

The Evolution of Morality From the Comparison of Chinese and Western Philosophy

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Abstract: In Western philosophy,the view of morality is to create the world and separate from daily life,while Chinese philosophy returns the western suspended morality to life,emphasizing the moralized personality.In contrast,Chinese philosophy shows more wisdom in accordance with words and deeds,which closely links the inner spirit of morality with people's life,not pursuing higher logic theory,but seeking the true meaning of life in a plain way.

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Kant believed that philosophy includes three major topics: firstly, what is a human being? What should I do? What can I hope for? The second problem is actually traced back to morality. Western philosophy's understanding of the material world has experienced the evolution from Hegel to Marx. From idealism to materialism, it is to prove the difference between the material world and the conscious world, and morality belongs to consciousness. At the beginning, Western philosophy shaped the moral understanding and learned consciousness, thought that it was divorced from reality, and created reality. Chinese philosophy is different. It emphasizes the materiality of human activities, and believes that consciousness also serves human activities. Human morality is a convention in the human brain for the good development of human activities.

1. The Significance of Morality in Eastern and Western Philosophy

With the rapid development of society, new requirements have been put forward for the direction of human development and the relationship between humans and the social environment. The moral requirements of self-interest and free competition in the West are no longer compatible with the world culture of great love. On the contrary, the spirit of harmony, great love, and inclusiveness displayed by the Chinese people in front of the world is the mainstream of the world, the expectation of the people, and the moral standard of the Chinese people. One is to correct the essence of Western selfishness, and the other is to remove the dross and not copy the excellent culture of other countries, otherwise one will lose their own country's culture and ethnic beliefs. Thirdly, for humanity around the world, China's adherence to freedom, equality, democracy, and Western innate human rights is consistent, which can once again shine the light of truth in front of the world, making the West realize that there is a value system outside the Western system and a value system outside the Eastern system, where both sides can learn from each other and exchange what they have. There must be no hostility or exclusion between you and me. To explore a path of common progress and development. From our foreign policy in the early days of the founding of the People's Republic of China, it can be seen that our people value moral cultivation of harmony, inclusiveness, and respect for others, rather than competition, exclusion, and selfishness. Of course, only by embracing and harming each other can people around the world create a good, safe and comfortable environment, and achieve the security and development of all countries.

2. A preliminary study of the differences between chinese and western philosophy

Comparing Chinese and Western philosophy, it is not difficult to find that Chinese philosophy attaches importance to people and consciousness, Western philosophy emphasizes nature and material, Chinese philosophy stresses practicality, is good at thinking about

itself, and finally settles on moral pursuit, while the West pursues rationality, reflects on the essence of nature, and settles on logic and theory. Western philosophy is different from China. The author believes that there are the following reasons: First, we can find clues from local culture, There are many shadows of "people" in traditional Chinese culture, whether it is Confucian or Taoist culture, reflecting on how people should behave, reflecting on their role in society, forming their own nature, and dealing with the relationship between humans and nature. The concept of natural reason has existed in Western Greek philosophy from the beginning, such as the Elian School and the Militarist School, which have a general philosophical trend. That is, the world already has order, and the essence and nature of the world have constituted the orderly development of the world. This law is essential, and it generally governs all things in the world. Thales once said that water is the origin of all things, opposing humans from nature and distinguishing them from the same religion. From the original reasons of nature, using humans to view nature, to the Pythagorean belief that nature is numbers, and to Plato, the theory of caves emerged, meaning to go out of caves and see the outside world, emphasizing that humans view and evaluate nature from the outside. Second, it is easy to see from the comparison between Chinese and Western philosophy that Western philosophy emphasizes the ideology that morality is the essence of human beings, which is different from the problems Chinese philosophy faced at the beginning.

