## A Glimpse of Tea and Taste of Life--Interpretation of Su Dongpo's Tea Poetry Creation and Aesthetic Characteristics

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**Abstract:** Tea culture has a long history in China, and the Song Dynasty is the peak period. Speaking of Su Dongpo, apart from being a great poet of the Song Dynasty, people mentioned more about his incomprehensible relationship with tea. His relationship with tea cannot be simply said to be a favorite, but more obsessive. Tea does not consciously penetrate into his verses, leaving a pen tea cultural heritage for future generations. This article through Su Dongpo's understanding of the Song Dynasty people's thinking about tea and life, through the relationship between Su Dongpo and tea, mutual influence and the charm of Su Dongpo writing tea to introduce.

#### 1. Introduction

China's "Tea is in the Tang Dynasty and flourished in the Song Dynasty". The establishment of the Northern Song Dynasty ended the long-standing turbulent social situation. The people began to live in peace, which provided conditions for cultural exchanges, and the tea culture developed to a new stage. Drinking tea in the Song Dynasty can be seen everywhere, and tea is also honored in the ranks of "Piano, Chess, Calligraphy, Painting, Poetry, Liqueur and Tea". The culture of the Song Dynasty was developed, and many literati people like to express their feelings in poems. The tea was a good content. The most representative poet is Su Dongpo. Tea is an indispensable part of his life. his activities are inseparable from tea. Walking, eating, sleeping, doing things, writing poetry, there is tea infiltration. His official road is not smooth, and he often runs around but allows him to pass through many tea-producing areas. He has a lot of tea cultivation and tea collection. He used tea in poetry and songs to leave a valuable tea cultural heritage for future generations. Appreciating the poems of Su Dongpo can feel the charm of tea culture.

## 2. The origin of Su Dongpo's love tea

A person is most affected by his environment. Su Dongpo loves tea from his growing environment, his social environment and his life experience. He was born in Meishan, Sichuan. Sichuan has a reputation as a landed country since ancient times. It is a must for culture and food. Sichuan is a good place where produce tea and taste tea. Su Dongpo was infiltrated in the Sichuan tea culture from an early age, and in this environment, he edified and formed his feelings for tea. Moreover, his father Su Xun often made friends with the monks, and the Buddhist thoughts and tea drinking habits affected the young Su Dongpo, which made him have an indissoluble bond with his life.

The Song Dynasty was a period of prosperous tea. When it came to the emperor's prime minister to the poor people, they all regarded tea as a necessity. At that time, there was a saying that justified this phenomenon: " Tea must be served daily." Su Dongpo lives in such an era society, and it is not difficult to understand that he loves tea so much. Another point has also affected Su Dongpo, that is, the celebrities he has made are also mostly people who love tea. Bai Juyi, Wang Wei, Ouyang Xiu and other friends love tea, how can Su Dongpo not be edified.

Although Su Dongpo was not good at his career, he was able to visit the great rivers and mountains of the motherland, especially in many places where tea was produced. As a big country producing tea, there are many varieties of Chinese tea: Mengding Tea in Sichuan, Longjing in West Lake, and so on.

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Therefore, for Su Dongpo, whether it is a high official and a time of poverty, he can find a tea that suits him, and tea seems to be accompanied by his life.

