

# *Problems and countermeasures in the development of traditional music education in Henan Province from the perspective of inheritance*

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**Abstract:** As an important part of traditional Chinese music culture, Henan traditional music education faces many challenges and opportunities in contemporary society. This paper explores the problems and countermeasures in the development of Henan traditional music education from the perspective of inheritance. Firstly, it analyzes the cultural heritage and inheritance value of Henan traditional music, as well as its status and role in contemporary society. Then, it deeply analyzes the realistic difficulties faced by Henan traditional music education, such as insufficient education system and curriculum, shortage of teaching staff and imperfect training mechanism, lack of learning environment and resources, and problems with learners' attitudes and participation. Finally, it proposes countermeasures and suggestions such as formulating sound education policies, strengthening the construction and training of teaching staff, expanding learning resources and improving the learning environment, and enhancing students' participation and autonomous learning ability, in order to promote the healthy development of Henan traditional music education.

## 1. Introduction

Henan, as a famous historical and cultural city in China, has a long history and profound cultural heritage in traditional music culture, carrying rich historical and cultural connotations and inheritance values. Henan traditional music not only reflects the rich historical and cultural connotations of Henan, but also is an important part of the intangible cultural heritage of the Chinese nation, carrying invaluable historical and cultural values and profound inheritance significance. However, in the context of modern society, Henan traditional music education faces many challenges and difficulties. This paper aims to analyze the problems in the development of Henan traditional music education from the perspective of inheritance, and proposes corresponding countermeasures and suggestions to promote the healthy development of Henan traditional music education, promote the inheritance and promotion of traditional music culture, let more people understand and appreciate the unique charm of Henan traditional music, ensure that this precious cultural treasure can be effectively protected and perpetuated, and make positive contributions to the cultural prosperity and development of Henan

and even the whole China.

## **2. Henan Traditional Music Education: Inheritance and Development**

### **2.1. Cultural Heritage and Inheritance Value of Traditional Music**

Henan traditional music embodies the long history and culture of Henan, reflecting the social, historical, geographical, and ethnic characteristics of the region. Through traditional music, one can glimpse the characteristics of ancient Henan society, such as customs, religious beliefs, and historical heritage, thereby deepening people's understanding and identification with Henan cultural traditions. Henan traditional music has a strong regional character, reflecting the unique charm of Central Plains culture. This regional characteristic is reflected in the music's melodies, rhythms, and performance styles, which are distinct from those of other regions. By inheriting Henan traditional music, Central Plains culture can be promoted, enriching the diversity of Chinese music. Furthermore, Henan traditional music is an important manifestation of the ethnic identity and identity of the people of Henan. By learning and inheriting traditional music, the people of Henan can enhance their sense of identity with their cultural traditions, promote ethnic unity, and cultural confidence. Henan traditional music, as an important part of Henan culture, has profound historical and cultural heritage and rich inheritance value. It is of great significance for inheriting and promoting Central Plains culture, enhancing people's understanding and identification with Henan culture, and promoting ethnic unity and cultural confidence.

### **2.2. Development History and Characteristics of Henan Traditional Music**

Henan, as one of the birthplaces of Central Plains culture, has been deeply influenced by Central Plains culture. Ancient Henan was an important birthplace of Central Plains civilization, and music played an important role in the production, life, and religion of ancient society, forming an ancient and rich musical tradition. Henan traditional music has rich and diverse forms of expression and artistic characteristics, including local operas, folk music, and religious music, each with its unique performance style, expression form, and aesthetic characteristics. For example, in Henan local operas such as Henan Opera and Henan Bangzi, attract audiences with their unique singing styles and performance methods. In addition, Henan traditional music continues to innovate and develop through exchanges with music from other regions. Throughout history, Henan has had extensive cultural exchanges with other regions, absorbing the essence of foreign cultures and forming unique cultural integration and innovation. Henan traditional music has undergone long historical sedimentation and cultural accumulation, forming unique musical styles and characteristics in different historical periods. Its rich and diverse forms of expression and artistic characteristics reflect the rich cultural creativity and artistic attainments of the people of Henan, which is of great significance for enriching and developing Chinese music culture.<sup>[1]</sup>

