# Status Survey and Dilemma Analysis of Inheritance and Development of Liaoning Manchu Folk Dance

# Chi Zhang\*

College of Music, Bohai University, Jinzhou, China bh16604166075@163.com
\*Corresponding author

Abstract: As one of the oldest and most appealing forms of artistic expression, folk dance is an important carrier for inheriting human civilization and artistic culture. It contains extremely profound historical and cultural deposits, and always keep up with the trend of The Times development, with its unique artistic and cultural charm to meet the spiritual needs of contemporary people. In order to promote the inheritance and development of Manchu folk dances in Liaoning, this paper carries out a survey on the current situation, and obtains original data through questionnaires and in-depth interviews. Based on the statistical analysis of the original data obtained, the paper deeply analyzes the difficulties of the inheritance and development of Manchu folk dance in Liaoning Province. Specifically, it includes the lack of cultural confidence, the shortage of inheriting talents, the decrease of the number of audiences, the neglect of school education, the slow process of marketization and the insufficient penetration of national culture.

**Keywords:** Manchu Folk Dance; Inheritance and Development; Status Survey; Dilemma Analysis; Questionnaire; Depth Interview

#### 1. Introduction

The Manchu is an excellent ethnic group with a very long history among the minorities in northern China. The history of the Manchu can be traced back to the pre-Qin period, and the development of the Manchu reached its peak in the late Ming and early Qing Dynasties. Combing related literature found that Manchu dance originated from fishing, hunting and other activities. Regional uniqueness is the unique cultural feature and connotation symbol of Manchu dance, which has been deeply influenced by Mongolian and Han cultures in history [1]. The early forms of communication were the expression of thoughts and actions through body language. During the period of Wei and Jin, Manchu's song and dance was dominated by "twists and turns, multiple fights and Rong". While maintaining their own unique dance culture, Manchu also integrated into the song and dance culture of other nationalities. The rulers of the Qing Dynasty were Manchu, and the main form of dance in the court was Mang style dance. Influenced by Han culture, Manchu folk dance changed and integrated new performance forms.

The history of Manchu exploration abroad has a long history. From the perspective of the Altaic language family, it can be traced back to the Inuit of the far North, the Indians of North America, the Eskimo, and the Ainu of Japan, but there is no special study on Manchu folk dance. Many domestic scholars have studied Manchu court dance, the historical development source of Manchu dance, and the problems faced by the inheritance and development of Manchu dance, including the Development History of Manchu Dance, Manchu Dance Search, Manchu Folk Dance: Fushun Album, etc. The research on Manchu dance at home and abroad has a certain scale and foundation, making important contributions to the historical exploration and tracing of Manchu dance.

Manchu is a bold character, good at singing and dancing. Manchu song and dance have a long historical tradition. As the most representative symbol of Manchu culture, it has rich ethnic customs and distinct ethnic characteristics [2]. Manchu dances can be divided into sacrificial songs and dances and festive songs and dances. According to the nature of the scale can be divided into palace and folk song and dance two. Under the background of strengthening cultural confidence and building a strong socialist culture, tracing the origin of Manchu folk dance has become the basis for its inheritance, protection and development.

#### 2. Status Survey of Inheritance and Development of Liaoning Manchu Folk Dance

Survey research is a common method in scientific research, which can be used in descriptive, explanatory and exploratory research. Through the observation of the original materials, the materials of the research object are collected purposefully and systematically, so as to form a research method of scientific understanding, including questionnaire survey and in-depth interview. It has the advantages of wide applicability, flexible form, various means and simple operation. This paper uses the combination of these two methods to provide detailed data for further research.

# 2.1 Questionnaire

The most commonly used data collection method for research in the field of social science is to present questions in written form for investigators to fill in and then collect them. In order to ensure the quality of the questionnaire, the questionnaire pre-test is conducted first, and the questions which are easy to cause ambiguity are deleted or corrected. SPSS software was used for statistical analysis of valid data to draw objective investigation conclusions. Through the process of questionnaire design, reliability and validity test, investigation process implementation and statistical analysis of investigation data, the relevant data of the inheritance and development of Liaoning Manchu folk dance were collected comprehensively. The questionnaire on the inheritance and development of Liaoning Manchu folk dance designed in this paper consists of 15 single-choice questions and 10 multiple-choice questions, some of which are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Questionnaire of inheritance and development of Liaoning Manchu folk dance

