# 当代公务员考试制度比较中国古代科举制与

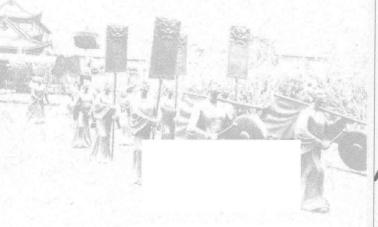


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# 中国古代科举制与当代公务员考试制度比较研究

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# 内容提要

本书在广泛参阅国内外相关研究成果的基础上,力图较全面系统地对中国古代科举制与当代公务员考试制度(以下简称公考制)在性质、内容、形式、功能及影响等方面进行比较研究,科学地总结二者的异同、共性与特殊性及其规律性的特征。目的在于通过比较,以揭示古代科举制对当代公考制的诸种启示及其经验到,从而为当前的国家公务员造拔方面的制度创新;特别是通过对二者的比较研究,为如何处理和解决当前民族地区干部队伍建设和人才选拔与培养等问题提供决策参考,并具体提出一些制度安排中的政策法规等方面的理论创新和可操作性的实践对策。全书除绪论和结语外共分六个部分,主要内容如下:

第一部分: "不同时空下的国家管理人才选拔与任用的制度安排。" 古代科举制与当代公考制是我国古代社会与当代社会关于国家管理人才选拔与任用的重要制度安排, 二者都具有制度性与时代性的特点, 同时又存在着本质上的差别。前者源于中国古代先秦"选贤任能"的政治管理思想与实践, 两汉至隋的察举制是其初始形态, 隋唐时期创始确立, 中经宋元明清进入发展成熟阶段, 最终在清末新政中被废除。它历时 1300 余年之久, 对于中国古代政治、文化及社会诸领域产生了极其重要的影响和作用, 是中国传统制度文明的重要组成部分, 但是由于近代以后的

大"变局"及其本身难以克服的弊端最终不得不退出历史舞台。后者在改革开放的新时期逐渐产生发展,是当代国家公务员制度建设中的重要一环,因而也是中国当代国家政治制度的重要组成部分之一。它自20世纪90年代初颁布《国家公务员暂行条例》,到2005年4月27日全国十届人大第十五会议通过的《中华人民共和国公务员法》,在我国已走过了二十余年的历程。虽然时间短,而且存在着一些问题和不足,但是随着国家行政体制改革的深入发展特别是国家公务员制度的建立和实施,它在当代社会的影响与作用越来越凸显,充满强大的生机与活力。

第二部分:"考试内容、形式及组织机构的异同:规范化与程式化。"在考试内容、形式与组织机构方面,古代科举制与当代公考制共同的特点就是规范化与程式化,但在具体内容上又存在本质的差别。前者经过逐渐的补充和完善,十分成熟,具体表现是考试内容儒家化,考试形式规范、严密、易于操作,组织机构高效、统一。后者的规范化与程式化程度不断提高,具体表现是考试内容全面而又具体,考试形式更加严密、有效,组织机构有序、集中,科学化、现代化、人性化是其主要的特点。二者的差别在于,它们分别处于不同的社会时代的巨大落差,表现在规范化与程式化方面的具体内容与形式上是不同的。

第三部分: "人才选拔的趋同性:公开、平等、竞争、择优。" 就选拔人才的基本原则而言, "公开、平等、竞争、择优" 是古代科举制与当代公考制的趋同点。这一原则, 具体反映在二者关于考生资格规定、考试内容及范围、考试过程、阅卷、录取等各个环节。但是, 就具体内容与形式而言, 又各有不同之处。科举制是为封建专制政治服务的, 其选拔人才的原则具有严重的时代局限性。而公考制是为现代公务员制度建设和社会主义民主

政治建设服务的、其选拔人才的原则更加科学、客观。

第四部分:"考试功能及其社会影响:'一切以程文为去留' 与'敲门砖'。"古代科举制与当代公考制作为国家管理人才的 选拔与任用的制度。就其工具性意义而言、以考试成绩为标准是 二者共同的功能体现。同时由于其选拔的是掌握国家公共权力的 "官", 涉及国家政治与个人利益等诸多方面, 因而影响到社会 各个层面。古代科举制是选"官",对于社会政治、文化、教育 等具有重大影响; 当代公考制是选拔国家公务员、除了"官" 的因素之外。更多的是现代社会的职业因素。但其对于社会政治 与文化教育的影响亦不可低估。

第五部分: "历史的经验教训与当代的借鉴、启示和创新。" 古代科举制的经验教训主要是考试内容与形式陈腐、僵化、不能 与时俱进。有技术性的因素同时更重要的是它所依赖的封建政治 制度的局限。当代公考制也存在种种问题和不足、需要从科举制 的历史经验教训中获得借鉴与启示. 不断地进行理论与实践创 新,它既有技术层面的内容,也有制度设计层面的内容。

第六部分:"古代科举制与当代公考制在边疆民族地区。" 由于统一的多民族国家的历史传统、科举制在边疆民族地区的实 践与影响是多方面的、尤其是对于加强各民族之间的联系与民族 地区的文化发展及民族文化认同具有积极作用。同样, 公考制在 边疆民族地区的实践与影响也是重要而广泛的。对于进一步完善 民族区域自治制度和边疆民族地区的社会发展关系重大,而其面 临的创新和对策具有一般性的问题、更有其特殊性的问题、需要 在政策法规、实践操作上具体对待。

