A Philosophical Examination of Cultural Absorption and Linguistic Expression in Religious Literary Works

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Abstract: This paper delves into the profound relationship between religious literature works, cultural absorption, and language proficiency advancement. It begins with an introduction of the research background, highlighting the significance of religious literature in cultural inheritance and language learning. Through a comprehensive review of domestic and international research, it points out the existing gaps. The cultural connotations in religious literature are analyzed, covering mythological legends, religious rituals, doctrinal concepts, as well as religious beliefs, moral and ethical values, and life philosophies. The influence mechanism of religious literature on language proficiency is explored from aspects such as vocabulary expansion, syntactic structure, rhetorical devices, and thinking modes. Moreover, practical paths for language learners to absorb culture from religious literature and enhance their language skills are proposed, including intensive reading, cultural background exploration, translation, and creative practice. Case studies of specific religious literature works, like "The Scarlet Letter," "One Hundred Years of Solitude," and "The Muslim's Funeral," further illustrate the connection between cultural absorption and language proficiency improvement. This research provides a holistic understanding of religious literature and offers practical guidance for language learners and cultural researchers.

Keywords: Religious Literature; Cultural Absorption; Language Proficiency; Vocabulary; Syntax; Cultural Connotations

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

As a treasure of human culture, religious literature plays a pivotal role in cultural inheritance and language development. Examined from the long river of history, religious literature has run through all stages of human civilization and has become an important carrier of cultural inheritance. Whether it is the biblical literature of the West, or the Buddhist and Taoist literary classics of the East, they all contain rich cultural connotations, carrying many information such as values, moral concepts, and social life of a specific era and region, and provide valuable materials for future

generations to understand the origin and development of different cultures (Farquhar, 1984). In the field of culture, religious literature is like a bridge between the past and the present, between tradition and modernity. Taking Christian literature as an example, the stories, teachings, and values in the Bible are not only deeply rooted in Western culture, shaping the way of thinking, morality, and code of conduct of Westerners, but also have had a profound impact on many fields such as Western literature, art, and music. From Chaucer's Tales of Canterbury to Shakespeare's plays, from Milton's Paradise Lost to many modern literary works, elements of the Bible are everywhere and have become an important source of Western cultural heritage and innovation. In the East, the influence of Buddhist literature on Chinese culture cannot be ignored either. The translation and dissemination of Buddhist classics has brought new ideas, literary genres and artistic expressions, which have blended with China's local culture and jointly promoted the development of Chinese culture. For example, the Zen ideas of Buddhism have had a profound influence on ancient Chinese art forms such as poetry, painting, and calligraphy, making these works of art contain unique Zen and philosophical reflections (Ni, 2011). In terms of linguistic development, religious literature is a witness and promoter of the evolution of language. The translation and dissemination of religious scriptures has promoted communication and integration between different languages, enriched vocabulary, and introduced new grammatical structures and expressions. For example, in ancient times, translators struggled to find suitable words and expressions in order to accurately disseminate religious teachings, which led to the incorporation of many foreign words and concepts into the native language. In the process of translating Buddhist scriptures, a large number of Sanskrit words were introduced into Chinese, such as "instant", "bodhi", and "nirvana". These words not only enrich the vocabulary of the Chinese language, but also have a certain impact on the grammar and expression of the Chinese language. At the same time, the unique language style and rhetorical techniques of religious literature also provide rich learning materials for language learners, which is helpful to improve language expression ability and literary literacy. Its concise and profound expressions, vivid metaphors, and solemn and solemn tones can provide valuable reference for language learners, help them better master the skills of using language, and improve the expressiveness and appeal of language (Shahar, 2020). It is of great theoretical and practical significance for us to inherit and carry forward the excellent human culture and improve our language ability.

1.2. Research Status

Scholars at home and abroad have carried out multi-dimensional research on religious literary works, and have achieved fruitful results in cultural absorption and language proficiency advancement. In terms of cultural absorption, Western scholars have conducted in-depth research on Christian literature. Taking Biblical studies as an example, scholars have analyzed the role of the Bible in shaping Western culture from the perspectives of cultural anthropology and sociology (Jasper, 1992). For example, in the book %3C Bible and Western Culture, the author elaborates on how the teachings and stories of the Bible have penetrated into the values, morals, and living customs of Western society, and have become the cornerstone of Western culture. In the field of medieval literature studies, scholars focus on the embodiment and cultural significance of religious elements in literary forms such as chivalric literature and biographies of saints, revealing the core position of religion in the inheritance and development of medieval society and culture. For example, in the study of the Song of Roland, scholars analyzed the close connection between the belief in God and the promotion of chivalry in the work, and the social and cultural context of the time, and explored how religion affected people's behavioral norms and social order. The cultural research on religious literature in China has also achieved remarkable results. In the field of Buddhist literature research, many scholars have studied the translation and dissemination of Buddhist scriptures and their influence on traditional Chinese culture. Through the study of the process of translating Buddhist classics, some scholars have revealed the process of integration of Buddhist thought with Chinese local culture, and how Buddhist culture has enriched the connotation of Chinese philosophy, literature, art and other fields. In the study of Daoist literature, scholars pay attention to the compatibility and inheritance of Taoist thoughts, belief in immortals and traditional Chinese values contained in Daoist literary works, as well as its innovation in ancient Chinese literary genres and expressions. For example, in the study of Strange Tales from Liao Zhai, scholars have explored the use of Taoist elements in it, and how these elements reflected the cultural psychology and value orientation of the society at that time. In terms of advanced research on language ability, foreign scholars have analyzed the language of religious classics in depth (Van't Spijker, 2004). Taking the language study of the Qur'an as an example, scholars analyze the unique language style, vocabulary and grammatical structure of the Qur'an from the perspectives of linguistics and rhetoric, and explore its role in promoting the development of the

