

Yi Phonetic Harmony Promotes Ethnic Communication, Exchange, and Integration

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Abstract: Chinese national culture, like a mirror, truly reflects the bits and pieces of national life. It condenses and showcases the rich connotations of people's lives, with broad and profound content. In the starry sky of Chinese national culture, Yi culture is undoubtedly one of the shining stars. The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group have profound connotations and diverse forms, covering everything from the mystery of the birth of heaven and earth, the fantasy of myths and legends, to the warmth of folk stories, the etiquette of weddings and funerals, to the celebration of festivals and the wisdom of production and life, everything is included. These ancient songs can be divided into three categories based on their content: songs of life, songs of marriage, and songs of funeral. Each category deeply reflects the Yi people's reverence for life, appreciation of emotions, and attitude towards life. Traditional folk music of the Yi ethnic group is not only the crystallization of Yi people's artistic creation, but also an important carrier for moral education, cultural inheritance, and historical research. From ethnic music, we can glimpse the rich and colorful life and profound spiritual world of the Yi people.

Keywords: Yi Ethnic Ancient Songs; Traditional Folk Music; Communication; Exchange and Integration

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1. An Ancient Cry: Yi Ethnic Ancient Song

On this vast land of the Earth, the Chinese nation was born and thrived. 56 ethnic groups, like 56 brilliant flowers, jointly build a big family - the Chinese nation. Every ethnic culture is the crystallization of the wisdom of the Chinese nation, and they blend together to compose the cultural and developmental chapter of the nation. Yi ethnic group, a member of the big family of the Chinese nation, is an indispensable and important member. The Yi culture, with its unique charm, has added endless brilliance to the splendid and diverse culture of the Chinese nation. The traditional folk music of the Yi ethnic group is a precious treasure left by the Yi people after a long period of baptism. When we listen to these traditional folk music, it is as if we can hear the cries of ancient ancestors, feel their deep emotions and rich wisdom.

In the perspective of the Chinese national community, studying the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group not only requires attention to their protection and inheritance as intangible cultural heritage, but also emphasizes their key role in promoting ethnic unity and enhancing national cultural identity. Through systematic research and full utilization of traditional cultural

resources such as Yi ancient songs, we can better understand and inherit Yi culture, providing solid support for building a harmonious and diverse Chinese national community.

1.1 Yi Ethnic History: Dynamic Development Process

The Yi ethnic group, as one of the main ethnic minorities in Southwest China, has a population of nearly 9.8 million. Its distribution characteristics are distinct, mainly distributed in the four provinces of Yunnan, Sichuan, Guizhou, and Guangxi in a pattern of large dispersion and small settlement. Among them, the Yi ethnic group in Yunnan region accounts for the absolute majority, accounting for as much as 61%; Sichuan follows closely behind, accounting for 21%; The Yi ethnic group in Guizhou accounts for 11% of the population; However, the Yi population in Guangxi is relatively small, accounting for only 0.13% of the national Yi population. The development history of the Yi ethnic group is a complex and rich process, involving multiple aspects such as language, writing, social system, political power, economic activities, and communication with other ethnic groups. From ancient times to the present, the Yi ethnic group has undergone significant changes in society, resulting in many transformations.

In terms of writing, the origin of "Yi script", one of the oldest ancient Chinese ethnic scripts, has always been a concern. Sun Bojun ^[1]stated in his own article that Yi script originated from the ancient Yi people's era and pushed the standardized era of Yi script back to the Han Dynasty. This indicates that the Yi people had their own writing system thousands of years ago, which is of great significance for studying the history and culture of the Yi people. Yi language belongs to the Sino Tibetan language family, the Tibeto Burman language family, and the Yi language branch. Its direct language system is vast and complex, covering sub dialects and sub dialects from various regions. There are numerous branches of the Yi ethnic group, each with its own unique self designation and alternative name. These rich names not only reflect the diversity of the Yi ethnic group, but also highlight its profound historical and cultural heritage. In terms of social system and culture, the Yi ethnic group has created a system and culture with its own ethnic characteristics and rich content, such as family branch system culture, religion, and sacrificial activities, which have a profound impact on its development, economic growth, and social governance. In addition, the formation and development of Yi people's philosophical thought are not only closely related to their national spirit, way of thinking, cultural concepts, etc., but also closely related to the influence of Confucianism and the conscious choice of Yi people towards Confucianism.

