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#### Abstract:

The study aimed to know the cultural practices of university youth in light of the development of information and communication technology and the extent of the impact of the use of social networking sites on university students in keeping up with fashion. The study was carried out at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Blida 2 Lounisi Ali, on a sample of university students represented in 124 individuals by applying the questionnaire. The study concluded that social networking sites contributed to providing university youth with new cultural styles belonging to the field of fashion as a result of virtual interaction through new media.

# Key words:

Social networking sites ; fashion; university youth.

# I. Introduction

Societies have witnessed great development in the field of media and communication technology, with social networking sites topping the

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scene successfully and to a great extent in attracting the masses because they have touched all age groups, especially the youth group that is most vulnerable to rapid changes in all fields, which has created a qualitative leap in the face of the ongoing global and scientific challenges, as it has affected the social system. The social values of societies, which resulted in the emergence of new behaviors and manifestations in terms of the appearance culture represented by what is called fashion. Keeping up with fashion has become a necessary imperative for young people in light of this group's use of social networking sites, which has affected social relationships and interactions and the adoption of new cultural patterns of cultural patterns that appear. It is evident that young people keep up with fashion, especially Algerian youth, especially university students, as they are the group most open to the virtual world and open communication across the world made possible by social networking sites.

## The problem of the study

Social and cultural change has produced many behavioral practices that have been fueled by the ideas of globalization, freedom, and the fascination with this openness to the cultures of societies across the world, which has become a small village as a result of technological and communication development, which has formed a virtual interaction for various members of societies across the world in all its categories, especially the youth group, as they are considered to be in the stage of forming their personality. And to prove their existence and search for social acceptance, this group seeks to achieve symbolic value within the social system through the connotations that others receive and understand their meanings in accordance with agreedupon values and standards, as Jean Baudrillard says: "We do not dress in order to become more beautiful, but rather so that society will judge us because we walk." According to social legitimacy" (1973; p52; Jean Baudrillard)

In light of these social changes, even the awareness of the actors about their privacy has changed according to the social structure and their adoption of modern ways of living in what is called fashion. It is

considered a social phenomenon that has spread among young people, especially university youth, due to their extensive use of social networking sites, which has formed new patterns in their cultural practices and behaviors that appear clearly in keeping up with it. For fashion, and for this purpose, our study was conducted on a sample of university students who are fond of fashion at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Laghouat, based on the question about :

- Did the use of social networking sites contribute to the spread of fashion among university youth at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Blida 2 Lounisi Ali?

#### Second: Study hypotheses:

1- Virtual affiliation groups were formed via social networking sites to keep up with fashion students at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Laghouat.

2- Continuous interaction through fashion pages on social networking sites has increased the awareness of university students at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Laghouat with different styles of fashion throughout the year.

## Third: Concepts of the study:

The concept is one of the basic symbols in scientific research and represents an abstraction of events and facts. The concept is a general and abstract mental perception of one or more phenomena and the relationships that exist between them (Ingres, Morris, 2006, p. 157).

## -social media sites :

**1-1**-These are social electronic sites on the Internet, which represent the basic foundation of new media that allow all individuals or groups to communicate with each other through the digital space (Hisham Ali Shantawi, 2020, p. 60.)

#### 1-2-It is also known as:

a network of sites that is very effective in facilitating social life among a group of friends and old acquaintances, as it enables them to contact each other, and enables them to communicate visually and audio, exchange pictures, and other capabilities that consolidate relationships (Asim Sayed, Abdel Fattah (2017, p. 13) **1-3-** It is also known as Internet sites where users can easily participate and contribute to creating or adding pages. They are also known as websites that provide a group of services to users such as: instant chat, private messages, and other services.

**1-4-** It is also known as "a network of sites that is very effective in facilitating social life among a group of acquaintances, friends, and old acquaintances that enables them to contact each other, and also enables them to communicate visually and audio, exchange pictures, and other capabilities that strengthen the social relationship between them" (Assem Sayed Abdel Fattah (2017, p. 13)

# -5- Social networking sites procedurally:

These are electronic sites on the Internet whose use is directed to social communication through the digital space. They allow their users to communicate visually and audioly, chat, exchange photos and videos, etc., which allows for the consolidation of social relationships. In this study, we decided to study the social networking sites most used by young people. The university student is passionate about fashion and its traditions through the most famous sites (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat).

