試論《詩經》中的「四牡 × ×」

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　　套語（formula）是《詩經》中常見的句式，古代的口述創作詩人利用此種具備「語前完形心理」（preverbal Gestalt）「同質異構」（allomorph）功能的創作手法來達成立即創作的效果，因為一旦熟記這些套式系統，口述詩人就不需要倚賴記誦許多套語，而是著重於「套語公式」中的替換程序。本文將依循王靖獻在其所著《鐘與鼓》（*The Bell and The Drum: Shih Ching as Formulaic Poetry in An Oral Tradition*）中所揭示的「套語理論」，分析「四牡××」這個「套語系統」（formulaic system）所呈現的類型化意涵，指出《詩經》中凡出現此類句型的詩篇，往往具有指示或強化與貴族相關主題（軍事、田獵）的作用；同時，本文將藉由實例分析，説明掌握「套語」的主題化意涵，將如何成為理解一首詩之底蘊的基本依據。

關鍵詞：四牡　套語　詩經　口述創作

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On "Four Steeds XX" Formula in *The Book of Songs*

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Formula is a common sentence pattern in *The Book of Songs*. The poets of verbal creation in ancient times used this creative approach with "preverbal Gestalt" and "allomorph" functions to achieve the effect of improvisation. Once they memorized these formulaic systems, they did not have to rely on reciting many formulas and simply had to focus on the replacement procedure in "formula." This study intends to analyze the categorized meanings reflected in "Four steeds XX" (四牡××) according to the "formulaic theory" revealed in *The Bell and The Drum: Shih Ching as Formulaic Poetry in An Oral Tradition* by C.H. Wang and to point out that the poems with such a sentence pattern in *The Book of Songs* usually imply or emphasize themes concerning aristocrats (military operation and field hunting). Moreover, this study intends to use the analysis on actual examples to explain how the handling of thematic meanings of "formula" became the basis for understanding the background of a poem.

Keywords: Four Steeds   formula   *The Book of Songs*   verbal creation

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