

# Yong Culture's Enlightenment on Human's Civilization

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**Abstract**—Seen from the country YONG's beginning to its end, YONG culture 's enlightenment on human's civilization are: 1.Material and spiritual civilization is the base of a country's development ; 2.Strength ,together with science and technology, is the source of productive forces' liberation; 3.Labour and amusement are human oriented ways; 4.Doctrine of the mean is the guarantee of harmonious society

**Keywords**-YONG culture; the doctrine of the mean ; social civilization ;harmonious society

## I. INTRODUCTION

Since 20th century ,because of further research of history especially because of much unearthed archaeological materials scholars begin to realized that the growing point of Chinese early civilization could be in China's north, south ,east and west so it is hard to say that the origin and the development of Chinese civilization is stereotyped and linear, but probably pluralistic instead. Historical Records, by Sima Qian, recorded that Chinese civilization or its history's monism like this: unique ancestor--Huangdi; unique mother river—Yellow River; unique origin of Chinese civilization—Zhongyuan area, which will be changed into new ideas. [1]

In 1929 in Beijing Zhoukoudian Peking Ape-man heritage(about 600 thousand years from now) was discovered. In 1965 in Shangnabang village, Yuanmou county,Yuannan province, Yuanmou Man heritage(About 600 thousand years-500 thousand years from now) was found. In 1985 in Longgupo of Wushan county, Chongqing City Wushan Ape-man heritage ( 2,04 million years from now) was discovered, which is over 1,40 million years earlier than Peking Ape-man heritage(340 thousand years earlier than Yuanmou Man heritage). In 1989 in Xuetang Liangzi of Qingqu Town,Yun county,Hubei province Yun county man heritage (one million years from now ) was discovered, which is 400 thousand years earlier than Peking Man heritage. Because of the discovery of these two heritages scholars and experts all over the world agreed that the first primitive man known to have existed in the world is in Wushan, China, which has also rewritten the origin history of Chinese civilization. [2]

In Du River Valley nearby Wu Mountain Yong country has ever been established. But lack of record in history books the status of Yong country and its clan has been misunderstood in

the long period. Collection of Ancient Texts recorded that in 1046 B.C. King Wu of Zhou Dynasty, together with troops of other eight countries(Yong, Shu, Qiang, Mao, Wei, Lu, Pen and Pu included) ,discussed how to send armed forces to suppress King Zhou. So Yong country belongs to Ba area and Yong Man is also Ba Man. As geographically parts of Yong country existed in Hubei province, so Yong is also called vassal state and Yong Man is called Chu Man.[3]

## II. DISCOVERY OF YONG HISTORY

From the titles of Yong country(different character Yong with the same pronunciation)it can be predicted that Yong country is a prosperous in many aspects such as ceramics, poetry, instrumental music, architecture, smelting, calendar and agriculture, etc. In remote antiquity Yong Man has mastered casting and smelting bronze, civil engineering, astronomical observation, etc. and created splendid Yong civilization. Yong man's achievements nearly cover all factors of ancient civilization so Yong country should be the civilized one in Chinese ancient history. Like some scholars pointed that Zhu mountain centered Du River area is one of the original places of Chinese civilization.[2]

Many experts think Yong Men are descendents of Zhurong. [3-5] Yong Men, together with Chu Men, Ba Men, Shu Men, Qin Men are all branches of King Chuanyu's descendents who established their own kingdoms in their manors. As an independent clan country, Yong is more continuous than Chu and it existed earlier than Ba and Qin. Yong had been a united ,firm and continuous country in Xia Dynasty ,which is over 1100 years from now.

It was recorded that in Shang Dynasty Yong Men helped King Wu to have destroyed Shang and they were conferred Manor of Zijue, that is ,rather big country in the Spring and Autumn Periods. At that time Yong country is a vast land across Yangtze and Han River, belonging to today's Hubei, Shaanxi, Hunan provinces and Chongqing City. The south of Yong is in the northeast of today's Chongqing, including Wanzhou, Kaixian, Liangping. Its west is in today's Ankang city and its north covers today's Yunxi county, Hubei province and the east of Shangluo city. Its comprehensive strength was very powerful and its status and prestige was also very high. In Shang Dynasty Yong country is the head of all manors, covering the north of Hunan and the north of Hubei.