Arabic language. In medieval Europe, religious literature played an important role in the inheritance and evolution of Latin, and scholars have revealed the linguistic changes and development of Latin in the religious context through the study of medieval religious literary texts. Domestic scholars have also made many achievements in the study of religious literature and language. In the field of Buddhist literary linguistic research, the linguistic research of the Dunhuang version of the Tanjing is more prominent, and scholars have studied the grammatical and lexical evolution of Chinese from the Middle Ages to modern times, as well as the influence of the Buddhist language on the spoken and written Chinese language. In the study of Taoist literary language, scholars pay attention to the vocabulary, sentence structure and rhetorical devices in Taoist classics, and explore their richness and innovation in ancient Chinese expression. In the study of the language of the Tao Te Ching, scholars have analyzed its concise and philosophical language style, as well as its influence on ancient Chinese philosophical and literary language (Blumenfeld-Kosinski et al., 2002). Although the current research has achieved some results, there are still shortcomings and gaps. In terms of cultural absorption, the comparative study of literary works of different religions is relatively weak, and there is a lack of systematic analysis of the mutual influence and integration of multiple religious cultures. For example, there are few studies on the cultural exchange and integration of Christian, Buddhist and Taoist literary works in the same historical period and region, which fails to fully reveal the role of religious literature in the symbiosis of cultural diversity. In terms of advanced research on language ability, there is insufficient research on the application of religious literary language in modern language teaching, and there is a lack of practical exploration and theoretical guidance on the use of religious literary works as language learning resources (Jasper, 2008). There is also a lack of cross-linguistic and cross-cultural comparative research on the language style of religious literary works, and the unique value of religious literary language in global language and cultural exchanges has not been fully explored.

2. ANALYSIS OF THE CULTURAL CONNOTATION IN RELIGIOUS LITERARY WORKS

2.1. Overview of Religious Literature

Religious literature is based on religious beliefs, doctrines and rituals, including the Bible, the Qur'an, the Vedas and other classics, as well as the

stories, poems, novels, dramas and other genres derived from them. In the field of Christian literature, the Bible is an important source of creation, and Milton's Paradise Lost relies on biblical stories such as God's creation, Satan's rebellion, and the fall of mankind, and presents Christian doctrine and values through grand narratives and deep reflections. In Buddhist literature, "Praise of the Buddha" and "The Book of Hundred Parables" explain the teachings with vivid stories and image metaphors, which have extremely high literary value and far-reaching influence (Calder et al., 2012). Religious literature has unique artistic characteristics. For example, the Divine Comedy takes Dante's soul journey as a clue, and uses the depiction of hell, purgatory, and heaven to show the Christian concept of salvation and the judgment of human good and evil, highlighting the guidance of faith on spiritual pursuit. In terms of character creation, most of them are devout believers or religious leaders, like Bishop Mirière in "Les Miserables", who interprets Christian doctrine with tolerance, kindness and selfless love, demonstrating human nature and religious power. The narrative structure often uses symbolism and metaphor, such as Noah's Ark symbolizing God's redemption and the Garden of Eden symbolizing the original state of mankind in the Bible, enriching the connotation of the work and guiding readers to think about religion and life (Gruber, 2009). In terms of the use of language, it is solemn and full of rhythm, and religious poetry uses rhyme and battle to create a sense of music, such as hymns with beautiful melodies and devotional lyrics, so that believers can feel the sacred atmosphere and obtain spiritual comfort in singing.

2.2. Diversified Presentation of Religious and Cultural Elements

Religious literary works are based on religious beliefs, doctrines, and rituals, covering religious classics such as the Bible, the Koran, and the Vedas, as well as literary genres such as stories, poems, novels, and dramas derived from them. In Christian literature, the Bible is not only a religious classic, but also an important source of literary creation. For example, Milton's "Paradise Lost" is based on the stories of God's creation of the world, Satan's rebellion, and the fall of mankind in the Bible, and presents Christian doctrine and values through grand narratives and deep reflections. In Buddhist literature, "Praise of the Buddha" and "The Book of Parables" explain the teachings with vivid stories and image metaphors, which have both religious depth and literary value, and have a far-reaching influence on oriental culture (White, 2012). This type of work has a distinctive artistic character. The theme revolves around religious beliefs, exploring the relationship between man and God, man and religious

doctrine, and the influence of religion on human life and the spiritual world. Dante's Divine Comedy takes the soul's journey through hell, purgatory, and heaven as a clue to show the Christian concept of salvation and the judgment of good and evil, and embodies the guiding role of faith in spiritual pursuit. Characters often focus on devout believers or religious leaders, such as Bishop Mirière in Les Miserables, who interprets doctrines with tolerance and charity, showing the power of religion and the brilliance of humanity. The narrative structure mostly adopts symbolic and metaphorical techniques, and Noah's Ark symbolizes God's redemption in the Bible, and the Garden of Eden symbolizes the original state of mankind, enriching the connotation of the work (Fessenden, 2011). The language is solemn and rhythmic, and religious poetry enhances the sense of sacredness through rhyme and confrontation, such as hymns through beautiful melodies and devotional lyrics, so that believers can find spiritual comfort in singing. The Islamic classic, the Qur'an, also contains rich religious elements, as shown in Table 1. The story of Adam and Hawa emphasizes obedience to Allah, and the legend of the Ark of Noah embodies Allah's judgment and redemption. The five pillars of Islam (recitation, prayer, prayer, fasting, and pilgrimage) are clearly stipulated in the Qur'an, such as reciting halal words to confirm the core of faith, praying five times a day to express reverence, paying zakat to fulfill social responsibility, fasting in Ramadan to purify the soul, and Hajj to Mecca to strengthen faith identity. These rituals have become an important part of Muslim religious life, promoting community unity and cultural transmission.

Table 1: Islamic Rituals Described in the Quran

Ritual	Description in the Quran	Significance
Salah	Specific postures, words, and timings for daily prayers	Connects believers with Allah
Sawm	Fasting during the month of Ramadan	Teaches self - discipline and empathy
Hajj	Pilgrimage to Mecca once in a lifetime for those who can afford it	Promotes unity among Muslims

The doctrines conveyed in the Qur'an cover all aspects of Islam's beliefs, morals, ethics, society, etc., and provide comprehensive guidance for Muslims' lives. The core teachings of Islam emphasize the uniqueness and supremacy of the Allah, Allah the creator and ruler of all things in the universe, and human beings must believe in Allah and obey the will of Allah. The Qur'an also emphasizes the concept of retribution for good and

evil, believing that people's actions in this world will be rewarded accordingly in the Hereafter, and those who do good will enter heaven and enjoy eternal happiness; The evildoers will fall into Hell and suffer untold suffering. This doctrine inspires Muslims to abide by moral norms in this world and to be good and upright people. In terms of morality and ethics, the Qur'an advocates honesty, trustworthiness, tolerance, benevolence, justice, etc., and opposes bad behaviors such as fraud, lies, jealousy, hatred, and oppression (Green & Oldendorf, 2005). On the social front, the Qur'an encourages people to care for and help others, actively participate in social welfare undertakings, and promote social harmony and stability. The Qur'an also stipulates family relations and the institution of marriage, emphasizing that husbands and wives should respect and care for each other, and that family members should live in harmony with each other to jointly maintain the happiness and fulfillment of the family. These doctrinal ideas are expressed in the Qur'an in concise, clear and powerful language, which has had a profound impact on the thinking and behavior of Muslims and has become a core value of Islamic culture.

