

## Wearing white or black garment

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Why do most Muslim men wear white garments and most Muslim women wear black garments?

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0 It's not an Islamic obligation for men to wear white clothes or to wear black clothes for women. The Prophet approved wearing white clothes for men when he (May the blessing and peace of Allah be upon him), said: "The best garment amongst clothes is the white one, wear it and use it to enshroud your dead people" (1). Therefore, wearing this kind of clothes was just approved by the prophet but it is not an obligation on Muslims.

Wearing black garments is an old Persian female habit referred to sorrow and sadness for the death of Imam Hussein (prophet's grandson), and people of the prophet's family. That was their slogan in their wars when they wanted to take revenge for them.

This appeared clearly during the rule of the Abbassi era. They made black color their slogan when they wanted to destroy the Omayyad state. Their army had a majority of Persians under the leadership of Abu-Muslim Al-Khorasani who wanted to revenge for the death of people of the prophet's family.

They wore black uniforms and turbans, and this black color became the slogan of the Persian country (Iran). The Persians ruled some Islamic countries for long time. Their women considered wearing black garments a sign of respect and modesty although it has no origin in Islam.

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(1) Narrated by Ibn Majah after Ibn Abbaass.