

# The Inheritance and Development of Chinese Folk Art and Traditional Culture

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**Abstract:** It is obvious that folk art is a kind of art which is popular among the people, and it is also a kind of art form which many ordinary people have invented in order to satisfy their social work and entertain their own life. It not only satisfies these people's illusions about their living environment and their expectation for the future, but also a form of art expression with very enthusiastic characteristics of national customs, which inherits the ancient civilization and excellent traditions of our country. It is hoped that these folk art can be preserved and developed in this new world of material desire. Most of these folk art are some workers to create, to paint out, so in the painting is rich in rich local flavor. In different social periods, workers in each region have different living habits and customs, their cultural values are different, national characteristics are different, so the creation of folk art is also different. Folk art is the cultural crystallization of our Chinese nation which has passed on for a thousand years. It contains rich history and culture, and has a very warm national culture breath. Today's folk art from a lot of foreign art skills and cultural impact.

## 1. Introduction

The history of the Chinese nation is very long, is an ancient, rich cultural heritage of the nation, such a heritage of more than five thousand years of history of the ancient country, for the world's cultural contribution is also very large, and the folk art, is our unique art part, but also a very important part of our national culture. Chinese folk art represents an aesthetic concept of most people in our country and the background story of life, which contains a lot of rich feelings. In people's daily life, including food, clothing, housing and transportation, and these omnipresent details of life are reflected in the works of folk art, in which we can explore the life of the people a hundred years ago or even a thousand years ago. At the same time, folk art is equivalent to modern art, palace paintings and other forms of art creation. Most of the Chinese folk art comes from the folk material, from the popular people's understanding of the art form. In the past historical trend, folk art is often judged as an aesthetic machine vulgar creation, no aesthetic sense. To be sure, folk art compared to modern art, academic art, materials are the lower background of people's life, on the surface look feel vulgar, in fact, this is a return to nature. But it is precisely because of this discrimination and not valued, resulting in the destruction and loss of many excellent folk art works. Especially in the period of the Industrial Revolution, a large number of folk art works were seriously damaged, in that period, many works of art were inevitably destroyed, large and small, and many painting skills were lost at that time. In fact, for an art, folk art has long been more than just a piece of art works, her role in history, in the inheritance of world culture is far beyond their own cultural value. Its existence represents the excellent cultural tradition of the Chinese nation and is also an important part of Chinese art. This paper discusses the prospect of the future development of Chinese folk art from its history, development status and inheritance.

## 2. History of Chinese Folk Art

The creators of Chinese folk art works are generally working people at the grassroots level. For folk art, it is a very important part of Chinese national art. Most of the materials of folk art works come from the stories of ordinary people's life scenes, which to a large extent reflect the living conditions and thoughts and feelings of the people at the grass-roots level. The historical origin of

folk art is related to the labor of the working people in ancient times. It can be seen that the historical origin of folk art is obtained in the productive labor of the people, reflecting the thought and way of life of the workers at that time, and the production of these works is also closely related to the characteristics of the region at that time and the customs of the people.



Figure 1 Chinese folk art works

### 3. Chinese Folk Art

Since China's reform and opening up to now, China's economic level has made unprecedented great progress, and its position in the international arena has become increasingly important, both economic and political status has been greatly improved. And after China's opening up, Chinese culture spread in the world, the world culture has also had an important impact that can not be ignored, in this short few decades, China has undergone earth-shaking changes. Folk art, as one of the witness of our country's history and culture, bears various influences from the outside world, and plays a changing role to some extent. Ideas, aesthetic consciousness, mode of production and material life are changing. The revolutions of all periods are affecting the economy, politics and culture of the world. The art forms of western countries have been introduced into China, which has an impact on the aesthetic concepts and tastes of the Chinese people. For the original Chinese beauty, many people have gradually become neglected and abandoned. Today's people, very much like to pursue a retro beauty, but more is to that kind of art to follow the trend of behavior, and not in the root to understand the connotation of these arts, not to understand the story behind these cultures, not to accept from the heart and like this unique beauty. Many people in modern times are so dismissive of the views of our country's folk arts, feeling that it is a kind of vulgar, not on the table of culture, which has led many folk artists to change their original creative intention, so that the creation of works lost their original flavor. It can be seen that Chinese folk art has become more and more precarious. But at the same time, in order to save the development of folk art in our country, the state has also taken a lot of protection measures, many social people are actively involved in these protection work, and strive to protect our country's creators who are committed to folk art and those existing folk art works. These protection work more or less to the Chinese folk art plays the protection function, has the very important function.



Figure 2 Chinese folk art works

#### 4. Teach Chinese Folk Art

##### 4.1. Words and Phrases

In fact, many creators of a cultural level is not high, they in the painting of folk art and some of the small skills of inheritance and development are mostly used generation by generation, using the skills of educators to teach students hand in hand, this way can inherit and develop folk art to a certain extent, but also to a large extent limited the speed of communication and the scope of development[2]. In the past, the inheritance of folk art is directly handed down by the people of the previous generation to the next generation, and the generation follows the generation of offline professors, but the inheritance efficiency of this way is really very slow [1]. And there is a very fatal disadvantage, once the apprentice in the future at some time to do other work, then the folk art of this vein will appear fault, gradually become lost. And in the past teaching, teaching, basically is free and casual, can be very intuitive to express the skills, so that there will be a lot of folk painting skills in the formula is still circulating, so that learning people can very easily remember the rules of these creations, the essence of this skill can be very concise summary, easy to pass on. It is because many folk art painters are the bottom working people, their education level is relatively low, so many times can not accurately use language to describe, spread. Therefore, the inheritance of personal education is more mainstream but the defects are also very obvious[3].



Figure 3 Chinese folk art works

## **4.2. Theory Works Summarize the Essence of Skill**

With the development of modern society, the communication of the whole world is becoming more and more close. Through the development of network information technology, the text of each country is transformed into very convenient, which makes the cultural and artistic exchange of each country more convenient. Therefore, in order to be able to facilitate the inheritance of folk art, so that more people can understand the background of folk art and the way of creation, there are a lot of folk art theory works, after generations, the history of long-term efforts to create the fruit of wisdom.

## **5. Summary**

To sum up, the inheritance of Chinese folk art is closely related to the inheritance of Chinese cultural tradition culture. In the world, all kinds of cultures are colorful, while China, as a world ancient country for thousands of years, has rich cultural traditions, and its civilization has passed on for thousands of years. Folk art embodies the working life of the people in each period of our country, as well as the background story of the times at that time, and has quite rich cultural value. Therefore, we should try our best to protect our folk art creators and the folk art works that have been retained in the past.

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