

徐福東渡傳說在德川思想史的意義

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引言

司馬遷(前145–前90)在《史記》有關秦朝方士徐福東渡的記述，刺激中日歷代文人雅士的想像及學者的討論。徐福成為中日思想文化交流史的象徵，不同時代的學者對他的看法反映兩國的關係及相互認識的過程。日本自平安時期(794–1186)後半開始出現徐福東渡日本的傳說，相關文獻及遺跡不斷增加，至德川時代(1603–1868)達到全盛。德川日本的徐福傳說反映國家意識的冒起及日本人對中國文化的複雜情懷。中日學界的徐福研究多從考古學及文字考證的角度出發，反覆檢證徐福東渡日本的可能性。¹本研究的目的並非要證明徐福是否曾東渡日本，而是將這個課題放在日本思想史及中日文化交流史的脈絡加以梳理。它主要透過對德川文獻的分析，探討徐福傳說在德川思想史的意義，以期了解中國文化在德川日本如何被吸納與改造的過程。

The Xu Fu Legend in Tokugawa Intellectual History

(Abstract)

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The story of Xu Fu 徐福 has stimulated the imagination of both Chinese and Japanese artists and scholars for many centuries. The legend first appeared in Japan in the latter half of the Heian period (794–1186) and its popularity grew with increased circulations of associated texts in subsequent years. The boom reached its peak during the Tokugawa period (1603–1868) when scholars, writers, and artists were actively engaged in the discourse, showing the rise of national consciousness and the complicated feelings towards China among Tokugawa Japanese.

Scholars of Xu Fu in both Japan and China have hitherto examined the Xu Fu story with an archaeological or philological emphasis, paying special attention to the issue whether Xu Fu had actually landed in Japan. This paper, however, looks into the legend from an intellectual and textual perspective. It studies the significance of the Xu Fu discourse in relation to the Tokugawa history and the Sino-Japanese relations.

Xu Fu has become a metaphor in Sino-Japanese discourse, a subject matter that scholars take advantage of in their discussion of bilateral ties. Two major different accounts of Xu Fu are found in Tokugawa writings—Xu Fu as a transmitter of Chinese culture to Japan and Xu Fu as a refugee to Japan. To a certain extent, these two accounts represent diverse views that the Tokugawa intellectuals conceived of the Sino-Japanese cultural relationship. Through a textual analysis of Tokugawa writings, this paper aims to examine the way in which the Japanese scholars of the time overcame the dilemma of accepting Chinese culture without compromising their national or cultural identity.

關鍵詞：徐福傳說 日本漢學 民族認同 德川文獻

Keywords: Xufu legend, Japanese Confucianism, national identity, Tokugawa texts