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# Analysis on the Protection, Development and Utilization of Cultural Classics of Yi Nationality

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**Abstract:** The protection, development and utilization of the current cultural classics of Yi nationality are mainly studied. Firstly, a theoretical analysis of the Bimo and Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality is made for grasping the concept, types, writing, inheritance, preservation and distribution of Bimo historical archives from a macro perspective; secondly, by analyzing the characteristics of Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality and the value of its excavation and utilization to the current cultural development, the necessity of exploring and utilizing Bimo historical archives is explained; thirdly, the achievements of exploring and utilizing Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality are introduced. In addition, a series of problems in policy, consciousness, custody and personnel in the process of Bimo's historical archives excavation and utilization are profoundly analyzed in order to suit the case. Finally, through the analysis, some suggestions have been put forward from the aspects of policies and regulations, and feasible measures for excavation and utilization have been put for-ward concretely at the micro level in order to better protect, rescue, develop and utilize Bimo's historical archives this precious national historical and cultural heritage. It is seen that the research will make some contributions to the sustainable and healthy development of Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality and the development of minority culture in China.

#### 1. Introduction

With the continuous progress of the current society and the continuous improvement of people's living standards, people's demand for culture is also increasing. As an important carrier of human culture, the development and utilization of archives is of great significance. The unique six dialects, costume culture, marriage and funeral tradition, music, dance, etiquette culture and Suni culture of the Yi nationality constitute a colorful national cultural landscape [1]. These cultures also constitute a kaleidoscope of colorful minority culture, which has great research and protection value. The diversity of culture of the Yi nationality determines that the historical archives of the Yi nationality have the distinct characteristics of wide sources, rich contents and various types. From the perspective of ancient bibliography, the study of Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality is relatively in-depth, and the research results are very rich [2]. From the perspective of philosophy and religion, the study of the Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality has always been an important part of the study of the Yi nationality. From the perspective of history, the research results of Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality are also very rich, involving the origin of the Yi nationality, the general history of the Yi nationality, local history, political system, ethnic relations and many other aspects [3]. From the perspective of archival science, the study of Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality started relatively late, with relatively few works. To sum up, from the perspective of ancient literature, philosophy, religion and history, the study of Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality is relatively in-depth, and the research results are very fruitful, which provides us with a wealth of information accumulation [4]. Although the study of Yi Bimo historical archives from the perspective of archival science is still in its infancy, it leaves us a vast space for further research.



### 2. State of the art

According to the records of Yi classics, Bimo has a very long history. It originated from the development of Yi nationality primitive religion to a more complete product. In the long history of human social development, the ancestors of the Yi nationality struggled hard with the nature for their own survival and production [5]. Limited to extremely low productivity and poor scientific knowledge, in the process of struggling with nature, there is no explanation for some natural phenomena, and there is often a sense of helplessness to some forces of nature. Therefore, it is believed that there is something invisible, intangible, powerful and dominant over all things in the world, and that a supernatural God is at work, and in this case, religious ideas comes into being [6]. The ancestors of Yi nationality thought that only by communicating with God and resorting to God's blessings could human beings survive and develop safely [7]. Bimo appeared just for the purpose of communicating the relationship between man and God. They were responsible for explaining various natural phenomena. They dealt with both God and man, and became intermediaries between two different worlds.

Historically, Bimo not only created Yi language, standardized Yi etiquette, collected, collated and created Yi literature, and promoted Yi culture, but also compiled astronomical calendar of Yi nationality, recorded the history, myths and legends of Yi nationality, and developed and flourished Yi folk literature and art. All these prove that Bimo has indelible achievements in the development history of culture of the Yi nationality. Only when Bimo exists can the brilliant and unique Bimo culture of the Yi nationality be developed. Some people even directly regard Bimo culture as the narrow sense of Yi nationality culture, which is a cultural phenomenon widely existing in the Yi nationality with Bimo and Bimo living ceremony as the core [8]. Bimo culture is based on the world outlook and epistemology of Yi ancestors, developed from various beliefs and worship, and passed on from generation to generation through Bimo. It has unique concepts of gods and ghosts, witches' rituals, moral concepts and taboos. It takes sutras and rituals as carriers, gods and ghosts concepts and witchcraft rituals as its core. It covers politics, economy, history, archaeology, education, philosophy, astronomy, morality, ethics, religion, law, customs, music, dance and other profound contents. It is known as the "Encyclopedia of the Yi Nationality" and "Treasures Embedded in Yi Nationality Culture".

