

Boots of Ancient Korean, Koguryo reflected On the Nomadic Country around Silk-Road

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1. Introduction

A costume of Koguryo is a representative type of the nomadically tribal costume based on an upper garment and pants and it is an original form of Korean costume. Because of a wall painting of Koguryo tombs, a study of the costume of Koguryo has been advanced splendidly in comparison with the other ancient country. It stirs up historic pride of nation. Consequential subjects of costume of Koguryo such as a construction of costume, symbols as a costume of mural painting, the changing factor, aesthetics of costume and comparative study of costume and culture has been well developed and studied. However, a segment part of costume like a headgear or border has been studied slightly. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to make clear shoe on the wall painting of Koguryo tombs by categorization and comparison with the nomadic country around Silk-road. Research materials are 22 of the wall paintings of Koguryo tombs and documentary records.

2. Shoe of Koguryo and the Nomadic tribe around Silk-Road

2-1. Shoe on the wall painting of Koguryo tombs and literature

The literature mentioned about the shoes of Koguryo are Gu-Dang-Seo, Dang- Seo and Buk-Seo. A Hwang-Wi Li, Hwang-Hyeok Li, Oh-Pi Hwa and Jeok-Pi Hwa are recorded under the name of shoe on each literature. As the name is shown, those are easily guessed the materials, colors and shapes. The shoes of Koguryo can be classified as Li and Hwa according to the literature. The material is leather and colors are dark yellow, red and black.

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The wall painting of Koguryo tombs is only the visual material for verifying the shoes. 52 of Koguryo tombs reported until this time are painted about the custom and living in period of that time among the reported Koguryo tombs to present. 42 tombs are painted a portrait, 13 tombs located in Jib-ahn and 29 in Pyeong-yang.

In this study, 22 tombs out of 42 were researched, and the Chronological records are from 4C to 6C. The shoes on the wall painting of 22 of Koguryo tombs could be categorized into Li and Hwa and it were Re-classified as 13 types according to the material and the length of

Hwa. Types of Li were 5, types of Hwa were 6, a combat shoe was 1, and Goduri that is a kind of Chinese shoes was 1. The material of shoe was almost regarded as leather, but the combat shoe was assumed as a metal material.

The 5 types of Li were Black Li with White sock, White Li with barefoot, White Li with Black sock, Red Li with Black sock and Black Li with barefoot. However, in case of White Li with Black sock and Red Li with Black sock, black sock has been rarely worn with a traditional costume also it has been not found as a relic yet. Therefore, it is uncertain that White Li is kind of Li. However White Li with Black sock and Red Li with Black sock have been regarded as a kind of Li by this time because it looks like Black Li with White sock, and this theory was mostly adopted when the costume of Koguryo was reconstructed by the historical aspect. The 6 types of Hwa were classified as White Hwa I, White Hwa II, Black Hwa, long white Hwa, long black Hwa and long dark yellow Hwa by colors and length of Hwa. Generally, Hwa on the wall painting was covered up to ankle by pants so it could not be measured the length. However, the long Hwa were worn over pants from a soldier and acrobat so; the length of Hwa was shown. Combat shoe is a kind of Hwa and it has spikes. Goduri was regarded as unusual shoes to Koguryo people. The wearing form of shoes was not much different from man and woman. Just for long Hwa was mostly worn by the man who be needed an activity

2-2. Shoes of the Nomadic tribe around Silk-Road

The Nomadic tribes around Silk-Road are divided into the Nomadic in the steppe and countries bordering on Western China. In this study, the shoes of the Nomadic in the steppe including the Scythian, Altaic peoples, the Huns, the Sien-pei, the Tartar, the Haytal, and the Turk was researched, and the researched materials were the wall painting and relics.

The Scythian man wore short boots by a felt or leather, and woman wore soft boots. The Sakha with gold accessory from Oxus wore a long boots, and a shaman exhumed from Issyk tomb in Kazakhstan wore boots that are up to the knee and covered with gold on the top of the neck

The shoes of Altaic people were found at Pazyrik tomb. A knight on carpet which was exhumed at Pazyrik No.5 tomb wore short leather boots. A boots were exhumed at Paztrik No. 2 tomb for man and woman's boots were made of a fur without the sole. Man's boots was long and woman's was shorter than man's. A body of boots and neck of boots were used different colors for each, so it was exactly alike as Koguryo Li. Bottoms of boots were embroidered delicately.

The Huns' shoes were verified by the relics of Noin-ula tombs in Ulan bator, Mongolia. There were two kinds of shoes, one was long leather boots and the other was silk boots. It was also embroidered on the bottom, so it has a similarity with the relics of Pazirik tombs.

Based on the literatures and visual materials like the wall painting of Dunhuang, a boots of the Sien-pei was verified to 'Jang-Yo-Hwa'.

The Tartar wore 'Sim- Ong-Hwa' and the Haytal wore a kind of boots.

The Turk established a large country where is central Asia and Mongolian plateau in 6-7c. The Turk's shoes were verified on Aprabsiab mural paintings in Samarkant, Uzbekistan and it was a long boots.

Hence, the nomadic tribes around Silk-road mostly wore a boots and it has many similarities with the shoes of Koguryo on the shape and material.

3. Conclusion

The shoes of Koguryo are classified as Li and Hwa and it are divided into 13 kinds in detail based on an historical research of the literatures and the wall paintings of Koguryo tombs. In the same context, the Nomadic tribes are mostly wear leather boots and the boots are similar with Koguryo's shoes. Especially, the Li is looked alike as the boots of the Nomadic tribes so the verified Li are only 2 types. Those are Black Li with bared foot and White Li with bared foot on the wall paintings. Red Li with black sock, Black Li with white sock and White Li with black sock have a possibility as a Hwa according to the similarity with the boots and the obscurity of Korean history of black sock. . As a result, there are 9 of Hwa, 2 of Li, 1 of combat shoe and 1 of Goduri 1 on the 13 kinds of shoes of Koguryo. It means that Hwa is a general shoe in period of Koguryo, and the costume culture of Koguryo is understood with the nomadic culture.

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