2.3. In-Depth Excavation of Cultural Connotation

Religious literary works take religious beliefs, doctrines, and rituals as the core of creation, and construct a unique literary pedigree. Its textual scope covers three dimensions: first, religious texts such as the Bible, the Qur'an, and the Vedas, second, literary forms such as stories, poems, and dramas derived from the classics, and third, cross-cultural interpretation and recreation across time and space. This multi-dimensional structure enables religious literature to maintain the stability of doctrinal transmission and the creativity of literary expression. In the system of Christian literature, the Bible, as the core text, shapes the basic paradigm of Western literature through narrative themes such as Genesis, original sin, and redemption. Milton's Paradise Lost is an epic reimagining of the biblical story, exploring the eternal tension between free will and divine order through the dual narrative of Satan's rebellion and human depravity. In the poem, God's creation of "let there be light" and Satan's declaration of "preferring to reign in hell" form a binary dialogue between faith and rebellion, which has profoundly influenced the literary expression of the complexity of human nature in later generations (Petersen, 2018). Buddhist literature, on the other hand, uses "dependent voidness" as its philosophical foundation to convey teachings through allegory and parable. "Praise of the Buddha" depicts the life of the Buddha in the form of a narrative poem, transforming religious practice into perceptible literary imagery; The Sutra of Parables

uses 98 stories, such as "Salt for Fools" and "Thirst for Water", to concretize abstract Buddhist principles into wisdom of life. These texts not only serve the function of religious transmission, but also expand the metaphorical tradition of oriental aesthetics with literary techniques. The Qur'an, the Islamic classic, presents a unique rhythmic character at the literary level, with the short and powerful "Sura al-Mecca" and the detailed exposition of the "Sura Medina", forming a rhythmic and sacred dialogue. The Sufi poet Rumi's "Masnawi" transforms the experience of mysticism into poetic language, through imagery such as "wine glasses and bartenders" and "reeds and winds", constructing a spiritual map of the soul returning to Allah (Rashid, 2018). This poetic expression profoundly influenced the direction of the development of Persian literature. The artistic characteristics of religious literature are embodied in four dimensions: in terms of theme, the Divine Comedy transforms the Christian concept of salvation into a concrete literary space through Dante's travels in the Three Realms; In terms of character creation, Bishop Mirière in "Les Miserables" interprets the practical possibilities of religious ethics with his incarnate benevolence; Structurally, the Bible's "type-fulfillment" model provides the archetypal framework for later novels. At the linguistic level, the prosodic features of religious poetry, such as the parallelism of Hebrew poetry and the "gesheda" form of Arabic poetry, have left a unique mark on the history of literature (McCullough & Larson, 1999).

3. THE INFLUENCE MECHANISM OF RELIGIOUS LITERATURE ON LANGUAGE ABILITY

3.1. Vocabulary Expansion and Semantic Deepening

Religious literature is a rich treasure trove of words, as shown in Table 2, which contain a large number of unique and culturally profound words, which greatly expand the reader's vocabulary and deepen the understanding of semantics. In Buddhist literature, many transliterations and paraphrases derived from Sanskrit have injected new vitality into the Chinese vocabulary. The word "bodhi", transliterated from Sanskrit "bodhi", means enlightenment, wisdom, and is the ultimate goal of Buddhist practice. In the Diamond Sutra, "There should be no dwelling, but the mind should be born, and if the mind has a dwelling, then it is not dwelling." That's why the Buddha said that the bodhisattva's mind should not dwell on charity. Subodhi, a bodhisattva should give in this way for the benefit of all sentient

beings (McCullough & Larson, 1999). For example, when we talk about all appearances, that is, they are non-beings, and when we talk about all sentient beings, we say that they are not sentient beings. In this sentence, "Subodhi" is also a Sanskrit transliteration, and he is one of the ten disciples of the Buddha, known as "the first to solve emptiness". The introduction of these words not only enriches the vocabulary system of the Chinese language, but also brings new ideological concepts and cultural connotations. "Nirvana" is also an important word in Buddhist literature, which is translated as "extinction" and "death", which refers to extinguishing afflictions, transcending the cycle of birth and death, and achieving a kind of silence. The realm of liberation. Understanding the word "nirvana" requires an in-depth understanding of Buddhist teachings and practices, which prompts readers to deepen their understanding of Buddhist culture and philosophical thought in the process of learning vocabulary, so as to broaden their thinking horizons and improve the depth of their understanding of semantics.

Table 2: Comparison of Typical Vocabularies in Different Religious Literature Works

Religion	Literary Work	Typical Vocabulary	Meaning
Christianity	The Bible	Grace	The unmerited love and kindness bestowed by God upon humanity
Islam	The Quran	Tawhid	Emphasizes the oneness of Allah, which is the core doctrine of Islam
Buddhism	The Lotus Sutra	Bodhi	Awakening, wisdom, referring to the understanding of Buddhist truth
Hinduism	The Mahabharata	Karma	Actions and their consequences, following the law of cause and effect

