

Origin and Character of Minority Folk Dance in Yunnan Province

Ke Liu *

Guangzhou Civil Aviation Vocational and Technical College, 410403

liuke@caac.net

* corresponding author

Keywords: Yunnan Province; Ethnic minorities; Folk dance; Development

Abstract: Our country is vast in territory and rich in material. Every place has its own cultural characteristics. After successive generations of inheritance and development, it has gradually formed a culture with distinct national characteristics. There are many minority nationalities in Yunnan Province, which have a long and profound history and culture. After collision and integration, various cultures have developed into unique national cultural characteristics. This study explores the folk dance of ethnic minorities in Yunnan Province, explores the origin and character of ethnic dance, and provides comprehensive and objective reference for the people, to arouse people's attention to ethnic culture and promote the inheritance and development of ethnic dance better in Yunnan Province.

1. Introduction

National culture can be inherited and developed only by relying on specific visual art forms. One of the national characteristics of ethnic minorities in Yunnan Province is the unique folk dance, which is used to express feelings and good wishes. Dance evolved from labor. Music and dance developed in harmony, giving people visual and auditory impact and feeling the beauty of dance. There are many kinds of dances, each of which has its own characteristics and reflects the characteristics of the times and beliefs. How did the minority dance in Yunnan Province come into being? What are the characteristics? All of this will be elaborated in detail.

2. Necessity of the Development of Minority Folk Dance

Based on human movements, dance determines a series of coherent forms of action performances through choreography and rehearsal, conveys the feelings it wants to express, and reflects some typical social situations. Dance has its own unique charm, which attracts not only performers but also audiences. Art comes from life. Many choreographies of dances are inspired by daily work. Folk dances are formed through creation, accumulation, inheritance and development in the long-term life of ethnic minorities. Folk dance has distinct characteristics of the times and diversified forms. Every dance is a visual feast and a manifestation of cultural self-confidence. Importance should be attached in our country to support the folk dance of ethnic minorities to promote the diversified development of our culture.

3. The Origin of Minority Dance in Yunnan Province

The land of Yunnan has gathered a variety of ethnic minorities of different races, but its folk customs are simple, people are hardworking and active, and full of optimism and enthusiasm for life. They are good at discovering the beauty of life, adapting the body movements in daily production and life into coherent movements, which are both beautiful and elegant; and at the same time it powerfully reflects the characteristic culture of their own nation from the dance ^[1].

3.1. Evolving from Production and Life

Art comes from life. The folk dance movement in Yunnan is the inspiration from life. The action

in dance is also a true portrayal of folk life. There are many folk dances of ethnic minorities, most of which are made from people's production and life. Take the example of the "drinking dance" of the Yi people. In the form of dance performances, there are dance performers who are lining up the dragon, and the whole dragon is moving clockwise and sings and dances. The songs are catchy and beautiful. In the form of singing and dancing, they are expressing gratitude to their parents and to the reluctance between sisters and brothers, and the blessings for the girl's good life, which is the combination of the form of song and dance and wine.

3.2. Drawing Materials from Ceremonial Activities

Our attitude towards religion is the attitude of free faith, but most of them believe in Buddhism. This is probably the freedom to believe in religion. Individual ethnic groups believe in religion, and they will hold appropriate ritual activities, and various ethnic activities such as ethnic festivals and witchcraft activities. For example, when the Yi people are doing ceremonial activities of "sacrifice to Tianshan Mountain", they will not only burn incense and worship stoves, but also dance on the night of sacrifice. The wizard exorcism is usually carried out by means of singing and dancing. "Flat-Drum Dance" is an example.

3.3. From the Changes of National Customs and Habits

Folk dances with local characteristics are closely related to local customs and habits. For example, March Street in Dali is a well-known material exchange conference in Yunnan Province and a traditional grand festival of the Bai people. It is held in the west of Dali ancient city from March 15 to 21 of the lunar calendar every year. The Bai nationality is deeply influenced by history and culture, and has its own unique charm in dance. Their "Fraxinus mandshurica" are self-entertaining and can be improvised.

