

For several centuries textiles from Bengal, especially Muslins, were worn by fashionable London women.

A number of volunteers will be recruited to undertake research, attend training and then recreate some of the dresses worn during the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries by London's fashion conscious ladies.

This initiative will help reveal the story of Muslin (the famous textile of Bengal) and bring that little-known Bengal-British connection to light.

The project is being supported by the National Maritime Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum, the London College of Fashion and the Museum of London.

How villages and towns in Bengal dressed London ladies in the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries

A unique project by Stepney Community Trust



Do you want to learn about how Bengal influenced London ladies fashion during Jane Austen's time?

Are you interested in learning about the history of muslin: the famous textile of Bengal?

Do you want to recreate historical costumes worn by fashionable London ladies, made from Bengal fabrics?

If the answers are yes then come and find out more about the project and how you can join.

ALL WELCOME!

For further details please contact Stepney Community Trust:

Email: heritageproject@stepney.org.uk

Phone: 020 7377 5482 / 07574987607

**Project launch /
Open evening**

6-9pm, Wednesday

8 February 2012

Davenant Centre

179-181 Whitechapel Rd, E1

Programme

◇ Information on the project

◇ Short film on Muslin

◇ Presentations:

• **Muslins: Bengal / Bangladesh and Britain** by *Sonia Ashmore* (historian and author of *Muslin* (V&A autumn 2012))

• **The East India Company's textile trade** by *Dr John McAleer*, Curator of Imperial and Maritime History, National Maritime Museum

• **Bhaf-thana** by *Rezia Wahid*, weaver and teacher (www.woven-air.com)

• **Recreating historical costumes** by *Mia Wallden*, Illustrator and Costumier (www.miawallden.blogspot.com)

◇ Exhibition

◇ Refreshment

