



## A Brief Analysis of the Craftsmanship and Dressing Characteristics of the Derung Traditional Costumes

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### Abstract

**Background and Aim:** The Derung people, recognized as the smallest ethnic minority within the 25 aboriginal ethnic groups in Yunnan Province, are distinct for their traditional costumes, religious beliefs, cultural customs, and aesthetic characteristics. Transitioning directly from a primitive society to a socialist society with the establishment of New China, the Derung encountered Han culture. A notable aspect of their culture is the absence of a written language, relying instead on oral transmission for cultural inheritance. This has contributed to the gradual disappearance of Derung traditional clothing culture. On December 27, 2022, the skill of making Derung blankets was acknowledged as part of the fifth batch of provincial intangible cultural heritage representative projects in Yunnan Province. This article delves into the exploration of Derung traditional costumes, focusing particularly on the Derung blanket, to analyze its production, color, and shape structure, thereby understanding the evolution of Derung clothing technology, as well as the artistic and cultural significance of its structure and wearing form.

**Materials and Methods:** Employing a literature review method, this study gathers graphic and textual materials pertinent to the Derung blanket, achieving a preliminary understanding of the origin and development status of Derung traditional clothing. Additionally, it utilizes empirical research methods to further investigate the Derung blanket, examining its unique wearing method, shape, and color features, which highlight its distinctiveness, deep cultural connotation, and the unique aesthetic orientation of the Derung people from primitive society to the present.

**Results:** The research finds that the materials used in Derung blanket production are simple, with the colors being chosen by the women, rendering each blanket unique. The structure and wearing form of the Derung blanket align with the characteristics of one-piece, unstructured clothing, preserving the legacy of the original "one-piece style" structure. This exploration and analysis provide theoretical support for further studies on the inheritance and development of Derung traditional clothing, suggesting the potential to leverage modern clothing development trends and concepts, innovations in design methods, and advancements in process technology and materials for the continuous development of the Derung people.

**Conclusion:** This comprehensive investigation into the Derung blanket not only offers a foundational understanding of Derung traditional clothing's current state and origins but also underscores the importance of cultural preservation and innovation. By integrating modern trends and technologies with traditional practices, there's a promising pathway towards revitalizing the traditional clothing culture of the Derung people, ensuring its survival and relevance in contemporary society.

**Keywords:** Derung Blanket; Craft Production; Wearing Form

### Introduction

The Derung people mainly live in Lisu and Nu Autonomous County and Gongshan Derung and Nu Autonomous County in the northwest of Yunnan Province, where the location is remote and the transportation is closed, and the people's life and dress form still retain the primitive traces. Before the establishment of New China, the Derung people had not had any good contact with the outside world, and their dressing style and materials were kept the primitive way. Costume is a vivid example of the cultural inheritance and development of an ethnic group, and it positively reflects the aesthetic concept and lifestyle of the ethnic group. As one of the oldest surviving costumes of ethnic minorities in China, the Derung costume, after the founding of New China, has been invaded by a large number of "foreign cultures", which has drastically reduced the costume resources of this ethnic group, and the value of the costume has been greatly damaged by a great decline in the sense of their own cultural identity, (Zhu & Liang, 2016). and it is reasonable to take certain measures to protect and pass on the costume.

The most common and unique part of the Derung traditional clothing is a rectangular cotton and linen blanket, which is called the "Derung blanket" by the local people. Since the introduction of textile





technology to the Derung people, the Derung people have started to use machines to weave and dye hemp blankets. Derung blankets have always been the only source of clothing for the Derung people. The blankets are draped over the body, wrapped around the left and the right, and the hemp blankets are tightly attached to the body as if they were a well-fitting suit, which is a typical feature of the early days of unstructured forms of clothing. The Derung blanket is mainly structured in one piece, the human body as the main body, clothing contour and the human form have produced the closest connection, the form of clothing depends on the occasion of wearing, with "one garment for multiple wear" function and characteristics, mainly focus on the two functions of covering up, avoiding the cold. With the development of the economy and culture, the Derung people are no longer wearing traditional Derung clothing, and only a very small number of elders will hang and wrap a Derung blanket around the outermost layer of their clothing.

