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FROM DANDIYA TO DESIGN: NAVRATRI-INSPIRED KIDSWEAR FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

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ABSTRACT
The goal of this project is to create child clothes that are both comfortable and culturally appropriate for the Navratri celebration. The goal was to create celebratory clothing that would allow kids to move freely and stay safe by fusing traditional Indian aesthetics with contemporary utility. The research highlights how crucial it is to use lightweight, breathable, and soft materials that are appropriate for both dynamic movement and sensitive skin. In order to preserve both beauty and comfort, traditional embellishments like tassels, mirror work, and embroidery were reinvented using safer materials and simpler procedures. Because of their softness and environmental friendliness, materials like muslin, cotton, and light georgette were used. The study also emphasizes how important sustainable and kid-friendly design is becoming in modern fashion. Material selection, clothing construction, comfort testing, and data analysis using parental input were all part of the process. The findings indicate that when it comes to toddlers' festival attire, parents place a high value on comfort, security, and cultural authenticity. The study comes to the conclusion that integrating ergonomic principles with traditional design features not only improves usability but also fosters cultural appreciation at a young age and encourages sustainability in children's fashion.

KEYWORDS: *Navratri, toddler clothing, cultural fashion, traditional design, comfort wear, textile design, sustainable fashion, embroidery, mirror work, breathable fabric, children's wear, Garba, Dandiya, festive attire, Indian culture.*

1. INTRODUCTION

One of India's most popular holidays, Navratri honours Goddess Durga and her nine celestial forms, which stand for strength, bravery, and purity. The celebration, which takes place over nine nights and celebrates the victory of good over evil, includes rituals, prayers, fasting, and dancing. Every Indian region celebrates Navratri in a different style; West Bengal celebrates Durga Puja with grandeur, while Gujarat and Maharashtra are particularly well-known for their colourful Garba and Dandiya performances. Vijayadashami, which represents triumph, devotion, and rebirth, marks the festival's conclusion.

During Navratri, toddlers wear colourful traditional outfits reflecting each day's festive hue and Goddess Durga's nine forms. Girls wear vibrant Chaniya Cholis with mirror work, embroidery, and sequins, while boys wear kurta-pyjamas, Keiyo, or dhoti in bright shades. Soft fabrics like cotton, silk, or georgette ensure comfort and ease. Pom-poms, tassels, and embroidered borders add charm. Lightweight, non-restrictive designs keep toddlers cheerful and comfortable while enjoying Garba and Dandiya celebrations

2.. LITERATURE REVIEW

1]India celebrates Navratri as a symbol of Goddess Durga's might and the victory of good over evil. Traditional art forms like Garba and Dandiya are essential for expressing cultural identity and dedication during this holiday. Studies on the development of Dandiya demonstrate how this dance style has transcended its local origins while retaining its devotional core, signifying women's empowerment and solidarity (Parmar, 2019).

2] The traditional art forms of Gujarat, Bhavani and Garba, are examined in this essay with an emphasis on the difficulties they face in surviving in the face of modernity and cultural change. The study emphasizes the historical and cultural significance of Garba after it was added to UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list in 2023. It investigates their development, present situation, and the necessity of preserving these priceless cultural traditions using qualitative and exploratory methodologies, such as literature analysis and field interviews.

3]Archana (2020) highlighted that comfort, durability, and ease of dressing are important to both parents and kids when it comes to children's apparel design. According to her research, designers frequently adapt adult fashion trends for children, ignoring their particular ergonomic and safety requirements. This suggests a big gap in the creation of toddler-specific holiday clothing that combines fashion and functionality.

4]Additionally, Thevenoux (2014) investigated the effects of various clothing styles on toddlers' mobility. The study discovered that a child's walking speed and step length can be impacted by tight or restrictive clothing, indicating that comfort and motor development are directly impacted by fabric and fit selection. For designers who want to make clothing that is suitable for toddlers, this knowledge is essential.

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5] Cook explains how children's clothing evolved to become more child-centered and segmented. Before World War I, few factories produced children's apparel, and stores displayed it alongside adult goods. By the 1920s–1930s, dedicated children's departments emerged, divided by age and gender. Influenced by editors like George Earnshaw and childrearing advice, retailers recognized children's preferences, using segmentation to boost sales during the Depression while promoting individuality and developmental awareness in clothing choices.

