# **Research on the Characteristics of Chinese Language Metaphor**

## Yuanjing Xiong

Xijing University, Xi'an, Shaanxi, 710123, China

Keywords: Chinese Language Metaphor, Characteristics, Study and Application

**Abstract:** In the process of development, Chinese language plays a major role in communication and communication. After thousands of years of development, the structure and meaning of Chinese language have been continuously improved and changed. Therefore, in practice, people use Chinese language. Different changes have also taken place, reflecting the application characteristics of Chinese language diversity. In addition to the expression of thought and emotion, Chinese language has the characteristics of language behavior in practical application. Therefore, metaphorical traits have become an application feature of Chinese language.

### **1. Introduction**

The origin and development of Chinese language culture has a long history and is accompanied by the emergence of Chinese civilization. When the Chinese nation first used the symbolic symbol to transmit information, it was also the period in which the Chinese language and culture were metaphorically generated. Some people say that Cangjie's creation is the real starting point for the development of Chinese language. According to this theory, the rock paintings of ancient times are the true origin of Chinese language and culture. Because the shape of Chinese characters has been constantly evolving, in fact, every glyph has its own visual or abstract physical object as its reference. Its essence is the reference to the real image. Therefore, to test the metaphor of Chinese language, we must trace its roots. The metaphorical nature of Chinese language has distinct characteristics of the times through the development of different historical stages, and conveys different emotional characteristics. Then, how to carry out a targeted interpretation of the metaphorical traits under the Chinese language symbols is the focus of this article. The following mainly starts from the three nodes of Chinese characters, discourse structure and sentences in Chinese language system, and explores the metaphorical characteristics of Chinese language and its linguistic features.

### 2. Conceptual Interpretation of Chinese Metaphoricality

From the perspective of modern linguistics, the metaphorical character of Chinese characters is a potential cognitive structure, presented in a potential form, and should be subordinated to the category of language rhetoric. It is combined with language rhetoric and logical semantics. It constitutes the language and cognition of human beings. This paper believes that logic and metaphor are two basic characteristics of language. These two basic characteristics are relatively exist in the use of language structure. From the perspective of language structure, its metaphor is embodied in the use of image symbols, which promotes language to be agile and soft on the whole level. From the perspective of the inheritance and development of language, metaphor is mostly about the innovation of semantics and the similar application, while the logical language is more conservative and more rigorous. In fact, in the development of linguistics, the emergence of metaphorical language is earlier than the emergence of logical language. Human thinking has certain metaphorical characteristics from the beginning. In the current era, metaphor has gradually developed from the simple field of language rhetoric to the field of aesthetics. It has played a rich role in the free expression of people's emotions at a certain level. Chinese characters have been produced and experienced thousands of years of development, and evolved into two major organizational systems. These two systems are in turn the source text system and the borrowing

Copyright © (2019) Francis Academic Press, UK

source system. The so-called self-sourced text system refers to the text that is naturally produced, that is, the earliest type of text in the world's writing system—the hieroglyphics. The deep development of language is based on human vision and understanding. It is the natural creation of ancient people on the basis of visual sensory cognition. It is recorded in hieroglyphic symbols, passed down, and presented to modern people. The characteristics of intuitive and distorted performance, the human thinking performance activities reflected in this process are metaphors. The transformation of human beings with the use of hieroglyphics in the natural world has become the ultimate foundation for the generation of metaphors. The "images" exist only in the metaphorical development with an intermediary situation. Chinese characteristics show the unique metaphor of Chinese characters, and this feature makes Chinese language the most metaphorical language. system. Borrowing text is a text produced on the basis of the original text. It also has the characteristics of pictogram and evolution. Its metaphorical form and its metaphorical characteristics are more intriguing and worthy of scrutiny.

#### 3. The meaning and characteristics of metaphorical traits in Chinese language

Chinese metaphor is characterized by its surface meaning and real meaning when it is expressed in language. It mainly expresses people's thoughts and emotions in a more unique way through metaphor. For metaphorical traits, from the perspective of its functional orientation in Chinese language, it is a rhetorical method. To put it simply, in the expression of a certain thing or emotion, another thing and emotion are used to replace the description, so as to express the similarity between the two. For metaphorical traits in Chinese language, it can be regarded as a concise simile of thought and emotion, but in the expression, the expression of people's real thoughts is more secret.

Chinese language has a strong cultural and historical significance, and the Chinese language structure system is more complicated. Therefore, its metaphorical traits are more powerful in practice. For this reason, the characteristics of Chinese language metaphor can be analyzed from the following aspects. analysis. First, metaphor is a rhetorical method in Chinese language. The use of metaphor is a rhetorical method that many people will adopt. It can make people's expressions of emotions, thoughts, meanings, etc. better when they are expressed, especially in the right. The things that cannot be declared, the metaphorical way can make people better express them. For example, "She is the night pearl, in the dark night, she radiates a brilliant light, and she can't destroy her. She is the sun, leaving the horizon. But it shines in the sky!" This sentence uses metaphor to reflect the author's views and opinions on the descriptors, and at the same time, the author's emotions can be more strongly vented. Second, the alternative role of metaphor, there may be some minor connections or common traits between different things and things, emotions and emotions, things and emotions, but in the expression of Chinese language, in order to convey a kind of image or concealment When words are meaningd, they can use metaphor to replace words. In metaphorical traits, word substitution is not strong. When words are replaced, they can be based on the subjective consciousness of language users. For example, "the memory of beauty is life. The most precious industry, the instinct to know beauty is a secret key that God gives us into heaven." The author uses a metaphorical way to make a more vivid representation of the aesthetics.

