

## **The Legal Thought of Yong Jiang and the Modernization of Chinese Legal System**

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### **Abstract**

From the Qin and Han to the Qing dynasty, the history of traditional Chinese legal system is over two thousand years. In late imperial China, the government conducted a series of reformation of law in order to face the severe social impact during that period. Under Jia-Ben Shen's lead, the key figure of this legal reformation, a group of legal talents who had experience of studying abroad were invited to join the work. In this group, Yong Jiang (1878-1960) was the man of great influence. Although the people were an important part in modern Chinese legal history, there were few studies of Yong Jiang. The article is chiefly concerned with the legal thought of Yong Jiang and the modernization of Chinese legal system.

Yong Jiang (1878-1960), who studied in Japan from 1901. After his return from Japan, he experienced many positions in legal field. In Republic of China, he was a Senior official of the department of Justice and a judge. After 1924, he had engaged in legal education for years as a university principal.

The research will focus on Yong Jiang's works, notes and his life experience for the purpose of studying his legal thought and contribution to the modernization of legal system. Moreover, through the eyes of the scholar in this legal reformation, the research will also concern with the problems of the transformative progress of foreign law to local law.

**Keywords:** Yong Jiang, legal system of Republic of China, The modernization of legal system