| Tueste 1. guessiennum e og miner numee umu v                        |   |
|---|---|
| (1) What's your attitude towards Manchu folk                        | (16) How do you agree to publicize the folk dances  |
| dances in Liaoning?   | of Liaoning Manchu nationality?                     |
| <ul> <li>Excellent cultural heritage should be inherited</li> </ul> | □ Make a documentary                                |
| <ul> <li>Inheritance and development have nothing to do</li> </ul>  | ☐ Hold various activities                           |
| with ourselves  | □ Release of various information                    |
| <ul> <li>Feudal dregs should be abandoned</li> </ul>                | □ Use television                                    |
| (2) What do you think about the future                              | ☐ Use network communication                         |
| development of Liaoning Manchu folk dance?                          | ☐ Strengthen school education                       |
| The impact will grow  | (17) What do you think are the reasons for the loss |
| o The status quo will not lead to great progress                    | of Manchu folk dances in Liaoning?                  |
| o The impact will be less and less                                  | ☐ Young people don't want to inherit                |
| (3) Do you know anything about Manchu folk                          | ☐ Lack of content appeal                            |
| dance in Liaoning?  | □ Bad market prospect                               |
| ○ Know very well  | ☐ The government is not protecting enough           |
| ○ Know less about   | ☐ The public does not have a strong sense of        |
| ○ Not at all  | protection  |
| (4) What is your attitude towards the inclusion of                  | •   |
| Liaoning Manchu folk dance in the intangible                        | (18) What do you think is the biggest problem       |
| Cultural Heritage list?   | facing the inheritance of Manchu folk dance in      |
| ○ Very supportive   | Liaoning Province?                                  |
| Comparative support   | ☐ There is not enough awareness                     |
| ○ Be indifferent  | ☐ Lack of effective protection policies             |
| ○ Do not support  | ☐ The conflict between foreign culture and          |
| (5) Do you care about the inheritance and                           | traditional culture                                 |
| protection of Manchu folk dances in Liaoning?                       | □ Lack of conservation funds                        |
| Be very concerned about   | ☐ Aging of inheritors                               |
| o Pay little attention to   | ☐ Lack of effective inheritance mechanism           |
| • Pay no attention to   | (19) In your opinion, what measures should be       |
|   | taken to strengthen the inheritance of Liaoning     |
| (6) Have you watched the performance of Manchu                      | Manchu folk dance?                                  |
| folk dance in Liaoning?   | □ Protection by national legislation                |
| O Watch regularly   | □ Scientific management mechanism                   |
| Watch occasionally  | ☐ Strengthen publicity and education                |
| O Never watch   | ☐ Attach importance to the construction of talent   |
| (7) Do you think Manchu folk dances play a big                      | teams   |
| role in our daily life?   | ☐ We will increase fiscal input                     |
| • Have a great effect   | □ Reasonable commercial development                 |
| Larger effect   | ☐ Incorporate modern dance elements                 |
| o Minor action  | - meorporate modern dance elements                  |
| O Have no effect  |   |

#### 2.2 Depth Interview

It is an unstructured, direct and personal visit, during the visit. An investigator with advanced skills interviews a respondent in depth to reveal underlying motivations, beliefs, attitudes, and feelings about a subject. This research method fully absorbs the valuable opinions of some experts with high seniority, deep experience and exquisite knowledge, draws on the strength of others, provides guidance for the research, and makes the research results more scientific and practical. The outline of the in-depth interview on the inheritance and development of Liaoning Manchu folk dance designed in this paper is as follows:

- (1) Where are the Manchu folk dances mainly distributed in Liaoning?
- (2) How to integrate contemporary elements into Liaoning Manchu folk dances?
- (3) What are the characteristics of Manchu folk dances in Fushun?
- (4) What are the artistic characteristics of Liaoning Manchu folk dances?
- (5) Whether the Internet era can solve the problem of inheritance of Liaoning Manchu folk dance?
- (6) How to attract young people to inherit Liaoning Manchu folk dance?
- (7) What impact does the economic backwardness in Northeast China have on the inheritance and development of Manchu folk dances in Liaoning?
  - (8) How to promote the industrialization of Manchu folk dance in Liaoning?
- (9) Do relevant national policies play a role in the inheritance and development of Liaoning Manchu folk dances?
  - (10) How to train Liaoning Manchu folk dance inheritors?
  - (11) What means are needed for the modernization of Liaoning Manchu folk dance?
- (12) What impact does cultural confidence have on the inheritance and development of Manchu folk dances in Liaoning?
  - (13) What are the main ways to inherit and develop Liaoning Manchu folk dances?
- (14) What should we pay attention to in the development of Liaoning Manchu folk dance resources?
- (15) How to understand the modern value and profound connotation of Liaoning Manchu folk dance?

