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A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO
THE CHINESE ACADEMY OF SOMATIC SCIENCE

Somatic science is a major development of modern science and technology. Well-known scientist Prof. Qian Xuesen has pointed out, "A thorough study and research of somatic science will fully change mankind's ability in understanding and reforming nature, and bringing benefits to mankind." "This may lead to a scientific revolution in the 21st century which may be even greater than quantum mechanics and the theory of relativity in the 20th century." "It will usher in a second Renaissance and is another leap forward for human history."

Headed by Prof. Qian Xuesen, the Chinese scientists have made an all-around exposition on the concept and content of somatic science: the guiding ideologies and view-points, the field and method of study as well as the strategy of development and recent programmes. Thus, we are laying a foundation and showing clearly its orientation for the establishment of this new and developing science.

The spring of 1990 saw the establishment of the Chinese Academy of Somatic Science. Honorary council chairman of the China Association of Somatic Science, Qian Xuesen, council chairman, Zhang Zhenhuan are the initiators and founding directors of this academy. Well-known scientists Zhao Zhongyao, Bei Shizhang, Qian Weizhang, Wang Dezhao, Wang Shoujue and others expressed their full concern and support for the establishment and development of this academy.

AIM

The aim of the academy is the establishment of basic studies and research of somatic science and its application, to lay a good foundation for the basic application of somatic science and to benefit mankind.

GUIDING IDEOLOGY

The academy uses dialectical-materialist ideologies as a guide to study and research somatic science;

With systems, theory and methodology as an academic guide, using results of modern science to derive the essence of traditional culture;

Combining the study and research of modern medicine, traditional medicine, qigong and the special functions of the human-body;

Combining the study and research in a multidisciplinary approach;

Combining basic studies and research with applications.

ORGANIC PRINCIPLE AND ORGANIZATION

The academy utilizes the organic principle in organizing the nuclear structure within a small entity, providing greater elasticity and multiple strata. In the first stratum there is an advisory committee, board of directors and an academic committee, implementing the chairman's responsibility under the provisions of leadership of the board of directors. In the second stratum are basic studies and research, application studies and research, talent collecting departments, international cooperation, administrative management and other functional departments. The third stratum consists of a certain number of centres, institutes, departments, sections and other grass-root units directly affiliated to the academy. The fourth stratum includes units and individuals having close contacts or cooperative relations with the academy.

A small number of professionals, and a greater number of personnel with concurrent jobs, work with a capable and efficient academy as the center, and with scientists as the main body. They will make full use of modern means of communication and transportation as well as the most advanced instruments and facilities at home and abroad. They will conduct separate studies and research, and implement unified leadership and unified management. Our aim is to establish a new-type of study and research academy with high efficiency, and high standards as well as a vigorous and flexible economy.

FUNDS

The Chinese Academy of Somatic Science is a self-funded civic-scientific research organization. Its funds are chiefly from funds allocated to subjects of scientific research and benefits from donations, as well as cooperation and assistance at home and abroad.

In July 1990, the first issue of the Chinese Journal of Somatic Science was published. The Journal has a slick, color cover and includes photographs with some of its articles. Its preface is a presentation in Chinese and English of what Somatic Science is, and its index is also presented in English and Chinese. These two sections of the Journal are presented below. I will circulate a copy of this Journal to psi research organizations in the United States and suggest that they correspond with the Academy of Somatic Science and negotiate an exchange arrangement for professional journals and papers.

人 体 科 学

人体科学是宇宙环境中的人类科学,用系统科学的话来讲,人体被认为是包涵在宇宙这个超巨系统中的开放复杂巨系统。这“开放”是对人体环境而言,“巨”意味着构成系统的成员的数目多达数十亿,“复杂”的意思是指组成成员的种类也是非常多的,而成员之间的相互作用又是多种多样的。因此人体科学的基本观点就这样与经典的、还原论指导下的生理学的基本观点不同。人体科学特别强调生理学中意识反馈的重要性,主要包括人脑多级活动和相互作用。这一点标志着人体科学有别于植物或动物生理学,而且也是把人体科学与一般意义上的生命科学区分开来。

“人体学”(Somatology)是个老的术语,这里,它的含义被局限于人体科学的基础学科。也是经典的生理学、现代心理学、心理生理学、神经学、中国传统医学和气功的科学部分、以及如 ESP、PK 等其他有关学科的总和。人体科学的亚稳定状态,如醒觉态、睡眠态、气功态等,统称为人体功能态(Somatic Eigenstate)。

作为人体科学的哲学,即 Robert H. Dicke 和 Branden Carter 从宇宙学考虑发展出来的人天观(anthropic principle),可以扩大到微观方面,包容量子的测量理论即量子认识论,在宏观方面包括了中医传统医学的基本法则。

Somatic Science (Science Of Human Body)

Somatic science is the science of man in cosmic environment; in the language of systems science, the human body is considered to be an open complex giant system embeded in the supergiant system of comic world; here "open" is referred to the human body environment, "giant" means the number of the constituting members of the system runs to billions and billions, "complex" means the kinds of the constituting members are also numerous and the interactions among the members are of great variety. Somatic science thus departs in basic viewpoint from the classical reductionist physiology. The importance of feedback of conscience on physiology, including the multi-level actions and interactions of human brain, is emphasized. This points to the difference between somatic science and plant or animal biology, and separates the somatic science from the life science in general.

Somatology, an old terminology, is here resuscitated as the fundamental discipline of Somatic Science, and is the synthesis of classical physiology, modern psychology, psychophysiology, neuroscience, scientific parts of chinese traditional medicine and Qigong(Transcendental meditation), and other related subjects such as ESP and PK. The quasi-stable characteristic states of human body system, such as waking, sleeping and Qigong state, are called the somatic Eigenstate.

As the philosophy of somatic science, the anthropic principle of Robert H. Dicke and Branden Carter, derived from cosmological consideration is extended to include on the microscopic scale, quantum theory of measurement or quantum epistemology, and to include on the macroscopic scale, the fundamental principles of Chinese traditional medicine.

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