

Study on Conservation Strategy of Traditional Villages based on Protection Degree Evaluation

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Abstract

Traditional villages have experienced the development of society and times that carry precious historical and regional information. They not only witness the rise and fall of the nation, but also reflect the progresses of material and spiritual culture. However, The protection of traditional villages is facing a huge challenge, while the levels of urbanization and society economy have rapidly promoted nowadays. Based on the scientific evaluation index system of traditional villages, this paper evaluates the protection degree of traditional villages in the Second Community of Fenggu Town of Mianyang City. Then come to the protection degree of the Second Community of Fenggu Town. Finally the protection strategy is put forward accordingly. Hope it can provide ideas and methods for the protection of traditional villages in the future.

Keywords

Protection Degree; Traditional Villages; Protection Strategy.

1. Introduction

1.1. The Connotation and Value of Traditional Villages

Since ancient times, China has had a very poetic yearning for village and pastoral culture. Traditional villages are the villages with long history, rich traditional resources and abundant values in history, culture, science, art, society, economy and other aspects. They are the basis for our future generations to learn and carry-on history that record the evolution of China's agricultural civilization over the past five thousand years and witness the rise and decline of different ethnic minorities.

1.2. Overseas and Domestic Research Status on Protection of Traditional Villages

Since the 20th century, the international community attached increasingly importance to the protection of historic sites and began to legislate to protect historical and cultural heritage. The publishment of *Carta del Restauro* set a precedent for the protection of cultural heritage. Before 1960, the international heritage protection focused on mainly monuments, sites, single buildings and formulating policies for the protection of cultural relics. Between 1960 and 1990, there was a gradual increase in declarations and charters of historical environmental protection that were about historic areas, gardens, towns and so on. After 1990, the international community began to pay attention to specific issues such as local architectural heritage and cultural tourism. Since entering the 21st century, the scope of historical heritage protection has been further expanded, which is from industrial heritage and historic urban landscape to intangible cultural heritage and other fields.

Before the reform and opening up, the protection of historical villages and towns in China is mainly focused on cultural relics and sites. In the 1980s, with the development of reform and

opening up, the acceleration of urbanization and the continuous intensification of town development, the protection of traditional villages in China entered the initial stage. In recent years, with the establishment of the connotation of traditional village and the publication of five batches of national protection lists of that, the topic of "protection" has gradually attracted the attention of all walks of life and carried out in-depth studies.

2. Selection of Evaluation Index System

Table 1. Evaluation Index System of Traditional Village Protection

object	guideline	weight	index	index	attribute	weight
A	B		C	D		
Protection degree of traditional village	degree of authenticity	0.56	degree of architecture authenticity (residences, public constructions, roads)	degree of material authenticity	reverse	0.112
				degree of style authenticity	reverse	0.168
				degree of structure authenticity	reverse	0.056
			degree of folk authenticity	degree of carrier authenticity	forward	0.112
				degree of activity authenticity	forward	0.037
				degree of content authenticity	forward	0.075
	integrity	0.21	integrity of layout	the integrity of architecture layout	forward	0.029
				the integrity of courtyard layout	forward	0.059
				the integrity of environment layout	forward	0.059
			integrity of form	the integrity of street form	forward	0.025
				the integrity of river system form	forward	0.013
				the integrity of style and feature form	forward	0.025
	degree of active state	0.105	degree of life active state	degree of resident active state	forward	0.025
				degree of diet active state	forward	0.025
				degree of neighbourhood active state	forward	0.013
			degree of production active state	degree of agriculture active state	forward	0.01
				degree of service industry active state	forward	0.021
				degree of workmanship active state	forward	0.01
	degree of inheritance	0.125	degree of value inheritance	degree of workmanship value inheritance	forward	0.02
				degree of history value inheritance	forward	0.021
				degree of heritage value inheritance	forward	0.022
degree of cultural inheritance			degree of science cultural inheritance	forward	0.023	
			degree of folk cultural inheritance	forward	0.02	
			degree of ecology cultural inheritance	forward	0.02	

Traditional villages are undeniably a special kind of cultural heritages. Compared with natural heritages, cultural heritages and natural scenery, traditional villages are not identical with intangible cultural heritages, which include cultural heritage, natural landscape, cultural customs, organizational system and other intangible cultural heritages. In addition, the indigenous people who have lived here for generations are also an important element of

traditional villages, and they are the main inheritors of cultural heritage. In the process of accelerated new-type urbanization, coordinated development of urban and rural areas and increasing globalization, the colorful Chinese culture is under attack. Its protection and inheritance are a thorny issue facing our country. There is no doubt that traditional villages, which contain agricultural civilization of China, are under serious threat. The protection of traditional villages is an inevitable requirement of ecological civilization construction and sustainable development that is a huge challenge we are facing at present, and the situation is urgent.