As the main traditional costume of the Derung people, the "Derung blanket" represents the aesthetic orientation of the Derung people, is an important product in the process of the cultural and historical development of the Derung people, and is closely connected with the life, beliefs and spiritual feelings of the Derung people. In the process of researching the Derung traditional costumes, it is found that the Derung costumes are of great significance both in terms of the structure of the costumes and the form of wearing them, The "one-piece", "unstructured form", and "one garment for multiple wears" design saves a lot of fabric cutting and wasting, which is in line with the concept of sustainable development of fashion, however, with the invasion and influence of Han culture, the "one-piece" and "unstructured" clothing structure and wearing a form of the Derung blankets have been "abandoned" by the Derung people. In-depth study of Derung traditional costumes helps us to better understand the connotation and value of Derung costumes, to follow the new trends and concepts of costume development in the context of the new era, to provide directions and ideas for the sustainable development of Derung costumes, to effectively protect and develop the Derung traditional costume culture, and to prevent the gradual extinction of the Derung costumes.

### Objectives

1. To study the production process and materials used in Derung blankets in different periods.
2. To study the color classification of Derung blankets.
3. To study the structure and wearing forms of Derung blankets.

### Literature Review

With the deepening of reform and opening up, a large number of new ideas and new policies have gradually been integrated into the development of the traditional culture of the Blankets people. The strong support of the government has enabled the blankets people's economy to develop rapidly and people's living standards to significantly improve. However, modern concepts and external temptations have put the blankets of people's traditional culture in danger of extinction. Zhu Qiong and Liang Zenghua mentioned in their research that even though Yunnan Province has promulgated a series of regulations on the protection of ethnic minorities in response to the crisis of the impending disappearance of the blankets traditional culture, such as the "Regulations on the Protection of Ethnic and Folk Traditional Culture of Yunnan Province", they only treat the symptoms but not the root cause. , has not fundamentally solved the problem that the blanket's traditional culture is on the verge of being lost, and the blanket's traditional culture is still being integrated at a rapid speed (Zhu & Liang, 2016). It has become an indisputable fact that the inheritance of the blanket's traditional culture is in crisis. Wang Lijuan's research concluded that the inheritance and protection of the Blankets people's traditional costume culture, in addition to the performance of government functions, also requires enhancing the Blankets people's sense of cultural identity, becoming familiar with the historical development process and characteristics of their costumes, and understanding the cultural connotation of their people. (Wang, 2017). Improving the blankets people's traditional aesthetic concept has a direct impact on the awareness of the protection and inheritance of the national culture. The most important point is that the traditional costume culture of the blankets people needs to consciously and proactively



adapt to modern life and civilization. Only the innovative transformation of traditional culture itself can make the cultural subject solid and withstand the baptism of the development of modern society. In her research, Yang Yan concluded that developing cultural products such as blanket costumes, collecting and sorting out blankets' historical and cultural classics, and restoring a batch of "historical memories" and "red memories" can promote the development of the blanket's national cultural industry. Yang, (2020).

