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荀子伦理思想研究

王 颖 著

里龙江人民出版社

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序

荀子是我国先秦时期伟大的思想家,其思想学说具有着广博丰富的内涵。对荀子思想的研究,前人已经做了许多的工作,取得了一系列重要的成果,研究荀子思想的专著,在学术界虽有许多版本(种),但专门研究荀子伦理思想的专著,就我所见到的,本书是第一部,由于荀子思想不仅具有集先秦诸子思想之大成的综合性特点,而且具有强烈的现实主义品格,因此,这一选题具有重要的学术建设意义和实践价值。

本书对荀子伦理思想进行了全面而有逻辑的梳理,既从外在方面论述了荀子伦理思想的时代背景、理论特色与历史命运等问题;更难能可贵的是,又以人性论、修养论、教化论为线索,以"伪"为主线对荀子伦理思想进行了深入、细致、准确的研究、分析和阐发,达到了荀子伦理思想研究的新水平、新高度。在人性论部分,凸显了荀子的"群"与"伪"的社会性、主体性内蕴,在教化篇部分对荀子之乐教思想给予了很好的分析阐发。总之,在对荀子伦理思想的体系和逻辑、荀子伦理思想的基本精神等方面都提出了一些富有新意的见解。

本书在写作过程中,能注意吸取已有研究成果,并作认真考证,把自己的独立见解建立在扎实的研究基础之上,这一点是难能可贵的。尤其值得提出的是,她力求从哲学思想和伦理思想的发展

荀子伦理思想研究

中华博士文库

中,特别是在各派思想斗争中,来阐明荀子伦理思想的特点,突破了对荀子伦理思想研究的常见模式。

综观全书,观点正确,论据充分,逻辑严密,资料丰富,剪裁得当,语言流畅,注重历史背景、社会根源及学派思想比较。反映出作者对本课题有系统、深入的研究和扎实的知识基础、独立的科研能力以及深厚的文字素养。

王颖博士为人正派朴素、踏实谦和,勤于思考和学习,本书是 在其博士论文基础上经过修改、充实而完成的,相信此书的出版, 必将为荀子伦理思想的研究提供新的思路。

> 罗国杰 2006年6月

内容提要

自春秋以来,诸侯异政,百家异说。荀子对诸子思想进行批判 吸收,建构了综合百家的体系,不仅为确立和维护统一的封建大帝 国提供了理论工具,而且回应了重构价值信仰和文化秩序的时代 课题。

其学说对中国二千余年的封建社会产生深远的影响。荀子的 伦理思想是中国传统文化的重要组成部分,对之进行系统深入的 研究具有重要的意义。

写作结构如下:

导论,简要说明了选作此题的理论意义和现代价值。从宏观上介绍了本书的写作思路和框架。其中贯穿着对荀子的天人观、伦理观和政治观紧密联系的概要分析。特别强调了恶性与群性乃是荀子构建伦理思想的两个端点,贯穿其间的是"化性起伪"的过程,凸显了论文的核心线索:伪。

第一章,春秋战国时代,社会经历着极度剧烈的变革。除经济的深层原因外,诸侯们对天下和王业的贪欲亦是极为重要的因素。列国争雄导致了旧有礼乐制度的瓦解,传统的社会调控体系发生着剧烈的转换。战争因是谋取霸权的有效途径而成为当时最突出的社会现象。获胜的欲望迫使各诸侯国纷纷变法,以期集中全国的人力、物力和财力。变法运动在客观上促进了中央集权制国家的普遍建立和逐步成熟。与此同时,既有的社会信仰出现严重危机,社会的调控手段由礼向法过渡,法被空前突出。荀子"隆礼重法"的思想,不能不说是顺应了这一时代思潮。这一时期,随着工商业的繁

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荣,人们的利益追逐心无限膨胀,道德沦丧、物欲横流、谋杀篡弑等诸种病态情状杂生。讲求功利实用,注重现世享受成为普遍生活态度。整个社会弥漫淫逸放荡、逐利而动的风气,城、乡的人际关系日益恶化。这些客观上为荀子"性恶论"的形成提供了现实土壤。随着政治上走向集中统一的历史大势,创立与之相应的具有统一的价值观念和社会规范的文化思想系统,营造和谐的国家社会秩序,成为当务之急。此时,诸子逐步趋于合流。荀学登上了历史舞台。

