

## Clothing in Modern China

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Uh! I have to wear rags today! Did you know that some people can't help what they wear because they're too poor? Chinese clothing has changed over years.

### \* Feet- Past and Present

PAIN!!! In the late 13th century, women's feet were broken so they could wear small elegant shoes. Foot binding started at the age of 5 and 7. It was also considered by men, beautiful, and made men submissive toward men. Gradually, over the years, this painful practiced has come to an end. In present day, Chinese women, wear high heels and low shoes which they got from the western par of the world. By letting Their feet grow naturally, it was considered unique and beautiful. Some shoes are natural colors, and others are varied with different colors.

### Men's Clothing

\* Men in China wear long robes. In the late 19th century, some men adopted suits. Also, they adapted accessories like different types of leather and headwear such as hats. \* Most sleeves of the robes were wide, but varied some according to fashion. In the late 1920, civil servants were

forced to wear what they called the Sun Yat-Sen suit. The suits were symbols of proletarian unity. Traditionally, the suits were darker, drab colors. When things became more modern, bright colored ties were added along with accessories. By the late 1970's, fashionable clothes were again accepted for adults.

Some of the modern clothes are still patterned after traditional styles and colors. It is said that green represents spring, red represents summer, black represents winter, and white represents autumn. Many of the clothing styles are also patterned somewhat after one of the three main types of traditional clothes which were:

\* Pien-fu'- was the first ceremonial costume-tunic top or trousers.

\* Chang-pao- This garment was a one piece, down to the heels (from shoulders.)

\* Shen-I- Is the same as the Pien-fu' but sewn together.

All three of the above types of clothing consist of wide sleeves (usually), and fancy sewing decorations on the shoulders.

## *Fashion Of Today*

The traditional clothes were something dark color with bright designs for special occasions, but now in modern China, color and design are okay almost anytime since color is considered beautiful. Styles are a combination of some of the designs of traditional clothes as many adopted from western culture. With the creation of modern fashion, western dress has become optional. In the early 13th century, woman wore two to three garments, layered clothing. Sometimes skirts usually embroidered. Then women started to modernize eastern and western styles. Jackets and skirts became popular.

### *Sources:*

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