

# *Research on Promoting the Education of Chinese Classics and Cultivating the Humanistic Literacy of College Students*

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**Abstract:** Classics of traditional Chinese culture are brilliant treasures accumulated by the Chinese nation over thousands of years of historical creation and evolution. It is the root and soul of the nation, and the accumulation of the humanistic heritage of the Chinese nation. The article mainly explores the current situation and strategies of universities carrying out education on classic Chinese studies. The policies and guidelines of national education and the current situation of moral education in universities have made the education of classic Chinese studies an inevitable choice for modern universities to cultivate morality and talents. To carry out education on classic Chinese studies and enhance students' humanistic literacy, it is necessary to strengthen the construction of courses related to classic Chinese studies, improve teachers' ability to teach classic Chinese studies, and improve the guarantee of the teaching system for traditional Chinese studies.

## 1. Introduction

At the opening ceremony of the Central Party School in 2013, General Secretary Xi pointed out in his speech that; "Chinese traditional culture is extensive and profound, and learning and mastering the essence of various ideas in it is very beneficial to establish a world outlook, outlook on life and values". In the "Opinions on Implementing the Project of Inheriting and Developing Excellent Traditional Chinese Culture" released by the Two Offices in 2017, it was pointed out that "focusing on the fundamental task of cultivating virtue and educating people, following the cognitive laws of students and the laws of education and teaching, and following the principles of integration, segmented learning, and orderly promotion, the excellent traditional Chinese culture should be fully integrated into all aspects of ideological and moral education, cultural knowledge education, art and sports education, and social practice education, running through the fields of enlightenment education, basic education, vocational education, higher education, and continuing education." The Party and the state spare no effort in developing traditional Chinese education, which provides important guidance for contemporary college students to establish a scientific and correct outlook on life and values.

Since the release of the "Guidelines for Improving the Education of Excellent Traditional Chinese Culture" by the Ministry of Education, many universities have established national colleges

and offered courses on classic Chinese studies. Some universities have explored the education model of excellent traditional Chinese culture, using content and forms that are easily accepted by college students. The education of traditional Chinese culture in higher education institutions is flourishing, but many universities currently focus on cultivating professional qualities, and the development of classic Chinese culture education is relatively lagging behind. There is insufficient understanding of the significance of promoting students' moral education through classic Chinese culture education.

## **2. The Relationship between Traditional Chinese Classics Education and Moral Education**

### **(1) The connotation of classic education in traditional Chinese culture**

The so-called "classics" refer to those representative, authoritative and exemplary works that have gone through the test of time. The essence of these works can still be passed down through the torrent of history. They are worthy of repeated study by future generations. They are the concentrated essence of humanities and natural sciences, and classic works with inheritance education.

In China, traditional Chinese culture is centered around Confucianism, and Confucian classics are typical examples of traditional Chinese culture. The "Six Arts" are the core of Confucianism, namely "Poetry," "Book," "Rites," "Yi," "Music," and "Spring and Autumn Annals." Later, after continuous expansion, they became the "Thirteen Classics," such as adding "Gongyang Zhuan" and "Guliang Zhuan. In addition, enlightenment reading materials such as "The Three Character Classic" and "The Disciple's Rules" are also classics of Chinese studies.

Classical Chinese education is an education that uses classic Chinese literature as educational resources and teaching carriers. The education of classic Chinese studies in universities is based on the reading materials of classic Chinese studies, guiding college students to learn cultural knowledge of Chinese studies, master the wisdom of classic Chinese studies, enhance their comprehensive quality, influence their ideological and moral qualities, and play a role in moral education.

### **(2) The Relationship between Traditional Chinese Culture Classics Education and Moral Education**

The Opinion on Implementing the Project of Inheriting and Developing Excellent Traditional Chinese Culture proposes that "excellent traditional Chinese culture contains rich moral concepts and norms" [1]. The Decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Several Major Issues Concerning Comprehensively Deepening Reform proposes to deepen comprehensive reform in the field of education and improve education on excellent traditional Chinese culture. In this opinion, it is highlighted that national education always needs to implement "moral education", emphasizing the importance of moral education in national education [2]. For universities, it is proposed to actively promote the classic courses of Chinese studies and deepen the development of moral education, and to set up compulsory courses on traditional culture.

The education of classic Chinese studies and the current ideological and political education in China, especially moral education, have an inherent unity. Both are aimed at cultivating well-rounded and ethical individuals through education. Firstly, both traditional Chinese classic education and moral education have guiding and subtle educational significance, and both have the function of regulating thoughts and behaviors and enhancing comprehensive qualities. Chinese classics are the essence of Chinese culture, the heritage of culture for thousands of years, and the education of ideology and morality. Secondly, the core of traditional Chinese classic education also lies in moral education, which is consistent with the educational aspect of ideological and political education. In terms of knowledge, college students learn traditional Chinese cultural knowledge,

learn from each other, and cultivate the habit of thinking and innovation. In terms of values, college students follow the traditional virtues, respect teachers, and regulate moral behavior, so that students establish a correct outlook on life and values. Therefore, carrying out education on classic Chinese studies is also an effective way to achieve the educational function of ideological and political education in universities.

