

A Study of the Four Coloured Uniform Regulation During the Reign of King Kwangjong in Goryeo Period.

Lim, Kyoung-Hwa* · Kang, Soon-Che**

*Doctoral Course, Dept. of Clothing & Textiles, The Catholic University

**Professor, Dept. of Clothing & Textiles, The Catholic University

During the reign of King Kwangjong(光宗) in Goryeo(高麗) there was specific purpose to decide that the government officials should have worn their uniforms in four colors. The main purpose had been to establish new bureaucracy around royal authority. Therefore, it is necessary to analyze four coloured official uniform regulation(四色公服制) concerning the bureaucracy at the time.

Until recently, four coloured uniform regulation which allowed to be worn only in Ja(紫, purple) · Dan(丹, red) · Bi(緋, red) · Rok(綠, green) color and had been understood as differentiating the hierarchy simply by color they had worn in the field of clothing history. But Hwang Sunyoung(1991) asserted that people had worn Dan(丹, red) had been from Goryeo, people worn Bi(緋, red) had been from Silla(新羅) and they were not in the same hierarchy, using the documents of Geumseongmun(金石文). It is also asserted that four colored uniform regulation should be appreciated as the basis of parallel structure to climb up the hierarchy by their birth or origin.

Therefore, we attempt to discuss the background of uniform regulation establishment and four colored uniform regulation by surveying the conventional theory, the documentations of Jeonsigwa(田柴科) and official uniforms in 『Goryeosa(高麗史)』 and 『Goryeodogyeong(高麗圖經)』 for this study. According to Jeonsigwa(田柴科), Munban(文班) and Jabeop

(雜業) were divided into Dan(丹) which is graded 10 Poom(品), Bi(緋) which is graded 8 Poom(品) and Rok(綠) Which is graded 10 Poom(品). Muban(武班) were documented only as Dansam(丹衫) divided into 5 Poom(品) which could have been appreciated as consideration for the meritorious retainers of the foundation who had come mainly from Muban(武班). There are documentations about Jasam(紫衫) which shows they were divided into 18 Poom(品) but not about the division of Munban(文班), Jabeop(雜業) and Muban(武班). It is considered the Jasam(紫衫) had been for the royal as well as for the official uniform.

It is observed that the four colored uniform regulation had been established to enforce the royal power of Kwangjong(光宗) and used as a way of admitting the remaining royal families and meritorious retainers of the foundation under the new government system. It can be seen that four colored uniform regulation reflected the special political situation of the early Goryeo(高麗) dynasty.

It is understood that the differentiation between Dansam(丹衫) and Bisam(緋衫) layer were differed by the birth or origin of the officials but why Dan(丹, red) which had not been used in Baekje(百濟) nor in Silla(新羅), not even in mainland China was applied for the official uniform was not resolved yet. It could be the subject of further study to solve why.