The culture of the Yi nationality, regardless of its systematicness, completeness and uniqueness, can be regarded as a brilliant and wonderful miracle of the Chinese nation's culture. Bimo culture is the main component of the culture of the Yi nationality and the essence of the traditional culture of the Yi nationality, which has high historical and scientific value. At the same time, Bimo culture is a national culture formed by the working people in their long life and is the vast labor force and an important part of people's spiritual life, which is of high spiritual value. Bimo culture, as a "golden keys" to open the traditional culture of the Yi nationality, is the inheritance and development of the original religious culture of the Yi nationality and runs through the production and life of the Yi nationality all the time.

In view of the present situation of the preservation and protection of ancient books of Yi language, Zhang Yingying put forward in the article *The Current Situation and Problem Analysis of the Collection of Ancient Books of Yi Language* that ancient books of Yi language are facing a situation of gradual loss, and a large number of ancient books of Yi language are destroyed and lost due to poor preservation and protection; Gao Jianhui, Li Quanhua, Yu Zhengxiang and Li Zhongliang, in the article *Research on the Current Situation of the Preservation of Yi Ancient Books and the Difficulties in Digital Protection*, pointed out that although the government pays more attention to the protection of ancient Yi books and takes some measures to strengthen the collection and collation, the relevant research and measures on the digital protection of ancient Yi books are still in-sufficient. Jimu Nonferrous, in his article *On the Protection and Utilization of Yi Ancient Books under the Background of Information Society--Digitalization of Yi Ancient Books*, argued that ancient books are facing severe damage and loss. Relevant departments lack awareness of protection, do not have sufficient funds to support the protection of ancient books, and cannot effectively utilize collected ancient books, such as collating, translating and publishing, and a



perfect system of protection and inheritance has not yet been established; Zhangfang put forward in *Paying Attention to the Preservation Status of Chinese Yi Ancient Books* that because the ancient books have existed for a long time and the way of preservation is backward, they are facing the risk of mildew, page missing, insect moth and so on. If the governments do not take measures to protect the ancient Yi Books as soon as possible, they will face the loss of precious ancient books.

Aiming at the protection measures of Yi ancient books, Lu Ning put forward in his article Discussion on the Protection and Utilization of Guizhou Yi Ancient Books that measures should be taken to strengthen the protection from the aspects of collection, talent team construction, translation, publication, research, publicity and utilization. Gao Jianhui, Li Quanhua and Li Zhongliang in their article Research on Digital Protection and Utilization Strategies of Yi Ancient Books thought that it is necessary to speed up the digital protection and utilization of Yi ancient books and establish corresponding protection and utilization system; Lu Yuping thought that the content of Yi ancient books can be digitized, and the bibliographic digital system and content digital system of Yi ancient books can be constructed. Mugoyob and Yang Xiaoling put forward the establishment of the digitized retrieval system of Yi ancient books in The Construction Basis and Preliminary Conception of the Retrieval System of Internet Layout and Text, so as to facilitate the public to view the contents of ancient books. The original pictures of ancient books can be retrieved to meet all kinds of research needs of retrievers in an all-round way.

## 3. Methodology

## 3.1 Field investigation

Liangshan Meigu is the place with the largest and most concentrated Bimo in Liangshan Prefecture, with the highest level of knowledge in Bimo, the most complete legal instruments and the richest scriptures, and it is the Bimo cultural home. The investigation of Meigu County is the most direct way to deeply understand Bimo culture, investigate local traditional culture, and collect relevant text, pictures and image data. The Yi nationality can be seen everywhere in Liangshan area, and the atmosphere of Bimo culture can be felt everywhere. As a result, the investigation in Liangshan is indispensable. The Walang River village of the Yi nationality is investigated, having face-to-face exchanges with Bimo in order to truly understand the Bimo culture. Watching a Bimo do his best and collecting the pictures and words will move people's hearts.

