The Model of the Police System in Modern China: Research on the Establishment and Operating Mechanism of the Beijing Police Department

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Received 12 January 2021; accepted 20 March 2021
Published online 26 April 2021

Abstract

The Beijing Police Department was founded in a period of great revolution in our country’s knowledge system and drastic social changes. As a “model” for the construction of police administration throughout the country, the daily operation, development, and evolution of the Beijing Police Department has promoted the integration of modern Western policing thoughts and the innovation of traditional public security concepts, and promoted the inheritance of police knowledge and the construction of police theories. The conflict interweaving and interest entanglement under the background of the struggle of the Beiyang factions promoted the transition from ancient policing to modern policing, and realized the development and transformation of the modern police system.

Key words: Beijing police department; Police system; Social governance

INTRODUCTION

As a “model” of modern Chinese police, the Beijing Police Department was in the period of the Northern Government of the Republic of China. It was an important stage in the development and evolution of the modern police system. The special research and discussion on it is an inevitable review of the transformation of the modern police system. Important content. From a historical point of view, the Beiyang period has experienced historical processes such as the ‘Yuan clan’s reign, the May Fourth Movement, and warlords’ melee. Regarding the construction of the police system during this period, the Beiyang government has devoted great efforts to it, and continued attention from all walks of life, and there have been many discussions between the ruling party and the opposition. As a result, there are a large number of records in official archives, telegram orders, newspapers and magazines, private diaries and letters, etc., leaving a wealth of historical materials, providing a basis for studying and investigating the origins of the capital police department and the transformation of the modern police system. This article takes the Beijing Police Department as the starting point and collect a large number of police archives, personal diaries, etc., and intends to conduct a comprehensive survey of the Beijing Police Department in terms of institutional evolution, personnel status, management and operation, and social impact, with the aim to outline the Beijing Police The historical images of the office provide a glimpse into the historical motivation and origins of the development and transformation of the modern police system.

OVERVIEW OF THE BEIJING POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Beijing Police Department was established under the background of the important transformation of modern
Chinese knowledge and system. On January 8, 1913, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Beiyang Government ordered the merger of the General Police Department of the Inner and Outer City of the Beijing into a unified command of the Beijing Police Department. With the establishment of the Beijing Police Department, the Beiyang government has successively promulgated a series of police regulations to strengthen the rectification and management of Beijing’s police administration.

Among them are the “Regulations on the Public Security Police” (March 2, 1914), “The Official System of the Beijing Police Department” (August 29, 1914), “The Rules of Divisional Duties of the Beijing Police Department” and “The Zoning Rules of the Beijing Police Department” (1914) (August 30), etc., stipulated in more detail the organizational system, powers, responsibilities, and mutual relations of Beijing police agencies. Once the Beijing police system model was formed, it radiated from top to bottom, from point to area, to a certain extent, unified the organization and management of police agencies at all levels, and laid the foundation for the establishment of the national police system during the Beiyang period.

According to the Official System of the Beijing Normal Police Department, the Beijing Normal Police Department is subordinate to the Chief of Internal Affairs, and has two internal and external departments. Among them, there are six internal divisions including general affairs, justice, administration, health, service inspectors and secretaries, which are responsible for handling Beijing’s police, health, and public security affairs. In 1914, in order to strengthen Beijing’s fire safety, the Beijing Police Department added a fire department.

On the outside, according to the 20 areas delineated by the Beiyang Government’s Ministry of Internal Affairs in Beijing, police officers of varying numbers are assigned to patrol and manage public security in various districts. At the same time, the Beijing Police Department established a detective team, a security police horse team and four security police teams.

In order to strengthen Beijing’s urban security management and maintain the stability of the capital’s society, the Beijing Normal Police Department stipulates that patrol officers work 12 hours a day. In case of emergencies, the patrol on duty will promptly report to the police station in the area, and then ask the police station to send someone to suppress it, so as not to cause trouble.

In terms of personnel system and personnel management, the highest chief of the Beijing Normal Police Department is called the Chief Superintendent, and is responsible for managing various affairs of the Police Department. Wang Yexin and Wu Bingxiang have successively held this position. There are a number of captains, police officers, police assistants, technicians, and technical assistants in the Beijing Police Department who handle police affairs separately. Twenty external district offices have patrol officers, patrol team leaders, and ordinary patrol officers.

According to relevant statistics, there were 8,590 policemen in the Beijing Police Department at the beginning of its establishment. Among them, there are 578 firefighters and 332 detectives. The internal and external police forces of the Beijing Normal Police Department are distributed in a network in Beijing, forming a relatively rigorous, multi-level police system. The Beijing Police Department provided an important guarantee for ensuring social order and maintaining social stability, and this period can be called the heyday of modern Beijing police.

