

## Societies on every continent wear uniforms and or follow dress codes...why?

People on all 5 continents wear uniforms and follow dress codes at every socioeconomic, educational and vocational level. In the wisdom of our Creator, God Himself placed within our DNA His very nature and attributes even if we choose not to recognize them. He placed in us a desire to be all we can be, to aspire tomorrow to be better than today, to learn, grow and exceed the limits we may feel exist for ourselves. We are designed by Him to press and push to live our one life to the fullest potential possible.

This is how we know that being part of a team, any team is greater than to be alone, we know that together everyone achieves more, it's in our DNA! We desire to be a part of something bigger than ourselves, we know alone we are limited but together we are not!

Uniforms are required at the highest levels of society, as a sign of an individual who has chosen to be a part of a "team." Not to diminish the individual but to recognize that the individual has greater potential as part of a team. To give honor and respect to the one that chooses to pursue the wisdom of giving ones individuality in part to a team to receive back more from the team than he could have achieved on his own! It is a sign of strength, intellect and wisdom that not all choose! A uniform or dress code is not to be confused with "uniformity!"

It is an honor for the person that has decided to pursue further training and or education in any arena. Communicating to those seeing their uniform/dress code that they aspire to learn, grow and serve to be greater tomorrow than they are today for themselves and others. It is a sign of self-respect first, then respect for others!

Knowing they are not diminished in this setting aside of what some call "self-expression" for the trade of the knowledge, strength and power from the team, they know they will not be diminished in this but only increased, they are wise, and they see what others will not.

Sadly the individual who chooses to prize momentary "self-expression" over being part of a team or having an experience of value that will add to their lives as they add to others, is a small minded person. Short sightedness is dangerous to others and themselves in the long run and everyone around them knows it!

When people enter the military it is not because they love the uniform or being told what to do or just love following protocol. It is because they believe in a cause and are willing to do and become what the cause needs, and in that they know their lives always have greater meaning. Yes they are willing to die for this cause, but more importantly, they want to live for it! They want others to have the chance to live by it, for it and because of it. They want those they love to have a future and they are willing to contribute to it! They wear a uniform, they follow a "code!"

Medical professionals wear a uniform to communicate respect to others by letting them know they are there to help them in their worst moment! Their uniform says I am here for you! I have willingly paid a price yesterday to be able to help you today! This is honor, this is respect!

No person wearing a uniform or following a dress code can do so with excellence without understanding and demonstrating that they have respect first for themselves! A uniform/dress code says to others, I respect myself first so I can respect you always!

Airline attendants wear uniforms to let you know they have willingly been trained to serve you! They want to make your experience better and even be prepared to save your life if needed. Their uniform tells you they respect themselves and they value you!

You have a dress code when you go to many fine dining restaurants, why? They want you to know they believe the best of you and that you will have a better experience when you bring your best. They are ready to give you theirs! They are ready to honor you, are you prepared to receive that honor in an honorable way? Are you prepared to receive their respect in a respectful way?

Olympic athletes and even children's sports teams wear uniforms, to respect themselves, their teammates and even their countries! It is an expression of self-respect, respect for others and the "team/cause" they have given potentially years of their lives to! An honor code!

Educational institutes that aspire to higher levels of learning, show respect for their students by minimizing their distractions during their time of devotion to studies with a uniform. The student themselves shows self-respect by saying to others I believe in my cause and of the cause of all those who work beside me every day for a better tomorrow! "The price is never greater than the prize!"

People follow a code of dress as part of a code of conduct, an honor code, because they believe in something greater than themselves! This is the nature of God! He is glorified when we respect ourselves enough to respect His creation, mankind!

**1Ki 10:4-9** And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, and the house that he had built, and the food of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, *and their apparel*, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of Jehovah; there was no more spirit in her. And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thine acts, and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was not told me; thy wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame which I heard. Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, that stand continually before thee, *and* that hear thy wisdom. Blessed be Jehovah thy God, who delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because Jehovah loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do justice and righteousness.

*May you add value to others, may you demonstrate respect, may you know honor and may you be forever ruined for the ordinary and pursue the extraordinary, all of your days in all of your ways!*

Love Pastor Marie