

In reviewing the manuscript "Evaluation of Wu Xun and the Propaganda Regarding Wu Xun," written by Yang Er [1]:

First,

The central endeavor of Wu Xun is the so-called begging and running "charitable" schools. This matter has misled many naive, brainless old do-gooders. In reality, it is a scam. Perhaps Wu Xun intended to establish schools for poor children, but in practice, he could only establish schools for the children of wealthy individuals. It was impossible for genuinely poor children to attend his schools. The schools controlled by those jinshi and juren scholars would never allow truly poor children to participate. Wu Xun's "charitable" schools were, in fact, schools of injustice. The money was brutally extorted.

Firstly, it was coerced; Wu Xun was a villainous beggar who threatened kind-hearted people with poison to force them to donate money. Secondly, he engaged in usury (with an interest rate of three percent). Thirdly, he relied on official power to solicit donations. The sources of these three types of money were all improper. The schools he established were not truly for "poor children." The notion of "for poor children" is merely empty rhetoric; in reality, it was for wealthy children. Only those extremely naive individuals would believe that there actually existed a group of "poor children" jumping around in Wu Xun's "charitable" schools.

Now, let's set aside the methods and outcomes of Wu Xun's school establishment and focus solely on the motivation behind it. That is to say, assuming he truly wanted to educate poor children and thereby change the miserable status of poor people, is this idea improper? We say, it is one thing for Wu Xun himself to have such thoughts, but it is another matter for his descendants to propagate them. Wu Xun's descendants propagating these ideas would be using Wu Xun to promote their own agendas, even to the extent of producing films, writing works, and dissertations to widely propagate them among the Chinese people, which raises fundamental questions.

Secondly,

Before Wu Xun put forward the slogan of "charitable" schools, he suffered. However, since he introduced the attractive and moving slogan of "charitable" schools, he gained respect day by day, eventually becoming a favorite of the reactionary government. The more he begged, the stronger he became, and he no longer suffered at all. Look, Wu Xun appeared very respectable; he understood the feudal social hierarchy. The more he pretended, the more he could win the favor of jinshi and juren scholars, and the more famous he became. Although he was already wealthy, he still begged. The more he begged, the more famous he became, and the wealthier he became.

Wu Xun was a clever and ruthless person, thus becoming the "eternal beggar of the ages," only fooling those who were extremely naive. The old reactionary writers intentionally depicted Wu Xun's trickery as a "beautiful story." The incident of Wu Xun saying, "As a beggar, I dare not be impolite to a teacher," is also prominently featured in the "Qing Dynasty History Manuscripts" biography of Wu Xun.

Note:

[1] Yang Er, also known as Xu Liqun, was the Deputy Minister of the Propaganda Department of the Central Committee of the Chinese Democratic Youth League at the time.

Praising articles published by important newspapers and periodicals in Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai

Title	Author(s)	Publication Date	Publication Name
<i>The Biography of Wu Xun</i> (Serialized Illustrated Biography)	Sun Yu, Dong Tianye	Dec 14–30, 1950	<i>Xinwen Daily</i>
<i>The Biography of Wu Xun and China's Feudal Society</i>	Jiang Xingyu	Dec 30, 1950	<i>Ta Kung Pao</i>
<i>The Growth of The Biography of Wu Xun Amidst Difficulties</i>	Wang Bei	Dec 30, 1950	<i>Ta Kung Pao</i>
<i>How I Portrayed Wu Xun's "Dream"</i>	Sun Yu	Dec 30, 1950	<i>Xinwen Daily</i>
<i>How I Played the Role of Wu Xun</i>	Zhao Dan	1950	<i>Popular Movies</i> (Issues 9–15)
<i>Reflections After Watching the Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Ma Lüxian	Jan 1, 1951	<i>Popular Movies</i> (Issue 14)
<i>Yucai School's Teachers and Students Discuss the Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Yucai Teachers and Students	Jan 1, 1951	<i>Popular Movies</i> (Issue 14)
<i>Before and After Directing the Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Sun Yu	Jan 1, 1951	<i>Popular Movies</i> (Issue 14)
<i>Opinions After Watching the Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Dai Baitao	Jan 3, 1951	<i>Wenhui Daily</i>
<i>A Partial Understanding of The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Shi Guo	Jan 6, 1951	<i>Xinmin Evening News</i>
<i>Preliminary Views on The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Li Xing	Jan 6, 1951	<i>Ta Kung Pao</i>
<i>Some Thoughts After Watching the Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Gu Weizu	Jan 6, 1951	<i>Wenhui Daily</i>
<i>Thoughts Inspired by The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Wang Dingcheng	Jan 27, 1951	<i>Xinwen Daily</i>
<i>The Biography of Wu Xun—A Film Story</i>	Luo Wei	Feb 20, 1951	<i>Workers' Daily</i>
<i>My Thoughts on the Film the Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Li Shichao	Feb 26, 1951	<i>Guangming Daily</i>
<i>The Film and Illustrated Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Zhang Zhi	Feb 26, 1951	<i>Guangming Daily</i>
<i>An Introduction to the Illustrated Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Guan Datong	Feb 27, 1951	<i>Guangming Daily</i>
<i>The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Ziguang	Feb 27, 1951	<i>Xinmin Daily</i>
<i>Love for Our Great Motherland—Reflections on Watching the Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Gu Feng	Feb 27, 1951	<i>Xinmin Daily</i>
<i>Opinions on The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Xiang Ruoyu, Wei Zhaolan	Feb 27, 1951	<i>Xinmin Daily</i>
<i>On the Film the Biography of Wu</i>	Wang Genyao	Feb 27, 1951	<i>Xinmin Daily</i>

Title	Author(s)	Publication Date	Publication Name
<i>Xun</i>			
<i>A Review of The Biography of Wu Xun from an Educational Perspective</i>	Dong Weichuan	Feb 28, 1951	<i>Guangming Daily</i>
<i>Reflections on The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Feng Juan	Mar 10, 1951	<i>Xinmin Daily</i>
<i>Discussing Wu Xun and Zhou Da</i>	Zhao Huan	Mar 10, 1951	<i>Tianjin Daily</i>
<i>Recommendation of The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Ruan Ding	Mar 19, 1951	<i>Progress Daily</i>
<i>Learning Wu Xun's Spirit of Unconditional Service to the People</i>	Guo Hongyuan	Mar 23, 1951	<i>Progress Daily</i>
<i>The Biography of Wu Xun Educated Me</i>	Bu Yunsheng	Mar 23, 1951	<i>Progress Daily</i>
<i>Reflections on The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Wen Qing	Mar 23, 1951	<i>Progress Daily</i>
<i>Wu Xun's Wishes Fulfilled</i>	Xia Wenhua	Mar 23, 1951	<i>Progress Daily</i>
<i>On The Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Yang Yuming, Duanmu Hongliang	Mar 1951	<i>Beijing Literature</i> (Vol. 2, Issue 1)
<i>The Biography of Wu Xun</i> (Novel Adaptation)	Sun Yu	Early 1951	Shanghai New Asia Bookstore
<i>Illustrated Biography of Wu Xun</i>	Edited by Li Shichao, Illustrated by Sun Zhijuan	Early 1951	Shanghai Wanye Bookstore
<i>The Eternal Beggar</i> (Serialized Novel)	Bai Shui	Early 1951	Shanghai Tonglian Bookstore

Source: Yang Jun (2008). An examination of the decision making process of launching a campaign to criticize the film *The Legend of Wu Xun*