

Чжоу Чжэньдин

аспирант

Цзинь Сюй

аспирант

ФГБОУ ВО «Чувашский государственный

университет им. И.Н. Ульянова»

г. Чебоксары, Чувашская Республика

ОТКРЫТИЕ И РАСПРОСТРАНЕНИЕ СОВРЕМЕННОЙ УСТНОЙ ИСТОРИИ НА ТРАДИЦИОННУЮ ИСТОРИОГРАФИЮ

***Аннотация:** в последние годы популярным стало использование устных повествований изучении истории как в китайской, так и в зарубежной историографии. Устная история как форма исторического исследования сыграла уникальную роль в содействии популяризации исторических знаний среди широкой общественности, и в конце 1970-х годов китайские историки начали изучать устную историю. В течение следующих трех десятилетий изучение устной истории расширилось и углубилось, и оно превратилось в отрасль исторической дисциплины. История – это дисциплина с давними традициями, которая постоянно обновляется по мере развития человеческого общества. Каждая эпоха имеет свою историографию, и каждая эпоха имеет свой стиль и философию, отличные от своих предшественников. Современная устная история как новая форма историографии наследует традиционную историографию, но выработала свои уникальные характеристики с точки зрения философии и методологии исследования, и ее наиболее отличительной чертой является прорыв и расширение традиционной историографии во многих отношениях. Это проявляется главным образом в расширении объекта исследования устной истории, значительном увеличении содержания исследования, переходе от одного средства исследования к нескольким формам исследования.*

Ключевые слова: устная история, традиционная историография, методологические поиски, социологические исследования.

Zhou Zhending

postgraduate student

Jin Xu

postgraduate student

I.N. Ulyanov Chuvash State University

Cheboksary, Chuvash Republic

THE BREAKTHROUGH AND EXPANSION OF MODERN ORAL HISTORY ON TRADITIONAL HISTORIOGRAPHY

Abstract: *in recent years, there has been a boom in the study of history using oral narratives in both Chinese and foreign historiography. Oral history, as a form of historical research, has played a unique role in promoting the popularization of historical knowledge among the public, and in the late 1970s Chinese historians began to study oral history. Over the next three decades, the study of oral history has expanded and deepened, and it has developed into a branch of the historical discipline. History is a discipline with a long tradition, and one that is constantly being updated as human society evolves. Each era has its own historiography, and each era has a different style and philosophy from its predecessors. Modern oral history, as a new form of historiography, inherits traditional historiography, but has developed its own unique characteristics in terms of research philosophy and methodology, and its most distinctive feature is its breakthrough and expansion of traditional historiography in many ways. This is mainly manifested in the extending of the object of research in oral history, the significant increase in the content of research, and the move from a single means of research to multiple forms of research.*

Keywords: *oral history, traditional historiography, methodological searches, sociological research.*

Oral history is a leap forward from traditional historiography. Modern oral history first appeared in the United States in the 1930s – 1940s. Half a century before that,

European Enlightenment, democratic, and socialist thinkers and scholars had already tried to use oral history to conduct social surveys, record social and historical events, and corroborate their research in intellectual and cultural theories. Their research reflects the desire of some educated people to record or reflect on the path of human society and its civilization from various perspectives, including political, economic, cultural, and racial, and to record the events and needs of people in the late transition from modern to modern society or at the beginning of modernization. This ideological tendency to record and reflect on the thought processes of ordinary people and their life paths in a secular way is reflected in the field of history as the New Historiography. The new historiographical trend has had an important impact on oral history by advocating and promoting specialized studies in popular history, social history, cultural history, and holistic history. It is in these specialized historical studies that oral history has developed its value and its methodological strengths and its methodological advantages, and has achieved mutual integration and promotion with the trends of historical science. Until the breakthrough and transcendence of traditional historiography.

After the Second World War, the communication and transportation industries in the major economically developed countries of the West became increasingly advanced, and political and business leaders no longer only used letters to exchange information, but communicated directly and quickly through telephones and various advanced communication tools, leaving much less documents. In addition, the establishment of a network of public libraries at different levels in developed countries made access to public documents increasingly convenient, and ordinary people had easy access to interview materials documenting the activities of political dignitaries, which greatly increased the motivation of oral history writers. Furthermore, the political activities of national leaders and other dignitaries became increasingly frequent, and it was unlikely that complete written records would be kept at all times and in all places. The modern establishment and application of oral history has largely compensated for the lack of modern and contemporary documentary political history. The Center for Oral Studies at Columbia University in the United States, the birthplace of

Western oral history research, pioneered oral history research in the collection and organization of modern political history. The largest oral research project in the United States is the Center's federally funded oral study of all U.S. presidents.

Since the emergence of history as an independent discipline from the 1920s to the 1930s, there has been little change in the form of presentation. Although the research process was often supported by physical evidence, the monotonous and archaic form of presentation often created a dull atmosphere in historiography and failed to give a true picture of the past. However, with the progress of the times, modern science and technology such as audio, video, and internet have provided the material basis for the change of historiography. Oral history not only makes the written expressions vivid and popular, but also enables the preservation of valuable historical materials in a complete and realistic way by means of spoken word, music, film, and speech, so that people can directly observe, appreciate, and evaluate them. The original living history can be reproduced in a fuller way.