Table 2. Evaluation Criteria of Traditional Village Protection

Evaluation score	<30	31-60	61-80	81-90	>90
protection level	worse protection	general protection	regular protection	favorable protection	rigorous protection

Based on the completeness, feasibility and comparability of the index system and then analyzing the connotation of the evaluation factors systematically, this system was designed by Yang Guoli et al (Tab.1). Three levels of evaluation index system: Target, criterion and index were designed as well. The object of this index system is to evaluate the protection degree of traditional villages, and its guidelines include four dimensions: degree of authenticity, integrity, degree of active state and degree of inheritance. The weight of each dimension was determined by the Analytic Hierarchy Process, and the weight value of the evaluation guideline was obtained by calculating the eigenvector. The indexes under the four dimensions were further subdivided into 8 categories and 24 items. The system is a relatively mature evaluation index system among the existing relevant systems in China. It is more scientific and has a high degree of credibility through repeated certification and practice test. It is of great reference significance to formulate protection strategies according to the protection degree of traditional villages. The protection degree of traditional villages is evaluated comprehensively by Multi-objective Linear Weighting Function, whose functional expression is: $M = \sum_{i=1}^m (\sum_{j=1}^n I_j \times R_j) \times W_i$. Furthermore, the protection status of traditional villages was divided into five levels, namely rigorous protection, favourable protection, regular protection, general protection and worse protection, and the evaluation score interval of corresponding level was delimited (Tab.2).

3. An Example of Protection Degree Evaluation of Traditional Villages-- The Second Community of Fenggu Town

3.1. The General Situation of Village

The Second Community of Fenggu Town is located at 104°45 'E and 31°19' N in Fucheng District, Mianyang City, Sichuan Province that covers an area of 0.3 square kilometers. The morphology is concentrated and contiguous. There are 350 households with a total population of 800 people. The village is dominated by industry and commerce. It is alluvial beach landform and at an elevation of 429-447 meters. Moreover, it is located in the subtropical temperate monsoon climate. The annual average temperature is about 20 °C ~ 28 °C, and the annual average sunshine is 5 hours. Rainfall is abundant here and it is with the possibility of heavy rains and floods. The hydrological conditions of the village are great, there is a river in the village, which is the Fujiang River, pass by the village from northwest to southeast. Vegetations in this area are rich in species, most of which are the broad forest, including cypress tree, camphor tree, Ficus Virens and other precious trees such as ginkgo tree.

3.2. Data Source

The relevant data of the buildings, streets, water system and layout of the village were obtained by the field survey from November 2020 to March 2021. The situation of value inheritance such as folk customs activities, festivals participation, housing, traditional modes of production, workmanship, history, heritage and the situation of cultural inheritance such as science, folk, ecology, all above data comes from the questionnaire survey and interview from November 2020 to March 2021. In addition, *The Second Community of Fenggu Town Traditional Village Survey Registration Form* and *The Second Community of Fenggu Town Instruction* are also referred to.

3.3. The Evaluation Results

According to the field survey and survey data of the Second Community of Fenggu Town, combined with the comprehensive evaluation function of the protection degree of traditional villages, the comprehensive score of the protection degree of traditional villages in the Second Community of Fenggu Town was obtained. (Tab.3)

Table 3. The Evaluation Result of Traditional Village Protection---the Second Community of Fenggu Town

object	guideline	index		
Protection degree of traditional village	degree of authenticity	degree of architecture authenticity	material	10.08
			style	15.12
			structure	5.04
		degree of folk authenticity	carrier	8.4
			activity	2.78
			content	6.38
	integrity	integrity of layout	architecture	2.61
			courtyard	4.72
			environment	5.02
		integrity of form	street	2.38
			river system	1.17
			style and feature	2.13
	degree of active state	degree of life active state	resident	2
			diet	1.75
			neighbourhood	0.94
		degree of production active state	agriculture	0.55
			service	1.89
			craftsmanship	0.85
	degree of inheritance	degree of value inheritance	workmanship	0.8
			history	1.89
heritage			1.87	
degree of cultural inheritance		science	1.76	
		folk	1.84	
		ecology	1.7	
		total value	83.67	

