# Research on Folk Song Culture in Maonan Traditional Festivals

## Huiling Wei

Hechi University Hechi City, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region 546399, China

#### **Abstract**

As one of the national minorities in China, Maonan nationality has a very rich and diversified folk culture in the process of development and inheritance. The content of Maonan folk songs describes the origin of human beings, the opening of the universe and the ancestors of the nation, which can convey the living habits and ideas of production and labor, love life, etiquette and customs to people. In-depth study and analysis of folk song culture in maonan traditional festivals is of great value to the promotion, protection and inheritance of maonan national culture in the future.

## **Keywords**

Maonan Nationality; Traditional Festival; Folk Song Culture; Local Nature.

#### 1. Introduction

Most maonan people live in the Hongshui River basin of the Pearl River system in China. After years of cultural accumulation and inheritance, the local people have formed the national culture with national characteristics. In the long river of history, the baptism and change of time make folk song culture more and more colorful and rich, and the traces of ancestors' life in the Red River basin can still be found from its content. Therefore, the study and analysis of folk song culture in the traditional festivals of Maonan nationality is of great guiding significance for the later world to understand the folk culture and historical culture of Maonan nationality, and of great realistic significance for the inheritance and development of the folk culture of Maonan nationality.

#### 2. Introduction of Maonan Traditional Festivals

As one of the ethnic minorities in China, maonan has been developing and growing continuously since its emergence. Although the overall number is small, it still has extremely strong national power, which comes from the pure heart and extraordinary wisdom of maonan people. Generally speaking, traditional festivals celebrated by maonan include Spring Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, Tomb-sweeping Day and Fen Long Festival [1]. The celebrations of Spring Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival, Dragon Boat Festival and Tomb-sweeping Day are basically the same as those of zhuang and Han people. Fen Long Festival is a unique festival of maonan people, which is intended to pray to the gods for a good harvest. Whenever traditional festivals come, maonan people gather together to celebrate them through dances, songs and other forms. The celebration can not only make people feel happy, but also promote national unity and strengthen national emotions, and also enable the inheritance and development of values such as culture and customs of their own nation.

# 3. Analysis on the Characteristics of Folk Song Culture in Maonan Traditional Festivals

For maonan people, one of the most outstanding and important components of their national culture is maonan folk song. It provides important spiritual support for the development,

expansion, historical dissemination and the unity and struggle within the whole nation. Moreover, singing songs in festivals can also make the feelings between young men and women expressed and communicated, and can also serve as a medium to convey the various emotions of maonan people. The folk song culture of maonan traditional festival has its unique characteristics in the process of actual development.

## 3.1. Orality

During the development of maonan nationality, most of the folk songs sung by its people were created orally by local people in their work and life, and were spread and developed orally. In the process of singing duet songs during festivals, maonan people also adapt and process the basic tunes and contents to spread to the present day. It can be said that the development of maonan folk festival culture has been created by the talent and wisdom of countless local people, which is the crystallization of wisdom and real experience of thoughts and emotions of all maonan ancestors [2].

#### 3.2. Rural Characteristics

The Hongshui River Basin has its unique charm and characteristics in the process of natural development, whether it is natural production conditions, cultural traditions, geographical climate, dialect and pronunciation or social changes. People also have their own customs and habits, aesthetic taste, personality characteristics and lifestyle in accordance with their own life. Due to the long distance from the outside world, the overall traffic is closed. Therefore, people living in the magical and charming Hongshui River Basin have different cultural backgrounds and development trends from other nations. It is in such a "peach garden" in real life in wonderland, soul get purification and precipitation, nature will also be different in terms of the creation of the folk song form, the syllables, turning method, music structure, mode, etc are also characteristic in full accord with local development, and in the process of spread in carrying forward the formed with the characteristic of national development has folk song [3].

