

# An Analysis of the Effective Integration of Chinese Traditional Culture Education and the Cultural Self-confidence of Higher Vocational College Students

Xue-Mei Wang

Yunnan College of Tourism Vocational. Kunming. China.

Email:2364708870@qq.com

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**Abstract.** Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Chinese leaders have proposed to “enhance self-confidence of culture and value”. Culture is the blood of the nation, and Chinese traditional culture is the foundation of Chinese modern culture and the spiritual home of the Chinese people. higher vocational colleges continue to strengthen students education of traditional culture while focusing on the cultivation of students’ practical skills, so as to cultivate students’ cultural self-confidence. This paper expounds how to set up the curriculum system and education in the higher vocational education system scientifically to root the “seeds” of Chinese traditional culture in the hearts of the younger generation, make the cultural life of the students more colorful, and also reflect the spiritual outlook of the contemporary youth. Actively looking for effective ways in the value of traditional culture makes China’s fine traditional culture have a better teaching role in improving the cultural self-confidence of students in higher vocational colleges.

## 1. The Contemporary Value of Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture

Chinese traditional culture first includes thoughts, characters, and language, followed by six classical arts, namely: ritual, music, archery, horse-riding, calligraphy, and mathematics, and then calligraphy, music, martial arts, folk art, chess, festivals, folk customs, etc derived from abundance of life. Traditional culture is closely related and integrated into our lives, which is something we enjoy, develop and inherit.

### 1.1. Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture Promotes Harmonious Development of Society

Five thousand years of Chinese traditional culture is extensive and profound, and long-standing and well-established. The traditional cultural thought is based on Confucianism, supplemented by Buddhism and Taoism, which has made great and far-reaching contributions to resisting foreign invasion and maintaining national cohesion in the history, and gradually internalized into the spiritual pillar of Chinese people. Chinese traditional culture puts forward relatively high requirements for personal cultivation. In the new era of high development, we are not as polite as saints, but through the study of traditional culture, we can edify our sentiments, improve our yearning for a better life, improve our personal accomplishment and perfect our character. By learning traditional music, art, poetry and other artistic forms, we can change and adjust our emotional state with pleasure and ease, so that we can get emotional bursts from art works. People with higher artistic quality can better understand the value of life and the meaning of existence, thus forming a good scientific way of thinking and healthy living habits, so that they can face the difficulties of the outside world with ease. By studying the order concept of traditional culture, we can make strict demands on ourselves, consciously abide by the social system, and maintain a good social order for social and economic development through civilized etiquette. Traditional culture has the idea that man is an integral part of nature, which educates us to respect the laws of nature and reduce the destruction of the ecological environment of nature. Everything in the world has life. Only by living in harmony with nature can we achieve greater development [1].

## 1.2. Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture Helps Economic Development

In the era of rapid development of the national economy, the good operation of enterprises is the foundation of the development of the national economy. Excellent traditional culture can create a warm and harmonious internal atmosphere for enterprises, thus promoting the continuous improvement of the quality of employees, so as to create more excellent performance for the enterprise with strong sense of responsibility. In the Internet era, any enterprise will value the customers experience, and this kind of experience must be inseparable from the service. Customers will perceive the difference of service from an attitude, an expression, and even a smile and a kind reminder of the employee. Through the traditional etiquette culture education of employees, the quality of service can be improved. If all the enterprises respect the etiquette criteria, and all employees can understand kindness, righteousness, propriety, wisdom and trust, and work conscientiously, the corporate image will be definitely improved and the adverse effects of poor service will be reduced, so as to improve work efficiency, and thereby increasing revenue. On the contrary, if a company has a crisis in interpersonal relationship due to poor etiquette of employees, it will lead to poor external development and will cause irretrievable losses to the enterprise. Enterprise's advocating of cultural inheritance can also enrich the spiritual life of employees, let employees take the enterprise as their home, not count personal gains and losses, be willing to contribute, integrate their own development into the healthy operation of the enterprise, thereby realizing the contemporary value of traditional culture in enhancing the vitality of the enterprise, promoting the development of the enterprise, and boosting a new leap in the national economy.

