

Gupta Dynasty
(sculpture/relief)



Sati in India





Women in Islam

Niqab

A veil covering the head and face, but not the eyes, usually worn with a loose black garment (abaya) that covers from head to feet.



Hijab

A general term meaning 'to cover' or 'veil', most commonly refers to a headscarf that covers the hair and neck, but not the face.



Burka

A veil that covers the entire body and face, with a mesh window or grille across the eyes for a woman to see out of.



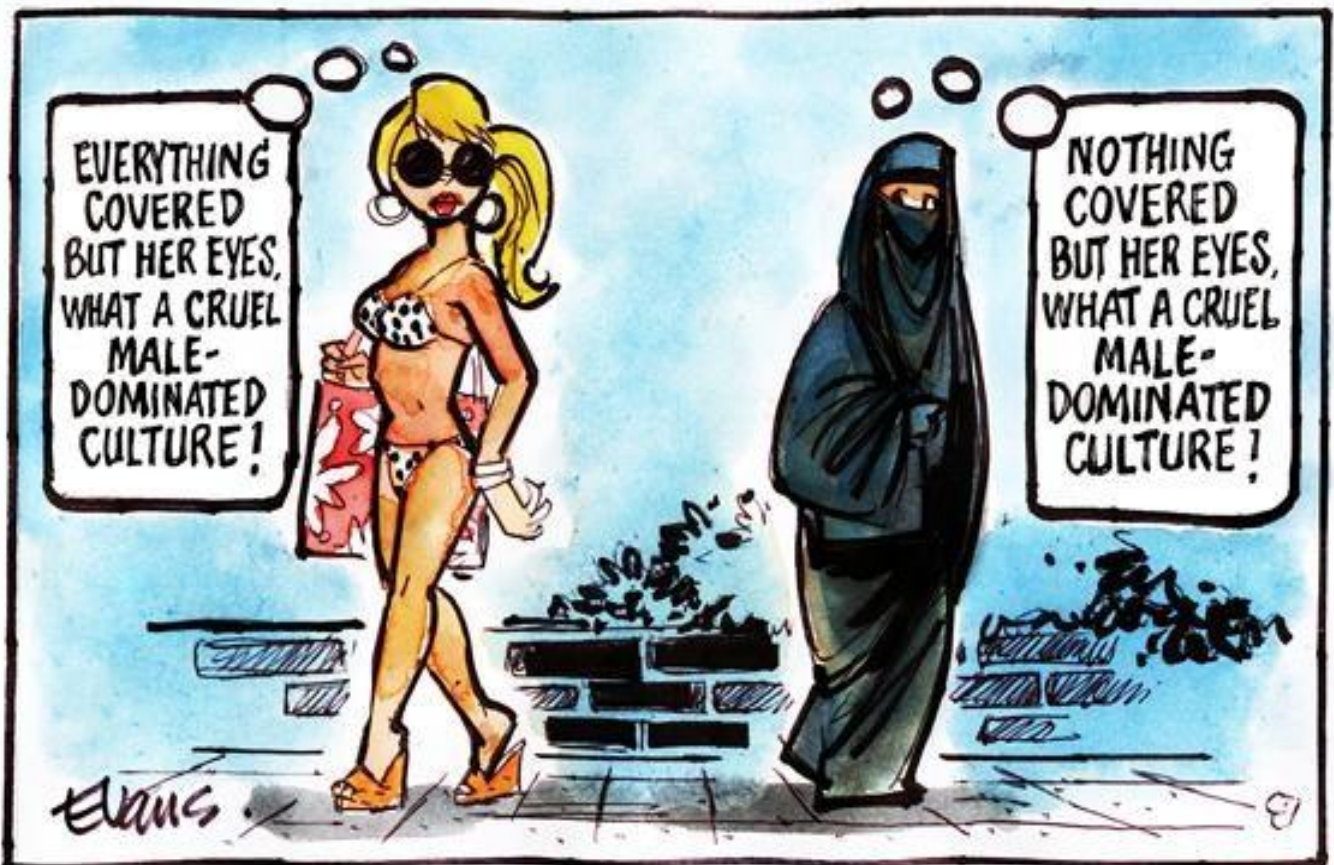
Chador

A full-length cloak worn by many Iranian women, typically held closed at the front by the wearer's hands or under their arms.



Dupatta

A long scarf loosely draped across the head and shoulders, common in south Asia and often paired with matching garments.



Women in China

Ancient Chinese foot binding

The custom of binding feet was said to have been adopted by courtesans after a Tang Dynasty emperor 1,000 years ago fell for a concubine who wrapped her tiny feet in silk when she danced

Facts:

- ▶ In ancient Chinese culture, bound foot is known as **symbol of identity and status**
- ▶ Purpose is to **restrict growth of foot** (ideal length is between 2-4 inches)
- ▶ Painful process begins when a girl is between 3-11 years old

Known process:

- 1 Foot is soaked in warm water and massaged, toenails are trimmed
- 2 Four smaller toes are cracked then bent toward ball of foot
Big toe is not bent to provide balance
- 3 Bandage (10 ft x 2 in) is wrapped around bent toes, pulled tightly to heel
- 4 Every two days, bandage is removed and rebound, goes on for 2-3 years

Foot binding could result in infections, blood poisoning and even death

Girls with bound feet walk on **Lotus shoes** (Usually 3 inches long)



Source: AFP/Getty Images/UCLA

