SYNOPSIS

The Zhou dynasty lasted for eight hundred years mainly because of the system of enfeoffment. The Qin dynasty gave up the system of enfeoffment and carried out the system of prefectures and counties. In the Han dynasty, the enfeoffment system was practised but it was revoked after the death of the first emperor. Which system was the better way to administer China? For this problem, six eminent thinkers (Liu Song, Li Bai Yao, Liu Zong Yuan, Hu Yin, Wu Lai and Gu Yan Wu) After Wei-Jin period, put forward their respective treatise on feudal system (Feng Jian Lun - 封建论).

I think that the six treaties put forward by abovementioned thinkers on “Feng Jian Lun” can be divided into three types:

1. Reverting-to-the-ancient-time type (复古型)
2. Pragmatic type (现实型)
3. Revisionist type (改良型)

These three types of theory had close relationships with the Development of Chinese history, at the respective period of
of time. They followed closely the need of the political situation at the time they lived. Elaboration and analysis of the ideas put forward by the said thinkers can be found from Chapter 2 to 6 of this thesis.

By following the arguments of the six said thinkers, we can see the development of the grand debate on the treatise on feudal system throughout the two thousand years in Chinese history.