

Research on the Current Situation and Development of "Patting Chest Dance" in the Context of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southern Fujian

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Abstract: This paper thoroughly explores the current situation, challenges in inheritance, and strategies for protection and development of "Patting Chest Dance," one of the traditional dance forms in southern Fujian. Firstly, it introduces the concept and importance of intangible cultural heritage, elucidating the significance of "Patting Chest Dance" as an integral part of southern Fujian culture. Subsequently, it analyzes the history and cultural value of "Patting Chest Dance," as well as the dual effects of decreasing participation among the younger generation and the impact of commercialization on it amid changing times. Based on this analysis, various strategies and suggestions are proposed, including strengthening government policies for protection and inheritance, enhancing public participation and awareness, innovating inheritance methods and application, and bolstering international exchanges and cooperation. Finally, the limitations of the study and future research directions are discussed, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts to promote the inheritance and development of "Patting Chest Dance" and other traditional dances.

1. Introduction

1.1. Background

With the acceleration of globalization and the increasing emphasis on cultural diversity, the protection and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage have become a focus of international attention. These traditional cultural elements are not only witnesses of history but also important components of national culture, carrying rich information about history, religion, values, and more. Particularly in China, as a country with a long history and profound cultural heritage, the protection and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage hold special significance. Southern Fujian, as an important cultural region in southern China, has attracted widespread attention due to its unique cultural traditions and rich intangible cultural heritage. Among them, "Patting Chest Dance," as a distinctive performance form in Southern Fujian, not only showcases the lifestyle and spiritual outlook of the local people but also carries profound historical and cultural connotations. However, with the rapid development of the socio-economy and deepening cultural exchanges, the inheritance

of "Patting Chest Dance" in Southern Fujian faces new challenges and dilemmas.

1.2. Research Purpose and Importance

This study aims to thoroughly explore the current situation and development of "Patting Chest Dance" in Southern Fujian within the context of intangible cultural heritage, analyze the problems and challenges it faces in its inheritance process, and propose corresponding development strategies and suggestions. Through the research on "Patting Chest Dance," a traditional culture, a better understanding of the unique charm of Southern Fujian culture can be gained, promoting its protection and inheritance, and contributing to the protection of intangible cultural heritage nationwide. Furthermore, through in-depth analysis of the inheritance and development of "Patting Chest Dance" in Southern Fujian, insights can be provided for the protection of intangible cultural heritage in other regions.

1.3. Research Questions and Scope

This study mainly discusses the following questions: Firstly, what are the historical origins, cultural connotations, and importance of "Patting Chest Dance" in Southern Fujian's local cultural inheritance? Secondly, what challenges does "Patting Chest Dance" face in its inheritance process currently? Thirdly, what protection and inheritance measures are available for "Patting Chest Dance," and what are their implementation effects? Finally, how can the current problems and challenges in the inheritance process of "Patting Chest Dance" be addressed? Through in-depth research on these questions, a more comprehensive understanding of the current status and development trends of "Patting Chest Dance" culture can be achieved, providing theoretical and practical support for its future protection and inheritance[1].

2. Intangible Cultural Heritage and the Context of Minnan Culture

2.1. Concept and Importance of Intangible Cultural Heritage

The importance of the concept of intangible cultural heritage lies in its representation of the diversity and richness of human civilization, reflecting the history, traditions, values, and sense of identity of different communities. These cultural elements not only carry the cultural traditions of specific communities but also embody human creativity and wisdom in different time and space contexts. Protecting and inheriting intangible cultural heritage helps maintain cultural diversity, promote cultural inheritance and development, and is also an important means of maintaining social harmony, enhancing national pride and identity. Intangible cultural heritage is an important part of human civilization, and its inheritance and development can not only deepen people's understanding and identification with their own cultural traditions but also promote exchanges and understanding among different cultures. By protecting and inheriting intangible cultural heritage, national spirit can be promoted, national soft power can be enhanced, cultural confidence can be strengthened, and cultural innovation and prosperity can be promoted. In the context of today's globalization, the protection and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage are particularly important. It is not only a necessity to maintain local cultural traditions but also a foundation for achieving cultural diversity and promoting cultural exchanges and mutual learning. Therefore, governments, social organizations, and the whole society should work together to strengthen the protection and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage to promote cultural prosperity and social progress.

