

Research on Protection and Inheritance of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Dazhou –Taking Fanshanjiaozi as an Example

Fengxian He

Sichuan University of Arts and Science (Lianhu), Dazhou, Sichuan, China

21536360@qq.com

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Abstract: With the emphasis on intangible cultural heritage from various countries in the world, intangible cultural heritage of Dazhou also embraces new opportunities, and Fanshanjiaozi is an important component. From entertaining spirits in sacrificial ceremony to popular dance form, it has a long history of almost 200 years. In order to better inherit it, it is necessary to keep pace with the characteristics of the times, establish database, build digital inheritance platform, integrate local economic and culture construction and strengthen the cooperation with local colleges and universities. Besides, the inheritance and protection of intangible cultural heritage in Dazhou shall also pay attention to the copyright in digitalization, control the “degree” of development and utilization and more efficiently make use of resources like colleges and universities.

1. The Development and Current Status of World’s Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection and Inheritance

Heritage protection originates from Europe. Since French National Assembly set up agency of heritage protection and made heritage list in 1790, foreign heritage protection has a history of more than 200 years. Europe has mature protection concept and experience in the preservation of cultural heritage site, whereas, the U.S and Australia are mature in the legislation and management of national park of natural and cultural heritage, and Japan and Korea are good at legislation and preservation of intangible cultural heritage.

With the issue of *The Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage* by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 2003 (hereinafter referred to as Convention), researches on intangible cultural heritage speed up the discipline integration, attract the interdisciplinary conservation and negotiation among various disciplines, such as anthropology, folklore, ethnology, law, museology, archaeology, economics, pedagogy, architectonics and so on, and achieve a large quantity of insightful results.

Related foreign studies on intangible cultural heritage mainly come from *International Journal of Heritage Studies* established in 1994, *Museum International* by the United Nations, and *International Journal of Intangible Heritage* by National Museum of Korea in 2006.

Compared to the live protection history of foreign intangible cultural heritage, China’s dynamic protection of intangible cultural heritage is still in a stage of development, and protection practice and concepts are explored in development.

2. Intangible Cultural Heritage in Dazhou

Dazhou, located at the southern foot of Daba Mountain, has a long history of more than 1900 years since Emperor He set up Xuanhan County in 96 in the Eastern Han Dynasty. Due to the junction of Sichuan, Chongqing, Hubei and Shaanxi, it is a vital communication line, with rich natural resources. In addition, since ancient times, Ba people are brave and battlewise. During the long history, diligent Dazhou people have created a large batches of excellent intangible cultural heritage, with a large number, high value, wide distribution and various kinds, which are specified in detail.

First, folk music, with main representatives of Beierge in Ba Mountain from Wanyuan, weeding drum of Tujia minority from Xuanhan;

Second, folk dance, including Fanshanjiaozi and Chechedeng;

Third, folk literature, such as nursery rhyme in Baqu;

Fourth, traditional Chinese opera and folk art forms, such as Zhuqin;

Fifth, aerobatics, such as Kaijiangaobang;

Sixth, traditional manual skills, such as Liu's bamboo weaving and Lubanya;

Seventh, folk custom, such as uprise fete-day, Shiqiaohuolong, and Caitinghui in Sanhui.

Among these intangible cultural heritage, weeding drum of Tujia minority from Xuanhan and Caitinghui in Sanhui are the representatives of national intangible cultural heritage, and Shiqiaohuolong and uprise fete-day are the representatives of provincial intangible cultural heritage.

In recent years, Dazhou government pays more attention to the preservation and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage, issuing *On Strengthening the Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage* in 2016. It launch formulations and suggestions on strengthening awareness, perfecting list, emphasizing inheritance and preservation, promoting reasonable utilization and improving guarantee measures and points out direction for the preservation and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage in Dazhou. With time goes by, Dazhou has assessed five batches of intangible cultural heritage, improves and expands its quantity and scope, so as to lay a solid foundation for follow-up preservation and inheritance.

