Back to the Hanfu-ture: Young Chinese revive ancient fashion

Notes & Cues: Article: China has embraced Western fashion and futuristic technology as its economy boomed in recent decades, but a growing number of young people are looking to the past for their sartorial choices and donning traditional "hanfu", or "Han clothing". These historic costumes of the Han ethnic majority are enjoying a renaissance in part because the government is promoting traditional culture. Period dramas have also contributed to the surge in interest for traditional Chinese garb — "The Story of Minglan", a TV series set in the Song Dynasty, garnered more than 400 million viewers in three days when it debuted earlier this year. In modern China, the hanfu community spans the gamut: from history enthusiasts to anime fans, to students and even young professionals. A government-supported revival in Chinese culture has given the hanfu community a boost. In April, the Communist Youth League of China launched a two-day conference for traditional Chinese garb, including hanfu. A live broadcast of the event drew some 20 million viewers, alongside a visceral outpouring of emotions. Clothes are the "foundation of culture," said Jiang Xue, who is part of Beijing-based hanfu club Mowutianxia. "If we as a people and as a country do not even understand our traditional clothing or don't wear them, how can we talk about other essential parts of our culture?" she said. **Summary:**