The historical events related to the "Six Ancestors' Branches" are recorded in Sichuan's "Le Oute Yi", Guizhou's "Southwest Yi Chronicles", "Yi Ethnic Origins", "History of Floods", the "Historical Biographies" in northeastern Yunnan and southern Sichuan, as well as the Yunnan's "Light of the Six Ancestors" collected in Beijing. In the oral folklore, maxims, and sacrificial scriptures of the Yi ethnic group, especially in a large number of guidebooks, there are also contents related to the "Six Ancestors": in the history of the Yi ethnic group, there was a period of flooding. To avoid this natural disaster, the common ancestor of the Yi ethnic group, Du Mu, migrated to Leyi Mountain and married three wives, giving birth to six sons together. These six sons later multiplied into the six tribes of Wu, Zha, Nuo, Heng, Bu, and Mo ^[2], laying the foundation for the diverse development of the Yi ethnic group. After the flood receded, Dumu guided the six Yi ancestors to expand their territories in various places. The Wu and Zha tribes developed southward along the Pudu River basin, extending all the way to the present-

day western, central, and southern Yunnan regions. At the same time, the Nuo and Heng tribes gradually penetrated along the Jinsha River basin to present-day Zhaotong, Liangshan, as well as Yanyuan, Gulin and other counties in Sichuan, becoming the ancestors of the Yi ethnic group in these areas and delving deep into the Wumeng Mountain area of Zhaotong. The Bu and Mo tribes advanced towards the central region, gradually expanding to Huize, Qujing, Xuanwei in Yunnan, as well as Xingyi, Pu'an, Anshun, Weining, Liupanshui, and Bijie in Guizhou. Among them, there were also a few ethnic groups who migrated south and entered present-day areas such as Longlin in Guangxi ^[3].

From this, it can be seen that the development history of the Yi ethnic group is a complex and lengthy process involving multiple aspects, including the creation and development of writing, the formation and evolution of social systems and culture, changes in political power, the development of economic activities, and communication and integration with other ethnic groups. These aspects together constitute the rich and colorful development process of the Yi ethnic group.

1.2 Yi Ethnic Group's 'Migu ': Condensed Wisdom

The origin of Yi ethnic ancient songs can be explored from multiple dimensions, including their historical origins, cultural background, inheritance methods, and close connection with Yi social life. Legend has it that the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group were created by two major deities, who were revered as gods by later generations for their outstanding contributions. Yi ancient songs are called "Migu" in Yi language, and "Migu" usually has meanings such as "poetry, literature, ci, and rhetoric"; 'Ancient' has meanings such as 'chapter, chapter, history, rhythm, song, and completeness'. If the word 'Migu' is understood as equivalent to 'poetry' in Chinese. So all the works in "Migu" are both poetry and song ^[4]. Migu is divided into two types: "cheek millet" and "Honggu". The god in charge of "Chimei" is called "Chime Color spitting Foot Zuo", also known as Bu Bo Ju She Zhe; The chief deity of "Honggu" is called "Hongse She Yiti, also known as Hengyi Amani" ^[5]. Thus, the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group were jointly managed by the two gods, Bubo Jushezhe and Hengyi Amani.

Expressing emotions through songs, passing down history through songs, and educating people through songs is a way for the Yi people to express complex emotions in their daily lives. The Yi people's Migu, which can be seen everywhere, is a treasure left by the Yi ancestors to future generations. Yi Migu covers all aspects of life, and compared to the Southwest Yi Chronicles, it is more like an encyclopedia of Yi people's lives. Most of the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group are recorded in the form of clear singing, without instrumental accompaniment. The singing forms include solo singing, duet singing, and multi person choir singing ^[6]. In layman's terms, the vast majority of Yi ethnic ancient songs belong to oral literature, as there is no written record of them. However, we can still excavate from the literature left by our predecessors that the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group contain rich content and a wide variety of types, involving ancient epics, myths, folk stories, weddings, funerals, festivals, production and life, life etiquette, and other records of the rich life products of the Yi people. It is not only a description of the historical and cultural production and life of the Yi people, but also a condensation of the worldview, values, and life philosophy of the Yi ancestors.

