

Abstract

The alternation of traditional view on *the Book of Songs* to contemporary survey on *the Book of Songs* occurred in the 20th century. 1920s is the very period of the change happened. During this particular decade, Gu Jiegang gave a revolutionary criticism to traditional avocation on *the Book of Songs* which formed the foundation of contemporary research on the book. His study is typical of others of the same time.

This thesis attempts to investigate Gu Jiegang's understanding of *the Book of Songs* by concentrating on his study of the book. Based on his research-oriented classification on ancient literature of *the Book of Songs*, including Zheng Qiao's *Shi Bian Wang*, Yao Jiheng's *Shi Jing Tong Lun* and Wang Bo's *Shi Yi*, and his academic articles on *the Book of Songs*, combined with his unique methods of history study namely questioning the ancient viewpoint and investigating the truth, the following conclusion is reached, Gu Jiegang's study on *the Book of Songs* is determined by the time. The analysis on the reasons of Gu Jiegang's study on *the Book of Songs* are conducted from two aspects, namely events occurred in that particular period and the influence from his teachers and friends.

Key words: Contemporary study on *the Book of Songs*; Research oriented classification; question the ancient viewpoints and investigate the truth; *Analysis of Ancient History*