



INSIGHT OF CHINESE CULTURE BY VIEWING HISTORICAL PICTURE OF QIN DYNASTY

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ABSTRACT

Over the centuries, China still respectfully treasures rich Asian cultures, traditions, and customs. China is now famous all over the world for its mysterious wonders and cultural & natural heritages such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Terracotta Army, etc. The Chinese history is full with the exposition of outstanding features of Chinese culture such as great thoughts of Confucius, religious beliefs, traditional festivals and customs e.g., Chinese new year, language and calligraphy e.g., Shu Fa, four great inventions of ancient China e.g., papermaking, printing, gunpowder and the compass, traditional architecture and sculpture, traditional art forms, etc. The era of history of China before the time in power of Qin dynasty is known by name as the period of Warring States. This period started from 475 BC and ends at 221 BC. Seven Warring States were included in it i.e. Qin, Wei, Han, Yan, Chu, Zhao, and Qi. Zheng was the King of Qin, who started his journey to triumph over 6 states in the period of 230 BC. Qin was the 1st emperor of this unified state of China. Thus he was known by the name of “First Emperor of Qin” or “Qin Shi Huang”. This study provides a deep insight of Chinese history and it is illustrated that major achievements in Chinese culture and history are contributed in the era of Qin dynasty.

Keywords: Chinese culture; Chinese history; Qin dynasty; Achievements of dynasty; Warring states period

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Chinese culture provides an overall picture of this great country, its people, ecological environment, the history of formation and development of traditional Chinese culture from the ancient period to the present day, and the modernization of Chinese culture nowadays. At the heart of the whole East, China is a country with more than 5,000 years of history and deemed one of the cultural cradles of all humanity (Du, 2006; Zhang, 2015).

Over the centuries, China still respectfully treasures rich Asian cultures, traditions, and customs (De, 2009). China is now famous all over the world for its mysterious wonders and cultural & natural heritages such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Terracotta Army, etc., (Chai & Chai, 2014). The Chinese history is full with the exposition of outstanding features of Chinese culture such as great thoughts of Confucius, religious beliefs, traditional festivals and customs e.g., Chinese New Year (Chai & Chai, 2014), language and calligraphy e.g., Shu Fa (Li, 2010), four great inventions of ancient China e.g., paper making, printing, gun powder and the compass (Li, 2010), traditional architecture and sculpture, traditional art forms, etc., (Pham & Le, 2011; Chai & Chai, 2014). The study of history gave a deep understanding of the national cultural identity of China and its modernization process. Culture study gives a great respect for the generations of Chinese people who have built such a diverse and vibrant culture and feel more and more interested in this country and its people.

The most impressive thing is China's remarkable economic development. It is not easy to stand out as the second largest economy in the world and China will promisingly excel even further. That shows how the Chinese government and people have constantly strived to improve their status and prosperity. But what impressive most, is that in parallel with its economic development, the China government has reasonable policies to develop and preserve its unique culture. Its every city provides the essence of Chinese culture through the old towns, museums, spicy and colorful street food, and the Chinese people themselves as cultural ambassadors. They passionately tell mystical stories about their ancient heroes and how Chinese culture has flourished over thousands of years and introduce their unique local culture. One more interesting thing is, at the Great Wall of China, Chairman Mao Zedong's famous quote carved on a large marble rock which means “You are not a real man if you have not climbed the Great Wall”. The Chinese people have always wanted to make friends with all the countries of the world (Chai & Chai, 2014). In the long run, this sentiment will be an important element of further mutual economic, cultural, and educational cooperation and development between Pakistan and China.

