Comparison of Aesthetics Between Han and Tang Dynasties Women Costumes

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1. Introduction

The costumes in Tang and Han Dynasties were also elegant and abundant, including the gowns, 单衣‘Dan Yi’ (unlined garment), and襦裙‘Ru Qun’ (short jacket and long skirt). Thanks to the highly developed in the embroideries industry, rich people could afford the silk and satin, while ordinary people wore the shirts and long trousers, the poor wore the coarse clothes. The women in Han Dynasty sometimes wore robe, and various patterns with the typical one, called留仙‘Lau Xian’ Skirt. Han costumes had the characteristics of wide, elegant in lines and gorgeous. The regulations of dressing were strict and could be divided into several classes. In Tang Dynasty, it had the prosperity of ancient culture and art. The female costumes at that time lead the trend of fashion in the long history. The materials and textiles were elegant, the bold selections of the patterns. The grand accessories were the typical things found in Tang costumes.

The thesis tries to study the esthetics of Han and Tang Dynasties women costumes through the study on the modeling, colors, materials, patterns and ornaments of the two dynasties women costumes.

2. Method

The study of research method is searching and studying literature material related to the subject. like Chinese Tradition Costumes1), the Esthetics of Costumes 2) The thesis makes the comparison of esthetics of women costumes in Han and Tang Dynasties, in the basis of historical documents and pictures of the history, the modeling, the colors, the materials, the patterns and ornaments of costumes in the two dynasties.

3. Conclusion

3.1. straight and curved line

comparison of Han and Tang Dynasties costumes, it can be concluded that the comparison of esthetics between straight line and curve line was another way to compare costumes in these two dynasties

3.2 concealment and exposure

Because of the social and cultural background, concealment dressing, women's graceful and elegant beauty was right shown through the special modeling of Han Dynasty dress. In addition, the esthetic of concealment dressing showed women's grace and civility. On the contrary, comparing with Han Dynasty, Tang Dynasty women costume possessed totally different esthetic that is exposure of esthetic, which was not referred to be the naked whole body but from the modeling of Tang Dynasty women costume. Another comparison between Hang and Tang Dynasties women costumes was the comparison between concealment and exposure of dress, but this kind was more appropriate to reflect the esthetics of costumes between Han and Tang Dynasties, meanwhile, the esthetics were the esthetic of covering-up Han Dynasty costume and the esthetic of bare Tang Dynasty costume

3.3 Simple and Gorgeous

Han Dynasty women costume fully reflected the aesthetic of simplicity which can be seemed ranging from social and cultural background in Han Dynasty, to the materials of women costume, the colors of costume and decorative patterns. The materials of Han Dynasty women costumes were mostly made of natural fiber, like silk, yarn and linen which possessed simplicity on their own, plus dark colors mostly adopted in costumes which well
present the simplicity of Han Dynasty costume. On the contrary, the Tang Dynasty costume owned another kind of esthetic that was gorgeousness which can be seemed from women's dress, hair style, make-up and ornaments and so on.

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Engineering Science and Technology. VoL 21, No. 5