

A Study on the Changes in Modern Chinese History

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Abstract: Chinese history has a long history, so many historians still study chinese history according to all kinds of historical materials and literary records, understand the development course of chinese culture, economy, politics, diplomacy and so on in history, draw the essence from history, sum up the past, and provide valuable experience for the modernization development of our country. Among them, the modern history of China is regarded by researchers as the history of the Chinese nation's struggle against imperialism and feudalism and the struggle for modernization, and many researchers have compiled the results into books for people to understand and learn from. This paper will analyze the changing academic combing and teaching research in the modern history of China.

1. The Connotation and Development of Modern Chinese History

China's modern history is from the first Opium War 1840 to the founding of the People's Republic of China, is the history of China's semi-colonial and semi-feudal society gradually formed to collapse, in this period of history, many important historical events have taken place, Chinese modern history researchers have carried out a detailed study of the causes and consequences according to a certain event in this history, and some according to historical materials and literature records, the whole history has been combed and interpreted, no matter which, it is very helpful for us to understand the modern history of China. [1].

1.1 The Connotation of Modern Chinese History

China's modern history began with the first Opium War in 1840, after the late Qing Dynasty, the period of the interim government of the Republic of China, the period of the Northern Warlords and the period of the National Government. The first stage is the stage of the old democratic revolution, from the Opium War in 1840 to the eve of the May 4th Movement in 1919, and the second stage is the stage of the New Democratic Revolution, from the May 4th Movement in 1919 to the eve of the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949.

1.2 The Development of China's Modern History

The beginning of China's modern history was the Opium War, caused by Lin Zexu Humen selling tobacco; after the Opium War, the Qing government consumed a lot of military expenses and increased the burden on the people, and then the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom uprising led by Hong Xiuquan broke out; in 1856, Britain and France launched the second Opium War on the pretext of amending the treaty; in the two Opium Wars, Russia invaded more than 144 square kilometers of Chinese territory through a series of unequal treaties; and then China set off the Westernization Movement, successively strengthened itself by "self-strengthening" and "seeking wealth "; In 1894, when the Sino-Japanese War of 1895 broke out, the signing of the Treaty of Ma Guan greatly deepened the semi-colonialization of Chinese society. At the end of the 19th century, the Chinese and foreign reactionary forces suppressed the Boxer Movement and failed. On October 1, 1949, the People's Republic of China was founded and the modern history of China came to an end [2].

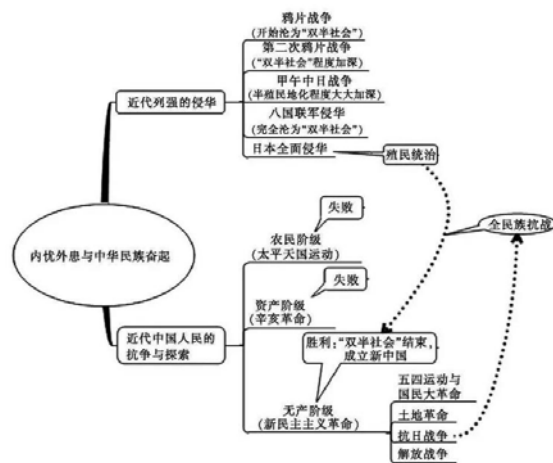


Figure 1 General framework for modern Chinese history

2. Academic Combing of China's Modern History

Many Chinese and foreign researchers have compiled books based on their own research results, and the research directions and the people who are suitable for reading are also different, such as sorting out the great events of modern Chinese history and combing the time, explaining the important events of modern Chinese history, the political history of modern Chinese history, the ideological history, the social and cultural history, etc.[3].

(1) Chen Gonglu, Modern History of China

The modern history of China, written by the famous historian Chen Gonglu, recorded the modern history of China from the Opium War in 1840 to the beginning of the 1930s. The author wrote it in 1934, and looked at the modern history of China from the perspective of world history. At that time, it became a standard history book of modern history of China because of its rich historical records.

Chen Gonglu's Modern History of China takes the major historical events in the modern history of China as the main body, historical records and analysis based on the objective and neutral standpoint, narrates the historical facts as the starting point, and describes the degree of change of things with a fair and objective standpoint, for example, in the description of Sun Yat-sen in the Revolution of 1911, most of the books compiled by other authors of the same type during the same period are called his Prime Minister or Mr. Zhongshan. Respect for history. However, in the "modern history of china ", there are some limitations to the future of china and the analysis of the western powers' invasion of china. When reading, we should not only learn the author's objective narration, take the historical attitude seriously, but also go to the rough and join his own thinking.