In actual operation, the Beijing Police Department adheres to the principle of maintaining social order in Beijing, paying attention to both prevention and punishment, coordinating Beijing’s police affairs, carrying out anti-smuggling, population management, public opinion control, and social security maintenance. At the same time, the Beijing Police Department in the Beiyang period also assumed municipal functions such as sanitation, fire protection, disaster relief, women and children assistance, and education. The implementation of the above-mentioned police policy is significantly different from the content and scope of public security before the Republic of China, and the police functions during the period of the Nanjing government and after the founding of the People’s Republic of China are also very different. This has led to profound changes in people’s living habits and social customs.

In 1916, Yuan Shikai’s Hongxian monarchy collapsed, and the Beiyang Group moved from formal unity to open confrontation and division. The Beijing Police Department gradually became a tool for various factions to compete for the power center of the Beiyang government. After the outbreak of the May Fourth Movement in 1919, the Beijing police, in response to the command and control of the Ministry of the Interior, coordinated the development of police affairs in the capital, built a police force, and gradually focused their work on patrolling on guards, arrests, and regulating operations.(Cai, 1999, p.55)

With the outbreak of the Zhiwan War and the Zhifeng War, disputes between the various factions in the Beiyang continued and became more intense. In this context, the Beijing Police Department has actively played its role in maintaining public order, and at the same time has continuously strengthened the management and control of social order. This prompted the transition from a self-help society to a society controlled by the police in modern China, reflecting the complexities of police affairs under the background of violent turbulence in the social situation, and revealing the historical process of tortuous transformation of the modern police system.
There are few academic studies on the Beijing Police Department. During the period of the Republic of China, some articles on police research appeared one after another. However, due to the difference of research perspectives, when these studies deal with the Beijing Police Department, the research content is relatively simple and the focus is relatively single. In 1921, Peking, A Social Survey, and Sidney David Gamble published by American sociologist Gambon directly used the statistical data of the Beijing Police Department to make a preliminary analysis of the establishment, operation and effectiveness of the Police Department (Gan, 1921, p.5) Jiang Chunhua’s “Summary of Peking Police Administration” and Cai Xun’s “Beijing Police Evolution Minutes” outline the history of the Beijing Police Department from the perspective of police and administration, and comb the development of the Beijing police in the Republic of China.

From the founding of New China to the end of the 1970s, academic circles did not pay much attention to the study of modern police history. Since the 1980s, the research on the modern police system has attracted widespread attention from the academic circles and has achieved fruitful results. In 1984, Wang Jiajian’s book “The Modernization of China’s Police System in the Late Qing Dynasty and the Early Republic of my country” expounded the establishment and development of the police system in the society of the late Qing Dynasty and the early Republic of China from the perspective of modernization. Among them, there are relatively brief discussions on the basic conditions of the Beijing Police Department’s establishment time, organizational structure, personnel appointments and removals, and police construction.

The book “Managing Beijing: A Study of the Police Department of the Capital in the Period of the Beijing Government” discusses the role and status of the Beijing Police Department in public security, municipal administration, charity and social management from the perspective of urban management. Functions have a deep impact on people’s lives, urban society, and the government’s ruling power, thus showing the complex aspects of urban society in the transitional stage. (Ding, 2013, p.3).

The research on the modern police system has increasingly aroused widespread concern in the academic circles, and has achieved fruitful results. The book “Modern Police System in China” is based on police rules and regulations, and systematically combs the historical process of the inception, formation and development of the modern police system. It is believed that the Beijing Police Department was in the period of the Beiyang government and inherited the remaining threads of police construction in the late Qing Dynasty. It is an important stage in the history of the police in modern China that pioneered the Nanjing National Government police system. (Hang, 1993, p.116.)

“On the Formation of the Police System in Modern China” puts forward that the police system in modern China was formed during the period of the Beiyang government, which is mainly manifested in the construction of police institutions, police regulations and police education. (Yang, 2006, No.2.)

The above studies have provided an important foundation for exploring the transformation of the Beijing Police Department and the modern police system. However, existing studies have focused on exploring the provisions of the police system, and lacked an in-depth understanding of the social environment and concept renewal that gave rise to system changes. The attitudes and responses of all sectors of society are also lacking in attention and investigation.

It is true that the establishment of the modern police system can be used for reference from the experience of Japan and other countries, but how does the grafting of foreign systems from the West adapt to China’s soil and environment and make it connect with China’s inherent systems through gradual additions, deletions, establishments, and adjustments. In order to meet the needs of Chinese society. Therefore, following the historical context of the development of the modern police system, clarifying the origins and changes of the modern police system transformation, and obtaining research results that can support this theory through a series of special studies and theoretical constructions has become a top priority.