4. A Brief Analysis of the Current Situation of Minority Folk Dance in Yunnan Province

Yunnan has gathered a variety of ethnic minorities, and the dances of all ethnic groups have their own unique charm. Based on "Chinese Dance Aesthetics" and dance movements inherited from history, folk dance movements of ethnic minorities have the characteristics of beauty. The reason why it can not be fully accorded with beauty is that with the rapid development of the times, people's definition of beauty also changes. The change of aesthetic standards makes dance aesthetics have to change. Every art has its own set of perfect symbols, such as calligraphy and Chinese quintessence. Dance aesthetics needs to combine theory with practice in order to make dance aesthetic standards suitable for the aesthetics of the times. The minority folk dances in Yunnan have unique charm, which can effectively reflect the expressed emotions and themes.

That excessively pursuing national characteristics and neglecting the aesthetic concept of dance makes the folk dances in Yunnan be lack of dance aesthetic factors ^[2].

5. Characteristics of Minority Folk Dance in Yunnan [3]

Folk dance has been developing and changing in the process of inheritance through the precipitation of deep history. Combining with the characteristics of the times and national characteristics, it has formed a unique dance action, which can effectively highlight the basic situation of local folk life and express strong emotions to render the audience, which is also the charm of minority folk dance.

5.1. Dance Movements are Full of Life

The times are developing and people's production and life are changing. The customs of ethnic minorities in Yunnan have their own unique aspects. Most of their dances are based on changes in living customs. The dance incorporates dance aesthetics with their life movements and the perfect combination of dance and song, which strongly demonstrates the folk life customs and religious beliefs of minority nationalities in Yunnan, as well as their beautiful sustenance full of hope and

expectation for life. The form, content and accompaniment of folk dances are the epitome of the folk life of ethnic minorities in Yunnan. The Yan people's "Cigarette-Box Dances" have changed from hunting activities to prototypes, and is used to celebrate their harvest on the hunting ground and thank the mountain gods for their gifts. The "Taijiale dance" of the Bai people is also a material obtained from folk life. It tells us that the local farming life imitates a vivid image and spreads out in the form of dance, which also makes folk culture in Yunnan be known to more people.

5.2. Reflecting the Relationship between Man and Nature

The ancestors of Yunnan Province depended on farming and lived down from generation to generation. The whole region is simple and honest, and people are sincere and friendly. They are full of respect for nature and also appreciate the gift of gratitude and nature. Many folk dances in Yunnan are integrated with the movements of trees and animals in nature. Elements such as peacocks, swallows and landscapes are integrated into dance movements or accompanying music, and the beauty of nature is presented to the public. Just like the folk dances of "Dhu Dance", "Water" and "The Spirit of the Bird", it not only brings people's visual enjoyment, but also gives people a pleasant song.

5.3. Developing in Inheritance

Every era has a set of aesthetic standards, and a classic dance may not be tired of seeing, but the era is developing, and the field of dance is also progressing, so that there will be more things emerge. Only continuous development and innovation can dance not be abandoned by the times. If we stick to the old classics and fail to bring out new things, the development of national dance will stagnate. In 2003, the "Music and dance" born in Honghe County was designated as the county dance, which played a great role in promoting the development of folk dance.

6. Conclusion

The folk dances of ethnic minorities in Yunnan are listed in the intangible cultural heritage of our country, which is very valuable. This study makes a comprehensive exploration of folk dance in Yunnan. Each kind of dance has its own unique charm. To promote the development of folk dance, we should inherit and innovate the dance.

References

- [1] Sun Yike. *Preliminary Study on the Formation and Characteristics of Folk Dances of Minority in Yunnan* [J]. Journal of Chuxiong Normal University, 2007 (10): 90-93.
- [2] Guo Chunmin. *A Preliminary Study on the Formation and Characteristics of Minority Folk Dance in Yunnan* [J]. The Academic Periodical of Shenyang Conservatory of Music, 2017 (2).
- [3] Liu Hongyun. *Formation and Characteristics of Minority Folk Dance in Yunnan* [J]. Popular Songs, 2015:171.