

On The Differences between Chinese and Western Cultural View

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Abstract:

Chinese and western cultural view formed its own cultural view, different characteristics embodied in Chinese and western cultural view: value orientation, religious belief, traditional education etc, due to the influence of their respective traditional thought and between Chinese and western culture, religious beliefs, etc, Strengths and weaknesses of Chinese and western culture, the two should exchange, complement each other, and constantly improve themselves.

Key words: Cultural viewpoint; Chinese and western culture; Differences

Culture is a necessary condition for the survival of a famous family, the philosopher Luo Su said: Whether it's for a country or to the world, culture is the most important problems. ^[1]

1. About the cultural view

Culture is a very broad concept. Generally speaking, culture is a social phenomenon, which is a product created from human interaction, and it is also a historical phenomenon, which is also the social history of precipitate. Actually, culture, the sum total of material and spiritual wealth, is a kind of ideology, what is outside of the condensation in the material and also free from material can be inherited on state or national history, geography, local conditions, customs, thinking, and values etc. Culture has two sides, advantages and disadvantages. The criteria of judging culture is decided by the culture whether is beneficial to promote the development of social politics, economy, science, art, or helpful for people to form a good mental quality.

2. The Difference between Chinese and Western Cultural Perspective

Culture is made up of a variety of elements. Chinese and western traditional culture have different elements, what formed the different cultural viewpoints. The difference of Chinese and western cultural elements, caused the Chinese and western cultural view with their own different characteristics. What the specific performance is in the following respects.

(1) Value Orientation

Chinese traditional culture, which is influenced by Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism, pays more attention to the unity of nature and ideology, emphasizes on "Harmony". It requires individuals into social groups, which the interests of the state, the collective and others above personal interests. Due to the influence of pragmatism and utilitarianism, the western pays attention to the personal standard theory of individualism, which put the personal interests in the first place. It advocates personal independence, emphasizes individual personal and property safety. Individualism is the core of western culture.

(2) Religious Belief

China's religious beliefs are not particularly strong. Buddhism, plays a dominant role in the Religion of China, advocates people to forgive, stands aloof from worldly success, and be contented in poverty and devoted to things spiritual. What's more, the Chinese Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism thought is mutual confluence, mutual tolerance. While the western has a devout religious beliefs. In the western tradition, people used to call the western culture as "Christian culture", what can be found in the important position of Christianity in the western culture. Western religion is very pious and enthusiasm, which comes from the Jews whose religion with the thought of fanaticism and intolerance. They think if a person received a religion who can never accept the other religions, because of religious between mutually exclusive.

(3) Traditional education

The imperial examination system had been used as a means of selection of officials in the history of China education, and at the time it was an effective way for lower level people to enter the ruling classes, it also can help the impoverished show their ability to serve the country. However, the system can easily generate "formalism" of the eight-part essays, restrain the educatee's creativity, inhibit personal subjectivity. While western education pays more attention to cultivating creativity of educatee. Compared with other models of education in west, the education of the United States is relatively successful, which concentrates on excavating the potential of educatee and cultivating subject consciousness of educatee and stimulating the spirit of innovation.

All in all, Chinese and western culture have their own advantages and disadvantages. In addition, the former's introversion and the latter's extraversion can blend mutually, complement with each other to strengthen the communication and accommodation. But in the process of cultural exchange, do not walk into the two extremes, one is the overall affirmation regardless of the actual situation, the other is conservatism of rejecting any foreign culture. In the Chinese and western cultural exchange and accommodation, it is essentially necessary to hold the attitude of "accepting the good and rejecting the bad" and take advantage of other excellent culture forms. Only in this way, can we successfully make our own culture irradiate new light and charm.

References

- [1] Bertrand Russell. China [M]. Shanghai. Stanford university press, 1916:2.