本章还勾勒了荀子的主要人生经历;考察了《荀子》书的整理和相关版本;确认了其书内容的真伪和写作年限。着重剖析稷下学宫的传统对荀子治学的影响。并指明荀子的生长地三晋也在一定程度上影响了其思想的形成。同时,总结了荀子伦理思想的特征:"博",表现在理论形式和内容上的综合性;注重人为,在人与自然关系上,强调天有其时、人有其治。延伸到社会领域,则体现为"伪":现实性是其总的理论基调。

第二章,春秋时代,"民"地位的提高促使人的问题得到关注。 人的研究即为"人性"问题。在人性与天命关系上,荀子继承了天人相分的思想路线,接受了道家的"天"为"自然而然"的观点。在荀子之前,孔子把性与习连在一起加以考察,对后世影响很大;世硕认为人性有善有恶;告于认为人性无善无恶。其中,孟子的性善论和庄子的性自然论最为系统。荀子融合了以儒道为代表的前人观点,从自然和社会两大层次对人性进行界说,具体表现为"性恶论"和"群分论"。

在性恶论中,性的含义有三重:自然界所赋予的自然而然的存在;天生就具有的原始的物质感官能力;经验层面的、能够直接被人们所把握的欲望,它具体可细化为生存欲、占有欲、享受欲、趋利避害欲。第三层含义构成了荀子性恶论的主体部分。在荀子这里,性、情、欲本质一致,是一个东西的三个名称。荀子指性为恶有四点根据:感官欲望可能引起的流弊;"凡人之善行,常与自然人性相反":"只有本身不具备才会向外探求":"辨合"、"符验"即证明。尽

管其论证存在着诸多漏洞,但是,荀子的性恶论仍是对孟子性善论的补充。在社会历史领域,为发挥人的能动性、推动社会变革提供了理论前提。荀子在"群分论"部分探讨了人的本质,从人类生存竞争的需要来探讨合群制分的重要,标志着中国思想史的巨大进步。他认为"能群"不仅是人类超越于其他动物的根本特点,而且是人类利用、制服自然的必要条件。人"能群"的途径有两个:分和义。分包括等级区分和社会分工。义则指道德准则。荀子关于"群"的思想,既是治国安邦的要求,又为圣人制作礼义道德提供理论平台。同时也接受了中国传统社会家庭模式的影响。化性起伪是联结恶性与群性的桥梁。这一过程的可能实现,既得益于心知"道"及内在"情欲",又由于"性伪分"、"伪"的可改造性。"伪"的具体表现形式为道德修养与道德教化。

荀子的伦理思想特别强调了人的社会性和能动性。其性恶论 与西方的此类学说有极大不同。

第三章,修身是指内在的道德实践,其效用与重建社会政治秩序密不可分。荀子将人的道德修养看做是与动物的根本区别点。一方面,所有人都平等具备着人性的内容。经过努力,人人都有成为圣人的可能。另一方面,智的多层次决定了人性实现过程中个体选择的多样化,由此导致了后天道德面貌的多样化。这样,提高智的水平,使之在道德选择中做出合理判断,成为道德修养的重要内容。荀子重视人的全面修养,范围遍及人生的一切方面;同时又突出了重点;血气、志意、思虑等方面。

荀子指出,道德修养的过程是"积"、"学"的过程。"积",既指"善"的积累,也指"学"的积累。二者的内容相联系。通过"学",使人智识日明,从而在善恶判断中做出正确选择,以成就善行。荀子强调"博"学,王张学思结合、学行结合。强调"学以致用"乃是学的最终目的。以之为标准,划分了"君子之学"和"小人之学"。"学"要达到良好效果,则必须持之以恒和专心致志。道德修养的内容与标准是礼。礼与义、礼与仁、仁义与礼义、礼与"中"都存在着密切的关

荀子伦理思想研究

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系。修养途径则大体分为三种:良好的外部环境;隆师亲友;在与他人交往中反省自身。除此外,"诚"与"慎独"在个人道德修养中也占据重要位置。