## 1.3. The Significance of Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture in Modern Vocational Education

In the five thousand years, the Chinese nation has accumulated experience from the sharpening of life, which has condensed into Chinese excellent traditional culture, been passed down from generation to generation by the Chinese nation. Chinese people discard the dross and select the essential of these culture and pass on to later generations. Many classic quotes are painstaking works full of moral etiquette culture. Traditional culture has a great effect on inspiring students to establish a good world view while helping to promote students' cultural literacy, quality thinking, and enhance their willpower and perseverance. In 2009, the state leaders of China indicated that "China's far-reaching cultural works are a rare collection of all ages. It condenses infinite wisdom and endless thoughts. It truly expounds the survival and progress of mankind, which is enduring, and the indispensable spiritual food for us. The refined culture that has been passed down from ancient times is full of principles and philosophy. In 2006, the Ministry of Education made it clear that all vocational colleges should "improve students' cultural connotation and moral quality while cultivating technical talents. Improving students comprehensive quality is the premise and the most important link for cultivating technical talents", which pointed out that the colleges should pay attention to the cultivation of cultural connotation of higher vocational students while conducting education on their morality. In 2011, the Ministry of Education proposed that "students' participation in different courses can mobilize their love for learning". In modern vocational education, Chinese culture has an indispensable significance. In higher vocational colleges, in order to improve the quality of vocational education talent cultivation, it is necessary to open a course related to Chinese traditional culture [2].

## 2. The Function of Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture in Ideological and Political Education

A country can not be prosperous without core value and a person can not stand without virtue. China's status as a world power is inseparable from the dependence on Chinese culture. Therefore, in ideological and political education, schools should pay attention to traditional culture education on students, deepen students' understanding of Chinese traditional culture, enhance students' cultural connotation, and cultivate students' love for the motherland, and cultivate students'

awareness of inheriting and carrying forward excellent traditional culture.

## 2.1. Traditional Culture Implies the Cultivation of Moral Integrity

Morality is the evaluation standard of human ideological understanding. It is also an ideology in essence. It is a social rule that people must abide by in the process of interpersonal communication. In most cases, moral thinking is positive and its main function is to make positive judgement on human communication behavior. After five thousand years of history, Chinese culture has already infiltrated into the Chinese people's thinking and communication process. Since ancient times, moral cultivation has been regarded as the foundation of human beings. This concept is mainly embodied in literary classics, such as the "Analects of Confucius", "The Spring and Autumn Annals", "The Tao Te Ching", "The Disciple Gauge", and so on. Among them, there is a large part of the understanding and discussion of morality. "Benevolence, filial piety and fraternal duty, family-regulating; family-regulating; state-ordering; then the land great governed, honesty, and courtesy" have an important influence on the moral shaping of contemporary or future generations, and embody the importance attached to the personal moral cultivation of ancient Chinese people with lofty ideals.

## 2.2. Traditional Culture Implies the Function of Patriotism Education

Patriotism is an important thought left over from the millennium. It expresses the deepest and most real emotions of the individual to the motherland. It is a valuable spiritual wealth and plays an irreplaceable role in promoting the development of Chinese history. In both ancient and modern history, there are many patriotic heroes in the hearts of the Chinese people, such as Yue Fei, who fought against the invasion of Jin Dynasty, Wen Tianxiang, a famous patriotic poet, Du Fu, who worries about the country and the people, and Zheng Chenggong, the hero who recaptured Taiwan, and so on. Such patriots are countless, and their deeds are no longer cold historical materials, but the source of the spiritual motivation of countless posterity. In modern history, Mao Zedong and Sun Yat-sen, who have been working hard for the liberation of the Chinese, have taken the responsibility of caring the fate of his nation, and have liberated countless Chinese from being slaved and oppressed.

## 2.3. Traditional Culture Implies the Function of Shaping Volitional Quality

Since ancient times, the Chinese people have the spirit of working hard, not afraid of difficulties, and constantly improving themselves, which are the precious spiritual wealth of the Chinese nation that has been historically precipitated, and also the spiritual support that supports the Chinese people to overcome difficulties and create a happy life in the face of difficulties. For example, the unremitting learning spirit such as "among any three people walking, I will find something to learn for sure", "if you work at it hard enough, you can grind an iron rod into a needle", the solidarity spirit such as "unity is strength" and "stand together regardless of situation", the self-improvement spirit such as "persistent and dauntless" and "work with perseverance" are the foundation for cultivating students ideological quality and motivating to actively overcome difficulties while constantly challenging themselves and their lives, especially in the context of continuous improvement in material life, which is more important for the shaping of the spiritual quality of vocational college students.