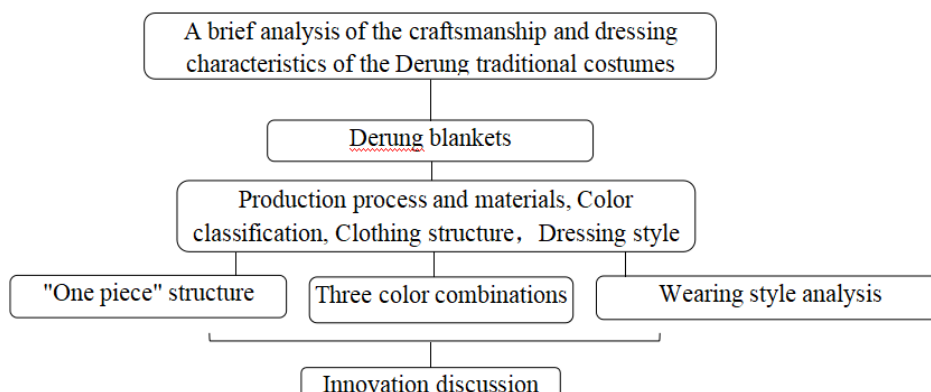
Liu Gang and Xiang Yiting conducted an in-depth study on the production technology of blankets blanket, briefly explained the characteristics of blanket costumes, and made a very simple analysis and summary of the characteristics of the male and female wearing styles of blankets traditional costumes. blankets blanket Wrap around the body in different ways. Liu& Xiang, (2015). Liu Gang and Li Zhi made a brief analysis of the traditional cultural element patterns of the blanket people, including tattooed butterfly patterns, stripes, fretwork, horn patterns, and round bead patterns. Liu & Li, (2016). Finally, this study also analyzed and elaborated on the application fields of the above patterns. Zhang Lei briefly analyzed the color stripe matching of blankets and blankets and summarized three color-matching methods. He briefly explained the production process and wearing form of blankets blanket, Zhang, L. (2020). However, it did not analyze blankets in depth. The structure of the blanket and the characteristics of its different forms of wearing. Wang Ruifang briefly analyzed and refined the traditional cultural elements of the blankets people, including the craftsmanship of blankets and accessories, the shape and color of blankets, and the patterns of tattoo customs, and proposed methods for applying the traditional culture of the blankets people in exhibition space design. , respectively, include the following points: integration of design concepts, direct quotation method, metaphor method, reconstruction method, material replacement method, and integration of new technologies. Wang, (2021).

In the past 10 years, many scholars have conducted research on the traditional culture and traditional clothing of the blankets people. Through the research of the former, it has been found that the traditional clothing and culture of the blankets people are on the verge of extinction. It has become an indisputable fact. Through the clothing culture, On the one hand, in-depth research and innovation combined with modern social development are an effective and fast way to awaken and enhance the cultural identity of the Blankets people. Due to the historical development of the blankets people, there are too few relevant documents and photo records related to the study of the blankets people's traditional costumes. Through the review of documents in the past 10 years, it was found that the former paid more attention to the analysis and application of the blankets people's tattoo patterns on the blankets of people 's traditional costumes. , research and analysis of the color and unique stripe pattern of "blankets Blanket" and innovative applications in various fields, By summarizing the above content, the author found that there are few and incomplete studies on the research, analysis, and induction of the blankets traditional clothing system, and there are few studies on the development of the blankets traditional clothing structure and style. It is noted that the blanket's traditional clothing is mainly based on " There are few scholars who focus on the "one-piece" structure of "blankets blanket", and there are almost no scholars who pay attention to the structure and expression characteristics of the blanket's traditional clothing. There is a lack of systematic arrangement and analysis of the "one-piece" structure and expression form of the blankets people. Therefore, in this study, the author will systematically organize and analyze the material technology, color classification, structure, expression form, silhouette, and other aspects of the blanket's traditional clothing.

## Conceptual Framework

The research framework is illustrated in Figure 1.





**Figure 1.** Conceptual Framework

**Note:** Constructed by the author

## Methodology

### 1. Literature method

According to the purpose of the research, through libraries, museums, networks, and other ways, with the help of newspapers, magazines, books, and other forms of an extensive collection of information, for the content of the study in-depth and detailed review of relevant information and clues, to understand the development of the Derung costume history, cultural background, design practice, and other related researchers.

### 2. Empirical research method

According to the textual information that has been consulted, fieldwork is carried out with relevant questions, during which observation, interview, text, picture records, and other related operations are carried out to provide factual support for the research of this article, and the first-hand information obtained from the collection of offerings and fieldwork is organized, analyzed and compared, to achieve an all-around understanding of the craftsmanship of the traditional costumes of the Derung ethnic group, the structural and modeling characteristics, and the connotation of folklore. The results of the research are as follows.

## Results

Ethnic dress is a reflection of the religious beliefs, cultural history, and living standards of the ethnic group. From the evolution of the Derung's dress, we can see the development process of Derung's folklore and culture. In the process of long-term development and evolution, the costumes of the Derung people have not only formed the distinctive features of their ethnicity and been given certain social functions but also accumulated rich cultural connotations that reflect the history and customs of the Derung people. In-depth study of the Derung traditional costumes and these rich and heavy historical emotions and our traditional culture better integrated into contemporary fashion design, to do in the inheritance of traditional Chinese culture and costumes based on continuous innovation, continuous development and carry forward.

