

ACCEPTABILITY OF ANKARA SUIT AS OFFICE WEAR AMONG STAFF OF OYO STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, IGBOORA

Ojetola, G.O., Busari S.O., Rasheed S.M., Ogunsola E.O. and Abu, J.O.
Department of Home and Rural Economics, Oyo State College of Agriculture and Technology, Igboora,
Corresponding Address,: ajanisusan@gmail.com

Abstract

The study assessed acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear among staff of Oyo State College of Agriculture and Technology (OYSCATECH), Igboora. Ankara fabrics were designed and sewn into male and female office suits and presented for acceptance of the staff. Two-stage sampling technique was used to select 60 respondents each from both academic and senior non-academic staffs as sample size. Data were collected through questionnaire and analysed using frequency counts, percentages while Chi-square was used to reveal the relationship that exist between respondents' gender, type of employment and the acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear. The findings showed that Ankara suit is not popular among OYSCATECH staff. Results from Chi-square analyses showed that gender ($\chi^2= 20.0108$, $p<0.05$) had significant relationship with acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear. This indicated that more females accepted the use of Ankara suit as office wear compared to the males. Hence, the study recommends that Home and Rural Economics Department should be encouraged to improve the production of Ankara suit to encourage the acceptability of the product by staff in the college and this will strengthening the internally generated revenue of the department and the Institution as a whole. This will also improve teaching and learning processes among the students in the department and makes it more vocationally inclined as a means to sustainability of employment.

Keywords: Ankara, fashion , office wear, suit dying technics

How to Cite: Ojetola, G. O., Busari S. O., Rasheed S. M., Ogunsola E. O. and Abu, J. O. (2025). Acceptability of ankara suit as office wear among staff of Oyo state college of agriculture and technology, Igboora. *OYSCATECH Journal of Management, Economics, and Communication Studies*, 3(1), 140-144. <https://oyscatechpublications.org/>

Introduction

Ankara is 100 percent cotton fabrics lightly woven in lain weave before different motifs and pattern were printed with various dyeing techniques using dye stuff that dry faster and easier to develop . Ankara has good strength; firm and smooth to touch and allows body heat to pass through (Ogunbiyi, 2020). It absorbs moisture quickly and dries faster; an ability that gives it a cooling effect and makes it ideal for African climate. Over the century, Ankara has been one of the dominant fabrics in the

fashion world especially in West Africa sub-region. Its wide acceptability and popularity is noticeable in all West African cities especially during social ceremonies, weddings, funerals, child naming ceremony, house warming etc. Asoebi is a Nigerian word which means clothes of the family” as family members, relatives and close friends usually dress up in uniformed attire for a special occasion (Ojediran, 2015). The most captivating about Ankara fabric is that it can be used to create various fashion styles including skirt or dress,

shoes, slippers, handbags, hats and suits. Another important merit of Ankara as reported by Ojediran, (2015) was that the fabric cuts across different socio-economic status. The acceptance caught across all works of life be it rich, the elites, celebrities, the poor, the middle class, the educated, the uneducated. Ankara always appeals to pocket and valued by most social classes. Ankara has various colours and designs that makes it more beautiful and acceptable. It is not surprising that many Nigerians gradually prefer to sew Ankara fabrics as office suit instead of the conventional English wear.. Years back Ankara was considered has clothing for the poor, the rich hardly ever wear it. The rich people sometimes wear it mainly for an occasion or event, and not because they desire to (Funmi, 2008). However, this idea has changed and it is now not only worn by the rich but had international popularity and styling. Ankara is now being made into beach shorts, pants, play suites, evening dresses among others. It is amazing to note how Nigerians, especially the females popularized variety of styles which is now obtainable using Ankara fabric in sewing both English and native styled dresses. Despite the increasing popularity and acceptability of Ankara in the fashion world, , the fabric is yet to be a popular office suit, many people still considered Ankara as a conventional cloth "Iro and Buba", Agbada and Sooro" worn only to some occasions like funeral, child naming and other informal occasion. However, Ankara is yet to be popular and acceptable by majority as office suit wears, and thus, a critical knowledge gap which this work set to fill using the following objectives to:

1. sew male and female office suits using Ankara
2. present the sown suits for possible acceptance of OYSCATECH staff
3. ascertain whether gender influences their acceptance of Ankara suit as office wear

4. find out whether type of office work (academic and non-teaching) influence the acceptance of Ankara suit as office wear

Methodology

The design of the study were combination of practical and survey methods. The survey was favored because the research aim to observe the popularity and acceptability of Ankara suit among OYSCATECH Staff without manipulation or control. . The practical method was appropriate as the researcher sewed two pairs of Ankara suit-male and a female office suits, the suit was presented for sampled OYSCATECH Staff's examination and comments. The population of the study were drawn from senior non-academic and academic staff of the Oyo State College of Agriculture and Technology 2015/2016 academic session. The number of academic staff was 205 while the number of senior non-academic staff were 184; totaling 389. .A multistage sampling technique was used in selecting respondents for the research. Stratified sampling was employed to divide OYSCATECH into 5 strata (i.e. schools) and the administrative block (both academic & senior non-teaching). 10 (150% of the total staff number) respondents were accidentally selected from each of the school and the administrative cum works department. The total number of questionnaire for the study was 60.0 13

Materials and Method for Production of Ankara Suits.

Materials	Quantity
Ankara (fabrics)	10 yard
Yarn	4 pieces
Button	4 pieces
Linen	6 yards
Stain	11/2
yards	
Elastic band	2 pairs
Zippers.	2 pairs

Preparation for Sewing Ankara Suits

Get the materials and equipment needed ready.
Cut into the desirable size and style as required by the clients.

Sewing of the Ankara suits by using sewing machine and select appropriate wool colour related to the texture.

Stitching of the finished suits by kneading raw edges.

Application edges finishing e.g. zipper.

Removal of unwanted attachment of yarn for neatness or stain to avoid dis-colouration.

Ironing and packaging of the produced suits.and

Result and Discussions

Table 1: Distribution of respondents' socio-economic characteristics (n=60)

Variable (%)	Frequency	Percentage
Gender		
Male	27	45
Female	33	55
Age (in years)		
18–25	0	0.00
26–35	22	33.7
36–50		
51–65	02	33
Mean 45		
Marital status		
Single		
Married	49	82

Educational Status

OND/NCE	03	05
HND/B.Sc.	26	43
MSc	31	52
PhD	00	00

Source: Researcher's survey, 2018

andTable one revealed the distribution of respondents' socio-economic characteristics. The result from table 1, revealed that 45% of the respondents were male while 55% of them were female. The table also indicated that 60% of the respondents were aged 36–50, 36.7% of the respondents were of age range 26–35; 3.3% of the respondents were of age range 50–65 while no respondent fell between age range of 18–25. The mean age is 45 years. This implied that the questionnaires were administered to matured people whose judgment regarding acceptability of wears can be reliable. The table also showed that majority (82%) of the respondents were married while only 18% were single. This indicated that respondents are family people who valued proper dressings. The table also revealed high literacy rate among the respondents with 52% of them having M.Sc. degree, 43% had B.Sc./HND degree and only 5% had OND/NCE certificates. This confirmed that the respondents are highly educated and more likely to give accurate interpretation and response to the questions raised.

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents' Acceptability of Ankara Suit as Office Wear

Variables	Acceptable		Not acceptable		
	Academic (%)		Non-Academic (%)		Total (%)
Gender					
Male	02 (3)	03 (5)	11 (18.5)	11 (18.5)	27 (45)
Female	22 (37)	11 (18)	00 (0)	00 (0)	33 (55)
Total.	24 (40)	14 (23)	11 (18.5)	11 (18.5)	60 (100)

Source: Researcher's survey, 2018

Table 2 revealed that 63% of the respondents liked and accepted the sewn Ankara suits as office wear while 37% neither liked nor

accepted the sewn Ankara suit as office wear. This inferred that 100 percent, are all females, while 55% of them liked and

accepted the sewn Ankara suit as office wears whereas only 8 percent of the male respondents liked and accepted the sewn Ankara as office wear.

