The Analysis of Female Images in Japanese Literary Works from the Perspective of Culture

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Abstract: Throughout the Ages, Literary Works Are the Product of People's Thoughts. It Not Only Expresses the Author's Thoughts, But Also Reflects the Epitome of the Times. Japanese Literary Works Are Nothing But the Distinctive Features of Thoughts and Times. Japanese Literary Works, with the Changes of the Times and the Changes of People's Minds, Women's Ink and Image Have Changed Significantly, Which is Also Because the Status of Japanese Women in the Society Has Also Greatly Improved. This Paper Takes the Female Images in Japanese Literary Works from Different Periods as the Analysis Point, and Briefly Describes the Shaping of Female Images in Japanese Literary Works from the Perspective of Culture.

1. Introduction

Japan is a Neighbor of China and is Heavily Influenced by Chinese Culture. the Traditional Idea of “Male and Female” is Also Transmitted to Japan. the Meiji Restoration is an Epoch-Making Historical Event for the Entire History of Japan, Which Has Prompted Japan to Enter a Modern Society. after That, Western Culture Began to Infiltrate into Japanese Society. under the Influence of Western Culture, Japanese Traditional Culture Was Hit by an Unprecedented Impact. This Kind of Shock Also Challenged the Traditional Thinking of Japan’s “Male and Female”, the New Western Ideas of Equality between Men and Women and women’s Freedom. Gradually Accepted by the Japanese Enlightened Authors, he Gradually Upgraded the Status of Women in His Works. after World War II, Japanese Women Began to Enter the Historical Arena as an Independent Literary Image [1].

2. Study the Significance of Female Images in Japanese Literature

The cultural exchange between Japan and China has continued since ancient times. Some cultural traditions have similarities and differences. However, after the modern society, due to the differences in the socio-economic development and the degree of influence of the West, the cultural traditions of Japan and China began to have their own The more distinctive features also influenced the creative style and characteristics of the literary works of the time. The creation of literary works is inseparable from the portrayal of characters [1]. Therefore, the study of the expression techniques of characters in literary works is conducive to grasping the background and characteristics of the times.

After the Second World War, the female image in Japanese literary works was on the historical stage. Studying this phenomenon is beneficial to us to analyze the social background and economic development level of Japan at that time through the social status and characteristics of women in literary works, and to understand the state of mind of the Japanese people. Through the research and comparison of many literary works in different eras, it is also beneficial for us to grasp the process and future direction of the development of Japanese cultural tradition as a whole, and summarize some creative ideas and writing techniques for reference. At the same time, with the sweeping tide of globalization and the deepening of cultural exchanges between countries, people began to study a country's literary works frequently, and grasp the nationalities reflected behind a country by analyzing the typical characters portrayed in literary works. Spiritual or epochal characteristics, it is undeniable that the female image in literary works is more closely related to the social characteristics
of the time [2]. Therefore, in order to deeply understand Japanese traditional culture and promote the cultural exchange between China and Japan in the future, study Japanese literature in the cultural perspective. The characteristics and development process of the female image in the work are very necessary.

3. A Detailed Introduction of Female Images in Literary Works in Different Periods

3.1 Female Literature at the Beginning of the War

The “military war” in Japan's military defeat directly led to the US occupation of Japan and the reform of Japanese politics. The biggest change in Japanese politics after the war was the transformation of Japan from fascist military rule to democratic republic. This kind of political change has also promoted the change of social atmosphere, which is embodied in the spread of Western gender equality in Japan. However, the effect of gender equality in the dissemination of ideas is not too obvious, because at that time a large proportion of the public had a strong rejection of Western gender equality. But on the whole, the idea of equality between men and women in the West has become a clear stream in the social atmosphere. Many people have been influenced by this kind of equality and began to think about the status of traditional men and women. This kind of thinking is particularly prominent in Japanese writers and literary works after the war. In particular, some Japanese female writers began to use the Western gender equality as their inspiration for literary creation [2]. The most famous classic works are the songs of the writer Yumoto Miyamoto. The songs of the writers, through the experience of the heroine, reveal the cruelty of war, the distortion of human nature and the unfairness of women as a vulnerable group in the war. treatment. This kind of literary work that tells women about the common tragic experience of war as a theme expresses the author's dissatisfaction and criticism of the Japanese traditional society's “male respect for women” thinking.

