

Research on the artistic characteristics and cultural value of Dangtu folk songs from the perspective of intangible cultural heritage

Liu Hui

Krirk University, Bangkok, Thailand

Keywords: Dangtu folk songs; intangible cultural heritage; artistic characteristics; cultural value; protection and inheritance

Abstract: From the perspective of intangible cultural heritage, this paper deeply studies the artistic characteristics and cultural value of Dangtu folk songs. As the general term of all kinds of folk songs in Dangtu County, Anhui Province, Dangtu folk songs fully show the cultural charm of Jiangnan water town with its simple and natural lyrics, unique and rich language, fresh and graceful tunes and lively and light rhythm. The paper first analyzes the expression of Dangtu folk songs as a folk oral literature, and discusses the improvisation and colloquial expression of lyrics, the application of comparison techniques and the enhancement effect of lining words on emotional expression. Then, from the perspective of musical characteristics, it expounds the tune and harmonic characteristics of Dangtu folk songs, and the influence of the use of dialect in singing on the style of folk songs. On this basis, the article further excavates the historical and humanistic value and social functions of Dangtu folk songs, including the historical changes, social style, life wisdom and emotional world reflected by them, as well as their role in educational inheritance, entertainment aesthetics and social cohesion. Finally, through the analysis of the classic Dangtu folk songs and the case of contemporary inheritance practice, the artistic characteristics and cultural values of Dangtu folk songs are summarized, and suggestions are put forward for the protection and inheritance of the intangible cultural heritage of Dangtu.

1. Introduction

In the vast traditional Chinese culture, the intangible cultural heritage is like a bright pearl, emitting a unique light. Dangtu folk songs, as the traditional music treasure of Dangtu County, Maanshan City, Anhui Province, not only carry the historical memory and emotional world of the local people, but also is an important embodiment of the culture of the Yangtze River. This paper aims to deeply explore the artistic characteristics and cultural values of Dangtu folk songs from the perspective of intangible cultural heritage, in order to provide a useful reference for the protection and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage.

Dangtu folk songs have a long history and a long history. Since the Han Dynasty, Dangtu folk songs have been produced with the productive labor of the agrarian era. After the singing of boat songs, fishing songs and water tunes in the Tang and Song Dynasties, the evolution of new tunes,

minor tunes and folk songs in the Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties gradually formed the rich and diverse system of folk songs we see today. These folk songs not only record the production and life of the local people, but also reflect their ideas, life attitudes and emotional expression methods. Therefore, the study of Dangtu folk songs is not only a discussion of the music art itself, but also a profound interpretation of the local history and culture.

This study adopts the combination of literature research method and historical analysis method, through consulting a large number of historical documents, musical materials and related research works about Dangtu folk songs, and strives to comprehensively and deeply understand the historical evolution, artistic characteristics and cultural value of Dangtu folk songs. At the same time, first-hand information was combined with field visits and interviews to ensure the authenticity and reliability of the study. This paper has a wide range of sources, including but not limited to local Chronicles, musical history, folk songs, inheritors's interviews and records, which provides a solid foundation for the in-depth development of research.

To sum up, this study aims to contribute to the protection and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage by deeply exploring the artistic connotation and cultural value of Dangtu folk songs, and also provide useful reference for the research in related fields of academic circles.

2. The artistic characteristics of Dangtu folk songs

Dangtu folk song, as an important part of the culture of Jiangnan water town, shows the rich emotional world and profound cultural heritage of the local people with its unique artistic charm. Its artistic characteristics are not only reflected in the creation of lyrics and music, but also lies in the clever use of dialect in singing, which together constitute the unique artistic style of Dangtu folk songs.

2.1. The performance of folk oral literature

2.1.1. Impromptu and colloquial expression of the lyrics created

The lyrics of Dangtu folk songs, often derived from folk life, are the product of improvisation by the working people in productive labor, social communication and emotional expression. This improvisation is not only reflected in the immediacy of the lyrics, but also in the freedom and flexibility of its language form. The lyrics of folk songs are mostly colloquial, the language is simple and natural, easy to understand and easy to sing. This colloquial expression makes the folk songs closer to people's lives, easy to resonate, and enhance the affinity and appeal of the songs.

2.1.2. The use of the comparison technique in the lyrics

Boxing is a common rhetorical device in Chinese classical literature, and there are also many examples in Dangtu folk songs. Through metaphors and prosperity, folk song lyrics can describe things more vividly and vividly and express emotions. For example, natural scenery is used to compare people's character or emotional state, or one thing is used as an introduction to lead to the description of another thing or the expression of emotion. This technique not only enriches the expressive force of the lyrics, but also makes the folk songs more implicit and profound, giving people infinite imagination space[1].