This findings clearly revealed gender passion on preference for Ankara as office wear. The observation from the result by the female, supported the findings of Druesdow (2002), who affirmed that females are always at the forefront of fashion and modern trends in clothing. Thus, confirmed the influence of gender on styling preference.

Analysis of Test of Hypothesis the Hypothesis 1:

Null hypotheses (H.): There is no significant difference in acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear between male and female OYSCATECH staff.

Alternative hypotheses (H): There is significant difference in acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear between male and female OYSCATECH Staff.

Hypothesis 2:

Null hypotheses (H.): There is no significant difference in acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear between academic and senior nonteaching OYSCATECH staff.

Alternative hypotheses (H): There is significant difference in acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear between academic and senior nonteaching OYSCATECH Staff.

Table 3: Summary of chi-square (x2) analysis on relationship between selected socioeconomic characteristics of respondents and acceptability of Ankara suit.

Chi-Square (X) value (2-sided).	Decision	DfAsymp	sig
Gender	20.0108a.	9.	0.020.
Staff Category.	19.923.	6	0.03
Not Significant			

Source: Chi-square computation of responses, 2018

The hypotheses of the study were tested using chi-square method. Table 3 showed the analysis of chi-square distribution of responses computed using Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS). The tables revealed that significant difference exists in acceptability of Ankara as office wear between male and female OYSCATECH staff ($x=20.0108$) whereas there is no significant difference in acceptability of Ankara wears between academic and senior non-teaching OYSCATECH staff (0.8664) both at 0.05% significant level.

This finding revealed that the use of Ankara suit as alternative to English styled wears which is popular and acceptable to many especially among females compared to the males. The findings corroborated with the work of Okougha,2010) that majority of females accepted and now sewed Ankara fabric into English style (shirts and shorts); wearable to office.

Conclusion

Wearing of Ankara suit is yet to be popular among OYSCATECH staff. Specifically, the research confirmed significant acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear between the male and female staff of OYSCATECH. This means that there is non-popularity of Ankara suit office wear among OYSCATECH staff. Although, more females were found to like and accept Ankara as office wear than their male counterpart. However, there was no significant difference between the level of acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear between academic and the senior nonteaching OYSCATECH staffs. This means that acceptability of Ankara suit as office wear was not affected by the status of the staff (Academic or senior non teaching).

Recommendation

Based on the result of this findings ; it can be concluded that the Department of Home and Rural Economics of OYSCATECH should improve and intensify the production of

Ankara suit as a measure to increase internally generated revenue. Similarly, the production should be developed as vocational skill towards production of Ankara fabrics as alternative to English wear in the college with a means to making it a pivotal to sustainable employment for the graduate of the department.

References

- Antongiavanni, N. 2006. The Suit. A Machiavelian Approach to Female Style. Happer Collins Publisher, New York, ISBN 978-0-06-089186-2. TAS
- Anyakona and Okeke, 2004, D.L. and Okeke, A.T 2004. Folk and Fairly Tales: A Handbook Green Wood. On
- Bochike, 2007. What In Your Lapes, a Suitable Wardrobe Retrieved from Google 2018.
- Druesdow, J.L 2002. Female's Fashion Illustration from the Turn of Century, Mitche/CourverDoyer Publications. ISBN 978-0-486-26353-4
- Funmi, O.A 2008. Fashion Journalist and Author of Shopping for Vintage Article, page 15-20, British Vogue.
- Ogunbiyi, C.O. (1976). Home Management 2 Laundry Work 2nd Nigeria. Heinemann Education Books (Nig) Limited
- Ojediran, 2015. Eminently Suitable: The Element of Styles in Business Attires, the Hidden Craftsmen, ISBN 0-393-02871
- Okougha, O.H 2010. Assessment of Acceptability of African Fabric among Undergraduates. A Case Study of UNAAB, B.Sc. Project submitted to Department of Home Science and Management, UNAAB, Unpublished.
- Oyedele, A.M.T and Obisesan, B 2013. The Resurgence of Ankara Materials in Nigeria, Journal of Education and Practice. Vol4, No. 17, pp. 166-167.