In 611 B. C. the king of Yong country sent armed forces to suppress Chu. While King Chu connected with Qin and Ba and caused Yong to downfall.

### III. YONG CULTURE'S ENLIGHTENMENT ON HUMAN'S CIVILIZATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Although Yong country has been perished Yong civilization has enlightened Confucianism –Doctrine of the mean. What is Doctrine of the Mean?“No lean is called Zhong, no change is called Yong.”Its meaning is that ZHONG is the correct path in the world and YONG is the theorem of the world. Character YONG means “useful, theorem or doctrine by extension, which is commentary remarks for Yong country.

Only Doctrine of the mean can lead to permanent happiness. Yong means moderate and impartial, which is the essence of Chinese civilization. Confucius philosophy is rooted in Doctrine of the mean. Confucius said that doctrine of the mean is the morality. That is to say, doctrine of the mean is the highest state of morality but people lack of it for a long time.[6]

Now doctrine of the mean is regarded eclecticism, which is a misunderstanding. Actually doctrine of the mean is the best attitude toward life after mastering the essence of the world change. Doctrine of the mean is the principle of people, the way of harmony and the correct path.[7] Therefore, in 1700 years of Yong history doctrine of the mean is the fundamental principle of ruling country.

#### A. *Material and Spiritual Civilization is the Base for a Country's Prosperity and its People's Well-off*

Yong country's advanced handicraft industry and agricultural civilization led itself to be a powerful country prosperous in ceramics, architecture, smelting and agriculture.

1) *Agricultural civilization is the foundation for people's settlement and happy work:* Building technology can maintain a country to be steady and the bronze smelting skill symbolized a country's power while agricultural technology is the foundation for people's settlement and happy work. Over 6000years ago, the level of Yong country's agricultural civilization and science and technology was also very high. Rice was widely cultivated and Yong Man also discovered tea and raw lacquer.[4]

2) *Spiritual civilization is the people's popular pursuit:* Yong country's material civilization led itself prosperous and steady so that Yong man pursued spiritual civilization which caused its cultural atmosphere is very prosperous especially in its art and literature. Poetry, drama and chess became parts of people's life.[4]

Chinese primitive poetry ancestor Yi Jipu, who was the main editor of Classic of Poetry, lived Yong country and was buried in Qingfeng Mountain. Many contents of Classic of Poetry came from his living place.

Great patriotic poet Qu Yuan was a descendent of a Yong man, which shows in his famous poetry Li Sao.

Chinese first unique Book of Mountains and Seas was also regarded as the historical book of ancient Yong country. In

addition, Chinese first astronomy and calendar Rongcheng Calendar was also formed here.

Yong Man not only knows how to fight but also is good at singing and dancing. They invented drum so drum was also called Yong Drum.

Yong songs and dances developed into folk songs and drama. Gaoqiang(folk songs popular in Zhuxi and Zhushan counties, straw drum and wedding drum originated in ancient Yong country's songs and dances. Chinese famous drama, Erhuang drama originated in Zhuxi and Ankang (in 2007 Erhuang Drama was named first national non material cultural heritage).Now in Xiangba, Zhuxi, the folk songs still keep their originate style.

Yong Men paid much attention to sacrificial activities and they had standard sacrificial words, which influenced Qu Yuan's many works.

Yong Men also invented chess. It was recorded that in Yao Period Yong Man was good at playing chess and their characters were unconventional and untrammelled.

Because of Yong Man's spiritual civilization people around began to learn from them as a fashion so Chinese set phrase Fuyong Fengya was formed to describe this phenomenon. While as Yong country developed more powerful they planned to downfall Chu country but later caused themselves into failure. So Yongren Zirao was formed as a set phrase to say about this issue.

