MONOGRAPHIC STUDY

Labour Study：History and Recent Development

Abstract：In 1918 Cai Yuanpei gave a speech entitled "Labor is Sacred", which promoted the modern concept of labor and its practice. Mainly influenced by Yan Fu's sociology（*qunxue*）and anarchism, Cai pointed out that anyone who worked for himself and for others was "labor", and self-supporting "work"（labor）carried great significancy for personality shaping, group prosperity, and universal harmony. Cai also conveyed the value of labor to the public by writing textbooks and delivering speeches. This paper adopts the historical perspective to understand how labor and labor issues became the primary topic of sociology in the sense of Yan Fu's sociology.

Abstract：In recent years, technology-driven industry upgrading in China results in the replacement of human labor with robots. This article explores the impact of "intelligent manufacturing" on workers from two perspectives：labor relations and labor process. The authors argue that due to robotization, workers at the shopfloor are experiencing some extent of labor degradation—more flexible labor relations, deskilling, and strengthened technical control. Such a corporation-led and machine-centred way of technology upgrading are driven by both state policy, capital and labor market.

Gift Study: Extension and Reflection

"No Gift-money for the Banquet": Moral Relationship Adjustment and New Gift Ritual in Rural China .... *Zheng Shuli* 47

Abstract: Drawing upon the latest gift research, this paper establishes a framework of "moral relationship adjustment" to explain the new phenomenon of "no gift-money for the banquet" in rural China. Based on the case of Village Xi, Xixian County, Jiangxi Province, this paper depicts processes of the temporary adjustment of unaided relationship, the decomposition of aided relationship, the expansion of unaided relationship, and the selection of aided relationship. Villagers adjust moral relations in the interweaving of prestige construction and moral choices. When social position goes upward or the flow of resources increases, the demand for prestige construction increases, unaided relationship expands, and aided relationship shrinks. When social position goes downwards or the flow of resources decreases, aided relationship is affected by moral responsibility and the closeness of relationship. These processes interact with structural factors to form a mechanism for the adjustment of moral relations, which affects the gift ritual in rural China.

Esteem Goods for Non-Accumulation: Interpreting Kula with Laozi .... *Liang Yongjia* 71

Abstract: In this paper, I attempt to interpret the "kula" ethnographies with Laozi. I argue that Laozi's ideas of "esteeming goods" (*guihuo*) and "non-accumulation" (*buji*) help to better understand why kula is extremely precious but impossible to accumulate in terms of the kula shells or kula name, and how the kula prevents violence. In general, the kula is a "void" system with the following mechanisms: to exchange without authenticating hierarchy, to compete without actual accumulation, to conflict without institutionalization, and to esteem one kind of goods without esteeming other kinds. By glorifying "the elder" as exemplars, who esteems goods but is unable to accumulate, the kula society is close to a spontaneous order, idealised by Laozi who glorifies "the sage" (*shengren*). The paper starts by questioning the "gift paradigm", followed by analysis of the mechanisms of how esteeming goods can lead to the non-accumulation of the kula shells, the kula names, and violence. It then explains why Laozi and kula arrive at the same goal in opposite ways. The paper concludes by highlighting the significance of these findings.

PAPER

Social Prediction：A New Research Paradigm Based on Machine Learning

Abstract：Sociology is a science concerning itself with interpretive understanding of social action as well as causal explanation. A causal explanation should be the foundation of prediction. For many years, constrained by data and computing power, quantitative research of social science has primarily focused on statistical test to analyze correlation and causality, leaving predictions largely ignored. By sorting out the historical context of "social prediction", this paper redefines this concept by introducing why and how machine learning can help prediction in a scientific way. This paper further summarizes the academic value and governance value of social prediction, and suggests that it be a potential breakthrough in contemporary social research paradigm. We believe, through machine learning, we can witness the advent of an era of paradigm shift from correlation, causality to social prediction, providing a rare opportunity for sociology in China to lead the international frontier of computational social sciences, and accelerating the construction of philosophy and social science with Chinese characteristics.