There are also many words in Christian literature that have specific religious meanings. "Salvation" in Christian doctrine refers to God's salvation from the bondage of sin and death through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and the gift of eternal life. In the Bible, "for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God; but now by the grace of God they have been justified freely through the redemption of Christ Jesus. (Romans 3:23-24) The word "salvation" here embodies the core content of the Christian faith, and its semantics are similar to the ordinary context of "salvation" There is an essential difference, and it contains profound religious and theological significance. The word "gospel" in Christianity refers to the good news preached by Jesus Christ, namely God's plan of salvation and love for

mankind (Rashid, 2018). The four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, detail the life, teachings, and miracles of Jesus Christ, as well as His crucifixion and resurrection, and convey the specific content of the "gospel" to the world. Through reading Christian literature, readers are exposed to these words and in the process of understanding their religious meanings, they enrich their vocabulary reserves, and at the same time gain a deeper grasp of the semantics in the context of religious culture. Words in religious literature are often rich in symbolism and metaphor, which helps readers deepen their understanding of semantics. In Taoist literature, "Tao" is a core concept, which refers not only to the origin and essence of all things in the universe, but also to a natural law and moral code. In the Tao Te Ching, it is said: "There are things that are mixed, and they are born from nature." Lonely, independent and unchanging, Zhou Xing without dying, can be the mother of the world. I don't know its name, but the strong word is said. The "Tao" here is highly abstract and generalized, difficult to accurately describe in concrete language, and it symbolizes a cosmic power and spiritual realm that transcends human cognition and understanding. When reading Taoist literature, readers need to constantly think about and perceive the connotation of "Tao", so as to gradually understand its rich symbolic and metaphorical connotations (Ni, 2011). This kind of in-depth exploration of the semantics of words can not only improve the reader's language comprehension ability, but also cultivate his abstract thinking and philosophical thinking ability. In Islamic literature, the word "halal" has a unique religious and cultural meaning. It originally means pure, simple, true and natural, and in Islam, "halal" means pure and untainted things and actions in accordance with Islamic teachings. Muslims refer to food that follows the Islamic dietary rules as "halal food" and mosques that meet the requirements of Islamic architectural style and religious rituals as "mosque compounds". The semantics of the word "halal" have been deepened and expanded in the context of Islamic culture, and it is not just a simple adjective, but also carries the beliefs, values and way of life of Islam. Through the study and understanding of such words, readers will be able to better understand the cultural connotations of Islam and more accurately grasp the semantics of words in specific religious contexts.

3.2. Grammatical Structure and Presentation Skills

Religious literature is unique in terms of grammatical structure and expression skills, which is of great reference significance for language learners to improve their expression skills. The Bible, for example, has a complex and rigorous grammatical structure, and often uses long sentences

and compound sentences to explain religious doctrines and ideas. In the Book of Genesis, the simple subject-verb-object structure of "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" begins with the beginning of God's creation, "The earth is empty and chaotic, and the abyss is dark; The Spirit of God Runs on the Water" uses juxtaposed short sentences to depict the initial scene of creation from different angles, and the combination of simple sentences and short sentences is clearly layered, enhancing the sense of rhythm and expressiveness of the language, allowing readers to intuitively feel the grandeur of God's creation. In the New Testament, Romans, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; but now by the grace of God, justified freely by the redemption of Christ Jesus", through the structure of compound sentences of cause and effect and inflections, it first expounds the dilemma of human original sin, and then emphasizes the redemption of God and the result of human salvation through faith in Jesus, accurately conveys the core doctrine of Christianity, and demonstrates the powerful function of biblical language to express religious thoughts (Farquhar, 1984). By studying the Bible, learners will be able to deeply analyze the grammatical structure, master the skills of using different sentence patterns to express complex logic, thoughts and emotions, and improve the logic and accuracy of language expression. Buddhist literature is also unique in its expressive techniques, using metaphors, symbols, exaggerations, etc. to illustrate Buddhist teachings. In the Myoho-renge- kyo, "For example, there are three thousand worlds, all the plants and trees, all the forests, the rice, the hemp, the bamboo and the reeds, the mountains and rocks, and the dust of the mountains and rocks. One Ganges sand, one sand and one boundary; Within a realm, a dust and a catastrophe; Within one catastrophe, the amount of dust accumulated is full of catastrophe", the exaggerated technique of progression by layer, comparing all things to the sand of the Ganges River, and the sand is also a metaphor for the world, dust, and calamity, vividly showing the infinite time and space in Buddhism and the vastness of the universe, making abstract Buddhist concepts concrete and sensible, enhancing the appeal and expressiveness of language, and guiding readers to think deeply about the connotation of Buddhism. In the "Diamond Sutra", "all the Dharma is like a dream bubble, like dew and electricity, and should be viewed as such", which compares the world's Dharma to a dream, bubble, etc., vividly expressing Buddhism's view that all things are illusory and unreal, and making abstract philosophical concepts easy to understand. In addition, Buddhist literature often uses the lotus flower to symbolize purity, enlightenment, and Buddha nature, and

the Bodhi tree to symbolize wisdom and awakening, enriching the connotation of the work and helping readers understand the deep meaning of Buddhism (Jasper, 1992). By drawing on these presentation skills, learners can make their language more vivid and powerful.

3.3. Thinking Mode and Logical Construction

The unique way of thinking of religious literature is of great significance for the improvement of logical thinking and language organization ability. The Bible uses symbols, metaphors, and fables to vividly present abstract religious teachings and complex life philosophies, and exercises readers' logical thinking. Noah's Ark story is not only a flood rescue narrative, but also a symbol of God's judgment of human sins and redemption of the good. In the parable of the vineyard, the owner hires people at different times but gives the same pay, which is contrary to common sense but conveys the religious moral of God's grace and equality, and is not limited by time and behavior, the reader analyzes the elements of the story and its religious significance, grasps the core idea, improves logical thinking, and learns to clearly understand and express complex ideas. The story of the Zen public case is such as "Zhaozhou Dog", and Zhaozhou Zen Master said to "Does the dog still have Buddha nature?" Answer: "None", breaking the conventional thinking, prompting practitioners to transcend the shackles of language concepts, intuitively comprehend the Dharma, cultivate unique ways of thinking and logical thinking ability in thinking and reflection, and improve mental agility and flexibility (Madsen, 2011). The rigorous logic of the linguistic organization of religious literature also helps readers improve their linguistic organization skills. The Qur'an expounds on the teachings and moral principles of Islam in a rigorous, hierarchical language, with clear chapters and paragraphs to present complex religious content in an orderly manner. When talking about the importance of faith, first discuss the oneness and omnipotence of Allah, then explain the necessity of human belief and fear of Allah, and then explain the way to express faith in accordance with the doctrinal and moral principles, so that readers can grasp the ideas and ideas when reading, and learn how to organize language and express thoughts in an orderly manner. The Taoist Tao Te Ching presents a unique logical structure in concise and philosophical language, opening with "Tao is Tao, very Tao; The name can be named, the name is not the name" puts forward the core concept of "Tao", and then discusses its relationship with nature and human society and the life principles of following the Tao around "Tao", with concise sentences, profound philosophies and close logic, such as "existence and non-existence, difficulty and ease are mutually beneficial."Before and

after" shows the dialectical relationship between the interdependence and transformation of things, so that readers can understand the logic behind language, learn to express profound ideas in concise language, expound opinions through logical reasoning, and improve the level of language organization and logical thinking (Maspero, 1981).

