# Symbological Interpretation of the Costume Information in the New China for the Past 60 Years

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#### **Abstract**

Since the New China has been founded 60 years ago, with the social and political developments made to adapt to the economic changes, the clothing style has several times seen massive changes; convergence and diversity, the two characteristics so deeply imprinted the evolution of clothing in the history. During the process of evolution, the apparels' gender characteristics, occupational markings, geographical and ethnic traits, as well as the constraints and other factors imposed on social lives, have been greatly dimmed, or even in some cases, disappeared altogether; The distinctive features of the timelines hold the symbolic significance of the historical changes, the economic developments, and the aesthetic ideological evolution in the Chinese culture; In the reflection of social changes, clothing has became an intuitive symbol, its evolution portrays the outward development of Chinese society. The evolution of clothing in the past 60 years has greatly enriched the content of Chinese clothing culture.

Key words: New China, Costume, Symbol

## INTRODUCTION: THE CHANGES OF PEOPLE'S CLOTHING AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW CHINA

Clothes are a unique creation born from the wisdom of humanity. As a focus on the protection of physical and aesthetic needs, especially as a symbol of human culture, clothing is the content of people's lives and social systems, cultural practices and aesthetic values; it reflects one's spiritual outlook. General apparels, including clothing, accessories, makeup and other practices, but also the etiquette and dress, class, aesthetics, habits, and all other concepts and the system of customs. This article will focus mainly on clothing, with other accessories embedded within.

The success of revolution in 1949 changed the social developing direction. And the life of the people in China has been changed greatly. In the change the mostly obvious phenomenon is the clothing of the people but this phenomenon was ignored by the mainstream consciousness. «Maybe there is no anything else can reflect our values and way of life than dressing in a more focused way. Dress is a personal is a 'sign language' which delive a series of complex information. And it is the basis of showing the instant impression.» We could feel the pace of social change if we track the 60 years changes in the mass clothing from Semiotic perspective.

The most outstanding and the most essential feature of ancient Chinese costumes art is the clothing regulations. That is, define the clothing style, texture, etc for different ranks of the society with legislation. This makes the shapes, colors, materials, decorative wear, crafts of the traditional Chinese costumes continued several thousands of years in designing and using. The government had to make some rules for costumes to change the society custom after the Xin hai revolution which overthrew the autocratic dynasty. But in fact, the old habits especially Entangling foot, wearing robe and Mandarin jacket did not completely disappear in costumes before the 1950s. And this show that authoritarian political ethics is very stubborn and serious in the development of traditional Chinese culture.

However, the governments promoted their civilization at a fairly rapid after the new China was founded. The effect which old thinking and old Political ethics impacted to wearing style in psychological way has been gradually cleared. And the art of Chinese clothing developed into the new era. Of course, the general development of clothing is suitable to the community's economic development. All walks of life waiting to be all business in the beginning of the founding of new China, and the whole country promote hard work and thrifty nation-building. The simple, generous, thrifty fashion aesthetic cultural values deeply rooted in people's minds to adapt to the situation. At the same time, the political concept still has more or less impact in people's clothing. Almost all people's clothing type in that year is «third service» (Zhong Shan suit, the military civilian clothes, student suit) and «third color» (black, blue, and gray). People of different class do not distinguish grande toilette and civilian clothes any more but they all wear Zhong Shan suit (Zhong Shan suit is also known as the cadre service. And obviously the suit was formed by the impact of the People's Liberation Army uniform clothing and the Base Cadre's clothing) in different occasions. And the youth also wear student suit and jackets. Urban women wear the cadre suit which form after reform (It is slightly different with men's.) in generally. Lenin suit and Bulaji suit ever was once popular when China had close relationship with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. White, light gray or light blue

