

Discussion on the Characteristics and Value of Guangdong Tea Culture

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Abstract: Guangdong Province is located in the southernmost part of Chinese mainland. The specific geographical location and climate conditions have formed the local unique tea culture, and highlight the cultural characteristics completely different from others. This characteristic reflects three economic, cultural and social values in modern society, which can be effectively developed and utilized.

1. The basic characteristics of Guangdong tea culture

1.1 Morning Tea Culture:

MAO Zedong has a famous poem “drinking tea in Guangdong sea can not forget”. “Drinking morning tea” is the most distinctive and important content of Guangdong tea culture. The habit of having morning tea is widespread among all classes, from high officials and noblemen to “coolies” of carriage drivers. Tea drinking places are everywhere in cities and towns, and the number of tea houses in Zhanjiang can be ranked in the country.

Tea market in Guangdong is divided into morning tea, afternoon tea and evening tea. Generally speaking, the morning tea market is the most lively. “Morning tea” highlights the characteristics of “early” of Lingnan culture. Lingnan, spring comes early; Lingnan people, get up early. The specific geographical and climate environment makes Cantonese people develop the habit of getting up early, corresponding to the habit of “early market” (early gathering) and “drinking morning tea”. Cantonese people “drink morning tea”, surprisingly early, some old people get up at 4 o'clock in the morning, walk to the teahouse, usually around 6 o'clock in the morning, the tea seat in the restaurant is almost full of diners. “One cup, two pieces” (a pot of tea, two snacks), slowly “sigh” (enjoy it well). “Sigh” means enjoyment in Cantonese. People do not drink tea for the purpose of tea, but for reminiscence, business discussion, and entertainment. Sometimes, they go home slowly after drinking until almost noon.

In the leisure green coastal city of Guangdong, sigh cup of morning tea has become many Guangdong indispensable leisure recreation life, became one of the most common and popular folk life culture symbol, compared with other regions and cities of tea culture, Guangdong morning tea noisy noisy, is family expression and display, is also the satisfaction and happiness of life.

1.2 Tea-snack culture

The characteristic of Guangdong morning tea is to drink tea with snacks or fried noodles, which is also the prominent difference between Guangdong tea and other tea systems. Chinese people mostly drink tea without any accompaniments, while Cantonese people do not. They always have dim sum with tea. I don't know whether it's because drinking tea is too monotonous, or because the southern climate is so hot that it's hard to eat without tea and snacks. Today, tea has become a supporting role in Cantonese tea, but the tea has become more and more delicate and diverse. In addition to the traditional tree pineapple bun, horseshoe cake, cold powder cake and other western pastry, there are various local snacks such as garlic ribs, pork sausage powder, shaomai, radish and beef miscellaneous, etc., with countless exquisite tea points count. ^[1]Netizens also often launch the selection of Guangdong favorite teahouses and refreshments, exchanging information and introducing Guangdong characteristic tea to tourists. On holidays, many teahouses have to wait in line, and for this reason, the morning tea snacks supply time from the previous 11 closing to the lunch time. The Cantonese, who know how to enjoy it, often eat a “brunch” on weekends. People say “to drink tea” means to eat. With the rapid development of economy, this traditional culture has not disappeared, but has become more and more a beautiful scenery line in the leisure life of Guangdong people.