2.2. Minnan Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage

Minnan culture has a long history and possesses unique historical, geographical, and cultural traditions. In this region, people have passed down rich and diverse intangible cultural heritage for generations, including music, dance, drama, folk crafts, and more. These heritages carry the lifestyle, belief systems, values, and social customs of the Minnan people, symbolizing the inheritance and development of Minnan culture. The intangible cultural heritage of Minnan reflects its unique history and geographical characteristics. For example, "Patting Chest Dance," as one of them, showcases the local people's beliefs and recreational activities, representing their reverence and prayers to deities. Meanwhile, Chao Opera reflects the theatrical arts of the Minnan region, carrying rich historical and cultural connotations. In addition, folk crafts such as paper cutting, lacquerware, and bamboo weaving in the Minnan region are also important components of intangible cultural heritage, showcasing the wisdom and creativity of the local people. By protecting and inheriting the intangible cultural heritage of the Minnan region, cultural identity and cohesion can be strengthened. These cultural heritages are not only witnesses of history but also symbols of local culture, inspiring people's sense of belonging and pride in their hometowns. At the same time, the inheritance of intangible cultural heritage also helps promote social harmony and stability. Through the inheritance of these cultural traditions, people can deepen their understanding of social norms and values, enhance social cohesion, and promote harmonious social development. Furthermore, inheriting the intangible cultural heritage of the Minnan region can also promote cultural innovation and development. Based on the protection of traditions, new elements and creativity can be injected, revitalizing traditional culture and attracting more people to participate. This not only benefits the inheritance of traditional culture but also promotes the development of cultural industries and drives economic prosperity. Therefore, the protection and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage in the Minnan region are of great significance and have profound implications for promoting cultural construction and social progress.

2.3. History and Cultural Value of "Patting Chest Dance"

"Patting Chest Dance," as a representative traditional performing art form in the Minnan region, has a long history and profound cultural heritage. Originating from ancient religious rituals, it was a way for people to express their prayers and supplications to deities, carrying emotions of faith and wishes. Throughout history, "Patting Chest Dance" gradually evolved into a folk social entertainment activity, becoming an indispensable cultural landscape in the Minnan region. This dance form not only attracts audiences with its unique movements and rhythms but also is deeply loved for its rich cultural connotations and spiritual significance. Through "Patting Chest Dance," people can experience the unique cultural atmosphere and lifestyle of the Minnan region, and appreciate the charm and vitality of traditional culture. In the social life of the Minnan region, "Patting Chest Dance" plays an important role, not only as a traditional dance form but also as a part of people's lives. It integrates local history, religion, folklore, and other elements, reflecting the rich and diverse cultural traditions of the Minnan region. In cultural exchanges and inheritance, "Patting Chest Dance" continues to absorb elements from foreign cultures, enriching its own artistic features and forming a unique dance style. Therefore, as an important representative of intangible cultural heritage, "Patting Chest Dance" holds irreplaceable value and significance for maintaining and inheriting the traditional culture of the Minnan region. It is not only a dance form but also an important carrier of Minnan cultural inheritance, representing people's cherish and inheritance of history and tradition[2].

