

## A study on the Plastic Beauty of the Traditional Children's Clothes

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Recently the interest in dress and ornaments is increasing, and many vigorous researches in Korean dress and ornaments are based on the increasing interest in them. But there are few researches focused on the children's clothes as national human resources, though many researches are mainly focused on the symbolic representation of traditional society, and therefore people's sense of value laying stress on their family in the traditional society of Korea is not examined sufficiently. Also, if there are any researches in the children's clothes, they are focused only on the sense of beauty, excluding the symbolic representation that the traditional children's clothes show. In this respect, this paper has the purpose of correct settling the concepts of children's clothes and the traditional view of children by examining the symbolic representation of ancestor's wisdom, love, sincerity, and desire for their children revealed in the traditional children's clothes of Korea.

In the process of studying and reproducing the traditional children's dress and ornaments, the period of one's childhood is defined from the time of birth to the time before the copping ceremony of youths.

By reproducing the traditional children's clothes, this paper comes to some conclusions as follows.

First, there is harmony of colors, using traditional colors, on the thought of the Yin-Yang school and the five elements(metal,

wood, water, fire, and earth), and the desire for children's health and longevity is expressed by making clothes colorless for infant and baby.

Second, in the traditional society of Korea, people regarded their children as being equal with adult and expected them to do so, Also clothes in itself had the symbolic representation of inducing children to follow the social order of position and to build up their good character.

Third, one of distinctive features in the traditional children's clothes is that the functional aspects are considered to be important.

Fourth, the Royal-court dress was distinguished from the private-house dress in the used material. The Royal -court dress was made of spun silk, while the private-house dress was made of cotton.

Finally, as the clothes were divided according to the purpose of wearing the dress, the clothes in the traditional society of Korea, as a full dress, had an important role of reminding the sense of loyalty and filial duty as well as a simple role as a suit of clothes.

This study shows the symbolic representation expressed in the traditional children's dress and its ornaments, and reveals the ancestor's wisdom in the composition of dress and ornaments. This study tells us that dress and its ornaments should be recognized not as a suit of clothes but as a part of culture in a society.