

# Assumptions on the Re-study of Textiles and Clothing in the Newspapers and Periodicals of the Republic of China

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## Abstract

The development of textile and clothing in the Republic of China plays an important role in history, which is the demarcation point between ancient and modern, and also the intersection point between the East and the West. Based on the research on the textile and clothing during this period in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China, and it has many advantages such as time certainty, material diversity, and content authenticity, etc. Therefore, the textile and clothing information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China plays an important role in understanding the development of the textile and clothing in the Republic of China. Through the analysis of the research value and research status, we can further refine the research content, optimize the research method, clarify the research goal and provide a feasible research path. And then which will provide a useful reference for follow-up studies, film and television production, and the development of local intangible cultural heritage.

**Keywords:** Republic of China, newspapers and periodicals, textiles, clothing

The development of textile and clothing in the Republic of China is of great significance to the transformation of the industry to modernization. This paper uses the literature research method, the physical research method, the comparison method, and the modern textile technology representation method to sort out the textile and clothing information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China. Through political, economic, technological and other multi-dimensional information to restore the "ecological environment" of the textile and clothing system that tends to be true, to clarify the development context of textile and clothing technology in the Republic of China, to find the real internal reasons behind the appearance of textile and clothing development and changes, and to understand the original knowledge system. At the same time to remove the false and preserve the truth, carry out accurate and in-depth reconstruction of the knowledge system.

## 1. Theoretical and Practical Application Value of This Topic

General Secretary Xi Jinping put forward the "four self-confidences" at the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, among which cultural self-confidence is a more basic, broader and deeper self-confidence, and a more basic, deeper and more lasting force. Chinese ancient books play an important role in the inheritance and protection of Chinese culture. According to statistics, there are only 258 fashion periodicals and 155 textile periodicals in the Republic of China. The textile and apparel journals that have survived for more than a hundred years are like a vast ocean. It is imminent to use modern technology to analyze and protect them. In this regard, the General Office of the State Council issued a document and proposed the "Chinese Ancient Books Protection Plan" in 2007. This topic will focus on the textile and apparel information in the periodical of the Republic of China, analyze the technology and culture contained in it, and reproduce the grand development of the textile and apparel industry in the Republic of China.

### 1.1 Theoretical Value

The theoretical value of this topic is to re-study the textile and apparel information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China. The textile and apparel information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China has not been paid enough attention, mainly because the time interval since the Republic of China is not very long, and many handed down objects have been well-preserved, from the academic point of view, the real thing is more credible than the information in the newspaper. But in fact, newspapers and

periodicals have their own advantages which are incomparable with physical objects, such as time certainty, richness of materials, acuity of observation and completeness of information. This subject tries to get rid of the purely physical research paradigm (there are many fallacies in this paradigm) on the basis of classifying information, rheological analysis and temporal and spatial ordering, and introduces multi-disciplinary (such as iconography, communication, textiles, etc.). Combined with the political, economic, folklore and other environmental reports in the newspapers and magazines, a multi-dimensional analysis can be carried out, so that some historical materials that were originally considered to be highly credible can be critically researched, and new understandings can be constructed while falsifying the literature. If the acquired new knowledge is placed in the existing textile and apparel knowledge system of the Republic of China, there will inevitably be some incommensurability and may even trigger the domino effect of certain knowledge in the original knowledge system. This topic will delve into the reasons for its incommensurability, and systematically reconstruct the series of cognitive variations caused by new knowledge, so that we can have a new understanding of the entire textile and clothing system of the Republic of China, and it is possible to form a new field of research on the history of textile and clothing in the Republic of China, which can be restored to the greatest extent. While tending to the real "clothing ecological environment", it also reproduces a complete history of textile and clothing in the Republic of China.