## 3. The interaction between Su Dongpo and tea

### 3.1 Tea and life

Su Dongpo is a person who is good at making life exquisite. He regards tea as a part of life, not only as a drink, but also as a kind of sustenance, which increases his fun and shares his pain. Su Dongpo is a person who loves to make friends and is also welcomed by friends. He and his friends don't look at each other's identity. As long as they are confidants, they can make friends. He integrates tea into his life, so those friends who have made friends because of tea seem freer and more unrestrained. His interactions with the monks and the contacts of the scholars can reflect this. Many of his poems can also reflect this, such as: "Sending Zhou Anru Tea", "Thank Cao Zifang for Sending New Tea", "Huang Luzhi with Poetry to Shuangjing Tea, Thank Ciyun", etc., from which he can be seen a wide range of friends. When friends meet, they should drink tea and chat. Taste tea is not an easy task. It involves make tea, cook tea, taste tea and many other aspects. Su Dongpo's ability to taste cannot be lost to professionals at all, and is very good at all aspects. At the same time, this skill has added a lot of fun to his life. In his " Seeking the poems of Huishanquan from Jiaoqian ", he said that "Good tea hates the water of the mortal world" and pointed out the importance of water for tea. It's just that the quality of water can't be decided by him, but he can choose and identify. The high-quality spring water such as Anpingquan and Hupaoquan is suiTable for decocting tea. Of course, Su Dongpo's praise is indispensable. "Jinsha springs are fragrant, and they are sprinkled with earth and cold." This is the praise of the Jinsha spring water in "Hupaoquan". The phrase "Mountains are still waiting for the feathers to taste" describes the tea soaked in the spring water only to be tasted by the gods. When there is no fine spring water, Su Dongpo needs to lower the water of frying tea, but it must also be living water. Not only is the water quality demand high, Su Dongpo is also strict with the water temperature. In the "Test House Fry Tea", the description of water temperature: "The water bubbles that pop up when the water first boils, like the voice of the wind." It is very vivid.

There were also many requirements for tea utensils in the Song Dynasty, and Su Dongpo also had a lot of research experience on cooking tea utensils. In "Ci Yun Zhoutong Hui Shi Tiao", he described "the copper shovel iron shovel is not suiTable for spring", it should be best to use the kiln flower porcelain, and the stone simmered with water is excellent. Su Dongpo praises tea for its medicinal effects. Taking tea for health is a static expression. "The method of treating abdominal pain" said in the text: "Treatment of abdominal pain, use ginger, cut into large corn, mixed tea, and eat, it has a miraculous effect. ... The three things are all finished, still cooked with tea. Better than the front." Dongpo uses his own understanding of tea to think about the various uses of tea, enriching his life, and making taste tea be not only an interest but also a health.

#### 3.2 Tea and literature

Although Su Dongpo's career is not smooth, no one can question his literary accomplishments. His pursuit of literary creation has not stopped, and literature has become a part of his life for his depression. His poetry is fun and philosophical, and it does not lose its connotation. He has left more than 2,700 poems, more than 300 words and more than 4,200 essays in his works. In this huge work, the poems related to tea may only occupy a small part, but it also allows us to glimpse the life of Su Dongpo. Tea brings vitality and fun to his life, and it also helps his creation.

Su Dongpo's tea poems give people a sense of freshness and elegance. "Xumen Shitan Xie Yudao Work": "Susu Yijin falling date flowers, the voice of Shaoche in the south and north of the village, niuyi guliu sells cucumbers, because of the long road, I only want to sleep. The high-ranking people are thirsty for tea, knocking on the door and asking the savages. "The whole poem reveals a sense of freshness, and it is simple and popular. It seems that it is just a feeling of rushing when we are on the road. We can see Su Dongpo's love of tea, and even want to drink a cup of tea when thirsty on the road. And this description makes the refreshing feeling of tea "pushing paper", which can be felt

through paper and time.

"Sending Zhou Anru Tea" is the longest tea poem by Su Dongpo. The poem contains the situation of love tea in the Song Dynasty. There is also a fresh but resolute tea that is summed up from the history of tea development and the performance of the literati. Su Dongpo's life has been ups and downs, and he has tasted the ups and downs of life. It is precisely because of this that he can better understand the connotation of tea and echo himself with tea. Su Dongpo's poems are "interesting" in addition to "Qing". For him, taste tea is not only a spiritual sustenance but also a leisure process. The cumbersome process was all about the refreshment of the last tea entrance, and everything was worth it. Therefore, in his poems, the mood of tea is always fantastic and with a touch of romance. "Jijiang Fry Tea": "The living water must be cooked by fire, and the deep fishing will be taken from the stone. The large scoop is stored in the spring, and the small scorpion is divided into the night bottle. The tea rain has been turned over and the foot is swollen, the sound of the intestines is not easy to ban three bowls, sitting in the number of deserted villages." This poem can be seen that he is not deliberately pursuing novelty, but naturally discovering the fun and finding the wonderful things. This kind of realm is the realm of life that Su Dongpo pursues. Su Dongpo writes tea, writes people in tea, and adds a sustenance to his character. Among them, the philosophy of life expressed by tea, the social reason allows you to infiltrate your bone marrow like tea.

