Analysis on Current Inheritance of Yi Toasting Song Culture and Its Countermeasures
A Case Study of the Yi Nationality’ Drinking Song in Wuding

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Abstract—Toasting song is also called wine music, wine rite music. It is a kind of folk custom song, belonging to the category of folk music. Yi toasting song is a kind of folk song form which is closely related to the Yi nationality’s daily life. The Yi people introduce the toasting song to the banquet for persuading people to drink, entertaining and blessing. The Yi people must have banquet and the toasting song when they entertain the guests. Drinking and singing has become an indispensable ritual culture of the Yi People’s daily life and festivals. In the process of drinking of Yi people, they can better express their mental state, and express their thoughts and feelings by drinking wine, which is the most important spiritual theme. Yi people use an ancient and plain way to explain their wine culture.

Keywords—Yi nationality; toasting song; current inheritance; countermeasures for inheritance

I. INTRODUCTION

Yi nationality is good at singing and dancing, and they can’t live without songs every moment. They often use their own songs to express their feelings, express their love for nature reverence for life, guide their behaviors, and repose their lofty ideals and deep-seated desires. This largely shows that the rich inner world of the Yi nationality, and they are industrious, simple and kind, optimistic and resolute. Under such conditions, the Yi toasting song is unique and has become a splendid ethnic culture content of Yi nationality. The Yi people living in the Hengduan Mountains always advocate fire, tiger and wine, like rhododendron and are good at singing and dancing. This series of national preferences also includes the national features and cultural deposits of the Yi nationality. The Yi toasting song is one of the best forms of blessing for the Yi people to welcome distant guests and salute the guests. However, the number of Yi nationality gradually reduced from the current situation. Toasting song culture, as a traditional Yi music culture, has faced with numerous obstacles in the development process, and even a lot of beautiful old toasting song has gradually faded out of the people’s vision. The Yi people in the new period have left their residence for the sake of existence, which led to the fault of the national culture inheritance. Therefore, only by fully understanding the origin of Yi nationality and the cultural characteristics of Yi toasting song, and analyzing the inheritance status and the reasons for the recession of the Yi toasting song, can we better put forward the strategy of protecting the culture of Yi toasting song. This is of great significance to the inheritance and development of the toasting song in Wuding.

II. INTRODUCTION TO THE YI TOASTING SONG CULTURE

A. The Origin of Yi Nationality

Yi Nationality is formed by the integration of the ancient Qiang people and the southwestern aboriginal tribes during its long term development. Six thousand or seven thousand years ago, the ancient Qiang people who lived in the northwestern Hehuang area in our country began to develop toward all sides. One of them has cruised to the southwest of the motherland. Until more than 3,000 years ago, the ancient Qiang people who cruised to the southwest with national tribe as a unit formed “Liu Yi”, “QingQiang”, “Jiu Di”. That is “YuesongYi”, “QingQiang”, “Wu”, “Kunming”, “Laojin”, “Feimo” and other tribes, which often appears in the history books.

B. The Characteristics of Yi Toasting Song Culture

The Yi toasting song has various toasting songs, and it almost reached a situation that adjusting measures to local conditions. The contents of the toasting song are various at different occasions and time. The toasting song can be divided into festive hospitality toasting song, wedding toasting song, full moon ‘Toasting song, birthday ‘Toasting song, celebrating new house toasting song, festival toasting song and so on. The Yi toasting song in Wuding can be divided into toasting song, persuading song, expressing thank song, rejecting song and so on. The Yi toasting song in Wuding has a unique form of singing, including solo, unison, antiphon, troll, etc. The Yi toasting song is not only rich in categories but also in content. To a large extent, it not only reflects the historical life and folk psychology of the nation, the will and so on, but also shows their love for hometown, joy of reunion with their relatives, and longing and yearning for a better life in the future. The lyrics of the first song are often written by the nameless authors, which spreads from mouth to mouth in the local areas. Most lyrics do not have a fixed rhythm and the form of expression is different. The
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III. CURRENT INHERITANCE OF YI TOASTING SONG IN WUDING

A. Current Inheritance of Toasting Song in Wuding

With the gradually developed traffic, frequent communication with the outside world and the depth of the Yi compatriots who were able to sing the ancient Yi toasting song, a lot of the ancient Yi toasting songs have been lost, such as the sacrificial toasting song that sang by Bimo. It’s just Bimo that can sing this kind of toasting song. And some of the longer-length toasting songs disappear with the death of the old Bimo. In order to keep up with the fast pace of the development of the times, the toasting song left are short, catchy, and easy to remember. The toasting songs that the whole county has left behind and can hear are those that are processed and easily remembered. With the rise of intangible cultural heritage, in order to protect and inherit the toasting song in Wuding, this precious minority traditional culture, the whole county is permeated with wind of protection for the dinking song culture. The government has specially crafted the song of the Yi toasting song, including 46 popular songs, which have played a certain role in the protection and inheritance of the toasting song in Wuding.

According to Malinowski’s point of view, any activity handed down in human society has its value and is necessary for existence, which is survived by the needs of life. It is said that every culture that survives has a certain social function, which is the comprehensive embodiment of human nature and social attributes, and it more emphasizes the relationship between subject and object. Cultural decline is largely related to the culture itself, as well as social realities. According to this theory, we can further analyze the cause of the decline of the Yi toasting song in Wuding.

