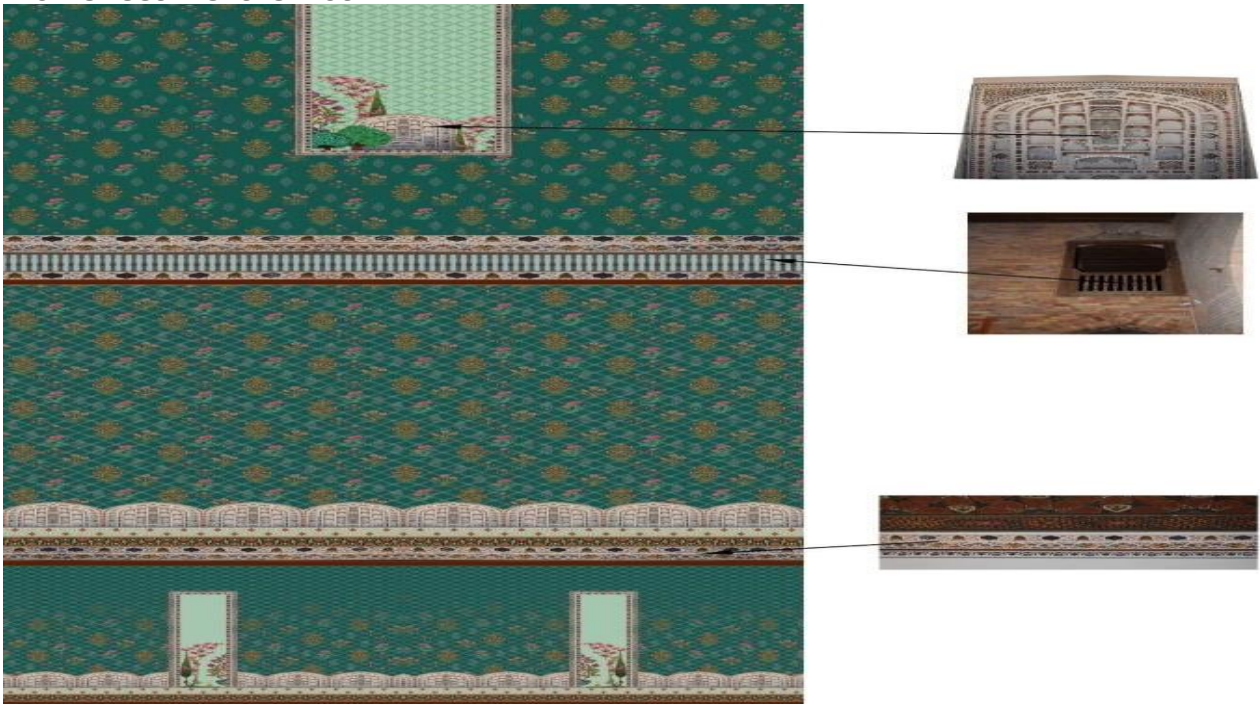


Similarly, the sleeves have patterns in symmetrical shaped motifs, adding beauty in the dress.

Plate 2 &3: Chini khana in Bed Room, Reeling of wood in Basement



Worksheet: Textile Motif 1



This innovative designing of dress will probably grabbed the attention of young generation, specially the use of enchanting hues blended with natural shades are designed for working women and housewives to wear for daily routines.

5.2.2. Design 2

Plate 4 motif is designed on front with the original view and original color scheme with the help of adobe photoshop software. Keeping the background in mint green and lime yellow in the front, back and sleeves with the embellishment of Plate 5 motif at the bottom of front, back and sleeve.