It is worth mentioning that the modern Japanese writer Haruki Murakami once wrote a short story called “Strap Shorts”, in which the heroine found herself wearing a pair of trousers at a time and found that she actually hated her husband very much. Since then, she has left her husband. But this simple story reflects women's dislike of tragic marriage after World War II and began to resist. From a certain angle, it reflects the social reality that women begin to think independently, no longer completely dependent on men, and women's consciousness begins to awaken. It also reflects the phenomenon that women's image has been generally improved in Japanese literature [2].

3.2 Female Literature around the 1960s

From the end of “World War II” to the 20th century, Japan's economy developed rapidly, and many jobs in the society began to open to women. Therefore, in the 1960s, a large number of Japanese women began to step out of their families and enter social jobs. This kind of social objective reality is naturally reflected in the literary creation, so a new genre, “new female literature”, was born in Japanese literature. The uniqueness of “new women's literature” is mainly manifested in the writer's beginning to tell women's contribution to social development from different angles. In the “new female literature” of Japanese literature, on the one hand, the female image is more and more abundant, on the other hand, the social status of women is getting higher and higher. In the famous work “Rose” of “New Women's Literature”, the author shows that she is full of reason and desire for independence in love by showing the heroine's experience of love, marriage and divorce, and hopes to become an accomplished professional woman [3]. The inner self-expression of the hostess’s “Continue to work after marriage” and “Don’t want children” reflects the realization of Japanese women’s pursuit of self-worth. Japanese women have such an idea because it was not long before the end of World War II. Many women lost their husbands and relatives. In this reality, women must bear the responsibility of raising a family. Coupled with the rapid spread of democratic consciousness and feminism after the “World War II”, under this kind of synergy, women's independent consciousness is enhanced and they have a certain social role.
3.3 Female Literature around the 1980s

After decades of development, the Japanese economy has developed rapidly. In the 1980s, Japan overtook Germany to become the world's second largest economy. It can be said that at this time, Japan has once again become an economic power and plays an important role in international affairs. In this fast-growing economy, gender equality and feminism are further widely disseminated. During this period, Japanese women participated in more and more social activities, and women regained their confidence and went to society. The Declaration on the Abolition of Women’s Discrimination has pushed the social trend of women’s pursuit of equality between women and women to the peak. Under this trend of thought, Yan Ye Qisheng’s “The Women of the Renaissance” effectively combines rich history and culture, and outlines the importance of women from the perspective of women. The most important thing is Kawabata Yasunari. Kawabata Yasunari created a large number of works on women's literature during this period [3]. The commonality of these works is to reflect the establishment of women's self-consciousness in the new era. At the same time, Kawabata Yasunari succeeded in depicting women by using daily narrative techniques, and perfectly showing their inner desires through the usual trivialities of some women.

4. Analysis of the Expression of Female Images in Japanese Literary Works

4.1 Female Literature in the Post-War Democratization

After the Second World War, Japan ended its fascist military rule and began to rectify the domestic tragedy left behind after the war and toward the development of a democratic country. Some writers began to deeply reflect on post-war Japan, and mapped this reflection in their own literary creations. Among them, Miyamoto Yuriko’s “Songs, Sum up,” is the most representative, and the work is experienced by the heroine. The description of World War II revealed the catastrophe and human distortions of women who were disadvantaged groups at that time [4]. After that, Hu Jingrong created “Twenty-four Eyes”, which promotes Japanese people's sympathy and identity to women. The climax is the master of many wartime works.

4.2 The Birth of Japanese New Literature and the Establishment of Female Consciousness

With the rapid development of the Japanese economy, Japan's social thoughts are also undergoing dramatic changes. Feminist criticism and feminist ideas have begun to flourish, which has led to the improvement of Japanese women's social status and the improvement of working conditions. New female literature has appeared in the field of literature [4]. The representative works include the “Party” of Kumiko Yumiko, the “Child Care” by Yohee Kono, and the “Prostitute” by Ohara.

