

Studien zur Materiellen Kultur

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Abstract

This article deals with different paradigms and shifts concerning the significance of woolen clothing in class and gender throughout the last centuries. With reference to respective historical developments and dealings with fabrics like cotton, linen and silk, the author outlines the varying progress of woolen attires – especially their conspicuous function in providing class distinction. In the limelight are also connotations of specific textile fabrics with masculine or feminine attributes which have been perpetuated over several decades. After illuminating the culture-historical aspects, this article clarifies the attributions woolen garments have been having in recent history.

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