

Faculty of Humanities

MA Dissertation Approval Form

Student Name	Qixuan Zhou
Degree Scheme	MA Confucian Classical Studies
Start date	2023.8.25.

I have completed Part 1 of my degree.

*Please delete as appropriate.

Title of Dissertation:

**Confucian Fate (命) Theory in the Middle Period of the Warring States ——
With “Mencius” and the Chu State Bamboo Slips Found in Guodian as the Core**

Aims and Objectives:

The thought of 「fate」 (命) plays a pivotal role in traditional Chinese thought, especially in the Spring and Autumn Period and the Warring States Period.

With the drastic changes in the external political environment, various thoughts have been intensified and derived, and the thought of 「fate」 has also developed and changed. In fact, the thought of 「fate」 itself is also universal, and closely bound up to everyone. It is of great academic value to study and clarify its development process and refine its key points. This paper will mainly focus on the development of the thought of 「fate」 in the middle period of the Warring States, and summarize the core idea of the thought of 「fate」 in this period through studying the thought of 「fate」 in “Mencius”, and related literature from the Chu State bamboo slips found in Guodian.

Abstract (approximately 500 words):

In the middle of the Warring States Period, the original documents related to the thought of 「fate」 mainly include “Mencius”, “Poor or Rich, Timing or Fate” and “Fate Decides the Nature” from the Chu State bamboo slips found in Guodian. Basing on the original text, through the analysis and extraction of the core ideas of the thought of

「fate」 in these books, this paper will provide a synchronic observation of the thought of 「fate」 in the middle of the Warring States Period. Then, through the observation of the evolution of the thought of 「fate」 in the pre-Qin period, it will summarize the law of change implied in them, and provide a diachronic observation of the thought of 「fate」.

Combined with synchronic observation and diachronic observation, this paper tries to stereoscopically form the core concept of the life theory in the middle period of Warring States. Then, through the observation of the social state at that time, it highlights the subjectivity of the thought of 「fate」, and finally makes it compare and collide with the relevant trends of thought in modern society, so as to extend and summarize its enlightenment for modern people.

The paper will be separated into four chapters:

Chapter 1 Introduction (1200 words)

Section 1: Motivation and Purpose of the Research

Section 2: Previous Research Results

Section 3: Research and Method

Section 4: Research Value

This chapter first briefly describes the research motivation, research purpose and method of this paper. Then, through the discussion of scholars on the thought of 「fate」 in the pre-Qin period, the thought of 「fate」 in “Mencius”, and the discussions of the relevant literature about studies on the Chu State bamboo slips found in Guodian, the relevant research results are listed, and their definitions of the concept of 「fate」. Finally, it will summarize the characteristics and shortcomings of historical research. Then the discussion of this research will be conducted on these content, and so do the value and contribution of this research.

Chapter 2: The Origin of the Thought of 「fate」 in the Pre-Qin Dynasty and the Formation of Its Academic Background (2000 words)

Section 1: Exploring the Source of the Thought of 「fate」

Section 2: The Formation of the Academic Background in the Middle of the Warring States Period

Chapter 3: The Main Content of the Thought of 「fate」 in “Mencius” (2500 words)

Chapter 4: The Main Content of Thoughts related to 「fate」 in the Chu State Bamboo Slips Found in Guodian (2500 words)

Chapter 5: Conclusion (1500 words)

This chapter will summarize the embodiment of the thought of 「fate」 in the middle of the Warring States Period, and expound its enlightenment to modern times.

Short Introductory Bibliography:

1. Zhang Dainian, “Outline of Chinese Philosophy”, Beijing: Beijing Social Sciences Press, 1982.
2. Yang Zebo, “Study on Mencius' Theory of Original Goodness of Human Nature”, Beijing: China Social Sciences Press, 1995.
3. Mu Zongsan: “Characteristics of Chinese Philosophy”, Shanghai: Shanghai Ancient Books Press, 1997.

4. Feng Youlan: “History of Chinese Philosophy”, Shanghai: East China Normal University Press, 2000.
5. Guo Yi: “Chu State Bamboo Slips Found in Guodian and Pre-Qin Academic Thought”, Shanghai: Shanghai Education Press, 2001.
6. Xu Fuguan, “History of Chinese Theory of Human Nature · Pre-Qin Volume”, Shanghai: Shanghai Sanlian Bookstore, 2001.
7. Lao Siguang, “New History of Chinese Philosophy”, Beijing: Sanlian Bookstore, 2015.
8. [America], Roger T.Ames, “Harmony in Diversity: Comparative Philosophy and East-West Understanding”, Beijing: Peking University Press, 2002.
9. [Germany], Wolfgang Bauer, “China and the Search for Happiness”, Nanjing: Jiangsu People's Press, 2009.
10. [Germany], Heiner Roetz, “Confucian Ethics of the Axial Age”, Zhengzhou: Elephant Press, 2009.

