Inside Information of the Doctrine that Laotzu has Civilized Hu by Teaching

Zheng Zheng Department of Environmental Science and Engineering Jiangwan Campus, Fudan University 2005 Songhu Road, Yangpu District, Shanghai, China, 200438

Abstract

The doctrine that Laotzu taught Hu is one of the most important arguments in China. In this article, it suggested that the country Laotzu went to should be Persia. Laotzu has introduced Taoism culture to Jews there. This introduction has an important influence on the Christianity. There are many similarities between Taoism and Christianity in various respects, such as religions, basic senses, ideas, ceremonies, legends, believes, thoughts, and so on. Sanching (the Three Gods) of Taoism is similar to the Trinity of Christianity. In Christianity and Taoism culture, human beings are made of clay. The resurrection is an important thing for Christianity and Taoism. Either Laotzu or Jesus considered the state of infant is ideal. They both called on the multitudes to be humble and criticized richmen. There are also many miracles of Jesus that are similar to Chinese legends. It resulted that the Christianity has a Taoism lineage.

Keywords: Laotzu, Persia, Taoism, Christianity

1. Introduction

It is believed that the argument (one of the most important argument in history of China) over the doctrine that Laotzu taught Hu (Chinese word means foreigner of central or western Asia) has been settled. Conclusion is that Laotzu did not go to India and founded the Buddhism in the time of 6th to 5th century B.C.. This is a correct conclusion, but a "missed shot", because Hu does not mean only India. And according to the doctrine the country Laotzu went to should be Persia. In fact, Laotzu has introduced Taoism culture to Jews who had been exiled to Babylon and Babylon had been ruled by Persia at that time. This introduction has an important influence on the Christianity.

Sima Chian, the greatest historian who lived 2000 years ago, wrote that Laotzu passed through the Han Ku Pass and went west. Nobody knew his whereabouts. Xiang Kai told Huan Emperor of East Han Dynasty in his written report,"it is said that Laotzu had gone to foreign countries and founded the Buddhism". According to 《Scripture of Laotzu Civilized Hu by Teaching》, which was discovered in Dunhuang Caves, Laotzu hired Xu Jia as an attendant and went to Rome and Persia. A popular legend has been transmitted from generation to generation in Shanxi province (Chin State in ancient time) China. It says also that Laotzu promised Xu Jia to pay him gold when they would come back from Rome and Persia. Thus it can be seen where Laotzu went is Persia, not India.

What does Hu mean? Hu always been used to name non-Han nationalities living in the north and west in ancient time, especially means the Western Regions (including what is now Xinjiang, Central and Western Asia). Persia was Hu. It is clear that Hu was not India, or at any rate, Hu was not equal to India. How the doctrine that Laotzu had taught Indians and founded the Buddhism emerged and developed, then? Some experts believe that it was fabricated by Buddhism. The Buddhism has just entered China in Han Dynasty and Buddhism wanted to attach himself to Taoism in order to gain a foothold; whereas Taoism pushed boat along with the current to show that Taoism was a cut above Buddhism. What many people (including emperors, ministers, scholars, Taoism priests, Buddhists, etc.) argued over for about 1000 years (from Jin Dynasty to Yuan Dynasty) is whether or not Laotzu went to India and founded the Buddhism. So we say that the argument is a "missed shot".

2. Laotzu and Persia

Next question is what has laotzu done in Persia ? Major opinion is that Laotzu lived in the period 6th century B.C. to 5th century B.C. So the time he went to Persia should be the later 6th century B.C. to the earlier 5th century B.C. At that time Babylon was ruled by Persia and Jews had been exiled to Babylon before. According to the popular legend be spread in Shanxi Province (Chin State in ancient China) Laotzu has civilized "Da you", "Shang Tian", etc., totally 81 states. If the order of "Da You" be inverted, we may get "You Da". "You Da"is just what Chinese pronounce Judaea. It is impossible only a coincident. "Shang Tian" means a land promised by God in Chinese.

As we know that, there were 12 branches when Jews went out of Egypt. They could be divided more when they were captured to Babylon and ruled by Persia. It is necessary to point out that $\langle Dao De Jing \rangle$ is in 81 volumes.

We found an evidence in the Holy Bible (Isaiah 49:12), "Lo, these shall come from afar, and lo, these from the North and from the West, and these from the land of Syene." Syene, according to credit note, is Sinim, means China.