3. Fanshanjiaozi

Among various intangible cultural heritages in Dazhou, Fanshanjiaozi is popular among people due to its unique performance form and rich cultural connotations.

3.1 Fanshanjiaozi and its history

Jiaozi, called by people in east Sichuan, in fact, is a coppery cymbal, also called Cha in Chinese. It is a kind of percussion instrument to make sounds by touching. With simple structure, it is a piece of rounded copper sheet, with an upheaval in the center, called "bowl" or "cap". There is a small hole in the center with a red rope. The diameter of Jiaozi is generally 15-16 centimeters and the "bowl" is about 2-5 centimeters. In performance, players hold two pieces of same Jiaozi, hit different places of the Jiaozi to make a ringing sound. Besides, players always perform different dance movements and postures, which are popular with the masses.

In various statements about its origin, the representative is the myth of witchcraft. It is said that, more than 200 years ago, in east Sichuan, a folk wizard named Su Xingtai created a set of movements with dance aesthetics using the Jiaozi entertaining the ghosts and basic forms of action of the altar practice, which is the prototype of Fanshanjiaozi. Whereas, there are many origins about the name of Fanshanjiaozi, one of which is the movement. There are many movement of "overturning" (Fan in Chinese) in the performance, so it is called Fanshanjiaozi in Chinese; It is also said that in weddings and funerals of east Sichuan, there must be the accompanying blowing and percussion music of Jiaozi especially when picking up brides. Besides, there are many mountains and bumpy roads, and people need to tramp over hill and dale to pick up brides, so it is called Fanshanjiaozi.

The development of Fanshanjiaozi also experiences several stages. First of all, it is the infancy stage of about 200 years ago. It was performed mainly by professional wizard in sacrificial activities to entertain ghosts; secondly, it is the forming period. With the social development and people's popularization, it was not just performed by professional wizard, also by folk artisan to gradually form fixed performance form with the goal of entertaining people; thirdly, it enters the period of frustration. During the Cultural Revolution, due to the "superstition" color of its origin, it was listed as the "four olds". However, it survived with its deep mass base and passed down; fourthly, it comes to the period of development. It was popular in east Sichuan in 1980s. There is saying that "Don't accompany bride to bridegroom's family on wedding day without Jiaozi". It has a certain development. For instance, the props gradually develops to "long-rope Jiaozi" from

“short-rope Jiaozi”, basic movements develop to rich actions from simply overturning, rotating, hitting and rubbing, “plain-platform Jiaozi” and “high-platform Jiaozi” are created on the basis of “plane Jiaozi”, and music develops to instrumental ensemble of suona and drum from single Jiaozi. Especially after being listed in the second batch of national intangible cultural heritage, it develops greatly. The performance grows from field dance to the participation of individuals and group dancing, and to large-scale square dancing and choreography, popular with people.

3.2 The current status of Fanshanjiaozi

Fanshanjiaozi is a glory with the name of national intangible cultural heritage, which recognizes its cultural value and its uniqueness. At the same time, it has fragile vitality, so it needs preservation and inheritance. With the history of over 100 years, its propaganda regions is relatively narrow, limited with Dazhou, Yingshan and surrounding area. There is a guild regulations that “it is only passed down to male not female or even other surnames”, which also constrains its development. Meanwhile, there is not written materials, and it is inherited in the way of master-prentice mode. It is these artisan who pass down Fanshanjiaozi.

To 1980s, because of the aging artisan and less descendants, less performance and falling reputation, it is on the verge of extinction. After systematical recovery, it became popular at one time. However, till the end of last century, due to the impact of marketization and its own constraints, there were only one or two performers, with less and simple actions and movements, and single form of short-rope Jiapzi, the environment and soil for its existence changed, even the birthplace, Longgang, Pingchang paid less attention to it, so it gradually declines.

Until it was included in national intangible cultural heritage in 2008, Fanshanjiaozi shows new vitality. It is performed on CCTV stages, and local government also takes many measures to ensure the inheritance of Fanshanjiaozi, such as introducing it in classroom, holding competitions and building theme park, achieving great effects.

