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Seghosen in continuity and change: The pride of Owo kingdom in Yoruba land, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

Seghosen is an expensive traditional textile originating from Owo kingdom and it literally means “the cloth that takes all money”. This is because seghosen is uniquely made for a special occasion like wedding ceremonies, chieftaincies, kingship installation e.t.c. the wearer of the seghosen costume is usually a wealthy or highly placed individual; a lot of respect is accorded him because the textile is considered beyond the reach of common man. The focus of this paper is an exhibition review of the continuity and changes in Seghosen textile being showcased by the National Commission for museums and monument, owo, Nigeria to commemorate its 50TH anniversary of service delivery to the community and the country at large.

Keywords— *Seghosen, Continuity, Change, Pride, Kingdom*

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Commission for museums and monuments, Owo, Nigeria was agog with activities amidst celebration to mark the annual international museum day (IMD 2018) in conjunction with the 50TH anniversary of the establishment of a museum in Owo. It was indeed an epoch-making event spiced up with an exhibition on seghosen that lasted between 16TH-18TH may, 2018. Highlight of events was presence of executive Governor of Ondo state, her Excellency, Mrs. Betty Ayanwu Akeredolu who was accompanied by top government officials, traditional rulers' students and dignitaries from across the length and breadth of the state to witness and savor the lore and beauty of seghosen a unique indigenous hand woven textile of the people of Owo kingdom.

2. THE SEGHOSEN EXHIBITION

The exhibition was divided into three in order to entertain the visitors and allow them to grasp a full understanding of the exhibition flow.

2.1 The indigenous weaving technology section

The task and skills involved in weaving Seghosen in a broad loom are daunting and require a lot of calm and zest to produce quality textiles.

In time past, it was taboo for young girls to weave the seghosen because teenagers were believed not to have the required calm and patience in the delicate process of its production. The aim of restriction and taboos placed around the production of Sehghosen is to ensure the quality of the fabric meets the high standard it is accorded.

2.2 The sehosen textile section

In modern times, Youths have largely been allowed to be involved in the production process as times and processes have evolved. Older women who are weavers of seghosen today took years of diligent practice to master the painstaking weaving process of the seghosen.

2.3 Seghosen costume section

In recent times seghosen has evolved into a modern exportable commodity used to make fashion accessories such as bags, bags, shoes and even make up kits



Fig. 1: The process of weaving seghosen in a broad loom



Fig. 2: Youth involvement in the production of Seghosen



Fig. 3: Display of Seghosen bags, make-up kits and laptop bags

3. CONCLUSION

Seghosen textiles are expensive and unique because of its beautiful outlook and grandstand finish. The traditional hand-woven textile will continue to be accorded respect and highly valued by fashion lover because of the tremendous evolvement in time and space in the production of seghosen fabrics into an exportable commodity.

4. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX

Seghosen: Is an expensive traditional hand-woven textile which literally means "cloth that takes all the money".

Continuity: Lack of interruption or disconnection. The quality of being continuous in space or time.

Change: To make something into something different.

Pride: A person or thing that gives a feeling of pleasure or satisfaction.

Kingdom: An area that is controlled by a particular person or a place where a particular thing or idea is important