# 3. Dilemma Analysi of Inheritance and Development of Liaoning Manchu Folk Dance

In ancient times, Manchu people lived on hunting, and dance evolved from hunting, which was very different from Han nationality or other ethnic dances. Liaoning Manchu folk dance, as an important part of national culture, has been simply and carelessly copied under today's commercial operation mode. The lack of full understanding of the comprehensive value of the folk dance by the masses leads to the inaccuracy and inadequacy of the Manchu folk dance culture excavation. On the basis of investigation and research, in-depth analysis of the dilemma in communication and development is to provide solutions for getting out of the dilemma.

# 3.1 Lack of Cultural Confidence

Culture emerges from the production and life of all nationalities and is the crystallization of people's long-term experience and wisdom. The formation of various ethnic cultures is influenced by their own psychological characteristics and lifestyles. Chinese culture is composed of various ethnic cultures, which have their own unique values and gradually form a situation of multi-cultural symbiosis [3]. Cultural confidence is the sense of identity, belonging and pride of the traditional culture of the nation and the mainstream culture of this era [4]. Cultural confidence has become the mainstream of the current society. Cultural confidence is based on the cultural tradition of the Chinese nation. Manchu dance is an important part of Chinese cultural tradition, which embodies Chinese traditional core values and cultural confidence. At present, there is a lack of cultural confidence in Liaoning Manchu folk dances. In order to earn returns from the market, many businesses simply transform Liaoning Manchu

folk dances, and many excellent parts are abandoned.

#### 3.2 Shortage of Inheritors

Gorky once said that the folk artist and the treasure house of art can be equated, the disappearance of the folk artist means the destruction of the treasure house of art. Inheritors are the key to the continuous continuation and development of Liaoning Manchu folk dance. They need to study hard, study deeply, learn from others and give full play to their wisdom, so as to better inherit and develop the essence of Liaoning Manchu folk dance. The legitimate rights and interests of the inheritors cannot be well protected. Many inheritors give up the inheritance of Liaoning Manchu folk dances for the sake of livelihood, which is a huge loss for Liaoning Manchu folk dances [5, 6]. Many Liaoning Manchu folk dance inheritors have passed down their lifelong skills. However, in the trend of commodity economy, it is difficult for many people to really calm down and seriously study, study and inherit, and it is a difficult task to train a new generation of inheritors.

#### 3.3 Audience Decline

In the course of Manchu's history, the folk dance, accompanied by daily behaviour, was formed in the specific historical conditions and geographical environment in the north. In the past, transportation and communication were not developed, which spread far and wide in a small area and became one of the main forms of people's recreation [7]. With the development of society and the progress of The Times, people's aesthetic ideas have changed and tend to be more novel forms of entertainment such as online games. With the development of new media technology, the communication places of Liaoning Manchu folk dance are limited [8], the communication subjects are reduced, the transmission scope is narrowed, the attraction is decreased, and the audience's sense of identity of Liaoning Manchu folk dance is significantly reduced, which leads to the shortage of Liaoning Manchu folk dance performance activities and the continuous decrease of the audience.

#### 3.4 School Education Is Not Valued

School education is one of the core ways to inherit folk dance, and students are also the main force to inherit folk dance. However, in the current development of dance education in colleges and universities, the understanding of folk dance is not enough [9]. Although in the context of vigorously advocating the protection of traditional culture, the school education gradually broadened its horizons and introduced local cultural resources to establish a more complete curriculum resource system. However, the penetration of folk dance is obviously insufficient, especially the formal beauty, shape beauty, meaning beauty, spirit beauty and thought beauty of folk dance cannot be deeply explored. The educational inheritance of folk-dance stays in the aspect of artistic inspiration and artistic appreciation, ignoring the historical memory value and cultural value of folk dance. Especially affected by the economic backwardness in Northeast China, the education of Manchu folk dance in schools in Liaoning stagnated.

