

ACCESSORIES AND JEWELRY OF THE BERBER PEOPLE

Muqaddas Shaheen

JEWELRY IN CULTURE

- In Berber culture, jewelry has a symbolic and mythical meaning besides their practical and ornamental function, as they are used as charms and talismans to protect against evil spirits and influences. In addition, acquiring jewelry has an economic meaning
- An Amazigh woman's jewelry is her private property
- Berbers traditionally hand down jewelry from mother to daughter.

TIZERAIS

- Worn at the shoulder to affix a garment in place, these objects can be quite large and heavy
- Most Berber jewelry was made from silver, a material valued for its resemblance to the color white, which was often associated with purity and piety



TIKHRAZIN

- due to their large size, would have been supported by a chain attached to a diadem to alleviate the weight
- Depending on the class and the social standing of the wearer the materials of these would differ of the tikhrazin.



KHORAS KBACH

- *khoras* were suspended alongside the ear from a chain that was attached to another ornate jewel that was itself affixed to a diadem or a headscarf.
- Jewelry of this type was created in the cities of Fes, Tetouan, and Tangiers



TAOUNZA

- This was a headdress ornament.
- It was worn by women and signified the stature of the owner.
- This one is relatively simple , however one with gem stones were also worn.



TAZELAGHT

- This necklace is strung from amber beads, coin pendants and shells.
- It was believed amber had a protective quality.
- This necklace had always been a part of the dowry



OVER VIEW

- The Berbers have been a traditionally nomadic people and these silver bracelets, amulets, necklaces and colorful semi-precious stones and glass provide the women with a dowry. They alone own the jewelry they wear and can barter it for money or things they need to provide for their family.



AGADEVZ

- These pendants are traditionally native to the Touareg tribes a large Berber ethnic group.
- These pendants were mostly worn as a necklace and is said to be known as the southern cross
- The Agadez is mostly worn by women, combining the obvious decorative elements of the pendant with its symbolical use.
- Its form and its prevalence among the tribal womenfolk is very important and is held in high regards



This necklace was made of different metals but this specific necklace was made of Silver and many many gem stones ranging into many colours