

# Research on the Integration of Chinese Elements into Western Dancesport

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#### **ABSTRACT**

China has a history of five thousand years of civilization and profound cultural heritage. Chinese elements have become symbols and marks that can represent Chinese culture. As a sport introduced into China by western culture, dancesport has developed into a sport integrating fitness, performance and competition. By using the methods of literature, expert interview and logical induction, this paper studies the ways and strategies of integrating Chinese elements into dancesport, and probes into the value and role of Chinese and Western culture in dancesport, so as to better realize the combination of dancesport and Chinese elements. The results show that since the introduction of dancesport into China, China has been far from mobilizing itself to rely too much on the Western Dancesport Culture in the creation of dancesport, which leads to the lack of national characteristics of dancesport. In the production of dancesport, Chinese elements can be added to the arrangement, music, action and clothing of dancesport, so as to reflect the role and value of Chinese elements in dancesport, and provide reference and ideas for the innovation and development of dancesport.

**Keywords**: Chinese elements, dancesport, feasibility, integration

#### I. INTRODUCTION

As a kind of imported product, dancesport has a relatively short development time in China. In the longterm production of dancesport, most of the works are borrowed from Western dancesport, resulting in a lack of innovation. This situation directly leads to the fact that China's dancesport is difficult to achieve good results on the world stage. As a country with five thousand years of civilization, China has accumulated a large number of cultures in its historical development. These cultures still play an important role in today's social development. Now the problem is how to improve the status of Chinese culture in today's society through the excavation of Chinese culture. The integration of Chinese elements and dancesport makes it have Chinese characteristics, so as to break the longterm imitative creation in the creation of dancesport. In recent years, in various large-scale dance events, Chinese elements have been integrated into the dancesport and achieved good results. For example, the second runner-up of the Blackpool Dance Festival in 2010, "Jasmine", the 2012 National Sports Academy Student Sports Art Festival, "The Flowers of the War", the 2012 Chinese National Ballroom Dance Finals, "Di Zi Gui" and other works Zhongdu made full use of Chinese culture to show the connotation of dancesport, which laid the foundation for the application of Chinese elements in dancesport, and also provided inspiration for the use of Chinese elements in the creation of dancesport. However, compared with a large number of Chinese elements, the number of Chinese elements' dancesports is very small. Therefore, how to better study traditional culture and integrate Chinese elements with dancesport is an important task at this stage. Through the study of successful cases, the paper explores the way of integration of Chinese elements and dancesport, and finally realizes the integration of Chinese elements and dancesport as a normal state, and then displays Chinese elements on the stage of the world's dancesport to enhance the world's sense of identity with Chinese culture.

## II. THE THEORETICAL ANALYSIS OF THE INTEGRATION OF DANCESPORT INTO CHINESE ELEMENTS

By consulting and combing the relevant literature, we can find that Chinese elements refer to the images, symbols or customs that are recognized by most Chinese people (including overseas Chinese), coagulate the spirit of traditional Chinese culture, and reflect national dignity and national interests. With the enhancement of China's comprehensive national strength, more and more foreigners begin to learn Chinese culture, and Chinese and Western cultures become integrated in the exchange. As a kind of

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communication between western culture and Chinese elements, dancesport can also achieve a good trend.

### A. The inevitable trend of cultural exchange between China and the West

With the coming of information technology era, the communication between countries in the world is becoming more and more frequent. In the process of frequent communication, different countries and nations have known and understood each other's culture through the way of communication. It is this kind of communication that also produces cultural collision. In the early stage of the understanding of Chinese and Western culture, because the one-sided nature of the understanding was considered to be opposite, the problem was not looked at in a comprehensive way. There are differences and similarities between Chinese and Western cultures. When there is a collision between the two, seek common ground while reserving differences will be found to find the commonness between the two. We will work together for common problems, and discuss and respect each other for problems with differences. Only in such constant collision and exchange can we form a consensus and truly integrate Chinese culture into world culture.

