

## A Study on T-shirt Design Using Doggaebi Pattern

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### Abstract

The purpose of this study is to design t-shirts by using doggaebi patterns as traditional cultural products. Byuksa has the meaning of keeping away wicked spirits and to receiving good fortune. Most of the pictures of magpies, tigers, dragons, hawks, and roosters contain the meaning of protection and the doggaebi pattern is a typical Byuksa pattern. By way of example of product development, this study will develop designs by using doggaebi patterns and promote beautiful Korean traditional patterns as well as Korean traditional culture. The reason for choosing the T-shirt is because T-shirts are a basic item that all people have and wear, so Koreans and foreigners get interested in them and buy them. This study presents designs for 5 kinds of t-shirts for adults and another five kinds for kids using doggaebi patterns.

This study was limited to the doggaebi pattern, so it is expected more studies about patterns and many cultural products will develop.

**Key Words** : T-shirt Design, doggaebi pattern, cultural products, roof bricks, Byuksa Patterns

### 1. Introduction

A pattern is a product that reflects every ethnic group's traditional culture. In their long period of Korean history, Koreans used various patterns in their food, clothing and shelter. In particular Koreans frequently used the doggaebi pattern to keep away wicked spirits and to receive good fortune. Doggaebi patterns were frequently used on wall paintings and Wadang roof end tiles since the Three Kingdom period.

Doggaebi patterns found in relics show Korean demons were not scary and fearsome, but friendly

and humorous. The purpose of this study is to design t-shirts by using doggaebi patterns as traditional cultural products.

For studies about Doggaebi pattern on the past, Kim Youn-mi<sup>1)</sup> used Doggaebi pattern to design t-shirt, namecard case and cup pad. Chun Jung in<sup>2)</sup> designed the tie pin and cuffs buttons. Kang SungJoo<sup>3)</sup> designed candlestick. Above three studies are related with cultural product development using doggaebi pattern. Han Hea-Kyoung<sup>4)</sup> observed Doggaebi pattern as one of Wadang pattern, Kweon Yong-Keun<sup>5)</sup>, Park YeounJin<sup>6)</sup> and Kim Youngju<sup>7)</sup> studied Doggaebi

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pattern as a kind of good luck pattern.

By way of example of product development, this study will develop designs by using doggaebi patterns and promote beautiful Korean traditional pattern as well as Korean traditional culture. Because the Byuksa pattern has the meaning of keeping away the bad things it is presumed that it would be useful for people today.

The reason for choosing T-shirt was because T-shirts are a basic item that all people have and wear, so Koreans and foreigners get interested in them and buy them. By looking at doggaebi patterns in Wadang relics, are can design shapes that are suitable for modern t-shirt design. T-shirt design is divided into two categories, five kinds for adult and five for kids. For Koreans, this would be a chance to learn about traditional patterns, for the foreigner, this would be a chance to advertise Korean tradition by printing explanations of traditional patterns.

This study investigated patterns meaning Byuksa and item of the design was only limited to the t-shirt. This study will contribute for a chance to let people know the beautiful Korean traditional culture that have the symbolic meaning of doggaebi pattern.

## II . Literature Review

### 1. Concept & kinds of Korean Traditional Byuksa Patterns

Byuksa(辟邪) has the meaning of keeping away wicked spirits and receiving good fortune.<sup>8)</sup> Byuksa belief is an essential element of the long life theory(長生思想) and the belief of praying for good fortune. It also gives a background for the beginning of the Byuksa pattern. Byuksa pattern's symbolic meaning is "Borrowing the power of god to defeat disaster such as war and epidemic.", this meaning originates from indigenous religion.<sup>9)</sup>

Most of the pictures of magpies, tigers, dragons, hawks, and roosters contain the meaning of protection and doggaebi pattern is a typical Byuksa pattern.<sup>10)</sup>

Pictures of Magpies and tigers<pic1><sup>11)</sup> are believed to protect people from misfortune if they hang on the wall on New Year's Day. Dragons<pic2> are considered to be a divine spirit and control water so Korean used pictures of dragons in a ritual service to pray for rain. Hawks<pic3> are considered to be a bird of fearless courage and eliminate evil. Korean also



<pic 1> Magpies and tigers,  
KOREAN-Art Book-  
Folk paingings,p.461.



