العرب أمة سحرية

FASHION

BALANCE Created by taking the ghutra at symmetrical lengths on the shoulders and then throwing the ends over the head to create the shape of a scale when viewed from the front

MISSAR A hat worn by Omanis, unlike the ghutra found in the rest of the GCC, embroidered with colourful patterns and personalised details

BUTTERFLY An easy, elegant and flexible look allowing for free movement of the neck, unlike some of the more complex, starched designs

Kuwaiti

Kuwaiti kanduras, noted for their use of high quality material, feature a one button collar with a slim fit

Omani

Omani kanduras are collarless with short loose tassles attached just above the breast. Often colourful

Bahraini

Bahraini kanduras are loose fitting with a soft shirt collar. They feature occasional details like shirt pockets

Know your thobe

Play spot-the-GCC-National with our handy guide

ILLUSTRATOR — Liz Ramos-Prado

CORDA Heavily starched and stiff to achieve this imposing look, inspired by the voluminous snake

TEACHERS Over the shoulders, easy to achieve – a common choice for teachers

BINT AL BARKAH Tough to master but a great look Complemented here with a red and white checkered ghutra

Qatari

The material of a Qatari kandura is often shiny and occasionally has a long and stiff tassle or shirt pocket

Emirati

Emirati kanduras have no collar. They have a long loose tassle and matching embroidery on the sleeves

Saudi

Saudi kanduras are tight fit with a two button collar with shirt sleeves made to have cufflinks

FASHION

EMBROIDERY The patterns on the chest, sleeves, sides and back are structured in very specific ways and vary depending on the town or area of Palestine the dress was made

ASBA The headscarf is wrapped around and tied at the back of the head like a wheel, then folded over the front to create a decorative drape

SHAWLA Traditionally made from very sheer lightweight material, the black shayla affords modesty but is practical in the high temperatures of the desert

Palestinian

The traditional cross-stitched and heavily embroidered dress is worn to mark special occasions

Jordanian

The Jordanian kaftan has detailed patterns on the neck, sleeves and hem but not down the centre

Khaleeji

Most nationals from the Gulf wear loose-fitting black abayas, sometimes with subtle decoration

Know your thobe

Spot the difference between the region's women with our handy guide

ILLUSTRATOR — Liz Ramos-Prado

CHADRI This face-veil covers the entire head except for the eyes, which are covered by a net

ISLAH Long buttoned overcoats are often slim-fit to provide covering as well as style

JALABIYA The full-length hooded garment also has belt strings to tie at the back to give the option of adding more shape

Afghani

Blue is the most common colour for the full body covering worn almost exclusively in Afghanistan

Turkish

In Turkey colourful silken scarves tied beneath the chin are usually worn with the jilbab

Moroccan

The robe with pointed hood can be made to be ornate and formal or kept comfortable and casual