From the perspective of the Chinese national community, the study of Yi ethnic ancient songs is not only focused on its inheritance and protection as oral folk literature, but also involves its profound influence in promoting ethnic unity and enhancing national cultural identity. Yi ethnic ancient songs, as an important part of Yi culture, contain rich historical

information and the essence of ethnic culture. They have irreplaceable value for studying the historical context, cultural characteristics, religious beliefs, and philosophical thoughts of the Yi people. These pieces of music are not only an expression of the emotions of the Yi people, but also a continuation of their history and culture. They tell the origin, development, and changes of the Yi people, showcasing their love for life and aspirations for the future. Therefore, we should cherish these traditional folk music and let them continue to be passed down, making greater contributions to the cultural prosperity of the Chinese nation.

However, the inheritance and protection of Yi ethnic ancient songs are facing multiple challenges. With the rapid advancement of modernization, the impact on traditional culture has become increasingly significant. The inheritors of Yi ethnic ancient songs are becoming increasingly rare, and traditional singing techniques and performance forms are also at risk of extinction. To address these challenges, scholars have actively explored various ways of protection and inheritance, including promoting Yi language teaching, collecting and organizing materials on Yi ancient songs, establishing detailed archives of Yi ancient songs, and cultivating and strengthening the inheritance team of Yi ancient songs. At the same time, the application of digital technology has opened up new paths for the protection and inheritance of Yi ethnic ancient songs.

The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group play a crucial role in promoting ethnic unity and enhancing cultural identity. The narrative of ancient Chinese emperors in the Yi ethnic group's creation epic not only showcases the process of cultural exchange and mutual learning between the Yi ethnic group and other brother ethnic groups, but also inspires a strong sense of community among the Chinese nation. In addition, the theme of "human origin" in Yi mythology reflects the profound memory of multiple ethnic groups sharing the same roots and prosperity, and is of great significance for strengthening Chinese cultural identity, jointly shaping the character of the Chinese nation, and forging a sense of community for the Chinese nation.

The study of traditional culture of the Yi ethnic group in Liangshan reveals the important role of Yi culture in cultivating a sense of community among the Chinese nation. At the same time, the cultivation of this sense of community also provides theoretical support for the inheritance and development of ethnic culture in the Liangshan area. This indicates that through in-depth exploration and research of traditional cultural resources such as Yi ethnic songs, not only can communication and integration between different ethnic groups be promoted, but also national cultural identity can be enhanced, contributing to the construction of a harmonious and diverse Chinese national community.

1.3 Yi Ethnic Ancient Songs: Special "Musical Texts"

From the basic definition of writing, history and mythology are two completely different concepts. History is a true record of human development, preserved based on facts. Mythology, on the other hand, is a self explanation and exposition of natural phenomena by ancient people. However, on this vast land of China, many ethnic groups present a unique phenomenon: myths and history are intertwined, closely linked like DNA strands. Mythology incorporates historical facts, while historical records are mixed with mythological colors. Therefore, the mythological stories of various ethnic groups not only contain historical elements, but also the shadow of myths can be seen everywhere in the historical context. Although there are many incredible plots in myths that we find unbelievable today, in ancient times, our ancestors regarded them as real examples, recorded and spread them, constantly processed and developed them, and ultimately passed them down to future generations.