## 2- Fashion concept

**2-1-** Fashion means the language of the acceptable use of anything at a certain time by those who want to be on the latest style in this section. It means in English fashion, and its synonym in Arabic is fashion, which has its origin in Latin, meaning facio and making anything. (Al-Kaabi - Hatem, 1982, p. 31)

**2-2** - It is that good design that changes from one season to another and that carries specifications that control the elements of the design (line, shape, color, and fabric used, and everything related to clothing, whether it is a head covering, shoes, or decorative accessories, and is accepted by the members of the society in which it exists, and is spread among its members, Following (fashion) with everything it dictates to society is not necessary for its development, but development and sophistication is in what the individual chooses, whether male or female, to be appropriate to the nature of his society and its traditions, and what custom and religion require, and what is

compatible with his nature, work, and personality, so he wears the appropriate outfit at the appropriate age and the appropriate place.

2-3- Fashion is a type of social movement that has come to play a serious role in many aspects of modern society: its values, standards, leadership, behavioral patterns, industrial production, customs, traditions, and public etiquette, and indeed in all of its cultural and social heritage alike, and in the social transformation in it of all kinds and kinds. (2010;p10 Goddard, Frederic)

## **2-4-Fashion procedurally:**

These are the patterns and shapes of designs and appearances that young people keep up with, as something different and new to the traditional patterns of clothing, accessories, hairstyles, etc.

## **3-** University youth, procedurally:

They are those individuals between the ages of 18-39 years who are studying at the university. The study was limited to university students at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Blida 2, Lounici Ali.

# Fourth - Objectives of the study

Our study aims to know the role of the use of social networking sites in introducing the youth group to new patterns of cultural practices and behaviors that appear in their keeping up with fashion, and to shed light on the phenomenon of fashion in the university environment, the growing interest of the youth group in fashion and working to market and defend it as a form of social positioning and proving The self and social status of this group and revealing the real reasons that prompted them to keep pace with international fashions.

## **II. Study method and tool:**

In our study, we used the descriptive approach, based on the objectives of the study, as it is the most appropriate approach to our subject. We used the electronic questionnaire as a tool for collecting information as it is a direct and appropriate technique with the specificity of the sample studied. The questionnaire was distributed intentionally to university students practicing fashion, so the questionnaire tool was the basic tool for the study along with the tool Observation as a tool to help collect information. We observed the

behaviors of fashionable young people, as well as the most fashionable styles.

# **III.** The study sample :

We chose the purposive sample, and thus university students who keep up with fashion were intentionally selected, due to the specificity and nature of the subject of the study. Thus, 124 university students were selected at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Blida 2, Lounici Ali.

**IV. Temporal and spatial limits of the study:** Two studies were carried out in the period extending from November 2023 until February 28, 2024 at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Blida 2 Lounisi Ali.

#### V. Study results:

Table 1: Shows the relationship of gender to time and uses of social networking sites

total		fén	fémale male			Sex
%	repetition	%	repetition	%	repetition	Time spent
10.48	13	9.37	6	11.66	7	Less than 3 hours
12.10	15	12.5	8	11.66	7	From 3 to 5 hours
77.42	96	78.13	50	76.68	46	More than 5 hours
100	124	%100	64	%100	60	the total

We note from this table on the relationship between gender and the time used on social networking sites that the highest percentage was estimated at 77.42% of the sample members who use social networking sites for 5 hours or more, compared to a percentage of 78.13% for females, while 76.68% for males, while we find a percentage of 12.10% of respondents who use social networking sites from 3 to 5 hours, corresponding to 12.5% among females, while 11.66% for males, while we find a percentage of 10.48% of the sample members who use social networking sites for 11.66% among males, while 9.37% for females.

We conclude that the majority of the sample members use social networking sites for 5 hours or more, indicating that the university student respondents do not have more social commitments than other segments of society, and they are the group most closely associated with electronic browsing due to their keeping up with scientific research and technological development, in addition to the fact that they are growing into The digital generation is proficient in technology because of its benefit in seizing time and closing distances, and this is what we find in the majority of females compared to males, as females are devoted to social communication, while respondents who use social networking sites less than 5 hours or less indicate their preoccupation and social commitments, which reduced their browsing. **Table 2: Sex relationship shows the sites most used to follow** 

#### fashion

Т	Total		female		nale	Sex
%	repetition	%	repetition	%	repetition	social networks
58.07	72	73.44	47	41.67	25	Instagram
22.58	28	10.94	7	35	21	Facebook
12.90	16	15.62	10	10	6	snap chat
6.45	8	00	0	13.33	8	others
100	124	%100	64	%100	60	المجموع

