

ABSTRACT

This essay has a research objective to study the ancient story of Liang Hongyu and Han Shizhong with a major focus on the historical evolution of the literary works based on the Liang-Han story. Comparison and analysis is then performed on different plot elements on the story. Comprehensive modeling the literary image of Han Shizhong and Liang Hongyu.

“Chapter I: Introduction” illustrates the significance and scope of this essay, with a review on the previous academic research on the Han-Liang story. This section also describes the objective and methodology chosen by this research.

“Chapter II: The evolution on the story of Han Shizhong and Liang Hongyu, and a study on related literary works” illustrates how the story of Han Shizhong and Liang Hongyu evolves from time to time between Song dynasty, Yuan dynasty, Ming dynasty and Qing dynasty. Characteristics and forms of the story in different periods are discussed with a study of related literary works, documents and data.

“Chapter III: The comparison of various plots in the story of Han Shizhong and Liang Hongyu” focuses on comparing several major plots in the story of Han Shizhong and Liang Hongyu inside different literary works, including “Background and encounter of Han Shizhong and Liang Hongyu”, “Capture of Fang La and suppress of the rebellion led by Miao and Liu”, “Beating of wardrums to defeat Jin navy at Huang Tin Dang”, “Outrage on Qin gui and retreat back to Xi Hu”. The chapter dissects how different versions handle the same plot in different ways with different creative approaches, which reflects different intention of the author. Then the chapter discusses on how the literary image of Han Shizhong and Liang Hongyu gets formulated.

“Conclusion” concludes the whole essay and recaps the three major arguments of this research.