The Yi people ingeniously incorporated the ancient ancestors' imagination of how heaven and earth were formed into each ancient song through singing. For natural phenomena that were not yet understood by people at that time, such as the appearance of wind, fire, lightning, they imagined and endowed corresponding gods to manage and create. In these ancient songs, not only do they praise national heroes who have made outstanding contributions to the development of the tribe, such as "Hero Zhiggaru", but his deeds inspire people to learn from his heroic deeds. At the same time, ancient songs vividly showcase the ethnic customs and habits of the Yi people, conveying the emotions of people throughout history and imparting labor experience. These unique ethnic textual cultures are contained in ancient songs, and the tones are gradually passed down through generations of oral transmission, becoming an indispensable part of Yi culture.

The Yi people mostly live by mountains and rivers, and have developed various forms of songs in their unique living environment, natural conditions, production technology, as well as rich and colorful customs and emotional expressions. These songs are divided according to their lyrics, covering a variety of topics such as the creation of the world, the origin of humanity, marriage, Qugu, Zogu, Amaiken, Luwai, Kenhong, Shemi, Xida, and nursery rhymes, with rich and diverse forms. From this, it can be seen that the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group profoundly showcase their unique culture, customs, religion, and other aspects.

The literature and art of any ethnic group are products of their living environment, and the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group are no exception. It was created and produced in the ethnic and folk production and life of the Yi people, and is closely connected to people's lives. Through the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group, we can gain a deeper understanding of their history, economy, production and living habits, religious beliefs, ethnic worship, and other related knowledge. It is the original record of the historical migration, social changes, and emotional concepts of the Yi people's ancestors, providing us with a precious cultural window.

Therefore, the author believes that in the historical development of the Yi ethnic group, the Yi people have condensed their own ethnic culture into "Yi ancient songs", which is a highly intelligent way of inheritance. It inherits the essence of Yi culture in a special form of "musical text" that is easy to pass down from generation to generation, allowing future generations to continue to feel and learn about this precious cultural heritage.

2. Two Dazzling Pearls: Yi Ethnic Ancient Songs

Every ethnic group is a brilliant treasure, and the Yi people, as a shining pearl in this treasure, emit their unique ethnic charm. Among them, the Yi ethnic group's ancient song "Migu" is a concentrated expression of its unique charm. Yi ethnic ancient songs are not just a literary genre, but more often, they are vivid records of the way of life at that time. In essence, they are a distinct representation of the Yi ethnic identity under regional culture. Through ancient songs, we can glimpse the historical evolution and life picture of ethnic life, and at the same time, the views and opinions of various ethnic groups on certain things can also be recorded in a subtle way. Because of these characteristics, Yi ethnic ancient songs have significant research exemplars.

The value of Yi ethnic ancient songs is mainly reflected in three aspects: practical value, historical value, and artistic value. It is not only an important part of people's daily lives, but also a bridge connecting the past and present, allowing us to deeply

understand and feel the richness and profundity of Yi culture. At the same time, the artistic charm of Yi ethnic ancient songs cannot be ignored. With their unique musicality and literary qualities, they showcase the endless charm of Yi culture to us.

2.1 Using Songs as a Tool: Diverse and Unique Charm

The fundamental reason why traditional ethnic music can remain fresh and long-lasting among the people is the rich practical value it contains. The Yi ethnic group's ancient song "Migu" is a powerful proof of this viewpoint. It plays an important role in people's daily lives, whether it is religious beliefs or social struggles, and plays a crucial role directly or indirectly. The singer of Yi ethnic ancient songs, "Moshi," is undoubtedly a shining star in traditional folk music. In solemn and solemn traditional sacrificial and educational occasions, the Mo Shi and Bi Mo cooperate seamlessly, jointly shouldering the responsibility of inheriting culture. In the poetry and music scene, Mo Shi demonstrated his skills by vividly interpreting classics and epics, captivating the audience and making them feel as if they were in that ancient and mysterious world.

These ancient songs were not only tools for people to express their thoughts and emotions, regulate their behavior, and coordinate interpersonal relationships, but also bridges for communication between humans and gods in the past. The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group are also a carrier for people to express their emotions. They carry multiple functions and values such as using songs to replace education, expressing emotions, praying to gods, and choosing partners. They deeply demonstrate the unique charm of Yi culture. It is precisely these diverse and rich functions that have enabled the Yi ethnic group's ancient songs to be widely circulated among the people and become an indispensable part of Yi culture.