4. Paths to Protect and Inherit Fanshanjiaozi

4.1 To establish high-quality database to protect and inherit Fanshanjiaozi

At present, the relevant information of Fanshanjiaozi is scattered, mainly stored in cultural centers, cultural stations and inheritors, and there is not a relatively systematic data resources library yet. Its construction can be considered from four aspects. Specifically, first of all, to construct a unified digital standard to improve the scattered data bases and enhance its efficiency; secondly, to conduct a systematical collection of image data about Fanshanjiaozi, including audio and video, and sort out performances of inheritors and representatives; thirdly, written materials, oral data and music score are in digital storage; fourthly, database of Fanshanjiaozi is constructed to collect and store research achievements of Fanshanjiaozi.

The construction of database is to more efficiently preserve and inherit Fanshanjiaozi and integrate related data to lay a foundation for survey research and development.

4.2 To set up digitalized promotion platform and training to widen the influence

With the rapid development of science and technology, the channels for people to understand intangible cultural heritage are diversified. Especially the younger generation, they are more dependent on Internet and mobile phone to obtain information, and their acceptance of new things is higher. Therefore, in order to attract the younger generation to focus on intangible cultural heritage, these two methods can be taken into account. On the one hand, diversified promotion platforms can be built, such as social APPs of WeChat, Weibo and QQ to widen the promotion and focus on the construction of contents. Besides, online presentation and experience can be set up. In addition, short video platforms like Tik Tok favorite by young people can be used to make short video for promotion. Game APP of Fanshanjiaozi also can be developed to attract young people to learn it and promote this art from network live platforms. On the other hand, training methods shall innovated. It is generally leant by oral teaching. Whereas, digital training can be realized with AR

technology to show the movements of inheritors, which can break through the constraints of time and place for learning. And knowledge can become vivid and it is easier for learners to grasp it, so that the training and learning process becomes more efficient.

4.3 To serve local economic and cultural development

Dazhou is panned as the center city in the junction of Sichuan, Chongqing, Hubei and Shaanxi, which means that Dazhou will become the regional economic and cultural center. Intangible cultural heritage like Fanshanjiaozi cannot just wait for the protection from government, but to take the opportunity to find out a road suitable for its own development, which can be considered from three perspectives.

First of all, theme park and museum of Fanshanjiaozi shall be constructed. There is not a high-level theme park of intangible cultural heritage or professional museum in Dazhou. They can be built in Shiqiao Town, Dachuan District, which is the center with extensive mass base and tourism resources such as Shiqiaohuolong and East Sichuan Red Street. A theme park can built, with experience and learning of Fanshanjiaozi, understanding and view of Shiqiaohuolong and patriotism education of red culture. Theme museum can exhibit objects related to Fanshanjiaozi, such as Jiaozi, models of making Jiazi, and folk customs about weddings and funerals of east Sichuan, so that visitors can understand and feel the charm of Fanshanjiaozi in an all-round way. In this way, advantageous resources are integrated to create highlights with focus, which can inherit intangible cultural heritage and make contribution to local economic construction.

Secondly, local scenic areas are combined to make joint development. The root of Fanshanjiaozi is in Shiqiao Town, but it cannot be limited within Shiqiao. There are high-quality tourism resources such as Batai Mountains, Longtan River and Hundred Mile Gap in Ba Mountain in Dazhou currently. Besides, Hundred Mile Gap in Ba Mountain now is creating a high-level stage performance, which can make full use of resources of Fanshanjiaozi to be favorite by more visitors; At the same time, promotions stations of Dazhou intangible cultural heritage can be set in scenic areas so that visitors can deeply understand rich intangible cultural heritage in east Sichuan.

Thirdly, characteristic tourist souvenirs can be developed. Shopping is a very important part of the tourism process. Especially the purchase of distinctive souvenirs is an important way to industrialize the intangible cultural heritage. For example, Fanshanjiaozi can be taken as a design element to make earrings, necklaces, or children's toys. And then put these products into various scenic spots, which will transform intangible cultural heritage to economic driving force.

