

EMPERORS

Emperors from the Phō Dynasty onwards typically wear four distinct types of clothing, collectively known as the "four robes" (the term is also used metaphorically in the phrase 登龍椅, 穿四袍, "to ascend to the throne and wear the four robes" to mean "to be coronated as emperor", nowadays used sarcastically to describe individuals who are overly ambitious in the workplace)

Byē Gaiq 袍庚

The *byē gaiq*, meaning 'robe of the evenstar', is the oldest of the four robes. It is the official ceremonial wear of an emperor, reserved for the most important of duties, such as religious rites, promulgations of state projects, marriages, celebrations and festivals, naming of the crown prince, and of course, coronations.

Its design traces itself back to the Lya Dynasty, which Khu Pha, the first emperor of Qonklaks, wore on his coronation upon unifying the realms. Featuring black spidersilk as the base cloth, and adorned with the eight colours of the eight elements.

We Whaiq 甲呂

The *we whaiq*, meaning "spine armour" is the battle dress of the emperor, worn during military campaigns, or inspecting fortifications along the frontlines. It gets its name from the overlapping golden-plated iron scales that run along the spine.

Byē Bā 袍純

The *byē bā*, meaning 'pure robe', is the formal day-to-day wear of an emperor, worn in the imperial court, meeting with councillors and officials, and all other day-to-day duties in and outside of the palace.

It is a white silken robe typically worn with a *wushamao* before the Olboros, which they opted for the Ekuosian tradition of wearing a large turban instead.