shirt, one-piece dress and half body skirt has changed the monotony of summer dressing more or less. In rural areas, most youth students and cadres wear Zhong Shan suit, and most women wear short Shirt jacket and trousers. As for shoes, flat head cloth shoes and plastic sandals are mainstream. And glass-green Jiefang shoes began to be popular. But people are still accustomed to wearing straw sandals in many rural areas. Even in the city, shoe leather is also few and rare. The commodity is extremely lack in late 1950s, so the daily consumption of clothing has no personality too. Sewing machines is one of the «old third thing» of Urban household appliances during this period, and this show that the self-made clothes and sewing is still the general characteristics of the family. In The 1960s, the uniform became popular and almost overnight men, women and children were clad in green military uniform during the Cultural Revolution. Grand green color with scattered red color which formed by red sleeve ring in green military uniform bring out a «revolution» atmosphere that covered the whole country. All of these constitute a specific dress symbol of that era.

The material civilization and spiritual civilization of the whole society had got great development and progress after reform and opening-up in quite a short period. People's clothing has changed dramatically too. People begin the pursuit of personalized, liberalization, modernization and aesthetics in dressing. General clothing, especially cadre clothing type in past decades has been broken, and the political ethics rules compacted in dressing has been completely removed. If it is said that people in the past can only got the costume information all over the world through news photos from the newspapers and magazines, then the modern media, especially television and the internet has synchronized introduced fashion information all over the world to tens of thousands of family in China. People's concept on the pursuit of «costumes difference» becomes increasingly apparent and strong under the influence of clothing consumption fashion in Western countries. Suit, dust coat, worsted coat, jacket, down jacket, sportswear, jeans and so on be popular in urban and rural areas, and even young women's clothing is fashionable and diverse than men's. However, the nation's traditional aesthetic concept developed to a higher level continuously with the growing prosperity of the national economy. And more attention about costumes was placed in showing the national spirit and national character. And thus the national style of festive costumes became to more evident and more enhanced.

Today the general public apparel in China is developing with huge diversity, and the general public accessories became from none to diversification too. All of these has showed era character of diversification and opening.

The general public costumes had a flexural and dazzling change in the past 60 year of the New China.

## ADVANCE AND RETREAT OF THE LONG GOWN AND ZHONGSHAN SUIT

A huge oil painting «founding ceremony» (Xiwem Dong 1963) which described the scene of the New China foundation gave everyone a very deep impression. In the painting, the high-spirited men of great merit of the new China whom have passed through hundreds battles stood on the rostrum of Tiananmen. And there are several democrats among them. People can distinguish them from their dressing easily because the former wore Zhongshan suit but the latter wear

the long gown. However, you could find nobody with a long gown any more from the news photos of the newspapers several years later. Although the democrats was still in the political arena but they also put on a Zhongshan suit.

Costumes of Chinese people was westernized obviously in the first half of the 20th century but the costumes which reflect traditional Chinese culture still are the mainstream such as traditional Chinese clothing culture is still the mainstream. Such as cheongsam, Zhong shan suit, mandarin jacket and long gown and so on. After new China was founded, some costumes ever favored by the leisure class in the past such as cheongsam, mandarin jacket, long gown, hat, skullcap and suit was abandoned as «the four outworn thing» of the feudal class and the bourgeoisie because of the ideology. Zhongshan suit is only one retained from the old costumes as the only formal clothing for people in military, political and education sector.

Sun Yat-sen design a new garment which show the meaning of dress reforming and changing in customs and traditions according to the situation that suit is inconvenient and does not meet the characteristics of the Chinese people's lives. The new garment refers to the style of China's original costumes and absorbs the style of the students fitted which is popular in Chinese groups of Southeast Asia's. The garment was improved continuously in the promotion process. And it became to the uniform for leading cadres dressed in revolution base because of the strong innovation, modernity, simplicity, practicality of color and low requirement for cloth. At one time during the war it derived army civilian service and Student services which favored by progressive youth.

Long gown shows the characteristics of Chinese history and culture more or less. And this is a special costume style which came from the traditional Chinese costumes after Xinhai revolution. However, efficient production and political life of new social activities lead to that this clothing was no longer suitable to the new lives. So from the early 1950s, the long gown is rare in general lift except used by rap artists or in historical performance wearing. It has been out.