<pic 2> Dragons,  
KOREAN-Art Book-  
Folk paingings,p.492.



<pic 3> Hawks,  
KOREAN-Art Book-  
Folk paingings,p.827.



<pic 4> Roosters,  
KOREAN-Art Book-  
Folk paingings,p.530.

believed roosters can turn away a departed soul from the house by letting people know when the day breaks.

Doggaebi is treated as good-willed in Korean folk belief. Doggaebi demarcates intemperate life of human and awake thoughtlessness. It is considered to be a guardian and makes a vice into a virtue.

From the Three Kingdom period to the present, Koreans have used various Byuksa patterns to keep away the wicked spirits, and some of those are still used today as a folk belief.

## 2. Concept & History of Doggaebi Pattern

### 1) Concept of Doggaebi Pattern

The origin of doggaebi is presumed as China's Zhou, Shang period-taotie. Taotie(饕餮) is grotesque and fearsome such as the tiger or dragon<sup>12)</sup>. Cognition of Korean Doggaebi began to appear at the time of Three Kingdom Period and it is like humans and have humorous character. It has been used as Byuksa for protection and put on roofs, windows, doors and bridges.<sup>13)</sup> Doggaebi is similar from the Gargoyle, because it was a decoration put on above the roof to prevent demons at Catholic church and Byuksa, however it is not exactly same, so this study will use the word "Doggaebi".

Doggaebi is called the one-legged demon(獨脚) in Chinese characters and is a kind of ghost. Doggaebi is categorized as a good ghost, and it helps to stop the intemperate life and uncared life. And it works as a guardian of life's beauty on civil belief. In relation to Buddhism, doggaebi protect people from flood disasters, fire, disasters caused by wind and any kind of natural calamity as well as disturbance

and famine.<sup>14)</sup>

Doggaebi patterns are not standardized but appears to be different according to region and time.<sup>15)</sup> Doggaebi patterns are shapes of Doggaebi Ghost but a humane being. It appears in legendary literature or folktales as a moral being and allows fortune to good people and suffering to bad people. Doggaebi is a unique pattern that represents Korean character and nowadays it is used in many parts.

### 2) History of Doggaebi Pattern

Doggaebi made its first appearance during the Three Kingdom Period(4C~7C). It appears in roof tiles and bricks and continuously appears from the Three Kingdom Period to Joseon Dynasty.<sup>16)</sup> It seems like Korean wanted to be protected from doggaebi by putting doggaebi patterns in roof tiles.

Doggaebi patterns varied according to the time. In Goguryeo (B.C37~668) doggaebi patterns give a strong impression by emphasizing its eyes and mouth. In Baekje(B.C18~660), not much of doggaebi patterns were found.

In old Silla(B.C57~668), not much of doggaebi patterns were found but because of the prosperity of the Buddhist culture of United Silla(668~935) various kind of doggaebi patterns were appeared containing horns of dragons or antlers. The doggaebi pattern on United Shilla has flower patterns on the edges, and is decorated with paisley. The doggaebi pattern in Goryu(918~1392) is similar to the doggaebi pattern in United Shilla, but it has a more pronounced surface, has thick lips, and puts out its tongue.

The doggaebi pattern in Joseon(1392~1910) has a very cute and innocent look.<sup>19)</sup>

One can select a pattern which is suitable for modernizing from the remains of each era by looking at Byuksa Pattern(Keeping away wicked

spirits and receiving good fortune) and doggaebi pattern's origin and history, according to literature data.



<pic 5> convex eaves-end tile with doggaebi, Gokuryu, *Floor,roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.178.



