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ANALYSIS OF HAINAN LI NATIONALITY FOLK SONGS

Article dedicates to present historical memory, life emotions and cultural identity of the Li people. This article takes Hainan Li folk songs as the research object and conducts in-depth analysis from four aspects: its origin, development, artistic characteristics, and inheritance and protection. First, article sorts out the historical origins of Li folk songs, explores its functions and roles in Li society, and reveals its close connection with the natural environment, production labor and religious beliefs. Secondly, through a review of the development history of Li folk songs, analyzing their expression forms and evolution laws in different periods, reflecting the uniqueness and diversity of Li music culture. The third part focuses on the artistic characteristics of Li folk songs, including its unique musical structure, melody style, rhythm characteristics, and cultural connotation contained in the lyrics, demonstrating the important position of Li folk songs in the national music system.

Keywords: Hainan Li nationality folk songs; music culture; artistic characteristics; inheritance and protection; national music.

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АНАЛИЗ НАРОДНЫХ ПЕСЕН ЛИ НАЦИОНАЛЬНОСТИ ХАЙНАНЬ

В статье рассматриваются историческая память, жизненные эмоции и культурная самобытность национальности Ли в регионе Хайнань. В этой статье берутся народные песни национальности Ли в качестве объекта исследования и проводится углубленный анализ по четырём аспектам: происхождение, развитие, художественные характеристики, наследство и защита. В статье разбираются исторические истоки народных песен Ли, исследуются их функции и роли в обществе Ли, раскрывается их тесная связь с природной средой, производственным трудом и религиозными убеждениями. С помощью обзора истории развития народных песен Ли, анализа их форм выражения и эволюционных законов в различные периоды описываются уникальность и разнообразие музыкальной культуры Ли. Третья часть статьи посвящена художественным характеристикам народных песен Ли, включая их уникальную музыкальную структуру, мелодический стиль, ритм-характеристики и культурную коннотацию, содержащуюся в текстах. Этим подчёркивается важное место народных песен Ли в национальной музыкальной системе.

Ключевые слова: фольклорные песни национальности Ли; музыкальная культура; художественные характеристики; наследование и защита; национальная музыка.

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1. THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF HAINAN LI FOLK SONGS

As an important part of the music culture of Chinese ethnic minority, Hainan Li folk songs carry the historical memory, cultural identity and spiritual pursuit of the Li people. The Li people are the earliest residents of Hainan Island, and their history can be traced back to more than 3,000 years ago. For thousands of years, the Li people have created a rich and colorful national culture through their interactions with the natural environment. Among them, folk songs, as the most direct and vivid artistic expression form, have become an important carrier of Li people's culture. According to relevant research, Li folk songs not only have unique melody forms and musical structures, but also contain profound national emotions and cultural connotations. For example, in the article "Tourism Development of Hainan Li Folk Music Resources", Liu Houyu pointed out that Li folk music is colorful, diverse in forms and unique, and is an important part of the precious cultural heritage of ethnic minorities in my country and has high artistic value and academic value.

The origin of Li folk songs is closely related to the Li people's living environment. Hainan Island is located in the tropical region, with a humid and hot climate and a complex geographical environment. The Li people have long regarded hunting, picking, fishing and farming as their main lifestyles. This way of survival determines that the content of Li folk songs is mostly related to themes such as nature, labor, love, and marriage. For example, during the farming season, the Li people would pray for a good harvest through singing; in marriage and love occasions, young men and women would express their love through singing.

The formation and development of Li folk songs were also influenced by surrounding ethnic groups and foreign cultures. Hainan Island has been a multiethnic area since ancient times, and there are close cultural exchanges between the Li people and other ethnic groups such as the Han people and Miao people. This kind of cultural exchange has promoted the enrichment and development of Li folk songs to a certain extent. For example, some Li folk songs incorporate the melody structure of Han folk songs, or draw on the singing methods of other ethnic groups. In “Analysis of the Evolution Laws of the Historical Development of the Li folk songs in Hainan”, Zhang Rui proposed that the evolution process of Li folk songs reflects the historical development and advancement of the Li people’s society, and its cultural connotation continues to evolve with the changes of the times.

It is worth noting that there are also significant differences in Li folk songs between different regions and branches. The terrain inside Hainan Island is complex, and the Li people are mainly distributed in the mountainous areas in the south and central areas. Each branch has formed its own unique musical style due to geographical environment, economic activities and language differences. For example, the folk songs of Li people from Bai sha, Chang jiang, Dong fang and other places have their own characteristics in rhythm, tone and lyrics.

Overall, the Li folk songs have a deep historical origin, and their formation and development are deeply influenced by the Li people’s social structure, production methods, religious beliefs and cultural traditions. These factors have shaped the uniqueness of Li folk songs, making them an important part of the treasure house of Chinese music culture. At the same time, Li folk songs are also an important window for studying the history, folk customs and social life of the Li people.

Li folk songs are not only an important entertainment method for the Li people in their daily lives, but also a tool for them to express emotions, convey knowledge and inherit culture. Since the Li people do not have a written system of their own nation, folk songs play a crucial role in the cultural heritage of the Li people. With the development of modern society, the inheritance of Li folk songs faces many challenges. On the one hand, the younger generation’s interest in traditional folk songs has gradually weakened, resulting in some folk songs being on the verge of being lost; on the other hand, the cultural impact in the process of modernization has also squeezed the living space of Li folk songs.