2.1.1 Communication and coordination function

In the Yi ethnic areas where ethnic groups reside, whether it is the gentle singing of small tunes in the mouth or the singing scene between the two sides, folk songs are an important bridge for their communication and exchange. Here, ballads are not only an artistic expression, but also practical tools in daily life. It is common in folk culture to use songs as a substitute for education, conveying knowledge through singing; Expressing emotions through songs and expressing feelings through melodies; Praying to the gods with songs, praying for the protection of the gods with singing; Choose a spouse with songs and search for the other half in life through duet singing.

At the same time, showcasing ancient songs is also an important way to enhance individual self-awareness and strengthen social identity. Ancient songs play multiple roles in Yi society, not only helping to adjust interpersonal relationships and enhance national cohesion, but also playing a role in village organization, resolving disputes within ethnic groups, and establishing a stable social order.

It is worth mentioning that the traditional folk song "Aguhe" of the Yi ethnic group in Liangshan, Sichuan, is a song sung to the deceased, expressing the grief and nostalgia of the living for the deceased, and allowing people to find emotional resonance and spiritual comfort in the song. Amonija "is a beautiful lyrical poem with profound influence in the Yi region of Sichuan [7].

2.1.2 Function of educational norms

In the melodious melody of ancient Yi songs, people are able to freely express their inner joys, sorrows, and sorrows, drawing and promoting the excellent moral qualities cherished by their predecessors. Listening to these ancient songs, we are like being in a furnace of moral discernment, able to clearly distinguish the boundaries between truth, goodness, beauty, falsehood, evil,

and ugliness, and cultivate positive and healthy ethical and moral concepts. The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group not only provide us with ideological guidance and behavioral paradigms, enabling us to integrate into national social life more quickly and effectively, but also play a crucial role in the continuation of national spirit and the shaping of national character. It can be said that the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group, with songs as their training, have fulfilled the noble mission of great education, allowing us to draw wisdom, inherit culture, and continuously promote the prosperity and development of Yi culture through the influence of singing.

As a unique art form, "Jia Su" is widely used in major occasions such as festivals, sacrificial ceremonies, weddings, funerals, and building houses. Its connotation is rich and diverse, covering many fields such as the origin of heaven and earth, sacred scriptures, national history, ethics and morality, and customs and habits. In areas such as Honghe and Yuanyang in Yunnan, "Jia Su" is deeply rooted in people's hearts and widely spread. It is not only a form of showcasing artistic charm, but also a local educational classic, carrying profound and unique cultural connotations. Through this form, people are able to convey and promote the traditions and wisdom of the nation, highlighting its cultural value and educational significance.

It is also worth mentioning that the classic "Mamuteyi" of the Yi ethnic group contains the admonitions and teachings of the Yi ancestors to their descendants. Among them, it emphasizes the need to love the people, not to settle cases, to dispel the difficulties in one's heart after completion, to refine a true treasure sword, and to cultivate and graze the land well when settling down. These contents fully demonstrate the wisdom of the Yi people in dealing with people. The "Mamuteyi", mainly circulated in the Liangshan area of Sichuan, also advocates virtues such as respecting the elderly and loving the young, being diligent, and being honest and trustworthy. It points out that 'do not break promises to others. If you break promises, you will have no friends for ten days. Do not deceive others. If you cheat for a day, you will feel ashamed for ten days.' It emphasizes the importance of honoring promises and keeping promises as a traditional virtue of the Yi ethnic group. This teaching method is easy and natural, allowing people to appreciate art while also being deeply influenced by its educational significance.

2.1.3 Entertainment venting function

Some scholars have described it as follows: "Art itself is sometimes seen as a form of entertainment." In Yi ancient songs (Migu), we can hear many songs that reflect people's immediate emotions. For example, the song "A Mai Ken" at a wedding ceremony or the song "Ken Hong" sung during a funeral ceremony are vivid examples of the Yi people's ancestors using singing to express emotions and regulate their thoughts. Therefore, folk songs not only have the function of entertaining and cultivating temperament, but also can mediate emotions and vent thoughts and emotions.