## B. The general needs of the development of world sports culture

For Chinese traditional sports, it has a long history. After the integration of history, it finally formed a unique form of sports with Chinese characteristics. In today's sports globalization, the traditional national sports have been greatly impacted. In fact, the development of Chinese traditional sports is not opposite to that of the world sports, but in the form of communication and promotion. development of China's sports needs to take the world sports as a reference. At the same time, the development of world sports also needs the participation of Chinese traditional culture, so as to form a diversified sports culture, enrich the connotation of sports culture, and promote the development of world sports.

## III. THE VALUE OF INTEGRATING CHINESE ELEMENTS IN DANCESPORT

#### A. Enriching the multi-culture of dancesport

As a kind of western culture, dancesport has been introduced into China, which has obvious Western characteristics both in the process of creation and in the later development. When European and American dancers are in the process of sports, they show bold and unconstrained movements, strong movements and large movements, which is different from the Chinese concept of introverted, rigid and soft. If any sport wants

to develop in a long term, it needs to adapt to the characteristics of different regional development, and integrate multi-cultural, so as to get multi-ethnic recognition. When Chinese elements are integrated into dancesport, they can enrich the culture of dancesport, make it have different national characteristics and styles, and enrich the cultural connotation of dancesport.

First of all, integrating Chinese elements into the dancesport can help those who love it to understand Chinese culture through clothing, music, actions and other aspects, so that Chinese culture can go to the world and become an important way to show themselves. Secondly, adding Chinese elements to the dancesport can integrate Chinese culture into world culture. In the mutual communication with the world culture, seek common ground while reserving differences, so as to find the channels of multi-cultural communication with the world. Thirdly, dancesport can be used as a carrier of the inheritance of Chinese culture. Chinese elements are reflected from the aspects of dancesport's action arrangement, stage background, character clothing, makeup, music, props, etc. to show the characteristics of Chinese classical culture.

#### B. Creative dancesport choreography

Dance action is the most basic and the core element of dancesport, which is the carrier of various forms of expression of dancesport, and also the form of expression of the basic characteristics of dancesport. In the process of choreography of dancesport, most of them adopt the choreography of Western dancesport. Because most of the choreography of China's dancesport is based on the imitation of Western dancesport, this phenomenon directly inhibits the innovation of China's dancesport. In the process of creation, the common thinking is to first think about how the Western dancesport is choreographed, how we imitate it, and how to improve it on the basis of the Western dancesport. With the formation of this thinking pattern in the arrangement of China's dancesport, it will have an important and negative impact on the integration of Chinese elements and Chinese culture.

First of all, integrating Chinese elements into dancesport can combine 5000 years of history and culture with modern dance, and make dancesport show in the form of a combination of classical and modern culture. Secondly, in the arrangement of the queue of dancesport, we can use the forms like Taiji, Chinese characters, Chinese seal and so on. On the basis of conforming to the choreography, we can show it in the form of Chinese traditional culture, which gives the world a very new feeling. Third, in the production of dance movements, we can design some movements that are suitable for Chinese appearance characteristics and Chinese feelings. In the design of action, follow the



golden mean, which is not too publicity, but also introverted.

#### C. Enhancing national pride

Dancesport originated from Latin America, European and American countries. In the international competition, Chinese dancesport players seldom have the experience of winning the championship, and there are many reasons for this phenomenon. On the one hand, because of the relatively late start of dancesport in China, the athletes lack training experience. On the other hand, because of their lack of self-confidence, players usually excessively imitate the clothing, dance steps, music and rhythm of European and American players, resulting in the lack of innovation ability in dance works, making them lack of self-confidence. When Chinese elements are integrated into dancesport, Chinese players can wear clothes with Chinese characteristics when they are competing in international dancesport, and choose Chinese classical music as the background music of the dance. Through this form of performance, we can improve the frequency of Chinese elements used in the dancesport, and let the world better understand the role and value of Chinese elements in the dancesport.