### **2.3. The Status and Role of Traditional Music Education in Contemporary Society**

In contemporary society, Henan traditional music education plays an important role and its status and role are widely recognized and valued. Traditional music education is not only an important way to inherit and promote Henan traditional music culture, but also an effective means to cultivate students' comprehensive literacy, aesthetic taste, and cultural confidence. Firstly, the status of traditional music education in contemporary society highlights the importance attached to cultural inheritance. With the development of society and the process of modernization, the inheritance and protection of traditional culture face severe challenges. Traditional music education, as an important

form of cultural education, passes on the essence of Henan traditional music to the next generation through schools, communities, cultural institutions, and other channels, contributing to the inheritance and development of Henan culture. Secondly, the role of traditional music education in contemporary society reflects the emphasis on the comprehensive development of students. Traditional music education is not only about teaching music skills and performance methods, but more importantly, it is about cultivating students' aesthetic taste, emotional expression ability, and teamwork spirit. Through learning traditional music, students can not only feel the beauty of music but also enhance their identification with traditional culture and enhance their cultural confidence. Traditional music education plays an important role and has a significant status in contemporary society, it is not only an important way to inherit and promote Henan traditional music culture but also an effective means to cultivate students' comprehensive literacy and cultural confidence.

#### **2.4. The Application of Music Learning Theory in Henan Traditional Music Education**

In Henan traditional music education, music learning theory plays an important guiding role, promoting the innovation of teaching methods and the improvement of teaching effects. Firstly, constructivism learning theory provides a theoretical basis for Henan traditional music education. Constructivism believes that learning is a process of construction based on students' own experiences and cognition, emphasizing students' active participation and individual differences. In Henan traditional music education, teachers stimulate students' interest and motivation to learn traditional music through creating situations, guiding discoveries, and inspiring thinking, promoting students' deep understanding and appreciation of traditional music. Secondly, sociocultural learning theory provides theoretical support for Henan traditional music education. Sociocultural learning theory believes that learning is the process of inheriting and reproducing social culture, emphasizing learners' participation and communication in social and cultural environments. In Henan traditional music education, teachers organize students to participate in traditional music performances, attend concerts, and engage in exchanges and discussions, promoting students' comprehensive development in social and cultural environments and enhancing their identification and understanding of traditional music culture. Music learning theory provides important theoretical support and guidance for Henan traditional music education, promoting the innovation of teaching methods and the improvement of teaching effects. By using music learning theory reasonably, we can better promote students' learning and inheritance of Henan traditional music, and promote the development and growth of Henan traditional music education.

### **3. Problems in Henan Traditional Music Education**

#### **3.1. Insufficient Education System and Curriculum**

The problems of the education system and curriculum in Henan traditional music education are obvious. Firstly, the education system lacks support for traditional music education and fails to give it the attention and support it deserves. The current education system does not fully recognize the importance of traditional music education in cultural inheritance and education, leading to a lack of resources and limited development in traditional music education. Secondly, the curriculum of traditional music education is relatively monotonous, lacking diversity and depth. Traditional music education courses often focus on imparting basic skills, neglecting the deep exploration and understanding of the cultural connotations behind traditional music. This monolithic curriculum setting creates difficulties of one-sidedness and incompleteness in students' music learning, failing to meet the needs of students at different levels and interests. Therefore, addressing the inadequacies in the education system and curriculum requires comprehensive and in-depth thinking and planning at

the policy level for traditional music education, as well as careful adjustment and reform of the curriculum to ensure the comprehensive development of traditional music education and improve teaching quality.<sup>[2]</sup>

### **3.2. Shortage of Teaching Staff and Imperfect Training Mechanism**

The shortage of teaching staff in Henan traditional music education is obvious. Firstly, there is a serious shortage and structural imbalance in the teaching staff. In the field of traditional music education, high-level and specialized teachers are relatively scarce, resulting in uneven teaching quality. This situation not only affects the quality of traditional music education but also restricts student learning outcomes. Secondly, the training mechanism for the teaching staff in traditional music education is not perfect. The lack of a systematic training and selection mechanism makes it difficult for excellent talents to emerge and has not effectively solved the problem of teacher shortage. At the same time, there are problems such as an aging age structure and an unreasonable disciplinary structure in the teaching staff, which further exacerbate the shortage of teaching staff. To solve this problem, government departments need to increase efforts to train and introduce teaching staff in traditional music education, establish a sound training and incentive mechanism, attract more outstanding talents to engage in traditional music education, and ensure the continuous improvement of educational quality and the inheritance and development of traditional music culture.