### 1. The craftsmanship and colors of Derung blanket

#### 1.1 The change of Derung blankets technology and materials

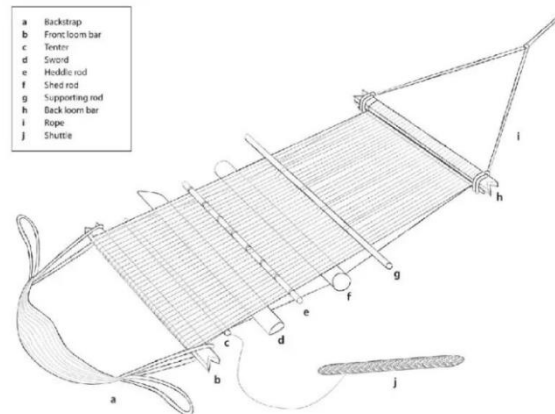
The materials used to make blankets and clothing are generally divided into two categories: the first is the material used to weave the clothing, and the second is the material used to color the clothing. The traditional clothing materials of blankets people generally use hemp. The thickness and length of the hemp fiber are very similar to cotton. The cell walls are not lignified, so it can be used as a raw material for textiles. The fabrics made from it are wear-resistant, warm in winter, and cool in summer. Insect-proof and mildew-proof, the traditional clothing of the blankets people is rarely made of animal fur, and the ornaments are mostly made of bamboo, rattan, and other hand-woven finished products.





The most obvious change in the traditional costumes of the blanket people is the introduction and application of textile technology. Before textile technology was introduced to the blankets people, they had always used original materials and maintained a relatively primitive way of dressing, mainly using leaves, animals, etc. Leather and hand-weaving are the main features. The functional requirements of the blankets people in the early primitive society were mainly to cover shame and protect themselves from the cold. Later, the blanket people mastered the hand-weaving method, but it did not have a big impact on the blanket's clothing. Changes; the blanket people's living environment is remote, traffic is blocked, and they have very little contact with the outside world. Slowly, textile technology was introduced to the blanket people. At this time, the blankets people's traditional clothing has been greatly improved in terms of materials and methods. Big changes and improvements. After textile technology was introduced to the blankets people, the blankets people usually used local materials due to geographical factors and evolved from the most primitive leaves and animal skins to using wild plants around the living environment and settlement environment as raw materials. (Wang, M. D. (2001) .For example, nettles, hemp, ramie, etc., the blankets people are good at twisting wild or cultivated hemp around their living environment into hemp thread and then weaving it into a rectangular piece of cloth, and the prototype of the "blankets blanket" was formed.

The process is that the blankets men will go to the mountains to cut wild hemp, cut off the bark on the hemp tree, take it back, wash it, and leave it to dry for one to two months, then soak it, peel it, peel the stems, dry it again, and finally make it. Some processing is mainly to remove the knots on the skin, then twist it into thread by hand and wind it into a ball, and then wind the made ball around the "work"-shaped wooden frame called "Wenka" by the locals. on the machine, tighten it, and then dry it in the sun. Then wrap the twine into a bundle. Put the dried twine into a bundle and boil it until soft. Add some alkaline grass ashes, such as stove ash water, and Stir with a wooden stick until the color of the twine turns white. (Wang, 2017). That is to say, the wild hemp is peeled, cut into filaments, soaked, boiled in kitchen ash water, washed, and dried in multiple steps, and then the processed wild hemp is twisted into twine that can be braided. In terms of weaving methods, blankets women are usually proficient in using textile machines to weave cloth. They usually use the simplest manual waist loom (Figure 2). The linen blankets woven by the waist loom are usually about 20 cm long. ( Hiking in the Sky, 2014). Finally, several paintings were connected into one piece to form the blankets blanket. The earliest blankets blanket did not have the dyeing step. The color of the blankets blanket at this time was relatively single. The color of the blankets blanket was the original color of the twine. As the blankets women become increasingly sophisticated in the processing of fireweed and hemp, the rough linen weaved at first begins to become more and more fine. In addition, the blankets people have their understanding of "beauty". In terms of the color of their clothing, The blankets people usually use plants around their living environment, boil the plants at high temperatures to produce juice, and then use the boiled plant juice to dye the treated linen threads. This white rectangular linen cloth has rich colors. There are five colors: red, yellow, green, blue, and black. The local people call them "blankets blanket". In blankets language, blankets blanket is called "Yueduo". Its width is about one meter and its length is two meters. The raw materials and dyes used to make blankets blankets are all-natural plants. They are composed of plant colors and plant fibers. They do not contain any artificial chemical additives. Therefore, the materials used can be judged by various means such as feel and smell.



