

曾國藩的經世思想：論道統與洋務交織下的實踐

摘要

經世思想，在任何年代、任何國家，都是必須且實用的課題。以中國數千年歷史傳承，經世思想早自孔孟時代的儒家學說即已開始闡頌，且亟思能推之於政策實踐，以達入世從俗、教化萬民之目的。然而長久以來卻僅止於空談而乏於實踐，直至明末清初，經世致用之學形成了一股有影響的社會思潮，知識份子們又重新張揚「經世」的口號，此時期經世學者的政治理想與傳統經世思想實質上又有所落差，也就是試圖在傳統文化與西方文化的交融中尋求救國自強之道。

曾國藩便是生於這個中西衝突、內外交煎多變的時代。既受經世學風之影響，加以求學過程中師友的影響以及傳承於湖湘文化基本性格的烘托，再加上時勢所趨太平天國起義的機緣，得以由文轉軍，實踐其經世理念，成就中國史上文人領軍的表率。而除了軍事上其經世思想得以實踐外，曾國藩在洋務上的倡導，帶領中國邁向現代化，也是值得稱頌的經世實踐。

本文乃就曾國藩在中國固有道統與洋務思想交織下所產生的經世理念，從其治理湘軍、從政濟民及興辦洋務等方面，依序探討評析，並將其經世實踐對近代中國之影響，自不同層面予以評析。結論部分則分別以「內外之別」與「人生過程」兩方面分析其經世思想脈絡之演變，並歸納出其經世思想在當時代之意義以及對現代之啓示與借鑒。同時就其對孫中山革命思想之啓發，分別從文化層次與起義的出發點判論。

在參考資料方面，則輔以「中央研究院歷史語言研究所」與「故宮博物院」所存之奏摺檔案；另以暑假期間赴湖南圖書館及曾國藩故居尋訪所獲之部分資料及訪談，作為輔助參考。

關鍵字：曾國藩、經世思想、湘軍、洋務、道統、內聖外王、
儒法並用

The Statecraft Scholarship of Tseng, Kuo-Fan and Modern China: A Discussion on the Practice with Its Interlacing of Confucian Orthodoxy and Foreign Affairs

Lee, Chiao-yin

Sun Yet-Sen Graduate Institute, Chinese Culture University

ABSTRACT

Adviser : Lu, Ray-chong

The statecraft scholarship is an indispensable and a practical issue in any era and nation. With five thousand years of historical heritage in Chinese history, the statecraft scholarship has been elaborated and extolled in Confucianism since the time of Confucius and Mencius, as it could be applied to policy practice to achieve the purposes of following socially-oriented customs and inculcating the public. Notwithstanding, it had long been in hollow words at the expense of a practice. Not until the end of Ming Dynasty and Early Ching Dynasty did the learning of applied statecraft scholarship give rise to the influential social trends of thought as intellectuals re-advocated the slogan of “statecraft.” It’s in an era when a substantial gap existed between the statecraft scholars’ political ideal and traditional statecraft scholarship, i.e. attempting to build China’s self-strengthening and save the country amid the harmony of traditional culture and Western culture.

Tseng was born in an era under the conflicts between Chinese and Western culture and in the act of internal revolt and foreign invasion. Being influenced by trends of statecraft scholarship, coupled with the influences from his teachers and friends during his education, his character and personality inherited from the heritage of Hu Hsiang culture and Taiping Rebellion, Tseng, a devout Confucian scholar, rose to military prominence to raise the Hsiang Army to fight effectively against the Taiping Rebellion to practice his statecraft ideal, thus turning him a good model of leading the military army in his capacity as a scholar in Chinese history. Apart from his successful practice of statecraft scholarship in terms of military, Tseng’s initiation of foreign affairs to lead China step forward towards modernization will embody the practice of statecraft that is worthy of praise.

This research aims to delve into and analyze Tseng’s governance of Hsiang Army, political participation to engage in charity mission, and foreign affairs from the perspective of statecraft ideal generated from the interlacing of the intrinsic Confucian orthodoxy and thought of foreign affairs. This research further comments the influence of Tseng’s practice of statecraft scholarship on modern China from different perspectives. The evolution for Tseng’s context of statecraft scholarship was further analyzed based on part of the conclusions, “Differences between inner and outer aspects” and “Course of life.” This research further induced the significance of Tseng’s statecraft scholarship during his era and the apocalypse and reference to modern era. Meanwhile, this study also judged the enlightenment of statecraft scholarship to Dr. Sun Yat-sen’s revolutionary thought from the cultural perspective and the threshold of uprising.

This research was conducted to add supplements of the palace memorials filed in the Institute of History and Philology of Academia Sinica and National Palace Museum as the reference; this research further took data and interviews obtained from personal visit to Hunan Library and Tseng’s former residence during summer vacation as the adjunct reference.

Key Words: Tseng, Kuo-Fan, The Statecraft Scholarship, Hsiang Army, Foreign Affairs, Confucian Orthodoxy, Inner Sageness and Outer Kingliness, Combined Practice of Confucianism and Legalism