关键词:科举制 公务员考试制度 国家行政管理人才选拔

A Comparative Study on Chinese Ancient Imperial Examination system and Contemporary Civil Service Examinations

# Abstract

This essay try to make a systematical and comparative study of Chinese Ancient Imperial Examination System and Contemporary Examination of Civil Servant in their natures, appearances, formats, functions and impacts based on research fruits at home and abroad, scientifically summing up the characteristics of their differences, commonness particularity and its regularity. The purpose of this essay is to draw experience and lessons from the ancient imperial examinations, in order to provide theoretical support for the contemporary civil service and human resources establishment and to suggest possible innovations in the method of selecting civil servants. In particular, through comparative studies, this essay wishes to provide information and references for solving the problems emerged in building the local and minority civil service community and selecting and training talented people to be civil servants. Further more, this paper will provide some specific advice and theories for policy making and regulation establishment. This essay has six parts, and roughly 160, 000 words. The summary of each part is provided below:

Part One: National administration selecting andmaking appointments, in different times and places. The ancient imperial examination and the current civil service examination are the two most important methods of selecting civil servants. The two systems reflect their times, and have fundamental differences of their own. The former is originated from the ancient political administrative theory and practices "selecting the wise and appoint the talented". Cha Ju institution in Han Dynasty is the original form of this practice. It was first exercised in Han, formally established in Sui, inherited and further developed during Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing period, and finally abolished in the reform of the late Qing period. It lasted for more than 1, 300 years, and had great impact to the ancient Chinese society both politically and culturally. It became an important part of the traditional Chinese political establishment. However, it was not well-equipped for the great "changes" occurred in late Oing period and was henceforth abolished. The latter, the contemporary civil servants examination was developed through China's great opening and reforms. It is an important part of the contemporary Chinese civil servants system, and one of the most distinguished parts in the contemporary Chinese national political establishment. From the publication of Temporary Regulations of Civil Servants in the 1990s until April the 27th, 2005, when the Tenth National People's Congress passed the People's Republic of China Civil Servants Law, the civil service examination has lasted for ten years. Even though it isn't a very long time, and many problems and shortages have appeared during this period of time, its impact and vitality has become more and more obvious as the national administrative reforms developed further.

Part Two: Differences and similarities of the contents, forms and organizations: Standardized and Formalized. In terms of contents, forms and organizations, the ancient imperial examination and the contemporary civil service examination share the same features as both of them are standardized and formalized. However, they show more differences in specific terms. After years of gradual reforms, the ancient system became well developed. Its contents came from Confucius classics, and the whole exam system was well regulated, operational, efficient and standardized. The later is still developing to a more standardized and formalized version. Its contents are comprehensive but also specific, and the organizational process is orderly, concentrated, scientific, modernized, and human-oriented. The main difference between the two is that they belong to different times, and this is reflected in the different details and contents of their standards and forms.

Part Three: Similarities in the selecting process: public, just, competitive and selecting for the best. These principles are reflected in the qualification of the examinees, the contents of the exams, and the whole examination process which includes taking exams, examining papers, and employment. However, in details, the two still diverge in both contents and forms. The imperial exams is aimed at to serve the political interest of the feudal society, therefore the principles it applies are seriously limited by their time. In contrast the purpose of the contemporary civil servants examination is to help improve the civil servants system and building a more democratic socialist society,

therefore, its selecting principles are more scientific and objective.

Part Four; The functions of the exams and their social impacts; "leave or stay depends on how well you have bid by the rules of exams" and entrance pass. The ancient imperial examination and the contemporary civil service examination have essentially the same purpose. In terms of its instrumental rationale, they both use examination results as the crucial standard of their selecting. At the same time, because both examinations are intended to select "officials" with positions of power, it is inevitable that it's going to attract many facets of political and personal interests, and leave imprints on all parts of society. The ancient imperial examinations were intended to select "officials", and had its impact on politics, culture and education etc., whereas the contemporary civil service examinations select civil servants, it is more of a profession than the mere "official" titles. Its impact on politics, society, culture and education can not be underestimated.

Part Five: Historical experiences vs. contemporary lessons, inspirations and innovations. The imperial examinations were abolished because its contents and forms became stale and rigid, unable to adapt to changes, more importantly, it was bound by the limits of the feudal society it depended on, therefore fell behind its time.

The contemporary civil servants examinations also have many problems and drawbacks. We should learn from the historical lesions presented by the fall of the imperial examination system, and henceforth change our civil servants examination in theory and in practices, technically and politically.

Part six: Ancient imperial examinations and the contemporary civil servants examinations in minority areas. China is a unified country with many ethnicities and a great respect for historical traditions. Due to these facts, the imperial examinations also had a great impact on the minority areas, in particular, it reinforced the strong ties between different ethnicities and helped to develop a strong national and culture identity. Similarly, the civil service examinations also have broad impact on minority areas. It will help to improve the autonomy system in minority areas and develop the inner society relations. The problems it will face, however, are typical of the system as a whole, but at the same time unique. Therefore, it calls for special policy, regulations and practices to solve those problems.

**Key words:** Imperial Examination System, Civil Service Examinations, personnel selection in state administration

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