

Somali Cultural Products, Practices and Perspectives



Essential Question

How do Somali cultural products, practices, and perspectives reflect the values and identity of the Somali people throughout history?

Learning Target



I can investigate, explain, and reflect on the connections between Somali cultural products, practices, and perspectives.



Women's Dress in Somali Culture

Some traditional garments include:

- **Hijab:** A headscarf worn for modesty.
- **Dira:** A long, flowing dress often worn on special occasions.
- **Goono:** A traditional wrap or shawl.
- **Shaash:** A type of garment that can be draped in various styles.
- **Hagoog:** A form of outerwear or cloak.
- **Saako:** A traditional skirt or bottom garment.
- **Garbisaar:** A decorative shawl or scarf.
- **Guntiino:** A versatile piece of clothing worn in different styles.
- **Garees:** A type of traditional dress.
- **Abayad:** A garment often associated with formal occasions.



Traditional attire for Somali men...

- **Shaati:** A collared shirt, often worn casually or for special occasions.
- **Surwaal:** Loose-fitting trousers, typically worn with a shirt.
- **Macawus:** A long, flowing garment worn by Somali men.
- **Khamiis:** A traditional long shirt, commonly worn for traditional and religious occasions
- **Koofiyad:** A cap, usually worn as part of formal attire.
- **Shaal:** A shawl or scarf, often used for both warmth and style.
- **Bilaabo:** A traditional knife used for defence and slaughtering animals.
- **Gaashaan:** A traditional shield.

Small Group Assignment

Task: Explore Somali cultural products through the Somali Museum website.

1. **Visit the Website:** Go to [Somali Museum](#), click on "Explore the Collection," and then select "Nomadic Artifacts."
2. **Identify Cultural Elements:**
 - Write down examples of cultural products, practices, and perspectives.
 - Choose at least three from each category and explain how the 3 P's (products, practices, perspectives) are related.
3. **Include an Image:**
 - Find an image for each cultural element identified.
 - You can send me the images you'd like to use, or you can create your own drawing for extra credit.

Tangible products of Somali Culture









Non-Tangible Products of Somali Culture

- **Artistic Expressions:**

- Poems
- Songs
- Drama
- Dances

- **Social Constructs:**

- Social Status
- Roles
- Prestige
- Greetings

- **Values and Traditions:**

- Respect
- Family & Kinship
- Funerals
- Rituals

- **Community Practices:**

- Community Structure
- Bereavement and Grief
- Medical Practices
- Circumcision

Extra Credit

Create your own drawing of one of the cultural artifacts or practices. This will enhance your understanding and engagement with Somali culture.

Reminder: Ensure your explanations connect the cultural products, practices, and perspectives to showcase their interrelationship.