荀子的理想人格系统,包括士、君子和圣人。本部分以广义"君子"笼统称之。君子的人格特征如下:全,即恰到好处地把握行为原则的两端,如"宽"与"侵";遵循礼义,在义利关系上以义为先。在此基础上,划分了不同类型的"勇",推崇君子的义勇;在荣辱问题上,认为荣有"义荣""势荣"、辱有"义辱""势辱"之分。君子兼有义荣与势荣。"荣辱之来,必象其德",故要求加强道德修养,多做善事;役物,君子在与外物的关系中,占据主导地位,并能有效利用外物以达到自身目的。

通过道德修养,既可促进个人自身健康,美化语言和外表。又可促进群体的和睦与凝聚。此处还比较了荀子与孟子的几点异同。

第四章,在荀子的道德教化论中,有三个重要概念:礼、法、乐。 礼处于核心位置,法和乐分别从强制性与和合性上加强了礼的社 会作用。

荀子的礼注入了崭新的时代内容。他从宇宙秩序中为礼寻找 形而上的本源,认为人间的礼仪制度、秩序规范与天地运行的自然 法则具有本质上的一致性;本于天道的礼,内化于人自身,成为人 道之本。通过礼,个人与社会、人与自然有效地联结起来。荀子之礼 包括三方面的内容:以君权制为核心的政治制度和政治方法的系统;道德规范的总称;日常生活中的具体礼仪、规范。礼主要有两种 功能:"养人之欲,给人之求"和"明分"。"明分"是"养欲"的前提。

为充实与修正儒家的传统礼学,荀子援法人礼。在实践层面上主张礼法并用。礼法本质上的一致性和相通性决定了其可能性;同时也导致了荀子学派归属的歧异。作为治国手段,礼、法又具有明显的差异性,由此决定了二者相互配合的必要性。在价值层面上强调礼尊法卑。荀子对之证明如下:就礼法产生的顺序言,礼先法后,礼本法末;就礼法产生的社会效果言,有王霸之别;由人的等级地

位进行推导。荀子对法的重视,与后代法家不同。他主张:先教后刑,刑罪相称,宁僭无滥,治则刑重、乱则刑轻,强调"有治人无治法"。礼尊法卑是儒家礼主法辅的新范式。经荀子改造后的儒家政治学说,成为中国封建社会长期采用的指导思想。

荀子继承了中国古代文化礼乐结合的传统,对乐极为重视。

乐有"俗乐"和"雅乐"之分。"俗乐"的文化意义不被纳入到主流意识形态中;而"雅乐"则与王事紧密相连,具有合法性,能产生积极的伦理政治效益,得到社会的真正高扬。荀子提倡"雅乐"。他从人的情感需要解释了音乐的起源,把音乐看作是表现人的内心欢乐的形式,并认为音乐表现了天道与人道的结合。乐成为重要的教化手段,是由于它具备"和"的功能以及"善民心,感人深,移风易俗易"的特点;与之相关,乐也是成就理想人格的重要途径。荀子还区分了"乐欲"与"乐道"。通过重新论证"乐"作为教化工具的必要性和系统说明乐的教化功能,发展了儒家的传统礼乐论。

荀子还对实施道德教化的主体君、臣的职业道德及行为规范 进行了说明。

结语,荀子伦理思想在历史上沉浮升降,后人对其性恶论、礼论和群性论进行了继承修正或抨击反对,其间也交织着思想家们对荀子个人的评论。汉唐时期由荀孟并尊渐至衰微。汉时,陆贾、贾谊和董仲舒继承发展了"隆礼重法"的思想。司马迁奠定了荀孟为儒学两大宗的历史地位。班固接受了荀子的群分说。晋仲长敖第一次提出韩非、李斯的法术思想是受到荀子性恶论的启发的观点,为后来攻击荀子开了先河。至唐后期,韩愈开启了尊孟抑荀之风,动摇了荀子的正统儒家地位。宋明时期遭到理学家的猛烈抨击,基本上被宋学否定了。二程指责荀子的性恶礼伪说"极偏驳",背离了圣人之道。朱熹反对荀子的人性论,批评荀子的重法思想。也有一些学者在某些方面甚至基本方面上对荀子学说给予肯定。李贽就将荀子置于孟子之上。但这些意见并不在社会上占主流。清代,随着理学崩溃经学兴起,对荀子的尊奉达到历史最高峰。《荀子》一书得