### *1.2 Practical Application Value*

With the continuous enhancement of national cultural self-confidence, it is necessary to fully revive the excellent traditional Chinese culture. As one of the most distinctive traditional cultures, textile and clothing culture plays a role in improving national self-confidence and national centripetal force. First of all, how to get this culture deep into the hearts of individuals is very politically valuable. Based on the textile and clothing information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China as the carrier, this topic re-study the history of textile and clothing in the Republic of China, and provides ideas for textile and clothing popular reading materials and related copywriting displayed in related museums, which is conducive to strengthening the dissemination of the textile and clothing content of the Republic of China, improving the popularization effect of traditional cultural audiences. Especially for the descriptions of important textile machinery, textiles and apparels involved in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China, carry out re-engraving and technical research, on the one hand can apply for patents, develop and utilize the textile and apparel cultural industry, and can also provide intellectual support for the development of film and television drama clothing to achieve considerable economic benefits. The textile machinery part will be displayed digitally, so that the audience can immersely experience the working principle of the textile machinery in the Republic of China, and the boring textile technology will be broadcast to the public in a vivid and interesting form. On the other hand, it can provide data and technical support for the development of textile and apparel intangible cultural heritage in the regions reported in the newspapers, especially for the development of modern fashion products, which has great economic and artistic value.

## **2 Current Status and Trends of Research at Home and Abroad**

### *2.1 Current Status of Research at Home and Abroad*

(1) Domestic research presents the characteristics of niche research population, fragmented research content and differentiated research results. Whether it is the research on the history of modern Chinese clothing by Bian Xiangyang, Zhang Jingqiong, Hua Mei, Liang Hui'e, etc., or the research on the history of modern Chinese textiles by Zhou Qicheng, Zuo Xuchu, Gong Jianpei, etc., only involved part of the textile and clothing information in the newspapers as a supplementary history without systematic research, which has led to the fragmented content and fragmented results of the research on textile and apparel information based on newspapers and periodicals. Taking the Double-Seven spinning machine as an example, Zhou Qicheng once proposed in the book "Introduction to the History of Textile Science and Technology" that the Double-Seven spinning machine was initiated by Mu Ouchu, the director of the Rural Promotion Committee. He integrated the experience of various spinning wheels and created the "Double-Seven Cotton Spinning Machine". Tan Gang described the development process of hand-woven textiles under the special background of wartime in detail in his paper "Hand Spinning Promotion In Wartime and Sichuan Handmade Cotton Textile Industry Revival", but neither of the above mentioned the working principle and traceability of the seven-seven spinning machine at length, and the mainstream academic view of "Mu Ouchu invented the seven-seven spinning machine" is still in use. In the article "The Origin of the Seven Seven Spinning Machines", Liang Wenqian found that the origin of the Seven-Seven Spinning Machines can be traced back to the end of the Qing Dynasty, when Zhou Yuanlong was influenced by the Japanese Yamato Spinning Machines, was created through a transformation that moved decades forward in the mainstream view. Another example is the cheongsam in 1928, when there was a

short-lived phenomenon of rebellion against cheongsam. Liu Yu made a corresponding introduction to this stage in his book "Cultural History of Cheongsam", but did not explain the internal reasons behind it. Analysis of the newspapers at that time is not difficult to find that the back of the cheongsam's rebellious appearance is closely related to Sun Chuanfang's opposition to the cheongsam ban and the change of Sun Chuanfang's political status, which ultimately led to the Adam and Eve effect in the change of cheongsam.

(2) The depth of the research of textile and apparel information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China is unbalanced. Their depth is reflected in the microscopic (research on textile and apparel information in a particular newspaper), mesoscopic (research on textiles and apparel in newspapers and periodicals at a certain stage), and macroscopic (research on textiles and apparel in newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China) on three levels. For micro-level research, Bian Xiangyang pointed out in the article "Clothing and Fashion Information in Shanghai Newspapers and Periodicals in the Republic of China" that the process of extracting information from newspapers and periodicals in the Republic of China should be divided into data collection, orientation classification, information extraction and picture construction. In 2009, Zhang Min of Donghua University wrote in her master's thesis "Research on Clothing Information in Magazines called Linglong in 1930s." pointed out that the information in newspapers and periodicals can be divided into three types: text, pictures, and mixed pictures and texts, and related research on clothing information in Linglong Pictorial; Liang Wenqian pointed out that the cheongsam and sportswear in "Liangyou Pictorial" have been analyzed in depth respectively, and the relevant researches on the changes, design elements, and internal causes of various types of clothing have been summarized. These research results of the above three have played a certain role in supplementing the history, but there are no relevant professional research results in the academic circles at the micro, meso and macro levels.

### *2.2 Trends of Research at Home and Abroad*

It is precisely because of the small number of researchers and the fragmentation of research content, as well as the absence and lack of in-depth research on textile and apparel information based on the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China, that the research on a certain clothing form or a certain type of textile technology based on the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China is absent seriously, it can be seen that the importance of microscopic research based on textile and apparel information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China is imminent.