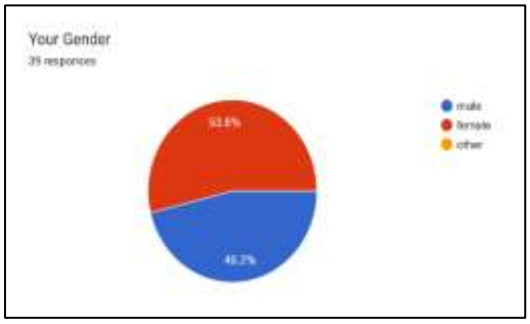
3. METHODOLOG

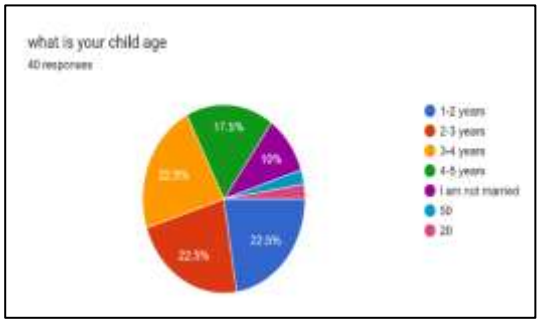
The primary objective of the project is to produce warm, festive child clothing for Navratri that blends personalization and practicality. Since most present garments are heavy or uncomfortable, the project's purpose is to produce lightweight, colorful clothing that guarantees safety and ease of motion. When buying fabrics, it's important to select breathable, skin-friendly materials like cotton and muslin. Using lightweight materials and simple silhouettes with elastic fastenings, traditional embellishments like mirror work, tassels, and embroidery are altered during the clothing manufacturing process. Data analysis evaluates comfort, durability, and aesthetic appeal using parental feedback and observation. Lastly, report writing summarizes the results, emphasizing how the designs provide festive, useful, and joyous Navratri-themed clothing by striking a balance between cultural aesthetics

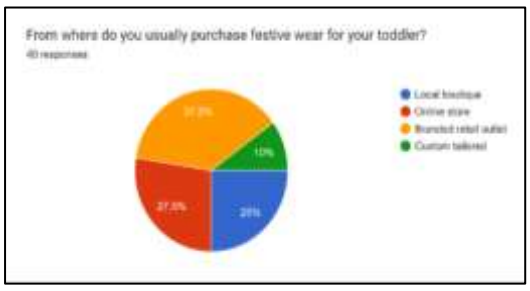
TASK	MONTH 1	MONTH 2	MONTH 3	MONTH 4	MONTH 5
LITRATURE REVIEW	✓	✓			
SAMPLE PREPARATION		✓			
GARMENT CONSTRUCTION			✓		
CONSUMER\ WEARER TRIALS			✓	✓	
DATA ANALYSIS				✓	
REPORT WRITTING				✓	✓