<pic 6> convex eaves-end tile with doggaebi, Gokuryu. *Old Roof tiles*, p.52



<pic 7> convex eaves-end tile with doggaebi, Old Silla, *Floor,roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.179.



<pic 8> convex eaves-end tile with doggaebi, Old Silla, *Floor,roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.180.



<pic 9> convex eaves-end tile with doggaebi, United Silla, *Floor,roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.183.



<pic 10> concave eaves-end tile with doggaebi, United Silla, *Floor,roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.186.



<pic 11> Ridge-end tile with doggaebi, United Silla, *Floor,roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.192.



<pic 12> convex eaves-end tile with doggaebi, Goryu Dynasty. *Floor, roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.184.



<pic 13> convex eaves-end tile with doggaebi, Goryu Dynasty. *Floor, roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.185.



<pic 14> concave eaves-end tile with doggaebi, Goryu Dynasty. *Floor, roof, and wall tiles and bricks*, p.189.

### III. T-shirt Design

Designs were made from as many doggaebi patterns as possible from the different periods looked at in Chapter II. Colors were used from the Korean traditional five direction colors of Korea: yellow, blue, red, white and black.

Design was done by Illustrator CS II and point was given by repeating or using the designed doggaebi pattern only once. Both of short sleeve and long sleeve t-shirts were made; for females, t-shirts with waist lines, sleeveless t-shirts and hooded t-shirts, were also made for variety.

#### 1. T-shirts designs for adult



Adult T-shirt 1; Yellow, for man, printed line by connecting Goryu's doggaebi pattern in the front and back in most basic short sleeve t-shirt. Point was given by putting the minimized same pattern in back neckline. Like connecting Doggaebi pattern on front and back, this design can try various design of cutting and putting off the pattern.



Adult T-shirt 2; Light blue, for men, Used cloth pattern with Gokuryu & Goryu's doggaebi pattern and Silla's human-faced pattern put in the basic short sleeve t-shirt. This design uses six different doggaebi pattern and it can be used in modern clothe design.



Adult T-shirt 3:Red, for women, In the t-shirt that have waistline and cap sleeves. put demon face pattern in the front chest and gave the point by putting the same pattern under back neck. To reduce strong impression on doggaebi, this t-shirt designed Doggaebi pattern with plant pattern and it was designed with curved line.

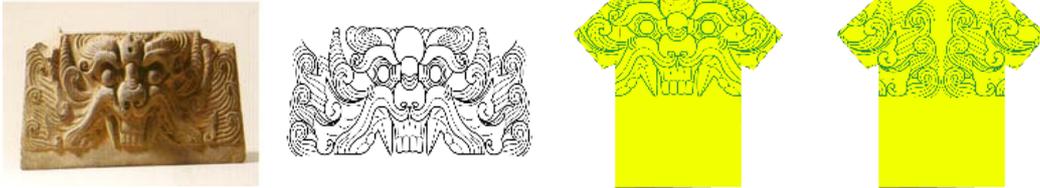


Adult T-shirt 4:White, for women, sleeveless t-shirt that has front neck line and has doggaebi pattern on upper side of trimming. It is decorated with continuous Gokuryu & Goryu doggaebi pattern. This study have designed not only the long sleeve and short sleeve that is popularly sold, but widened to sleeve-less item.

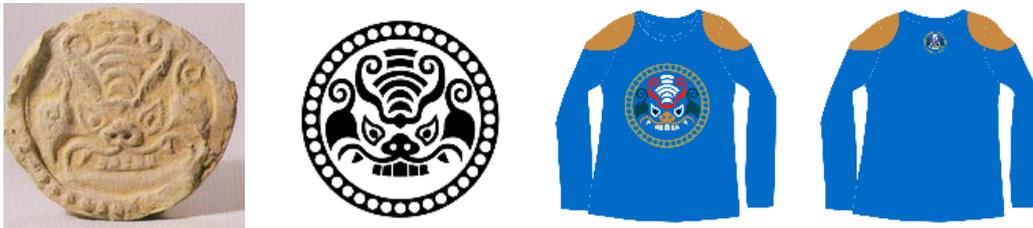


Adult T-shirt 5:Black, for women, It gives variety by using Gokuryu & Goryu doggaebi pattern and lotus and acanthus in bricks. It also place emphasis on the back by arranging little size. This design was made by mixing the 3 kinds of Doggaebi pattern and Wadang, which can be looked as a tryout for future design of mixing patterns.