3. Analysis of the Current Situation of "Patting Chest Dance"

3.1. Inheritance Status and Challenges

The inheritance of "Patting Chest Dance" in Southern Fujian faces a series of challenges. Firstly, with the advancement of modernization and changes in urban-rural structure, the younger generation's interest in traditional culture is gradually diminishing, leading to a decrease in the number of inheritors and posing severe tests to the inheritance environment. Traditional dances require lengthy learning and practice, but with the accelerated pace of modern life, young people tend to pursue fast-paced entertainment, losing interest in learning and inheriting traditional dances, resulting in a gap in inheritors and the loss of traditional skills. Secondly, the diversification of modern entertainment methods has made people more inclined to accept popular culture rather than traditional cultural performances. Traditional dances are relatively less competitive in today's cultural market, as audiences prefer more novel and trendy forms of entertainment, posing a challenge to the inheritance and development of "Patting Chest Dance." The inheritance of traditional dances requires a good performance platform and audience base. However, in today's cultural market, traditional dances often struggle to compete with other popular cultural forms, leading to a shrinking audience. Additionally, driven by economic interests, some commercial activities have commercialized "Patting Chest Dance," diluting its original cultural connotations. This commercialization has resulted in a shift in values and the loss of traditional skills during the inheritance process. Some commercial performances and activities prioritize economic benefits over cultural inheritance, potentially altering the content and form of dances, thus affecting the original charm and traditional characteristics of "Patting Chest Dance." This trend of commercial development may gradually erode the essence of "Patting Chest Dance" as intangible cultural heritage, turning it into a commodified form of dance, and losing its cultural inheritance value.

3.2. Evolution of Performance Forms and Content

With social changes and cultural exchanges, the performance forms and content of "Patting Chest Dance" in Southern Fujian have also evolved. Traditional "Patting Chest Dance" performance forms have incorporated more modern elements and innovations on contemporary stages to meet the aesthetic needs of modern audiences. This evolution is reflected in dance choreography, gestures, and stage effects. Traditional "Patting Chest Dance" typically involves a group of dancers performing collectively during specific festivals or ceremonies, with simple yet sincere gestures conveying blessings and wishes. However, on modern stages, dance choreography has become more refined, dancers' movements more graceful, and stage effects more vibrant and colorful. Dance rhythms and music may also undergo modern adaptations, making the dance more contemporary and visually appealing. Meanwhile, dance content has evolved from a singular religious ritual to more entertaining and expressive dance pieces. In traditional "Patting Chest Dance," dancers typically perform during religious ceremonies or festive events, with dance content mainly reflecting blessings and wishes, imbued with religious and mystical elements. However, on modern stages, dance content has become more diverse, possibly revolving around different themes such as love, friendship, and family. Additionally, dancers' expressiveness and emotional expression have become richer. The artistic sense and appeal of the dance have been further enhanced, attracting more audiences. However, this evolution has also raised concerns about the protection of traditional culture. There is a concern that the original charm of traditional "Patting Chest Dance" may gradually disappear due to modern adaptations. This necessitates reasonable modern innovation and protection while maintaining traditional characteristics. Strengthening research and documentation of traditional dances, establishing comprehensive archival materials, and ensuring

the inheritance of traditional elements can help preserve traditional characteristics. Additionally, cultural institutions and dance groups can engage in related protection and inheritance work, encouraging the younger generation to learn and inherit traditional dances, revitalizing them in modern society[3].

3.3. Social Awareness and Public Participation

As intangible cultural heritage of Southern Fujian, the social awareness and public participation of "Patting Chest Dance" have gradually increased but still face certain limitations. Although the government and relevant organizations have carried out a series of publicity and promotion activities to raise public awareness of "Patting Chest Dance," its influence still needs further strengthening due to audience limitations and inadequate dissemination channels. In the process of urbanization, the decline of some traditional communities and the influence of urbanization have led to the loss of traditional culture among the younger generation, further challenging the social awareness and participation of "Patting Chest Dance." Simultaneously, although some enthusiasts and volunteers actively participate in the inheritance and promotion activities of "Patting Chest Dance," overall participation remains low. This may be related to the accelerated pace of modern life and the diversification of entertainment methods, with the younger generation preferring digital entertainment and gradually losing interest in traditional dances. Therefore, improving social awareness and public participation requires joint efforts from the government, social organizations, and grassroots forces. The government can increase policy support and investment in traditional culture, encourage cultural institutions and artistic groups to carry out more publicity and promotion activities, and raise the visibility and influence of traditional dances. Social organizations can organize more cultural exchange activities to stimulate public interest and participation in traditional dances. Grassroots forces can actively participate in the inheritance and promotion of traditional dances through community activities, volunteer services, etc., injecting new vitality and momentum into them. Through multi-party cooperation, the influence and audience of "Patting Chest Dance" can be expanded, promoting its inheritance and development.