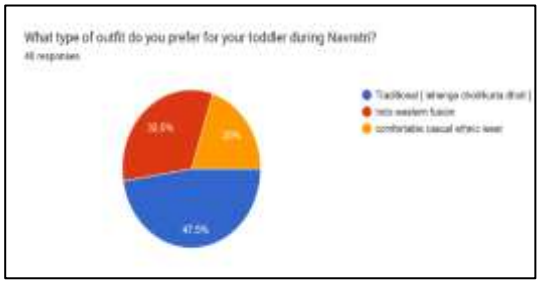
4. RESULT DISSCSSION

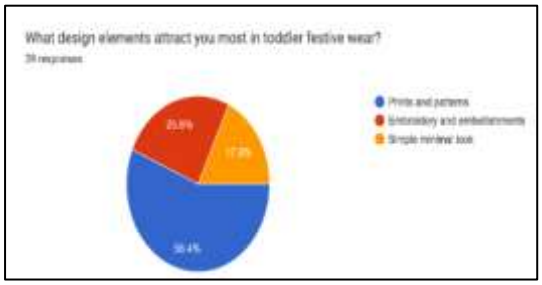
4.1 Survey Analysis

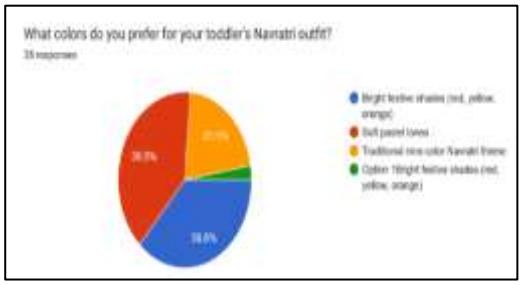




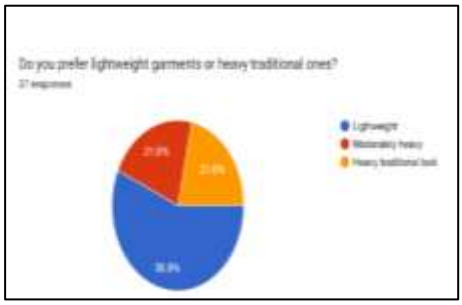


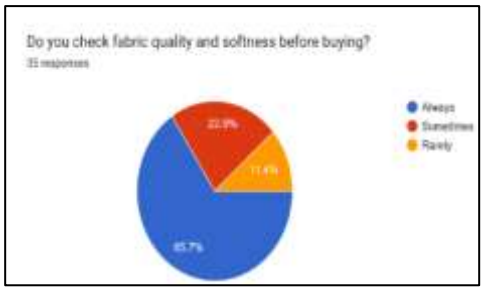


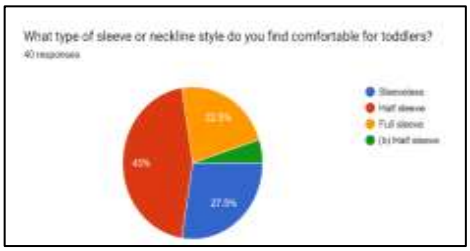


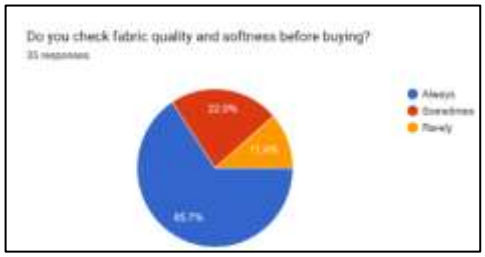


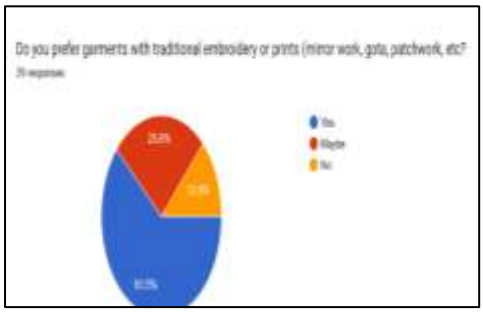
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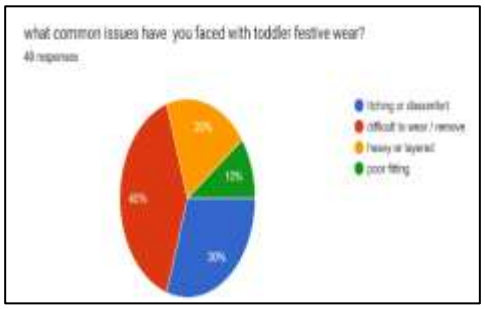


