

# *The Research Trend and Future Development of Zhongyuan Studies from the Perspective of Modernization*

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**Abstract:** Zhongyuan Studies was originally proposed by Li Gengxiang, chairman of the Henan Federation of Social Sciences, in 2019. Due to the wide range of the study of Zhongyuan studies, the study of Zhongyuan studies needs the participation of experts from different disciplinary backgrounds, and finally forms a "Zhongyuan characteristics and times style" of the study of Zhongyuan. Since it was proposed in 2016, Zhongyuan Studies has developed into an important subject studied by Henan Institute of Local Studies. With the theoretical seminar "Research Trends and Future Development of Zhongyuan Studies in the Modern Time Domain" held in 2012, Zhongyuan Studies has gradually entered the field of view of scholars and become one of the focus topics of Henan social science community. The study of Zhongyuan has made initial development and progress since it was put forward in 2016. This paper analyzes and discusses the further development and research direction of Zhongyuan studies on the basis of the achievements already made.

## 1. Introduction

With the rapid development of society, the Central plains of Henan Province has also gradually risen. In 2016, the General Secretary requested to speed up the construction of the discipline system, academic system and discourse system of philosophy and social sciences with Chinese characteristics. At the same time, "Central Plains Studies" was seen by scholars, which not only caused a huge response in the academic circles of Henan Province, but also set off a stir in the academic circles of the whole country. The rise of Zhongyuan studies with the development of The Times reflects the ideological consciousness and lofty mission of Henan social science in the new era. The development of Zhongyuan Studies is one of the important embodiments of the innovative development of excellent culture advocated by the General Secretary at present, which reflects the unique charm and profound connotation of the Central Plains culture. How to develop it has become a hot topic that contemporary scholars generally pay attention to.

## 2. The nature of Prionology

The concept of Zhongyuan Studies was formally put forward in 2016, which has reached a consensus in the academic community. However, the inherent meaning of Zhongyuan studies from its concept to its development to its present achievements is also one of the contents that needs to be clarified in the development of the discipline of Zhongyuan Studies, otherwise the disciplinary

meaning of Zhongyuan Studies will become unstable, unclear and ambiguous. The intrinsic significance of the rise of Zhongyuan studies is not a new thought produced by a new discovery, but a product of the history and culture of the Central Plains. Therefore, the subject is the nature of Zhongyuan study, which is not the ordinary sense of theory, nor the traditional academic sense of academic and school. The disciplinarization of the history and culture of the Central Plains is to transform the historical and cultural tradition of the Central Plains into the study of the Central Plains, which is the contemporary transformation of the cultural tradition of the Central Plains [1]. Although the Central Plains culture and Central Plains study are very similar from the literal point of view, there are great differences in the academic meanings of the two. First of all, the spatial and temporal meanings of the two are different. The spatial scope of the Central Plains culture is defined as the regional scope of the current administrative region of Henan Province or the Central Plains Economic Zone, and its time scope is defined as after the founding of New China, while the Central Plains Studies is quite different from it. It is an emerging discipline emerging under the background of modernization, and its time and spatial scope includes from ancient times to the present. It is equivalent to the general history of our traditional culture, from ancient times until today. From the perspective of space, the Central Plains culture exists as a region with unique culture. In the Central Plains Studies, the Central Plains culture has become a cultural resource of its discipline. Through the construction and development of philosophy and social sciences with Chinese characteristics and the establishment of corresponding academic systems, the traditional Central Plains culture has finally been revived in today's society.

### **3. Research content of Zhongyuan Studies**

#### **3.1 Actively explore the development of the grand view of history**

Henan Provincial Party Committee once made a judgment on the development history of Henan: the whole history of Henan is equivalent to half the historical process of China. In modern times, a new conclusion has appeared, from prehistoric civilization to the Northern Song Dynasty, marking the end of 3,000 years and the beginning of 2,000 years in the history of 5,000 years of civilization, reflecting the endless growth and great regenerative power of Chinese civilization [2]. As for Zhongyuan studies, its first goal is to actively explore the history and culture of the Central Plains in a systematic way, the development of disciplines, systematic research, academic analysis.

#### **3.2 Actively implement the development of a broad vision**

The study of Central Plains itself, as a subject with regional nature, needs to break through and innovate without being restricted and affected by the region. Zhongyuan Studies has a core leading significance and value in the development of Chinese civilization. It is a very unique and novel discipline, which not only has academic significance, but also has rich influence and unique cultural charm. The biggest feature of Zhongyuan studies is that we can see and understand China from Zhongyuan Studies. For Zhongyuan Studies, it is not only necessary to study the Henan region where it is located, but also to raise its regional exploration to the national level. Under such a research background, the Institute of Zhongyuan studies not only studies the ancient culture and region of Henan, but also studies the history, culture and development process of the whole China, and its research content is the entire Chinese civilization. Although the research content of Zhongyuan Institute of Studies is a case, the connotation of its research is of overall significance.

