

Dressing for Diversity

"As the body of man needeth a garment to clothe it, so the body of mankind must needs be adorned with the mantle of justice and wisdom." —Bahá'u'lláh

Whether you live in a chilly northern climate or a hot desert land, what you wear is a vital part of your daily life. Your clothes help protect you from sun, wind, and cold. They may also show something about your culture or religion.

Like diverse clothing, people's beliefs and ways of life vary from place to place. Honoring and respecting these differences is important to building

unity and justice. When people make unfair judgments about those who look or dress differently, that's **prejudice**. If it leads to bullying or other unjust treatment, that's **discrimination**.

We may wear different garments, but we're all human. No matter where we're from or what kind of clothing we choose, everyone has the right to live in peace.

Each of these kids is giving a clue about where they're from. Write each kid's number next to the name of their country.

1 MY ISLAND COUNTRY IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN HAS TROPICAL WEATHER. WE WEAR A COMFORTABLE WRAP CALLED A LAVA-LAVA.

2 IN CASABLANCA, MY CITY IN NORTH AFRICA, SOME MUSLIM WOMEN AND GIRLS CHOOSE TO WEAR THE HIJAB, OR HEADSCARF, FOR MODESTY.

3 MY SHIRT AND PANTS, CALLED KURTA AND PAJAMA, ARE MADE OF COTTON OR SILK IN SUMMER AND WOOL OR HEAVY SILK IN WINTER. I SPEAK HINDI.

4 JAMBO! MY DRESS IS MADE FROM KANGA, A LARGE RECTANGULAR CLOTH WITH BOLD DESIGNS. KANGA OFTEN HAVE SAYINGS OR BLESSINGS IN SWAHILI.

5 THE PLAID PATTERN, OR TARTAN, OF MY KILT CAN INDICATE WHAT REGION OR CLAN I BELONG TO. BAGPIPE MUSIC IS POPULAR IN MY COUNTRY.

6 HOLA! THE DESIGN OF MY MAYAN HUIPIL TELLS ABOUT MY VILLAGE AND MY BELIEFS. MY COUNTRY BORDERS MEXICO.

7 A JINGLE DRESS CAN HAVE HUNDREDS OF JINGLES AND CAN BE USED FOR A HEALING DANCE. MY OJIBWE TRIBE LIVES NEAR LAKE SUPERIOR.