First of all, the integration of Chinese elements into the dancesport can make the world realize the role and value of Chinese elements in the dancesport, and even to a large extent can stimulate the desire of foreign players to join Chinese elements in the game. Secondly, the integration of Chinese elements into the dancesport can enhance the national pride and sense of mission of Chinese players, and make them more confident in the competition. Thirdly, integrating Chinese elements into dancesport can help to develop Chinese traditional culture, tap the role of Chinese traditional culture in the competition of dancesport, and provide theoretical and practical support for the later creation and choreography of dancesport.

## IV. PROBLEMS TO BE NOTICED IN INTEGRATING CHINESE ELEMENTS INTO DANCESPORT

## A. Fully understanding the role of Chinese elements in the dancesport

China's five thousand years of civilization and history have left precious wealth for future generations. In the process of dance creation, a reasonable reference to the wisdom of the ancients can achieve good results. For Chinese elements, it not only has a wide range of types and rich content but also can make dance movements more full through Chinese elements, giving dancesport a multi-theme culture. First of all, Chinese elements can enrich the connotation of dancesport and make it reflect the historical background and classical

temperament in the performance process. Secondly, adding Chinese classical music to the background music of dancesport will bring a new feeling to people, changing the traditional mode that western music is used as background music in the traditional dancesport.

#### B. Avoiding deliberately adding Chinese elements

Chinese elements have many advantages. Does that mean that Chinese elements must be added in the process of choreography and creation of dancesport? The result is negative. In the process of choreography and creation of dancesport, targeted production should be carried out according to the creation needs of dancesport. If the dancesport matches with Chinese elements, then you can add Chinese elements to your creation. Otherwise, it is not necessary to join Chinese elements. It is necessary to avoid deliberately adding Chinese elements so as to avoid confusion of style. First of all, we need to clarify the macro content in the creation process of dancesport, and determine whether we need to add Chinese elements and the proportion of Chinese elements in the creation of dancesport. Secondly, to choose Chinese elements reasonably and add them to the choreography of dancesport, it is necessary to ensure that the content of Chinese elements is consistent with that of dancesport.

## C. Mastering the principle of proportion when integrating Chinese elements

According to the basic principles of philosophy, we should pay attention to a limit no matter what we do. The development of things follows certain rules. When it exceeds certain limits, the development of things begins to change from strong to weak. In the creation of dancesport, we should also grasp the principle of attention limit. By reasonably controlling the proportion of Chinese elements in the dancesport, to ensure the quality and effect of the dancesport, it can not only reflect the Chinese characteristics, give people a very novel feeling, but also can not reflect the deliberate participation of Chinese elements in order to reflect the Chinese culture. First of all, through the sport of dancesport, we can show the traditional Chinese philosophy and make it present a classical artistic conception, just right. Secondly, we should pay more attention to the coordination of the whole body in the dance movement, so that the movement can achieve the effect of leaving different contents. Third, grasp the scale of Chinese elements in the process of combination. Chinese elements pay attention to the beauty of culture and artistic conception, while the Western Dancesport pays attention to competitiveness, sports and health. The combination of the two can make dancesport show the whole effect of strength and beauty.



#### V. CONCLUSION

Oneness has a very important restraining effect on the development of the world, and multiculturalism is the inevitable trend of the development of the world culture. China's five thousand years of civilization and history have left precious wealth for future generations. In the choreography and creation of dancesport, the integration of Chinese elements and dancesport can enrich the connotation of dancesport, increase the innovation channels of dancesport, show combination of Chinese classical and modern beauty of dancesport, and promote the development of dancesport. We suggest that in the process of creating dancesport, we should reasonably add Chinese elements to promote Chinese elements to go to the world through the sport of dancesport, and get the recognition of the creators of the world's dancesport, and also make contributions to the creation of dancesport.

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