As far as research ideas are concerned, the relevant research should take the Beijing Police Department as the starting point, collect a large number of police department archives, personal diaries, etc., and provide a comprehensive review of the Beijing Normal Police Department in terms of institutional evolution, personnel status, management operations, and social impact. Survey. Relevant research should be based on in-depth and systematic research to write the first draft of the paper, and through subsequent revisions and improvements, systematically outline the historical image of the Beijing Police Department, pry into the historical origin and basic context of the development and transformation of the modern police system, and then understand the modern Chinese police institutional revolution, social and historical changes.

To this end, the following research methods should be adopted: First, make full use of historical research methods to comprehensively and in-depth explore the organization, personnel, funding, and operation of the
Beijing Police Department, try to clarify the complex relationship between the characters inside and outside the police department, and reveal the modern police system. The historical context of reforming the old and realizing a major transformation. The second is to judge whether a certain event or activity belongs to the transformation category by distinguishing and distinguishing the three situations of self-proclaim, other-referential and post-identification in the research process, so as to demonstrate the historical origin of the transformation of the Beijing Police Department and the modern police system.

In a nutshell, through a diachronic investigation of the establishment of the Beijing Police Department during the transition of modern knowledge and systems, a comprehensive understanding of the transfer of ideas, institutional changes, and social changes embodied in the process of institutional transplantation and establishment.

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THE SIGNIFICANCE AND INNOVATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATING MECHANISM OF THE BEIJING POLICE DEPARTMENT

As a modern police organization that coordinates Beijing’s police affairs, maintains public security in the capital, and consolidates the foundation of the Beijing government, the Beijing Police Department has introduced Western policing ideas, innovated police concepts, adjusted police regulations, strengthened social governance, and promoted the concept of traditional Chinese social security management. The innovation promoted the construction of modern police concepts and realized the transformation and development of the modern police system.

This article takes the Beijing Police Department as the starting point to explore the historical motivation and development context of the modern police system transformation, which has important theoretical significance and reference value.

The first is to study and investigate the history of the Beijing Police Department, and systematically outline the historical images of the Beijing Police Department, which helps to clarify the historical origin of the transformation of the modern police system and deepen the research on the history of the development of the police system. Second, taking the Beijing Police Department as the starting point, investigating the changes in the concept of police, the specific operation of the police system, the success and failure of the police system, and the historical process of social response contained in the regulations of the Beijing Police Department will help to grasp the profound connotation of the modern police system and reveal the development context and changing trends of the modern police system transformation. The third is to systematically sort out the historical context of the construction of the modern police system, analyze and grasp the many factors that affect the system change, study and investigate the impact of the system change on the society, and summarize the experience and lessons. For the current system and mechanism construction of the police system in our country, Has a certain reference value.

To study and investigate the modern police system, we need to innovate from three aspects. First, the current academic research on the transformation of modern police system tends to focus on the inspection of the system text, lacking specific analysis and research on the actual operation level. This article explores the old innovation of modern police management and organizational operation mechanism from the new perspective of the Beijing Police Department, which lays the foundation for clarifying the origins of the modern police system transformation.

Second, to study and investigate the history of the Beijing Police Department, not only conduct specific and in-depth investigations in terms of organization, personnel, funding, and practice of revising the will, but also explore the conflicts and conflicts of interest between the upper and lower, inside and outside of the police department, and fully explore the regulations of the Beijing police department. The changes in the concept of police, the specific operation of the police system, the successes and failures, and the historical process of social response are included in order to better understand the historical motivations of the modern police system transformation, and reveal the development context and changing trends of the modern police system transformation.

Finally, Learn from and absorb the theoretical methods of other disciplines, and strive to make breakthroughs in research methods, mainly in comparative sociology and comparative politics, which are closely related to the research content. Through a large number of repeated comparisons, explain the “similarities and differences” and “connections” of police systems in different periods, so that the research results are rigorous, solid and innovative.

In addition, this research uses systematically collected archives of the Beijing Municipal Police Agency as the basic historical data. In the specific research, the archives of the National Police Agency are compared with newspapers, anthologies, diaries, memoirs, etc., and reference is made to fully grasp and excavate historical materials. To grasp and penetrate the origin and evolution of the modern police system transformation.

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CONCLUSION

In short, as Beijing, as the center of regime rule, the stability of its social order is particularly important. The Beiyang government attaches great importance to the
control and construction of police administration, making it a tool for mastering and consolidating state power. The Beijing Police Department was established in response to this need. The police model it created is regarded as a model of modern Chinese police and has an important position and influence in the history of Chinese police development. Therefore, this article systematically outlines the historical image of the police department through the research and investigation of the Beijing Police Department in the Beiyang period, so as to explore the historical origin and basic context of the development and transformation of the modern police system, and then understand the revolution and social and historical changes of the modern Chinese police system.

REFERENCES