The emergence of oral history triggered a change in the philosophy of historiography.

The early pioneers of modern Western oral history have contributed to and influenced the development of modernized and popularized historiography since World War II. Their contributions are manifested in several ways.

1. The widespread use of oral history methods facilitated the study of specialized histories in various fields and played a significant role in increasing historical sources, thus broadening the field of study of history and adding new research methods.

2. Oral history is also far superior to traditional historiography in terms of the breadth of social life that it interrogates, presents, and explores. Human activity is so rich that even the most detailed documents and archives can only record a tiny fraction of it. Traditional history books are filled with the evolution of social and political systems, and most of what people have experienced, seen, heard, and known in their lives cannot be recorded in history books, much less analyzed and explored in flesh-and-blood cases. However, most of the authors of oral histories go to the people, interview and investigate people's lives face to face, and conduct specialized in-depth

discussions on historical issues, revealing historical doubts to the world in an in-depth and simple form, commenting on the successes and failures of various people, and making points about the changes of social systems in the past and present. The history of ordinary people, social life, women, ethnic minorities, cities, communities, science and technology, and even disasters are all subjects for in-depth research by oral historians. In a sense, it can be said that traditional historiography is mainly the territory of the ruling class and elite figures, while oral history reveals the details of everyday life of ordinary people.

3. Modern oral history is not only a working method of historical research, but also represents a new concept. It is a breakthrough from the tradition of writing history mainly from written archives, centering on prominent figures, focusing on national politics and upper-class life, and writing history more along the path of «top-down». Oral histories, on the other hand, retain the main line of «top-down» history writing, while creating as many «bottom-up» lines of history writing around them as possible. The authors of oral histories have gone into the people's lives and have approached reality from multiple perspectives, while incorporating the conditions of the upper social sphere, the lives of ordinary people, the changes in society, and the people's perception of history into the study of oral history. The combination of «top-down» history and «bottom-up» history has been achieved. This has created a new pattern of intersection of elegant and popular main lines in the field of history, and of linking social and personal experiences.

4. The multifaceted participation, exploration, and examination of social life by oral history research has widely elicited reactions from the public, and all segments of society resonate strongly in the face of living oral history research. It also expands the propaganda and educational functions of historiography. The educational aspect has become the main function of historiography [11, c. 81].

A New Methodological System for Oral History Research. One of the major differences between oral history, which has been rooted in the life of the general public since its birth, and traditional historiography is that it always takes the life experiences of people from all walks of life as the content of research. It is the realistic study of

all kinds of people and events in oral history that forms the real picture of the development of social history in all its dimensions. This has established the study of social history as an important element of oral history research.

As early as the 1920s, the Chicago School of Sociology, which emerged in the United States, adhered to the modern philosophy of pragmatism, which emphasizes reality, efficacy, and empirical evidence, and pioneered the use of scientific methods to study actual social life. In order to participate in social research, they first made a research plan, then adopted the approach of going out and dividing the areas by associations, communities, and even parishes, systematically interviewing people from all walks of life by area, and interviewing the subjects directly to understand the historical development and current living conditions of certain social groups. Finally, the results of the social surveys are filtered and analyzed to obtain oral evidence of the social surveys. Many of their published sociological monographs have cited a large number of oral histories, which have obviously become an important basis for their sociological research [12, c. 136].

The new social history theory, based on the «bottom-up theory», proposes to emphasize the influence of the cultural values and mentality of ordinary people on the historical development of the group itself and of society as a whole. According to the new social historians, different groups from the bottom of society have the ability to develop their own subcultures and non-political behaviors, and to play a decisive role in the areas they consider most important [7]. In their own research, oral historians have also always been based on finding the dominant ideological tendencies that represent the majority of people in social life, or reflecting the people and events that can influence the change of social institutions in each period as the focus, and have long insisted on mining from them the sense of group culture of ordinary people and their contribution to the development of the calendar. They laid the foundation for the later trend of popularizing historical research. This bottom-up methodological trend further broadened the research horizons of historians and opened up the field of historical research.

Oral history is an academic discipline for the general public, and moreover an academic way about people. And it is the plural people who are the object of study in holistic historiography, and it is the plural people that historiography seeks to grasp. This also constitutes the focus of oral history research. In terms of the developmental dynamics of the human sciences, the contemporary social science research system is under a general trend of re-diversification and integration. The processes of differentiation and integration are constantly intersecting, with integration still in the forefront. A large number of cross-disciplinary disciplines or various sub-systems within each discipline are being explored and integrated through the exploration of human thought to achieve mutual reference and integration, forming a comprehensive unity. Oral history is one of these integrated systems.

Contemporary researchers active in the field of oral history reveal the experiences and emotions of the people of the past in the process of comprehensive examination of the social life history of the past years through interviews and surveys, while the praise and criticism of the interviewees and the interviewers and their expectations for the future are also revealed. This is a good realization of the past being extended in the present and the future being realized through the present, as pursued by historical research. It is clear that oral history has a broad future by virtue of its scientific, rational, comprehensive and comprehensive study of human society.

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