Ukrainian folk children’s clothing. Traditions and evolution

Ihor TUREISKYI,
M. Rylsky Institute of Art Studies, Folklore and Ethnology,
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

The traditional Ukrainian folk costume is a complex structure that combines both the material and spiritual culture of Ukrainians, and is a reflection of the national sense of beauty. Performing a practical function, the folk burden served as a social marker, a reflection of norms and ideas, illustrated the changes in human life associated with growth and aging.

Children’s folk clothing is a separate phenomenon that reflects the connection between ideas and everyday practices; reveals the peculiarities of the functioning of a traditional costume. Clothes symbolically illustrated the changes in a person’s life associated with growth and aging.

As a separate phenomenon of clothing culture, children’s clothing not only complements our understanding of the uniqueness of Ukrainian folk clothing, but also reflects important aspects of the interrelationship of everyday ideas and practices, the interaction of established norms and transformational processes, intercultural and social influences.

Folk clothes, and children’s clothes in particular, act as a vivid indicator of the representation of national culture in Ukraine and beyond, contribute to the growth of self-identity and national consolidation of Ukrainians. Reproduction and the latest interpretation of traditional elements of children’s clothing contribute to the transmission and preservation of authentic cultural values by contemporaries to the next generation, patriotic upbringing of youth, and aesthetic development of all segments of the population.

**Keywords:** children’s clothing, folk clothes, traditional costume, child socialization, Ukrainian traditional culture, childhood.