

Discussion on the Dying Poems during the Six Dynasties: the Examination on the Factor of Wenxuan Collecting the “Dying Poem” by Ouyang, Jian

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Abstract

Dying poem was a unique kind of literature prevailing exclusively during the Six Dynasties. They were mostly composed before the execution. The anxiety for death and the elimination of the fear of death in the poem were rarely seen in other literatures at the same period. Wenxuan collected the dying poem by Ouyang, Jian. However, Kong, Rong; Fu, Lang; Hsie, Ling-Yun; and Fan, Ye all had dying poems Ouyang while Jian was not known for his poem. So, why Hsiao, Tong only favored Ouyang, Jian? The study attempted to compare the dying poem by Ouyang, Jian and Hsie, Ling-Yun respectively and discuss their widely different notions of death. Other dying poems during the Six Dynasties were also referred to show the uniqueness of the dying poem by Ouyang, Jian in the historical context of dying poems.

Keywords: Wenxuan, Life and death, Jian Ouyang, dying Poem

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