1.3 Herbal tea culture

Ancient books said that Shennong detoxification with tea, tea was first used as food, but also used as medicine therapy. The most obvious point is in Guangdong. Guangdong's “herbal tea” can best show the tradition of “tea medicine of the same origin”. Guangdong is located in the subtropical zone, with a hot and humid climate, abundant rainfall, lush trees, scattered hills and fertile land, which is conducive to the growth of tea trees. Lingnan is rainy and foggy, the climate is mild and humid, and the relative humidity in the air is as high as 80%, which is very conducive to the growth and production of tea. This Marine climate characteristic in Guangdong is also conducive to the growth of tea trees. There are many records of the climate of the Lingnan region in the ancient Chinese literature. In the Book of Songs, there is “like a mountain Such as fu” sentence. There is also the language of “Lingnan fog” in the historical Records. These literature records fully reflect the characteristics of the climate and geographical environment in the Lingnan region. Guangdong province is obviously featured with the marine climate. Warm and humid, characterized by humid heat in spring, hot in summer, dry in autumn and hot dryness in winter. In the Great Theory of Yin and Yang in the book: (in the south, heat and fire), so Cantonese people like to drink some herbal tea to clear heat and detoxify, clearing damp and reduce fire. The so-called “herbal tea” refers to the cold Chinese herbal medicine boiled water as a drink to treat the throat pain and fever caused by the rise of hot gas (commonly known as “heat”), Cough and other diseases. Many Cantonese people think that herbal tea can cover all diseases. They drink seven star tea for children every two to three days, and adults drink Wong Lo Kat herbal tea several times a month. Cold do not have to go to the hospital, directly go to the herbal tea shop to a cup of “scar fever”, the effect shows. Herbal tea is made of some common herbs, such as summer withered grass, plantain, winter mulberry leaves and even Guiling paste soup, raw fish cabbage soup, red radish and bamboo cane water are also considered as herbal tea.^[2]

1.4 Make tea with cold water

As the saying goes, “good tea also needs good blisters”, Zhang Dafu of the Ming Dynasty said in the “Plum Blossom Cottage Pen Talk”: “tea is in water, eight tea, meet very water, tea is also very

much; eight water, try ten percent of tea, tea only eight ear.”^[3] It can be seen that tea in the water, the relationship is deep. Scientific research shows that the effect of mineral water tea is the best, followed by rain, lake water, well water, tap water is the most time. The selection method is to boil the water and evaluate the water quality, and then brew the tea soup and then evaluate the water quality. The results of the comparison between the two methods are consistent. But it is the first time that cold mineral water can also make good tea. The unique cold water brewing method in Zhanjiang area of Guangzhou is indeed a unique. This cold water is not an ordinary water, but a unique natural low alkali spring water in Leizhou, Zhanjiang. At present, the aquatic products that appear in the market are from Leizhou Honghai, Leizhou is located in Leiqiong World Geological Park, and Leizhou Honghai is the national pearl native reserve, with unique geographical location and good natural environment. This weak alkaline spring water is more high quality than natural soda water, the reason why it can make good tea is that the water contains more minerals than ordinary mineral water, water-soluble ion state is more likely to be absorbed by tea, good dissolution performance, can be soaked in a short time (seven or eight minutes), the effect is the same as boiling water.^[4]

1.5 Wedding tea customs

Xu Zishu, a native of the Ming Dynasty, said in the “Tea Flow Examination Book”: “ If tea does not change the origin, the plant must be born. The marriage of the ancients must take tea as the gift, and mean that it does not change the ambition.” It means that tea trees can not be grafted like ordinary trees, grafted tea trees will not produce tea seeds, only planting tea seeds, cultivating tea trees. Therefore, since ancient times, tea has been closely linked with marriage customs, symbolizing purity, firmness and happiness. In ancient times, the etiquette of the whole marriage was always called “three tea and six rites”. Among them, “three teas” refers to the “tea” during engagement, “tea” during marriage, and “close” in the bridal chamber tea plant. Therefore, “three tea and six rites” has become a synonym for the marriage, and tea is the token of the marriage.^[5]

The wedding customs of Cantonese people are also closely related to tea. On the night of marriage, the old custom of Guangdong dong, also called “playing tea”. Young men and women embrace to the bridal chamber, drink sugar tea, eat peanut candy, play, some difficult problems let the newly married couple interpretation, even prank, make the groom flushed, the bride shyly, to take fun. The day after the wedding, Guangdong also has the custom of drinking “bride tea”, also known as “drinking sweet tea”. The bride uses the new tea tray with sugar tea, visit the family and the family elders, serving tea with both hands. After the bride serves the tea, she was given a gratuity and received a welcome bonus. It also announced that the bride has officially entered the family’s door. ^[6]