(2) The Metabolism of Modern Chinese Society

In many aspects of this book, chen xulu has changed the fixed pattern and ways of compiling history books by most scholars, outlined the metabolism and drastic changes of chinese modern society for a hundred years, and focused on the changes of chinese society during this period due to external invasion and internal reform. The whole narrative is peaceful, objective and impersonal, and it is a very good work of modern history for the high school and college students in our country. Through reading, the students can understand the changes in the social and economic structure and political structure of modern times, the evolution of grass-roots organizations in urban and rural areas, and the social changes induced by unequal treaties. Through reading, we can understand the changes of political thought, philosophy and literature in the modern history of China, analyze the changes of social mentality under the influence of European and American powers, broaden the students' thinking of learning, and strengthen the students' patriotism [4].



Figure 2 Research work on modern Chinese history

(3) Cambridge History of the Late Qing Dynasty, Cambridge History of the Republic of China, etc.

The history of cambridge chinese late qing dynasty and the history of cambridge chinese republic of china are volumes 10,11,12 and 13 of cambridge chinese history, reflecting the level and trend of foreign chinese history research. The History of the Late Qing Dynasty in Cambridge and the History of the Republic of China in Cambridge, together with the best-known Chinese researchers in the compilation period, demonstrated and expounded a basic hypothesis about the modern history of China by Fei Zhengqing. Although this assumption has certainly been questioned today and new explanations have been put forward, it has also had a significant impact on the research and writing of modern Chinese history [5].

(4) "A Bitter Smile" by Chen Gongbo

Chen Gongbo, the author of "A Bitter Smile", who was a representative of the Communist Party, later left the party to participate in the Wang Jingwei pseudo-National Government, this book describes the experience of Chen Gongbo before joining the regime of the Wang Jingwei pseudo-National Government from 1925 to 1936. Chen Gongbo, who has bowed to many historical events since the Republic of China, chronicled the factional activities of the Kuomintang at that time, the internal affairs and foreign affairs of the national government, and other important events at that time. Although the author describes the events of that historical period from the perspective of the participants, it is of certain historical material value, but only the words of one family, and does not refer to or draw on other historical materials, in the process of reading and teaching, need to have the reader's own thinking.

(5) On the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom Movement

The Taiping Heavenly Kingdom movement is one of the most controversial hot spots in modern history. From the point of view of contact with the West, from the point of view of traditional transformation, from the point of view of modern ideological change, we can see completely different things. To some extent, the evaluation of the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom has changed with the different positions of the researchers. This problem emerged as early as the beginning of Taiping Heavenly Kingdom in the Republic of China, and became more and more complicated with the later research of more scholars. Some say Taiping Heavenly Kingdom is an anti-imperialist and anti-feudal peasant uprising, others say it is nothing more than a chaos caused by the madness of individual ambitions; some say it introduces advanced Western ideas, and some say it embodies the most backward side of China. At present, some scholars have studied and analyzed the history of the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom period, "from the early 1850s to the 1864 this Chinese civil war, may be the most deadly civil war in human history "from the" Autumn of Heavenly Kingdom ", author Pei Shifeng, the author of a vivid and informative way to present the Chinese rulers and their tens of millions of people's fate under the influence of British diplomatic and commercial interests, how the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom itself is influenced by the unorthodox religious and political ideas. In addition, "xiao chaogui and the early history of the taiping kingdom "cited reliable historical data to demonstrate the existence of" xiao chaogui era "in the early history of the taiping

kingdom, and promoted the study of the early history of the taiping kingdom.



Figure 3 Study on the History of the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom

3. Conclusion

To sum up, the study of the modern history of China has never stopped, historians have constantly put forward assumptions and judgments based on the records of various historical materials and literary works, and will draw an analysis based on historical materials, and compile the results of the analysis into a book; or simply collect historical materials, make judgments on the authenticity of historical materials through their own cognition and organize them into books for the reference and study of the world. No matter which method, or what type of books, history as a mirror can be known and replaced, only by constantly learning and learning from the experience and lessons of history, can we add bricks to the modernization of our country, and contribute strength.

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