There are other two paragraphs concerning silk of China in the Holy Bible. One is: I let you wear embroidered clothes.....put on your silk clothes, in Ezekiel 16:10. The second is: you can wear silk and embroidered clothes, in Ezekiel 16:13.

China was written as Cin, Cinstan in Persian literature in 5th century B.C. In other languages were Cina, Cini, Sinim, etc. There are several opinions on how the word China originated. The general opinion is the word China originated from Chin (the powerful state in ancient China). In order to go Persia, the State Laotzu crossed was just Chin State. Another opinion insists on that the word is originated from Chu (another powerful state in ancient china). Laotzu was exactly a great philosopher of Chu State.

Now we may say that Laotzu has gone to Persia and introduced Taoism culture to Jews. This introduction is of significant. Owing to the hastening of Taoism culture, developed in Judaism for about 500 years, finally Christianity came into the world. If this is true, there must be many similarities between Taoism and Christianity in various respects, such as religions, basic senses, ideas, ceremonies, legends, believes, thoughts, and so on.

3. Laotzu and Christianity

Jacques Gernet wrote: Since 16th century some western missionaries had gone to China. "They found old friends unexpectively in China". "Some Chinese found that there are similarities between their traditional culture and the religions doctrines of the missionaries who came from remote countries". "Chinese always believe that Catholicism is one branch of Taoism or a kind of religion similar to Taoism".

Joseph Needham related Sanching (the Three Gods) to the Trinity of Christianity. He pointed out that the Beginning God who takes charge of the past equals to God; the Lingbao God who takes charge of present equals to the Son of God; the Morality God who takes charge of future equals to the holy Spirit.

It is recorded in St. Matthew's gospel, "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, says Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen the star in the east, and come to worship him". The sense that a star is responding to a person has spread in China for several thousand years. Were these wise men relating to Chinese? Ernest Bloch said that: If Laotzu, Confucius and Sakyamuni, not 3 doctors, went to the manger, Laotzu must be the only one who takes notice to the insignificant boy.

Laotzu wrote, "There was something formless yet complete, that existed before heaven and earth; Without sound, without substance, dependent on nothing, unchanging, all pervading, unfailing. One may think of it as the mother of all things under heaven. Its true name we do not know; Tao is the by-name that we give it". "The highest good is like that of water". It was written in Old Testament: God is the Holy who moving above the surface of water. New Testament demands that one who want to be a Christian must be baptized with water.

It is believed in China that the human beings are made by the Goddess Nuwa by using clay as material, whereas God using also clay to make Adam and Eve.

Laotzu said that, "All creatures under heaven are the products of Being, and Being itself is the product of Not-being". We all know that God spent one week for creating the world.

Taoism scriptures were all said been recorded from the Gods. The Bible was said to be made in the same way.

The angel said to Mary,"thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS" (Luke's Gospel 1:31). Almost all the famous first ancestors of Chinese were born by their mothers without fathers' contributions, some for swallowed bird's eggs, others for stepped on footprints of giants. For example, Laotzu had been born after his mother swallowed a star in her dream.

The Resurrection is one of the most important things for Christianity. It is said that several women opened the grave 3 days after Jesus dead and found that it was empty. They were told by an angel that Jesus had risen. That is the origin of the Easter. This is exactly the same as the Taoism believes. According to 《Biography of Gods》, the Yellow Emperor chose a day himself and said good bye to his ministers and others. It is found that his coffin was empty after his grave had been damaged. Many officials saw he flying into sky by riding a dragon. One Chinese proverb says that Liu An, the prince Huainan, was killed by Wu Emperor of Han Dynasty. He flew into sky with many his relatives, even dogs and cats were included. All Taoism priests believe that death of every great Taoism priest is pretending.

Laotzu considered the state of infant is ideal. He said, "The impunity things fraught with the 'power'may be likened to that of an infant. Poisonous insects do not sting it, nor fierce beasts seize it, nor clawing birds maul it. It means that the vital force is at its height and the harmony is at its perfection". Jesus' disciples asked him: who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, and said, "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name welcome me". These two derived obviously from the same origin.