Many set phrases become modern expressions of censure such as Hunyong Wudao, Wurongxushu, Wuronghuiyan, etc. Even doctrine of the mean became the charges against Yong men's negative escape.

3) *Mystery of Yong cultur:* Yong men's spiritual life led to mystery of Yong culture. Yong culture had two different characteristics: one is upholding Wu culture, the other is unique rock bury custom.[7]

Custom Expo recorded that Yong Man likes witchcraft and their wizard cures disease as a tradition. In the leisure time Yong Man likes witch dance, which can be displayed in the unearthed tombs. Till now Witch culture still remains well.

Rock bury custom remains well. In the western area of Han River, when an old man died people would dig a hole in the rock and put the coffin inside so native man called these rock caves “Old Man's Hole”. Yong Man thought that through this kind of bury the dead could be revived with new skin like the snake's sloughing off. In Zhen'an county, Shaanxi province, many rock caves existed with the rock bury custom, which left as a symbol of country fellows' connection.<sup>[9]</sup>

4) *Yong country was also the place for many scholars and hermit to live in solitude:* Yong Man was not only pioneer of advanced productive forces but also the liberation people of advanced thought. Therefore, Yong country was also the hermit hometown. Yong Man Chisongzi lived in Dayong (today's Tianmen Mountain of Zhangjiajie) in solitude, which was the beginning of hermit culture.[10]

### B. *Strength , Science and Technology are the Source of Liberating Productive Forces*

In the era of Yong country, Switch culture and science are very prosperous ,which shows that Yong Man knew how to use the power of god to be united and how to create material and spiritual civilization based on advanced productive forces.

1) *The source of strength Ancient Yong country. together with ancient Shang country, is the cradle of Chinese culture:* King Shun was also born in ancient Yong country, which has been recorded in Kings' Century and Historical Records. It was recorded that King Shun had ever farmed, fished and smelted ceramics in today's Ankang Zhongdu Village.[2]

2) *Science and technology developed rapidl.:* In the period of ancient Yong country Nvwua Mountain also extended in other countries and rivers covered the whole China but only Yong country became a civilized power, which shows that Yong Man Knew how to use the advanced science and technology to liberate productive forces. I t was seen that development is the essential principle.

### C. *Labor and Amusement are Human Oriented Actions*

In the era of Yong country the productive forces are in a low level compared to today and the labor was rather tough so people needed spiritual life to balance themselves. Yong Man used doctrine of the mean to develop their material and spiritual civilization, which embodied the human-oriented idea.

Yong Man combined fight with songs and dances to embody army's charm and power and they also introduced folk songs into labor to improve the achievements and to relieve the extensity of work.

Moreover, Yong Man introduced dance into switch culture . The magic dance can change the patient's attention so as to relieve the patients' illness.

Yong Man also introduced songs into bury culture. Through singing filial songs Yong Man could not only relieve their sorrow but also killed time when they accompanied with the coffin.

### D. *Doctrine of the Mean is the Guarantee of Harmonious Society*

Yong country took up the best position at first but later was conquered by Chu country just because they didn't follow doctrine of the mean continuously ,trying to use war to show its power .

Although the history of Yong country has passed doctrine of the mean continued. In Han Dynasty scholar Dong Zhongshu raised the advice of respecting Confucians Ideas only which was adopted by the ruler so that Confucians ideas

became the ruling thought and existed till Qing Dynasty. Therefore, scholar Zhang Lianggao pointed that Han culture is the main part of Chinese culture, while Chu culture is the ancestor of Han culture and it was based on Yong culture. [2]

Well known Chinese Tang Dynasty has related to Yong not only because the character TANG is the upper part of YONG but also because Tang people used many methods to develop their economy and productive forces.

Doctrine of the mean is that everyone gains the best and satisfactory benefits in his life so as to construct a steady and harmonious country. Therefore, we should adopt the reasonable parts of Doctrine of the Mean to establish a prosperous and powerful country rich in material and spiritual civilization.

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