**Figure 2.** Handmade waist machine  
**Note:** Traditional Clothing

After the founding of New China, the Derung ethnic group received many foreign cultural impacts, mainly the invasion of Han culture, and gradually had more choices in the selection of materials for making Derung blankets. On the one hand, the production materials of Derung blankets retained the original habit of using hemp thread, on the other hand, cotton thread and wool textile were also introduced, and the original materials and single-color fireweed and hemp were developed into colorful hemp thread, cotton thread, wool thread, and even silk used in today's society, and threads with different textures were mixed to weave into Derung blankets, which made the texture of Derung blankets even softer, and the texture of Derung blankets even more flexible, and the colors of Derung blankets become richer, no longer a single gray and blue, white, black and red, but now most of them are red, yellow, green, black, white, blue and purple, which is also known as "seven-color blankets". Generally speaking, the modern Derung blankets present a diversified state of color species on the material.

### 1.2 Colors of Derung Blankets

The most important feature of Derung blankets is the colorful vertical stripes, and it is rare to see two vertical stripes arranged in the same way in Derung blankets. The width of the interval between each vertical stripe may be different, and the color may also be different. The colorful vertical stripes of Derung blankets are woven by the arrangement of warp threads of different colors, and most of the weft threads are white, and it is very rare to see blue or other colors, etc. (Zhang, 2020). The raw materials for dyeing Derung traditional costumes mostly come from the roots and skins of wild or cultivated plants, leaves, grasses, and flowers. The local people peel off the bark of the tree called "Sermu Bulang" and pound it into pieces, then put it into a pot and add water to boil it, to get the traditional Derung "cholangyao", which is the red color dye that we see nowadays. The roots of the walnut tree are split down, pounded into pieces, and boiled with water to obtain the traditional black dye of the Derung; the bark of the peach tree is used to be pounded and boiled to make what the locals call "Bina-do", which is now called blue dye "Winsome", which grows on the rocks around the Derung settlements, produces red and blue flowers in March and April every year, which can be picked, crushed and mashed separately to obtain the Derung's traditional red and blue dyes. leaves of another kind of grass, called "Sinabu" by the local people, are picked and boiled in a pot of water to obtain the traditional green dye of the Derung people(as Table1; Table2; Table3).

Table 1 Derung blanket colors and materials

Plan ts	Sermu Bulang (Bark)	Waln ut tree Roots	Peacht ree (bark)	Winso me (flowers)	Winso me (flowers)	Sina bu (leaves)
Colo r	Cholang yao (Red)	Black	Bina-do (blue)	Blue	Red	Gree n

Table 2 Derung blanket color classification

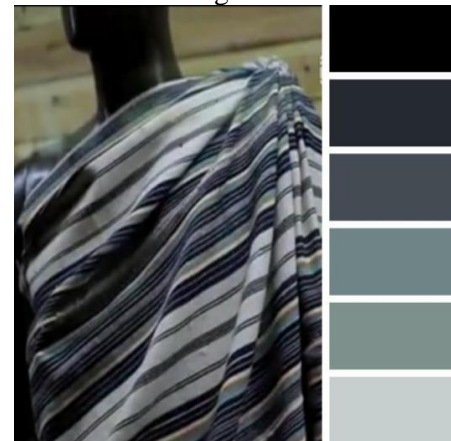
**The color classification of Derung blankets:  
3 kinds**

The first one is red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, which is the most common and basic way of color matching for modern Derung blankets, the width of each color stripe is relatively the same, and the width of each color distribution arrangement is also similar, the transition space of the middle color can be interwoven with some other colors of the vertical stripes, the width of these transitional lines is relatively thin, the width of which is generally about one-fifth of the width of the main vertical stripes.



