

## Reflections on the Historical Context and Inheritance Contained in “Tobshur” in the Context of Intangible Cultural Heritage

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**Abstract:** Tobshur is a unique ethnic musical instrument of the Mongolian ethnic group in Oirat, Xinjiang. Due to its relatively long history of development, it is called the living fossil of Mongolian music and plays an important role in the study of Mongolian musical instruments in Xinjiang. Moreover, it is included in the intangible cultural heritage and has become an important part of my country's traditional culture. However, there are still many problems in terms of the inheritance and development of Tobshur's historical context, and it is necessary to explore diversified ways of inheritance.

### 1. Introduction

The Mongolians in Xinjiang region of my country belong to the Oirat Mongolian branch. According to historical data, this tribe is a nomad from Russia's Volga River Valley and the Sote tribe. In the Qianlong period, he broke through the siege of the Russian Empire and returned to the motherland. Most of them now live in Heshuo County, Hejing County, Yili Prefecture and Urumqi City. Musical instruments are an important carrier for the inheritance of music culture. Tobsour is an important music carrier for the Mongolian people in Xinjiang. The sound of this instrument has been integrated into their blood and bones. With the reform and opening up and the development of cultural globalization, the Western music system has been introduced into my country, which has had a huge impact on traditional music in our country, and affected the cultural traditions and values of the masses to a certain extent. The impact. As a niche musical instrument, Tobshur is more impacted. In order to strengthen the protection of my country's cultural heritage, it is necessary to explore the way of inheritance of Tobushur's historical context.

### 2. The Historical Context of Tobshur

Tobshur is a plucked stringed instrument with a long history. It is rich in production forms and types. It is a traditional musical instrument commonly used by nomads in sacrificial ceremonies and festivals. It has a wide range of applications, including folk storytelling, legendary performance, and epic narration. According to historical records, my country's Zhou Dynasty already had musical instruments such as piano and cervix. These musical instruments were easy to obtain, simple in craftsmanship, easy to carry, and easy to master. Therefore, with the development of music, various ethnic areas in our country have formed diversified, multi-style plucked instruments with ethnic characteristics. These musical instruments have a long history of development, and they can be played in a flexible way and can be played over and over again. The shapes of musical instruments are large and small, and the number of strings is more or less. There are certain differences in the selection of the resonance sheet panels, which reflect the characteristics of different nationalities. Tobshur is an important two-string plucked stringed instrument of the Mongolian nationality. According to the earliest records in my country, it began in the Qianlong period. It was originally called Maudun Sultrig. It was mainly spread in the South Gobi and Altai areas. With continuous inheritance and development, it has become the main instrumental music in the Mongolian region of Xinjiang.

From the perspective of the development of modern Tobshur, the sound box and head of the piano are mainly used in the shape of the piano. The decoration includes different styles such as horse head, sheep head and goose head<sup>[1]</sup>. The resonance box also has a variety of shapes, including round, square, trapezoidal and so on. The material of the panel is mainly paulownia, larch and camphor wood. The strings are mostly ponytail or sheep's small intestines, with pure fifth tuning. There is no fixed form in the playing technique. You can hold the piano in your left hand and pluck the strings with your right hand, or you can swap your hands.

### **3. Problems in the Inheritance of Tobshur**

#### **3.1 The Score Record is Not Comprehensive**

The traditional way of inheritance of Tobshur's musical instruments is through word of mouth and face-to-face teaching, and learning is conducted through the guidance of professionals of the nationality, and there is a lack of textual records. However, if the traditional method is still used in the inheritance of the current musical instruments, it is more difficult to form a complete collection. Artists can only rely on vague memory to teach, and this will inevitably cause the essence of it to gradually fade. Therefore, it is necessary to form a notation and recording form as soon as possible in the inheritance of Tobshur, and to organize and publish these materials to form a clear record, which can effectively prevent the disappearance of the music tradition after the death of the old artists.

