

A hit among the younger crowd, the pant-style sari involves draping the sari over pants or leggings instead of the conventional petticoat. It's not only chic but offers ease of movement, making it a preferred choice for working professionals.

Furthermore, adding a belt to cinch the waist while wearing a sari is a trend that has gained immense popularity. It adds a modern twist, accentuates the waistline, and keeps the anchal in place, offering both style and functionality.

A new trend in town is the neck-drape style, which involves draping the anchal around the neck like a scarf. This style is not just trendy but also practical for those who are not comfortable managing a flowing anchal.

Lastly, the advent of pre-stitched saris is a boon for those who find the traditional draping process cumbersome. These ready-to-wear saris ensure the elegance of a perfectly draped sari without the hassle of pleating and pinning.

Reinvention of the blouse

The transformation of sari blouses over the years is equally noteworthy. Youngsters are nowadays reinventing the art of wearing a blouse – from crop tops, and off-shoulder blouses to jacket-style blouses – new trends are emerging now and then.

A popular trend is the use of crop tops

as blouses. These offer a youthful and chic look, pairing well with both traditional and modern saris. Peplum blouses, with their flared waists, add a Western twist and are often chosen for their flattering silhouette.

Additionally, incorporating elements from Western wear, jackets and capestyle blouses adds a unique layer to the sari. These styles range from embroidered ethnic jackets to sheer capes, offering both elegance and a touch of modernity.

Similar to jackets and cape-style blouses, off-shoulder and cold-shoulder blouses are now commonly paired with saris. These designs are particularly favoured by younger women and add a contemporary edge to the sari. The appeal of the sari is timeless, but that does not mean we cannot experiment with its draping. From Nivi to pant-style sari, many old trends are competing with the new ones. Yet, these styles, whether traditional or infused with modern elements, represent a rich cultural tapestry – along with the changing nature of fashion and the ability of the sari to evolve with time.

By Ayman Anika Photo: Adnan Rahman Model: Mashiat, Tabinda Styling: Sonia Yeasmin Isha Wardrobe: Kathgolap Mua: Piash