3.4. Results Analysis

The comprehensive score of protection degree of traditional villages in the Second Community of Fenggu Town is 83.67, which is in the degree of favorable protection. The main reason is that the village has developed traffic conditions. Because of close to the centers of city, district and

town, it is greatly affected by urbanization and industrialization. According to the scores of each of the 24 indexes, the scores of materials, style and structure of the architecture authenticity are higher. It shows that the village has a high degree of protection to the building and the villagers have a strong sense of protection. For example, ancient buildings such as Tao Family Courtyard and Dang Family Courtyard still maintain the original civil structure. However, some of the buildings were destroyed by natural erosion or modern elements, resulting buildings in residual and idle. For degree of folk authenticity, there are plentiful intangible cultural heritages of the village such as the legend of touching silver hole, traditional music Fujiang River work songs, municipal intangible cultural heritage Xintian grain art and so on. Although some of them are less widely used and spread, they are still well known by villagers. On the part of integrity, the integrity of buildings and courtyards is preferable, however, the environmental integrity is influenced by urbanization and modernization and tends to be more modern for people's demand. Because of long-term systematic protection, the form layout of streets, lanes and water system have got less damage. The integrity of its style and feature has become slightly lower under the drive of commercialization. For the degree of active state, the village is close to the government of Fenggu Town, with more developed commerce, fewer migrant workers and close communication between neighbors. The village is dominated by industry and commerce. There are wineries, silk factories and machinery factories in the village. The income of services such as commerce and tourism accounts for a large proportion. Whereas, due to the promotion of large-scale industrial production modes, the traditional handicraft production mode is greatly reduced.

4. Protection Strategy of Traditional Village

4.1. Formulate a "People-oriented" Protection and Development Plan

The important part of Three Agricultural Problems (agriculture, rural areas and farmers problems) is inseparable from the protection of traditional villages, and the core of the problems is farmers. If the problem of farmers is not solved well, the protection of traditional villages will find no foothold. Take the interests of indigenous peoples as the purpose, and try to meet the villagers' needs for a better life. Formulate a "People-oriented" protection and development plan to improve the top-down planning policies of the past, which lacked the participation of villagers. Guiding the villagers participate in the protection actions, management decisions and other important matters actively. Let them truly enjoy the fruits of reform and opening and economic development.

4.2. Positioning Accurate Development Directions

The Second Community of Fenggu Town has an active economy. Since ancient times, it has been a material distribution center, with developed land, water transportation and a gathering of merchants. The Second Community of Fenggu Town has enjoyed the reputation of "prospering because of salt, famous because of wine, flourishing because of culture and powerful because of governance" all the time. Its location is also in the half-hour economic circle of Mianyang city and has convenient traffic. The development direction of traditional villages should be clearly and accurately positioned. Balance the relationship between development and protection of village. Give full play to the cultural and economic characteristics of the Second Community of Fenggu Town, which abounds in well salt, roasted wine, roasted silk and wharf. Create a characteristic industrial chain to promote the economic growth of traditional villages. Promote rural revitalization with industry and lay a material foundation for traditional village protection.

4.3. Improve the Human Settlements and Enhance the Continuity of Villages

Urbanization and industrialization are the primary reasons for the aging and hollowing of traditional villages. As a large number of young people flock to cities, the old man and young

children left behind in villages cannot shoulder the heavy responsibility of village protection and revitalization. Improve the living environment of villages, perfect supporting infrastructure, and strengthen the integration of urban and rural areas. To build a beautiful and livable new socialist countryside as a starting point, attempt to create an environment suitable for living, production and ecology for villagers of all ages to enhance their sense of happiness and revitalize traditional villages through improving water resources utilization, garbage classification management and other aspects of traditional villages. Attract rural migrant workers to return to their homes and retain talents for villages. Do our little bit to help the construction of hometown, inheritance and protection of traditional village's culture.

5. Conclusion

The protection of traditional villages has inspired people to rethink about how to protect our traditional culture. This paper evaluates the protection degree of the Second Community of Fenggu Town traditional village of Mianyang City through a scientific and systematic evaluation index system and evaluation criteria. The comprehensive score of its protection degree is 83.67, which is in the degree of favourable protection. The most influential factors of village protection are the high proportion of urbanization and industrialization. Then, analyze the reason of gaining or losing scores for each index. Finally, specific and targeted strategies are put forward for the protection of traditional villages in the Second Community of Fenggu Town, and desire that its precious material and intangible cultural heritages of historical, cultural and scientific value will be effectively protected and can be inherited and developed. The writing of this article is expected to provide ideas and directions of protection and development for other traditional villages on the protection aspect.

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