#### 3.2 Interview method

By interviewing Bimo and Yi nationality in Liangshan area, it is possible to have a deep understanding of the connotation of Bimo culture and face-to-face interviews with legislative experts and experts on ancient books of Yi language, in order to collect first-hand information on legislation and protection of ancient books of Yi language.

## 3.3 Interdisciplinary research method

In discussing the value of the Bimo historical archives of the Yi nationality, the theories of religion, philosophy, literature, medicine, law, ethics, astronomy and calendar are quoted, and the perspective is turned to the interdisciplinary zone.

## 4. Results and discussions

According to the survey, it is found that Bimo culture was first studied in 1947. The research on Bimo culture is as follows:



Table 1 Books on Bimo culture studies

Time	Literature name	Name	Press
1982	Zhi Ge A Lu	Ergeppe's Narration and	Sichuan Ethnic Publishing
1984	The Son of Yicha	New Kerry's Arrangement  Ling photoelectric translation	House  Compilation and Printing of Yi History Documents Compilation Room of Central University for Nationalities
1986	Puznanzi-Yi Sacrifice Ci	Translation of Huang Jianmin and Rosigo	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
1986	Translated Notes to the Sutra of Advising the Good in Yi Language	Ma Xue Liang	Central University for Nationalities Press
1987	On the Level of Totem	Yang Helin	Yunnan People's Publishing House
1978	Erbirgi (Selected Translation of Liangshan Yi Language Material, Volume 3)	Editor of Liangshan prefecture integrated editorial board	Printing Plant Printing of Southwest University for Nationalities
1989	Asong Hei and Bai Zhai Shu in Nepali Rent Genealogy	Translated Notes by Li Chunfu and Li Zenghua	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
1990	Selected Folk Stories of the Yi Nationality in Liangshan	Bai Zhi	Sichuan Ethnic Publishing House
1991	Creation Records of the Yi Nationality (Volume 3)	Chao Xian	Sichuan Ethnic Publishing House
1992	A Record of the Customs of the Yi Nationality	Bamo Sister Yi School Group	Central Institute for Nationalities Press
1993.8	The Worship of Mothers and Stones of the Yi Nationality and Its Myths and Legends	Zhong Shimin	China Social Science Press
1993	A Brief History of the Beginning of Things (Three Episodes and Seven Volumes)	Yi language translation group in Bijie District	Sichuan Ethnic Publishing House
1993	Integration of Liangshan Folk Literature (Part I) (Part II)	Editor of Liangshan prefecture integrated editorial board	Southwest Jiaotong University Press
1994.9	Ramo by Yi Wizard in the Interaction between Heaven and Man	Wang Guangrong	Yunnan People's Publishing House
1995.4	Biographies of Yi Wu-Yu Bu, Bu Xu Sheng and Wu Song	Li Shikang	Yunnan People's Publishing House
1995.2	A Study on the Ancestor Worship of the Yi Nationality	Wang Lizhu	Yunnan People's Publishing House
1996.6	A Study on the Culture of Yi Classics and Books	Zhu Chongxian	Central University for Nationalities Press
1996.6	Liangshan Yi Etiquette and Customs	Wang Changfu	Central University for Nationalities Press
1989	The Origin and Development of the Yi Nationality (Volume 16)	Yi language translation group in Bijie District	Guizhou Ethnic Publishing House
1998	Liangshan Yi Exorcism Sutra	Wei Mingde	Taiwan Lishi Society
2002	Investigation and Study of Liangshan Meigu Leotyi	Gong Tenglong	Dadong University of Culture, Japan
2003.1	Bimo Painting of the Ancient Yi Nationality	Zhang Chunde	Yunnan University Press
1989	The Origin and Development of the Yi Nationality (Volume 16)	Yi language translation group in Bijie District	Guizhou Ethnic Publishing House
2004.8	A Study of Meigu Folk Art in Daliangshan	Zeng Ming and Luo Qu	Sichuan Ethnic Publishing House

