

The Historical importance of jewellery

You must have heard the name of famous legendary queen Cleopatra. Even in those times the jewellery was there. Even in pre-historic period men were aware of how to look good and women were conscious of their beauty.

This historical fact has been underscored in excavations of ancient sites. Various archeological excavations have provided enough proof of it. Heavy and bulky jewellery pieces made of stones have been discovered from the remains. This proves that man has always strived to look good and attractive.

What is noteworthy is the fact that stone-age man had not developed implements. Man used to live in caves. Stones were used for hunting and saving oneself from animals. Naturally it required a lot of time and labour to give a desired shape to any stone. But this arduous task was undertaken to prepare something that could be used for ornamental purposes.

Some ornaments of that time made from animal bones are also found. As man used to hunt for his food, he found the bones of the animals hard enough to put to some use. It too must have been very difficult task. The pre-historic people merely depended on stones and heavy shells for making jewellery.

Later, ancient Greeks and Egyptians became famous for making jewellery. The stone and shell jewellery was very much in vogue during those periods. Gold was the most famous metal used during these times for making jewellery. Most probably, the ornaments on dresses were also in trend for very high class. Gold beads are a famous item of those times and were very popular among women of that age. The land of Egyptian Pharaohs was known for making magnificent necklaces, bracelets, anklets and other jewellery items too.

Even 3000 years ago, people knew how to groom themselves and how to differentiate themselves. The rich ornaments were worn by high class people. The rings are even named after the famous and intelligent queen Cleopatra. The Egyptian jewellery is even branded with the name and style engraved on it. There is a rope around the ring and the name of famous Egyptian queen or king is put inside the ring rope.

In excavations of later civilisations use of pearls and sea-shells is also found. Pearls were a craze for the rich and the powerful. Man had by that time developed various implements. They were used for development of arms and armour. Many evidences of use of gold jewellery during Roman Empire have been found. The use of gold jewellery was limited to the ruling classes. The people of poor and middle classes could not afford it.

During the period of Roman Empire, Maurya dynasty was ruling in India. History tells us about the attack of Alexander on India. At that time gold ornaments were very much in use in India. But, here too the picture was not very different from Rome. For the common people use of gold ornaments was not possible, or only exceptionally possible. These ornaments were limited to the rich and powerful.

About the Author

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