### **3. Analysis of the Importance of Humanistic Quality Education in Higher Education Institutions**

#### **(1) Meet the needs of building a harmonious campus and a harmonious society**

The construction of a harmonious campus is an important goal of the development of universities, and the construction of a harmonious campus is also an important component of the development of a harmonious society. The development of humanistic quality education can provide fertile ground for the construction of a harmonious campus. For example, when schools organize a series of humanistic and scientific cultural education, they will internalize excellent culture into students' personal willpower and qualities, thereby enhancing students' personal humanistic cultivation. The personal cultivation of students will guide them to establish correct values, thereby providing important support for the construction of a socialist harmonious society.

#### **(2) Meet the needs of humanistic education and achieve comprehensive development of students**

The development of educational activities should always be centered on the personal growth and development of students. The people-oriented educational philosophy emphasizes the need to always pay attention to students' learning characteristics and needs in specific educational activities, adopt diverse classroom teaching forms around students' learning preferences and interests, and guide students to form correct ideological values while helping them consolidate cultural knowledge.

#### **(3) Meet the needs of improving students' scientific and cultural literacy, and stimulate their interest in learning**

Technology is the primary productive force, therefore, universities need to pay attention to cultivating and enhancing students' scientific and cultural literacy in the process of carrying out quality education. When carrying out quality education, it will enrich students' inner emotions, help them develop good moral qualities, and ultimately cultivate students with both scientific and cultural literacy and humanistic spirit.

#### **(4) Promoting the classics of traditional Chinese culture is the best way to enhance the humanistic literacy of teachers and students**

Firstly, promoting classic Chinese studies in university teaching can enhance cultural heritage and nourish Chinese language literacy. Famous scholar Yu Qiuyu believes that young minds have an empty heart, and guided by classics can stimulate their cultural aspirations. By guiding students to recite and learn classic Chinese studies, they can experience the wonderful artistic conception and cultural rhythm of these classics, which is beneficial for cultivating their language sense and improving their humanistic literacy. Secondly, studying classic Chinese studies can convey moral positive energy and cultivate the humanistic spirit of teachers and students. The classics of traditional Chinese culture are the condensation and inheritance of the excellent spiritual culture of the Chinese nation, which contains powerful moral energy such as self-improvement, respect for teachers and filial piety. The study of traditional Chinese culture classics fills the hearts of teachers and students with sunny and upward moral emotions and humanistic spirit.

#### **(5) Reciting classic Chinese studies to promote the active implementation of the goal of cultivating morality and nurturing people**

The classics of traditional Chinese culture contain rich moral concepts, emotions, and wisdom,

which are the essence of China's excellent traditional culture and a civilization with a long and profound history. The humanistic ideas it contains include an understanding of life and society, career and family, self and society, truth and morality. It not only reflects the basic characteristics of Chinese national thought, morality, psychology, and emotions, but also embodies people's pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty, as well as their yearning and pursuit of ideal personality and a better life. It has a profound impact on individuals, families, and countries, and has far-reaching significance for cultivating students' personalities.

#### **4. The Current Situation of Humanistic Quality Education in Colleges and Universities**

##### **(1) Overemphasizing professional education and neglecting humanistic quality education**

The development of science and technology has provided significant convenience for people's lives and also promoted social change and development. Therefore, in the field of higher education, educators have focused their education on scientific research achievements. In terms of curriculum design, we closely follow market development needs and focus on scientific knowledge content, emphasizing professional education and cultivating students' professional knowledge, skills, and practical application abilities. In the process of solely focusing on scientific and cultural education, neglecting humanistic education makes it difficult to achieve the development goals of humanistic quality education.

##### **(2) Students lack knowledge of traditional Chinese culture and moral cultivation**

Due to the lack of systematic education in traditional Chinese culture since childhood and a limited understanding of it, coupled with the influence of Western culture and pragmatic values, some students believe that traditional culture is outdated and not suitable for today's era. Therefore, some students are not interested in traditional Chinese culture. Their literacy in traditional Chinese culture and cultural heritage are very low.

Some college students have varying degrees of problems in terms of cultivation and moral character, such as not understanding filial piety to parents and respecting teachers and teachers; Lack of civility and politeness in dealing with people and interacting with others; Selfish and lacking the spirit of cooperation with others; Laziness, laziness, lack of interest in labor, unwillingness to participate in collective activities, etc. Therefore, it is particularly necessary to provide students with education on classic Chinese studies [3].

##### **(3) Lack of humanistic education environment**

Firstly, there is a lack of necessary planning for humanistic quality courses. The development of humanistic quality education in universities generally lacks unified planning and design, and there is a lack of creating a humanistic environment throughout the entire process. In daily teaching management, there is also a lack of attention to humanistic knowledge content. Students are mostly exposed to science and engineering knowledge content every day, lacking the influence of relevant cultural content. Secondly, the setting of humanities content is relatively monotonous and monotonous in form. After investigation, it was found that there is relatively little display and promotion of excellent cultural achievements in the humanistic environment of schools. The updating speed of course content is slow, the form is single, and the course display is superficial. Most of them exist in the form of slogans, celebrity posters, and theme displays, which cannot attract students' attention.

