

A Study of Official Style During the Period of Eastern Wei-Northern Qi

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Abstract

This study aimed to examine the archaeological materials from Ye and Jinyang during the period of Eastern Wei/ Northern Qi Dynasty to identify the reason of significant difference of mortuary figurines between these two areas. Studying the tomb figurines from Ye and Jinyang, it is indicated that there were official workshops since the early Northern Qi Dynasty. Furthermore, under the imperial decrees, there was consistent style in mortuary figurines from the capital of Eastern Wei, Ye, including both official and unofficial forms. The figurines from Jinyang showed the individuality, but not the official style. This difference may be resulted from the influence of special roles of military and politics in Jinyang. However, due to frequent and close contact between these two regions, the characteristics of mortuary figurines from Jinyang area, where northern barbarian culture was popular, were affected by Northern Wei Loyang culture.

Keywords: Eastern Wei-Northern Qi, Ye, Jin Yang, Tomb-guardian Creatures, Tomb-guardian Warriors, official style