Advance and retreat of Zhongshan suit and long gown showed that the political culture of the revolution still dominated people's aesthetic and cultural dress although there were no mandatory provisions in people's daily dressing.

#### THE INFORMATION REVEALED FROM LENIN SERVICE AND BULAJI SUIT

Such new clothing chosen by the political and intellectual women in the early founding of New China: the costume named Lenin suit which had two columns buttons and four buttons in each column. Actually Lenin suit is the common clothing dress by Soviet Union people. The suit was popular after October Revolution because it is the universal costume favored by Lenin. Since then the Lenin suit was favored by public people especially women in China which adoring the Soviet Union and advocating Lenin. The People's Liberation Army forces used «service-Leninism» for women in uniform before the founding of new China. This action made it was fully demonstrated in China. So this service type spread in the majority of women, especially urban women cadres, staff and intelligentsia. Bulaji suit ever been popular among young and middle-aged women the mid-1950s. Actually Bulaji suit is the transliteration of «one-piece dress» in Russian. The suit was general clothing of Soviet Union women and it has rich style

and color and is suitable for women of different age and class. Soviet female experts and staff has played a very good example for Chinese female when they came to China for working or living. Bulaji suit was favored by Chinese young female students and young and middle-aged professional women after the suit were instructed to China because of its simplicity, convenience, generous, comeliness and grace. In addition, the stand-collar colorful shirt of Ukraine-style was once popular in young urban men.

The ambitious industrialized plan is inseparable from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in the founding of New China. The Chinese people studied from his big brother Soviet humbly and the apparel was also living closer to the Soviet Union. It should be said that Lenin suit and Bulaji suit also showed the opening mind of Chinese people, in the other hand these exotic apparel was also a very good adjustment for domestic size-fits-all clothing. But this type of clothing becomes a revisionist clothing and disappeared at last due to the breakdown of Sino-Soviet relations. In a conclusion, the political ideology plays a decisive role in the costumes and art exchanges. At that time, the Chinese people rejected all the western apparel such as the suit, high heels and marveling. And the action leads to the rupture between Chinese and Western.

#### WORSHIP OF WORKING UNIFORM

New China is a country led by the working class, which doomed the workers in this country in a noble status. The worker in the dominant position of the urban population is more respected with the formation of urban-rural dual structure. Especially during the Cultural Revolution, the «all led by the working class» slogan was promoted and in fact the working class was in leading position everywhere. So the political status of workers becomes higher. Since the 1950s, the whole National workers wore the working clothing of fine canvas material. That is working uniform. Base of the uniform evolved from jacket. And it has as simple and generous design style. The dressed could be spunky and freshly with it. The uniform became more costly because it was supplied conditionally but not for sale. The uniform is the identity, but also a symbol of social status. And from 1960s to the mid-1970s, the working uniform was the most popular costume in China. Everyone would give the admiration to the dresser even a non-worker can get more respect from others if they have one worker friends or relatives. In that time, the Protagonist dressed in working uniform of Beijing opera «harbor» even made the opera fans and general public be crazy.

In a word, the lofty status of working uniform in a certain age shows the uniform's Symbolization in status and identity reality. On the one hand, it also shows the people's aspiration and the pursuit of industrialization.

### RED SET OFF GREEN: UNIFORMS AND ARMBANDS

The mainstream ideology impacted a subversive infection on the national politics, economy and culture under the slogan of «putting politics in command» and «Critiquing the bourgeoisie and all the exploiting classes» from Early 1960s. Costumes record the history of political