From the cultural content of the Yi toasting song in Wuding, Yi toasting song is an important part of the Yi nationality’s daily life, also a kind of popular art form, which has been constantly circulated in the Yi nationality. The practicality and entertainment of the toasting song is very prominent. In the process of singing, both the host and guest can participate in, and it is extremely boisterous. In fact, it shows that the Yi toasting song in Wuding is of great social communicative function to a great extent. With the development of the times, many elements with modernity are added to the new toasting song in Wuding. The addition of these modern elements to a large extent prompted the traditional toasting song in Wuding culture cannot be well passed down, and many lyrics, tunes have gradually achieved modernization. And the original cultural content of toasting song is very difficult to preserve under this condition, which makes the Yi toasting song began to show a gradual decline in the reality of the situation.

From the prospective of cultural inheritance, the cultural inheritance of Yi toasting song in Wuding, in fact, has a very broad mass base. This kind of mass basic research makes the toasting song culture in Wuding can be passed down. However, in the process of inheritance, we also find that many young people in the banquet rarely open their mouths to sing toasting songs, but some seniors or some middle-aged people like to sing a song in the banquet. With the change of family composition form, the host of the large-scale banquets of the Yi nationality is on the decrease. Under such conditions, the opportunity to hear the toasting song is getting less and less, which shows that many young people do not have a good understanding of the Yi toasting song culture. Meanwhile, the inheritance and development of the Yi toasting song is confronted with unprecedented difficulties.

IV. INHERITANCE OF YI TOASTING SONG IN WUDING AND ITS PROTECTION COUNTERMEASURES

Combined with the above, for the current inheritance of Yi toasting song in Wuding, we find that the football and culture have also encountered some difficulties and obstacles in the inheritance and protection. For such reality, this paper has put forward the countermeasures for the inheritance and protection of Yi toasting song.

A. Promote the Awareness of Cultural Inheritance and Protection

First of all, it is necessary to further enhance the awareness of cultural inheritance and protection, especially to improve the awareness of some young people of the Yi nationality about the inheritance and protection of traditional culture. At present, many young people are impacted by the modern culture, and ignore the national culture. More like some modem pop songs and modern music, but are indifferent to the music culture. It is necessary to awaken these young people's inner national cultural identity in essence, so they can feel the rich cultural content contained in a group of toasting songs. Government units can publicize the Yi toasting song culture in various ways. For example, the propaganda film can be shot to introduce the Yi toasting song culture. This way can be used to strengthen social propaganda, and further enhance people’s awareness of cultural inheritance and protection.

B. Use New Media

The emergence of new media has provided a new way and new means for the inheritance and protection of intangible cultural heritage to a great extent. It has great space and can store data for a long time. However, the Yi toasting song in Wuding is the intangible cultural heritage through oral tradition, and it will gradually reduce in the process of communication. In particular, the successive death of some older generations will cause the gradual
disappearance of the Yi toasting song culture. Therefore, the Yi toasting song culture should be routinely recorded. We should take digital measures to record all the processes that should be carried out, especially in some festivals and some large-scale banquets. Meanwhile, every toasting song that comes up should be recorded in all directions. This intangible cultural heritage can be well preserved in such a way, which is of great practical significance for the inheritance of the Yi toasting song.

C. Improve the Appreciation of National Music

In view of the current situation, we should further improve the national music appreciation ability. The content of the first song is very rich, and the social communication function is very obvious, and the national cultural tradition contained in it is also very rich. However, the Yi toasting song can only be spread in the Yi nationality settlements under such condition, and it is difficult to spread in other areas. Based on this reality, it is necessary to promote the appreciation of such a folk form as toasting song in the whole of China. It is important for people to be aware that toasting songs, as intangible cultural heritage, need to be paid attention to. By properly adapting this kind of song form, we should try to combine tradition with modernity to meet the aesthetic needs of the contemporary people.

D. Break Through from the Wine Culture

The inheritance and development of toasting song must be broken through from the wine culture. The Yi toasting song is unique, and the Yi nationality’s wine is also unique, so we must further strengthen the propaganda of the Yi nationality’s wine culture. The current Yi nationality’s small pot wine in Wuding is unique. Its purity is high; taste is pure, and you won’t blush when you finish drinking. In addition, the brewing process of small pot wine is also special. Local governments can start from the perspective of wine culture to deeply excavate the wine culture in the stable area, such as wine brewing history, wine containers, and wine customs and so on. The government should also make a comprehensive display and introduction of these contents, and collect some songs as an important part of the wine culture. For the traditional wine culture, we should take its essence, and be bold in innovation. When seeing wine, it also makes people appreciate the culture of Yi toasting song in Wuding. Only by continuing to make breakthroughs in the process of inheritance, can we create a fine art that adapts to the development of the times.

V. Conclusion

Starting from the origin of Yi nation, this paper deeply introduces the culture of the Yi toasting song, and it fully analyzes the current status of the inheritance and development of the Yi toasting song on this basis. In viewing of the problems existing in the process of the inheritance and protection of the Yi toasting song, the corresponding countermeasures are put forward, and hoping that the inheritance of the Yi toasting song can be better realized through this way. The Yi people living in the Hengduan Mountains always advocate fire, tiger and wine, like rhododendron and are good at singing and dancing. This series of national preferences also includes the national features and cultural deposits of the Yi nationality. The Yi toasting song is one of the best forms of blessing for the Yi people to welcome distant guests and salute the guests.

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