## 2. T-shirts design for children



Kids T-shirt 1:Yellow. for boys. basic half sleeves t-shirt has United Silla doggaebi patterns from front side to back side. It is colored with green which suits with yellow. This t-shirt uses the original Doggaebi pattern, which has the strong and brave look, because it was designed for boys.



Kids T-shirt 2:Blue, for boys, long sleeves t-shirt has Goryu doggaebi pattern in the middle of chest, earthy yellow arrangement on both shoulders. This study made the design of vivid look of children t-shirt by changing the color of some parts of Doggaebi pattern.



Kids T-shirt 3:Red, for girls, T-shirt with cap sleeves and waistline has United Silla doggaebi pattern by using fabric pattern on the front. It is colored with red on the back side and decorated with doggaebi pattern on the neck line. This design have patternized the t-shirt by seperating and rearranging Doggaebi and surrounding pattern.



Kids T-shirt 4:White, for girls, T-shirt with cap sleeves and waistline has various color in Goryu demon-face in the front so it gives emphasis in the front. By putting demon-face pattern in the bottom of neckline to break the monotony. This t-shirt was designed by changing color of some parts of inside pattern to give a vivid look.



Kids T-shirt 5:Black,for boys. hood shirt with opened front has a little Goryu doggaebi pattern in the left chest and in the back side so it can give an emphasis. This t-shirt was designed to use as a cultural product. Item was expanded to hood t-shirt.

#### IV. Conclusion

Koreans have used various patterns at food, clothes and housing, and also Byuksa pattern which has the meaning of defeating evil, Korean magpie and tiger, hawk, rooster and demon-face would be the most wellknown Byuksa pattern's example and doggaebi pattern is a character that clearly shows Korean's feeling and it has been used since three kingdom period.

This study looked at the symbolic meaning of the Korean traditional culture and the demon-faced pattern, which is an example of the Byuksa pattern, and presented t-shirt designs for adults and children. The t-shirt is an item that is easy to wear for anyone and cheap item to buy. By t-shirt designing with demon-faced patterns, we can get many effects. For Koreans, both children and adults, they will provide an education of the traditional culture and, at the same time, serve as cultural products. And for foreigners, they will be handy items to buy as souvenirs. Design was done by Illustrator CS II and color was focused on the traditional five colors.

This study designed five t-shirts for adult and five for children. This study have used four methods to design t-shirts. First is to design t-shirts by putting pattern on front and back or

to put big and small pattern on front and back. Second method is to mix two or three patterns or patternizing many patterns. Third method is to change to different color on parts of a pattern as a way to make it look vividly. Fourth is to design various kinds of items, sleeveless t-shirt to hood t-shirt.

This is a meaningful project because it gives great example of developing cultural products by using Korean traditional patterns. Moreover, searching and investigating new and various patterns will help not only Korean culture but also the development of practical Korean traditional products in the future.

This study looks for that future studies can find many traditional pattern that have lots of possibility to modernize and connects to the developing design of work. This study also hopes techniques, like patternizing and mixing the pattern helps to develop pattern design or clothes design using traditional pattern in the future.

It was difficult to design t-shirt that has Korean characteristic at the same time foreigners like it. This study was limited to the doggaebi pattern, so it is expected more studies about patterns and many cultural products will develop.

This study will contribute to advertising the beautiful Korean traditional culture with its

symbolic patterns and meanings. Through this study, it is expected that more interest and study about Korean traditional patterns will take place.

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