### **3.3. Lack of Learning Environment and Resources**

The lack of learning environment and resources in Henan traditional music education is prominent. Firstly, the construction and equipment of traditional music teaching venues in schools, communities, and cultural institutions are severely inadequate, resulting in relatively harsh teaching conditions for traditional music education. Students face problems such as limited space and insufficient equipment during the learning process, which not only affects teaching effectiveness but also restricts students' learning experience and interest. Secondly, there is a relative lack of teaching resources and materials needed for traditional music education. The lack of rich and diverse teaching resources and materials makes teaching content monotonous and dull, making it difficult to stimulate students' interest and enthusiasm for learning. In this situation, students' learning needs often cannot be effectively met, affecting teaching effectiveness and student enthusiasm for learning. Therefore, solving the problems of the lack of learning environment and resources requires government departments to increase investment in the construction of traditional music education venues and improve the level of teaching equipment; at the same time, it also requires strengthening the development and integration of teaching resources and materials, enriching teaching content, improving teaching quality, and ensuring the smooth progress and development of traditional music education.<sup>[3]</sup>

### **3.4. Attitudes and Participation of Learners**

In Henan traditional music education, there are widespread problems with the attitudes and participation of learners, which bring challenges to educational practice. Firstly, some students lack interest in and understanding of traditional music, possibly due to external influences or personal interests, leading to a lack of positive attitude and active participation in traditional music education. This utilitarian learning and exam-oriented education tendency make them lack lasting motivation and enthusiasm for music learning. On the other hand, some students may have misconceptions and prejudices about traditional music education, thinking that traditional music education is useless or outdated, which affects their attitudes and participation in music learning. These misconceptions may result from a lack of understanding of traditional music culture or aesthetic bias against traditional

music, which needs to be corrected through relevant education and guidance. In addition, the differences and individual differences among learners also increase the difficulty and challenge of teaching, and teachers need to teach according to their aptitude, formulate personalized teaching strategies based on the needs and characteristics of different students, to enhance students' learning attitudes and participation.<sup>[4]</sup>

Henan traditional music education faces problems such as insufficient education system and curriculum, shortage of teaching staff and imperfect training mechanism, lack of learning environment and resources, and issues with learners' attitudes and participation. These problems restrict the development of traditional music education and the improvement of teaching quality, urgently requiring effective countermeasures to solve them.

## **4. Strategies Based on the Perspective of Heritage**

### **4.1. Formulating and Improving Policies for Henan Traditional Music Education**

To promote the vigorous development of Henan traditional music education, it is necessary to formulate and improve relevant education policies. Firstly, government departments should increase their support for traditional music education policies, actively increase financial investment in traditional music education, and ensure the resource guarantee and development needs of traditional music education. This aims to enhance the status and influence of traditional music education, creating favorable conditions for its development. Secondly, a sound management system and evaluation system for traditional music education should be established to ensure the quality and effectiveness of traditional music education. This includes the formulation of scientific and reasonable education standards and evaluation indicators, strengthening supervision and evaluation of the teaching process and results, identifying and solving existing problems in a timely manner, and continuously improving the level and quality of education. Additionally, efforts should be made to link with other relevant policies, actively promote the deep integration of traditional music education with cultural industries, tourism, and other fields, leverage the positive role of traditional music education in cultural inheritance and economic development, and promote sustainable social and economic development and the enhancement of cultural soft power. Through the organic combination of the above strategies, the healthy development of Henan traditional music education and the positive contribution to the inheritance and promotion of traditional music culture can be effectively promoted.<sup>[5]</sup>