In a word, the textual research on textile and clothing information and existing physical information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China can open a new door of understanding, break through the "bottleneck" of research, gain new understanding, and play a role for the purpose of verifying, supplementing, and reforming the history. This will inevitably become a research hot spot at home and abroad in the field of textile and apparel information research in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China.

### **3. Objectives of This Study**

There are two research goals of this topic: ① Revealing that the textile and apparel information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China is a history of textiles and clothing that is richer and closer to the historical origin than the physical research, which is of great significance and enlightenment; ② Emphasizes the information that how does the textile and clothing factor become the "butterfly" factor in the "butterfly effect" of social development in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China, and its path is from the emergence of related textile technologies or clothing products to the formation of textile and clothing fashion, and finally the social changes that result, so as to obtain theoretical innovation.

### **4. The Research Content of This Topic**

The research content of this topic includes the following five aspects:

(1) Sorting through the order of time and space of textile information in newspapers and periodicals to clarify the entire process of the development of the textile industry in the Republic of China. This research group will carry out the following aspects: ① Classify and sort out the textile information appearing in newspapers and periodicals, establish the textile development pedigree of the Republic of China according to the order of time and space, and compare it with the handed down objects and archaeological reports, and more specifically re-interpret the textile information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China; ② If encountering the phenomenon that the temporal and spatial sequence or the related descriptions do not corroborate each other, we should conduct skeptical research on the two and to try to gain new understanding and academic viewpoints; ③ Based on the information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China clothing information establishes a pedigree of changes, and a complete mesoscopic history of textile

changes in the Republic of China is obtained from the mesoscopic view, so as to clearly understand the development of the textile industry in the Republic of China from the roundabout development of the national textile industry to the expansion of the foreign textile industry, to the expansion of the Chinese textile industry, and finally to handmade textiles. The whole process of industrial improvement provides a complete development pedigree for the research institutes of the textile industry in the Republic of China.

(2) Through the genealogy analysis of textile changes in the Republic of China, select representative textile technologies to study one by one, and clarify the internal factors behind the appearance of technological changes.

① On the basis of previous research, use the advantages of newspapers and periodicals to explore the internal reasons behind its changes, so as to truly understand the internal driving force behind the development of each textile technology and its role in promoting the development of clothing; ② Do restoration research for this representative textile technology, especially the use of animation technology to reproduce the working principle of important textile machinery, to complete the digital protection of textile technology on a certain level. ③ By integrating the related textile technology with the local culture, the material cultural heritage system based on the core of textile technology in newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China is designed.

(3) By extracting the clothing information in the newspapers and establishing the temporal and spatial sorting, the clothing life of the Republic of China can be fully displayed. Because most of the existing handed down objects are the clothing lives of nobles such as ladies and stars while the general public is less involved. This topic will be carried out in the following steps: ① Sort out the clothing information in newspapers and periodicals, sort them in time, space and region, and compare them with handed down objects and archaeological reports, and reinterpret the clothing information in newspapers and periodicals more specifically; ② If you encounter the phenomenon that the order of time and space or the related descriptions do not corroborate each other, you should conduct questioning research on the two to and try to gain new understanding and academic viewpoints; ③ Based on the clothing information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China, a complete history of clothing changes in the Republic of China can be obtained, which provides a series of cases for clothing fashion in the Republic of China.

(4) Through the genealogy analysis of the clothing changes in the Republic of China, select the representative and traditional clothing categories to analyze one by one, and clarify the internal reasons behind the appearance.

① Analyze the internal and external causes of the change on the basis of the previous research, and use the advantages of newspapers and periodicals to dig out the political, economic, textile and other hidden information behind the change; ② Do recovery research on representative clothing and design a whole set of operational production process; ③ Integrate the relevant clothing and its local culture, and design a material cultural heritage system based on the core of clothing technology in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China.

(5) On the basis of the previous researches, research on the mutual mapping between clothing and textiles in the Republic of China, sort out the relationship between the two, and finally form a development pedigree of textiles and clothing based on the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China from a macro perspective. This topic will start from two aspects: the internal motivation and external performance of the mutual reflection of textiles and clothing in the Republic of China, and form a complete relationship pedigree of the development of textiles and clothing in the Republic of China, so as to provide a "textile technology-clothing timetable" for future textile archaeology and textile and clothing research in the Republic of China.