We note from the results recorded through this table, which shows the relationship between gender and the sites most used for following fashion, that the highest percentage was estimated at 58.07% of the sample members who most used Instagram, the site most used for following fashion, compared to 73.44% for females and 41.67% for males, while we find a percentage of 22.58 % of the respondents who most used the sites to follow fashion: Facebook, 35% for males, compared to 10.94% for females, while the percentage of Snapchat was 12.90%, compared to the percentage for females, 15.62%, while we find the lowest percentage recorded on the other sites at 6.45%. We conclude that the majority of the sample members use Instagram

We conclude that the majority of the sample members use Instagram as the most used site for following fashion, and this is due to the features and characteristics that Instagram has and the ease of browsing and interacting with fashion styles. It also allows users to create content and facilitates interaction with brands and their audiences, which allows users to increase income opportunities by promoting the fashion industry. In addition, Instagram is strongly used by influencers and celebrities compared to other social networking sites, while we find that social networking sites, including Facebook and Snapchat, are less used to follow fashion compared to Instagram due to the characteristics and features of these sites and are less interactive in the field of fashion, in addition to less meeting the social and psychological needs of young people. Compared to Instagram.

 Table 3: Shows the relationship of gender to influential figures

 through following fashion

to	otal	fen	nale	male		Sex
%	repetition	%	repetition	%	repetition	Influential personalitie
24.19	30	31.25	20	16.67	10	celebrities
48.40	60	59.37	38	36.66	22	Influencers
19.35	24	9.38	6	30	18	Press journalists
8.06	10	00	0	16.67	10	others
100	124	%100	64	%100	60	total

We note from this table, which shows the relationship of gender to influential figures through following fashion, that the highest percentage recorded at 48.40% was recorded for social influencers, compared to 59.37% for females and 36.66% for males, while we find a percentage of 24.19% of the respondents who answered about celebrity personalities. In influencing fashion, the percentage corresponds to 31.25% for females and 16.67% for males. We find the percentage of journalists as influential figures for fashion at 19.35%, compared to 30% for males and 9.38% for females, while we find other figures whose percentage was estimated at 8.06%.

We conclude that the majority of respondents are influenced by social influencers in their follow-up of fashion through social networking sites, indicating that the majority of socially influential figures are

young people from the same category as the respondents, in addition to the fact that these social influencers simulate social reality and publish fashion styles for the same social environment of the respondents and what is consistent with their social representations as young people and their vision. For fashion, especially the category of females who follow fashion the most through influencers who were more convincing to them, especially since this category includes female influential figures, while we find the least influential figures are celebrities, due to the fact that celebrity figures keep up with and display everything new and related to fashion, which appeals to the youth group. Especially females who desire innovation and change compared to males, while we find that journalists who are less influential in the field of fashion are an indication that the category of journalists is more committed and committed to their profession, which limits them to keeping up with everything new in fashion.

 Table 4: Shows the relationship of gender to reactions to keeping

 up with fashion

	total	fei	nale	male		sex
%	repetition	%	repetition	%	repetition	reations
39.51	49	62.5	40	15	9	I am subjected to bullying and rejection
60.48	75	37.5	24	85	51	I find social acceptance
100	124	%100	64	%100	60	total

We notice from this table, which shows reactions to keeping up with fashion, that the highest percentage was estimated at 60.48% of the respondents who acknowledged the existence of social acceptance for keeping up with fashion, compared to the percentage of males at 85% and the percentage of females at 37.5%, while we find that of the respondents who were exposed to bullying and rejection, their percentage was estimated. 39.51%, compared to 62.5% for females at 15% for males.

We conclude that the majority of university youth have found acceptance of what keeps up with fashion, an indication that the university community helps young people in their practice of fashion, considering that the university is a social system that allows freedom for students to express their aspirations and opinions and satisfy their desires, in addition to these young people keeping pace with the forms and patterns of fashion that approximate and agree with the perceptions of society that has come to accept Many new styles of fashion have produced changes in the cultural patterns of society in its approach to fashion with what it is accustomed to, while we find that some young people have been subjected to bullying and rejection due to very different and different forms that are opposed to the social values and standards of society, and thus they are exposed to rejection. **Table No. 5: Shows the relationship of educational level to models of fashion acquisition** 

total	total		Doctorate		Master		nelor's gree	Level studies Acquisition
%	rep etit ion	%	repe titio n	0/0	repetiti on	%	repetiti on	of fashion uses
64.51	80	71.4 3	5	60.97	50	71.44	25	By electronic shopping
12.90	16	28.5 7	2	14.64	12	5.71	2	Through traditional shopping
22.51	28	00	0	24.39	20	22.85	8	design and sewing
%100	124	%1 00	7	%100	82	%100	35	total

We note from this table, which shows the relationship of educational level to the fashion acquisition model, that the highest percentage was recorded at 64.51% of the respondents who purchase fashion through online shopping, compared to 71.44% of those with a bachelor's level of education and 71.43% of those with a doctorate level, while we find

a percentage of 22.51. % of people acquire fashion through design and sewing, compared to 24.39% for those with a master's level of education.