4. Existing Measures for the Protection and Inheritance of "Patting Chest Dance"

4.1. Government and Organizational Protection Measures

The government and relevant cultural organizations have formulated a series of policies and measures for the protection and inheritance of "Patting Chest Dance." Firstly, the government has strengthened legislative protection for intangible cultural heritage, established specialized protection agencies and management departments, and enacted relevant regulations to standardize the organization, management, and operation of "Patting Chest Dance" inheritance activities. These regulations not only define the scope and standards of protection for traditional dances but also stipulate the rights and obligations of inheritors, providing legal safeguards for the inheritance of traditional dances. Secondly, the government actively conducts investigations and research on traditional cultural projects such as "Patting Chest Dance," compiling related literature and materials to provide important references and support for inheritance work. These research outcomes not only enrich the understanding of the historical origins and cultural connotations of "Patting Chest Dance" but also provide valuable learning resources and reference experiences for inheritors. Furthermore, the government organizes events such as "Patting Chest Dance" competitions and art festivals to support and encourage excellent "Patting Chest Dance" performance groups and traditional artists, enhancing their performance level and artistic quality. These activities not only provide a platform for the display of traditional dances but also inspire

more people to participate in learning and inheriting traditional dances. Additionally, the government has increased financial support for traditional cultural projects like "Patting Chest Dance," allocating more funds for protection, restoration, and inheritance work to ensure the sustainable development of intangible cultural heritage. This funding is used not only to maintain traditional dance performance venues and equipment but also for training inheritors, organizing cultural activities, etc., providing strong material support for the inheritance of traditional dances. These protective measures and support initiatives by the government lay a solid foundation for the inheritance and development of traditional cultures such as "Patting Chest Dance."

4.2. Community and Educational Institution Inheritance Activities

Communities and educational institutions, as important bearers and disseminators of intangible cultural heritage, play a crucial role in the protection and inheritance of "Patting Chest Dance." On one hand, some communities establish "Patting Chest Dance" inheritance classes, art teams, etc., to conduct regular training and teaching activities, attracting and nurturing young enthusiasts and inheritors of "Patting Chest Dance." These community bases not only provide young people with places to learn traditional dances but also offer them opportunities to learn and exchange ideas with experienced dancers, promoting the inheritance and development of traditional dance skills. Moreover, communities organize "Patting Chest Dance" competitions, exhibitions, and other activities to build communication platforms, facilitate the dissemination and exchange of "Patting Chest Dance" culture, and engage more people in the inheritance of traditional dances[4].

On the other hand, educational institutions incorporate "Patting Chest Dance" into school curricula and extracurricular activities to strengthen students' education and cultivation of traditional culture. Within campuses, students systematically learn about the history, skills, and cultural connotations of "Patting Chest Dance," enhancing their understanding and appreciation of traditional culture, as well as nurturing their interest and passion for traditional dances. Additionally, educational institutions organize students to participate in "Patting Chest Dance" competitions, performances, etc., providing platforms for display and communication, encouraging students to actively engage in the inheritance of "Patting Chest Dance." These activities not only promote students' understanding and love for traditional dances but also cultivate their teamwork spirit and stage performance abilities, injecting new vitality into the inheritance and development of traditional dances. Therefore, the active participation and support of communities and educational institutions are of great significance for the protection and inheritance of "Patting Chest Dance," making positive contributions to the inheritance and promotion of traditional culture.

