

DRESSING APPROPRIATELY

Dressing decently is the least one can do to show respect for a holy place. We even see notices kept outside fire-temples stating that visitors are required to dress decently. Sometimes, ladies do not dress with decorum. We see girls in shorts or pedal pushers though neither in an alarming number nor at an alarming frequency, I admit.

Some people feel that the clothes worn to the Agyari have to be simple and not rich. Here, moderation is important. Moderation is important in everything and is advocated by every religion.

We do not go to Agyari to show off. However, since we acquire all good things from Ahura Mazda, we may wear new clothes the first time to the Agyari or carry some newly acquired item, to thank Him. (Of course, 'new clothes' does not mean those that have just arrived from the tailor's.)

Sometime ago, there was a controversy whether Parsi ladies can wear a Punjabi suit in our religious places. Some people felt that it was not Parsi attire. Well, we consider a woman in sari as formally and decently dressed and sari isn't typical Parsi attire either. The only point to stress is that there should be no indecent exposure of one's anatomy. Pants or jeans seem to cover you properly yet, skin-hugging pants or jeans do not look appropriate in a holy place.