#### 4. Analysis of Chinese metaphorical traits

In modern linguistics, metaphor is defined as language rhetoric, which belongs to people's cognition of language. In the language structure, it includes two kinds of poetry and science. In practice, the application of metaphor traits includes these two kinds. The characteristics of the language structure, but in terms of its logic and use characteristics, its most obvious manifestation is produced in the image symbol. The application of metaphorical traits makes the language diversified, and the application of metaphor in Chinese language is also The poetic symbol features in the language structure are reflected. Chinese metaphorical traits show semantic innovation when

applied, which links different things, thus embodying a new semantics, which is more flexible and novel in language expression than rigorous composition of logical language. Therefore, it also makes the Chinese language expression more abundant. According to the development of linguistics, the emergence of metaphor can be traced back to the emergence of language, which can help people express their emotions freely and conform to the characteristics of human thinking.

In the process of the development of Chinese language structure, its basic composition is Chinese characters, and Chinese characters are the development and derivation of the text system from the source text. It continues the characteristics of the original text and shows a unique text structure. The self-original text, which is the structure of hieroglyphics, is mainly the structure of human beings when recording the world. It shows the characteristics of human perception and the way of thinking. It has metaphorical characteristics in itself, and the development of Chinese characters is hieroglyphics. The foundation, which continues the cultural characteristics of hieroglyphics, has its own metaphorical traits, and Chinese language is also the most metaphorical language system in linguistics. There is no concept of words in the ancient Chinese language composition. Only the relationship between words and sentences constitutes a language, and the words are in a non-morphological form as a symbol unit in the language. . With the continuous development of human thinking and the continuous expansion of the semantic space, Chinese words slowly replace the origin of words and words, and become the main intermediary of human discourse. According to the two characteristics of linguistic symbol structure poetic language and scientific language, the predicate mode of Chinese words is also divided into the part of speech expression of scientific language and the part of speech expression of poetry language. The former is the logical way of saying words, the latter is Metaphorical narration means that the composition of words in everyday language has both expressions. The metaphorical features of Chinese words are embodied in their poetic nature. The development of metaphorical traits in Chinese language is a metaphorical trait attached to the Chinese words that constitute Chinese language, and it is continuously derived from Chinese words.

In Chinese language, they connect words, words and sentences together to form different language expressions. The sub-series are the combination of different semantic units. Different semantic units reflect the different needs of human thinking. Humans use different expressions. Through the language to present their own different senses, and this form of diverse language expression needs the support of metaphor, through metaphor to open up the semantic expression space, to show the ability of language to influence the development and evolution of human and natural relations, The human predicate activity is the basis of the establishment of metaphor, and the metaphorical statement must be implemented in words or sentences. Through the metaphorical characteristics of Chinese language, we can see the cultural connotation of it. The words or words with metaphorical characteristics in Chinese language contain extremely rich cultural significance. Therefore, in practice, the application of Chinese language can make the language expression more the meaning, and the expression in a streamlined way can also make people have a deeper memory. For example, "Dragon" has always been an important totem in Chinese history and culture. It has become one of the representative symbols of Chinese culture in the process of development. In the application of "Dragon", it can reflect its unique cultural connotation, such as "The descendants of the dragon" and "the spirit of the Longma" are all described as the Chinese civilization and the Chinese spirit. The "Dragon" represents the auspiciousness in the hearts of the Chinese, so the metaphorical character of the "Dragon" is used to describe the beautiful things. It has also become a manifestation of cultural connotation. It can be seen that the cultural characteristics and connotations embodied in the metaphorical characteristics of Chinese language have been integrated into the bones of Chinese language and culture.

### 5. Conclusion

Metaphor is a kind of expression technique in Chinese language system that is highly correlated with human emotions and plays an important role in emotional expression. The similarity between human and nature is the basis for the construction of metaphorical characteristics. As one of the fundamental attributes of the Chinese language system, metaphor can make people break away from the pressure of scientific logic and achieve the free expression of emotional discourse. Therefore, the metaphorical nature of the Chinese language is the real emotion lurking in people's hearts and in every corner of the mind. Studying the metaphor of Chinese language is of great significance for understanding Chinese language and culture.

### Acknowledgment

Project: Promotion Approaches of Chinese Language and Characters under the Strategic "Belt and Road" Initiative (No. XJ150233); Xiiing University 2015 Annual Scientific Research Fund Project.

# References

[1] Chang Wei. Analysis of Metaphorical Characteristics in Chinese Languages [J]. National Circulation Economy, 2013(19):93-93.

[2] Tu Jinli, Su Lichang. Research on Conceptual Metaphor of Chinese Medicine and Its Cultural Characteristics [J]. Journal of Linguistics, 2009(15): 46-47.

[3] Jia Xiaoxia. The Metaphorical Characteristics of Chinese Words [J]. Journal of Shanxi University of Finance and Economics, 2014(s2):127-128.

[4] Yu Ying. Interpretation of Metaphorical Features of Chinese Language [J]. Writer, 2015(10):198-199.

[5] Cheng Qilong. Language Cognition and Metaphor [J]. Foreign Languages, 2002(1): 46-52.