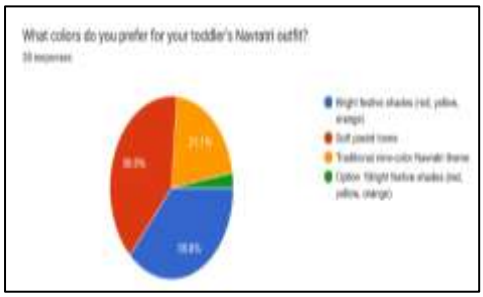


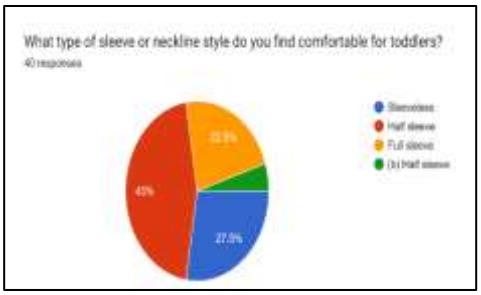


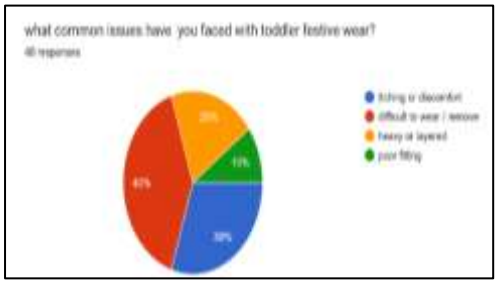


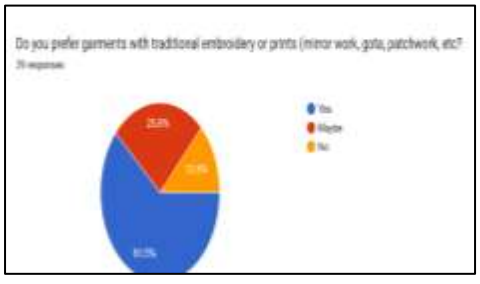


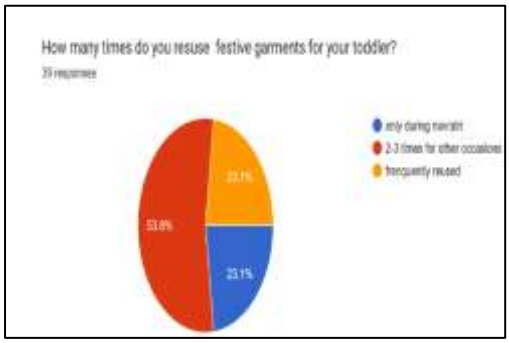


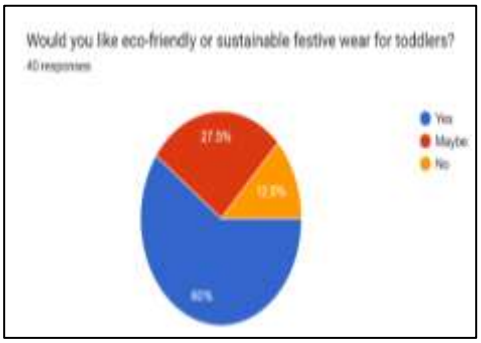




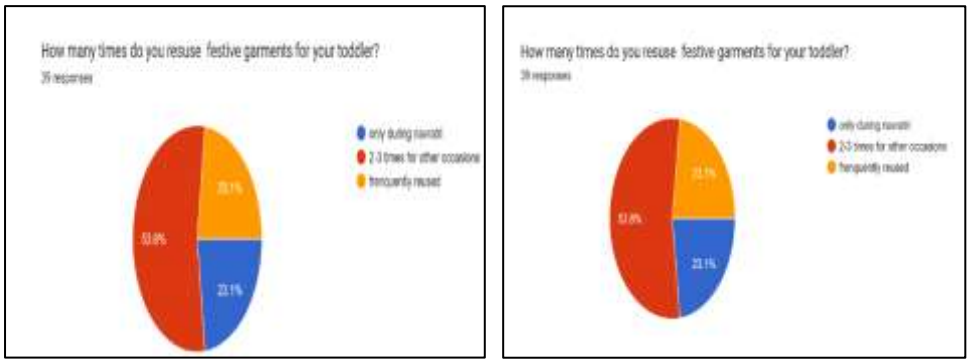








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According to the report, parents want their toddlers' Navratri attire to be cozy, vibrant, and culturally inspired. Lightweight materials featuring embroidered and mirror work, as well as cotton, were preferred. The results emphasize how crucial it is to combine comfort and tradition. The analysis backs the creation of festive yet practical clothing that reflects the joyous atmosphere of Navratri and permits effortless mobility.

4.2 DESIGN DEVELOPMENT



4.3 FLAT SKETCH



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5. CONCLUSION

The study comes to the conclusion that comfort and cultural aesthetics should be given equal weight when creating toddler clothes with a Navratri theme. Lightweight, airy materials like cotton and muslin can be used to imaginatively adapt traditional aspects like needlework, mirror work, and vivid colours. The creation effectively illustrates how festive apparel can be made kid-friendly, practical, and safe while maintaining the essence of Navratri. This fusion of history and functionality encourages children to appreciate culture at a young age and fosters creativity in childrenswear design.

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