4. THE WAY TO ABSORB CULTURE FROM RELIGIOUS LITERATURE TO IMPROVE LANGUAGE ABILITY

4.1. Intensive Reading and Comprehension of Religious Literary Classics

Intensive reading of religious literature classics is a key path to deeply absorb their Chinese connotations and improve their language ability, as shown in Figure 1。 Taking the Divine Comedy, a masterpiece of religious literature with far-reaching influence, as an example, its rich religious and cultural connotations and unique language arts provide readers with a broad learning space. "The Divine Comedy" is a long poem written by the Italian poet Dante Alighieri, the whole poem is divided into three parts: "Inferno", "Purgatory" and "Paradise", in the form of a dream, tells the story of Dante's journey through hell, purgatory and heaven under the guidance of Virgil and Béatrice. This work is not only a classic in the history of literature, but also an encyclopedia with profound religious and cultural heritage, which is of immeasurable significance for understanding Christian culture and improving language skills.
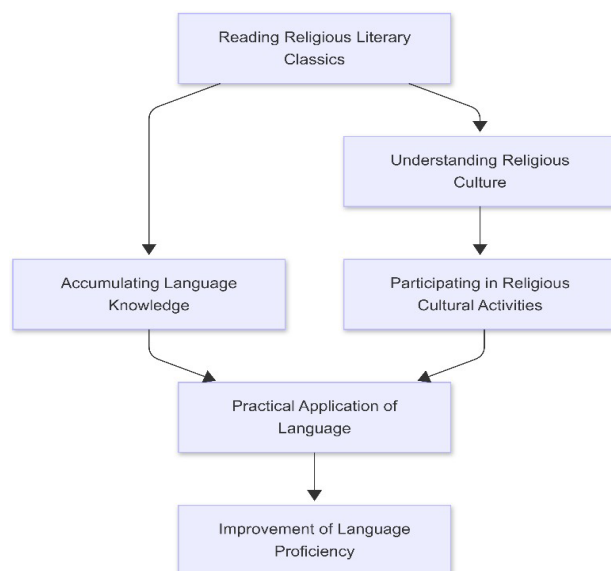

Figure 1: The Path to Absorb Culture from Religious Literature Works to Improve Language Proficiency

In terms of understanding religious culture, the Divine Comedy opens the door to medieval Christendom for readers. Through detailed depictions

of hell, purgatory, and heaven, readers are able to intuitively feel the teachings, values, and thoughts of Christianity on the fate of mankind. In the Inferno, Dante divides Hell into nine levels, each corresponding to different sins and punishments, such as the first level is the dwelling place of unbaptized babies and the sages of ancient Greece and Rome, who are not guilty but cannot enter heaven because they have not been baptized by Christianity; The second layer is the soul that has sinned against lust, and they are wandering in the wind and have no peace; The third layer is the souls who have committed the sin of gluttony, who are struggling and tormented in the mire. These descriptions vividly show the Christian definition and punishment of sin, and give readers a deep understanding of Christian moral code and concept of salvation. In Purgatory, souls are gradually cleansed of their sins and go to heaven through repentance and spiritual practice, which embodies the Christian idea of salvation, that is, human beings can be saved and immortalized through their own efforts and faith in God. "Paradise" depicts the scene of souls enjoying eternal happiness under the light of God, showing the beautiful vision and yearning of Christianity for heaven. Through intensive reading of the Divine Comedy, readers can gain an in-depth understanding of Christian doctrines, rituals, myths and legends, and feel the breadth and profundity of Christian culture (Van't Spijker, 2004). The Divine Comedy has high artistic value in terms of language expression, which is an important help for improving language ability. Dante uses a rich variety of rhetorical devices to make his works full of artistic appeal. Describing the horrors of hell, he wrote: "It was a dark and deep forest, / in which I had lost my way, / It was a difficult thing to explain how barren and terrible it was." The use of exaggeration here vividly depicts the eerie horror of the forest, making the reader feel as if he is there. Dante also uses symbolism to give many things a deep symbolic meaning. Virgil symbolizes reason and philosophy, he guides Dante through hell and purgatory, symbolizing that human beings recognize sin and error and achieve self-redemption under the guidance of reason and philosophy; Symbolizing faith and divine love, Beatrice guides Dante to heaven and symbolizes the salvation and eternal life of humanity guided by faith and love. The use of these symbolic techniques not only enriches the connotation of the work, but also allows the reader to improve the understanding and use of the symbolic meaning of language in the process of understanding the work. In terms of vocabulary, the Divine Comedy contains a large number of words rich in religious and cultural connotations, which not only enrich the expressiveness of the work, but also provide readers with opportunities to learn religious and cultural vocabulary. "Atonement", "Sacrament",

"Angel", "Devil". and other words, all of which have specific religious meanings, and readers can increase their vocabulary and deepen their understanding of religious culture through the understanding and learning of these words in the process of reading. The language of the Divine Comedy is concise and expressive, and through intensive reading of the work, readers can learn how to express deep thoughts and emotions in concise language. Describing the beauty of Paradise, Dante writes: "Here is eternal joy and happiness, / Here is endless light and love, / Here is the refuge and resting place of the soul." In just a few sentences, the beauty of heaven is vividly displayed, allowing readers to feel the power of words. Intensive reading of the Divine Comedy can also develop readers' critical thinking and literary appreciation skills. In the process of reading, readers need to think about and analyze the religious concepts, moral codes, social phenomena, etc. in the works, so as to form their own views and opinions. Readers can ponder whether Dante's depictions of hell, purgatory, and heaven are plausible, and whether the Christian concept of salvation still has relevance in modern society. Through this thinking and analysis, readers can improve their critical thinking skills and learn to look at problems from different perspectives. As a literary classic, the Divine Comedy has a unique artistic style and literary value, and readers can learn how to appreciate the artistic charm of literary works and improve their literary appreciation ability in the process of intensive reading of the works. Readers can analyze the structure, narrative techniques, character creation and other characteristics of the work, and experience Dante's creative intention and artistic techniques, so as to improve their literary literacy.