### 3.3 Actively follow the correct path of civilization

Zhongyuan studies should persist in academic research and exploration in the process of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, study the root culture according to its own cultural advantages, and actively build the development and inheritance of the Yellow River culture. The study of Central Plains should closely carry out the research of root culture, study the origin and future development of Chinese children, clarify why a history of Central Plains is half of China's history, and explain the profound truth and significance behind it. The study of Central Plains should actively study the spirit and value of Chinese culture, especially pay attention to the basic factors affecting the Chinese nation such as Chinese thought and Chinese casting. The history and culture of the Central Plains is not only a regional culture and regional culture, but also a part of the Chinese national culture, which has dual significance and far-reaching value for the study of the history and culture of the Central Plains. With its unique charm and resource advantages, the history and culture of the Central Plains is also the most abundant and long-standing art river in the study of the Central Plains.

### 4. Research methods of Zhongyuan Studies

The basic condition for the establishment of a discipline is that its theory and research method are consistent with its research object and content <sup>[3]</sup>. As far as Zhongyuan Studies is concerned, it belongs to a new and interdisciplinary discipline in the system of philosophy and social sciences with Chinese characteristics. The reason why it is new is that it originated in the early 21st century; The cross-discipline means that the research scope of Zhongyuan studies is very broad, and the object of its study is not a single discipline, but a collection of various disciplines. Whether it is the culture of the Central Plains, the history of the Central Plains, the economic development of the Central Plains, etc., can be regarded as the research content of the Central Plains. Because of the richness of its research content, the research methods of Zhongyuan Science are also very rich and multi-disciplinary, usually called interdisciplinary research method, which is essentially to break through the restrictions of disciplines and effectively combine and apply research methods of multiple disciplines, this method is also called new liberal arts research method.

### 5. The trend and development of the study of Zhongyuan Studies

For the study of Zhongyuan science, it must first clarify its own research direction. First of all, Zhongyuan Study is a local study, with strong regional characteristics; Secondly, Zhongyuan studies cover ancient and modern times, but mainly ancient times; Thirdly, the subject of Zhongyuan studies should be comprehensive, which includes a variety of related subjects; Finally, the study of Zhongyuan studies should focus on the key points, and through the accumulation of time, produce results that are difficult for others to match, and slowly build up a cultural highland in the country <sup>[4]</sup>.

Entering the new era, to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, to achieve the goal of making the Central Plains more brilliant, and to let ideas lead the future, we must return to the original, explore the origin of the Central Plains Studies, understand the characteristics of the Central Plains Studies, and write a chapter in the new era of the Central Plains Studies <sup>[5]</sup>. For the research direction and future development of Zhongyuan studies, we can start from the following aspects:

## 5.1 Regional Features

Placology is a general term of systematic theoretical knowledge that takes the region as the center of its research and studies between history and modernity. The basic premise of studying placology is to first determine the region to be studied.

Central Plains, in terms of its concept, has a broad and narrow distinction. The broad concept of the Central Plains refers to the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River basin divided into Heluo region as the center, its main scope is today's Henan Province and its surrounding areas, including but not limited to the northwest of Anhui, northern Jiangsu and other areas, it is the center of China's territory, the meaning of the central plains itself is "the world to the open field". The Central Plains is the core area of China's civilization development, is the birthplace of Chinese culture, it is considered to be the central region, so the central Plains is also known as the Middle Earth, or the Middle Summer. During the thousands of years of development from the Xia Dynasty to the Song and Jin dynasties, the Central Plains has been an important platform for cultural and political exchanges and development in China, and more than 200 emperors have built or moved their capitals here. Among the eight capital cities in ancient China, the capital of the Central Plains region occupied half of them. The narrow concept of the Central Plains refers to the present Henan Province, which is the central zone of the ancient Central Plains. Because of its regional advantages, the Central Plains culture occupies a unique position in the development process of Chinese culture, and plays its own unique advantages and functions, so its development has very important research significance. The study of Zhongyuan studies should be based on its broad perspective and its narrow perspective as its research center, so its research should not be too abstract, nor too single and limited. For the study of Zhongyuan studies, it should focus on the development of Henan's history and culture and the challenges and tests faced by Henan's economic and social development in the modernization stage, especially to strengthen the exploration and research of Henan's traditional culture and art.

## 5.2 Distinctive Features

The Central Plains region is the cradle of Chinese civilization and the birthplace of Chinese culture, and the Central Plains culture has a unique significance and far-reaching influence on the development of Chinese culture, which is an important premise for the development of the study of Central Plains.