fanaticism in the particular era as a visual symbol of the times. Essentially it is a good action to promote thrift. However, the evaluation for costumes in that time has gone far beyond the scope. Suit is the bourgeois. «Bulaji suit» is revisionist. Cheongsam is feudatories. And all fancy costumes are decadent lifestyle. Shawls made marceled hair is also representation of corruption. As regards the wearing of jewelry, in the majority areas are almost extinct. The uniform style began to infiltrate into people's daily costume since the beginning of the movement about study from People's Liberation. Particularly, the behavior which Mao Zedong interviewed the Red Guards in a uniform suit in August 18th, 1966 made the green uniform became to the most typical revolutionary fashion. Almost overnight, from the central «cultural revolution» leading group to the general worker-peasant-soldier organizations and the Red Guards, everyone dressed in the same appearance. They wear the green uniforms and green berets on head, red armband circled in arm, wide strap surrounded waist, military canvas satchel with the word of «service for the public people» in shoulder, Chairman Ma badge in front of chest, «Little Red Book» in hand. All of these constituted a specific visual style and the typical dress of visual symbols. And then formed a strange landscape: «the whole red in territory and the whole green in people's costume». And clothing's function to show the difference between men and women, young and old age difference has become blurred. And apparel show obvious non-gender-based and non-age characteristics. «The crime of robbing service cap» is a witness for the distorted fashion in that day.

The Cultural Revolution caused the extreme shortage of daily merchandise. And this is economic premise which lead to the unification and monotony of the daily dress. On the other hand, the aesthetic concept about costume was replaced by political enthusiasm which overtopped all the human nature. The generalization of social and political ethics penetrated into the daily life of clothing consumption. Clothing appearance in spirit and material aspect fully displayed the stagnation of national economic, the overkill of national politics and the silence of national. Obviously, the public's green military uniform and the armband is material symbol which they sincerely worship and follow the leader. And it is also the reflection on costume about their blind. The serious worship to the leader was showed in Non-rational following like sheep and too excessive political passion. Of course the costumes artist which should be liberalized, personalized, anesthetized and modernized cannot be really shown in this day and age. And costumes developed to the political symbol of Position, factions, identity. In natural, the dressing action of similar to all the people, style withered, wooden shapes, color turbidity, natural material shabby is inevitable.

Tragicomedy of high-heeled shoes bell-bottoms

Fashion and novelty is always be pursued by people in any era. Even the most stubborn people will not refuse to dress up. Even in the mid-1950s to the 1970s, there is still a number of «heresy» in the young men and women appear when people dressed in high Similarity. That was high-heeled shoes bell-bottoms and so on which criticized as «rogue», «hooligan» or «bourgeois way of life». Even the strange dressing was Destroyed Mandatorily in Special time and certain places.

The spring of China's contemporary clothing has finally come in the late 1970s and early 1980s. People affected by the new visual impact of the popular red skirt. High-heeled shoes bell-bottoms which were prohibited in Class struggle era became to the beautiful representation

of youth in the time. With the surging tide of reform, China's costumes had an obvious trend of diversification and diversification. Almost overnight, colorful costumes replaced Monotonous colors and styles Lasted for many years in the urban and the rural areas. Bell bottom pants, trousers awl, radish pants, straight pants and Manpower, aerobics pants, jeans, skirt suits, skirt trumpet, strap dress,, bats jerseys, ski shirt, jacket, T-shirts, and so on appeared in the street. The long-term popularity with a single type costumes was no longer exist. A wide range of costumes dazzled all the people. Some costumes which were favored by People just in heart appeared. And foreign fashion was imported to domestic. The costumes in foreign film and television came to epidemic rapidly. With the popularity of television media, fashion models, singers, Dancers and comedians was known by the tens of thousands of households and no one could refuse the temptation of the latest clothes and accessories. The colorful costumes were the showing of the era of reform and opening.

#### ERA PROPERTIES OF SUIT'S POPULARITY

The suit disappeared in China for 20 years because of the reason described above although the suit had been imported and been popular in China in the early 1950s. With the acceleration with foreign exchange, suits returned to China from the early 1980s. And developed from the upper to the lower classes fast. Central leadership, knowledge class and business Excellence dressed in suits to set an example for the public. Even the general public as well as rural farmers were a suit.