1.6 Tea and song culture

The Guangdong area was a major activity area of the Baiyue Li people in ancient times. Up to now, Guangdong folk songs are still rich and varied, including thunder songs, vernacular songs (Cantonese folk songs), saltwater songs, fishing songs, donghai marriage and other forms of folk literature and art forms. There are also many widely sung tea songs and tea plays. Saltwater song is a fishing song sung by fishermen in Guangzhou dialect, also known as “vernacular fishing song” and “salty water sigh”. It is a folk song sung by local people in the fields, under the embankment trees, and when falling in love. There is a salty song “song of holding sweet tea”, “ eight cups of sweet tea are placed in the four directions, it is proper for family members to drink tea. Sweet tea is placed on the copper plate, two cups of sweet tea are given to parents.” Sweet tea “is made by adding brown sugar to the tea to convey the sweet beauty, commonly known as” blessing tea “. It is

a ritual song. From this point of view, Cantonese people can drink tea when holding important ceremonies, which shows the status of tea in the minds of Cantonese people.

2. The value of Guangdong tea culture

2.1 Economic value

Tea is a cash crop and a beverage commonly consumed by people. The practicality of tea culture makes it show unique economy. In modern society, the most significant economic value besides tea trade is the combination of tea culture and tourism.

Tourism shopping occupies a pivotal position in tourism activities, and also occupies the vast proportion of tourism consumption. The economic value of tea culture is reflected in the tourism shopping. First, tea is taken as the carrier, "culture sets the stage and economic performance", to promote the sales of local related tourism commodities. For example, the annual tea expo in Guangdong Province has attracted a large number of tea enterprises and tourists to participate, and the consumption of related tourism shopping, including local seafood and local specialties, has increased year by year. Tea culture has played a very good economic benefit; another is the sale of tea culture tourism commodities. Because of the health care effect of tea on human physiology and tea culture on the heart Spiritual purification effect, tea culture tourism commodities have great health significance, very favored by modern tourists.

2.2 Cultural value

As a high-level cultural product, tea culture is very closely linked with literature and art. For example, tea ceremony and tea art themselves are a kind of art, and tea songs, tea opera and tea customs are all the essence of folk art. Guangdong folk tea song and tea dance are rich and colorful. For example, Xuwen area according to the folk marriage custom director "dozen dish tea" through the dance form of the display of Xuwen people's marriage of the folk customs. In 2006, the Guangdong International Tourism and Culture Festival was also listed as the only folk customs project recommended in western Guangdong. In 2006, herbal tea culture was officially approved by The State Council to be included in the first batch of national intangible cultural heritage. Such as Guangdong Zhanjiang local herbal tea brands such as "Turtle boss", "pick up dad", "eight dad" all have a long history, and the cool teahouse in the streets and lanes is the best embodiment of the city's culture and cultural customs. These intangible cultural heritages are the best embodiment of the local customs and customs of Zhanjiang, and have a very high cultural value.

2.3 Social value

Mr.Chen Wenhua, a famous tea culture expert, once said that "men who can drink tea will not go bad". This sentence can accurately and briefly summarize the social value of tea culture. In the era of popular wine culture, the social value of tea became more prominent. Tea is a kind of warm and healthy drink, the more people drink tea, the more sober, the more quiet, the more elegant. But wine to a certain degree of people chaos, gaffe, gaffe, and even mistake. However, in the case of traffic accidents caused by drunk driving rising year after year, the traffic authorities have issued the "prohibition of alcohol" to severely punish drunk driving. At this time, the social value of tea really emerged. Drinking tea instead of drinking alcohol at the table is more civilized and healthy, and can also exchange feelings. Especially in many occasions where people have to drink wine, such as the wedding banquet, people often say "drink wedding wine", if drinking tea instead of drinking wine, it can not only solve the embarrassment of guests can not drink and drive, but also the beautiful

meaning of tea marriage is very matched with the wedding banquet. The tea culture of Guangdong is an outstanding representative of Chinese tea culture, but it also has its own remarkable characteristics and contains great value. It not only enriches the food and life of Cantonese people, but also enriches the content of world tea culture, which is worth careful development and utilization in modern society. Your paper will be part of the journals therefore we ask that authors follow the guidelines explained in this example, in order to achieve the highest quality possible.

3. Conclusions

This paper discusses the basic characteristics of tea culture in Guangdong province and its value in society, culture and economy. It shows that the tea culture is still a very important spiritual existence in the modern society. However, there are still some deficiencies in this study. Next, we can consider to deeply explore the influence of tea culture on different aspects of society from a quantitative perspective.

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