

## **From the Writings of Hell Trial to See the Justice Bribery Phenomenon in T'ang Dynasty**

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### **Abstract**

Recently, I have been doing research on hell trial in the middle ancient China History. Furthermore, I have obtained several opinions and already published some periodicals. On one hand I stress that the judgment in the hell would enhance the domination influence; on the other I also stress that the judgment in the hell would reflect the real life. Due to hedge about the documents of T'ang Dynasty, we can not totally understand the judicial systems in T'ang dynasty. However, the hell trial materials provide some valuable messages, in that these documents could demonstrate the reality and reflect the fact. In existence, the sketchbooks of T'ang have lots of hell trial writings on the phenomenon of “*bribes*” on judicial. The Chinese proverb says, “Easy to see Yama(King of Hell), difficult to deal with ghosts,” it probably also means “*bribes phenomenon*.” I try to use the material, “*bribe*” writings of hell trials, to research the phenomenon of “*bribe*” on judicial practice of the T'ang Dynasty.

Keywords: T'ang Dynasty, Legal History, Hell Trial, Bribes Phenomenon