

Tumerica: Tie dye research project

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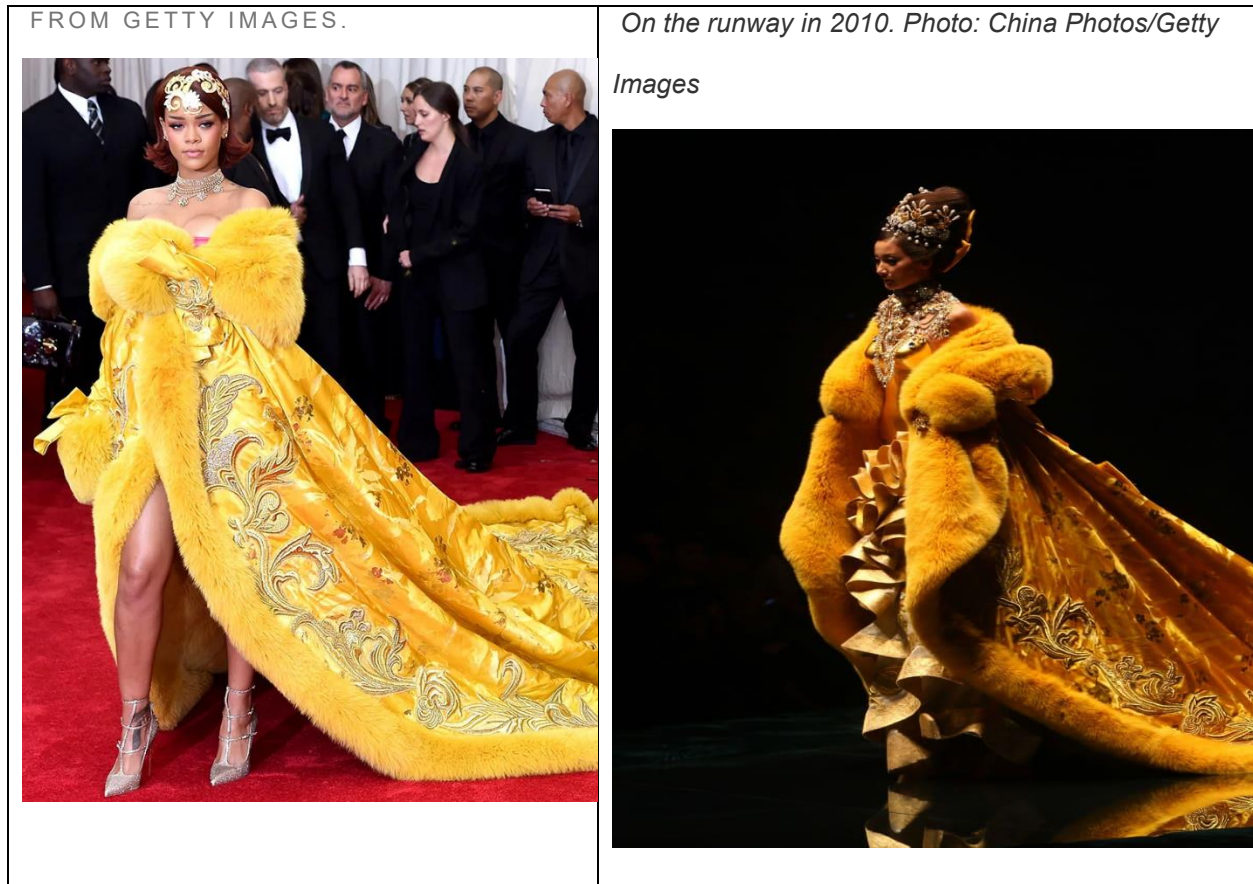
- **Introduction**

The color yellow is associated with many moods and tones depending on the way it is used. Many times, it is used in bright and happy moods but can also be associated with deceit and cowardice. According to Britannica “Pigments for yellow have come from yellow ochre, lead tin oxide, the mineral orpiment from arsenic sulfide, and artificial chemical compounds. Turmeric is just one natural substance that can be used to naturally dye objects yellow. There are steps to follow for maximum result in this process. We must understand the history of the natural substance we are using and color variations.

