Analysis of Confucian education of Hangzhou in Yuan Dynasty

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Abstract: In the Yuan Dynasty, the main institutions of Confucianism in Hangzhou were Hangzhou Confucianism, Qiantang Confucianism, Renhe Confucianism and West Lake Academy. The teaching area was often divided into the sacrificial area, the teaching area and the living area; the teaching buildings were arranged in the form of Left Temple & Right School or Front Temple & Rear School; The teaching was mainly based on the neo-confucianism of Cheng and Zhu, and the study of the Four Books and Five Classics was carried out step by step. These temple-schools in Hangzhou were under the jurisdiction of the Confucian Administration Department of Zhejiang Province and Department of Political Integrity in Western Zhejiang Province. The Confucian Education scale of Hangzhou City was the largest in western Zhejiang.

1. Introduction

The Yuan Dynasty attached importance to cultural education, the social status of Confucian culture had further improved. For the first time, Confucius was canonized as the king of the great sage, and the three religions of Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism converged. In 1276, the Southern Song Dynasty surrendered. Two years later, the former capital of the southern Song Dynasty Lin' an was renamed Hangzhou City, under the jurisdiction of Zhejiang Province. Hangzhou City is located in the economic and cultural core area of the south of the Yangtze River, Grand Canal connects the north and the south, Qiantang River goes across the east and the west, flowing into the sea, and the geographical location advantage is very obvious. Although Hangzhou City was no longer the capital of a country in the Yuan Dynasty, it was still the capital of the wealthy Zhejiang Province and the political, economic and cultural center of the whole province. On the basis of elite gathering in Hangzhou, the education continued to develop, and it is one of the national cultural and educational centers in the Yuan Dynasty.

2. Construction of Confucianism in Hangzhou

Confucianism and Academy of classical learning were important parts of Confucianism Education in the Yuan Dynasty. In terms of official education, the Song Dynasty was the best; but in terms of academies, the Yuan Dynasty was the most prosperous, just as Zhu Yuanyou said.¹¹ According to statistics, all kinds of schools in the Yuan Dynasty up to 24,400, there were more than 400 academies. The Yuan Dynasty achieved the unification of the north and the south, Southern neo-confucianism spread to the north. Official schools and private academies spread throughout the country. Compared with the Song Dynasty, the Yuan Dynasty had more universal education. The state advocated culture and education, the government inherited the traditions of previous generations and established schools everywhere, no matter how far away. Today's academies and official schools spread all over.¹² In the Yuan Dynasty, there were many official schools and private academies in Zhejiang Province, which were the most prosperous schools in the
country. In Hangzhou City, there were mainly official Confucian school of Hangzhou, official Confucian school of Qiantang County, official Confucian school of Renhe County and private West Lake Academy. At the end of the Yuan Dynasty and the beginning of the Ming Dynasty, Liu Ji described that the city of Hangzhou had four official schools and private academies, with students as numerous as ants, gathered together.

Official temple-school of Hangzhou, founded in 1131 on the basis of Huian temple. After the fall of the Southern Song Dynasty, the Yuan Dynasty established the new Confucianism of Hangzhou (temple studies) on the basis of Lin'an Study in the southern Song Dynasty. The official Confucian education of Hangzhou in the Yuan Dynasty mainly inherited the practice of the Southern Song Dynasty and had little change. The school site was under the Yunsi River, west of Lingjia Bridge. The architecture of Confucianism in Hangzhou in Yuan Dynasty can be divided into three parts: Sacrificial area, teaching area and living area. Sacrificial area: the Confucian Temple is used to worship Confucius and his descendants such as Yan Hui, Zengzi, Zisi and Mencius. Offering sacrifices on time is one of the important contents of teaching activities. The national education system in the Yuan Dynasty stipulates that the layout of teaching buildings is “left Temple and Right School”, that is, left for Dacheng Dian, right for Minglun Tang. Teaching Area: That is the ancient learning palace, the temple was used for worship, the school was used for teaching. The teaching place includes the lecture hall, the study room, the library room and so on. Lecture hall is its core, there are often several study rooms around the hall, Zunjing pavilion is located in the north of lecture hall. Living Area: mainly refers to the auxiliary facilities and places that provide necessary services for sacrifice and teaching, such as professor's office, student dormitory, canteen, public bathhouse, toilet, warehouse, and so on. The dorms are the core of them.

