

Abstract

My Path of Middle East Studies

Xiao Xian

Editor's Notes: Professor Xiao Xian served as director of the Southwest Asian Institute of Yunnan University, dean of the School of International Relations, and vice president of Yunnan University. He is now a professor and Doctoral supervisor of Yunnan University, as well as the vice president of the Chinese Association for Middle East Studies, and the executive member of the China National Association for International Studies. Professor Xiao Xian's main research fields are: contemporary political Islam, Israeli studies, History of the relationship between China and Middle East, etc. He has written and translated more than 20 books such as *World Politics and International Relations*, *Contemporary International Islamic Movement*, *The Story of Judaism*, *Contemporary China's Relations with the Middle East (1949 – 2014)*, *Middle East at the turn of the Century*. and has published nearly 100 papers in domestic and foreign journals. The journal invites Prof. Xiao Xian to introduce his academic experience and thoughts, in order to contribute to China's Middle East studies.

China's Middle Eastern History Studies in Past Seventy Years

Wang Tiezheng

Abstract: The Middle Eastern history studies in China can be roughly divided into three stages: the first stage (1949 – 1978), is mainly to train researchers, set up research institutions, and form the research teams. During this period, several high-quality translations were published, which laid the foundation for the Middle Eastern history studies in China. The second stage is from 1978 to 2010, in which the studies of Middle East history have developed rapidly. The research fields are wide, many important original research results were published, and discipline of Middle East studies was formed in China. In the third stage (2010 – present) China's Middle Eastern history studies have expanded into the depth field, the main research object turned to the comprehensive regional or country general history of Middle East, and many scholars pay attention to major events and major issues of Middle East. But there are still many weak links in China's Middle East studies, which should be unremitting efforts for Chinese scholars.

Keywords: China; The History of Middle East; Seventy Years

Annotation and Textual Research of Manichaeist Manuscript *Zhenming Kaizheng Wenke* from Pingnan

Yang Fuxue, Song Jianxia, Gai Jiaze, Bao Lang

Abstract: The main contents of the transcript of *Zhenming Kaizheng Wenke* in Pingnan include prose, incantation, verse and so on. It is used by local magicians in Xianglong Village of Pingnan County for religious ceremonies. Its content is similar to that of *Moni Guangfo*. It should be a new Manichaean text created by refer-

ring to *Moni Guangfo* and belongs to Xiapu Manichaeist system. Although *Zhenming Kaizheng Wenke* is a Manichaeist literature, it has obvious Buddhist flavor and contains a lot of folk belief elements. In its era, it should be later than *Mani Guangfo*. It should be a relic of the Yuan and Ming Dynasties, reflecting the introduction of Manichaeism into the southeastern coastal areas of China since the Tang Dynasty. In order to survive and actively cater to the religious needs of the Chinese people, Buddhism, Taoism and folk belief factors should be integrated into the Manichaeist text.

Keywords: Xiapu Manichaeism; *Zhenming Kaizheng Wenke*; *Moni Guangfo*; Yoga Teaching; Folk Belief

Studies of Southern Persian Historical Geography

—Sabankara down to Khan Period

Han Zhongyi, Li Ke, Gui Liyan, Han Ziyun

Abstract: The Sabankara (Shabānkūrah) is located in the southeastern part of the Ilkhanate, where is bordered by the Kerman to the east and north, the Persian Gulf to the south, and the Fars area to the west. The Sabankara was originally parts of the Darābjird of the Fars, and the Kerman. Its name is so called by the powerful Arab tribe Shabānkūrah dominated here, which is mainly engaged in agricultural production and a part of nomadic life. The environment is unique. It is an important passage from the hinterland of Iran to the Persian Gulf, also an important part of the ancient Silk Road, and one of the birthplaces of Persian culture and a very important position in Iranian history. There are many famous cities distributed here, especially in the Ilkhanate period, and there are a lot of records in these historical documents. This paper makes a brief survey of the historical geography of the Sabankara region during the Ilkhanate epoch based on relevant literature and research.

Keywords: Sabankara (Shabānkūrah); Ilkhanate; Historical Geography

The Influences of Natural Ecology on the Early Society of Ancient Egypt

Zhao Keren

Abstract: The ancient Egyptian civilization belongs to the river. The natural ecosystem plays a decisive role in the process of the role played by the formation of Egyptian civilization. The ancient Egyptian natural ecology by desert ecosystem and oasis ecological system composed of the Nile. In the two forces of the shift, the human factor is the key factor. In order to maintain and protect the Nile oasis ecological balance of nature, the Egyptians, it is conducive to the Nile river ecosystem health, as judge of all things standard. Fragile natural ecological has the Egyptians in awe of nature, the worship of the gods. On the one hand, the ancient Egyptians make concerted efforts of the collective spirit created the Egyptian civilization; on the other hand, the Nile River played an important role in maintaining the Egyptian natural ecology, produced far-reaching effect to Egyptian society.