## 2.4. Traditional Culture Implies the Function of Edifying Cultural Literacy

In the course of five thousand years of historical development in China, countless celebrities expressed their feelings to the country, society, and individuals, and recorded this feeling in the form of words, which became immortal books and poems. These have gone through countless historical tests before they will be handed down to this day. "The Book of Songs" is the first collection of poetry in China, which reflects many natural and social phenomena such as love, labor, feast, social customs, and landform. Some of the famous sentences are still widely circulated. Tang and Song poems and Yuan verses all represent the cultural tendency of an era. There are a lot of notabilities of literature, such as Li Bai, Du Fu, Su Shi and so on. Some of them express their

romantic feelings in their works, and some express their feelings about the changes of social history and the feelings of the turbulent situation in their works. Some famous historical poetry have been selected into Chinese primary and secondary school textbooks. China's four great classic novels are the most influential works, which not only describe a number of vivid stories, but also include many kinds of knowledge, such as opera poetry, social folklore, geographical style and so on, which are widely welcomed by people from all walks of life. Traditional culture implies cultural literacy edification function, which can enhance young people's cultural soft power, cultivate their cultural consciousness and cultural self-confidence, improve the civilization and quality of higher vocational students, enrich the spiritual and cultural life of higher vocational students, and let young people make greater contributions to the realization of the great Chinese dream of national rejuvenation, and also to the progress of human civilization.

### **3. Analysis of the Current Situation of Traditional Culture Education for Vocational College Students**

#### **3.1. Lack of Awareness of Traditional Culture**

Nowadays, many college students cannot consciously learn traditional culture, coupled with the lack of curriculum education, which leads to the lack of traditional cultural concepts, they cannot well understand and carry forward traditional culture. Vocational education institutions in our country only pay attention to teaching students how to master the theoretical and practical knowledge of occupation, neglecting the improvement of students' quality cultivation and cultural accomplishment through traditional culture, and fundamentally neglecting the importance of traditional culture, which makes the whole education process separated from the influence of culture, resulting in the extreme lack of awareness of traditional culture of the students themselves[3]. There is no doubt that the cultural invasion of the world by the West, especially to China, is an indisputable fact. Today, McDonalds and KFC are all over the cities above the county level in China and become the fashionable food of the younger generation; foreign cultures such as foreign festivals, foreign movies, foreign toys, Japanese animation, games, Korean TV dramas and various foreign words capture the hearts of the younger generation. In their minds, the status of foreign cultures has far surpassed traditional cultures. The younger generation regards foreign culture as a fashion, identity and pride, but knows nothing about traditional culture. In the era of Internet, mobile phones and tablets have become indispensable tools for students to communicate with each other, and with their sound performances in all aspects, especially in terms of the entertainment system, students cannot leave the company of mobile phones at all. As long as they are not in class, they will be involuntarily immersed in the mobile phone. They can accomplish social intercourse, shopping and entertainment without leaving their homes. They are addicted to the virtual world and have no passion for everything in their heart. They do not care about social welfare, have no personal expertise and interest, and are lonely in their heart. This will lead to the loss of students' initiative in understanding things. If schools lack the cultivation of their moral quality and their own cultural quality on the students, they will not be able to accurately recognize the social situation, thus affecting students' all-round development and hindering them from becoming people with abundant cultural background and good personal skills [4].

#### **3.2. Negligence of the Cultivation of Traditional Culture**

Generally speaking, the quality of students in higher vocational colleges is rather not good, and such a situation leads to higher responsibilities of vocational colleges, and the completion of teaching tasks is more difficult. Considering the quality of students' entrance academic results, it is necessary to carry out research in combination with the actual situation of students. According to the survey, although there are many excellent traditional culture films and TV works in China, vocational college students are much more interested in variety shows than in CCTV's excellent programs such as "Ancient Poetry Conference" and "Classic Chant Spread". In addition, many students' family background is very general, and their parents are not too highly educated, nor can

they give them more influence of traditional culture. At present, most vocational colleges have only added Chinese and writing courses to their daily teaching. Through the opening of these courses, students' cultural knowledge level has been obviously improved and their writing ability has been advanced to some extent. But in practice, it has been proved that these cultural courses cannot fundamentally improve students' cultural literacy, which leads to the serious lack of traditional Chinese culture among vocational college students. Chinese traditional culture plays an instructive role to us in all aspects. Vocational colleges should use excellent traditional culture to purify students' thoughts, improve students' cultural literacy and morality, to reduce students' blind pursuit of material enjoyment and the increasingly serious vanity so that students can feel the joy and beauty of life itself from the depth of their hearts.

