

EMBROIDERING IDENTITIES

A CENTURY OF PALESTINIAN CLOTHING

Embroidering Identities: A Century of Palestinian Clothing

New Exhibit Opening November 11, 2006 - March 25, 2007

The Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago

About the Exhibit

An exhibit of 19th and early 20th century clothing from Palestine will be shown at the Oriental Institute Museum from November 11, 2006 to March 25, 2007. The exhibit entitled "*Embroidering Identities: A Century of Palestinian Clothing*" is a joint project of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago and the Palestinian Heritage Center in Bethlehem.



The exhibit explores the issue of personal, regional, and later national, identity and how it was expressed through embroidery and clothing. It also shows the beauty, technical achievement, and tremendous diversity of the garments. In Palestine, clothing was an important cultural marker that expressed regional identity, marital status, wealth and age of the wearer. Each region had its own style of clothing for women characterized by distinctive patterns of embroidery, sleeve design, fabric, and accessories. Although men's clothing was not as elaborate and regionally distinct as women's clothing, it still gave some clues to the identity of the wearer.



Exhibit Curator- Dr. Iman Saca Saint Xavier University

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Palestinian Heritage Center, Bethlehem
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