4.2. In-Depth Exploration of Cultural Background Knowledge

In-depth exploration of background knowledge such as religious history and cultural traditions is crucial for the accurate understanding and use of religious literary language, as shown in Figure 2. Taking Christian literature as an example, its development process is closely related to European history and culture, and understanding the origin, development and evolution of Christianity in different historical periods can help readers better grasp the connotation and linguistic characteristics of Christian literature. Christianity originated in the region of Palestine in the 1st century AD, and its teachings and belief system gradually spread and developed during the Roman Empire. In the Middle Ages, Christianity became the dominant religion in Europe and had a profound impact on the political, economic, and cultural aspects of Europe. Christian literature of this period, such as commentaries on the Bible, biographies of saints, hymns, etc., not only reflected Christian doctrine and beliefs, but also

reflected the political, economic, and cultural conditions of the society at that time (Schneider & Dornbusch, 1957). When reading Christian literature in the Middle Ages, understanding the historical background of the time, such as the formation of feudalism, the relationship between the church and the state, religious wars, etc., will help readers understand the religious thoughts and emotions expressed in the works, as well as the social realities reflected in the works.
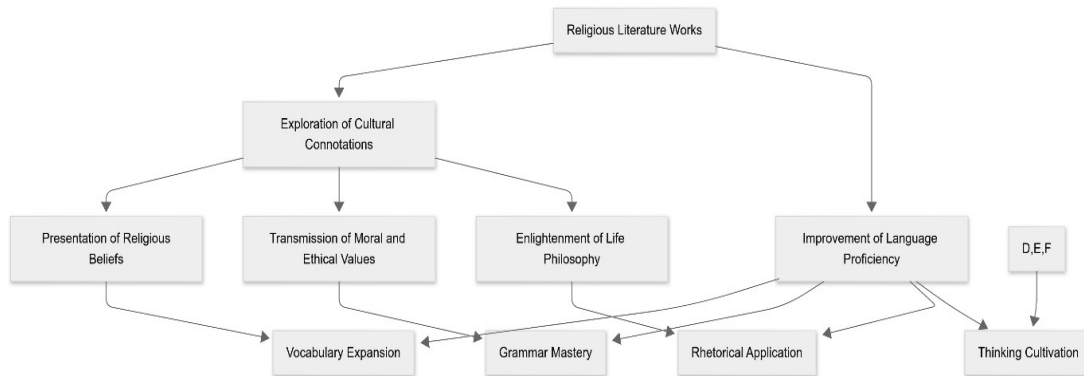

Figure 2: The Path to Absorb Culture from Religious Literature Works to Improve Language Proficiency

In the field of Christian literature, the doctrines, rituals, festivals and other elements of its cultural tradition have a profound impact on the understanding and use of literary language. At the doctrinal level, the core concepts of God's existence, the Trinity, original sin and redemption, and heaven and hell constitute the ideological core of Christian literature, and an in-depth understanding of these teachings is the key to accurately grasping the connotation of the works. In terms of rituals, baptism, communion, prayer and other frequent appearances in literary works, not only highlight religious significance, but also contain profound cultural heritage, such as the depiction of baptismal ceremonies, which can convey the solemnity and sacredness of religion and the believers' belief in God and their desire for salvation. Festivals, such as Christmas and Easter, as important symbols of Christian culture, are often cited in literary creation, carrying religious emotions and cultural connotations, and knowing their origins, meanings and celebrations are conducive to readers understanding the religious emotions and cultural background in the works. For Buddhist literature, an understanding of the historical development and cultural traditions of Buddhism is essential. Buddhism originated in ancient India and has undergone many stages of development, and the ideological and cultural characteristics of each stage are deeply imprinted on literary works. Early Buddhism emphasized the attainment of Nirvana, and many literary works expounded the teachings and methods of practice. With the spread of Buddhism, Buddhism was integrated with other cultures, and Han

Buddhism was a model of integration with traditional Chinese culture, forming characteristic schools such as Zen Buddhism and Pure Land Buddhism. When reading Chinese Buddhist literature, understanding the traditional Chinese cultural background such as Confucianism and Taoism will help you understand the integration of Buddhist thought and local culture and the unique connotation of the works (Ryan, 1997). The Buddhist principles, practice methods, and temple culture in the Buddhist cultural tradition are of great significance to the language of Buddhist literature. Buddhism, including the four noble truths, the twelve karma, karma and other core ideas, is often presented in works through stories, poems, and prose, and a deep understanding of Buddhism can help readers understand the philosophy of the work. Meditation methods such as meditation, chanting, and vow-keeping are common themes, and the depiction of meditation practice can reveal the practitioner's inner world and spiritual pursuits, highlighting Buddhism's yearning for spiritual liberation and wisdom growth (Anidjar, 2008). As an important part of Buddhist culture, the presentation of temples in literary works, from architectural style, Buddha statues to the lives of monks, not only shows unique charm, but also expresses the pursuit of sacred solemnity, understands its connotation and characteristics, and can help readers understand the Buddhist cultural background and spiritual essence of the work.