We conclude that the majority of university youth have found social acceptance for the fashion they follow, indicating that the university community helps young people in their practice of fashion, considering that the university is a social system that allows freedom for students to express their aspirations and opinions and satisfy their desires, in addition to these young people keeping up with the forms and styles of fashion that approximate and agree with the perceptions of the society in which they live. He has begun to accept many new styles that are alien to him by opening the way for young people to control his knowledge and mastery of technology. The great interest shown by a class that has produced changes in the cultural patterns of society in comparing fashion with what society is accustomed to, while we find that some young people have been subjected to bullying and rejection due to the very different shapes and standards. Opposition to the values and social standards of society that it sees as contradictory to customs and traditions and therefore rejected by society by virtue of its social and religious upbringing.

Table No. 6: Shows the relationship of geographic	al origin to
interest in values and traditions while keeping up with	fashion

to	total		Urban		-urban	Residency	
%	repetition	%	repetition	%	repetition	Respondents' answers	
83.87	104	66.67	24	90.90	80	Yes	
16.13	20	33.33	12	9.10	8	no	
100	124	%100	36	%100	88	the total	

We noticed through this table, which shows the relationship of geographical origin with interest and traditions while keeping up with fashion, that the highest percentage was estimated at 83.87% of the respondents who declared their interest in values and traditions while keeping up with fashion, compared to a percentage of 90.90% of the

respondents in the peri-urban area and 66.67% in the urban area, in When we find a percentage of 16.13% who do not care about values and traditions while keeping up with fashion, this is matched by a percentage of 33.33% for urban respondents and 9.10% of semi-urban respondents.

We conclude that the majority of young people who are passionate about fashion shop and purchase fashion-related products other than electronic shopping, and this is an indication that university youth are proficient in using the Internet and are familiar with commercial transactions through websites, in addition to the ease of commercial transactions through electronic shopping and the services provided through it until the product reaches its owner's place of residence. Through delivery institutions, and thus new styles and forms of fashion outside the world that traditional stores do not provide, purchase, or offer for sale, young people find them via the Internet and order them, while we find that there are students relying on the element of design and sewing as a less expensive way than purchasing the original fashion product. We conclude that the majority of university students Those who are passionate about fashion care about the recognized values and traditions while keeping up with fashion, and this is due to the socialization of these young people and their attempt to reconcile fashion and its comparison with traditions and values. We find many innovations and imprints on new shapes that are close to traditional styles, but in a new and different way that does not contradict the accepted values and standards in order to be accepted by society. We notice them in clothing. Religious ones, such as the hijab and shirt, remain the hijab and shirt, but in new and different shapes, colored, embroidered, and other new shapes.

Academi	chelor's	Ba	aster's	Μ	ctorate	Do	total	
c level social media sites	repetitio n	%	repetitio n	%	repetitio n	%	repetitio n	%
Facebook	4	11.4 2	26	31.7 1	2	28.5 7	32	25.8 1
Instagram	28	80	55	67.0 8	5	71.4 3	88	70.9 7
snap chat	3	8.58	1	1.21	0	00	4	3.22
total	35	%100	82	%100	7	%100	124	%100

 Table No. 7: Shows the relationship of educational level to social networking sites suitable for fashion

We note from this table, which shows the relationship of educational level to social networking sites suitable for fashion, that the highest percentage was estimated at 70.97% of the respondents who believe that Instagram is the appropriate site for fashion, compared to 80% of the respondents with a bachelor's level and 71.43% of the respondents with a doctoral level. While we find a percentage of 25.81% of the respondents who see Facebook as the appropriate site for fashion, compared to a percentage of 31.71% of the respondents at the master's level and 28.57% of those at the doctoral level, while we find the lowest percentage recorded on Snapchat as a suitable site for fashion, estimated at 3.22%. This is matched by the percentage of respondents with bachelor's level at 8.58%.