3. The enhancement of emotional expression by lining words

In Dangtu folk songs, the use of lining words is another major feature. The lining is usually used to fill in the blank in the melody to enhance the rhythm and rhythm of the song; the lining is mostly exclamation or acoustic words, used to express a specific emotion or describe a scene. Through the

clever use of the lining words and words, the melody and lyrics of the folk song are more closely combined together, which makes the emotional expression of the song more delicate and rich.

3.1. Music characteristics

3.1.1. The tune is fresh and graceful, and the rhythm is lively and light

The tunes of Dangtu folk songs are famous for their fresh and graceful, lively and light rhythm. The characteristics of this tune complement the natural scenery and cultural atmosphere of the Jiangnan water town, which together constitute the unique musical style of Dangtu folk songs. The melody of folk songs is smooth and natural, with ups and downs, which not only retains the softness and delicacy of Jiangnan music, but also is full of the vitality and vitality of the water town culture. In terms of rhythm, folk songs mostly adopt light beat and jumping rhythm type, giving people a relaxed and pleasant feeling[2].

3.1.2. Melody and harmonies characteristic of Jiangnan water town

The melody and harmony of Dangtu folk songs have the distinctive characteristics of jiangnan water town. In terms of melody, folk songs are mostly advanced and small dance. The melody lines are smooth and smooth, giving people a gentle and delicate feeling. In terms of harmony, folk songs pay attention to the use of color harmony in harmony configuration, and create a unique musical atmosphere through different harmony and interval relations. This harmonic configuration not only enhances the expressive force of the folk songs, but also makes the songs more hierarchical and three-dimensional sense.

3.2. The use of dialect in singing

3.2.1. The characteristics of Dangtu dialect and its influence on the folk song style

Dangtu dialect is a unique language system formed by the local people in the long-term production and life. Its pronunciation, intonation, vocabulary and grammar are all significantly different from Mandarin Chinese. This characteristic of the dialect is fully reflected in the singing of Dangtu folk songs. The pronunciation and intonation of dialect make the melody of folk songs have more local characteristics, and the ups and downs of melody lines and the changes of rhythm are closely linked with the intonation characteristics of dialect. At the same time, the vocabulary and grammar structure in dialects also provide rich materials and inspiration sources for the creation of folk song lyrics.

3.2.2. The role of dialect singing in maintaining the original flavor of folk songs

Dialect singing is one of the important means to keep its original flavor. Through dialect singing, folk songs can better convey the local peoples thoughts, feelings and aesthetic concepts. The unique pronunciation and intonation in dialects can give the folk songs a unique charm and style, making the songs more regional and national. At the same time, dialect singing can also enhance the affinity and appeal of folk songs, making the songs more easy to be accepted and sung by the local people. Therefore, in the process of protecting and inheriting Dangtu folk songs, the preservation and inheritance of dialect singing is particularly important [3].

To sum up, the artistic characteristics of Dangtu folk songs are not only reflected in the creation of their lyrics, musical characteristics and dialect singing, but also lie in the mutual integration and joint action of these elements. These artistic characteristics together constitute the unique artistic style and cultural connotation of Dangtu folk songs, which make them unique in the culture of

jiangnan water towns.

4. The cultural value of Dangtu folk songs

Dangtu folk song, as the cultural treasure of Dangtu County, Anhui Province, not only carries rich musical and artistic value, but also contains profound historical and humanistic value and social functions. It is an indispensable part of the intangible cultural heritage. Its unique cultural value is not only reflected in the reflection of local historical changes and social features, but also in the bearing of local peoples life wisdom and emotional world, as well as the positive role in social education, entertainment aesthetic appreciation, social cohesion and other aspects.

4.1. Historical and humanistic values

4.1.1. Reflects the historical changes and social features of Dangtu area

Dangtu folk song is a vivid portrayal of the historical changes of Dangtu region. From the ancient labor song and fishing song to the modern folk song, each folk song records the social style and peoples living conditions in a specific historical period. Through the lyrics and melodies of folk songs, we can see the economic, cultural, social and other aspects of Dangtu region in different historical periods[4]. For example, some folk songs reflecting the life of fishing and hunting make us feel the harmonious coexistence of the ancient Dangtu people and nature, while some folk songs describing the farming life show the industrious, intelligent and self-sufficient life of the local people.

4.1.2. Carry the life wisdom and emotional world of the local people

Dangtu folk songs not only record the history, but also carry the life wisdom and emotional world of the local people. The lyrics in folk songs often contain rich philosophy and life wisdom, and through concise and clear language, they convey profound life philosophy and life perception. At the same time, folk songs are also an important way for local people to express their emotions. Whether it is a happy celebration or an emotional expression of sad parting, folk songs can accurately convey peoples inner feelings with their unique melody and lyrics, and become a bridge connecting peoples hearts.