Laotzu insisted on "requiting injures with good deeds". One should be humble. He said, "the only useful quality is weakness". "Truly, what is soft and weak is a company of life". "How did the great rivers and seas get their kingship over the hundred lesser streams? Through the merit of being lower than they; that was how they got their kingship.....Indeed in this way everything under heaven will be glad to be pushed by him and will not find his guidance irksome. This he does by not strive, none can contend with him". As to Jesus, he called on the multitudes to be merciful and humble. He said to Christians: If someone hit you on left cheek, you should let him hit on the right.

Laotzu criticized richmen for they banished human kindness and discarded morality. He said that richmen"wear patterns and embroideries, carry sharp swords, glut themselves with drink and food, have more possessions than they can use. These are the riotous ways of brigandage; they are not the Highway". As to Jesus, he thought that "it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God".

Laotzu pointed out, "It was when intelligence and knowledge appeared that the great artifice began". "Banish wisdom, discard knowledge, and the people will be benefited a hundredfold". "The more knowledge people have, the harder they are to rule. Those who seek to rule by giving knowledge are like bandits preying on the land. Those who rule without giving knowledge bring a stock of good fortune to the land". God has the same view as Laotzu. God gave Adam and Eve simplicity to look at, the uncarved block to hold, gave them selflessness and fewness of desires. God wanted them banish learning. God thought that if they would not eat the fruits on the virtue and vice tree there would be no more grieving in the Garden of Eden. He told them that they must be died if the fruits be eaten.

At last Adam and Eve have not obeyed God. Who caused the original sin of mankind? It is the serpent, who lured Eve: Did God tell the truth? No,.....God knew that your eyes would be bright after you ate the fruits, you would be able to distinguish the virtue and vice as same as God. So the serpent has been considered tricky and somehow wisdom. The Bible said the serpent was the Devil. The snake was also considered intellectual in ancient China. According to Chinese view, Fuxi, a famous first ancestor of Chinese, with a man's head and a snake's body, is the wisest person who has invented the Eight Diagrams. It is on the basis of Eight Diagrams Book of Changes be written.

We found that there are many miracles of Jesus that are similar to Chinese legends. For example, Jesus turned water into wine and fed five thousand persons with several baskets of food. In China, a famous Taoism priest Zoo Ci let somebody taking out a bottle of wine and a slice of meat to feed ten thousand soldiers. They were all well-fed. One day Jesus and his disciples entered a ship. There arose a great tempest while Jesus was sleeping. Jesus was awaked by his disciples. Then he rebuked the winds and the sea. There was a great calm. Similar things can be easily seen in Taoism books and others. Praying for raining and stopping bloods are the most popular things in China. Jesus cured many patients which with various diseases. In China, many outstanding doctors were Taoism priests such as Hua Tuo, Ge Hong, Tao Hongjing and Sun Simiao. Up to now their books have been considered of great.

4. Conclusion

After serious study on a number of Chinese and foreign literature, we found that the inside information of the doctrine that Laotzu taught Hu has not been discovered till today. In fact, crossed the Chin state, Laotzu has gone to Persia where Jews had been exiled to. He has introduced Taoism culture to Jews. This introduction is an event of historical significance. It has promoted the Christianity emerging from the womb of the Judaism. As a result, the Christianity has a Taoism lineage.

Reference

A Collection of Words. (1989). Shanghai: Shanghai Dictionary Press, 3945. Dao De Jing. (Laotzu). Fan Yie. (1994). Bibliography of Xiang Kai, History of East Han Dynasty. Tianjin: Tianjin Ancient Book Press. Ge Hong, Bibliography. (Ancient Chinese Book). Jacques Gernet. (1991). China and Christianity. Shanghai: Shanghai Ancient Book Press, 6. Kubo N. (1987). History of Taoism. Shanghai: Shanghai Translation Press, 76. Kubo N. (1987). History of Taoism. Shanghai: Shanghai Translation Press, 79. Qin Jiayi, Hans Kung. (1990). Christianity and Chinese Religions. Beijing: Sanlian Press, 135. Sima Chian. (1994). The Historical Records. Tianjin: Tianjin Ancient Book Press, 63. The Holy Bible. Wang Deyou. (1990). A Talk on Laotzu. Jinan: Qi and Lu Press, 108. Zheng Tuyou, Chen Xiaoqing. (1990). Chinese Legends. Shanghai: Shanghai Arts Press, 95. Zhu Yueli. (1989). Asks and Answers on Taoism. Beijing: Huawen Press, 186.

Zhu Yueli. (1989). Asks and Answers on Taoism. Beijing: Huawen Press, 188.