

# Women's Religious Apparel

## Riley Jones – Religion 2300

### HINDU:

The traditional apparel for Hindu women are Saris or Shalwar Kameez. Shalwar's are baggy trousers that are loose around the waist and narrow at the ankle. They are worn under the Kameez which is a shirt that varies in length. This traditional outfit is worn during religious festivals such as the Diwali.

*The Vedas: "Men who wish to prosper should always revere those women with ornaments, clothes, and food at celebrations and festivals."*



When looking at women in different religions, some religions have similar regulations and standards set for what women can wear while other religions are not similar when it comes to women apparel. To better understand the regulations and guidelines that some religions have set for women, I have chosen five women from a different religion to compare how they must dress in order to follow their religion. These women include a Hindu, Tibetan Buddhist Nun, Muslim, Rebbetzin, and Orthodox Christian Nun.



### Orthodox Christian Nun:

The traditional apparel for an Orthodox Christian Nun is a blouse with sleeves that go past their elbows and a skirt that goes past their knees. The last part of the dress code is their head scarf. It is to be worn at all times during Mass and in time of worship.

*1 Corinthians 11:3 "But I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God."*

### Rebbetzin:

The traditional apparel for the wife of a Rabbi is a Tichel. Also included in the dress code is a blouse that covers the chest and sleeves that extend past the elbows. The last part of the apparel is a skirt that must go past the knees when seated. *Numbers 5:18 "After the priest has had the woman stand before the Lord, he shall loosen her hair and place in her hands the reminder-offering."*

*Numbers 12: 3 Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth."*



### Tibetan Buddhist Nun:

The traditional apparel for a Tibetan Buddhist Nun is a robe.

1. Shamtab - a maroon colored robe that goes around the waist.
2. Zen - a maroon shawl.
3. Donka - a maroon vest.
4. Meyog and Ngullen – are worn underneath the robe.
6. Kerag - a yellow belt

A fully ordained Nun has a second robe that is worn on special occasions called Namcha. This robe has 25 patches sewn in a particular pattern. Their heads are also shaved as a sign of simplicity. *Vinaya-pitaka:Section Khandhaka "the hair should be shaved at least every two months, or when the hair has grown to the length of two finger-widths."*



### Muslim:

The traditional apparel for a Muslim woman is a hijab. A veil that women wear when they are in public. The hijab is designed to cover their head and chest. They are required to dress modestly by covering everything except for their face, feet, and hands.

*Quran 24:31 "And tell the believing women to lower their gaze and to guard their private parts and not to show their adornments except that of it which normally shows. They shall cover their cleavage with their khimar (hijab)."*

[http://www.ethnicityonline.net/hindu\\_dress.htm](http://www.ethnicityonline.net/hindu_dress.htm) \*

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/01/08/what-is-appropriate-attire-for-women-in-muslim-countries/> \* <https://www.thoughtco.com/the-buddhas-robe-450083> \*

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/women-s-dress> \*

[http://www.kurskroot.com/orthodox\\_dress\\_code.htm](http://www.kurskroot.com/orthodox_dress_code.htm) \*

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+11%3A2-16&version=NIV>