4.3. Translation and Creative Practice

Religious literature, with religious beliefs, teachings and rituals as the core materials, including the Bible, the Quran, the Vedas and other classics and their derivatives, is an effective way to absorb culture and improve language ability. In the case of Bible translation, for example, translators face many challenges. Cultural background differences are the primary problem, and the Bible has its roots in ancient Hebrew culture, including cultural elements such as unique religious rituals, customs, and historical allusions, which are difficult to find in other cultures. When translating the content of a ritual ritual, the translator needs to have an in-depth understanding of its purpose, process, and symbolism in order to translate it accurately. At the same time, the grammatical structure and lexical characteristics of different languages are different, and how to accurately convey the solemn and religious style and connotation of the Bible in the target language is also a major test (Calder et al., 2012). To address the challenge, translators employ a variety of strategies. Words with specific religious meanings, such as "salvation", "gospel" and "baptism", are directly translated into the corresponding words in the target language, and the

religious meaning and cultural background are explained in the annotations, so as to retain the religious characteristics of the original text and help readers understand the deeper meaning. Paraphrasing is used to translate cultural elements that are difficult to translate literally, such as metaphors, symbols and other rhetorical devices in the Bible, and uses expressions that are easier to understand in the target language, so that the translation is natural and fluent, avoiding stiffness and obscurity. Participating in Bible translation practice can improve the translator's language skills in many ways. In terms of vocabulary, translators need to learn to master rich religious vocabulary and its meaning and use in different contexts, so as to expand their vocabulary. In terms of grammar, students will study the grammatical structure of the Bible, learn to use complex sentence structures to express religious doctrines, and improve their ability to use grammar. When translating, it is also necessary to hone the language expression to ensure that the translation is accurate and meets the habits and aesthetic requirements of the target language (White, 2012). In addition to translation, the creation of religious literature is also an important way to improve language skills. When creating, the creator needs to deeply understand the religious and cultural connotations and integrate them into the work. To create a Christian theme poem, it is necessary to accurately grasp the doctrine, beliefs, and emotions, and use appropriate language and imagery to express the praise of God and the desire for salvation, such as "O God, you are the endless light that illuminates our dark hearts; You are the warm spring breeze that soothes our tired souls", exercising the ability to express abstract emotional thoughts in words. To create a Buddhist-themed novel, it is necessary to show the spiritual philosophy and philosophy of life through the storyline and characters, to create an image of the practitioner, and to depict the process of using Buddhist wisdom to resolve troubles and achieve spiritual liberation in the face of setbacks, such as "He sat quietly on a futon and meditated in his heart." Buddhist scriptures, gradually, his heart calmed down, and he understood that everything is illusory, and troubles are born from the heart", improving the ability of narrative and character building (Fessenden, 2011). The creation of religious literature can also cultivate innovative thinking and literary imagination, and creators can draw on their unique artistic styles and forms of expression, combined with their own creative imagination, to create personalized works. For example, when writing essays on the theme of Islam, using rhythmic and rhythmic language to show cultural charm, enhancing attractiveness through unique perspectives and novel expressions, and improving language ability and literary literacy while absorbing religious and cultural nutrition.

5. CASE ANALYSIS: TAKE SPECIFIC RELIGIOUS LITERARY WORKS AS EXAMPLES

5.1. The Scarlet Letter: Puritan Culture and Linguistic Expression

As a classic in the history of American literature, "The Scarlet Letter" profoundly reflects the all-round influence of Puritan culture on the work, especially in terms of language style and character language expression, showing a unique charm and connotation. Written in the 19th century, Nathaniel Hawthorne was born in a Puritanical New England region with a strong Puritan atmosphere, and his family history is inextricably linked to Puritanism, which gives him a deep understanding and unique perception of Puritan culture (Smith, 1996). From the perspective of Puritan cultural elements, "The Scarlet Letter" is full of presentations of Puritan doctrines, moral concepts, and social norms. Puritanism emphasized "original sin" and believed that human beings were born with sin and needed to be redeemed through constant repentance and atonement. In the novel, the heroine, Hester Brand, is spurned by society for adultery and is forced to wear a red "A" to symbolize shame, a scene that is a direct manifestation of the Puritan concept of "original sin". Her actions were seen as a serious violation of Puritan ethics and must be punished (Hariyanti & Nurhayati, 2017). This emphasis on "original sin" permeates the entire work, influencing the fate of the characters and the development of the story. The Puritans' strict requirements for moral purity and norms of conduct are also on full display in the novel. The Puritans lived a simple life, focused on moral cultivation, and were severely critical of any violation of morality. Hester's fate was not just a personal tragedy, but the result of a moral judgment in Puritan society. In this society, people are bound by Puritan teachings, and if they violate it, they are severely punished. Puritan culture had a profound influence on the linguistic style of The Scarlet Letter. The language of the work is solemn, solemn, and has a strong religious color, which is in line with the seriousness and sacredness of Puritan culture. When describing scenes and characters, Hawthorne often uses words and sentences rich in religious imagery to create a solemn and oppressive atmosphere. Describing Hester's humiliation on the gallows, "the table was an oak-made building raised high on one side of the market, facing the council chamber. In the early days of the colony, the gallows was the place where criminal law was enforced, like the guillotine of the terrorists during the French Revolution. The depiction not only uses historical and religious symbolic terms such as "gallows" and "council chambers", but also compares the colonial gallows to the guillotine of the French Revolution, highlighting the harshness and solemnity of punishment in Puritan society.

This style of language not only enhances the sense of history and authenticity of the work, but also profoundly reflects the profound influence of Puritan culture on people's thoughts and behaviors. In terms of the language of the characters, the language of the characters in "The Scarlet Letter" was also profoundly influenced by the Puritan culture. In the face of social accusations and discrimination, Hester Brand's language is both a reflection on her own behavior and a challenge to Puritan morality (Darbandi & Beyad, 2024). Although she admits that her actions are contrary to Puritan teachings, she also believes that her love is true and pure, and does not deserve such severe punishment. In a conversation with Pastor Dimmesdale, she expressed her strong belief in love, "Our destiny is predestined, and even if we try to escape, we will not be able to escape God's judgment." But I believe that our love is sinless and that it is a gift from God. This linguistic expression reflects both her respect for Puritan doctrine and her quest for humanity and love, reflecting the conflict between Puritan culture and human nature. The language of the Reverend Dimmesdale is more indicative of the Puritan doctrine that binds him. As a devout Puritan, he was full of contradictions and struggles. He was deeply in love with Hester, but could not break the Puritan moral code, so his language was full of pain and self-reproach. In one of his sermons, he said, "I am a sinner, a man forsaken by God. I violated my faith and defiled the sacred doctrine. I couldn't face God's judgment, and I couldn't face my own conscience. His language expresses his deep repentance for his actions and his reverence for Puritan teachings, while also revealing the repression and distortion of human nature by Puritan culture (Helimet). The blending of Puritan cultural elements and linguistic expression in "The Scarlet Letter" jointly shapes the unique artistic charm of the work. Through the analysis of this work, we can have a deeper understanding of the influence of religious culture on literary works, and how religious culture is reflected and inherited through language expression in literary works.