Scholars and precious teachings

Many scholars contributed in formation of culture and history of China like; Confucius, Mencius, Motzi, Shima Cian, Zuge Liang and Li Bai. Among them, the most influential philosopher, politician, and educator not only of the Chinese people but also of humanity, Confucius is regarded as a sage, deserving the greatest recognition in ancient China and in modern times as well and having a profound influence on Asian culture and education (Guo, 2009; Tan, 2017; Zhao, 2013). Confucianism is the worldview on ethics, politics, and education taught by Confucius and subsequently developed by his followers (Guo, 2016; Tan, 2017; Tang, 2015). This school of philosophy addresses teachings, principles, and disciplines for living, behaving in society, and thinking that focus on love for humanity, worship of ancestors, respect for elders, self-discipline, and conformity to rituals, etc., (Ly, 2015; Zhao, 2013). Confucius' educational thought is not only valid in the era he lived in but in later times. Nowadays, Confucius is widely acknowledged as one of the most influential teachers in the world history of education. Confucius - the founder of Confucianism deserves world recognition as "the great exemplary teacher for generations" for his dedication and contributions to education (Guo, 2009; Zhao, 2013). According to Confucius, education should be a universal right and not a privilege only to a group of people in society. The theory of "no class distinction in education" initiates a real revolution in ancient educational thought, making education available to the broad masses of ordinary people (Guo, 2009). This thought is the greatest of all, stressing the importance of education assess to people from all walks of life. Further, Confucius considered teaching by personal example very important (Guo, 2009; Guo, 2016; Tan, 2017). Teachers not only have profound knowledge to be able to deliver good lectures but also have good personalities as an example for students to follow. Teachers and parents nowadays should pay attention to this educational principle, both in school and at home.

Confucius' life and career are a testament to the example of a great teacher or sage. Similarly, Confucius stressed the importance of using diverse appropriate teaching methods to inspire students during the process of imparting knowledge to them (Guo, 2009; Tan, 2017; Zhao, 2013). More importantly, a good teacher knows how to encourage students to think actively, learn independently, and to behave morally (Guo, 2009; Guo, 2016). Ultimately, Confucius posited that teachers are expected to show benevolence and wisdom to their students (Ng, 2009; Zhao, 2013). A dedicated teacher should love the students unconditionally, pay attention to each student's condition, and understand them as much as possible.

Confucius also attaches great importance to the education of traditional cultural values and principles, as well as to apply and practice those traditional values to the present and in the future (Tang, 2015). Therefore, in the process of education and training, young generations need to be taught with the traditional Pakistani cultures and values such as patriotism, studiousness, bravery, benevolence and humanity, and righteousness, etc. for future transformation and development (Guo, 2016). Especially for moral self-cultivation, the ethic virtues of benevolence and righteousness of Confucianism teach people to become a gentleman to treat each other with kindness, generosity, and tolerance (Guo, 2009; Tang, 2015). Besides, Confucianism has a positive and great influence on the moral education of awareness of self-discipline and sense of responsibility for the family and society. It is strongly believed that, not only in the feudal system of government in the East but also in the present and future, the progressive viewpoints in Confucius' educational thought will still be studied and applied in the field of education and training for the good of all mankind. Chinese culture and history is not only formulated by scholars' teachings but it also get shaped with the involvement of its emperors and dynasties.

MOST POPULAR DYNASTY "THE QIN DYNASTY"

The first dynasty of Imperial China was Qin dynasty; it was lasted from 221 to 206 BC. Now this area is named modern Shaanxi and Gansu. The First Emperor of Qin, Qin Shi Huang was founder of this dynasty. The strength of the Qin state was mainly enlarged by Shang Yang's reforms in 4th century BC. The Qin state conceded a chain of speedy conquests, 1st finish the ineffective Zhou dynasty, and ultimately winning the other 6 of the 7 warring states in third century BC. It was consisted of 2 emperors, and has the shortest main dynasty in Chinese history i.e. 15 years, but an imperial system was inaugurated that ended from 221 BC, with adaption and interruption, upto 1912 AD (Zhang, 2015).

It was the wish of the Qin as he wanted to make a state unified by planned, political and centralized power which also has large military supported by a firm economy. He also allowed firm projects involving 300000 peasants and offenders, such as making walls outside the northern border, after that developed it into the Great Wall of China. The Emperor Qin set up a series of developments like standardized currency, weights, measures, and a homogenous structure of script that is planned to combine the state and support business. Moreover, its armed forces used most up to date military hard wares, transportation and strategies while the command was mostly handled by bureaucrats. As Han Confucians portrayed the legalistic Qin dynasty, like books burning and putting in dig of scholars even though some contemporary scholars dis-agreed the reality of these financial statements (De, 2009).