# 3.5 Slow Marketization

Cultural industry has gradually become the focus of economic development. As an important part of culture, folk dance is also faced with industrialization and marketization [10]. From the perspective of the current industrial chain of folk dance, the process of marketization is slow. With folk dance performances and commercial performances in theatres as the basic form of marketization, the economic added value is low, the core competitiveness is lacking, and it is difficult to form scale effect [11]. At the same time, the brand effect of folk dance is low and lacks distinctive characteristics. In the process of creating folk dance cultural products and services, they are affected by traditional thinking and lack of innovation consciousness, resulting in the industrial integration of folk dance and the extension of the industrial chain facing many realistic difficulties. Liaoning Manchu folk dance, as an important part of folk dance, also faces this predicament.

# 3.6 National Culture Has Not Penetrated Enough

As an art form, dance has always been intrinsically related to human life. Folk dance reflects the daily life of people of all nationalities and embodies the cultural connotation of all nationalities [12]. Liaoning Manchu folk dance originated in the life of Manchu people, with strong national customs and

regional characteristics, in the long historical development process, has been continuously integrated into the rich and diverse national culture. In different stages of historical development, the rich national cultural connotation has always exerted many influences on the creation and perfection of Manchu folk dances in Liaoning. In the development process of Liaoning Manchu folk dance, many modern elements have been integrated, and the audience's attention has been attracted to the scenes and movements of modern dance. The traditional culture of Manchu is not penetrated enough, and the true cultural connotation is difficult to be effectively reflected [13].

#### 4. Conclusions

As one of the oldest and most appealing forms of artistic expression, folk dance is an important carrier for inheriting human civilization and artistic culture. It contains extremely profound historical and cultural deposits, and always keep up with the trend of The Times development, with its unique artistic and cultural charm to meet the spiritual needs of contemporary people. Manchu folk dance reflects the Manchu People's Daily life and good wishes for life, which has a unique charm and is the brightest star in Manchu culture. The Manchu population in Liaoning Province accounts for more than half of the country, and Manchu dance has been preserved in Liaoning from the provincial capital to every city and county. With the development of The Times, Manchu folk dance gradually lost its original simplicity. This topic studies the development trend of Manchu dance, so as to objectively understand the development law of Manchu dance, promote the continuous development of Manchu dance, and realize the great prosperity of national culture.

## Acknowledgements

This work is supported by 2022 annual social science planning fund project of Liaoning province (L22CMZ001): Cultural Confidence Leads the Path Selection of Inheritance and Development of Manchu Folk Dance in Liaoning.

## References

- [1] G. Guan. Research on the development of Manchu Dance[J]. Journal of Changchun Normal University, 2018, 37(12): 191-192.
- [2] X. Song. The exploration and arrangement of Manchu dance art individuality[J]. Modern Music, 2018, 34(09): 122-123.
- [3] G. M. Huang, X. P. Jing. Symbolic meaning and educational inheritance of Tibetan dance from the perspective of cultural confidence[J]. Sichuan Drama, 2021, 34(12): 154-157.
- [4] C. Liu. Cultural self-confidence is the strong support of socialist culture with Chinese characteristics [N]. China Archives, 2017-12-18(01).
- [5] G. Z. Huan. The historical value and living situation of the Inheritors of Chinese folk dance[J]. Song of the Yellow River, 2019, 62(06): 4-5+7.
- [6] H. B. Cao. From Cultural Loss to Cultural Confidence: The Protection and Development of Minority Dancing Intangible Cultural Heritage[J]. Guizhou Ethnic Studies, 2019, 40(02): 77-81.
- [7] J. Li. Research on the artistic characteristics of Manchu Folk Dance Music[J]. Art Evaluation, 2019, 4(15): 56-57.
- [8] X. Y. Wang. Thoughts on the development of folk dance in the new media era[J]. Popular literature and art, 2022, 67(15): 92-94.
- [9] D. Zhao. Discussion on inheritance and application of folk dance in college dance education[J]. Industrial & Science Tribune, 2022, 21(13): 127-128.
- [10] L. Jiao. Market operation and development path of dance culture industry[J]. Marketing Circles, 2021, 24(16): 38-39.
- [11] B. Jia. Research on market operation and development of dance culture industry[J]. Marketing Circles, 2020, 23(28): 24-25.
- [12] Y. L. Lou. Analysis of the penetration of national culture in national dance[J]. China National Exhibition, 2018, 27(01): 146-147.
- [13] S. S. Liao. On the Inheritance of Folk Dance Culture[J]. Home Drama, 2022, 32(31): 124-126.