The Suit has been popular in the world which originated in Europe. It features a man's mental state and economic status and also shows seriousness, rationality and responsibility of the dresser. There are many types of suits, and people have formed the fixed habit of wearing. But the suit developed towards mass direction in today's China. The complex Dress suit system from West has not been accepted by the public. Especially the tie that was looked as suit's «soul» is often be dressed in different wishes. It seems likely a natural dressing performance in early stage of economic taking-off.

## MULTIPLE IMPLICATION OF MINISKIRT'S POPULARITY

Maybe the super-short skirt is the only daily costume that caused an «incident». The super-short skirt, also known as mini-skirt is a type skirt which only covers the part above the knee (usually 20 centimeters or more).

The Chinese are caught in the Closed times of class struggle When the Western invented miniskirt with worldwide popularity. Stunning costumes influx from west to China After reform and opening-up, and the miniskirt came into the vision of young fashion people. People noticed that this short skirt's character of fitness around breech, comfort in Lap, and coupled with the use of materials for free, simple, convenient. It became to the best fashion which showing the curve, arc degree of fluency and freshness of women's body and setting off the youth beauty of young girls. And it also adapted to the requirement of popular sports. This costume especially

demonstrates the vitality of youth paired with long boots, so it was well loved by female. Miniskirt can be paired with trousers, jeans, or even bandages adapting to seasonal changes. All of this has increased the popularity of it. It infiltrated every corner of the office. And many fashionable women, especially white-collar women take to the miniskirt to the workplace.

There were a lot of controversy in past about the emergence and popularity of the miniskirt. Supporters praised its fashion and modern. The opponents used characteristics of the nation and national culture as their shield. Even there is an article named <the disturbance of Beijing University's girls> that ridicule the miniskirt on the internet.

Popularity of miniskirt showed of tolerance and open in this day. Way of thinking that judge the popularity with Dirty, dark psychologies has been out of the society. People have learned to treat new things with the unique aesthetic thinking. And today, the miniskirt has become one of the synonyms of fashion.

## TANG SUIT, CHEONGSAMS LEADS WAVE OF AESTHETIC RETRO

At the APEC meeting in 2001 at Shanghai, the participants from Asia and the Pacific leaders were dressed in «Tang suit», which led the new wave of «Tang suit».

«Tang suit» is a common name for Chinese clothing at overseas. The popular «Tang suit» style is from the late Qing Dynasty-style clothes, and it is the improvement of the Qing and Man Dynasty jacket. In Tang Dynasty, China is famous for its booming economy and unique kung fu, and overseas Chinese also called the motherland Tang Shan. The Western countries called the Chinese residential area of Southeast Asia, Europe, the United States and the other places «China town», its English pronunciation sounds like «Tang», so it was translated as «Tangren Jie». The Chinese traditional clothing were called «Tang suit». The clothing designers' design of APEC based on oversea Chinese clothing, so decided to name it «Tang suit». In fact the clothing belonging to Hang suit, different from Tang Dynasty costumes in the style and pattern. As it combined with the traditional clothing styles and fabrics and the Western-style three-dimensional cut, it has became a new fashion when it came out.

In the fashion arena, Chinese always follow the steps by Westerners. But this time leads fashioning. After all, the reform and opening-up, China economy has developed gradually. The prosperity of «Tang suit» seems to be seen as a sign, the rise of the rejuvenation of Chinese civilization. Chinese is urgent to find something of their own nation as lost its own cultural characteristics. Although it is modified jacket, not real «Tang suit», it is inferenced that, Men suit, Tang suit, Han suit will also to be seen soon.

Cheongsam has been dressed quietly in everywhere before the «Tang suit» wave. Cheongsams is the traditional women clothing of the most national characteristics in China. It began in the Qing Dynasty, and known for it like the indigenous clothing of Manchu female. In 1920s it has improved greatly, its collar became closely and the waist became thin and narrow, that bring out beautiful, dignified, elegant, subtle and quiet charm of the oriental women, so it was popular. After that, the cheongsam was improved continually; it has became a unique national costumes of China, and it famous in the international arena, and regarded as representative of the oriental female clothing. However, the simple and generous style, simple lines

and beautiful costumes also disappeared in mainland nearly 30 years, and has restored until reform and opening-up.

