



Dazzling in Drapes

Owing to its versatility, shalwar kameez in Eid have been a staple in the Bengali fashion trend for quite some time now. Whether you are going out for lunch with friends, visiting your relatives or having a formal dinner, different styles of shalwar kameez will make you look perfect for the occasion.

With Eid-ul-Adha only a few weeks away, fashion houses and fashionistas are getting ready to set the trend. The long, graciously draped kameez, raised to the height of popular fashion in recent times, is one of the attractions of this Eid.

Chondona Dewan of "Chondon" is keeping the dressy occasions and flowing dresses in mind. She is bringing in her latest designs in fabrics such as chiffon, georgette and velvet, all of which are famous for their gracious fall. The kameezes for evening events are sure to make you look elegant with your style flowing free in dress cuts.

Responding to our hot and humid environment, Maheen Khan, of Mayasir is going with cotton, silk and linen for her Eid repertoire. She is opting to bring in new dimensions to the shalwar kameez range. Khan feels that it is time to move on from traditional shalwar kameez sets and look at the kameez from a new perspective.

Considering that Bangali women are generally petite, Khan is willing to let the traditional ankle length dresses go. So, you might want to leave the anarkali and churidaar dresses, which are made for a taller built of the Mughal-e-Azam era and opt for new and interesting styles for the kameez.

While choosing a newer style for your Eid kameez, forget about the kameez for a moment. Look at other tops that are trending globally because, there is nothing called local fashion anymore. It is rather a fusion of international fashion with your touch of heritage that makes your style unique and appealing. So, choose a trendy cut for your kameez, which is long enough to go with the festivities and short enough to make it easy to move about. Khan is working with drapes, kaftans and ponchos for her latest designs.

Her suggestion is to pair the kameez with a diverse range of lower pieces such as pants and skirts. Khan's fashion house Mayasir already has single kameezes that you can mix and match with a touch of your own style.

The colour of your kameez should also go with the global trend as Khan said. According to her, gold, egg-yolk, white, blue, yellow and neutral colours will enjoy the limelight this season. Dewan's signature style is patches of colours on her dresses. The colours of the patches are going to be extra bright to go with the fun and festivities of Eid.

Now that you have the fabric, colour and cut of your shalwar kameez done for, it's time for the embellishments.

Dewan is accentuating her dresses with wooden, stone, and terracotta beads on velvet tops. She suggests metal jewellery with modern edges to go with the look. Khan is keeping it simple with appliqué, embroidery and laser print, focusing mainly on innovative cuts and designs for the kameez.

Simple, comfortable, and sophisticated designs are going to be on the top of Eid trends. So, when you are dressing for Eid, avoid being overdressed or too flashy. Wear a colour and fabric that suits the environment (already reminiscing blue in rain).

If the experts have taught us anything, do not be afraid to experiment with the designs. A touch of heritage with a modern look on your shalwar kameez is sure to make heads turn this Eid.

By Afsin Ahmed
Photo: Sazzad Ibne Sayed
Model: Hridi and Azim
Wardrobe: Chondon
Make up: Farzana Shakil