#### **4. Effective Integration of Traditional Culture Education into Daily Teaching in Vocational Colleges**

##### **4.1. Traditional Culture Education and Curriculum are closely Integrated**

To cultivate the cultural self-confidence of higher vocational college students, classroom structure should be set as the basis, and a curriculum system that fully permeates traditional culture should be constructed so as to change the low proportion of humanities courses offered in vocational colleges. Therefore, in order to achieve the above objectives, we should try to set the relevant subjects of traditional Chinese culture as compulsory subjects. In addition to the existing compulsory courses of College Chinese, we should also offer elective courses such as appreciation of ancient poetry, transmission of ancient poetry and songs, and traditional etiquette culture. In addition, we should also investigate the attitudes and programs of traditional culture learning. On the premise of defining students' needs, we can also set up various lectures, and invite experts and inheritors of intangible cultural heritage to give special lectures to students, and so on. In the selection of teaching materials, we should also strengthen the penetration of traditional culture, select textbooks with correct value orientation and excellent traditional culture spirit, and incorporate some classic works embodying excellent traditional culture into teaching, which can improve the coverage and depth of traditional culture education in vocational colleges.

##### **4.2. Traditional Culture Education and Classroom Teaching in Vocational Colleges are Closely Integrated**

Classroom is the main place for vocational college students to learn curriculum, and it is also an important place to accept the influence of traditional culture. Therefore, we should fully infiltrate traditional culture into classroom teaching, vigorously excavate the traditional cultural elements of the textbooks and materials used, not only that, but also regularly train teachers in vocational colleges, improve teachers' traditional cultural knowledge reserves and teaching skills, and encourage teachers to quote classics, flexibly use a variety of historical and cultural knowledge in the teaching process, and imperceptibly teach traditional culture to students, so that students gradually increase their interest in learning traditional cultural knowledge. In addition, due to the huge amount of traditional cultural knowledge, it is necessary to compare and choose the teaching contents purposefully, and make students explore traditional cultural knowledge deeply by exploratory learning. Students supplement and extend the knowledge learned in class by means of information collection, group discussion and other forms after-class.

##### **4.3. Combination of Traditional Culture Education and Campus Culture Construction**

Good cultural atmosphere in schools can enhance students' cultural connotations and political thoughts, improve students' moral and personal qualities. Therefore, the integration of traditional culture into school curriculum is a top priority. First of all, school leaders and teachers need to change teaching methods, raise awareness of the importance of traditional culture, and organize activities with traditional culture as the theme, such as knowledge contest, board newspaper design, special performance activities, etc. It is also practical to actively transform the interior decoration of

the school, and add the traditional cultural content to the garden construction, classroom decoration, board newspaper exhibition and dormitory environment of the school. Through the cultural rendering of the school's internal environment, students can be immersed in the feeling of the festive atmosphere students, thus recognizing the traditional culture and constantly improving the connotation of culture and cultural implication in the process of edification, and striving for their dreams.

#### 4.4. Combination of Traditional Culture Education and Social Practice

Contemporary students need to improve their ideological construction through conscious activities of transforming nature and society, and make contributions to society with their knowledge and skills, so as to achieve the goal of self-training and improving their personal abilities. Vocational students can integrate traditional culture into social practice. On Lantern Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, Qingming Festival and other traditional festivals, they can visit the elderly and children in social institutions and give them care and help, help the poor people in society, which makes the students feel the festival etiquette atmosphere, really gives full play to their traditional purposes at the same time; Facing the role that the community can play in cultural propaganda, we can use the holidays to hold lectures on related topics, hold lantern riddle guessing contests, organize dragon boat races among community members, and hold practical activities of "disseminating Chinese culture starting from me, actively responding to the core values of the country" during the winter and summer holidays, so as to take this opportunity to penetrate the content of culture and guide students to make contributions to the society actively, while enhancing individual professional skills, enriching knowledge basis, improving personal accomplishment and expanding the scope of political thinking in this process.

### 5. Conclusion

Qian Mu said in "The Great Righteousness of Cultural Studies" that "the problem of today's China, and even of the world, is not just a military, economic, political or diplomatic issue, but a cultural issue of the whole world. All problems arise from cultural problems and should be solved from the perspective of cultural problems." The rapid development of modern society has accelerated the development of economy and other aspects. In order to keep up with the progress of the times, vocational colleges should have sufficient awareness and understand the great significance of Chinese traditional culture to the growth and management of students. They should be able to integrate traditional culture into the daily curriculum and integrate it into the ideological education of students so as to fill in the cultural connotation and political thoughts that students lack, and to lead students to build a good world view, strive actively for their dreams and become the elite with rich professional skills and full of cultural thoughts, so as to truly achieve the purpose of training talents in vocational colleges.

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