4.3. Promotion Role of Media and the Internet

Media and the internet play crucial roles in the promotion and dissemination of "Patting Chest Dance." Various media platforms expand the reach and influence of "Patting Chest Dance" by reporting related news, events, and competitions. Mainstream media such as television, radio, newspapers, and magazines regularly feature special programs and reports on "Patting Chest Dance," delving into its historical origins, cultural connotations, and artistic features to guide the public's attention and understanding of the beauty of "Patting Chest Dance." These special programs and reports not only introduce more people to the tradition and charm of "Patting Chest Dance" but also promote the inheritance and development of traditional culture. Additionally, some online platforms such as Sina Weibo, Tencent WeChat, Douyin, etc., have official accounts and dedicated pages for "Patting Chest Dance," releasing various forms of content including videos, audios, and images, attracting a large number of followers and generating positive dissemination effects. These online platforms, with their extensive coverage and rapid dissemination capabilities, can quickly

spread information about "Patting Chest Dance" to a wider audience, promoting the inheritance and promotion of traditional dances. Furthermore, some live-streaming platforms regularly host live "Patting Chest Dance" events, inviting well-known dancers and artists to perform and explain, attracting a large audience to watch and interact online, driving the inheritance and development of "Patting Chest Dance." Through live streaming, viewers not only enjoy exciting dance performances but also interact with dancers, enhancing their understanding and love for traditional dances, and promoting the inheritance and innovation of traditional culture. The promotion role of these media and online platforms provides important support and guarantees for the inheritance and development of "Patting Chest Dance."

5. Issues and Challenges in the Development of "Patting Chest Dance"

5.1. Modernization Conflicts in Inheritance

With the accelerated development of social modernization, there exist conflicts between traditional culture and modern lifestyles. In the process of urbanization, the cultural environment of many traditional villages and communities is being disrupted, leading to a gradual decline in the environment for the inheritance of traditional dances. Traditional dances are usually rooted in specific regional cultures and social environments, requiring good cultural soil and support from traditional communities for their inheritance. However, with the advancement of urbanization, the once rich cultural communities are gradually being replaced by modern architecture and lifestyles, resulting in a decrease and transformation of the environment for the inheritance of traditional dances. The fast-paced modern lifestyle also affects the level of acceptance of traditional culture among the younger generation. Living in an age of information explosion, they are more interested in fast-paced forms of entertainment, while traditional dances may be perceived as outdated and uninteresting forms of expression. In modern society, young people tend to seek entertainment and cultural information through electronic devices, social media, etc., often overlooking or marginalizing traditional dances. This phenomenon poses a greater challenge to the inheritance of traditional dances, as the younger generation is crucial for the inheritance of traditional culture, and their participation and support are essential. Furthermore, with the progress of urbanization, the original ecological village community culture is becoming increasingly scarce, posing greater challenges to the inheritance of traditional dances. Many inheritance environments and venues have disappeared, leading to the breaking of the inheritance chain of traditional culture. Traditional dances are often passed down through oral transmission and apprenticeship, but in modern society, such modes of inheritance are greatly impacted. Therefore, finding suitable modes and environments for inheritance in modern society to protect and inherit traditional dances has become an urgent task for the protection and development of traditional culture[5].

5.2. Participation and Interest of the Younger Generation

With the changing times, the interest and participation of the younger generation in traditional culture have gradually decreased, affecting their attitudes and acceptance of traditional dances. In today's society, young people tend to favor popular culture and trendy entertainment, finding traditional dances less appealing and competitive. They are more inclined to pursue fashion trends and participate in popular entertainment activities such as concerts, movies, and video games, while traditional dances may seem somewhat outdated and distant from fashion in their eyes. Moreover, with the development of modern technology, the entertainment methods of young people are becoming more diversified, and they prefer to obtain entertainment information through mobile phones, computers, and other electronic devices, resulting in relatively fewer opportunities for

