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The Resistance and Conflicts Encountered When Western Medical Treatment Was Being Introduced into Taiwan in the Late 19th Century – Referring to Religious Cases of Dr. James L. Maxwell

中文摘要

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英文摘要

This thesis dates back to 1865 when Dr. James Laidlaw came to Taiwan practicing medicine in conflict with the local culture. Which we hereupon delve further on the mixture and dialogue incurred as a result of the two different cultures from the conflicting backgrounds.

Traditional HAN medicine has been the main medical treatment since Ming and Ching Dynasties. Under the conservative social protectionism at that time, the Western Medicine with a different purpose entered Taiwan, inevitably generating many a conflict with the traditional Taiwan medication. Then those medical personnel representing the European preachers brought in their way of thinking and medical attitude to Taiwan society, what cultural characteristics did we inherit in facing the medical cultural evasion by the foreigners? The conflicts with Dr. Maxwell thou served only as individual cases, yet dramatically reflecting on the direct contrast in thought and culture in preliminary contact between Taiwan society and the Western medication.

This research analyzes the status of Taiwan society and medical situation at that time by means of exploring the history and intercrossing antithesis, then going deeper to compare and theorize on the four main views in political economy, social culture, religious belief and medicine, plus the cultural analysis behind the medical treatment, in an effort wholly studying the cultural difference between the West and Taiwan, and tracing to the different thinking roots and veins between the two cultures, in order to further theorize on the cultural structures behind such medical structures. What mixture and dialogue does it imply that we desire in exploring such history? And how does it reflect on our current medical culture? Therefore by researching on this medical period between Taiwan revolution and evolution, the cultural conflicts of many medical issues then can be delved into, thus providing new thinking material for our modern medicine.