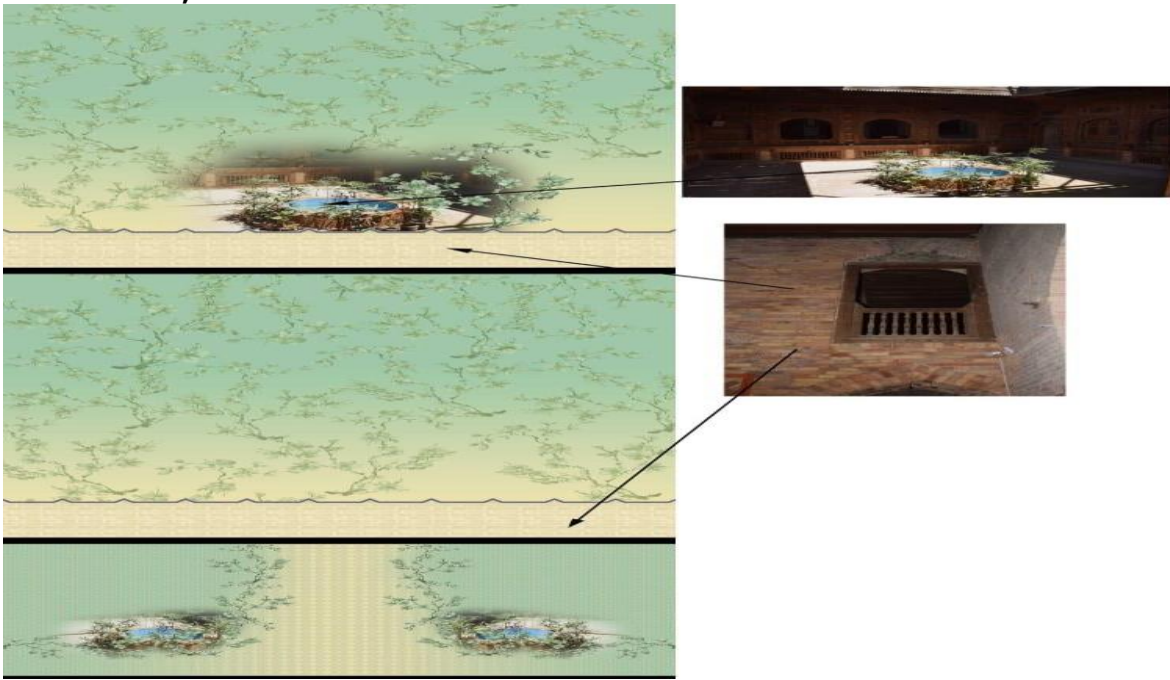
Plate 4: Front View of Courtyard



Plate 5: Basement Wall



Worksheet; Textile Motif 2



The aim of designing these motifs is to revive the essence of tradition alive in present and coming era. This dress designing will give a modern twist to the traditional motif crafted in summer hues.

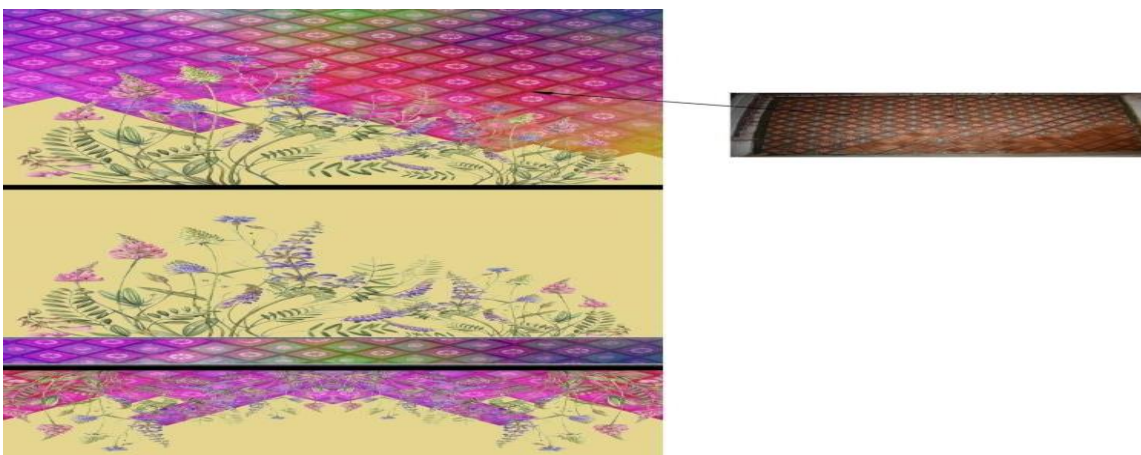
5.2.3. Design 3

This master piece is designed for a teenage girl that can be worn semi- formally by taking inspiration from the motif presented in plate 6 which consist of a fresco ceiling of a ground floor bed room. The motif is geometrical in shape with enrolled small rosette motif in blue and ceiling is adorned in brown color scheme made on wood.