## 5. Key Points and Difficulties to Be Broken Through

To be broken through 1: The focus is on the textile and clothing information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China as the main line, with credible official historical documents, archaeological discoveries, and folklore investigations as auxiliary lines, and a two-dimensional perspective of mutual confirmation between positive and auxiliary lines to construct the "double helix" structure of the history of textile and clothing in the Republic of China, so as to examine the history of textile and clothing technology, social history and cultural history of the Republic of China from a different perspective. The difficulty lies in exploring the cultural and social phenomena of textiles and clothing in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China, expounding the knowledge of anthropology and local knowledge behind the relevant reports on textiles and clothing, and revealing the fundamental path from the research of graphic-related information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China to academic research.

To be broken through 2: The key point is to have a glimpse of the changes of the entire Republic of China and its driving force through the description of textiles and clothing in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China and the driving force - the revolution of textile fiber raw materials, the revolution of textile and clothing

technology, the revolution of clothing structure, and the textile machinery revolution. At the same time, it shows that the root of the continuous progress of textile and clothing in the Republic of China lies in the openness of the social system, and the rate of progress and openness are not simply positively correlated. The difficulty is the definition standard of fiber, textile and clothing revolution in the Republic of China, the characterization of the structure and function of the dynamic mechanism of social changes (positive and negative) caused by textile and clothing revolution, and the quantitative analysis of the progress rate and different types of openness (political open system, economic open system, etc.) of textile and clothing in the Republic of China.

To be broken through 3: The key point is to explore the intertextuality and generative relationship between the nationality and the world of textile and apparel skills in newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China under the background of increasing emphasis on globalization and nationalization tradition, and how to construct the substantive relationship between the seemingly contradictory concepts of globalization and nationalization in the textile and apparel history of the Republic of China, so that the apparel culture of the Republic of China can become a postcard of contemporary China. The difficulty is how to incorporate this correlation into the context of the history, society, technology and culture of the Republic of China, and to analyze and creatively reconstruct the current Chinese textile and apparel culture.

To sum up, the difficulty and focus of this project is to try to organically combine texts, images, archaeology, works of art, mechanical history, restoration and engraving research on the basis of the research on textiles and clothing in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China. Construct the secular history of textiles and clothing in the Republic of China, and build up the positive and progressive spirit in this secular history into an important expression factor of contemporary Chinese culture, so as to spread Chinese culture and expand the world's understanding and recognition of Chinese culture.

## **6. Research Ideas for This Topic**

The research ideas of this topic are shown in Figure 1: First, the textile and clothing information in the periodicals of the Republic of China are sorted out, and the change charts of textiles and clothing based on the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China are respectively obtained, which are compared with the existing official history, archaeology and folklore of the textile and clothing of the Republic of China. Cross-contrast the history of textile and clothing in the Republic of China, and extract the viewpoints that are inconsistent with the existing knowledge system to obtain a credible database of textile and clothing doubts in the Republic of China; Secondly, the representative problems in the doubtful database are re-studied, the high-concentration newspapers and periodicals of the class are the main line, and the comprehensive newspapers and periodicals are the auxiliary lines. Combined with the handed down objects and archaeological reports, the deep-seated internal causes and technical researches on the appearance of textiles and clothing are carried out, and the research results are put into the existing In the knowledge system, the authenticity of the results is checked, so as to screen out the false information in the newspapers, correct the misunderstandings in the existing knowledge system, and complete the restoration of the two parts of the textile and clothing in the Republic of China. On the basis of the previous research results, this topic explores the mutual influence of textile and clothing in the Republic of China, so that the interaction mechanism between them becomes clearer, and finally completes a brand-new explanation of the history of textile and clothing in the Republic of China, and improves the knowledge of a credible brief history of textile and clothing in the Republic of China. It is through this continuous cycle of confirmation and falsification of the text that the text can more truly and fully represent the history of textile and clothing. Finally, based on the latest and credible brief history of textile and clothing in the Republic of China, the practical application of textile and clothing intangible cultural heritage, popular science books, and museum textile and clothing display copywriting is developed.