## 3.3. Improvisational Character

Although the Maonan nationality has experienced several years of development, the total population is still small today, and the national writing has not been formed in the process of development. In the process of inheritance and development of folk songs in traditional festivals, the main way and channel is singing and playing. Learners do not need to apply music and other aspects, only need to rely on their own hearing, memory and so on. Although this method sounds simple, it is very difficult to implement in practice. As a result, many excellent artists and singers of Maonan nationality need to condense their talents and ideas in the process of inheritance, so as to adapt or improvise the whole song [4]. Even though the changes in the singing are only partial changes to the relatively fixed tunes, the development and accumulation of generations after a long time still promote the continuous development and enrichment of Maonan folk songs.

In addition, maonan folk songs also have certain versatility in the daily singing and creation process. They can entertain themselves, express the joy and sorrow in daily life, and express their strong and abundant emotions through singing local folk songs. Of course, it can also be used as a performance, in front of the public will have their own ability to easily control the music, so as to attract others' love and appreciation. In addition, for young people, Maonan folk songs can also become a media for communication, so that the distance between them can be narrowed under the foil and atmosphere of music. In a series of ceremonies such as weddings and funerals, maonan people also choose folk songs as the main form of performance. In a word, for the maonan people, folk songs are a form of artistic expression that can be improvised. They can be used as children's play, or as formal music, They are closely related to the lives and habits of the local people and have important functions and values.

## 4. Inheritance of Folk Song Culture in Maonan Traditional Festivals

In terms of the development of The Times, maonan folk traditional festival culture audience is less, but for the development of the whole country, still belongs to the indispensable intangible cultural heritage, to maonan years of history and culture, customs and habits, etc., through a cheerful tone, both to show participants in the festival for the people the feeling of happiness, It can also show the optimistic and cheerful character of maonan people to others. In recent years, for the inheritance and development of Maonan culture, the local government has also actively put forward corresponding optimization strategies, aiming to further protect and spread the folk song culture of Maonan traditional festivals through effective measures.

#### 4.1. Pass it on Through Education

Inheriting maonan folk song culture in college education is one of the most important and sustainable development measures at present. For the inheritance work, music teachers at all stages are not only individuals, but also key figures in the future development of Maonan folk songs. Consequently, for in maonan local personnel engaged in professional music teachers, should not only have excellent education technology and education quality, also necessary to master a lot of skills and knowledge related to the development of the Maonan, and intensely aware of national culture, folk culture heritage is significant and precious, to lead the students to learn folk song culture, In the process of growth, the culture is continuously enhanced and inherited[5].

## 4.2. Through the Maonan Singers Inheritance

If we want to further inherit and develop folk song culture of Maonan traditional festivals, relevant managers should be aware that it is one of the most important measures to deliberately cultivate some excellent Folk song singers of Maonan as inheritors. The government and relevant administrative departments should support local singers to complete the transmission of folk songs, and build the corresponding Maonan national heritage base, and strive to create the national culture development brand consistent with local characteristics, so as to promote the further inheritance and development of folk culture in the traditional festivals of Maonan. And can make a contribution to the blooming of every ethnic culture in China.

#### 4.3. In the Tourism Festival Season Inheritance

With the improvement of people's living conditions, the tourism industry develops rapidly. The unique geographical advantage of maonan nationality makes it have an excellent help in developing folk song culture. The inheritance and development of folk song culture can be promoted through cultural and art festivals and various types of tourism festivals [6]. For example, you can regularly go to the local "tonggu mountain song Art Festival", combined with the local people's customs and habits, production and life adapted and chopped folk songs for comments, and in the festival of the singing, development, so as to truly realize the development and spread of culture, make it shine in the national art palace.

#### 5. Conclusion

To sum up, folk song culture in traditional festivals has important value and role for the development of Maonan people. In the process of actual singing and development, folk song culture has the characteristics of oral, local and improvisational, and brings the fun of life to the local people. In the research of this paper, the folk song culture of maonan people's traditional festivals in hongshui River basin is analyzed and studied, hoping to play a certain reference role for its future inheritance and development.

## **Acknowledgments**

Project Name: Research on the inheritance and Innovative application of Maonan Folk songs in music creation of Huanjiang, Guangxi, Project Number: 2022KY0585

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