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Radiocarbon-based chronological researches on Chinese civilization

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The research on the Origin and Development of Chinese Civilization is a hot topic and involving many complex questions, such as the elements, process and paths of civilization. To establish the precision chronological frame is one of the most important aspects related to Chinese Civilization. The major scientific research project about Chinses civilization supported by the state that combines natural science and humanities and social sciences conducts multi-level and comprehensive research on the origin and progress, nature and characteristics of Chinese civilization. It reveals the process and reasons for the formation of Chinese civilization and proves the fact that the history of Chinese civilization spans over 5,000 years and explains the reference significance of Chinese civilization to current human development from both theoretical and practical perspectives. The research team from Peking University has made important contributions to chronological research, and has conducted radiocarbon dating research using accelerator mass spectrometry on dozens of important sites, providing high-precision dating data for accurately estimates the ages of key points and major historical events. It provides a solid chronological support for the study of the origin and early development of Chinese civilization. Around 5300 years ago, central cities and primitive religious sites with an area of over 1 million square meters emerged in the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River, the Yangtze River, and the Western Liao River basin. About 4300 years ago, the civilization process in various parts of China underwent transformation, with the important feature of the rise of the center on Central Plains. Around 4000 years ago, a new era has begun with the beginning of the period of dynasties.

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