Color Extraction of Derung Blanket Image

Secondly, The color matching is mainly in grey, and this kind of color matching is mainly in grey-blue, grey-green, and other cold grey tones of vertical stripes, with white vertical stripes occupying a larger space, and the width of the white stripes is much wider than that of the rest of the colors in the middle of which you can see interspersed yellow, green, red and other saturated, narrower vertical stripes;



Color Extraction of Derung Blanket Image

Thirdly, With a certain color as the main color, with some other colors of vertical stripes, this kind of matching line color is mainly warm colors (e.g., yellow, orange, red, etc.) as the main color, with some blue, green, and other narrow stripes, usually the Derung people can skillfully apply the complementary colors to match.



Color Extraction of Derung Blanket Image



### The color classification of Derung blankets: 3 kinds

#### Summary

Among the three types of color matching, the vertical stripes of the first type of color matching are the most representative, and no very clear preference for gender characteristics, age, group, etc. is shown in these three color matching. Over time, due to the incorporation of industrially produced colored cotton threads and woolen threads, the colors have become more vibrant than before, gradually presenting the state seen today.

Table 3 Summary of changes in materials, colors, and weaving methods of Derung blankets

	Clothing Color	Textile Method	Material
Traditional	yellow, green, black, blue,	Hand-woven, hand-waisted machine weaving	Leaves, animal skins, Twine, Fireweed
Modern	Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Cyan, Blue, Purple, Gray, Black, White	Industrial machine weaving	Cotton thread, wool, silk

## 2. Derung Traditional Costume Structure and Wearing Forms

### 2.1 Structure of Derung Clothing

The traditional costumes of the Derung ethnic group are mainly made of Derung blankets, and the overall structure is of a one-piece type, and the form of costumes belongs to the unstructured form of costumes. The most obvious change in Derung's clothing structure is around the founding of New China. Before the founding of New China, Derung's clothing had not changed much either in shape or in style, and it has been keeping the primitive way of dressing, mainly in the function of covering up the shame and keeping out the cold. In the process of wearing, the human body is the main focus, usually using one or two pieces of linen to wrap, twist, drape, and so on on the human body, and finally to tie a knot to fix the clothing, which is the traditional clothing of the Derung. Derung men generally with a small square piece of linen cloth to cover the lower body, and waist tie a hemp rope to fix the linen wrapped around the body, the Derung women are mostly on the body hanging two pieces of linen, in the left and right shoulders diagonally hanging, wrapped around each other, on the Derung blankets wearing methods, wearing methods and specific combinations vary from one person to another. The method of wearing and specific matching depends on different occasions, such as labor production, folk activities, festivals, and daily life dress styles are different. From this point of view, the traditional dress of the Derung people is characterized by the feature of "One piece of clothing can be worn in many ways". After the founding of New China, the costumes of the Derung people have become more and more "Han nationality-like", and have even become the same as those of the Han people, and up to the present day, some of the Derung elders still wear a Derung blanket on the outermost layer of their costumes (Figure3).







**Figure 3.** Derung costume structure  
**Note:** Constructed by the author

## 2.2 Ways of Wearing Derung Traditional Costumes

### 2.2.1 Winding Style

In the wearing of blanket costumes, the wrap-around style is the most common for both men and women. The wrap-around style is shown as leggings when worn by blankets men. blankets men usually wear coats and trousers, with large trousers. Most blankets men wear leggings (Zhao, 2000). They wrap linen around the trousers they wear, and wrap the linen around the lower part of the calf (Figure 4); before the founding of New China, some blankets men usually A piece of linen cloth used to cover the lower body, simply wrapped around the body, and then a hemp rope is tied around the waist to fix the linen cloth on the body; women use a blankets blanket to wrap one or two times around the chest, and then It is fixed on the right shoulder, and the clothes hang naturally, with no decoration on the waist (Figure 5); almost all the under-adult children of the blankets people are naked, and some only wrap a piece of cloth around their lower bodies to cover their shame. Some may only tie a small wooden board, small bamboo board, or similar things about three fingers wide, whose function is mainly to cover the shame. shame.