Proposed Supervisor:



Huang, Chung-Tien

Please indicate whether ethical approval for project is needed – NO

Please indicate whether sufficient resources are available for the project – YES

The above topic, proposal, and supervisor have been agreed:

Signed : Programme Director

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Title of Dissertation:

題目

戰國中期命論-以《孟子》與郭店楚簡為核心

Aims and Objectives:

研究目的

「命」的思想在中國傳統思想中有著舉足輕重的地位，尤其在春秋戰國時期，隨著外部政治環境的劇變，促使了各種思潮激化衍生，而「命」的思想也隨之發展變化。而「命」的思想本身也具有普世性，與每一個人息息相關。研究釐清其發展過程，提煉其中要點具有很大的學術價值。而本文將主要聚焦在戰國中期「命」思想的發展，以《孟子》「命」思想與郭店楚簡相關文獻為研究，總結這個時期「命」思想的核心理念。

Abstract (approximately 500 words):

摘要

戰國中期與「命」的思想相關的原始文獻主要有《孟子》以及郭店楚簡中《窮達以時》與《性自命出》，本文將根植與原始文本，透過分析提煉其中有關「命」思想的核心觀點，提供對「命」思想與戰國中期共時性觀察；再透過對於先秦時期

「命」思想演變的觀察，總結其中暗含的變化規律，提供對「命」思想的歷時性觀察。

結合共時性觀察與歷時性觀察，立體地構成戰國中期命論的核心觀念，再通過對於當時社會狀態的觀察，凸顯其中「命」思想的主體性，最後與現代社會相關思潮進行對比碰撞，從而引申與總結出其中對於現代人的啓示。

第一章 緒論（1200 字）

第一節 研究動機與目的

第二節 前人研究成果

第三節 研究與方法

第四節 研究價值

【說明】本章先簡述本文的研究動機，研究目的與方法，再透過對於學者關於先秦時期「命」思想，《孟子》中「命」思想以及郭店楚簡研究等相關文獻的論述，羅列出現有相關的研究成果，與其對於「命」概念的界定，最後總結出歷來研究的特點與不足，藉此展開本研究的論述，以及研究的價值與貢獻。

第二章 先秦「命」思想的探源與學術背景的形成（2000 字）

第一節：「命」思想的探源

第二節：戰國中期學術背景的形成

第三章 孟子「命」思想的主要內容（2500 字）

第四章 郭店楚簡「命」相關思想的主要內容(2500 字)

第五章 結論（1500 字）

【說明】總結對戰國中期「命」思想的體現，並闡述其對於現代的啓示

Short Introductory Bibliography:

古籍：

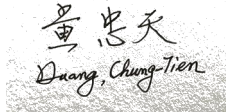
- 1、【漢】趙岐：《孟子注疏》，北京：北京大學出版社，2000 年

近代專書：

- 1、張岱年：《中國哲學大綱》，北京：北京社會科學出版社，1982 年。
- 2、楊澤波：《孟子性善論研究》，北京：中國社會科學出版社，1995 年。
- 3、牟宗三：《中國哲學的特質》，上海：上海古籍出版社，1997 年。
- 4、馮友蘭：《中國哲學史》，上海：華東師範大學出版社，2000 年。
- 5、郭沂：《郭店楚簡與先秦學術思想》，上海：上海教育出版社，2001 年。

- 6、徐復觀：《中國人性論史·先秦篇》，上海：上海三聯書店，2001 年。
- 7、勞思光：《新編中國哲學史》，北京：三聯書店，2015 年
- 8、【美】安樂哲：《和而不同比較哲學與中西會通》，北京：北京大學出版社，2002 年。
- 9、【德】鮑吾剛：《中國人的幸福觀》，南京：江蘇人民出版社，2009 年。
- 10、【德】羅哲海：《軸心時期的儒家倫理》，鄭州：大象出版社，2009 年。

Proposed Supervisor:



黃忠天
Huang, Chung-tien

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