In real life, temple and school buildings are often mixed together, the division of the region can only be relatively, as the yuan people said, All the schools in the whole country have built temples for sacrifice. Temples and schools are often mixed together and indistinguishable. In short, after the 13th year of the Zhizheng (1253), the official Confucian school of Hangzhou followed the “left temple and Right Temple” layout of the national school system. There were 7 rooms in temple hall and 42 rooms in the sacrificial area. The lecture hall had 5 rooms, and there were 26 rooms and 4 study rooms in the teaching area. After being expanded in 1362, The scale of official Confucian school of Hangzhou became the largest in western Zhejiang.

3. County temple-Schools and West Lake Academy in Hangzhou

Confucianism in Qiantang County belongs to local official school. In the Song Dynasty, Qiantang County School attached to Lin'an Government School. During Shaoxing years, the local government started to build a temple-school on the west side of Changsheng Elderly Bridge to cultivate talent. In 1240, Zhao Yuhuan, the governor of Lin'an city, built a six-room residence, which was named kindness, discernment, action, faith, culture, loyalty. The Yuan Dynasty inherited the education of the Song Dynasty, and the official temple-school was destroyed by the war in 1352. Qiantang County school presented a layout of “Front temple, Rear school”. There were 3 rooms in Dacheng Hall, and 14 rooms in the sacrificial area. There were 3 rooms in Lectuer Hall, and 10 rooms in the teaching area. Like Qiantang county, Renhe County School attached to Lin'an Government School in the Song Dynasty. In the third year of Shaoxing (1133), the Renhe county government started to build a temple-school on the north of Guanqiao Bridge. Renhe County temple-school presented a layout of “Front temple, Rear school”. Renhe County temple-School is the same size as Qiantang. There were 3 rooms in Dacheng Hall, and 14 rooms in the sacrificial area. There were 3 rooms in Lectuer Hall, and 10 rooms in the teaching area.

West Lake Academy, which was a private school, formerly known as the Imperial College in the Southern Song Dynasty, and the school site was the former residence of the famous General Yue Fei. In 1294, Xu Yan, Provincial Judge of Western Zhejiang, rebuilt West Lake Academy on the base of the old temple. He appointed a man as the president of the academy. The overall architectural layout of the newly-built West Lake Academy was Front Temple and Rear School.
4. Teaching Management of Confucianism in Hangzhou

In the Yuan Dynasty, the establishment of schools was one of the local government affairs. There were some institutions responsible for the administration of Hangzhou education: The Department of Political Integrity in western Zhejiang Province. The Department is a local supervisory organization, focusing on supervision and prison, but the scope of supervision and administration is very wide, one of which is to set up schools. The Confucian Management Department of Zhejiang is in charge of local Confucianism, which was located in Hangzhou City and the official level is Grades Five, the Confucian Management Department managed the affairs of local schools, Sacrificial activities, educational expenses and so on. There were five officials in this educational management organization.