understanding and encountering traditional dances. In the virtual world, young people can easily access various types of entertainment content such as music, videos, and games, making traditional dances seem more marginalized in their daily lives. Therefore, finding innovative ways to attract young people to participate in the learning and inheritance of traditional dances is an important task for the current protection and development of traditional culture. Activities that young people enjoy, such as dance competitions, street dance performances, dance parties, etc., can be organized to attract their interest and participation. Additionally, utilizing modern technology, such as promoting the charm of traditional dances on social media platforms and short video platforms, designing traditional dance teaching courses and online learning platforms specifically for young people, can enable them to learn and understand traditional dances in the virtual world, thereby increasing their awareness and interest in traditional dances. Through these efforts, the love and participation of the younger generation in traditional dances can be stimulated, promoting the inheritance and development of traditional dances in contemporary society.

5.3. The Double-Edged Sword Effect of Commercialization Development

With the development of the market economy and the rise of commercialized culture, traditional dances face both challenges and opportunities brought about by commercialization development. On one hand, commercial activities bring more stages and opportunities for traditional dances, improving their performance level and artistic quality, making them more grounded and popular. Commercial activities promote the dissemination and development of traditional culture, expanding its influence and popularity. For example, on platforms such as commercial performances and TV variety shows, traditional dances are more widely displayed and disseminated, attracting the attention and love of a large audience, promoting the inheritance and development of traditional dances. However, commercial development also brings some problems and challenges. On the commercial stage, traditional dances may face the risk of losing their original cultural connotations and folk characteristics. In order to meet market demand and commercial interests, some practitioners may adapt and innovate traditional dances, or even change their original styles and forms to better fit commercial standards and audience tastes. Consequently, traditional dances may lose their unique cultural charm and characteristics of folk inheritance, becoming a commercial performance rather than a carrier of cultural inheritance. Moreover, commercial pressure may lead practitioners to neglect respect and protection for traditional culture in pursuit of economic benefits. Some commercial activities may focus too much on commercial interests, neglecting the inheritance and protection of traditional dances. Unfair competition may even occur, damaging the interests of traditional dance practitioners and the image of traditional culture. Therefore, achieving a balance between commercial development and cultural protection has become an urgent issue in the current development process of traditional dances. It is necessary to establish sound regulatory mechanisms and normative systems, strengthen the management and guidance of commercial activities, ensure that traditional dances can maintain their original cultural connotations and folk characteristics while undergoing commercial development, and achieve the inheritance and development of traditional culture[6].

6. Case Studies

6.1. Analysis of Successful Cases in Protection and Inheritance

In the town center of Nan'an City, Quanzhou City, Fujian Province, there exists a traditional cultural school named "Le Wu Tang." Established in the early 1990s, the school has been dedicated to inheriting and promoting traditional culture in the Minnan region, including "Patting Chest

Dance." Le Wu Tang offers "Patting Chest Dance" courses taught by experienced dancers as coaches, teaching students the techniques and historical background of traditional dances. The school also organizes students to participate in various cultural competitions and performances, providing a stage to showcase their talents. During leisure time, students often spontaneously organize practice sessions to share their dance experiences, fostering a good learning atmosphere. Additionally, Le Wu Tang collaborates with local governments and community organizations to regularly host "Patting Chest Dance" exhibitions, cultural festivals, and other activities, attracting numerous audiences and sparking more interest in traditional dances. Over the years, Le Wu Tang has cultivated a large number of students passionate about traditional culture, who have not only achieved high proficiency in dance performance but also made positive contributions to the inheritance and development of local traditional culture.