In 210 BC, after the death of the 1st emperor, his 2 advisors sited a beneficiary on the throne in an effort to lean and run the management of the dynasty. These advisors descended between them, in consequence of both emperor's deaths and that of the 2nd Qin Emperor. A well-known revolution started and the diluted empire, in no time chops to a Xiang Yu, Chu general. He was declared Hegemon-King of Western Chu, and Liu Bang. Later he founded the Han

dynasty. In spite of this short time of power, this dynasty really contributed China's future, mostly the Han, and his name is known as the cause of the European name for China (Chai & Chai, 2014).

Origins and early development



Figure 1: Map showing major states of Eastern Zhou

At first Qin started a military mission in China in 672 BC, it is true that it could not connect in stern incursions because there was hazard from neighbor tribes. In the very start of the fourth century BC, the neighbor had been cowed or some had controlled so the condition was ready for the climbing of Qin expansionism (Guo, 2009; Tan, 2017; Zhao, 2013).

Growth of power

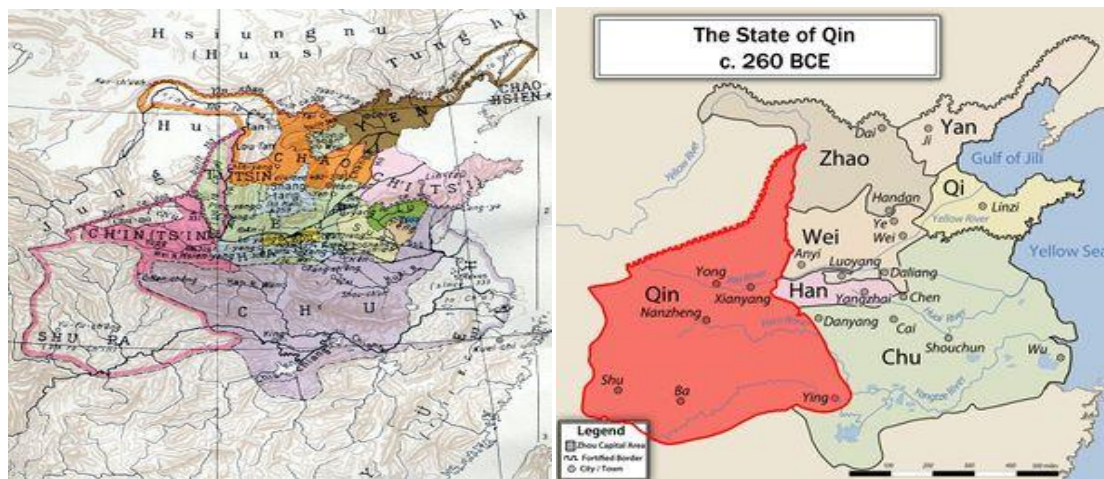


Figure 2: Maps of the Growth of Qin

Lord Shang Yang, who was a Qin statesman, supported a Legalism philosophy, commenced much militarily beneficial transformation during 361 BC to the end of his life. Yang too helped build the capital of Qin, beginning in the mid of 4th century. This city really be like to the assets of other soldierly States. Particularly, Legalism gives enhancement to realistic and merciless confliction. In the autumn phase, the common philosophy had expressed warfare as a gentleman's movement; martial leader were trained to esteem for superficial to be Heaven's rules in quarrel. The Qin ignored the armed custom, winning benefit of state's enemy's drawbacks. In Wei state a nobleman make responsible the Qin state that it is insatiable wicked, keen for income, and without honesty. It is not familiar with good manners, proper relationships, and righteous conduct, and if there be a chance for material gain, it will forget about its relatives as if they were animals (Guo, 2016).

