

The Research Trend of “Historical Studies of Law” in the College of Liberal Arts in the Universities of Taiwan in the Last Fifty Years(1964-2009): As Seen in the Case of M.A and Ph.D. Theses

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Abstract

As regards the historical study of Chinese Law, the lifting of Martial Law (1987) has contributed to the relevant research of the Colleges of Liberal Arts. “Seminar on the Tang Legal Code” has helped a lot in this development. On the other hand, since 1996, the study of Chinese Law history in law schools has declined significantly. The advance in this field in the Colleges of Liberal Arts timely filled up the gap and kept this historical study of Chinese law alive.

As for the historical studies of law in Taiwan, it has become very dynamic since the lifting of Martial Law. The National Taiwan University College of Law has been most admirable in this research field. However, generally speaking, the historical studies of law in Taiwan not as “magnificent” as it looks like due to the shortage of Ph. D. dissertations in this area. And there is no sign of improvement in the foreseeable future.

Looking into the future, hopefully Colleges of Liberal Arts will continue this research trend in the historical studies of Chinese Law and the law schools have to catch up. On the other hand, we hope there will be more people devoting into the historical study of Taiwan Law and writing more Ph. D. dissertations in this field.

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