

A Brief Analysis of the Poem Cricket of *Guofeng·Tangfeng* 國風·唐風 and Explore the Cultural Differences Between China and the West on Enjoyment

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1. Introduction

國者，諸侯所封之域；而風者，民俗歌謠之詩也。

Guo 國 refers to the territory of vassal states, and
feng 風 is poems recording folk songs.



2. The origin of the *Tangfeng* 唐風

唐，國名。太行、恆山之西，太原、太岳之野。

Tang is the name of a country. The territory of the state was located to the west of Mountain Taihang 太行 and Hengshan 恆山, on the outskirts of Taiyuan and Taiyue 太岳



3. Brief analysis and the cultural differences

3.1 Cricket

蟋蟀，刺晉僖公也。儉不中禮，故作是詩以閔之，欲其及時以禮自虞樂也。

Cricket is a sarcastic comment on Jin Xigong 晉僖公. Being too thrifty also does not accord with the requirements of etiquette, so the poet wrote this poem to express the concern of him, to let him timely according to the requirements of etiquette to enjoy.



七月在野，八月在宇，九月在戶，十月蟋蟀入我床下

The cricket is in the fields in July, and under the eaves in August. The September cricket comes in the door, and October comes under my bed



蓋其民俗之厚， 而前聖之遠遺風如此。

The folk customs here are probably honest and upright, and the influence of the good morals handed down from the previous sages can be seen from here



3.2 Different views on enjoyment

China

Chinese society places more emphasis on the concept of wholeness, which is more valuable than the individual. People regard their own moral cultivation as more important than momentary pleasure.



禍莫大於不知足，咎莫大於得。

There is no greater calamity than not being
satisfied, and there is no greater fault than
satisfying one's desire

養心莫善於寡慾

there is nothing better for the cultivation of one's
self than lack of desire



The west

Western society emphasizes more on the concept of the individual and the inviolability of individual rights.



人類的終極目標就是盡可能地
免除痛苦， 盡可能地享受快樂。

Ultimate goal of human is to avoid as
much pain as possible and to enjoy as
much pleasure as possible.



The Chinese grandmother said she had worked hard all her life and finally saved enough money to buy a big house. The American grandmother said that she finally paid off the house loan a few days ago and has been out of debt ever since.



4. conclusion

The people toil all the year round, but they still remember their duties even in the pleasure. That is a true portrayal of the life and thoughts of the people at that time.



This difference is due to the different goals pursued by Chinese and Western societies. In China, personal moral cultivation is more important. While in the West, natural attributes are more important.



People make continuous efforts to pursue personal interests and satisfy their desires. It seems that the enjoyment of material and sensory stimulation can make them happy, but many people also gradually fall into the confusion and hesitation of the situation.



This is all for my presentation, any feedback and suggestions would be appreciated. Thank you for listening.