荀子伦理思想研究 ABCDE

到思想家们在评注、校刊、考据和论述方面的重点整理。在近代启蒙思潮中,谭嗣同、梁启超、夏曾佑将荀子视为封建政治文化的代表而分别从不同的角度对其进行激烈抨击;章太炎则从学术的角度给荀子以很高评价,并继承和发挥了其性恶论、群分说。

荀子伦理思想作为中华民族传统文化的重要组成部分,即使今日,仍然颇具价值。

综上所述,本文试图在以下方面有所突破。第一,为荀子伦理思想的研究提供一种新思路。从一个新视角,以"性恶——伪(道德修养和道德教化)——群性"的新的理论结构对荀子伦理思想进行再解读。第二,在尊重前人研究成果的基础上,对荀子的人性论进行重新探索。突出其人性论的双重结构——恶与群。第三,提升了"伪"在荀子伦理思想中的地位,将之看成是贯穿其中的一条核心线索。第四,强调了天人相分哲学基础和天下一统的政治背景的深刻影响。第五,在某些具体问题的论证上更加充实和丰富,如:关于性恶的论证,道德修养的向外途径,理想人格所应具备的特征,等等。从而使理论形态更加丰满。

Abstract

From the Spring and Autumn Period, the princes govern principalities by different measures, correspondently, the schools advocate various theories. Hsun-tse criticizes and absorbs the various schools' theories, then constructs the system of synthesizing them. Not only offers theoretical tool for establishing and upholding the unified feudal country, but also answers the times' task of reconstructing values and cultural order.

It has the profound and lasting effect on Chinese feudal society for over two thousand years. Hsun-tse's ethical thought is an important part of Chinese traditional culture, so it is very significant to make a systematic and deepgoing study of it.

The following is the writing construction.

Introduction

I explain the theoretical significance and contemporary value to choose this topic simply, and introduce the dissertation's macroscopic writing train of thought and construction. The analytical outline about the inseparable relations of Hsun-tse's Tian and man viewpoint, ethical ideas and political ideas permeates in it. I especially emphasize evil-nature and group-character are two points of establishing Hsun-tse's ethical thought, and the course of "changing evil nature by Wei" runs through it, thus showing the key clue of dissertation: Wei.

Chap.1 the Times' Background, Personage and the Theoretical Features

In the Spring and Autumn and Warring States Periods, the

8 | 荀子伦理思想研究 ABCDE

society have undergone extremely radical changes.

Besides the deep economic reason, the princes' greed for the world and princedom is a very important factor too.

All principalities fighting for hegemony result in the old Limusic system's disintegration, and the traditional social controlsystem undergoes radical switch.

The wars become the most prominent social phenomena because they are the effective ways to get hegemony. The appetite for winning the victory forces all principalities to reform in order to amass the whole labour power, material resources and financial resources. The movements of reform promote the centralized feudal empire's general foundation and gradual matureness objectively. At the same time, the previous social belief presents serious crisis, social control-means transits from Li to law, and law is stressed unprecedentedly. Hsuntse's thought of "revere-Li and value-law should conform to this trend of the times. In this period, with the prosperous industry and commerce, people's appetite for running after benefits expands immeasurably. and such morbid phenomena as morality -decay, material desires-flowing and murder-coup emerge disorderly. Striving for material gain and practical results, and paying attention to delectation of this life, become general live attitude. The whole society is covered in lascivious, dissipated and seek-benefit general mood, and interpersonal relationships deteriorate increasingly in the cities and villages. These provide Hsun-tse's "theory of evil nature" to come into being with realistic soil objectively. With the historic situation making for concentration and unity in politics, corresponding with it, establishing culture-thought system that has united value conceptions and social standards and constructing harmonious order of the country and society, become the most pressing matter of the moment. At this time, the various schools are gradually merging into one. Hsun-tse's theory appears the historic stage.