4.2. Social functions

4.2.1. Education and inheritance function

Dangtu folk songs play an important role in education and inheritance. By singing folk songs, the local people can not only learn rich historical and cultural knowledge, but also inherit and carry forward the national spirit. The lyrics and melodies in folk songs often contain profound educational significance, which can guide people to set up correct values and outlook on life. At the same time, the inheritance of the folk songs also depends on the word of mouth, which not only retains the original style of the folk songs, but also makes the folk songs become a link between the past and the future.

4.2.2. Entertainment and aesthetic functions

With its unique artistic charm, Dangtu folk songs provide people with rich entertainment and aesthetic experience. The melody of folk songs is beautiful, and the lyrics are vivid and interesting, which can make people feel the influence and pleasure of beauty while enjoying the music. In

Dangtu area, folk songs are an indispensable part of Peoples Daily life[5]. Whether it is festival celebrations or family gatherings, folk songs are an important way for people to express joy and festival. At the same time, folk songs are also an important embodiment of the local peoples aesthetic concept. Through the appreciation of folk songs, we can feel the local peoples pursuit and yearning for beauty.

4.2.3. Function of social cohesion and identity

Dangtu folk songs play an important role in enhancing social cohesion and identity. As a common cultural symbol and language of the local people, folk songs can stimulate peoples sense of belonging and identity. By singing folk songs, people can feel the common ground and connection between each other, thus enhancing the cohesion and centripetal force of the society. At the same time, folk songs are also an important bridge for local people to communicate with the outside world.

4.3. The protection and inheritance of the intangible cultural heritage

4.3.1. The inheritance status of Dangtu folk songs in contemporary times

With the acceleration of the modernization process and the further development of globalization, the inheritance of Dangtu folk songs in contemporary times faces many challenges. On the one hand, with the change of life style and the diversification of entertainment mode, peoples attention to and love for folk songs gradually decreases; on the other hand, due to the aging of inheritors and the simplification of inheritance mode, the inheritance of folk songs faces the risk of fault and loss. Therefore, it is particularly important to strengthen the protection and inheritance of Dangtu folk songs.

4.3.2. Protective measures and suggestions

In order to protect and inherit the intangible cultural heritage of Dangtu folk songs, we need to take a series of measures. First of all, we should strengthen the cultivation and support of folk song inheritors, improve their social status and economic treatment, and encourage them to actively participate in the inheritance and development of folk songs. Secondly, the publicity and promotion of folk songs should be strengthened, and the popularity and influence of folk songs should be improved by holding various forms of folk song competitions, performances and exhibitions. At the same time, modern scientific and technological means can also be used to protect and disseminate folk songs through digital use, so as to better preserve and inherit the precious cultural heritage of folk songs. Finally, we should strengthen the research and excavation of folk songs, and dig deeply into the historical and cultural connotation and artistic value of folk songs, so as to provide a solid theoretical foundation for the inheritance and development of folk songs.

To sum up, as an important part of the intangible cultural heritage, Dangtu folk songs not only carry rich historical and cultural values and social functions, but also face many challenges in the protection and inheritance. Therefore, we need to take a series of measures to strengthen the protection and inheritance of Dangtu folk songs, so as to ensure the continuation and development of this precious cultural heritage.

5. Case analysis

5.1. Analysis of classic Dangtu folk songs: "Mature Crops are yellow"

5.1.1. Analysis of lyrics, melody and singing characteristics

"Riked Crops are Yellow" is a typical Dangtu folk song, whose lyrics are full of strong life atmosphere and local emotion. The appellation lining words such as "sister" and "little Niang Jian" in the songs are commonly used in Dangtu folk songs. They do not express the specific practical meaning, but are used to increase the vividness and emotional color of the song. These outlining words make the song more close to the peoples life, full of the color of life.

In terms of melody, this folk song adopts a fresh and melodious tune, with a lively and light rhythm, which complements the natural scenery of the water towns south of the Yangtze River. The melody lines are smooth and natural, and undulating, which not only reflects the softness and delicacy of Jiangnan music, but also reflects the agility and vitality of the water town culture.

When singing, the singers mostly adopt the natural singing state, coordinating breathing, speaking, speaking and biting words perfectly. Their singing from the heart, makes the song loud and sweet, full of appeal. Especially in the use of resonance, singers can naturally form singing resonance techniques, making the singing folk songs beautiful and beautiful.

5.1.2. Discussion on the implied cultural connotation and artistic value of it

"Mature Crops are Yellow" is not only a beautiful folk song, but also contains rich cultural connotation and artistic value. It reflects the industrious, intelligent and self-sufficient life of the people in Dangtu area, as well as their yearning and pursuit for a better life. Through the singing of the song, people can feel the simple emotion and optimistic attitude of the local people.