According to relevant statistics, there are currently thousands of Li folk songs circulating in Hainan, but less than 30 % of them are still widely sung in the contemporary era, and most of the rest are in danger. This phenomenon not only affects the integrity of the Li ethnic culture, but also poses a threat to the diversity of the ethnic minority music culture in our country. Therefore, the study of Li folk songs has important practical significance. From the perspective of cultural heritage, Li folk songs are an important part of Li culture. In-depth research on them will help reveal the internal logic and development context of Li culture and provide theoretical support for the protection and inheritance of Li culture. From the perspective of academic research, Li folk songs have unique musical forms and cultural characteristics. Systematic analysis and summary can not only enrich the theoretical system of Chinese ethnic minority music research, but also provide a new research perspective for related disciplines such as musicology, ethnology, and sociology. Again, from the perspective of social practice, the protection and inheritance of Li folk songs is of great significance to promoting the development of local cultural industries, enhancing national pride, and enhancing cultural confidence.

2. THE ARTISTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF HAINAN LI FOLK SONGS

Li folk songs, as an important part of Li culture, not only carry the life experience, emotional expression and value concepts of the Li people, but also are one of the most representative art forms in the music culture of Chinese ethnic minority.

From the perspective of musicology, analyze the artistic characteristics of Li folk songs. The melody structure of Li folk songs is mostly short and small, and usually uses the pentagonal scale, with natural tone fluctuations and rich ethnic characteristics. The lyrics of the Li folk songs are mostly based on Li language, with simple language and sincere emotions. They are often themed on daily life, love stories, natural landscapes, etc., showing the Li people's love for life and awe for nature.

When analyzing the musical structure of Li folk songs, it can be found that its melody development is often based on the pentagonal scale, the interval relationship is relatively simple, mainly composed of third, fourth and fifth degrees, and there are very few semi-tones or changing notes. This feature is closely related to the living environment and cultural background of the Li people. Since the Li people mainly live in the mountainous areas of Hainan Island, their music creation is deeply influenced by the natural environment. The melody lines are mostly undulating, and the rhythm is free and elastic, showing an aesthetic most demanding experience of harmonious coexistence with nature.

The rhythm structure of Li folk songs also shows certain regularity and stability. Most Li folk songs adopt a four-beat or two-beat rhythm type. The rhythm type is relatively fixed but not rigid. Appropriate adjustments can be made according to the singer's emotions and content needs.

The Li folk songs involve a large number of labor scenes such as hunting, farming, and fishing, such as "tea picking tunes" and "fire-flying dance songs". These songs vividly depict the scenes of the Li people working in the fields and show their hardworking and simple attitude towards life. The folk songs of the Li people also contain many contents about love and marriage, such as "love songs" and "marriage songs". These songs express the love and marriage concepts between young men and women of the Li people through delicate emotional descriptions. The worship of ancestors, gods and nature often appears in songs, such as "ancestors worship songs" and "rain prayers", etc. These songs not only express the respect of the Li people for their ancestors and awe of nature, but also reflect their profound understanding of life and nature. Li folk songs are an important part of Li culture, and many songs record the historical events, heroes and national spirit of the Li ethnic group. For example, songs such as "Hero's Praise" and "Ancestors' Legends" convey the historical stories and heroic deeds of the Li people to future generations through singing, so that the Li people's culture can be continued and developed.

3. THE INHERITANCE AND PROTECTION OF HAINAN LI FOLK SONGS

As an important part of the Li ethnic culture, Hainan Li folk songs carry the historical memory, life wisdom and aesthetic interests of the Li people. However, with the rapid development of social economy and the acceleration of modernization, the inheritance of the Li nationality songs faces many challenges.

In terms of the main body of inheritance, the main inheritors of Li folk songs are currently older Li elders, who often teach folk songs through intergenerational transmission within the family or collective activities in villages. However, because these inheritors are generally older and most live in remote mountainous areas.

From the perspective of inheritance methods, the traditional oral and heart-to-heart teaching model is difficult to fully pay attention to in the modern education system. Although some universities and research institutions have begun to pay attention to the protection and inheritance of Li folk songs in recent years, they are still in the initial stage as a whole, lacking a systematic teaching system and professional talent support.

Overall, the current status of inheritance of Li folk songs is not optimistic. Although the government and all sectors of society have begun to pay attention to this issue and have taken some preliminary measures, there are still obvious shortcomings in the inheritance subject, inheritance method, education system and protection mechanism. To achieve the effective inheritance of Li folk songs, it is necessary to cooperate with multiple parties to establish a more complete inheritance system and protection mechanism to ensure that this precious cultural heritage can bring new vitality in the new era.

CONCLUSION

This study focuses on the current status of the inheritance of Li folk songs and their challenges. With the acceleration of the modernization process, the inheritance of Li folk songs faces many difficulties, such as the weakening of the younger generation's interest in traditional music, the gap in inheritors, and the single inheritance method.

However, the current inheritance of Li folk songs mainly relies on word of mouth, lack of a systematic teaching system and modern communication means, resulting in the gradual loss of some folk songs. Since the Li people do not have a written system of their own ethnic groups, it is difficult to record and organize folk songs, which further aggravates the difficulty of inheritance.

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