The Central Plains is the birthplace of Chinese culture. In history, many emperors originated from the Central Plains, and many civilizations also originated from the Central Plains, such as the Book of Changes, which not only represents the prosperity of the Central Plains culture, but also symbolizes the origin of human culture. The Central Plains culture has a unique charm and rich color, which is also a symbol of Chinese culture to a certain extent. In the Central Plains, the rise and fall of dynasties are staged, and there are a hundred flowers blooming in ideology and culture. The research direction of Zhongyuan studies needs to grasp the distinctive content culture in the Central Plains region, and actively make use of the resource advantages of this room, establish a corresponding discipline system, and concentrate on a perfect, systematic and stable development strategy.

## 5.3 Representative Features

For the study of locology, it is necessary to select the most characteristic and representative cultural elements in local culture, so as to obtain better results.

For the Central Plains culture, its most representative aspects are: first, Heluo culture. Heluo

culture is not only the core content of Central Plains culture, it can also be regarded as an important part of Chinese culture, which has great influence and appeal to Chinese people all over the world. The second is the Yin and Shang culture. Yin Shang culture is an important symbol of the development of human civilization. It is an ancient capital culture with Chinese characteristics, including oracle bone inscriptions and other civilizations. It has a long historical significance not only for our country, but also for the world. The third is the characteristic of surname. People all over the country have reached a consensus on one issue is that Henan is the original place of Waning, which is also an important symbol of the development of Central Plains culture, and is conducive to the representative study of the development of Central Plains studies. Fourth, Yellow River culture. The Yellow River culture is also the culture of the Chinese nation, and the Yellow River civilization is also the civilization of the Chinese nation, and the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River are mainly concentrated in Henan region, so the Central Plains culture has innate advantages and excellent conditions for the study of the Yellow River. Fifth, Confucian culture. During the Spring and Autumn Period, Confucius traveled around various countries, mainly in the Central Plains, and the spread of his ideas was mostly concentrated in the Central Plains until the Song Dynasty, when a large number of neo-Confucianism thought upsurges emerged in the Central Plains, and a large number of thinkers emerged, who elevated Confucianism to an unprecedented level. Thus formed the philosophy thought of great philosophical value, which made the original political ethics become the ancient philosophy thought of our country.

#### 5.4 Value and Significance

For the study of Zhongyuan studies, it needs to integrate and coordinate with the construction of Henan culture, and carry out innovative combination and development with the historical background of Chinese culture, so as to actively highlight its value significance.

First of all, the study of Central Plains should strengthen the study of practice. For the theory, its value lies in its proper application. For the study of Zhongyuan Science, it needs to actively pay attention to the important issues that our country is concerned about, the people are looking forward to, and the society needs urgent development. It needs to focus more research content on this aspect rather than just stay on the surface of the study. It is necessary to have a strong sense of purpose and clarity, not only to study the ancient history and culture, but also to inherit and develop it, to make full use of it, and to exert its value and benefits. At present, the applied research of Zhongyuan science should anchor the "two guarantees", and from a theoretical perspective of 30 years ahead, study how the national strategies such as ecological protection and high-quality development in the Yellow River basin and high-quality development in the central region can take root in Henan, study how Henan can better integrate into and serve the new development pattern, and study how to build a national innovation highland. Study how to speed up the construction of a strong province of modern agriculture, study how to promote the county economy to become a plateau while the central city "peaks" and innovation and opening up "build a highland", study how to promote the implementation of the "Ten strategies" and so on [6].

Secondly, for the study of Zhongyuan science, it is necessary to actively understand its own resource advantages, and conduct research on the aspects with the most unique resource advantages to obtain the most effective results. For example, Heluo culture, which has symbolic significance in the Central Plains culture, has rich cultural connotation and historical significance. The research on it needs to be in-depth, meticulous, multi-faceted and multi-level, and a series of research results with rich practical value can be developed through efficient research, so as to realize the prosperity and development of the Central Plains culture throughout the country. Finally, it has a wide impact on the research needs of Zhongyuan studies. For the study of Zhongyuan Science, the relevant staff

need to dig and analyze deeply, in the process of research can not stay on the surface, to carry out a deep analysis and interpretation of its connotation, to ensure that the research results are representative, high quality, and truly in-depth research and implementation.

## 6. Conclusion

To sum up, Zhongyuan studies is a newly emerging discipline, which has made initial development since it was proposed, and produced a number of valuable achievements. These achievements have laid a strong theoretical foundation and practical conditions for the development of Zhongyuan studies. On this basis, Zhongyuan studies should further accelerate and increase the pace of research, deepen the direction of research, and enrich the ways of research. We should improve the level of research, so as to achieve in-depth development and improvement.

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