

What is behind the color black

Which word do you associate with the color black? - "Strength," "dignity," "darkness," or "austerity." We observe in our daily lives that black is chosen for particular circumstances. As for clothes, for example, we choose black for a formal wear, a clerical garment, and a frock and so on. Why do we choose black, not red, blue or green for them? Certainly we have some common impression from the black in different circumstance. Where does this common impression come from?

Kyoto Montsuki Co.,Ltd is a company that has tintured only black since 1915. Our technique of tinturing advanced through the competition for realizing genuine black in black-montsuki(i.e., a formal wear of Japanese men) enables us to tincture the most genuine black in the world. At a look, the black of different black-montsukis appear the same. But some have different nuances according to the first dyeing (Kusakizome and Dorozome^{*1}) before tinturing black. Others have some meanings because they are first dyed with the materials that have some cultural backgrounds. Their differences lie in something spiritual behind the blackness finally obtained.

The ancients use the color "black" as a clue for constructing and understanding their world; they find different meanings and interpretations from the color "black" by their rich imagination and instinct; and they incorporate their findings into their lives. The culture nourished by them is not obsolete in the contemporary world where we have had many discoveries in science. Rather it is silently immersed into our lives with its own attraction.

We Kyoto Montsuki Co.,Ltd want to realize more than the blackness in appearance. We would like to realize some mysterious power that we feel wearing a black-montsuki,i.e., the power that makes us to stay straight and control over our feelings. It is the culture beyond black-montsuki, our culture about blackness itself. We think that we can create the spiritual color, which we can appreciate long time only by searching the ultimate blackness but also tinturing the culture beyond it.

Here we search for the culture about the blackness, going between the past and the present. There are both traditional blackness and modern blackness. We venture to take in modern blackness because the culture of the blackness is not only the retrospective one. We hope that you see the invisible sparkle in the blackness, knowing the origine of the color black.