5.2. One Hundred Years of Solitude: Catholic Culture and Magical Language

As a classic of magical realist literature, "One Hundred Years of Solitude" contains rich elements of Catholic culture, which are blended with the unique magical language style of the work, and together build a deep and fantastical art world of the work. From the perspective of Catholic cultural elements, many of the plots and imagery in "One Hundred Years of Solitude" are closely related to Catholic doctrines, rituals and legends. At the beginning of the novel, José Sr., holding the magnet given to him by Melchiades, finds a pair of "rusty armor of the fifteenth

century" with a skeleton with a reliquary around its neck and a strand of women's hair. The appearance of the reliquary symbolizes that Catholic culture has shrouded the whole story from the beginning. In Latin America, Catholicism has a long history of propagation, and since the colonial period, Catholicism has followed the footsteps of European colonizers and has become an important part of people's spiritual beliefs (Wagenveld, 2022). As an object of sacred significance in Catholicism, the reliquary carries the devotion of believers to religion and the expectation of divine protection, and its appearance suggests the deep roots of Catholic culture in the local society. In the novel, religious ceremonies are also vividly embodied. The people of the Buendía family often performed Catholic ceremonies when facing major events in their lives, such as births, deaths, marriages, etc. The baptism of newborns is to follow the Catholic tradition of praying for God's blessings and blessings for the child, hoping that the child will grow up healthily under God's grace. This observance of religious rituals is not only a continuation of traditional customs, but also reflects the profound influence of Catholic culture on people's lives, and it has become an important way for people to seek spiritual sustenance and comfort in their lives. Catholic doctrinal concepts also run through One Hundred Years of Solitude. The concept of "original sin" is deeply embodied in the work, and the Buendía family seems to be cursed by a mysterious force, suffering and tragedies for generations. The fate of the family members does not seem to escape the shackles of this "original sin", they struggle with loneliness, lust, violence, etc., constantly repeating the mistakes of their ancestors, and suffering the punishment of fate. This echoes the Catholic doctrine that human beings are burdened with "original sin" due to the fall of Adam and Eve and need constant repentance and redemption. The magical language style of "One Hundred Years of Solitude" is unique, and it complements and complements the elements of Catholic culture. Márquez uses a wealth of imagination and a unique narrative technique to create a world full of fantasy. In this world, reality and fantasy are intertwined, time and space are confused, and various supernatural phenomena emerge one after another. Years later, facing the firing squad, Colonel Aureliano Buendía will recall that distant afternoon when his father took him to see the ice. This famous opening, breaking the traditional chronological order, skillfully blends the past, present and future to create an atmosphere of mystery and fantasy. This unique narrative makes the reader feel as if they are in a world beyond reality, and they feel a strong sense of magic (LeMoine, 2008). In his depictions, Márquez often uses rhetorical devices such as exaggeration and symbolism to enhance the magical effect of his works. The exaggeration of

four years, eleven months and two days of rain in Macondo not only exaggerates the loneliness and despair of the town, but also symbolizes the length and heaviness of the Buendía family's suffering. This exaggeration distorts the real world, making the reader deeply feel the impermanence and irresistibility of fate, which is in line with the Catholic thinking about the fate of mankind. The work is also full of various symbolic imagery, such as the yellow butterfly symbolizing disaster and death, and whenever the yellow butterfly appears, it is a sign that something unfortunate is about to happen. The use of this symbolism enriches the connotation of the work, so that the reader can associate the relevant symbolic meanings in Catholic culture when interpreting the work, and further deepen the understanding of the work. The close connection between the elements of Catholic culture and the magical language style in "One Hundred Years of Solitude" makes the work have a profound ideological connotation and unique artistic charm. Catholic cultural elements provide a rich spiritual core and cultural background for the works, so that the works contain deep reflections on human destiny, beliefs, morality and other issues; The magical language style provides a unique art form for the expression of these elements, making the work full of fantasy and imagination, inviting readers to explore the mysterious world constructed by the work (Chotiudompant, 2003).

6. CONCLUSIONS

This study deeply analyzes the important value of religious literature in terms of cultural acquisition and language proficiency. Religious literature contains rich religious and cultural elements, such as myths and legends, religious rituals and doctrinal concepts in the Bible, as well as relevant content in the Quran, which not only show the unique beliefs and cultural traditions of different religions, but also carry profound religious beliefs, moral ethics and life philosophy. Through the study of these works, we are able to gain an in- depth understanding of the core values and spiritual pursuits of different religious cultures, as well as their influence on human society and individual thought and behavior. Religious literature plays a significant role in improving language skills. It expands the reader's vocabulary through a rich vocabulary, such as "Bodhi" and "Nirvana" in Buddhist literature, and "salvation" and "gospel" in Christian literature. These words not only have unique religious meanings, but also contain deep cultural heritage, which helps readers deepen their understanding of semantics. The unique grammatical structure and expression techniques of religious literature, such as the complex and rigorous long and complex

sentences in the Bible, as well as the use of metaphors, symbols, exaggerations and other rhetorical devices in Buddhist literature, provide readers with a model for learning language expression and help improve language expression skills. The unique way of thinking in religious literature, such as symbolism, metaphor, and allegory in the Bible, and Zen public thinking in Buddhist literature, can train readers' logical thinking ability, making them more clear and accurate in understanding and expressing complex ideas. There are also many ways to draw culture from religious literature to improve language skills. Intensive reading of religious literary classics, such as the Divine Comedy, can enable readers to deeply understand the connotation of religious culture, learn the language art of the works, and improve their language skills. In-depth exploration of background knowledge such as religious history and cultural traditions is helpful to accurately understand and use the language of religious literature, such as understanding the historical development and cultural traditions of Christianity, and better grasping the connotation and linguistic characteristics of Christian literary works. Translation and creative practice is an effective way to improve language ability, through the translation of religious literature, such as the Bible, translators can exercise their language conversion ability and deepen their understanding of religious culture. Religious literature related creations can integrate religious and cultural connotations into works and improve language expression and creative ability. Through the case analysis of specific religious literary works such as "The Scarlet Letter" and "One Hundred Years of Solitude", we further verify the close connection between religious culture and language expression.

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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