Can Historical Sociology Reduce Its Methodological Tension？ —A Computational Analysis of Western Academic History

Abstract：Historical sociology introduces an important historical perspective into social sciences in China. However, its methodological orientation encounters controversies as whether it can reduce methodological differences between sociology and history. This study draws upon Thomas Kuhn's idea of "scientific revolution" to explain the disciplinary trajectory of historical sociology in terms of the relationship between "academic movement" and "academic practice". Based on a computational analysis of 2642 papers published in three major historical sociology journals from 1976 to 2018, this paper depicts the disciplinary evolution as a pendulum between "methodological standardization" and "topic pluralization". Methodological standardization attempts to ground the disciplinary with a solid foundation in theory and method, but causes the narrowing of research topics. In reverse, topic pluralization attempts to expand the disciplinary boundaries by introducing broader topics, but threatens the previously

accepted theoretical foundations. The tension between the two movements indicates the internal contradiction of historical sociology, which vitalizes the discipline. The ongoing methodological debate may cause a new wave of methodological standardization. This movement tends to ignore the "big questions" and grand theories, and may cause a crisis in historical sociology. The development of historical sociology in China should stay vigilance of this methodological pitfall.

Abstract: In general, the study of marginality adopts two major orientations: the external structured exclusion, which focuses on contextual marginalization, and the internal mental experience, which emphasizes psychological marginalization. It is believed that the social marginalization of individuals follows the conventional pathway of "from structural to psychological". This paper analyzes the marginalization process of parents who lost their only child based on the paired concepts of "structural marginalization" and "psychological marginalization". Due to the seismic change in their "living context", these parents actively constructed and gradually fenced their psychological margins in a strong sense of self-awareness. This led to structural marginalization, which evolved from "a desperate heart" to "extreme isolation". The dual-pathway model of individual marginalization is thus constructed on the basis of the non-conventional "psychological-structural" pathway of individual social marginalization. The key to dealing with individual social marginalization is to establish a staged cut-off mechanism in accordance with the evolution rules of marginalization. In addition to external structured assistance, we should pay more attention to psychological marginalization.

Abstract: This research draws on a case of a migration resettlement enclave to analyze distinctive governance, a specific pattern of social governance. It is produced at the macro level when the central government endows a policy status to certain communities or groups. The local governments execute the framework under the guidance of the particularist logic, causing special treatment to its members at the micro practice level and high governance cost. Facing such governance dilemma, the local government

develops a distinctive response tactics by using the policy opportunity structure developed from the distinctive governance framework, thus enhancing the particularlist logic in governance. This paper also discusses the relations between mechanisms of the distinctive governance and generalized governance, as well as their interactions in the governance practice.

Pedigree of The House: An Anthropological Study of Zhaba's Social
Organizations ·· *Chen Bo* 193

Abstract: Our long-term fieldwork finds no clan or lineage organizations at Dra-pa (Zhaba), which refutes the age-old theories based upon primitive societies. A theoretical turn to Lévi-Strauss' conception of "maison" leads us to identify the house as Zhaba's basic social organization, which perform both political and economic functions. Based on a large amount of pedigree work and cases of house inheritance, we confirm their social-cultural ideal to be the female descendance. In order to realize this ideal, the house employs the principle of mono-gynic reproduction as the most effective way to recruit the next generation of house members. The predicaments it suffers in practice, however, deeply bound it with the inheritance of the house to such a degree that they are inseparable, with aids from both the kindreds and house corporations. In this paper, I theorize the basic atom of house organization, and recognize two types of social isogeny as the sources of Zhaba's high degree of cosmopolitanism and diversification. Zhaba proves to be a challenging case among studies of social organizations and classifications.

REVIEW

Bringing Political Culture Back In: Insights from Cultural Sociology
·· *Qian Licheng* 219

Abstract: Based on the analysis of Chinese and Western literature, this paper clarifies and summarizes four approaches in studying political culture in various contexts, namely the "political tradition approach" emphasizing classic thoughts and institutional patterns, the "political psychology approach" focusing on attitudes and behaviors, the "political society approach" examining civil society and public sphere, and the "political culture approach" influenced by the cultural turn. By emphasizing both "meaning" and "meaning-making", the cultural approach not only brings political culture back into the discipline of sociology, but also contributes to the development of cultural sociology in China.