1860-1901 年间"民政"概念的演变

作者: 郭思成 指导教师: 关晓红教授

【摘要】: 近代中国"民政"的概念与制度均自域外舶来,其概念内涵外延更历经多重转变。清末新政前,它呈现出四个时期的特征,与近代中国知识与制度转型不同阶段的历程相吻合:第一,咸同时期,时人为应对内忧外患的危机变局,引入西学知识,"民政"曾以"民主政体"的简称得以传播。第二,甲午战时、战后,日本殖民活动将日语"民政"知识输入中国,使其以涵盖警察、卫生等非中国固有的行政范畴,见诸报端并逐渐为人接受。第三,戊戌变法前后,时人危机意识"水涨船高","民政"与申民权、开议院、行自治等一道,成为维新派提倡思想、政治改革的话语资源。其文法构词方式及内涵历史渊源,更使得与之相关的传统民本、庶民政务之义与新思想交错缠绕,多义并行。第四,戊戌政变至新政前,维新士人逃亡日本,受东学直接影响,"民政"之"民"同时可指庶民、国民,其"政"之内涵,更有将民主政制、民权及地方自治之理与施政举措合而为一的趋势。上述各阶段变化,所展示的"民政"概念涵义纠葛,与名实问题之前后异同交错,与改制议案之变动相辅相成,深刻影响了清末新政后"民政"观念的演变与制度走向。

【关键词】: 民政; 民权; 政体; 民事

The Transformation of 'Minzheng' From 1860 to 1901

[Abstract] The signified of 'Minzheng' has changed a lot in the transformation of knowledge and institution in Late Qing Period. Before the new policies of latter stage of Qing Dynasty, it had four features, coinciding with the progress of the transformation of knowledge and institution system in Modern China. First, around 1860 to 1894, struggling with the domestic strife and foreign aggression, people introduced western learning, 'Minzheng' could be expressed as 'democracy' among officials and gentlemen. Second, under the influence of Japan, 'Minzheng' was used for naming colonial institutions of some countries like Japan, Russia, referring to 'civil affairs', containing some work which belonged not to ancient China like police and hygiene. Third, during the Hundred Days' Reform, with the growth of crisis awareness, some people influenced by the western culture tried to differ and re-evaluate the conception of 'Minzheng' implicating the western political system. 'Minzheng' became a discourse resource used by the reformists and was inextricably involved with its ancient meaning. Forth, before the new deal in the late Qing Dynasty started, the word 'Min' could be expressed as plebeian and nationals, the word 'Zheng' meant political system and administration at the same time, combining the meaning of democracy, civil rights, local autonomy and local administration. Changes above deeply influenced the concept and institution transformation of "Minzheng" after the New Deal Period in the Late Qing Dynasty.

[Keywords] 'Minzheng'; Civil liberties; Form of Government; Civil Affairs