

Fashion trends are always reflecting the social, economic, political and cultural environment of the society. The international instability, rising wave of non-understanding, intolerance and resentment are having a particular impact on the worlds shared living space. This is contrary to the time when cultures were connected and the spirit of dialogue based on knowledge, tolerance and desire for openness reigned. The dialogue is something we must undertake as partners, respectful of what we are, aware that we belong to worlds that are different but of equal dignity. No single culture has a monopoly of the universal, but looking beyond our differences, we share a common destiny.

The cultural heritage, traditions, skills, knowledge and shared values are all components in a designer's intercultural dialogue. One should be concerned about the gradual disappearance of traditional crafts in many parts of the world. Along with the democratisation of the fashion the traditional know-how has more or less been abandoned. Traditions within the areas of embroideries, fabrics and manufacturing have been kept alive during hundreds of years and there have been a reason for this. It is beautiful and it has a function.....