An advantage was with Qin Dynasty was, it had a big, well-organized military and competent generals. The Qin was militarily advanced in beliefs and observance. Eventually, the Qin Empire had a biological lead because of its richness and planned condition; it was surrounded by mountains which made the condition a normal solid grip. Qin Dynasty's grow is remarkably vital in history of China because it made possible to finish the era of Warring States and integrated Middle Kingdom. Additionally, we desire to contribute History of China Podcast' 2 sections to the Qin history (Tan, 2017).

Qin Dynasty Emperor

The 1st Qin emperor, Qin Shi Huang, no doubt was the famous personality in the history of China. Although this Dynasty did not long lasted, so Qin was the 1st emperor who made China integrated and put incredible tradition.

The Great Wall

The formation of the Great Wall of China is great triumph. Although the Qin emperor was not 1st to build this wall but he copes with to tie great walls ends which were already made by previous emperors of diverse area, into one massive linked wall.

Tea on the Great Wall

We must be wondered about reason to blog the Qin Dynasty from 221 to 206 BC. So far the fact was that Chinese tea culture was not flourished before the Tang Dynasty (618–907) does not reverse us up either. But union of the central Kingdom permitted tea culture to prosper in this Dynasty of Tang. In reality, only wall builders took tea to keep them thrilled. The number of builders was large enough to build the wall, it consequence in scattering the world about tea in China.

Important Events: Key Battles

Following is the list of wars which contribute to ups and downs of Qin Dynasty. These battles had much importance in Chinese and even in world history that these battles are considered significant trials.

- 455-453 BCE the era of the Jinyang Battle
- 262-260 BCE the era of the Chang ping Battle
- 293 BCE the era of Yique Battle
- 207 BCE: Battle of Julu

Legalism Facts

Legalism is the school of thoughts in the Qin Dynasty which put great philosophical foundations in the history of schools of thoughts. There is a key history in Warring States period in ancient China, done by Qin State's key creators and after that Qin Dynasty's rulers. Fact is that the rulers recognized that both workers and aristocrats formulated the establishment of the martial control. So it would be possible for the peasants to be rewarded if they pursued the rules. Eventually it is finalized that society should have such type of rulers who take care of the peasants and rewarded and punished them according to their contribution. This map is very helpful for the information about Qin Dynasty. This map provided valuable information about Qin Dynast's contribution in history (Guo, 2009).

Contribution

It is a fact that the great success of this Dynasty is that integrated China by making the first dynasty which is ruled by Qin Shi Huang, the first emperor. Many other attainments includes the construction of Great Wall and 2nd is making strong army of Terracotta Warriors. In the era of Qin, as he made language homogenous in its result confederacy remained lasting. He made many improvements in irrigation technology, Farming production and quality also enhanced, it results richness in whole region (Guo, 2009; Guo, 2016; Tan, 2017).

Inventions

During this era contraption is the main factor which create more achievements in the region. First of all, the emperor Qin made better bronze swords while using iron made burly iron swords. Second is that in the fifth century BC, the crossbow was made improved. These factors were significant correct and significant when it was evaluated to the customary multifaceted bows. The unique thing was that one can make it nonfunctional by only eliminating two pins. Crossbow can help to stop enemies.

1) Currency

Many types of currency were used in various counties of china in this period of Qin Dynasty. Chinese currency has the history of above 3000 years. In addition, before 4500 years, in Stone Age, all people believe that Cowry Shells are very useful as initial forms of swapping methods. After 210 BC, The Qin Emperor started to abolish any other forms of local currencies and put together all in one copper coins. This copper coin must have a square hole at the center. It is true that Chinese people was using paper money in the 9th century, so copper coins stay put in use up to 19th century, after that it was exchanged by the Chinese Yuan.



Figure 3: Shape of copper coin

2) Education

Education is the topic about which the Emperor was very caring. Qin Dynasty's 1st emperor experienced total restriction. Scholars have to rebuke in condition if they are not agreed to hand in books. All types of knowledge and books were perceived as ineffective, only knowledge of medicinal practice or farming was allowed.