6.2. Analysis of Failed Cases and Lessons Learned

A traditional arts group in a Minnan region was once an important inheritor and performer of local "Patting Chest Dance," but in recent years, it has faced difficulties. This group has achieved good results in the past, but there were some management issues, such as poor internal management and leadership decision-making mistakes, leading to internal discord and personnel loss. As internal problems were not addressed in a timely manner, the performance quality and influence of the group gradually declined. Additionally, the group had problems in commercial operations, prioritizing economic interests over the protection and respect for traditional culture, resulting in the gradual loss of authenticity in their performances and decreased recognition and trust from the audience. Ultimately, due to the lack of sustained government support and social recognition, the group gradually declined, posing severe challenges to the inheritance of traditional dances. From this failed case, we can draw some lessons. Firstly, it is essential to establish a sound management mechanism within the group to ensure stability and cohesion. Secondly, it is crucial to adhere to the original intention of cultural protection and not lose the essence of traditional culture in pursuit of economic benefits. Lastly, it is necessary to establish good cooperative relationships with governments and various sectors of society to jointly promote the inheritance and development of traditional dances[7].

7. Development Strategies and Recommendations

7.1. Recommendations for Strengthening Protection and Inheritance Policies

In strengthening protection and inheritance policies, the government can take various measures to ensure the sustainable inheritance of intangible cultural heritage. Firstly, it is suggested to establish a more comprehensive legal framework, clearly defining the scope and standards of protection for intangible cultural heritage, as well as the responsibilities and powers of relevant management authorities. The government can enact specialized laws and regulations to ensure the legal protection of traditional dances and provide clear guidance and norms for relevant institutions. Special funds can be established to support the protection and inheritance of traditional dances. The government can allocate funds through the establishment of special funds or project funding programs for the protection of intangible cultural heritage, providing financial support to traditional dance groups, inheritors, and related institutions for training, restoration of traditional dance performance venues, and promotion of traditional dances. Such financial support can effectively promote the inheritance and development of traditional dances, ensuring their survival and development in contemporary society. The government should strengthen the protection of traditional dance inheritors by providing them with corresponding honorary titles and social security,

incentivizing more people to engage in the inheritance of traditional dances. Through awarding honorary titles and providing special subsidies, the government can recognize and reward individuals and groups that have made outstanding contributions to the inheritance of traditional dances, stimulating more enthusiasm and initiative among people and promoting better results in the inheritance of traditional dances. Moreover, a sound social security system should be established to provide stable economic support and social security for traditional dance inheritors, enabling them to fully devote themselves to the inheritance of traditional dances and contribute to the inheritance and development of intangible cultural heritage.

7.2. Strategies to Enhance Public Participation and Awareness

To enhance public participation and awareness of traditional dances, various strategies can be adopted. Firstly, various traditional dance events such as dance competitions, performances, and celebrations can be organized to attract more people to participate. By organizing these events, the public can personally experience the charm of traditional dances, increasing their involvement and engagement. For example, organizing dance competitions can encourage young dancers to showcase their talents and creativity, stimulating more interest and love for traditional dances. Secondly, modern technology methods such as social media and short video platforms can be utilized to strengthen the promotion and dissemination of traditional dances, increasing their popularity and influence among the younger generation. By posting videos and information about traditional dances on social media, more young people can learn about and pay attention to traditional dances, promoting their dissemination and inheritance in the digital age. Additionally, traditional dance education and promotion activities can be conducted in schools and communities to increase public understanding and appreciation of traditional dances. Professional dance teams can be organized to demonstrate and explain traditional dances to students, introducing them to the history, cultural background, and forms of traditional dances, stimulating their interest and love for traditional dances. At the same time, traditional dance courses and workshops can be held in communities to allow residents to experience the charm of traditional dances firsthand, increasing their sense of identity and pride in traditional culture. Through these educational and promotional activities, a solid foundation can be laid for the inheritance and development of traditional dances, promoting their dissemination and inheritance in society.