Table 1 shows that Bimo culture is the core of traditional Chinese culture of Yi nationality and a wonderful flower of world national religion. In September 1996, with the support of Japan, the United States, Germany, France and other countries and relevant universities, scientific research



institutions, experts and scholars at home, China established the "China Bimo Cultural Research Center for the Yi Nationality". Members are all over the world, and many well-known experts and scholars from Japan, the United States, Germany, Korea, Czech Republic, Poland and other countries and regions are involved. Since the establishment of the research center, the Center has actively cooperated with scholars and relevant institutions at home and abroad to strengthen the academic protection of Bimo culture through academic research. It has done a lot of effective work and translated numerous books successively. Among them, *Liangshan Yi Exorcising Ghosts Classic* uses four-line paired translations of ancient Yi books, international phonetic symbols and Chinese literal and free translation, totaling more than 9,000 lines. It shows the rich connotation of Bimo Classics of the Yi nationality to the world, arouses wide attention and is listed as a treasure book of world folk literature.

Table 2 Papers on Bimo Culture Studies at Home and Abroad

Time	Name of works	Name	Press
2000.8	Liangshan Yi Nationality's Religious Metamorphosis Collected Works on Yi Studies by Foreign Scholars	Wei Mingde [France]	Yunnan Education Publishing House
2000.8	Family Branch System and Ancestor Worship of the Yi Nationality Collected Works on Yi Studies by Foreign Scholars	Sakurai Longyan [Japan]	Yunnan Education Publishing House
2000.8	Six Thesis on the Religion of the Nuosu Branch of the Yi Nationality in Liangyue Area Collected Works on Yi Studies by Foreign Scholars	Wei Mingde [France]	Yunnan Education Publishing House
2000.8	The Social and Educational Functions of Chinese Yi Classics Collected Works on Yi Studies by Foreign Scholars	Fan Xiuli and Fujikawa Shifu [Japan]	Yunnan Education Publishing House
2000.3	Protection of Biodiversity by Traditional Culture and Religious Belief of the Yi Nationality in Liangshan	Marzi	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
2000.3	Liangshan Yi Nationality's Concept of Fertility Soul Worship	Cai Fu Lian	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
1997	Bimo and Bimo lections	Barmou Ay	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
1997	The Social Function of Bimo Belief	Xu Ming	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
2003.2	Liangshan Yi People's Disease Belief and Ritual Medicine	Barmou Ay	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
1997.3	Some Questions on the Study of Bimo Culture of the Yi Nationality	Barmou Ay	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
2000.2	The Position and Function of Bimo Culture in Yi History	Long Ni-gui and Shi Youfu	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
1999.2	Bimo and Yi Folk Literature	Bai Kanning	Yunnan Education Publishing House
1986.1	The Struggle of Black Yi in Liangshan against Chieftain in Ming Dynasty	Xu Ming	Yunnan Education Publishing House
2004.8	Characteristic and Overview of Bimo's Art Form	Mosaic	Yunnan Education Publishing House
2004.8	On Bimo Culture in Liangshan	Huang Chengzong	Yunnan Education Publishing House
2004.8	Bimo and Bimo Culture in Liangshan	Barmou Ay	Yunnan Education Publishing House
1993.10	Three Questions on Bimo Culture Studies	Barmou Ay	Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House
2005	Folk Culture: Bimo Cultural Award	Yu Lin	



Local scholars are confucianized by Yi nationality culture and some scholars are Bimo. Their research on Bimo culture is of considerable value. In 1996 and 2004, Bimo Cultural Research Center of Meigu County published the internal publications of Liangshan Yi Society: Investigation and Research on Bimo Culture of Meigu Yi Nationality: Art Album and Investigation and Research on Bimo Culture of Meigu Yi Nationality: Papers Album. In the books, the Bimo culture is deeply studied and illustrated by Bimo painting art, woodcut, bamboo weaving, paper-cut and other arts. Investigation and Research on Bimo Culture of Meigu Yi Nationality: Papers Album not only gives a brief introduction to the Yi nationality of Meigu, but also introduces the Bimo religious activities and Bimo scriptures of the Yi nationality. The Bimo scriptures and Bimo rituals are systematically collated and recorded, which provide necessary clues for the later study of Bimo painting and other arts, and include many local Yi scholars' papers on Bimo culture. In addition to these, there are other studies carried out by foreign scholars in other regions as shown in Table 2.