Nowadays, modern clothing takes important place. Tang suit and cheongsams brought spice to the life, which standing for the ancient meaning. Retro is not the overall content of this type of clothing. It is seen that the long-lasting charm of traditional Chinese culture from their forms.

## JEWELRY FROM SCRATCH TO THE DIVERSIFICATION OF THE ENLIGHTEN-MENT

The 1950s, previous, rich was knocked down, Ordinary workers and peasants of the public has just stand up. So Jewelry also mentioned less than the level of life. Since then, to promote hard work, great grasp of class struggle, Opposition to the bourgeois way of life. Together with the state control of gold, and the low purchasing power of the masses, Jewelry in a very long time to come out from people's lives. But the beauty in everyone's heart, prohibit, control is null and void. We see some from the prevalence of Mao Zedong Badge at the beginning of the Cultural Revolution. Although this phenomenon can be explained from the leader of worship, but it is also a long-term lack of response jewelry. Different styles, different materials, so that people's desire for a certain jewelry satisfaction.

Reform and opening up to change not only in China's clothing, It is also refreshing Jewelry, Renovation of traditional jewelry patterns, Rich and colorful; minority jewelry excavated copy, flourish; abroad have been the introduction of fashion accessories, trendy attractive. Silver, gold, platinum and gold, diamond ornaments, the market everything; with animal and plant material environmental design jewelry, and more young people have a tremendous appeal. Today, ordinary people with the models, actors, it is very difficult to distinguish from the jewelry on.

Jewelry relations with people's lives, this change is for 60 years by the lack of social life to the rich and colorful symbol of refraction.

# DIVERSIFICATION DIVERSIFIED APPAREL SHOW THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TIMES

Since the end of the 20th century, the process of globalization to accelerate the development of China's public appearance and clothing gradually merging into the world trend. Regardless of urban and rural areas, Western-style clothing such as suit and tie, trousers, western shirt, T-shirts, Hunting apparel, Western Suite, wind raincoat become the main day-to-day apparel; in the 1970s and before popular Chinese clothing such as Chinese tunic suit, the military in civilian clothes and so on, has only in remote areas occasionally seen in older age groups. Today, we come to the West regardless of which city will be found that the local people and Chinese people wear and do not have much difference. However, the general public look at it the other costumes, not to mention the popularity of retro antique apparel, even the Western-style

clothing, in which people will make some changes so that Chinese culture has been shown, in which factor. Particularly in the manufacturing process, Chinese traditional arts and costumes in general occupy an important site.

Embodies the history of public apparel features or characteristics of the times, the succession of fashion and innovation, for cultural development, improving people's lives, there is a certain effect. The environment is another factor in the survival of part of the times, styles of clothing; choice of material, with a total production is being affected by the environment and the impact of technology.

Today chain's general clothing, said goodbye to the last century, not only during the first 70 of a Blue and gray from 1980 to 1990 with the bear's scratching, «West Wind» is quite different. Some scholars have pointed out: «In the recent mushrooming of modern fashion is reflected in the most sensitive point, which is in line with the flavor of the times.» This is a farewell to the diversification of the authority of the times, not to mention is that the people of this dress personal matter. Despite the fashion trend will follow the trend of pushing forward a large number of people over, but fashion is often not a single element. It can be said that the diversity of today's public dress diversified characteristics of the times is the concrete embodiment.

#### CONCLUSION: THE SYMBOL OF THE EVOLUTION OF NEW CHINA COSTUMES

After human beings has been got into the history of civilization, an important feature is clothing inextricably linked with human. As a symbol and a sign, costumes has been always throughout the course of human life. The original syntax semantics, pragmatics, as well as its prominent symbolic meaning and information, that included between human and costumes, is not aroused fully attention

On the other hand, clothing as a symbol of culture has been throughout the development of the history of China. From the evolution of the mass fashion in the past 60 year of the New China, we can see the change of times, the progress of history, the opening society, the economic developments, and the aesthetic ideological evolution in the Chinese culture.