Plate 6: Ceiling of 1st Floor Room



Worksheet: Textile Motif 3



This costume illustrates the effect of continuation element in a very refreshing and natural color combination. The light yellow color in the background with a-symmetrical triangular shapes in contrasting color of mauve, pinkish-purple, bluish purple at the hemline of shirt harmonized the design beautifully. On the back of shirt motif is positioned in the original broken form with the bunches of petals on lower hemline. The upper left portion of the shirt is kept plain in the yellow theme with a repeat of bunches of flower on hemline along with boarder of the same motif in geometrical form at the bottom of the sleeves.

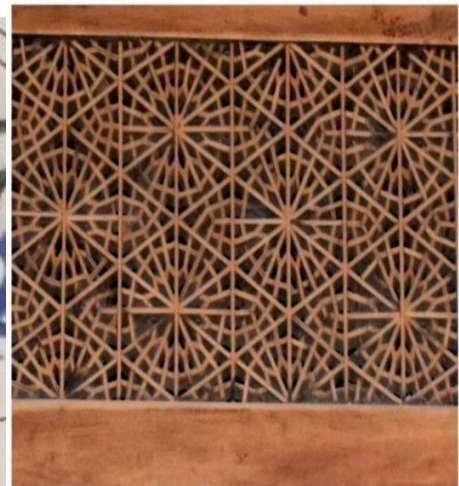
5.2.4. Design 4

This costume was designed by taking inspiration from three salient topographies of sethi house as presented in the following plates. Plate no 7 comprised a classical Light on the wall fixed at corner of the courtyard and enhancing the real beauty of the sethi house. The motif of Plate no 8 is taken from the wall decoration of ground floor room in floral patterns that is called naqqashi work. The vibrant colour scheme in yellow, maroon, blue and green colors adding its everlasting beautification. Similarly, the motif in Plate no 9 is taken from the *jali* work called as skylights in brown wood color in circular shape which were used for ventilation purpose as well as the passage of light.

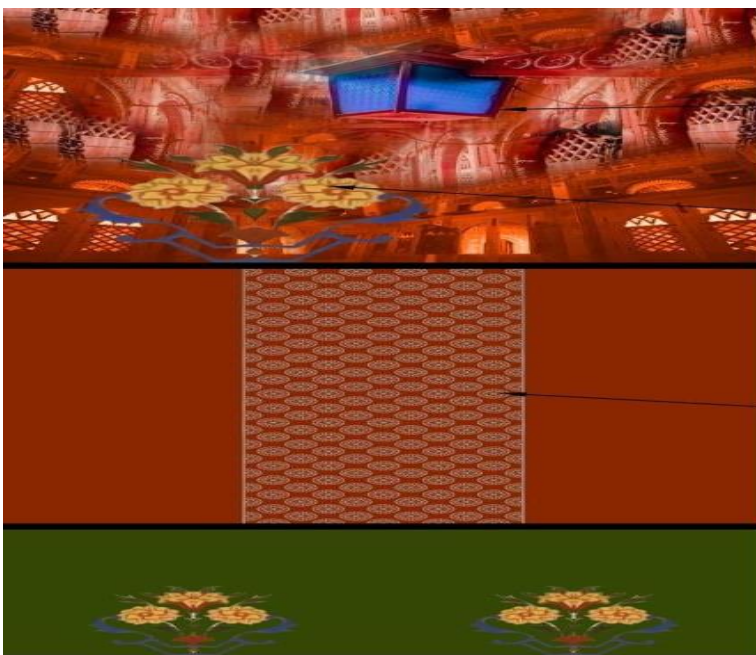
Plate 7: Light in court yard



Plate 8: Naqqashi work on wall Plate 9: Jaali work (Mashrabya)



Worksheet: Textile Motif 4



This shirt is designed for a teen-age girl in exciting structural motif on front side in original colors, for the marvelous look of 19th century construction in current vogue. The original

form and colour of light converted into a beautiful motif on the rust coloured background pattern in front panel of shirt that was further enhanced by merging with the key feature of naqashi work in the center. The same floral pattern of naqashi work was applied on hemline with beautiful olive green plain background and rust colored mashrabian *jaali* work in back central panel of shirt. The contrast of olive green color in sleeves with plain surface applied for trendier look. Floral motif from naqashi work is applied on wrist area of sleeves in diverse colors that will contribute in the revival of historical themes.