### **4.2. Strengthening the Construction and Training of Teaching Staff**

To improve the teaching quality of Henan traditional music education, it is necessary to strengthen the construction and training of teaching staff. Firstly, a sound selection mechanism and training system for the teaching staff in traditional music education should be established to ensure the introduction of excellent talents and the cultivation of professional and high-level traditional music education teaching staff. This includes the formulation of clear selection criteria and training paths for teaching staff, strengthening the attraction and training of outstanding talents, and providing them with a good growth environment and development opportunities. Secondly, it is necessary to enhance the training and improvement of existing teachers to improve their professional level and teaching ability in traditional music education. This can be achieved through professional training courses, teaching practices, and exchange activities to continuously update teachers' knowledge and skills, improve their teaching level, and enhance education quality. At the same time, a platform for teacher-student interaction and teaching research cooperation should be established to promote communication and cooperation among teaching staff and jointly improve teaching level. Through

the organic combination of the above measures, the teaching quality of Henan traditional music education can be effectively improved, contributing to the inheritance and development of traditional music culture.

### **4.3. Expanding Learning Resources and Improving Learning Environment**

To enhance the teaching effectiveness of Henan traditional music education, it is necessary to expand learning resources and improve the learning environment. Firstly, efforts should be made to expand and develop learning resources for traditional music education, including investment in music textbooks, instrument equipment, music halls, etc., to provide rich and diverse learning resources to support teaching practice. This includes continuously updating and improving the textbook system, equipping with complete music equipment, and providing professional venues and facilities to ensure the smooth progress of teaching and students' learning experience. Secondly, it is necessary to improve the learning environment of traditional music education, construct good teaching venues and facilities, and provide students with a comfortable, safe learning environment and convenient learning conditions. This includes planning reasonable and scientifically layout teaching venues, configuring advanced music equipment and facilities, ensuring the smooth progress of teaching process and students' learning experience. At the same time, it is also necessary to actively carry out campus culture construction and community music activities, create a strong music atmosphere through rich and colorful cultural activities and music performances, stimulate students' interest and enthusiasm for learning, and promote the vigorous development of traditional music education. Through the implementation of the above measures, the teaching effectiveness of Henan traditional music education can be effectively improved, injecting new vitality into the inheritance and development of traditional music culture.<sup>[6]</sup>

### **4.4. Enhancing Student Engagement and Self-directed Learning Ability**

To stimulate students' learning enthusiasm and initiative, it is necessary to enhance their engagement and self-directed learning ability. Firstly, diversified activity forms, such as music competitions, music festivals, music lectures, etc., should be adopted to enrich students' learning experiences, stimulate their interest and potential for learning. Through these activities, students can not only improve their skills in competition but also have access to a broader music field, expand their music horizons. Secondly, attention should be paid to cultivating students' self-directed learning ability, encouraging them to explore, think, and innovate actively in learning. To achieve this, personalized teaching methods and project-based learning can be adopted to stimulate students' interest and motivation for learning, improve their initiative and enthusiasm for learning. At the same time, efforts should also be made to cultivate students' comprehensive literacy, including music literacy and humanistic literacy. Through comprehensive quality education, students' aesthetic taste and emotional experience ability can be cultivated, their comprehensive ability and competitiveness can be improved, enabling them to have better social adaptability and innovative spirit. Through the organic combination of the above measures, the teaching effectiveness of Henan traditional music education can be effectively improved, promoting students' comprehensive development and individual growth.

From the perspective of heritage, a series of strategies should be adopted, including formulating and improving policies for Henan traditional music education, strengthening the construction and training of teaching staff, expanding learning resources and improving the learning environment, enhancing student engagement and self-directed learning ability, etc., to promote the development of Henan traditional music education and improve teaching quality.

## 5. Conclusion

In its journey of inheritance and promotion, Henan traditional music education has encountered numerous challenges, including a lack of resources, outdated educational methods, and low social recognition. However, this process has also revealed tremendous development potential and broad development space. For this field, through a series of carefully designed and meticulously executed strategies, not only can the current challenges be effectively addressed, but also its healthy and sustainable development can be greatly promoted. By implementing strategies such as formulating and improving education policies, strengthening the construction and training of teaching staff, expanding learning resources and improving the learning environment, enhancing student engagement and self-directed learning ability, etc., the problems existing in Henan traditional music education can be effectively solved, promoting its healthy development. This will not only contribute to the inheritance and promotion of traditional music culture but also make important contributions to the prosperity and development of Henan culture.

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