- **History**

Turmeric is a plant that was discovered in 2500 BCE, from then they have examined its many natural properties which is used in medicine and textiles. Turmeric was first used in south Asia and reached many other parts of the world like China, Africa, and Jamaica. Because of its affordability Turmeric was used often to dye fabric different hues of yellow. When the right products are added like pomegranate rind and baking soda and lime juice you can expect a vibrant yellow that lasts you more washes if those substances aren't used. Turmeric is not only used to produce yellow dye, but also often mixed with different mordants to produce colors like orange, green, brown, blue and red. Yellow has been used in the oldest cave paintings back in ancient Egypt and Rome for religious symbolism.

- **Color in fashion**



- Think of your favorite color. What mood/feeling does it represent?

My favorite color is royal blue which represents authority, trust, and confidence.

- What is your favorite garment? Is it your favorite color?

My Favorite garment is a vintage Milano sweater in the color teal blue. I don't find myself wearing my favorite color I wear a lot of green or brown clothing. I don't shop based on my favorite color; I like to select bold pieces when shopping.

- What associations does this garment hold for you?

The Milano sweater was thrifted, I found it at my favorite thrift store. The owner and I have a good relationship and he pointed it out to me from his private collection.

- Do you dress the way you feel?

I dress for the occasion while sticking to my style. I don't like to dress the same, if I am going somewhere I like to dress to fit the scenery.

- Is there a role model (celebrity or person you know) whose color style you admire?

Rihanna is my biggest fashion inspiration; she is bold and unapologetically herself. She expresses her femininity and her emotions through fashion.

- Does that affect your fashion choices?

Whenever I want to wear something that I think I will be stared at I channel my inner RIRI, it's the biggest confidence booster!

MATERIALS

1

1 POT/BOWL

- USED TO BOIL/ MIX IN TURMERIC AND CLOTH

WOODEN/RUBBER SPOON AND TEASPOON

- USED TO MEASURE SALT AND TURMERIC

2

3

100% COTTON FABRIC

- TEXTILE USED TO DEMONSTRATE NATURAL DYE PROCESS

100% TURMERIC POWDER

- USED TO BRING OUT YELLOW TONES AND DYE FABRIC

4

5

MORTON IODIZED SALT MORDANT USED TO PREPARE FABRIC

DISTILLED WHITE VINEGAR 5% ACIDITY

- MORDANT USED TO PREPARE FABRIC

6

7

RUBBER-BANDS-BLACK USED TO CREATE TIE DYE PATTERN

PROCESS TO

Dyeing fabric with Turmeric



MORTON IODIZED SALT

Add 4 teaspoons of salt to 2.5 cups of water to prepare fabric before dyeing.

DISTILLED VINEGAR

Add 4 teaspoons of vinegar to 2.5 cups of water to prepare fabric before dyeing.



MIX

Mix both the salt and the vinegar together



BOIL

Bring water into boil and turned off the heat and let fabric sit for 1 hour



PROCESS TO

Dyeing fabric with Turmeric



FABRIC PREPARED

after mixing the fabric in the mordant for 1 hour. prepare the turmeric mixture.

TURMERIC

Add 1/2 cup of turmeric to 2.5 cups of water. let it boil and simmer for 1 hour.



TYE DYE

Tye rubber bands all over the cloth

MIX CLOTH AND TURMERIC

Mix the cloth and turmeric together.



Results: Rinsing cloth process



- **Findings**

Turmeric is a very powerful spice I usually use for cooking or natural medicine remedies. Using it to dye fabric was an interesting process. The smell of turmeric was all over the house, I had to crack open a window. I expected the powder to dissolve and disappear in the boiling water but there was powder residue all over the pot. I thought the dye was going to happen automatically but that wasn't the case, I let the cloth sit in the pot for 6 hours and was nervous

that the color didn't transfer through the fabric. When the fabric is wet it looks light yellow but when it dries the fabric is bright yellow.



WET Fabric



DRY Fabric

- **Conclusion**

I did this process two times with different natural dyes, the first one was with black berries. I made some mistakes with the dyeing processes; my first mistake was only adding salt to warm water and not vinegar and salt to boiling water. I left the cloth in the dye for 2 days before boiling to cloth in the dye the rubber bands melt off causing no tie dye effect. The purple color that I was expecting from the black berries did not transfer very well. With turmeric I repeated the same process but made sure I prepared the fabric correctly (it's a very important process I learned to dye fabric). I did boil the fabric in mixture, but the heat was very low do not all the rubber bands melt off and I was able to see the tie dye effect.

Citation

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