#### **5. Strategies for Enhancing Students' Humanistic Literacy through Traditional Chinese Culture Classics Education**

##### **(1) Strengthen the construction of classic courses in traditional Chinese culture**

Education and teaching should always adhere to the principle of moral education as the top

priority, with education as the foundation, truly helping students to understand great virtues, abide by public morality, and strictly adhere to personal ethics. Curriculum construction is crucial. To establish compulsory and elective courses in classic Chinese studies, teachers should consciously guide students by organizing them to study and encourage them to organically combine the wisdom of ancient people with current real life, so that they can draw analogies, deeply understand moral issues in life, and cultivate moral qualities. Strengthening the teaching of classic Chinese studies plays a crucial role in the development of students' moral education quality. Through effective teaching of compulsory courses, elective courses, and integration into professional courses, the moral education infiltration function of classic Chinese studies is strengthened, promoting students to form correct values and achieving all-round and comprehensive education [4].

#### (2) Enhance teachers' ability to teach classic Chinese studies

The improvement of moral education function is crucial for the growth of teachers. Teachers are the cornerstone of school development, and the enhancement of teaching staff is conducive to the development of moral education function in universities. With the update of the times, the educational philosophy of teachers should also keep pace with the times [5]. In the era of diversified information, the education of Chinese classics in universities requires teachers to connect with students' actual needs, enhance their own qualities and abilities, and improve the teaching quality of Chinese classics through updating educational concepts and innovating teaching methods. Each university should strengthen the teaching staff of classic Chinese studies, enhance the teaching staff by increasing opportunities for further education, update the school's curriculum system of classic Chinese studies, and develop high-quality courses of classics [6]. Build a high-quality teaching team that can shape the character and ethics of college students.

#### (3) Improve the guarantee of the teaching system for traditional Chinese culture

Although traditional Chinese culture is a historical accumulation, its education is still in its infancy. Therefore, traditional Chinese culture education needs to have certain theoretical guidance, which requires the government to formulate policies to support the development of traditional Chinese culture education. Universities should offer relevant courses and include traditional Chinese culture in the assessment scope when conducting teaching evaluations, so as to attract sufficient attention. We need to continuously improve the teaching system, formulate supporting teaching policies, and establish a scientific teaching syllabus and evaluation system.

#### (4) Carry out diverse campus activities

Firstly, conduct lectures on humanistic knowledge. Due to multiple factors, students have limited access to humanistic knowledge in the classroom. To address this issue, schools need to hire more capable and influential teachers to conduct diverse forms of humanistic lectures in order to broaden students' humanistic perspectives and increase their knowledge. Secondly, carry out diverse extracurricular cultural and artistic activities. The development of diversified artistic activities can better cultivate students' aesthetic and ugliness appreciation abilities. In the process of carrying out diversified cultural activities, it will also provide a good environment support for the development of humanistic quality education, so that students can consciously accept humanistic quality education unconsciously. Thirdly, specialized humanities student clubs can better carry out humanities education under the influence of these clubs. Clubs are also an important battlefield for humanistic quality education. Therefore, in the process of humanistic quality education, schools should play their own role in organizing cultural activities, and improve club construction by creating speech and eloquence, photography associations, film criticism associations, literary associations, etc. Through diversified club activities, students can be effectively influenced and infected with humanistic spirit. Not only that, the construction and implementation of club activities can also cultivate students' spirit of unity and cooperation, and establish a new look for the successors of society in the new era.

## 6. Conclusion

In summary, humanistic quality education is a form of education that emphasizes the improvement of personal personality, mentality, and morality. By imparting knowledge of humanities and cultivating a positive humanistic spirit, humanistic quality education can enable the educated to obtain their true selves and thus acquire the ability to handle personal and social relationships well. Moreover, humanistic education and scientific and cultural education complement each other and are inseparable. Under the guidance of humanistic education, scientific research will also develop in a more comprehensive and in-depth direction, thus better leading social development and progress. In the context of deepening the development of quality education, universities need to take the humanistic education of students as an important breakthrough point for innovative development of higher education, actively promote the reform and development of humanistic education, and create a harmonious campus, fully playing the important role of harmonious campus in the construction of a harmonious society.

As a condensed inheritance of thousands of years of Chinese civilization, the classics of traditional Chinese culture play a crucial role in cultivating moral education, accumulating knowledge, and enhancing humanistic literacy among teachers and students in higher education institutions. In today's diversified value orientation, reciting classic Chinese studies is like a spring breeze and rain nourishing students' hearts. "Spring breeze and rain moisten everything silently. The school strengthens the construction of courses on classic Chinese studies, enhances the teaching ability of teachers on classic Chinese studies, and improves the guarantee of the Chinese studies teaching system, truly integrating the teaching of classic Chinese studies into the school's teaching life and improving the humanistic literacy of teachers and students.

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