We conclude that the majority of university students who keep up with fashion and its developments and everything related to challenging it are the students who prefer to use the Instagram site, and this is due to the privacy and features of the site. Instagram is that this site is characterized by ease of use and is full of commercial services that benefit the financial side of its owners, such as advertisements and advertisements. Instagram also meets the desires and needs of young people from Exchanging and publishing photos, videos, and interactions across the world, and learning about the cultures of different societies, especially in the field of fashion. We find celebrities, social influencers, and fashionistas using Instagram and preferring it over other social networking sites such as Facebook, Snapchat, and other sites, while we find among university students those who prefer it to a lesser degree. Instagram prefers Facebook, and this is an indication of young people who knew Facebook before Instagram and had their first electronic accounts on Facebook, so they became more lurking about it compared to what they see as new to them, such as Instagram. They are the older youth in the study sample, in addition to the features of Facebook that meet some of the desires and needs of young people.

Table No. 8: Shows the relationship between gender and students'
preferred style of keeping up with fashion

total		Female		Male		Sex	
%	repetition	%	repetition	%	repetition	Preferred styles of respondents	
25.81	32	18.75	12	33.34	20	Haircuts	
41.93	52	45.31	29	38.33	23	Special wear	
19.35	24	25	16	13.33	8	Accessories	
12.91	16	10.94	7	15	9	Caring for the body	
100	124	%100	64	%100	60	total	

We notice from this table that shows the relationship between gender and the preferred style in keeping up with fashion, where we find that the highest percentage was estimated at 41.93% of the respondents who prefer the distinctive style of clothing in keeping up with fashion, compared to 45.31% for females and 38.33% for males, while we find a percentage of 25.81% of The percentage of respondents who prefer the style of hairstyles is 33.34% for males and 18.75% for females,

while we find a percentage of 19.35% of the respondents who prefer the style of accessories to keep up with fashion, corresponding to 25% for females and 13.33% for males, while we find a percentage of 12.91% of the respondents who prefer the style of attention. In terms of body, keeping up with fashion is 15% for males and 10.94 for females.

We conclude that the majority of university students prefer distinctive clothing to keep up with fashion, both male and female students, and to a greater extent female students. This is an indication that university youth are trying to keep up with fashion in clothing in accordance with their traditions and customs because society imposes certain styles of clothing in addition to religious reference, social upbringing, and the nature of society. Here, youth are trying To keep pace with the new dress as a new fashion that is alien to what his society is accustomed to, and thus it has become similar to the forms of fashion with traditional clothing, such as the hijab for females, a change in shapes and colors. There are some who are conservative about the veil only, and others wear what is under the veil, such as wearing pants, shoes, sportswear, and colorful embroidered clothes. Even males' clothing has changed, such as a shirt. Prayer has changed in colors and shape to keep up with the clothes, and this is an indication that university students darken their external appearance to prove themselves and give an image of their status and elegance, since this group is concerned with dress and appearance compared to hairstyles, as less attention, since most of the females wear veils, and their hairstyles are only for specific times, such as occasions and weddings, unlike decorating recently. They are interested in haircuts and everything that improves the hair, even the beard has become a fashion. Young people are interested in the beard as a fashion and adornment and not as a form of religiosity, while we find accessories among the female group who are most interested in accessories because they want to adorn themselves and show off their colors and additional features, as they meet their desires and needs, and to a lesser degree in the sample. Our study found that those who care about the body and go to gyms, as well as the culture of healthy eating, are due to the cultural awareness of society in terms of health, sports, and interest in the body. We find this trend only among young people and in very small percentages in our society.

# VI. Conclusion:

Through our study, which aims to find out the role of using social networking sites in introducing young people to new styles and cultural manifestations by keeping up with fashion, our study was based on a sample of university students interested in fashion. Our study reached several results, the most important of which are:

The study found that virtual groups on social networking sites contributed significantly to young people adopting new fashion styles through continuous interaction through these groups.

Through this study, we concluded that university students use social networking sites for periods of time lasting five hours or more due to their lack of social obligations.

-The study found that Instagram is the most used and preferred site among university youth to follow fashion and its new trends because of the features and characteristics the site contains that facilitate the youth group's browsing and interaction, which has greatly contributed to the promotion of fashion.

The study concluded that university students are influenced by university influencers in their follow-up of fashion because the social influencers emulate social reality and are from the same youth group as them.

The study found that there is social acceptance of the fashion that young people consume through social networking sites

The study concluded that online fashion shopping is the most widely used by university youth due to the ease of commercial transactions through this shopping and the products reaching their owner without trouble or cost.

The study found that university students prefer distinctive clothing to keep up with fashion, especially female university students, which indicates the interest of this group in external appearance, elegance, and the love of appearing and attracting attention.

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