Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

Arabian Women's Fashion Is Tradition, Diversity and Evolution

The clothing of women in Arab countries reflects a rich cultural heritage, religious influences, and a growing fusion with global trends. While many people associate Arab fashion with the hijab or abaya, the reality is far more diverse and fascinating.

Arab women's fashion is deeply influenced by Islam, which promotes modesty in dress. Concepts such as the hijab (veil) and "modest dressing" are central, but their interpretation varies by region and culture. Additionally, Bedouin traditions, Ottoman influences, and colonial dynamics have shaped styles throughout history.



Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

Traditional women's clothing in Arab countries includes a variety of garments with cultural and functional significance. The abaya, a long, loose garment, is common in Gulf countries like Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Veils, such as the hijab, niqab, and burka, vary in coverage and use depending on the cultural context. The kaftan, an elegant and versatile garment, is popular in Morocco and other Maghreb regions, while the thobe, though more associated with men, also has female versions in certain areas. These garments reflect the diversity and richness of Arab fashion.

As can be appreciated, women's clothing varies considerably in the different Arab countries. In Morocco, the kaftan and takchita take center stage at special events. In Egypt, the hijab is worn in colorful and stylish ways, while in Lebanon, a more Westernized fashion with traditional touches prevails. Meanwhile, in Saudi Arabia, recent social changes have allowed greater freedom in clothing choices.

Today, Arab fashion is an example of how tradition and modernity can coexist. For many Arab women, clothing is a way to express their identity, faith, and culture. Some choose to wear the hijab out of conviction, while others opt not to. Fashion has become a tool of empowerment, allowing women to blend tradition and modernity.

Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

Designers like Zuhair Murad and Elie Saab have brought Arab fashion to international runways, while influencers on social media showcase how to combine traditional garments with modern styles. In this regard, events like Dubai Fashion Week have put the region on the global fashion map.

Despite its richness, Arab fashion is often misunderstood in the West. Reductive stereotypes overlook the diversity and evolution of these styles. However, women's clothing from Arab countries is a world full of colors, textures and meanings. More than mere garments, they are expressions of identity, culture and resilience that continue to evolve over time.

Published by teleSUR 20 march, 2025

Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

Dominica Launches 'Kool Escapes' Campaign to Boost Adventure Tourism

Dominica is positioning itself as the go-to destination for adventure tourism this summer with the introduction of its 'Kool Escapes' campaign, launched by the Discover Dominica Authority. This strategic initiative aims to attract travelers from North America, the UK, the French West Indies, France, the Commonwealth, and nearby Caribbean nations by emphasizing nature-based and authentic experiences.



Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

According to Marva Williams, CEO of Discover Dominica Authority, “Dominica is an untapped gem just waiting to be discovered, and ‘Kool Escapes’ captures the true spirit of our island like never before.” She highlighted the diverse offerings, from thrilling aquatic adventures to tranquil rainforest retreats, positioning Dominica as the ultimate summer getaway for those seeking adventure and relaxation alike.

The campaign emphasizes the island’s aquatic attractions, including world-class diving sites, unique marine wildlife encounters, and serene freshwater experiences around its rivers and waterfalls. By focusing on these natural features, Dominica continues to strengthen its reputation as a preferred destination for eco-tourists and outdoor enthusiasts.

Industry experts have noted that Dominica’s initiative aligns with the rising demand for adventure tourism, a segment outpacing growth in other travel sectors. The island’s focus on unspoiled natural beauty and immersive experiences reflects the growing trend of travelers seeking alternatives to conventional resort-based vacations.

Dominica is setting the stage for a summer of exploration, promising a blend of adventure and authenticity that appeals to both thrill-seekers and those craving peaceful escapes.

Published by teleSUR 18 march, 2025

Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

The Majlis: One of the Symbols of Qatari Culture

Majlis, an integral space in Qatari society, serves as a communal venue where people gather to discuss pressing matters, akin to the salons of Western Europe.

Traditionally, majlis are designated as male-only spaces, while women hold their gatherings within the home. This unique room, located near the entrance of the house, ensures visitors avoid entering the private areas of the household. Guests are customarily welcomed with dates and served Arabic coffee in distinctive “dallah” coffee pots and handle-less small cups.



Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

Historically, the majlis was the most elaborately adorned room in the house and often the only one with windows facing the street.

Modest homes featured simple decor, including niches called “roshaneh,” whereas wealthier households embellished the majlis with stained glass, window curtains, or intricately carved plaster panels displaying symmetrical geometric patterns.

These cultural hubs represent not only architectural beauty but also the essence of community dialogue and hospitality in Qatari traditions.