7.3. Innovative Inheritance Methods and Applications

To innovate inheritance methods and activate applications, modern dance elements can be combined with traditional dances to create traditional dance forms with more contemporary characteristics. By integrating traditional dances with modern dance, the limitations of traditional dances can be broken, giving them new forms of expression and connotations. For example, modern music, dance choreography, and stage effects can be incorporated to create dynamic and innovative dance works, attracting more attention and participation from young people. Additionally, interactive dance games and virtual reality dance experiences can be developed, bringing traditional dances into the digital age using advanced technology. Through these innovative inheritance methods, young people can experience the fun and charm of traditional dances in games, stimulating their interest and love for traditional culture, and promoting the inheritance and development of traditional dances. Furthermore, traditional dances can be integrated into the cultural and creative industries by designing related derivative products and experience projects. For example, cultural derivative products related to traditional dances such as clothing, accessories, and cultural creative gifts can be developed to enrich the forms of expression and application scenarios of traditional dances, enhancing their influence and attractiveness in contemporary society.

Through these innovative application methods, not only can the market space for traditional dances be expanded, but also the development of related industries can be promoted, providing more resources and support for the inheritance and protection of traditional dances[8].

7.4. Strengthening International Exchange and Cooperation

To strengthen international exchange and cooperation, it is recommended to engage in in-depth cooperation with traditional dance groups and artists from other countries and regions. International dance festivals, art exchange exhibitions, and other activities can be organized to invite dance groups and artists from around the world to participate, jointly exploring the artistic charm and cultural value of traditional dances. This can not only promote exchanges and understanding between different cultures but also help to expand the international influence of Minnan traditional dances such as "Patting Chest Dance," allowing more international audiences to understand and appreciate the charm of Chinese traditional dances. Furthermore, active participation in international cultural projects and cooperation programs, such as jointly organizing cultural exchange activities and participating in international dance festivals, can be beneficial. Through these activities, traditional dances such as "Patting Chest Dance" can be promoted to the international stage, enhancing the image of Chinese culture internationally. Additionally, cooperation with international artistic institutions and organizations to jointly plan international tours of traditional dances can bring Chinese traditional culture to various parts of the world, enhancing its cultural soft power and international influence. By strengthening international exchange and cooperation, more extensive space can be opened up for the international dissemination of traditional dances such as "Patting Chest Dance," enhancing their status and influence on the international stage.

8. Conclusion

In this study, we have comprehensively explored the "Patting Chest Dance," a form of intangible cultural heritage in the Minnan region, aiming to understand its current status of inheritance, challenges, and future development directions. Firstly, we introduced the definition and significance of intangible cultural heritage, as well as its status and importance in Minnan culture. In particular, by analyzing the historical development and cultural connotations of the "Patting Chest Dance," we deeply understand its rich folk traditions and cultural values. In the current analysis of the inheritance status of "Patting Chest Dance," we found that the inheritance faces many challenges, including the deterioration of the inheritance environment, changes in audience preferences, and a decrease in inheritors. At the same time, we also observed the evolution of dance performance forms and content, influenced by the changes in times and society, presenting different characteristics. Although social awareness has increased, public participation still needs to be strengthened, especially the participation of the younger generation. Based on the above analysis, we have proposed a series of policy recommendations and practical significance. Firstly, the government should strengthen the formulation and implementation of protection and inheritance policies, establish a sound legal framework, and provide legal protection for the inheritance of traditional dances. Secondly, by strengthening the promotion and education of traditional dances, public awareness and participation in traditional culture can be enhanced. Meanwhile, encouraging innovative inheritance methods and applications, integrating traditional dances with modern elements, expanding their forms of expression and application scenarios. Finally, strengthening international exchange and cooperation to promote the dissemination and exchange of traditional dances internationally and enhance their international influence. However, this study also has certain limitations. The limited access to data may lead to the limitations of the research results. In

addition, for the proposed policy recommendations, their practical effects need further verification, requiring more field research and tracking observations. Future research can start from an interdisciplinary perspective, deeply explore the relationship between traditional dances and contemporary society, culture, economy, etc., providing more theoretical support and practical guidance for the protection and inheritance of traditional dances. Meanwhile, in-depth research on other Minnan traditional dance forms can be conducted, and through international comparative studies, explore the protection and inheritance experiences of traditional dances in different countries and regions, providing reference and inspiration for the development of traditional dances in China.

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