

A Study of the Cultural Identity of Chinese American Women Writers from a Cross-cultural Perspective

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Abstract: In the context of globalization, the issue of identity has become a hot topic in academia, especially for Chinese American writers. From the perspective of cross-cultural, starting from the development stage of cultural identity construction of Chinese American female writers, combined with the details of the text, and regard the differences and conflicts, blending and harmony as entry point between the two cultures of China and the United States, this paper reflects and discusses the ethnic history and traditional culture from the perspective of women and explores the unique cultural identity of Chinese American women thus displaying the writing style of Chinese American female writers with the change of times, the characters and demands and cognition of identity are constantly changing.

I. Introduction

After the 1960s, not many Chinese American culture including Chinese American female writers start to receive widespread social attention step by step. these literary works have become the focus of criticism under the development of postcolonial theory due to their unique perspectives. with the development of the times, the works of contemporary Chinese American female writers began to close to the reality of life and the development of the real society. From various perspectives to further analysis female images so that the development of Chinese American literature to upsurge. From a unique female perspective, these Chinese American women writers aim to reproduce their real life with their parents through their own detailed records. through this way, we can constantly reveal the whole development process of Chinese Americans and some of their relative traditional problems so as to supplement and gradually improve the identity of Chinese American women culture.

During this period of development, the works of Chinese American women writers include their own development history and made a decision which culture to choice between Chinese and American. and integration of choice and reality. It represented the multiplicity and pluralistic development of cultural identity in female's literature works and the contradiction between them is balanced through literary works. From the perspective of historical development, contemporary Chinese American women writers have their own third world. Compared with the developing male images, their literary creation mainly starts from female's narrative and development perspective.

Besides, the dual identities of race and gender culture make the narrative of Chinese American women writers emphasize contradictions and conflicts on cultures or languages. her works emphasize more the contradiction and conflict between the female images, in order to embody the overall spiritual appearance of the development and survival of Chinese American female writers in different places. Through the analysis of female images in literary works, we can see that the cultural identity development of Chinese American women is a continuous process of construction and continuous development. With the constant collision and integration between Chinese and Western cultures, their identities will be renewed and transformed. In other words, among the works of Chinese American women writers, we can see that they provide a multi-dimensional perspective for the relationship between cultural development and ethnic identity. Their identity has surpassed culture and race, and start to show the development situation of integration, coexistence and symbiosis.

2. The Development Stage of Cultural Identity Construction of Chinese American Female Writers from a Cross-cultural Perspective

From the perspective of Chinese Americans, the content of the works reflects the actual life experience of Chinese Americans. On the whole, the development of cultural identity construction of Chinese American female writers includes three stages.

2.1 The end of 19th century and the beginning of 20th century

During this stage is the initial stage of cultural identity construction. the female images written by Chinese American female writers are more represented the actual interests and corresponding identities of American minorities due to the development of American society. meanwhile, because the civil rights movement and the rights conflict between black people in American society. these are all opportunities for Chinese American women writers to start writing. At this stage, their female images are more distinct and their subjective consciousness is more powerful. in the description of female images, we adopt the form of literary criticism to elaborate the legitimacy of the existence of Asian American women from the perspective of the development of masculinism and cross-cultural development, and strive for their actual rights and interests. In this period, there are not many literary works about female images, mainly represented by Huang Yuxue's female works. during this stage, the improvement of women's image is more due to their status improvement in American society, they began to gradually integrate into the development of mainstream culture and then actively create a distinct female role.

2.2 1970s-1980s

This stage mainly refers to the turning stage of cultural identity construction of Chinese American female writers. During this period, American society experienced the Asian American movement and civil rights trend. Chinese American female writers absorbed more styles and practical narrative writing methods in different literary works, and adopted autobiographies, novels or poems to present the developing female images. In this stage, the female image is full of guidance to obtain more rights for Asian American so that many works start to represent development of Chinese culture-oriented

2.3 Late 1980s to early 1990s

This stage mainly refers to the relative development stage of the cultural identity construction of Chinese American female writers. The female images of Chinese American female writers in this stage emphasized the development differences in the literatures inside and showed the mutual communication and integration between Asian countries and the development of American native culture. Among them, in Tang Tingting and Tan Enmei's literary works are representative. The female images in their works are prominent and distinctive and they have begun to show a diversified development trend. Female images are towards direction of traditional narrative development. It focuses on describing some common discrimination and real life experiences in American society and real life of Chinese American women.

