

A Study on the Costume in Bijo Era of Japan

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I. Introduction

Bijo era indicates the time from the end of 6C to the beginning of 8C.

The purpose of this study is to clarify the costume & its features in Bijo era, to look into the clothes of the costume in Bijo era in the history of Japanese costume, thereby preparing the theoretical ground for profound study on Korean costume and at the same time making the best use of it as the materials for well understanding Japanese costume culture and society.

For this effect, this paper is to examine Bijo era's society & culture, diplomatic relation, and so on. And this is to study the costume by the costume regulation, as a center, made up under the present background and the costume represented by the contemporary remains such as Chinsookuksoojang, Kosongcheung ancient tomb mural, Sungdeok Prince Statue, and the materials from Bupryungsa(Buddhist temple) Chief-Priest Okjoong.

II. Historical Background in Bijo Era

1. The Jooko Court and Bijo Culture

In foreign relation, this is the time that the ground for a constitutional country was prepared by positively accepting Korean peninsular & Chinese culture and that planned to make Buddhist culture settled in this country.

In particular, the contemporary culture was called "Bijo Culture" taking from after the present capital name and a great renovation on political system was followed, as well as wide and multifarious development including architecture, music, art, etc.

2. Formation of Constitutional Country and Maekbong Culture

In this time, the advanced continental culture was directly introduced to Japan via many times of dispatching envoy(to Tang) and, as a result, various reforms and remarkable advancement were realized. Particularly, its effect was influenced on the present politics, then the system of law-governed country was near to its completion. And in culture, Maekbong culture with Buddhist culture being as a center was flourished in the vitality of building new country.

III. Costume in Bijo Era

1. Costume by Costume Regulation

In looking the costume of government officials in Bijo era via official rank system, rulling party system, and clothes ordinance, the official wore Kwan(coronet) on head and dressed upper garment Po and Ko, and bound Dae(band) around the waist and put Mal and Yee on his feet and had Daedo and Hol(scepter) in his hands. Kwan is the same color as that of upper garment, made of silk, and the edge of it was padded with a band. And upper garment was made of the same material as that of Kwan, of Banryong, of Tongsoo sleeve and made to be tied on front body with its strings. The lower garment Ko was made of same material as that of the upper garment and of same color and its waist band was the same style as the former days. Dae(waist band) was made of Woimunpo or silk and made to be tied internally and be let hang down. In addition to introduction of Wio, Baedang, Seup, Pil, Kyongsang, etc. new clothes, the composition of costume was diversified.

2. Costume by Remains Material

The costume manifested on the remains material was described with the costume of most of government officials & nobles. In looking the costume on such the personal statue, we see man wore Eui and Ko style and woman Eui and Sang style in principle and wore Po over the garment. That is, unlike the former days, a new clothes such as Seup was introduced and the upper garment was made more sufficiently(broadly) and the lower garment's(trouser's) width narrower.

The degree of sleeve band's width and coat collar style was changed receiving the continental effect as the time elapsed.

IV. Conclusion

This study is to examine the costume and features in Bijo era and the results are as follows.

Bijo era is the time that the country leader positively imported the continental civilization, founded a new country organization in political society and accepted Buddhism & exerted his best passion for its thriving.

As the result of looking the clothes for the present ruling classes via the existing & the contemporary relics, it was found that the clothes consisted of Eui and Kon or Eui and Sang style in principle and Po with Banryung or Sooryung was worn over what.

As for the costume of the ruling-classed official & noble, Korean & Chinese costume regulation was introduced, court dress, ceremonial dress, and uniform were dressed and, the composition of costume with introduction of new clothes including Wio, Baedang, Seup, Pil, Kyongsang, etc. for the ruling classes was diversified as well.

In conclusion, Bijo era's culture is the foreign culture which was developed from the foreign

accepted & advanced culture and is, also to be said, necessarily generated culture in view of the historical trend, which suggests the fact that foreign factors were strongly reflected on Bijō era's costume , as its a specific property.

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