6. Display and Analysis

An exhibition was arranged for the respondents from fashion industry in which the costumes were displayed to assess the motifs, design and their implementation on textiles. The results regarding relevant information of the digital printed ladies' apparel were attained from respondents and presented in tables after statistical analysis.

Table 1 presented the findings with reference to the acceptance of the importance of archiving historical building in creating fashion garment collection. According to results, the 78% respondents acknowledged the importance of archiving historical building motifs on fashion garments. According to (Akçay & Alothman, 2018) application of architectural motifs on apparel will help textile designers to prize their designing in the market. Mashrabiya is one of the architectural element, which gives inspiration to the fashion world. Acceptance of the importance of archiving historical building in creating fashion garment collection

Table 1: Frequency Count Regarding Acceptance of the Importance of Archiving Historical Building in Creating Fashion Garment Collection

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Yes | 39 | 78.0 | 78.0 | 78.0 |
| No | 2 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 82.0 |
| Don't know | 4 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 90.0 |
| May be | 5 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 100.0 |
| Total | 50 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Table 2: Frequency Count of use of Architectural Motifs as a Source of Inspiration with Preferred Style of Motifs and Patterns

| Architectural motifs as a source of inspiration | Tradition n(%) | Contemporaryn (%) | Fusion n(%) | Not specification (%) | Total |
|---|----------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Yes (20%) | 10 | 6 (12%) | 11 (22%) | 3 (6%) | 30 (60%) |
| No (12%) | 6 | 2 (4%) | 3 (6%) | 6 (12%) | 17 (34%) |
| Don't know (2%) | 1 | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 1 (2%) | 2 (4%) |
| Don't remember (0%) | 0 | 1 (2%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 1 (2%) |
| Total (34%) | 17 | 9 (18%) | 14 (29.7%) | 10 (20%) | 50 (100%) |

Table 2 displayed that mostly (60%) of the of the respondents agreed with their inspiration towards architectural motifs and patterns in addition, 34 % respondent rated the motifs of Sethi house to be excellent in the form of traditional style used on garments.

Table 3: Frequency count of Sethi house motifs boost the association between historical and Sethi house motifs boost the Association between historical and contemporary design

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Yes | 31 | 62.0 | 62.0 | 62.0 |
| No | 1 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 64.0 |
| Don't know | 10 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 84.0 |
| May be | 8 | 16.0 | 16.0 | 100.0 |
| Total | 50 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

6.1. Contemporary Design

An important query regarding the association between historical and contemporary design (Table 3) indicated that a great majority (62%) of the respondents agreed that the innovative use of Sethi house motifs could boost the association between historical and contemporary designs practice. According to (Nasim, 2019) the fashion designers with the visionary observation oriented the past to present generation, make his own era more vivid with application of traditional motifs. Architecture and fashion shared common features of space, structure and artwork, representing that both have common and creative ground as beginning for development.

7. Conclusions

The transformation of architectural elements of Sethi house to modern practices of design can give direction to the revival of historical artifacts. New vocabulary of designs can be fashioned in different manner by just selecting a miniature of the motif from vivid architectural motifs for transformation into a new textile designs. The motifs designed and digitally printed on Ladies apparel with original color scheme of architectural elements like *jaali work*, *naqqashi* and wood carving are highly appreciated by the local fashion designers. Sethi house motifs were preferred by designers to be inspiration for contemporary textiles designers of the Pakistan textile industry.

7.1. Recommendations

Fashion industry is a vital part of any country, as it reflects the heritage and cultural values of that nation. The fashion designers of Pakistan to promote our local heritage and apparel industry should adopt architectural designs of Sethi house. The use of digital fabric printing in textile and apparel enterprises is rising; hence, continuing research on increasing colour quality, speeding up production rates, development of new inks, and increasing the number of innovative prints will facilitate adoption of this technology. Furthermore, designing of Sethi house motifs, as per the requisite of various techniques like printing, weaving, painting, embroidery etc will fetch better results in promoting Islamic geometric art in the field of textiles

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