And the song 'Asniu Niu' conveys a sense of confidence literally, showcasing the wisdom and civilization of the Yi people. Let's talk about 'Axi's First Foundation', which is widely circulated in the Honghe area of Yunnan Province. Its content mainly praises labor, and the local people firmly believe that heaven, earth, and all things are created by gods through hard work. After the birth of humans, labor also became their main activity. After marriage, the content and joy of life for men and women cannot be separated from labor. This song embodies the simple ethical and moral concepts of the Axi people, demonstrating their respect and love for labor.

2.2 Replacing History with Songs: A Rich Carrier

Ethnic folk literature is deeply rooted in the fertile soil of a nation, like a mirror that fully reflects the historical development process of a nation. As Gorky said, "Without knowing the oral creations of the people, it is impossible to understand the true history of the laboring people." Since ancient times, folk literature has accompanied the development of history like a shadow. Ancient songs, as cultural treasures accumulated in the long river of history, deeply reflect the historical context of various ethnic minorities in the four provinces of Yunnan, Sichuan, Guizhou, and Guangxi. From another perspective, ancient songs have also become a unique interpretation and construction of the historical and cultural heritage of these ethnic groups to some extent. It is worth noting that ancient songs, when narrating history, do not simply pile up grand historical scenes, but cleverly present the evolution trajectory of history through the details of daily life. It is not an exhaustive "whole history" or an impeccable historical record, but rather an accumulated and interwoven artistic construction of the past, providing us with a unique perspective on historical interpretation.

In the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group, the carrying capacity of historical information is particularly rich. From the birth of heaven and earth, the creation of the world, to human development, to the migration history and family branches of the Yi ethnic group, all of these are contained within it. Listening carefully to the singing of ancient songs, we seem to be able to cross the long river of history and feel the continuous extension of history. In addition, the Yi people's "Guidebook" often reveals their migration routes, detailing the reasons for ethnic migration, routes, and local customs along the way. The "Bronze Drum Song" mainly sings about the origin, migration and other historical sites of the Yi ethnic group in Guangxi, with clear migration routes, clear eras, and traceable addresses. The "Jiaozhi" mentioned in ancient songs refers to present-day Vietnam, while "Zhenbian" and "Pingzhi" are located within the present-day Napo area of Guangxi. These ancient songs are not only witnesses to history, but also precious cultural heritage of the nation.

2.2.1 An important source of literary creation themes for writers

Yi ancient songs, as treasures of Yi culture, not only enrich the literary themes of Yi writers, but also inject soul into their works. The Yi ethnic group's ancient songs, with their rich historical stories, distinct character characteristics, and quaint and elegant artistic style, provide writers with a continuous stream of creative inspiration and inject endless vitality. Some Yi ethnic writers directly draw inspiration from ancient songs and transform their content into materials for literary creation, which profoundly interprets the fundamental importance of ethnic folk literature as the foundation of literary creation.

In addition, some writers have transformed and sublimated the theme of ancient songs into literature, cleverly integrating the thoughts and emotions of people from different eras, making their works more contemporary and strongly resonant. It is particularly worth mentioning that some writers regard ancient songs as an indispensable and important element in national culture, and showcase them brilliantly through their literary works. This allows readers to deeply appreciate the unique charm and profound heritage of Yi culture while appreciating the works, further promoting the inheritance and development of ethnic culture.

Yi ethnic writers such as Lu Juan, Lu Qin, Ji Huiming, and Ba Moqubulai not only embody the ideological essence of Yi culture in their works, but also demonstrate the innovation and inheritance of Yi poetry culture. We can see the presence of ancient songs in various art forms such as modern Yi cinema, folk art, sculpture, short videos, and painting. For example, the Yi ethnic

film "Twilight Youth" cleverly utilizes the creative techniques of Yi poetry, making the film more artistic and culturally meaningful. It can be said that the widespread use of Yi ethnic ancient songs in the field of modern art not only showcases the profound cultural heritage of the Yi ethnic group, but also provides rich sources of inspiration for modern art creation.