The storage of ancient Yi books in Guizhou Province is more than two-thirds of the total amount of the country, of which more than 14,000 are in Bijie City and about 8,000 are in other urban areas. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, Bimo people who have a large number of ancient books of Yi language are regarded as landlords, which make the collection and inheritance of ancient books of Yi language in the situation of collection or burning, not only reducing the number of ancient books of Yi language, but also causing the destruction of many of them. Nevertheless, the number of ancient Yi books in Guizhou Province is still considerable throughout the country. According to research and development, there are more than 14,000 ancient books of Yi language in Bijie City alone. Among them, there are more than 1,800 in Qixingguan District, more than 2,200 in Dafang County, more than 1,100 in Weining County, more than 3,000 in Hezhang County, more than 1,150 in Qianxi County, more than 1,200 in Zhijin County, 1,300 in Nayong County and more than 1,800 in Jinsha County, as shown in Figure 1.

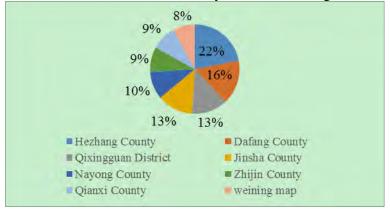


Figure 1. Reserve Quantity of Yi Ancient Books in Seven Counties and One District of Bijie City.

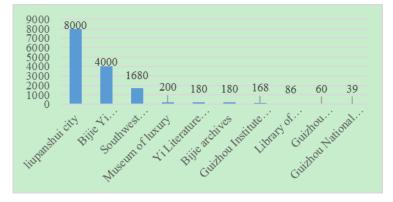


Figure 2. Reserve of Yi Ancient Books in Other Areas of Guizhou.



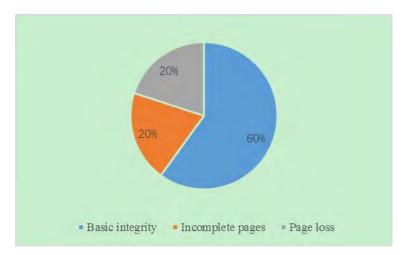


Figure 3. Dafang County Ancient Books Damage.

Nowadays, the number of Yi ancient books scattered among the people is more considerable, and the number of collected collections is only one tenth of that. The preservation conditions of the people are far behind that of the collection. The damage degree of these ancient books is more serious and increasing. These large quantities of valuable books need to be collected and protected quickly and exploited and utilized through collating and researching.

#### 5. Conclusion

The Bimo culture of the Yi nationality is a kind of "living" primitive religious culture. In terms of the phenomenon of its ritual form, it gives more people a superstition. But through this kind of representation, people can go deep into the Bimo cultural world and explore its cultural essence. What people can see is the reasonable core of the social consciousness of the Yi nationality, which has "restored" the disappeared ancient culture of human being to a great extent. This "living" culture, with its unique form, systematic content, rarity and irreplaceability, occupies a place in the treasure house of world cul-ture.

Regrettably, the protection system of ancient books in China is not perfect, and there are still many problems in the process of protection and utilization of ancient books, such as lack of research, protection funds, lack of talents in minority language research, lack of special legislation related to protection of ancient books and so on. At the level of protection and utilization of ancient books, it is necessary to quickly construct a practical pro-tection system of ancient books. In order to promote the standardization and institution-alization of protection and utilization, the relevant government departments should keep pace with the times and integrate the protection and utilization of ancient books into modern society with the advantages of big data technology. At the same time, it is sup-posed to formulate special laws and regulations to solve these problems. It is the best choice to strengthen the protection and utilization of ancient books from a legal point of view, improve the protection system of ancient books, solve the complex problems in the current work process and make the protection of ancient books have laws to follow.

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