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周口店發掘時代的一名法國顧問 ——以新近出版的德日進書信集 為基礎材料的研究

戴麗娟*

在歐洲自然科學發展史的領域裏,目前已有較多研究以具有決策性角色和整合 性功能的博物館等科研機構為分析對象,但是對於被博物館外派到世界各地採集標 本的人員,尤其是這些人員在田野當地的工作情況,由於缺乏系統性的檔案資料, 目前所投入的研究較少。

本研究利用新近出版的一份書信集為基礎材料,藉著閱讀德日進在華期間寄給 其指導教授步勒之信件,對德日進來華背景、加入周口店考古計畫之因緣、與當時 中國及國際學者之互動情形等加以分析,尤其著重於探討這位法國學者在抱著短期 工作的心態來到中國田野,因為長期居留後,而在心靈與智識上所產生的變化。

論文以該書信集涵蓋的年代 (1923-1940) 為範圍,分為兩個時期來討論。第一 個時期 (1923-1927) 是德日進作為法國國立自然史博物館外派人員的時期,論文以 德日進對法國博物館的效忠與依賴、對國際競爭壓力的感受和因應、對中國地質型 態的陌生與初步掌握等面向為主線來進行討論。第二個時期 (1928-1940) 是德日進 加入周口店考古計畫,並且逐漸成為國際級亞洲考古專家的時期。由於工作條件與 身分的改變,德日進在此時期雖然對於法國參考資料與鑑定知識仍有一定程度的依 賴,但是原有的主從關係趨淡,取而代之的工作型態是以中國田野為基地,增加與 中國及其他國際學者的合作機會,並且根據中國田野逐漸累積的考古成果,試圖建 立屬於當地的史前文化參考座標,而不再滿足於十九世紀流傳下來,以歐洲地質特 徵所建構的分期框架。

透過此個案研究,本文試圖分析歐洲外派人員與其中心科研機構的多變關係,

* 中央研究院歷史語言研究所

戴麗娟

同時亦藉此觀察二十世紀上半葉中國考古科學發展過程中曾經出現的各種中外合作 模式,希望為未來可能進行的比較研究建立法國部份的基礎認識。

關鍵詞:德日進 法國古生物考察團 周口店考古計畫

An French Adviser in the Time of Choukoutien Archaeological Excavation: Study Based on the Recently Published Teilhard de Chardin's Correspondence

Li-Chuan Tai

Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica

In the field of the history of European natural sciences, scientific institutions, such as museums, which played a key decision-making role and performed multiple functions, have been largely explored. However, due to the lack of systematic archives, fewer studies have focused on the researchers sent by the museums to collect the specimens in various parts of the world, and the nature of their fieldwork conducted abroad.

Based on the recently published correspondence between Pierre Teilhard de Chardin during his stay in China and his mentor, Professor Marcellin Boule, this article tries to analyze the circumstances of Teilhard de Chardin's initial mission to China, the motivations for his involvement in the Choukoutien (Zhoukuodian) archaeological project, and his interactions with Chinese and international archaeologists of his time. In the analysis, special emphasis is placed on the changes over time in the psychology and intellectual thinking of this French paleontologist who initially planned to conduct field work in China on a short-term basis, but later ended up staying in China for more than twenty years.

The analysis is confined to the period of time covered by this correspondence collection (1923-1940), which can be roughly divided into two periods. For the first period (1923-1927) in which Teilhard de Chardin worked in China as a chargé de mission of the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, our analysis concentrates on three main aspects: 1) his loyalty towards, and dependency on, the French institutions that subsidized his fieldwork studies, 2) his reactions to the pressure of international competition in the Chinese field, and 3) his initial ignorance and gradually established knowledge about the geological characteristics of China. In the second period (1928-1940), Teilhard de Chardin was invited to serve as an adviser to paleontological research for the Choukoutien archaeological project, and gradually became an internationally known expert in Asian

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archaeology. During this period, he still depended, to a certain degree, on French reference materials and expertise. Nevertheless, due to the changes in Teilhard de Chardin's working conditions and status, the initial relationship based on patronage slowly subsided. Instead, Chinese fieldwork became the base for his archaeological research, and he used this base to increase opportunities for cooperation between Chinese and international scholars in the field. It was during this period that he attempted to establish reference standards for the study of Chinese prehistoric culture by applying the gradually accumulated local archaeological data. In doing so, he no longer referred only to the European prehistoric frame of reference established in the 19th century which was based largely on local geological characteristics.

The case of Teilhard de Chardin in China points to the transformations over time in the relationship between researchers sent abroad to conduct field work and the European scientific institutions as the center of the world research network. It also provides an excellent opportunity to observe how different patterns of cooperation between researchers of China and other foreign countries influenced the development of Chinese archaeology in the first half of the twentieth century. This case study thus offers basic insight and knowledge about French research in Chinese archaeology that could be useful for future comparative studies.

Keywords: Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, French paleontological mission, Choukoutien archaeological project