3) Censorship

An exciting truth is that the Emperor implemented total suppression. Qin ill-treated scholars and smashed books. He said, all book are useless and have no benefit, only medicine and agriculture related books are beneficial. One more noticeable past reality is that 100 scholars who were not agreed to leave their books, were also have to bury alive. After that, expenses for making the Great Wall were more, so they were send to basements to labor until their death.



Painting showing burning of books and burying scholars during the Qin Dynasty

QIN DYNASTY AND TEN KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

China was unified for the first time

The Warring State period is the era of history, before getting power of Qin dynasty. This period started from 475 BC and ends at 221 BC. The period was consisted of Seven Warring States i.e. Wei, Yan, Qin, Han, Chu, Zhao, and Qi. Zheng who was the King Qin took a start for the conquest of the left over 6 states in the period of 230 BC. The first emperor of this unified China was King Qin and he was known by the name of "First Emperor of Qin" or "Qin Shi Huang".

Legalist Shang Yang and reformer Li Si

Shang Yang was known as the foremost states man of Chinese history was also from the State of Qin. He converted and endorsed a supporting philosophy Legalism, which between various things, brutal warfare and optimistic reality. Then Legalism sustained in the Qin dynasty of ancient China. In the time of power, the Qin emperor ruled over many philosophies but the legalism philosophy was particular among them, further Confucianism was also one of them. The emperor was also deliberated one most dominant record and figures in history. In the artistic fusion, Li Si took part as a very important character. Including various things, the emperor harmonized governmental regulations; the

code of law; and money to the coin Ban Liang, the units of dimension. The emperor made easy to pay draconian penalty and taxes from the supervision of Emperor Qin in their era.

The standardization of the writing system of China

Earlier than Qin attained association of China, characters of local scripts changed separately which were used from a long time, constructing what are called the "Writing of the Six States". The little Script of Seal was itself consistent from elimination of variation of forms contained it. So the standardized writing system of Chinese; made it consistent in all over the country; and had a confederation result on the culture of China for many years.

The establishment of first meritocratic administration system

To abolish the political disorder, Emperor Qin, took the assistance of the Li Si, prime minister eradicated the system of heritable vassal and restored which was a modern managerial composition. The Qin's administrative system attained fusion plus durably resistant the local government. Even if it be tailored by afterwards reigns, Chinese administration could get shape for upcoming 2 thousand years.

The era of the precursor in building the Great Wall

Prior to union, many states had built walls in order to defend the boundaries of their states. Emperor Qin directed the demolition of their defense walls that separated his kingdom. The defense wall was constructed mainly to look after in opposition of the Xiongnu tribes in the north, the same which was the cause of many regular fights.

The Dujiangyan Irrigation System was engineered

The Sichuan province in the southwest part of China has a river namely The Min River in the center of province Sichuan. This is the Yangtze River branch which is longest one branch. This longest branch flooded yearly forming big complication on the region with the banks. It irrigation system was constructed around 256 BC, now it is the source of irrigation over 5,300 square km of the Chinese land. It is also well-known as a tradition of UNESCO World Site. It has big appeal for visitors due to its advanced qualities of engineering.

The construction of the Lingqu Canal

Emperor Qin attacked the Baiyue tribes in southern China so he intended to build a canal which is a link between the Li rivers and Xiang in 214 BC. Consequently, the result of the arrangement of a canal longing 36.4 km recognized namely canal of Lingqu. Now this is measured 1 of the 3 big attainments of prehistoric Chinese engineering.

Qin hydraulic engineering at Zhengguo Canal

The Warring States period lined the path of the period of Qin, contender State of Han planned to tire out the assets of Qin by tempting them in a splendid construction project. A water engineer was sent to whose name was Zheng Guo to supply consultation for this purpose. In the start of construction of the Zhengguo Canal was called by the name of its designer. Thus the three huge hydraulic engineering projects of the era consisted of the Zhengguo Canal in Shaanxi province, the Lingqu Canal and the Dujiang yan Irrigation System.