Keywords: Natural Ecology; Ancient Egypt; The Nile

The Significance and Paradigm of Ancient World History Studies from the Perspective of International and Regional Studies

—At the Case of Syrian Ancient History Studies

Wang Xingang, Guo Lei

Abstract: International and regional studies is a national project on the background of rising of great powers of China. The value-based of international and regional studies are knowledge outputting and serving for the government. History and world history subject assumed the function of basic subject at the international and regional studies, Function as theory of knowledge and methodol-

ogy. By analyzing and discussing the significance of Syrian ancient history studies, we can see that ancient world history studies play a important role in international and regional studies. Chinese international and regional studies should build Chinese characteristics theory that qualifying inheritance and originality. The theory of “Civilization Intercourse” basing on Marxist historical materialism and the practice of Middle East history studies, it can be guiding ideology of area ancient history studies and a good attempt that Chinese idea and Chinese wisdom take part in International and regional studies.

Keywords: International and Regional Studies; Syrian Ancient History; “Civilization Intercourse”

A New Analysis of the Historical Background, Characteristics and Influences of the Middle East Upheaval in 2010

Huang Minxing

Abstract: the historical background of the Upheaval in the Middle East includes the following aspects: (1) The progress of modernization in the region is slow, and the effect of social and economic development is not obvious. (2) The progress of political democratization is also slow. (3) The development of civil society, especially Islamist organizations. (4) Pressure growth at home and abroad to promote the opening of public opinion and the evolution of political economy. From the macro level, the basic characteristics of the upheaval can be summarized as obvious universality, spontaneity, grassroots, epochal, secularity, uncertainty and comprehensiveness, especially in the early stage. On the whole, the Upheaval in the Middle East has had the following important effects: firstly, it has posed a major threat to the existing state system in the Middle East since the World War I. Secondly, through the change of the internal political power contrast, the political system and centralization of some Middle East countries have been affected to different degrees. Thirdly, the rise of extreme religious forces has a serious geopoliti-

cal impact. Fourthly, the economy of the Middle East countries is in a state of fluctuation, while the countries suffering from civil war have experienced obvious recession. Fifthly, the Middle East society has been hit. Sixthly, major changes have taken place in the geographical pattern of the Middle East. Finally, the Upheaval in the Middle East has resulted in a large number of casualties and serious humanitarian crisis.

Keywords: West Asia; North Africa; Upheaval in the Middle East; Middle East Society

Self-transformation of Nationalism in the Middle East: Performance, Causes and Influences

Tian Wenlin

Abstract: After political independence, nationalism in the Middle East has experienced a process of self-transformation. Firstly, from striving for national independence to national construction. Secondly, from the lack of economic function to the proliferation and strengthening of economic function. Thirdly, from the coexistence of multiple patterns of identity to the identification of sovereign states. The reasons for the change of the Nationalist regime in the Middle East are not only the change of the overall situation, but also the change of the specific situation. However, due to the influence of the existing historical inertia, such goals and means deviate from each other, which makes the emerging countries in a great predicament.

Keywords: Middle East; Arab States; Nationalism

The Analysis of Iraqi Political Ecology and External Powers Game Through the Parliamentary Election

Wei Liang

Abstract: The parliamentary election is a review of the four-year work of Mr. Abadi's government and a summary and reshuffle of the political landscape in Iraq. In recent years, there have been new changes in Iraqi politics, including the intensification of internal conflicts among the three major political blocs, the stagnation of development and reform, and the intensification of popular resentment and protests. At the same time, the long-term infiltration and interference of the United States and Iran and the return of the Gulf Arab countries have become major challenges for Iraq. It is in this complex internal and external environment that the 2018 election and the formation of the government. The new prime minister and his cabinet are more weak than their predecessors. Both Iraq and its new government are facing a severe test and an even bigger potential crisis.

Keywords: The Parliamentary Election; Iraq; Political Ecology

Preliminary Study on the Pyramidal Foreign Policy Decision-Making Mechanism of Morocco

Zhang Yuyou

Abstract: Decision-making mechanism is the central system of a country's foreign policy making and the core element of understanding foreign policy analysis. This paper finds that Morocco's diplomatic decision-making mechanism presents a hierarchical pyramid structure. In Morocco, the King, the core decision-making circle, situated at the top of the pyramid does not need the "approval" of other participants, but possess the commander in chief, who holds power, money and

military power. In Morocco's constitution, the King retains control over the affairs of foreign, defense and religion, although he shares the state power with an elected administration. Moreover, because the King is hereditary and has large social and economic resources, his foreign policy is less dependent on domestic political actors. In the middle and lower levels of pyramid decision-making structure, there are subsidiary decision-making circles mainly composed of government administrative organs and legislative organs and marginal decision-making circles mainly composed of political parties and civil society organizations. Although they can form a certain preference structure, their functions are limited to technical support, political execution, political discussion and political support.

Keywords: Morocco; Foreign Policy; Decision-making Mechanism

On the Modern Waqf and Education in Egypt

Ma Yuxiu

Abstract: Historically, Egypt waqf has a wide range of funding targets, which can be used for mosque, education, health care, public facilities, poverty alleviation and festivals. In the modern and contemporary period of Egypt, due to the colonization of Britain and France, the concept of education to rejuvenate the country was widely springing up among the Egyptian people, so the main stream of Waqf donation was directed to the field of education. By discussing the modern education in Egypt, this paper aims at exploring its shaping role and profound influence on modern Egyptian education.

Keywords: Egypt; Modern; Waqf