4.3 Gender Equality and Literary Creation

Japan, as the world's second largest economy in the 1980s, achieved sustained and rapid economic development, but the conflict of interests of various classes caused social problems to emerge. Many Japanese authors use literary works to speak for the majority of Japanese women who pursue equality. For example, Yan Ye Qisheng emphasizes the historical status of women through the “Woman of the Renaissance”. Yuji created “The Grass Place” to express the strong women of that era [5].

4.4 Establishment of Female Self

The most representative writer of this period was Kawabata Yasunari. He first used the daily narrative technique to portray the image of women and expressed women's desire for life from the inside out. One of the most famous works is “Thousand Cranes”. The main description is the metamorphosis, deformity and sad beauty of mature women.
5. The Change of Female Image in Japanese Literature

5.1 The Independence of Female Images in Contemporary Japanese Literature

In the context of traditional Japanese society, women’s right to participate in social life is completely deprived. Without any social status, it is completely a male accessory. The character of female images in this period is characterized by “the tragic ending. Implied obedience, but the number is small and not detailed enough. After Japan entered the modern society, the social status of Japanese women has gradually increased, feminist consciousness and feminist thoughts have begun to awaken. Japanese women no longer depend on men, but become independent individuals in society, with individuality. [6].

5.2 Japanese Women Begin to Assume Certain Social Roles

Due to the terrible cost of World War II, many families in Japan have fallen to the point where they have fallen to the ground, forcing Japanese women to assume the responsibility of supporting a family and society as a social group. In the field of Japanese literary works, many Japanese authors use their literary works to show the transformation of the social roles and status of Japanese women in different eras, and around a common literary theme - liberating humanity and establishing self [5].

5.3 Japanese Female Image Begins to Be Highly Symbolic

With the continuous collection and improvement of Japanese women's social status, some of the beautiful qualities reflected by Japanese women themselves are also symbolic of the Japanese people's hopes, such as loving peace and eager for a better life [7]. When expressing this symbolic meaning, Japanese writers often refine it into some shining points in Japanese women, and show the Japanese people's tough, courageous and positive attitude towards life.

6. The Reference Significance of Female Characters in Japanese Literary Works

There are many differences in the political system and in the economic and social fields in the world. These differences have determined that the social background of literary creation is very different [6]. However, from the perspective of literary and literary creation itself, the differences between countries do not cut off the imaginary imaginary. Specifically, no matter which country's literature, character image and other aspects will have similarities. Therefore, Japanese literary creation also has many references to the construction of female images in Japanese literary works.

6.1 Using the Characteristics of the Times to Highlight the Female Image

The shaping of female images in Japanese literature reflects the atmosphere of the times. It can be said that the female images in literature can reflect the changes in the mainstream thinking of Japanese society at that time [6]. Therefore, we should closely combine the mainstream thoughts of the society with the literary figures in the creation of contemporary literature, especially in the shaping of female images.

6.2 The Fusion of the Beauty of Women and the Beauty of Nature

Traditional female images have not been denied in Japanese literature. In contemporary literature, they even more naturally and meticulously reflect their classical and feminine temperament. This point is also worth learning. Don't deny the women who lived under the idea of "male and female humiliation". They also have a lot of excellent characters worth learning from. They should combine the beauty of women with the beauty of nature. Culture is the world. Although the literature of each country has its own characteristics, its thoughts can be the same. The exchanges and references of various countries are also beneficial to the development of culture and economy of various countries [7].
7. Summary

Under the impact of Western culture in modern times, although there have been many changes in Japanese literature, it has not completely denied the traditional female image, but also reflects the distinctive atmosphere of the times. Japanese literary works include both classical and feminine depiction of Japanese women, as well as new women who pursue freedom and advocate democracy. With the acceleration of the globalization process, the female image in Japanese literary works has also changed. Many new generation writers have begun to use the international cultural vision to create a new female image with contemporary characteristics, but no matter how it changes, literature The characters in the works will be the epitome of the times.

References