A PROBE INTO THE INTERACTION OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE MENTALITY

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Although from both Saussure and Peirce’s perspectives of semiotic studies semiotics is always regarded as a science, an entity which is independent of human influence, semiosis is increasingly found to be a process which is heavily culturally determined. This paper, with many supporting examples especially in Chinese people’s mentality and their language, tries to reveal the unique aspects of mentality of Chinese people with examples given regarding the Great Proletariat Cultural Revolution launched by Mao Zedong. There are hundreds of thousands of cases, typical in those days yet absurd in today’s point of view, which reveal the unique semiosis process undergoing in Chinese minds--such as being relationship-oriented, an illogical, holistic, vague and associative approach to all issues, a self-protective information-hiding strategy, etc., which differentiate the nation from the rest of the world, especially the West.