4.4 To cooperate with colleges and universities to improve the ability to protect and inherit Fanshanjiaozi

Colleges and universities are the birthplace of new culture and ideology, and the main force of inheriting intangible cultural heritage. The only university in Dazhou is the Sichuan University of Arts and Sciences, which has made great achievements in art education in recent years, especially in the field of dance, winning many awards such as the "Lotus Award", the highest award of Chinese dance, and the first award in the National College Student Art Festival, and Sichuan University Student Art Festival, with extensive experience in creation, teaching and performance. At the same time, Research Institute of Ba Culture established in this university has reached great achievements in studies of Dazhou intangible cultural heritage.

The cooperation with colleges and universities can be implemented from two aspects.

On the one hand, the cooperation in scientific research and academia can be conducted. Dazhou Social Science Association, Dazhou Bureau of Broadcasting and Entertainment and Sichuan University of Arts and Sciences can set up a special research fund for the construction of related intangible cultural heritage databases, so that human resources of this university can be effectively utilized and combined with localities. Academic forum on intangible cultural heritage can be jointly held to invite experts and inheritors from related fields, and through the exchanges and academic lectures, the intangible cultural heritage such as Fanshanjiaozi can be widely disseminated.

On the other hand, training and new talent cultivation platforms can be constructed with colleges and universities. The intangible cultural heritage needs to be protected because some aspects cannot

adapt to the needs of modern society and cannot attract more young people to participate. Therefore, training cooperated with colleges and universities can make use of this platform to innovate the form of intangible cultural heritage and cultivate more talents to inherit it. It is feasible to develop related professional courses with colleges and universities and teach students in related majors. At present, it is known that only the Shanghai Theatre Academy has obtained excellent performance of Fanshanjiaozi in the Taoli Cup 20 years ago, but local universities have not done anything in this regard. Local colleges and universities can form standardized teaching materials on the basis of systematic and standardized arrangement. After trial use, they will be promoted to other universities and primary and secondary schools. At the same time, a large number of talents capable of promotion can be trained. It is also possible to process Fanshanjiaozi for stage, create high-level music and dance works with it as element, to be involved in various performances and competitions to enhance its popularity. Performance competitions and exhibition performance can be held to involve more people to experience the charm of intangible cultural heritage. In this way, the new platform for cultivating talents with the participation of government, colleges and universities and inheritors can be built.

5. Problems in Inheriting and Protecting Dazhou Intangible Cultural Heritage

5.1 Copyright in constructing database

In the process of building the intangible cultural heritage database, the copyright issue with the inheritor will inevitably arise. The author has encountered an inheritor who is not willing to digitize the relevant information in his hand, because these are the efforts of his life. In the actual work, it should be collected under the premise of legality. At the same time, the will of the inheritors should be respected, and the respect for the inheritors can be reflected through economic compensation.

5.2 The relationship between economic benefits and inheritance should be clear

The industrialization of intangible cultural heritage is often related to tourism. In the process of its development, the phenomenon of catering to the market has occurred from time to time, destroying the intangible cultural heritage. In actual work, the inheritance of intangible cultural heritage should be placed in the first place, and the economic benefits are placed in the second place. The development and utilization shall be reasonable, avoiding excessively vulgar development.

5.3 The advantages of local colleges and universities shall be fully utilized

The important task of local colleges and universities is to serve local economic construction, and local governments must form good interaction with colleges and universities. The same is true in the inheritance of intangible cultural heritage. Local colleges and universities should take the initiative to actively connect with the local governments and give full play to their own advantages. Local governments should fully consider the interests of local colleges and universities in terms of relevant policy formulation and funding allocation, so as to make joint forces to pass on the intangible cultural heritage more effectively.

6. Conclusion

Dazhou is rich in intangible cultural heritage with Fanshanjiaozi as an important component. Pingchang County, Bazhong City has made beneficial attempts in preservation and inheritance, and has reached great results. Therefore, Dazhou shall also take the opportunity of regional center city to develop economy and culture, to promote the development of intangible cultural heritage.

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