2.2.2 Important field materials for the study of Yi ethnic history

The tradition of singing ancient songs is still prevalent in the lives of the Yi people today. In their spare time, people sing one or two Yi songs, which is not only a way for them to relax and entertain themselves, but also a sincere praise for the beautiful life. At the edge of the Yi family's fire pit, flickering flames dance along with singing, and parents softly narrate the history of their ancestors. The ancient Yi songs sung by different singers may have slight differences in their recorded history, but these songs all carry the respect and inheritance of the Yi people towards their ancestors. In the guidebook, the origin of ancestors is extensively written; In ancient Yi songs, their wisdom and stories are highlighted one by one. These ancient songs are not only treasures of Yi culture, but also a bond of emotions and memories for the Yi people.

2.3 Learning from Songs: The Artistic Value of Yi Ethnic Ancient Songs

As an important form of cultural inheritance, Yi ancient songs are not only a key means of emotional expression and social communication for the Yi people, but also an indispensable part of researching and appreciating Yi culture with their unique artistic style and aesthetic psychology, as well as their valuable value as intangible cultural heritage. This form of ancient song mainly relies on clear singing expression, with rich rhetorical skills and extensive use of techniques such as comparison and prosperity. Its content covers a wide range of aspects such as the origin, worship, prayer, love, marriage, funeral, and living environment of the Yi people, and has distinct local ethnic characteristics. It can be regarded as an encyclopedia of the lives of the Yi people in ancient times. Therefore, the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group are not only important materials for understanding and studying their traditional customs, religious beliefs, and other historical and cultural aspects, but also have immeasurable cultural and historical value ^[8]. In addition, its unique three paragraph style and five character narrative format not only fully demonstrate its extraordinary charm, but also provide rich ideas and methods for poetry creators, inspiring countless composers' creative inspiration.

2.3.1 Imagining the mapping of carriers

The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group are not only a treasure trove of Yi literary creation, providing rich materials for later plays, but also greatly enriching the shaping of character images in drama. By using concise and condensed language, diverse rhetorical devices, and diverse narrative strategies, readers are given unlimited space for mapping and imagination. In the classic work "Amonija", we can get a glimpse of the unfortunate Yi girl, whose vivid and lively character description shakes the readers' hearts. In the creation or direct reference to classic character images from ancient songs, such as the eternal inheritance of heroic images in "Zhige Aru"; Or indirectly based on ancient song characters, create new characters with metaphorical meanings, such as works like "Ashima" and "Ayi Aji", whose character images are deeply influenced by ancient songs. The shaping of these character images not only showcases the unique charm of Yi culture, but also demonstrates the respect and innovative spirit of Yi playwrights towards traditional culture. Yi ethnic ancient songs serve as a carrier of emotional expression and an important medium for Yi social interaction. In the traditional customs of the Yi ethnic group, young men and women search for their love

through singing love songs, and sometimes several pairs of lovers form a good relationship in the melodious singing. This unique social way deeply reflects the emotional communication and social relationship establishment of the Yi people in social life. Yi ethnic ancient songs also carry and inherit rich folk culture in the form of songs, such as wedding customs, funerals, totems, and other cultural contents are cleverly integrated into the lyrics, and through singing, these cultures can be passed down in a lively way. This form not only preserves the historical memory of the Yi people, but also provides an effective way for the younger generation to understand and inherit ethnic culture.

2.3.2 Ancient and elegant artistic style

The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group have been passed down to this day with their unique style, among which the three part short song "Suokoumi" is particularly eye-catching. Together with the long song "Mishe", it constitutes the characteristic of the compatibility of length and width in the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group^[9]. These ancient songs are not only diverse in form, but also extremely rich in content. In the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group, everything is endowed with spirituality, everything in nature is personified, and different things have distinct personality traits. In ancient Yi songs, all things are endowed with spirituality, everything in nature is personified, and different things have distinct personality traits. This unique expression technique enables each ancient song to encompass three core elements: environmental description, storyline, and character image, creating a fantasy and romantic world for listeners. At the same time, these ancient songs cleverly integrate various expressive techniques such as fables, fairy tales, stories, myths, etc., fully demonstrating the profound cultural heritage and distinct ethnic characteristics of the Yi people, highlighting a strong romantic color, and providing valuable materials and inspirations for academic research.

