1937-1945

Knife Carving Revolution: Yan'an Woodcut and the Shaping and Expression of the Revolutionary Discourse of the CPC(1937-1945)

Abstract: During the War of Resistance against Japan, the CPC used various art works to construct its own revolutionary discourse to mobilize the war and disseminate political ideas. As the historical "photo album" of the Chinese revolution, Yan'an woodcut is a special expression of the revolutionary discourse of the CPC, an important medium for the CPC's ideology to penetrate into the masses of workers and peasants, and an important image to interpret the revolutionary culture. Under the leadership of the Party, the "knife carving" revolution of Yan'an woodcarvers transformed the dull and difficult words into vivid pictures, and transformed the sophisticated "political language" into the "daily language", thus endowing the woodcarvers with "red" marks and "political" symbols, forming a unique revolutionary discourse.

Keywords: Yan'an woodcut, CPC, revolutionary discourse, the War of Resistance against Japan

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