A Study on Exhumed Clothing of Jae Kyoung

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When we study on clothing history, the actual materials is one of the most important things. The real clothing research makes possible to understand style and composition of clothing in past period and to give a standard for presuming the change of clothing each period. It is very different from second-hand study by using old documents and drawings. It is fortunate that clothing of Chosun Age has been exhumed since 1960s, which is very precious resource for clothing research.

The exhumed clothing is garments which is founded with corpse inside coffin when removing a old grave. By studying the exhumed clothing we can tell not only style and composition of garments but also textile and sewing pattern. Especially, we can see the type and details of garments according to ashes' social status and sex. Funeral tradition of that time can also be seen through the exhumed condition and it is the material for the study of burial dress and basic of other exhumed clothing.

This study is about exhumed clothing of Jae Kyoung belonged to Seoul City Museum and preservation and dealing of remains, repair or mending course and restoration.

Jae Kyoung lived in the age around Imjin Invasion and exhumed clothing has a characteristic of latter Chosun. Haechi Hyungbae was designated as a national assigned cultural asset and it was Hyungbae which its origin time could be estimated. The size of Jeogori is relatively large, side of some ones is opened and its inside is threaded with Pulsom. There were Eckjuem and Dapho which were mainly seen in early Chosun but their composed method were much changed. The shape of Mu appeared on Dapho and Danryung had changed from early straight line to triangular Mu. Kaedanggo showed that men had worn the pants which its bottom had opened. Because there are Various difference in clothing of the same type, it suggests so many transition of clothing form. Just one type of Dapho was restored but two suits of Dapho contain the composition which was entirely seen on exhumed clothing of Joe Kyoung and the feature of sewing, so it has been compared with others.

The study of exhumed clothing supports clothing theories until now and is a necessary first material to make the present Hanbok and also difficult and hard work. But it is offering precious materials to many ones who study the clothing history through this invisible effort.