

Study on Formativeness of Bangryeongpo of General Lee Eung-Hae

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1. The scope of study

General Lee Eung-Hae was a military officer of the Joseon Dynasty born in 1547 (the second year of the Myongjong Regime) and died in 1626 (the fourth year of the Yinjo Regime). General Lee was commissioned various position and finally promoted to the General of Pyungyang, the city of strategic importance north of the capital.

The General Lee's grave was opened by the Hapchon Lee family to relocate it from Gangwon-do province to Gyeonggi-do province in March 31, 2002. His mummified body and clothes were excavated and donated to Chungju Museum. Among the 24 outerwear items, 21 were dressing items and the other 3 were lining fabrics (Jiyo, Gyopo, Jari). All of them were outerwear however, no basic male dressing such as trousers or coats were found. This research specifically focuses on the Bangryeongpo among the items to study its change throughout the period.

2. Characteristics of Bangryeongpo

Its collar was rectangular and symmetrical. From a corner of the rectangular collar, an diagonal line was accurately drawn and sewn slightly off the center. The outer layer was silk decorated with peony patterns and the inner layer was silk. The collar was faded to yellow. Unlike other Bangryeongpo clothes which had different lengths of front and back, the General Lee Bangryeongpo had no difference in length between the front and the back. A small hat of triangular shape was attached to the opening in the back. Underneath the front collar a rectangular Seop was attached followed by another Seop. An additional lining was sewn to the right side of collar to cover up the inside dress when it is worn. In the front, there were marks for buttons which must had been removed because accessories such as buttons and breastpins were not allowed in the coffin. Sleeves were attachable and the line was curved from the armpit area and led to Sugu. looking at the relatively straight sleeve line, it seemed to be worn under a long coat. On the armpit, a triangular strip was attached. Having the rectangular cut of collar and unique attachment of the inner and our layers, the sewing and the tailoring techniques used in the clothes were very distinctive and significant in the history of Korea traditional clothes.

3. Conclusion

According to the examination on the characteristics of Bangryeongpo, the delicate cutting line of collar, square outer collar with the decorative saddle stitching line and front collar in twofold structure, ladder-type outer collar under the square outer collar, treatment of triangular gusset on the back slit, the attachment of triangular gusset on the armpit and square gusset on the outer armpit illustrated the functionality and formativeness. The detachable sleeves also demonstrated the functionality and formativeness.

Moreover, the formativeness of Bangryeongpo was observed in the curve of lower sleeves, smooth bottom hem line of Bangryeongpo, side silhouette of gusset and its top and gentle line flow.

4. References

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