In addition, this folk song also shows the unique artistic style of Dangtu folk song. The improvisational lyrics, colloquial expression and the clever use of lining words all reflect the artistic charm of Dangtu folk songs. The fresh and graceful melody and the lively and light rhythm also make this folk song unique in the culture of jiangnan water town.

5.2. Contemporary inheritance practice case: Dangtu folk songs into the campus and digital protection

5.2.1. Cultivation and activity organization of inheritors

In order to protect and inherit the intangible cultural heritage, Dangtu folk songs, the local government and cultural departments have taken a series of measures. Among them, Dangtu folk songs into the campus activity is an important practice. By organizing students to go to the birthplace of Dangtu folk songs to find the contemporary traces of folk songs and feel the humanities of their hometown, students can increase their knowledge in practice and accumulate their love for their hometown.

At the same time, the local government also invited inheritors of Dangtu folk songs to the school to teach inheritance and singing as a form of the second class. These inheritors not only teach the singing skills of the folk songs, but also tell the historical stories and cultural connotations behind the folk songs, so that students can have a deeper understanding of and love the dangtu folk songs.

5.2.2. Application of digital protection and communication means

In addition to the traditional inheritance methods, digital protection and communication means are also widely used in the protection and inheritance of Dangtu folk songs. The local government

and cultural departments have set up a folk song website and database to carry out special online publicity and promotion of folk songs. These websites not only provide audio and video resources of folk songs, but also provide information such as lyrics and background introduction, making it more convenient for viewers to understand and appreciate dangtu folk songs.

In addition, the local government also uses mobile phone ringtones, wechat platform and other new media means to spread folk songs. Whenever the phone rings or the mobile phone music rings, a melodious Dangtu folk song can make people feel the unique charm of the south of the Yangtze River water town. The application of these digital protection and communication means not only expands the influence and popularity of Dangtu folk songs, but also provides new ways and ways for their protection and inheritance.

To sum up, through the analysis of classic Dangtu folk songs and the analysis of contemporary inheritance and practice cases, we can see the important value of Dangtu folk songs as an intangible cultural heritage. Protecting and inheriting Dangtu folk songs is not only the respect and inheritance of traditional culture, but also the inheritance and promotion of the wisdom and emotion of the local people.

6. Conclusion

With its unique artistic characteristics and cultural value, Dangtu folk songs have become an important part of the jiangnan water town culture. The lyrics are colloquial and living, full of strong local colors and local emotion; the melody is fresh and graceful, the rhythm is lively and light, which not only reflects the soft and delicate Jiangnan music, but also full of the vitality and vitality of the water culture. Dangtu folk songs not only show the local peoples diligence, wisdom, optimistic attitude and yearning for a better life, but also reflect the unique natural scenery and cultural landscape of jiangnan water towns. In terms of cultural connotation, Dangtu folk songs contain rich historical stories, folk customs and regional characteristics, and are an important window to understand the culture of jiangnan water towns. Its artistic value is reflected in the unique melody lines, singing skills and improvisation, showing the unique charm of Dangtu folk songs as an intangible cultural heritage.

The protection and inheritance practice of Dangtu folk songs provides us with valuable inspiration. First of all, the protection of intangible cultural heritage needs the joint participation and efforts of the whole society, and the government, cultural departments, inheritors and all sectors of society should all play an active role. Secondly, the application of digital protection and communication means provides a new way and way for the protection of intangible cultural heritage, which should be widely applied and promoted. Finally, the inheritance of intangible cultural heritage needs to be combined with the modern education system, and new inheritors should be trained through school education and other means to ensure the continuation and development of intangible cultural heritage.

References

- [1] Rong Rong. *Inheritance path of Anhui Folk songs under the background of the new era* [J]. *Journal of Hunan University of Science and Technology (Social Science edition)*, 2019, 22(05):151-156. DOI:10.13582/j.cnki.1672-7835.2019.05.021.
- [2] Chen Xiao. *The current situation and problem area of Anhui Folk song research since the founding of the Peoples Republic of China* [J]. *Art Studies*, 2023, (04):52-54.DOI:10.13944/j.cnki.ysyj. 2023.0174.
- [3] Xiao Lei. *The aesthetic characteristics and cultural values of Dangtu folk songs* [J]. *Art Review*, 2021, (13): 43-45.
- [4] Wei Han. *Research on the musical characteristics of dance song* [J]. *Art Grand View*, 2021, (02): 99-100.
- [5] Tao Jianrong. *Research on the problems existing in the inheritance and protection of intangible cultural Heritage in counties—Based on the investigation of intangible cultural heritage protection in Dangtu County, Anhui Province* [J]. *Journal of Suzhou Institute of Education*, 2024, 27(03):79-83.DOI:10.13985/j.cnki.34-1227/c. 2024.03. 015.