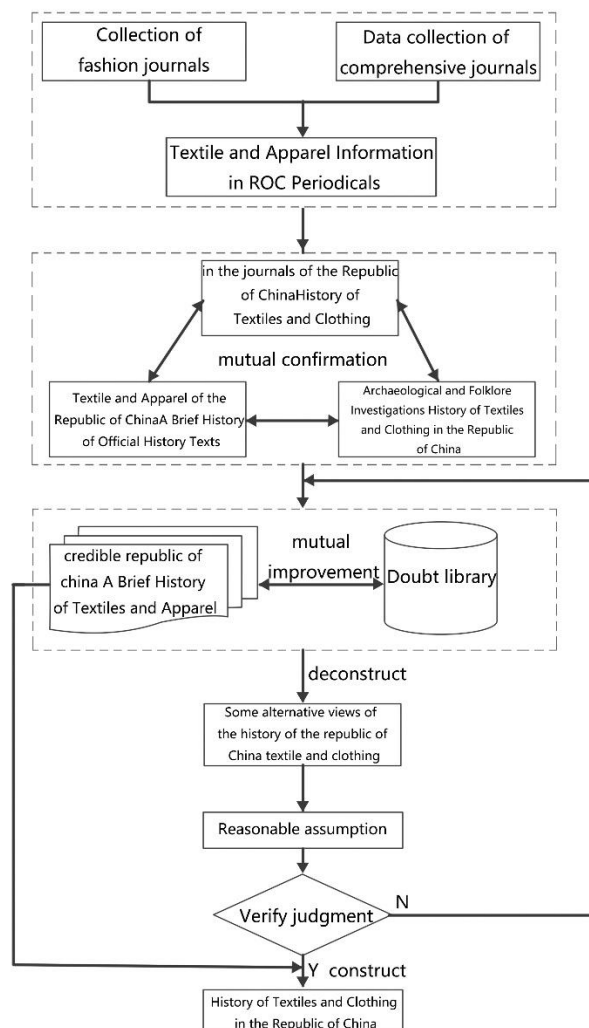


Figure 1. Research ideas of this topic

### 7. Research Methods for This Topic

(1) Literature research methods. The relevant literature on textiles and clothing in the Republic of China is the basis for the research on textiles and clothing in newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China. The "thickness" and "breadth" of literature research on the history of textile and clothing determine the depth and breadth of this topic. This research group conducts basic deconstruction of credible texts, doubtful deconstruction of dubious texts, and then completes critical deconstruction of them.

(2) Physical research. "Words don't convey the meaning, and books don't convey the words." The information in the newspapers and periodicals cannot be trusted completely, because there are certain misinformation and false rumors. The research process of this subject will judge, confirm and falsify the textile and clothing information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China through literature research combined with textile archaeological reports and physical analysis and research of related museums. This research group has carried out research in this area, and has achieved a series of achievements in the history of textile and apparel, and will further systematically improve the research.

(3) Comparison method. On the one hand, on the vertical axis of time, this subject analyzes and compares the textile and clothing information in the newspapers and periodicals of the Republic of China, the official historical texts of Chinese textile and clothing, image information, archaeological objects and materials, and re-examines the dating of the textile and clothing history of the Republic of China; On the other hand, on the horizontal axis of time, compare the similarities and differences between Chinese and foreign textile and apparel and textile and apparel machinery, and analyze the characteristics of ancient Chinese textile and apparel

technology and textile and apparel machinery; elucidates the far-reaching influence of textile and clothing in the Republic of China. The research group has restored the representative textile machinery such as the Double-Seven spinning machine, the iron wood loom, and the Toyota loom of Japan through the method of comparative research.

(4) Characterization method of modern textile technology. This subject uses the fabric analysis method of modern textile and apparel technology, textile machinery legends, clothing structure diagrams, etc. to characterize the fabrics, textile machinery and clothing of the Republic of China, in order to highlight the scientific nature of the textile and clothing technology of the Republic of China. This research group tried to use this method to study the re-engraving of the cheongsam fabric of the Republic of China and achieved some results.

## 8. Conclusion

Textiles and clothing have always influenced and promoted each other, but the existing research usually separates the two major knowledge systems. It is the value of this research to conduct in-depth mutual research on textiles and clothing. It not only explores the external appearance of the mutual reflection between the two, but also pays more attention to the control of the internal dynamics of the relationship between the two, and finally presents a complete pedigree of textile-clothing changes in the Republic of China.

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