In this chapter, I still draws the outline of Hsun-tse's main life story, studies the arrangement and relevant editions of Hsun-tse, confirms the genuiness – counterfeit and composition dates of the book's content, centres on analyzing the effect that Jixia school have given Hsun-tse's academic pursuits, and points out Sanjin where Hsun-tse was born and grew affects his thought's formation to a certain degree. Meanwhile, I summarizes the features of Hsun-tse's ethical thought: width, which shows the comprehensiveness of theoretical form and content; attaching importance to human being's activity, concerning the relation of Tan and man, he emphasizes Tian has season-change and man has govern- ability. When extends to the social field, it embodies "Wei". Reality is his total theoretical keynote.

Chap.2 Humanity's Dual Structures: Evil -natural Attribute and Group-social Attribute

In the Spring and Autumn Period, the enhancement of the masses' position makes the human question get attention. The study of human is the question on humanity. At the relation of humanity and kismet, Hsun—tse inherits the thinking route of Tian and man separating each other, accepts the Taoists' viewpoint that "Tian" is natural. Before Hsun—tse, Confucius gets humanity and custom together to think, which affects later ages deeply. Shi—shuo believes humanity has virtuous side and evil side; Gao—tse believes humanity isn't virtuous or evil. Among them, Mencius' theory of virtuous humanity and Zhuang—tse' theory of natural humanity are the most systematic. Hsun—tse merges the predecessors' viewpoints

represented by Confucianism and Taoists, and defines humanity from the nature and society levels, it shows concretely "theory of evil nature" and "theory of group-division".

In the theory of evil nature, the nature's meaning have three layers: natural being given by nature; born ability of material sensory experienced appetite grasp by people directly, organ; concretely includes the appetite for living, occupying, enjoying and pursuing benefit-escaping harm. The third layer forms the main part of Hsun-tse's theory of evil nature. In the view of Hsun-tse, it is same for nature, feeling and appetite in essence, and they are three names of one thing. Hsun-tse has four evidences to certify that nature is evil. Sensory organ's appetite probably lead to the drawback; all people's good actions are often the opposite of nature; only someone has no something in himself, then he would run outwards after it; proofs. These evidences have a few leaks, but Hsun-tse's theory of evil nature still replenishes Mencius' theory of virtuous nature. In the social historic field, it offers theoretical premise for bringing people's activity into play and propelling the society forward. Hsun-tse probes human essence in the "theory of group-division" part. Probing the importance of form-group and make-division from the need of human living and competition, signs the huge progress of Chinese ideological history. He thought "cannot only is the basic characteristic of human form -group" surmounting other animals, but also is necessary condition that human exploit and subdue nature. Human have two ways to form group: Division and Yi(justice, relationship, etc). Division includes rate -distinction and social labour-division, and Yi means moral norms. Hsun-tse's theory about "group", both is the demands for running the country well and giving the people peace-security and

offers the theoretical terrace to fabricate Li-Yi-morality for the Sage, besides, also receives the effect of Chinese traditional society's household pattern. "changing evil nature by Wei" is the bridge connecting evil nature with group humanity. The course's possible reality, benefits from Xin (the brain) knowing Tao and inner lust, moreover, humanity is separated from Wei, and Wei is able to reform humanity. Wei'specific showing form are moral self-possessed and moral enlightenment.

Hsun-tse'ethical thought emphasizes human social characters and activity in particular. It is very different between the theory of evil nature and the same one in West country.

Chap.3 Wei's Self-possessed Part

Cultivating one's moral character is inner moral practice, and its utilization maintains close ties with rebuilding social political order. Hsun-tse takes people's moral self-possessed as the basic point distinguishing between human and animals. One side, all people have the humanity's content equally, everyone will be the Sage probably by effort, on the other side, wisdom's multi-layers leads to the variety of individual choices during humanity achieving, and resulted in the variety of acquired moral features. So improving the level of wisdom and making it do reasonable judge in the choice of morality, become the important content of moral self-possessed. Hsun-tse thinks highly of people's whole self-possessed. The range extends all aspects of the life. Meanwhile he stresses emphasis: sap, will, thinking, etc.

Hsun-tse points out the course of moral self-possessed is the course of accumulating and studying. "accumulation", means accumulating both virtue and study. These two aspects have connected each other. By studying, people's wisdom increase day