



## **During which period in history was the Jingdezhen Ceramic Industry most backward, and what were the reasons behind this decline?**

The period in history when the Jingdezhen ceramic industry was most backward can be said to be the late 19th century to the early 20th century during the late Qing Dynasty. During this period, the Jingdezhen ceramic industry experienced a relatively low period due to the influence of external industrialization and domestic political unrest. In the late 19th century, with the rise of the Western Industrial Revolution, the introduction of mechanized production and modernized techniques posed a serious challenge to Jingdezhen's traditional handmade ceramic craftsmanship. Jingdezhen's traditional ceramic craftsmanship was relatively lagging behind and unable to compete with the large-scale industrial production of Western countries, leading to the gradual loss of competitiveness of Jingdezhen's ceramic products in the international market.

At the same time, the political turmoil of the late Qing Dynasty also had a negative impact on Jingdezhen's ceramic industry. Social unrest and wars disrupted ceramic production in Jingdezhen, resulting in damaged production facilities and hindered market access, leading to a decline in production output and quality. However, with the social changes and economic development of modern China, as well as the modernization and technological innovation of ceramic craftsmanship, Jingdezhen's ceramic industry gradually recovered and achieved new development. Starting from the mid-20th century, Jingdezhen's foreign trade ceramic industry gradually emerged, becoming one of the important centers of the ceramic industry in China and even the world."