

Traditions Holy Robes: Questions and Answers

Shin Wook Kim (Lady Dr. Kim)
1984



What is the history of holy robes?

The design of the robes was received in a revelation by Ji Seung Do, one of the earliest disciples of Father. The crowns that True Parents wear were also received in that same revelation. Before coming to the Church, I also saw a similar robe in a vision. As you know, I was spiritually guided to find Father. When I saw that the actual robe was like the one in my vision, I knew that this was a holy garment. These robes were worn by Father and Mother at the holy wedding of the 36 Couples.

What should we wear underneath our robes?

Ceremonial garments consist of the holy robe and all white undergarments. Traditionally men wear a white ba ji jogori and women wear a white chima jogori. If it is not possible to get these, then all-white western clothing can be worn underneath the robe. Men can use a white shirt, pants, tie, socks and gloves. Women can use their wedding dress or an all-white dress.

Are men's and women's robes the same?

The yae bok, or the holy robe is basically the same for the husband as for the wife. Our holy robes are patterned after those worn by the 36 blessed couples. Both robes button or snap on the same side; first on the right side then over to the left side. There are three lassies of beads on each side of the robe and strings of beads on the belt. Each string of beads is about 4 cm. long, so according to the size of beads the number may vary. The beads may be any color, usually a lighter color like white, blue, pink or yellow. The different colors serve as a way for the husband and wife to tell their robes apart.

Should blessed children have robes?

Children may also have white robes, but because they are always growing, it would be difficult to continue to make robes that fit. So western clothing can be used.

When do we wear our robes?

Ceremonial robes are worn during the Three-day ceremony and the Eight-day ceremony. They also can be worn at pledge service for the five church holidays and at other events at the request of True Parents. For example it may be asked that they be worn at the wedding of True children. We never know when Father may request that we wear our robes to a special event, so we should always have our ceremonial robes prepared, with white gloves and socks as well. Also in case of sudden death, we should have a place where we keep our robes, holy handkerchief, and Shim-Jung candle and birthing candle.