**Figure 4.** Ways of Wearing Derung Costumes  
**Note:** Constructed by the author



**Figure 5.** Ways of Wearing Derung Costumes  
**Note:** Constructed by the author

### 2.2.2 Overlapping

In the traditional clothing of the blankets people, layered clothing is generally reflected in the clothing of blankets women. Most blankets women wear two pieces of linen on their chests (Zang, 2004)., draped diagonally on the left and right shoulders, entwined with each other, and tied at the waist with hemp rope or other belts and ropes (Figure 6). Some women will drape a blankets blanket diagonally on the right shoulder, and later on Wrap another piece of linen around the right shoulder, from the right side to the middle, and finally pull it to the chest and secure it with a bamboo needle. In addition, some blankets women wear bamboo tubes or earrings in their ears, chest chains, and rattan bracelets. The modern clothing of blankets girls. They wear modern skirts underneath and blankets outside. The traditional blankets women also have the custom of tattooing their faces.

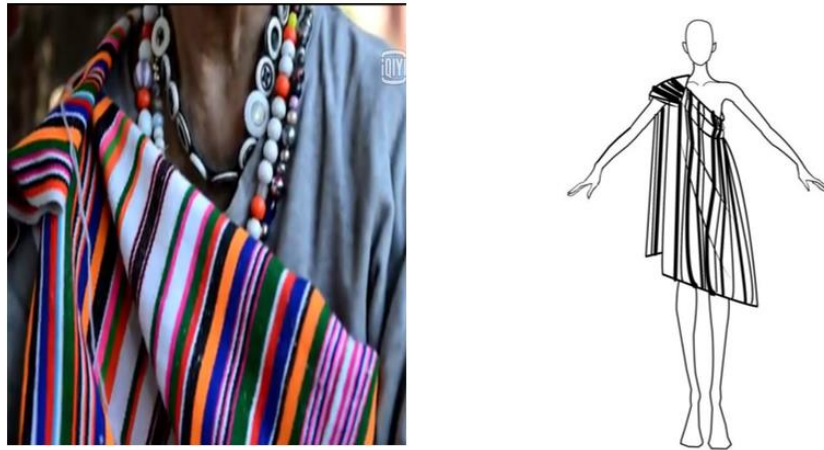


**Figure 6.** Ways of Wearing Derung Costumes  
**Note:** Constructed by the author

### 2.3.3 Hanging Style

Among the costumes of the Derung, the hanging style is the most common and basic way of wearing the Derung blanket. One or more pieces of the Derung blanket are simply draped diagonally over the left or right shoulder and then pulled over the armpit from the other side, and simply tied in a knot in front of the chest or over the shoulder to fix the Derung blanket on the body. The simplest form of draping is best seen in Derung men's clothing, where some Derung men either drape a long piece of linen cloth diagonally across their backs, pulling one corner from the left shoulder, and then pulling the

other corner from the right armpit before tying the two corners to their chests (Figure7). Derung men wear Derung blankets with customary regulations, the position of the knot is fixed on the left side, and the Derung men usually keep shoulder-length hair. The front hangs flush with the eyebrows. When they go out, they should wear machetes and arrow bags. Derung men do not have the habit of tattooing. But some family parents will be in the child is full of years old. The clan's logo on its wrist or arm, to avoid evil spirits to protect the peace.



