



Spinning

Other names: Cotton Spinning and Ginning

[Change Image](#)Domai
nTraditional Crafts
Textile

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND LOCATION

Community groups

Cotton growing and spinning was popular in the River Nile Basin areas. During the Blue Sultanate or Funj Sultanate, modern-day known as Sennar (1504-1910).

Turkish influence- introducing the Egyptian cotton growing and spinning techniques to produce clothing (1871-1873)

Practitioners

Practitioners included rural farmers, women in households, and workers in government-operated cotton schemes such as the Al Jazira Scheme.

Purpose / Use

Cotton was grown for making clothes, local textile production

Knowledge / Skills

Skills included cotton planting, irrigation, harvesting, ginning (removing seeds), spinning, and weaving. Techniques were passed down through generations and also introduced through Egyptian and British influences.

Transmission

Knowledge was passed orally through families and communities, especially from women to daughters.

Tools, Equipment, Services

Doolab al-ghazl (*Spinning wheel*): A hand-operated wheel used for spinning cotton into thread.

Makkook (*Shuttle*): A small wooden tool used in looms to carry the weft thread back and forth.

Nool (*Loom*): A frame or machine used for weaving threads into fabric.

Mighzal (*Drop spindle*): A simple handheld tool used for spinning by hand, especially in rural areas

HISTORY

Cotton growing and spinning started in Sudan in the 1800s during the Funj Sultanate, currently known as Sennar. The Spinning renaissance began when cotton was being grown in Al Jazeera state under the British ruling. The British developed the Port Sudan port and the railways for the cotton export. an internal railway system within the state was also developed to help transport the cotton from the fields to the ginning facilities to prepare it for spinning.

INTRODUCTION

Cotton growing and Spinning became popular in Sudan in the 1800s under the Turkish ruling. Where they wanted to increase decent clothes manufacturing to comply with Shari'a. The seeds were brought from Egypt and grew rapidly in Sudan. It was grown by households and farmers alike.

During the British ruling individual cotton growers were banned and instead big projects and farming schemes replaced them, they were owned by the ruling regime. The most popular scheme is Al Jazira scheme in AL Jazeera state.

Cultural Value:

Cotton cultivation is tied to identity, tradition, and community cooperation. It also reflects Sudanese history and cultural adaptation to external influences.

Associated Practices:

building of railways, ginning and new jobs creation for supporting services.

Cultural Expressions

Cotton fabric is also a central part of the bridal preparation (locally known as *sheela*), which includes bedsheets, embroidered fabrics, and other household textiles. This is especially common in central and northern Sudan

VIABILITY

Threats:

cotton growing, facilities being shut down, maintenance of facilities, skills drainage to more lucrative crops and trades.

The war can also have a negative impact on the agricultural field and the possibility of facilities being damaged.

Natural Resources used

Cotton

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