3. A cross-cultural Analysis of the Literary Works of Chinese American Women Writers

On the one hand, from the perspective of cross-cultural development of contemporary Chinese American female writers' literary works, they are not only pursue the American dream in their own development, but also bring themselves into the role of literary works, and write their experiences in the United States into flesh and blood literary works. On the whole, the actual content of literary works, whether it is about the story of Chinese culture or the story of the image development of Chinese American women, these literary works emphasize on the real life experience and feelings of the individual and authors pay attention on the spiritual life into their works. since the 19th century, Chinese American female writers have been devoted to shape women's new images. They have tried to describe female individuals with comprehensively developed personality traits as a whole, further breaking the weak female images from the perspective of male writers and shaping

them with real attraction, forming the image structure of the female overall model. The second generation of Chinese female writers in early development began to try hard to find a developing bond, linking the American values of their lives with traditional Chinese values.

A part of reason come from the influence of the American public on Chinese descent , it strives to integrate its own national culture into the mainstream society of real life, and further positively introduces representative Chinese traditional culture to the Chinese people as a whole it created a brand-new image with a model ethnicity and was recognized and accepted by American society.among them, Huang Xueyu's literary work "A Chinese Girl A5" not only represented a bright female image, but also showed a female image in the development of traditional Chinese culture. In her literary works, the main purpose of writing is to make more people understand the diversified Chinese culture and to show Americans efforts in the development of Chinese culture to eliminate their long-term influence on the development of Chinese culture bias. in the work, it focuses on the traditional Chinese culture, including the existence of diet, naming and other cultures in daily life. Compared with the culture experienced in the United States, it helps readers to experience and understand and analyze China from a relatively unique perspective. The culture enables readers to understand Chinese traditional culture from a deeper level.

Although Chinese female writers live in the United States all the time and are deeply influenced by the English language environment and receive actual American education, they deeply love their home country and have a deep attachment to traditional Chinese culture. More prominent in his works is the theme of Chinese culture. Although the protagonist in the work lives in the United States for many years, he often has confusion and prejudice about the differences between Chinese and American cultures. on the other hand, this is the shared features of Chinese female writers growth and has profound universal significance. on the other hand, the presentation of female images in the works of Chinese American female writers is affected by cultural conflicts and female independence and self-worth development. What is more presented in the works is the developmental inheritance of traditional Chinese culture and the adoption of American culture. This is because their own growth is a history of the conflict and collision in the development of Chinese and American cultures. The final development result is the integration of the two cultures. The most representative in this regard is the *Joy Luck Club*. the work describes the mothers' actual suffering who are deeply affected by immigration. The source of these pains come from the conflict and differences between Chinese and Western cultures. It mainly describes many Chinese people who have been baptized with a representative traditional Chinese culture When they came to the United States, moreover they were deeply affected language barrier so that many inconvenience happened at any time.In literary works, these Chinese people in American have been affected by two factors: on the one hand, they have been separated from their families for a long time and also have been affected by conflicts in the development of impassive cultures. The performance of this cultural conflict is achieved through realistic narratives of Chinese Americans. In the novel, a complex relationship between mother and daughter is presented to show a seemingly irreconcilable conflict between Chinese and American cultures and finally the situation of integration and development between cultures. *The joy luck club* uses a variety of narrative perspectives to create the atmosphere for story development and adopts a variety of narrative results to break the limitations of time and space, and transforming between different stories and different characters. In addition, Tan EnMei, the author of the novel, uses the first person method to narrate from a unique perspective, highlighting several stories between the four pairs of Chinese mothers and daughters, and weaving them together. In addition, Amy Tan combines the advantages of the development of Chinese language and culture, and vividly presents the whole life of Chinese American women. from the perspective of historical development, her works are more realistic, bringing great spiritual comfort to the spiritual world of Chinese living abroad. The works further reflect the real spiritual world and content world of oversea Chinese and show their concern for this special group. during the same time, it also further shows the distinctive personality image of Chinese American women and describes it with relative fullness. in brief, these works can not only help us better understand the development differences between Chinese and American cultures, but also further improve the

ability of intercultural communication and development, It enables Chinese Americans living in the United States to accept the integration and symbiosis of different cultures under the background of globalization with a more rational attitude, it further injects immeasurable vitality into the domestic culture development and actual creation and accelerate the development and prosperity of different cultures.

4. Conclusion

To sum up, through the analysis of female images in literary works, we can see that the cultural identity development of Chinese American women is a continuous development process and it never stop to construct. with the constant collision and integration between Chinese and Western cultures, their identities will be renewed and transformed. From the Chinese American women writers' works, we can see that they provide a multi-dimensional perspective for the relationship between cultural development and ethnic identity. Their identity has transcended culture and race, and they have start to show the development situation of integration, coexistence and symbiosis.

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