

台灣「屙屎嚇番」傳說及 「大人國」民間故事之探究

鄭美惠*

摘 要

台灣在漢人逐漸移入並進行墾拓的過程裡，不斷地讓先住民原來的生活空間受到擠壓，致使雙方的衝突日益增生。在這樣的情態下，漢人如何於衝突中減低傷害，獲得勝利，是其最大的希望。如此的心理機制，最常投射及反映在「屙屎嚇番」或相類似的傳說中。

這類傳說又經常因各地文化背景的差異，而有不同的面貌產生，呈現出民間文學的集體性和變異性。事實上，「屙屎嚇番」傳說裡「以虛張聲勢騙術嚇退敵方」的計謀，是世界性共通的母題，大部分運用在民間故事上，而台灣也曾經流傳過該類母題的民間故事——「大人國」。

基於大眾對傳說和民間故事在認知上的混淆不清，本文以具有相同母題的「屙屎嚇番」傳說和「大人國」民間故事為例，試圖從形式、風格等做一區別。最後，再從民間文學與作家文學相互滋養的關係，探究「屙屎嚇番」傳說如何被應用在李喬先生的小說《寒夜》上。

關鍵字：大人國、巨人國、民間文學、民間故事、民間傳說、作家文學、李喬、屙屎嚇番、寒夜、黃南球

* 作者為暨南國際大學中國語文學系兼任講師

A Study of the “E Shi Xia Fan” Legend and “The Giant Nation” Folktale in Taiwan

Cheng, Mei-Hui*

Abstract

When the Han people immigrated to Taiwan long time ago and brought wasteland under cultivation, Taiwanese aborigines' space of life were constricted. For this reason, there was a conflict between the two sides. Under the situation, it was the Han people's greatest objection to reduce the damage and win the battle when they encountered the conflict with Taiwanese aborigines. So there were “e shi xia fan” legends which describe the Han people's efforts to frighten the Taiwanese aborigines with the stratagem. They tried to make huge excrement as a sign of the existence of the giant in the Han people's village.

Because of different cultural contexts in various parts of Taiwan, these legends have developed into several variants. And they display the collectivity and variation of folk literature. Actually, the deception through bluffing as in “e shi xia fan” legends is the worldwide motif, and it is widely used in the folktales. In Taiwan, the folktale with that motif was told in the past. The name of the story is “The Giant Nation” (da ren guo or ju ren guo).

It is always a hard task for people to distinguish the legend from the folktale, so this article attempts to do that from the form and the style of both the “E Shi Xia Fan” and “The Giant Nation”. Moreover, the elite literature often has been related to the folk literature. This essay, at the end, is discussing how the “E Shi Xia Fan” is applied to Li Qiao's novel “Cold Night Trilogy—Wintry Night (han ye)”.

Keywords: Elite literature, E Shi Xia Fan, Folk literature, olktale, Folktale, Huang Nan-Qiu, Legend, Li Qiao, The Giant Nation (da ren guo or ju ren guo), Wintry Night (han ye)

* Lecture, Department of Chinese Language and Literature, National Chi Nan University.