Safety from bad spirits, the famous Terracotta Army

The Mausoleum of the Qin Shi Huang was the most famous building project which took place in the time of Qin dynasty. It is situated in the Shaanxi province in the city of Xi'an city of China. It was made to endorse his burial room. A long time of 700,000 constructor and 38 years was engaged to build it. This was the time of 246 to 208 BC. The tomb of the king comprised the famous Terracotta Army of life sized Terracotta Warriors. The responsibility of the guards is to safeguard the emperor from the bad spirits in the afterlife.

Use of most advanced weapons

The main work of this dynasty was to make a big association of canals and roads to link the provinces to get best linkage between them. The Qin army wore the armaments which are most advanced at that time. Earlier they were using the swords made of bronze, but in the beginning of the 3rd century BC, the army men started to wear iron swords. Terracotta Warriors made a large number of 40,000 weapons which includes crossbows, battle axes, spears and arrowheads. Many of the crossbows were 2,200 years old.

IMPERIAL MISTAKES

With its several achievements, the dynasty also experienced some weakness and mistakes. Most important contributing feature to defeat of this dynasty was imperialism of Europe and foul blunders of the authority of China and cruelty of the crown of British. A big place for Chinese tea was the British under Queen Victoria. The emperor Qing ejected to connect in business consults, but challenging that Britain will give payment for tea in silver and gold. Such, Britain started a profitable, illegal deal in opium, dealt from British royalty India into Canton which is very from Beijing. As they were not fully ready for these physical attacks, the Qing dynasty vanished, and Britain forced uneven

contract and captured the Hong Kong county, with all asset o pounds of silver to payback the British for the missing opium. This shame explained all China's focuses, neighbors, and branches that the once-big China was now feeble and vulnerable. With the passing of time the downsides exposed, China commenced to plunge over its insignificant regions. France detained Southeast Asia, making its city state of French Indo China. Japan exposed Taiwan, obtain useful command of Korea (previously a Chinese branch) Subsequent the First Sino-Japanese War of which held in 1895-96, and forced jagged deal load in the 1895 contract of Shimonoseki. Many of external supremacies like France, Germany, Japan, Britain and Russia had created "spheres of influence" with China's beach areas in 1900. The foreign powers basically illicit trade and the armed forces, even though strictly they hang about part of Qing China. The steadiness of power had slanted definitely from the regal square and concerning the foreign supremacies (Tavan, 2010).

THE LAST DAYS OF THE DYNASTY

In 1896, Yan Fu explained Herbert Spencer's dissertation on communal Darwinism. Others started to plainly label for the conquest of the presented rule and restore it with a legal rule. Sun Yat Sen appeared as China's first "expert" radical, having increased a domestic reputation by being snatched by Qing mediators in the Chinese Embassy in London, it was time of 1896. One Qing reaction was to stifle the word "rebellion" by prohibiting it from the world-history manuals. The French revolt was now the French "revolution" or "confusion," but in reality, the survival of charter areas and overseas dispensation provided abundance of firewood and unreliable degrees of security for essential challenger (Wood, 1998).The crippled Qing dynasty grip to control for a more decade, following the walls of the Forbidden City, but the Wuchang uprising of 1911 set the last spike in the tomb when 18 provinces chosen to break away from the Qing dynasty. The preceding Emperor formally renounced the throne on Feb. 12, 1912, finishing not only the Qing dynasty but extended regal period of China. The 1st President Sun Yat-Sen was selected to govern China, and the Republican region of China had started (Yen, 2005).

CONCLUSION

Taking in account all achievements and contributions of the Qin dynasty, the present study gains insights into Chinese culture and history. Particularly the major inventions which are now part of the modern culture too. Ultimately, this dynasty provides better defense, proper irrigation, good administration and standardization of writing system for the well-being and enhancement of the entire Chinese culture. It is strongly perceived that the splendid dynasty was the historical valuable contribution in emerging the culture and administration of the country. Moreover, this dynasty changed and lined up the progress of the country as they provided a base line for the 1st president Sun Yat San to run the country smoothly.

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