**Figure 7.** Ways of Wearing Derung Costumes  
**Note:** Constructed by the author

### 3 Changes in the Derung Clothing

The process of making Derung blankets has been developing and improving with the change of time, and the materials of the Derung traditional costumes and the way of dressing are also changing. Before the introduction of textile technology, the costumes of the Derung people were only simple leaves and animal skins covering their bodies, and after the introduction of textile technology, the costumes of the Derung people were only based on the Derung blankets, and the Derung blankets were worn diagonally with the upper body exposed (Figure8). The Derung blankets is worn in the form of a square piece of structure on the body. Because of the simple structure of the Derung blankets and their strong plasticity on the body, the local people wear the Derung blankets in many different ways. After the founding of New China, the Derung clothing was gradually "sinicized", the local people no longer bare their upper bodies, and men and women began to wear the skirts, pants, and coats of the Han Chinese clothing, etc. In addition, men and women, young and old, will also wear the Derung blankets, and up to now the Derung blankets are still used to be cut into skirts, pants, coats, etc (Figure 9). This is due to the structural change of the Derung blanket, which is no longer a simple square piece of fabric but has been cut into the structure of ready-made clothes, which has changed the way of wearing the Derung blanket. The Derung blanket is no longer a piece of fabric that is wrapped and twisted around the body, and after that, the Derung traditional costumes have lost their original features.



**Figure 8.** Derung traditional clothing  
**Note:** Constructed by the author



**Figure 9.** Derung traditional clothing  
**Note:** Constructed by the author

## Discussion

Through the collation and analysis of this study, it was found that the colors of Derung blankets are rich and diverse. Although the color matching may seem messy the color matching of each Derung blanket is regular and contains the unique aesthetic characteristics of the Derung people; the Derung blanket is "one piece" "The clothing structure of the Derung people has created various ways of wearing the Derung blanket. The wearing form of the Derung blanket conforms to the characteristics of unstructured clothing. This is a common dressing style of primitive society, because of the Derung people's living environment, economy, transportation, etc. Due to the backwardness in aspects of clothing, traces of clothing worn by primitive society remain. This also reflects that the development of the Derung traditional clothing structure and expression form lags behind the trend of gradual extinction. Looking forward to the "one-piece" structure and unstructured structure performance in China and the West The development of formal clothing can draw lessons from modern design methods to help the Derung people return to their traditional clothing.

## Conclusion

Through in-depth investigation and analysis of the Derung blanket production process as well as its structure and wearing form, this study has come up with the following main research results and conclusions:

1. The Derung blanket has developed from primitive society to modern society, in which the materials and production technology of production always change with time, and it is a positive





mapping of the development of the economy, culture, science, and technology of the Derung ethnic group, which carries the deep culture and traditional technology of the Derung ethnic group's traditional dress.

2. This study researches and analyzes the color of Derung blankets, and summarizes three color classifications of Derung blankets, revealing the unique color aesthetic characteristics of the Derung ethnic group, and showing the charismatic regional characteristics.

3. This study conducted in-depth research and analysis on the structure and wearing form of Derung traditional clothing "Derung blanket", and explored the structural characteristics of Derung traditional clothing. The structure of Derung traditional costumes belongs to the "one-piece" structure, and the study and summarization of the characteristics of three Derung traditional costumes have improved and supplemented the academic data on Derung traditional costumes. It provides valuable references for cultural protection inheritance and artistic research, avoids cultural appropriation when innovating, helps to inherit and innovate Derung traditional costumes, and provides references and guidance for subsequent production.

## Recommendation

### General Recommendations:

1. Consider interdisciplinary cooperation with ethnologists, cultural scholars, and ergonomists to explore more deeply the history, cultural value, and future development of Derung traditional costumes.

2. Compare and contrast the similarities and differences between Derung's traditional one-piece and unstructured forms of clothing with those of other countries or regions, as well as the current development of modern society, to understand and explore the parts that can be integrated and borrowed, and to put forward new directions and thoughts on the innovation of the Derung's traditional clothing.

3. Examine the value and significance of the Derung traditional costumes to the cultural heritage of the Derung people, such as the impact of the innovation and return of the Derung traditional costumes on the Derung people and the market of costume design.

### Suggestions for further research:

Cooperate with the local community to deeply understand and explore the current Derung people's suggestions for improving the Derung traditional costumes, to understand the consumers' demand for the costumes, to consider researching the application and promotion of the Derung traditional costumes in the modern society, and to ensure the feasibility and validity of the inheritance and promotion of the Derung traditional costumes. Aiming to protect the traditional characteristics of Derung blankets, preserve the structure and wearing forms of Derung traditional costumes, and adapt them to modern aesthetic and functional needs, it is necessary to extract the colors and patterns of Derung blankets while conducting in-depth research on the connection between costume structure, costume forms, and ergonomics.

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