First of all, the evolution of the mass fashion in new China shows that the apparels' gender characteristics, occupational markings, geographical and ethnic traits, as well as the constraints and other factors imposed on social lives, have been greatly dimmed, or even in some cases, disappeared altogether; practical and aesthetic become the majority concerned about clothes for most people.

The development of costumes not only because the needs of etiquette, but also the needs of human beings'physiology and occupational characteristics. Different climate and environment of different religions and different religions, also makes the different characteristics of costumes. Nowadays, a lot of old pattern had broken, particularly the clothing habits in the identity faith, with the growth of scientific and cultural knowledge, and the modern development of material and cultural life, have been disappeared gradually. On the one hand, people concerned about the practical of clothes. On the other hand, concerned more about the value of its aesthetic decoration. Since reform and opening-up, clothing meets its own regularity

of developed. The old artificial, dogmatic, rigid political statute is no longer sacrosanct. The combination of practical and aesthetic have more space for activities, for the functions such as the sex, age, occupation and other aspects of the different symbol among people.

Secondly, the distinctive features of the timelines hold the symbolic significance of the historical changes, the economic developments, and the aesthetic ideological evolution in the Chinese culture.

The concept of traditional Chinese costumes are often limits the choice of foreign costumes. In the period of social change, it is often absorbed the parts, which is similar with its own ethnic clothing culture at first, and put it into the culture of the national culture. However, the evolution of history in the past 60 years was all-around; it has an unprecedented impact on people's concept to clothing. The prosperity of new China' economic provided a solid foundation for the development of clothing. The modernization of the textile technology and the production process is the necessary precondition for the international. The advancement of our society makes people's clothing behavior towards the direction of opening-up, liberalization and arbitrary. Nowadays, it is paid more attention clothing aesthetic culture, how can it reproduce themselves, develop themselves, and promote the nation's aesthetic attitude. It is not only pursue for the solemn, splendid, and leisure, but also pursue for fashion and special. Nowadays, it is necessary to wear comfortable, sweat-absorbed and breathable, also need to visualized elegantly and touched softly. The developments of clothing culture reflect the creation and collective wisdom of the nation.

Thirdly, in the reflection of social changes, clothing has become an intuitive symbol; its evolution portrays the outward development of Chinese society.

China is an open nation. In modern times, China walked a tortuous path in opening-up. Since the New China has been founded 60 years, we have several twists and turns. However, the tide of the times was promoting China into an opening-up new era. The evolution of clothing in the past 60 years, has witnessed the course of China' opening-up-closed - open. People often through the clothing showing the sense of beauty, showing temperament, self-expression. Fashion is the symbol of life, lives and even the grade, status of the mark. However, in the closed era, the lack of economic restricted people's desires. Only after the reform and opening-up, people's awareness of aesthetic can be met, difference and novelty have the possibility. The evolution of modern clothing is the concrete manifestation of the country's booming economy, scientific ang technological progress and innovation.

In addition, the evolution of clothing in the past 60 years has also greatly enriched the content of Chinese clothing culture.

Five thousand years civilization of the Chinese nation created a rich and colorful Chinese clothing culture. Some scholars compare Chinese clothing culture with Western, come to a rather instructive conclusions. However, the difference between Chinese and Western clothing don't have absolute meaning. In the past 60 years, Chinese and foreign cultures collide with each other, mutual absorption, that all have had a tremendous impact to Chinese clothing culture. The production, style and color of today's clothes, and so on, form simple to complicated, form only considered to pay attention to both practical and beautiful, their diverse styles, patterns renovation, changes quickly, is never came out in the history. The development and progress of the clothes, has greatly enriched the content of Chinese clothing culture.

The evolution of clothing in the past 60 years, had written a magnificent chapter to the Chinese clothing culture. We believe that Chinese clothing culture will bring more enjoyment for human's future life.