3. Three Summaries

The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group, a brilliant treasure in Yi culture, are not only deeply rooted in the lives of the Yi people, but also carry the rich history and culture of the Yi ethnic group. Through in-depth analysis of the information I have collected, we can gain a multi-dimensional understanding of the characteristics, inheritance status, and profound significance of Yi ethnic ancient songs in Yi society. In the vast land of China, different ethnic cultures are deeply rooted like seeds, each blooming with unique cultural brilliance, jointly building a colorful Chinese nation. The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group, as an important part of Yi culture, not only originate from life, but also serve as the inheritance and record of life. People from different regions use their own local languages to sing and record these ancient songs, and the six major dialect regions of Yi language have become the main basis for dividing Yi ancient songs. In these dialect regions, people further divide dialects based on subtle differences between languages.

A Yi song is not only a true expression of the singer's emotions, but also a vivid reflection of the long-standing national culture. Traditional folk music of the Yi ethnic group is not only a bridge for communication and exchange among the Yi people in daily life, but also an effective way to inherit Yi culture and carry out educational norms. It is also an important channel for them to express emotions and vent their feelings.

From a historical perspective, the research value of Yi ethnic ancient songs is immeasurable. These ancient songs have been vividly passed down in the lives of the Yi people, replacing history with songs. Through Yi ancient songs, we can inherit the

history of the Yi people, tell the origin and history of the nation. Those concrete lyrics seem to be vivid historical scrolls, allowing us to glimpse the life trajectories of our ancient ancestors. Nowadays, the inheritance of ethnic culture is all around us. It is not only a historical memory, but also a living cultural phenomenon that deserves to be cherished and inherited even more.

The content of Yi ethnic ancient songs is extensive, covering multiple fields such as daily life, sacrificial entertainment, philosophical thinking, etc. These ancient songs are like a mirror, reflecting the style of ancient Yi society, while also containing profound philosophical wisdom and life concepts. For example, ancient songs provide detailed descriptions of crop cultivation, livestock breeding, and handicraft techniques, vividly showcasing the achievements of the ancient Yi people in agriculture, animal husbandry, and handicrafts. In addition, the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group also contain rich and simple philosophical ideas, reflecting the precious spiritual wealth accumulated by the Yi ancestors in long-term practice.

However, the inheritance and protection of Yi ethnic ancient songs face many challenges. With the changing times, traditional oral transmission methods are gradually being challenged, and many precious ancient songs are facing the risk of extinction. To address these challenges, scholars actively explore various protection and inheritance strategies, such as conducting Yi language education, organizing and collecting ancient songs, inheriting singing techniques, and establishing archives of ancient songs. At the same time, the application of digital technology has also provided new ways for the inheritance and protection of Yi ethnic ancient songs. Through collection, transcription, annotation, and archiving, a network sharing platform has been established to effectively rescue and protect this cultural heritage.

In Yi society, Yi ancient songs play a crucial cultural and social role. It is not only an important component of the spiritual life of the Yi people, but also a powerful tool for knowledge transmission and moral education. By singing ancient songs, the Yi people are able to maintain their memory and identity with traditional culture, enhance national cohesion and pride. At the same time, the ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group also provide valuable materials for studying their traditional culture, religious beliefs, and philosophical thoughts. The ancient songs of the Yi ethnic group are undoubtedly an indispensable part of Yi culture, deeply reflecting the way of life, ideological concepts, and cultural heritage of the Yi people. Faced with the challenges of inheritance and protection, we must take various measures, combined with modern technology and means, to ensure the continuation and development of this brilliant cultural heritage.

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