Published by teleSUR 21 march, 2025

Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

Islamic Medicine: A Legacy of Knowledge and Innovation

Throughout history, the Islamic world has played a crucial role in shaping medical science. From the medieval hospitals of Baghdad to the groundbreaking surgical tools of Al-Andalus, Islamic medicine not only preserved ancient knowledge but also expanded the frontiers of medical practice.

In an era often overshadowed by the dominance of European narratives, it is essential to recognize the remarkable contributions of Muslim scholars, physicians, and scientists who laid the foundation for modern healthcare.



Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

The Legacy of Al-Andalus and the Abbasid Caliphate

During the Golden Age of Islam (8th to 14th centuries), the Islamic empire became a melting pot of knowledge, integrating Greek, Persian, and Indian medical traditions. Cities such as Baghdad, Cairo, and Córdoba emerged as major intellectual hubs where scholars worked to translate and enhance ancient medical texts. One of the most significant institutions of this period was the House of Wisdom (Bayt al-Hikma) in Baghdad, where Greek medical manuscripts were translated into Arabic, making them accessible to a wider audience.

One of the foremost figures of Islamic medicine was Abu Bakr al-Razi (Rhazes), an Iranian polymath who directed hospitals and wrote extensively on pharmacology, infectious diseases, and medical ethics. His works, such as “Kitab al-Hawi” (The Comprehensive Book), provided detailed observations on various diseases and treatments, many of which were used in European medical schools centuries later.

Pioneers of Surgery and Medical Practice

Another prominent name in Islamic medicine is Al-Zahrawi (Abulcasis), an Andalusian surgeon whose book, “Al-Tasrif,” remained the primary reference for European surgeons for over 500 years. He introduced over 200 surgical instruments, many of which are still used in modern medicine. His advancements in cauterization, suturing, and dental procedures showcased the high level of medical expertise developed in Al-Andalus.

Ibn Sina (Avicenna), often regarded as the “father of modern medicine,” compiled medical knowledge in his seminal work, “The Canon of Medicine.” This encyclopedia, used in both the Islamic world and Europe, systematically categorized diseases, their symptoms, and potential treatments. His emphasis on hygiene, diet, and mental health anticipated many principles of contemporary medicine.

Hospitals and Public Health Initiatives

Islamic civilization also pioneered the development of hospitals, known as “bimaristans,” which provided free healthcare to all citizens, regardless of social status or religion. These institutions were not only centers for treatment but also for medical education, where students learned through direct observation and practice.

The 13th-century hospital of Al-Mansur in Cairo and the Al-Qalawun Hospital, which could accommodate thousands of patients, set a precedent for modern hospitals with specialized wards, pharmacies, and systematic record-keeping. Additionally, Islamic physicians made crucial advancements in epidemiology, with figures like Ibn al-Khatib documenting the spread of the Black Death and advocating for early forms of quarantine.

The Influence on Western Medicine

The vast body of knowledge accumulated by Islamic scholars significantly influenced European medicine. During the Crusades and the subsequent Reconquista of Spain, translated Arabic medical texts were introduced to Europe, inspiring Renaissance scholars. The University of Salerno and the School of Montpellier, two of Europe’s earliest medical schools, incorporated Islamic teachings into their curricula.

Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

Despite this historical impact, many contributions of Islamic medicine remain overlooked in mainstream narratives. Recognizing the achievements of Muslim scientists and physicians is not merely an act of historical justice but a step toward understanding the interconnectedness of global scientific progress.

Preserving and Reviving the Islamic Medical Heritage

Today, as the world grapples with public health challenges, there is much to learn from the holistic and community-driven approach of medieval Islamic medicine. The emphasis on preventive care, medical ethics, and the integration of different cultural traditions serves as a reminder that knowledge transcends borders and ideologies.

By revisiting the rich history of Islamic medicine, we not only acknowledge a legacy of innovation but also foster a more inclusive appreciation of the diverse roots of modern science. As global health disparities persist, the collaborative spirit that once defined the Islamic medical tradition may hold valuable lessons for the future of healthcare worldwide.

Published by teleSUR 20 march, 2025

Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

24 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

Gabriel García Márquez in The Language of Scheherezade

The novel “One Hundred Years of Solitude” by Gabriel García Márquez has transcended borders and cultures, being translated into more than 49 languages, including Arabic.

The Arabic edition, entitled “مائة عام ن العزلة” (“Me’at ‘Aam min al-Uzlah”), has allowed the Arab world to access this masterpiece of magical realism.

The first translation of “One Hundred Years of Solitude” into this language was published in 1982, coinciding with the year in which García Márquez received the Nobel Prize for Literature. This version was made by the Egyptian translator Mohamed el-Hajj Khalil and published by the Lebanese publishing house Dar Al-Farabi.