3. Common Elements of Morality in Eastern and Western Philosophy

3.1 Morality is the attitude within a person's heart

Morality is something that comes from the heart of a person and needs to be improved through one's own self-awareness, rather than seeking help from others. It's like climbing a mountain where teammates can help you, but ultimately reaching the top depends on oneself. From another perspective, you climb the mountain yourself, and this is the same throughout your life. Although there are also people who help you in life, including your parents, friends, teachers on the way to school, and classmates, whether you will succeed or not, whether you will become a valuable person ultimately depends on yourself, not others. People are constantly improving their morality in the process of constantly improving themselves. Morality is the negation and reflection of the past, the expectation and progress of the future. Morality is a desire for success and the process of gaining a sense of normalcy in people's hearts. In addition, in life, it is impossible for people to break away from society, but success or not will also be influenced by others, such as climbing a mountain. It is almost the top of a mountain, and if someone backs off and wants to climb a mountain, they do not want to climb again. If you follow the person who goes down the mountain, you will never reach the top of the mountain. If you continue to move forward, victory belongs to you. You hope for success in life, but after achieving it, you will treat it with a calm heart. For example, if you really want to get into a good university, but when you get into it, you will have no feelings anymore. It feels like this is not difficult for you, but when you persist until the college entrance examination is about to begin, you will feel particularly difficult, I feel like I can't hold on anymore, and in the end, it feels like time will be too long. However, when you succeed in the college entrance examination, you will feel surprisingly calm and even have no inner turmoil. At this point, you may understand what a normal heart is. Therefore, in life, only by facing people and things with a calm mind can one comprehend the true essence of life.

3.2 Morality needs to be understood by oneself

Morality is an individual's self-awareness. Different people have different understandings of morality, which inevitably leads to differences in their perceptions. Moreover, morality is constantly changing, and morality varies at different stages. Therefore, morality is difficult to express in language and is difficult to replicate, blindly imitating morality that is not truly moral. As for drinking tea, different people have different opinions on it. Some people taste the fragrance of tea, while others taste the bitterness of tea. The taste of tea in the south is different from that in the north. Drinking tea when people are in a good mood and when people are in a bad mood have different feelings. It can be seen that there are thousands of different understandings and experiences about tea, but this kind of experience about tea can only be experienced by oneself, and others cannot replace it. Only when we take morality into shape and understand it, can we be correct. Metaphysical things can only be understood and cannot be expressed in words, because at this time, morality is often an external thing that is already different from metaphysics. Metaphysical things are not abstract and difficult to understand, but rather a form of empathy. For example, the Spring River Water Warm Duck Prophet, wearing shoes on his own feet, only oneself knows whether it is suitable, and others as bystanders cannot evaluate it. It's like you don't know whether others are happy or not, only that person can experience it on their own.

3.3 Moral needs to innovate through inheritance

Morality cannot be transmitted to others through language, and can only be understood by oneself. Morality cannot be replicated. Everyone's morality is different, and innovation is taking place. If morality is blindly imitated and stuck to the past, we can never grasp the essence of morality. The "Tan Jing" believes that morality cannot be fixed on words or language, otherwise it will make

jokes because morality is changing, and it is precisely because of the requirements of moral norms that people have. All of these are the demands that morality forms within a person's heart. For example, in Buddhist meditation, sitting does not necessarily require sitting or standing. As long as one's heart is towards the Buddha, they will cultivate positive results without being limited to form. Buddhism has a saying that wine and meat pass through the intestines, and the Buddha is in my heart. To comprehend with heart, rather than using form as a form, and to have a Buddha in your heart, you don't necessarily have to become a monk. You can also become a Buddha at home. Buddha is like this, and morality is also like this. Morality is a kind of inner experience, a spiritual understanding, just to taste, without showing off or telling others. It's like doing a good thing, without proving yourself to others, just enjoying the joy of doing it in your heart.

3.4 Morality is a state that people reach

Morality is not like a stone, it can be understood with the heart and continuously improved. The enlightenment that morality advocates is the free and easy, natural, and relaxed state of people in life. This is a realm, just like clouds in the sky, fish swimming in the water, birds flying in the sky. In life, we often see animals happy in nature as they are in cages. This is a realm, no matter what kind of environment they are in, they can remain positive and upward. Despite the high pressure of life, we may as well live a more free and easy life, experience and observe with a calm heart, in order to discover the joy in life. Here, morality transcends the limitations of time and space, emphasizes self expression, and emphasizes individualism. Morality is an ideology that can guide people to free themselves from nature and elevate themselves from human nature, thus achieving a noble realm of life. Morality is a form of wisdom, an art of life in dealing with people. It can make a person's personality more charming. Why do modern people have so many troubles because they are insatiable? If the realm of morality is higher, wouldn't it be great to experience the integration with nature? Whether one is happy in life does not depend on how much one gains. Having a wife and children, having friends, and being able to do what one wants is enough. Do not blindly pursue what one cannot obtain, adding unnecessary pain to oneself. In life, one must understand gratitude and contentment in order to experience true happiness and happiness in the world.

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