#### **3.2 Insufficient Attention from Inheritors**

Judging from the interviews with the current inheritors of Tobshur, most of the old artists are worried about the inheritance of this musical instrument. There are fewer and fewer young people who take the initiative to learn. Especially under the impact of diversified cultures, young people are even more concerned. Like pop music, these ancient national instruments are gradually forgotten. With the gradual death of old artists, the number of inheritors is gradually decreasing. If protection is not strengthened, few people can play Tobsour in more than ten years, and this instrument will also disappear with it.<sup>[2]</sup> Therefore, the government needs to increase the protection of Tobshur's inheritance from the perspective of intangible cultural heritage, strengthen attention to the inheritors, and encourage old artists to pass on their lifelong learning to their successors, and at the same time call on young people to participate in intangible heritage. Inheritance and protection.

#### **3.3 Limited Publicity**

Tobshur is an important cultural component of the Mongolian people in Xinjiang and is also a cultural symbol of the Mongolians. However, not many people currently understand this instrument, which is the main reason for the limitation of the inheritance and development of Tobshur. Therefore, the government needs to increase publicity through the Internet, television, radio and other media, and try to modernize and innovate Tobshur to make it more acceptable to modern young people. For example, the Tobshur Cultural Festival, competitions, etc. can be held to enable more people to participate in Tobshur's performance, attract more people's attention, and realize the role of propaganda for Tobshur.

### **4. Inheritance Strategy of “Tobshur” in the Context of Intangible Cultural Heritage**

#### **4.1 Strengthen Media Promotion and Enhance the Attractiveness of Tobshur**

In the context of intangible cultural heritage, the inheritance of Tobshur needs to start from the aspect of publicity, draw lessons from the activities of the cultural and art festival in the hometown of Sawuerdeng in Bohu County, and the government will take the lead in promoting the Mongolian heritage music culture to achieve a good education. effect. However, judging from the development of cultural and art festivals such as Saul in Bohu County, it is still relatively weak in media publicity, so it is necessary to increase publicity and expand its influence.

## **4.2 Record Audio and Video Materials and Perfect the Transmission Carrier**

The construction of the network platform provides people with more information platforms, so that they can understand information from any corner of the world without leaving their homes, and at the same time, they can spread local culture to farther places through the Internet. Therefore, the government can use the online platform to strengthen the promotion of Tobshur, record the repertoire, methods, etc. played on the Internet in the form of audio and video, or to synchronize the live broadcast of the grand Tobshur's performance on the network platform. People can also learn with their own interests when they know Tobshur, which is an important way for the modern development of Tobshur.

## **4.3 Integrate into Tourism Development and Expand the Scope of Publicity**

In the context of economic prosperity, people's spiritual needs are relatively high, and the number of participants in tourism is increasing. People no longer simply look at the mountains and waters and integrate into nature during tourism, but expect to be able to come into contact with more ethnic cultures. Government departments need to seize the opportunity of the development of the tourism industry, strengthen the publicity of Tobshur's music culture, combine Tobshur's music culture with the tourism industry, and realize the promotion of traditional music culture. For example, it is possible to establish a national cultural protection center, construct a Tobshur music style garden, attract tourists to visit the national customs and culture, and to train the performance of Tobshur musical instruments for free, which will play a certain role in promoting the inheritance of Tobshur.

## **4.4 Emphasize Education Inheritance and Form a Perfect Inheritance System**

In the inheritance of culture, school education is the most important and effective way of inheritance. In the inheritance of Tobshur, it is also necessary to give full play to the educational advantages of the school and form a systematic teaching system in the school. In the promotion of the school, first of all, it is necessary to ensure the teacher's own Tobshur performance and driving ability, and achieve cultural development through the guidance of the teacher. At the same time, it is necessary to pay attention to reform and innovation in teaching, so that Tobshur conforms to the aesthetic and development trend of the times, and to promote the better inheritance and development of Tobshur .

## **5. Conclusion**

To sum up, as a Mongolian plucked stringed instrument, the Tobshur plays an important role in the development of national musical instruments. It is also an important music symbol for the Mongolian people in Xinjiang. It carries a strong historical heritage mission and cultural heritage. However, in the context of the development of social and cultural diversification, national music has been severely impacted, which has marginalized the development of Tobshur. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the development of national music culture and art, explore the way of inheritance of Tobshur with the joint efforts of the government and all walks of life, and to strengthen the innovation of Tobshur, in line with the aesthetic trend of the times, and attract more inheritors. Lay the foundation for the inheritance and development of Tobshur.

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