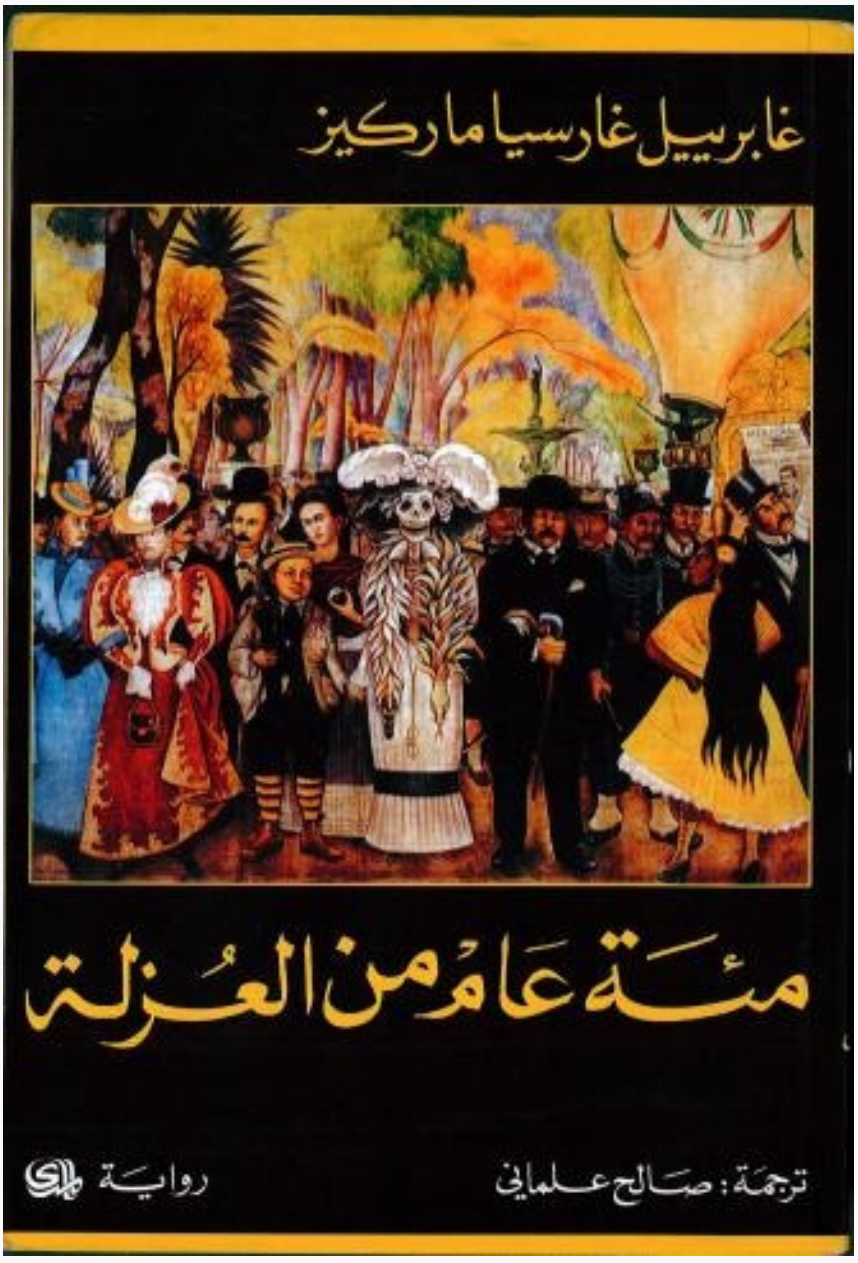
The boundaries between García Márquez’ magic realism and Arabic literature has been significant. According to Abir Abdelhafez, professor of Hispanic American literature at the University of Cairo, this influence is not recent and dates back to the time of Al-Ándalus, where there was a cultural intercalation that facilitated the acceptance of magic in Arabic narrative.

Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

17 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.



Newsletter

A vision of Latin America and the Caribbean countries

17 march 2025

Weekly Newsletter covering Latin America and the Caribbean issues. A Project between Green Zone Foundation and teleSUR.

In addition, collectors such as Jorge Iván Salazar have highlighted the importance of the Arabic edition of “One Hundred Years of Solitude” in their vast collection of the novel in multiple languages. Salazar has collected 379 editions in 48 different languages, including Arabic, reflecting the universality and global impact of García Márquez’s work.

The translation of a mythical novel by the Colombian writer and journalist into Arabic has been fundamental in bringing Latin American literature closer to the Arab world, two worlds geographically distant but close in human warmth, and evidencing the universality of the stories and emotions that García Márquez embodied in his work.

Published by teleSUR 20 march, 2025