## 3.3 Tea and politics

Su Dongpo has always been in the heart of the country, but he always has no ambition to display. His ups and downs of life made him have no chance to make his political ideals benefit the people. But Su Dongpo's personality does not make him passive and dull because of this, he will use all available resources to express his political ambitions. He loves tea, so he cares about tea transportation, tea tax and tribute tea, etc., which is unhelpful to the people. So he expressed his thoughts by poetry. "Send Zhou Dynasty to Observe Hanzhou" describes the view that tea is troublesome for the people. In his opinion, the king loves tea is a good thing, but if the people suffer because of the love of tea, they lose their true meaning. Su Dongpo's idea of governing the country is benevolent government. Although he can't be an official, he couldn't see the king do this kind of things, and his life is a manifestation of his noble character.

### 4. Re-product Su Dongpo writes the charm of tea poetry

### 4.1 The beauty of taste

Su Dongpo wrote nearly a hundred tea poems in his life. The poems describing famous teas in these poems mainly include "Yuetu Tea" and "Qian Andao Sending Tea", etc., which is often mentioned as "Ci Yun Send Wu Yuan Trail Baking New Tea": "Xianshan new tea wet clouds, wash the fragrance powder is not even. The moon is coming to the Yuchuanzi, and the spring breeze blows through the martial arts. To know that Yu Xue has a good heart, it is not the first new oil. Do not laugh at the little poems, always good tea like a beauty." This is a poem to praise the Beiyuan Longfeng Group tea. The whole poem compares the beauty to the good tea, and it seems that the tea has spirituality. Dongpo drink tea, like the natural taste and the inner beauty of the tea itself.

Su Dongpo knows the importance of water, so he also left a lot of poems for water. Such as "Tour Huishan", "Hupaoquan and so on. In particular, "Seeking the poems of Huishanquan from Jiaoqian", writing the derivation of the gods, so the description of Huishanquan is probably only Su Dongpo. Huishanquan was rated as the second in the world. Some people spared no effort to send spring water to Beijing to brew tea. Su Dongpo loves the spring water of Huishan, and has repeatedly visited Huishanquan. He also wrote the beautiful poems of "Stepping through the south bank of the Yangtze River, the mountains are inevitably more fluent; alone with the small group of heaven, to test the second spring of the world". From these poems of Su Dongpo, it can be seen that Su Dongpo sees the influence of water on tea taste as very important.

## 4.2 The beauty of the utensils

The Song people are very particular about the tea bottle, because it is not only used for frying water, but also used for soup during the "tea fight". When filling the soup, the water column should be strong and the water drop point should be accurate. Correspondingly, the requirements for the mouth of the bottle are very detailed. In the "Test House Fry Tea", Su Dongpo has a poem "Silver Bottle Laxative Soup", to express the praise of the benefits of silver bottle fries' water. There is also a kind of Zhan called "rabbit Zhan", "rabbit Zhan" is highly respected by the dignitaries, many literati would write poems to praise this instrument, Su Dongpo has poetry wrote: "Wu jing wu zhan tu mao ban, da chu chun weng geese liquer". Su Dongpo's "Ci Yun Zhoutong Hui Shi Tiao" praises "Shi Tiao" this small tea maker: "The copper shovel is not suiTable for springs. Love is deep and wide. The crab-eye twirling soup has been made, and the faucet refuses to ignite the fire. Ginger is new salt is less ripe for tea, and the water cloud is not steamed. Since ancient times, the cattle have been folded, and it is necessary to know that there is no foot."The whole poem mainly writes the advantages of using this utensil to brew tea.

## 5. Summary

Su Dongpo has never left tea for the rest of his life. His time and his character have made him so. What is more important is his temperament, which is very similar to tea and makes him love tea. Tea is like life, not only because of its multi-process achievements, but also because of its bleakness, freshness and fortitude, just as we live in life. From Su Dongpo, we have seen the life of tea, let us recall, it is worth learning.

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