Official schools and private academies. The Yuan Dynasty Confucian Education had been popularized throughout the country. Although the academy was a private school, but the trend of changing into officialization was obvious, approved by the government, a permanent member of the principal. There was also a direct-learning man, which is responsible for the financial affairs of schools. In 1291, Kublai Khan, the first emperor of the Yuan Dynasty, decreed that “any place where a great Confucian scholar was born, passed by, or where a private school was funded, may set up academies.” Different government departments can appoint professors, Xuzheng, Shanzhang, Xueliu, and so on. [7]

5. Teaching thought of Confucianism in Hangzhou

After the Yuan Dynasty unified the whole country, it adopted Chinese law to govern the country, hoping to realize “one morality, one custom”, to unify the thought, to educate the common people, and to cultivate talents for the country by means of Confucianism. The aim of education is to master “father and son have relatives, monarch and minister have righteousness, husband and wife have difference, old and young are orderly, friends have faith.” In 1344, the government listed the “establishment of schools” as one of the “six things” to evaluate the local officials, and linked with their political achievements and promotion. The emperor attached great importance to culture and education, and had set up a method for evaluating local officials, the first content of which was to evaluate the prosperity of schools. Because of Xu Heng's advocacy, the schools of the Yuan Dynasty were dominated by Zhu Xi's theory, the content was mainly Four Books and Five Classics, the students were taught to understand Confucius's theory. Wu Cheng, a great Confucian scholar, was ostracized and suppressed for advocating Lu Jiuyuan's theory of mind. “The state took Xu Heng's advice and created schools so that the people of the country knew about the study of sages, and Xu Heng did a great job in popularizing the books of Zhu Xi. Wu Boqing, Lu Jiuyuan's ideological doctrine, not Zhu Xi's. Not fit for Xu Heng's, not fit for the state. [7]

6. Teaching methods of Confucianism in Hangzhou

The Yuan Dynasty inherited the Song Dynasty system, the order of learning was “erudite, the interrogation, the careful thinking, the clear discrimination, the persevering.” In the Yuan Dynasty, the temple-schools and academies generally followed the principle of Zhu Xi's way of reading. On the basis of Zhu Xi's doctrine of Bailudong Academy in the Song Dynasty and his disciples' doctrine of Mr. Cheng and Mr. Dong, the Confucian scholar Cheng Duanli of the Yuan Dynasty compiled the The Graded Schedule of Study and formulated a set of strict teaching procedures and plans, in order to unify neo-confucianism and national imperial examination, The Imperial College of the Southern Song Dynasty issued this teaching book to schools in all counties. On Zhu Xi's methods of study, his disciples summed up six: determined to have perseverance; step by step; read carefully; modest; studious; profound understanding; working hard. [8] A hundred years ago, the teacher of my hometown, first taught children to learn Confucian classics, learning 300 words a day. From morning to night, they are busy studying, they usually could not get a rest. They spoke and behaved in a Confucian manner, and wrote articles in the style of Su Shi. Children grew up a few
years later, the teacher began to teach them specialized study neo-confucianism of Cheng and Zhu. The students are not very knowledgeable, but they can be said to have learned something. Wait another years to learn the study of philosophy and psychology, then the books of the ancient sages the Emperor's systems, When the students have learned the learning method, they can draw inferences by analogy. That's the gist of Zhu Xi's approach to reading. In lecturing, it is normal to invite famous Confucians to teach, and local officials sometimes take the lead in offering sacrifices and lecturing. With the help of famous Confucians and local officials, local school-age children and students came to the school to learn Confucian classics.

7. Conclusion

In the Yuan Dynasty, the main institutions of Confucianism in Hangzhou were Hangzhou Confucianism, Qiantang Confucianism, Renhe Confucianism and West Lake Academy. Hangzhou official temple-school was very large in scale and was the largest in western Zhejiang. The Confucian buildings in Hangzhou were arranged in the style of “Left Temple&Right School” or “Front Temple&Rear School,” which can be divided into three parts: sacrificial area, teaching area and living area. The content of the course was mainly about the neo-confucianism of Cheng and Zhu, with emphasis on the step-by-step learning method. The principal was responsible for the teaching management. These temple-schools in Hangzhou City were under the jurisdiction of the Confucian Administration Department of Zhejiang Province and Department of Political Integrity in Western Zhejiang Province.

References


