

## **Aabstract of Doctoral Thesis**

### **Title: Images of *Shenxian*, *Shenren*, *Zhenren*, and *Xianren* of the Six Dynasties and the "*Shenxianzhuan*"**

**——with a focus on the paranormal——**

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This paper discusses the differences between the terms "*Shenxian*", "*Shenren*", "*Zhenren*", and "*Xianren*" in the "*Shenxianzhuan*", focusing on the paranormal.

In Chapter 1, I tried to figure out because I focused on the point that "*Shenxian*", "*Shenren*", "*Zhenren*", and "*Xianren*" have different designations. Despite of there are exceptions, the result shows that these words have a tendency as follows, "*Shenxian*" generally don't express an individual. Humans can't be "*Shenren*". Humans can be "*Zhenren*" and "*Xianren*". "*Zhenren*" express something that is related with Taoism. Therefore, I learned that "*Shenxian*", "*Shenren*", "*Zhenren*" and "*Xianren*" seem to be different existences in the "*Shenxianzhuan*".

In Chapter 2, we defined "the paranormal" as phenomena transcend the laws of nature, that combining absolute things transcend human power and mysterious circumstances in everyday life. And I examined whether there is a difference, in the paranormal caused by them, the designations "*Shenxian*", "*Shenren*", "*Zhenren*", and "*Xianren*". In the "*Shenxianzhuan*", I found the following facts. It is unlikely that humans can be "*Shenren*". "*Shenren*" and "*Zhenren*" have more than 1000 followers, but "*Xianren*" has only a few dozen followers. To be "*Xianren*" is easier than to be "*Shenxian*",

"*Zhenren*" and "*Shenren*", but there are limits to the paranormal that "*Xianren*" can work. Thus, in the "*Shenxianzhuan*", "*Shenxian*", "*Shenren*", "*Zhenren*" and "*Xianren*" from perspective of the paranormal, they are not identical.

In Chapter 3, we compare the paranormal of the "*Shenxianzhuan*" and other books, that is caused by "*Shenxian*", "*Shenren*", "*Zhenren*" and "*Xianren*", and I considered the differences. As a result, it was very possible that GE Hong based on images of "*Shenxian*", "*Shenren*", "*Zhenren*" and "*Xianren*", in books before the Han era, to write "*Shenxianzhuan*".