

The Influence of English Media on the Globalization of Chinese Traditional Culture

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Abstract: This paper discusses the influence of English media on the globalization of Chinese traditional culture, and analyzes the opportunities and challenges. In terms of opportunities, the rise of social media platforms and the internationalization of movies and TV dramas have provided more extensive channels for the dissemination of traditional Chinese culture around the world. However, challenges such as differences in cultural context, conflict of cultural values and stereotyping caused by commercialization also arise. In order to overcome these challenges, this paper puts forward the countermeasures of customized translation and cultural adaptation, and deepening international cultural exchanges, in order to achieve a deeper and more active spread of traditional Chinese culture in the world.

Keywords: English media; Chinese traditional culture; Global dissemination; Social media

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1. Introduction

With the rise of English media, Chinese traditional culture is ushering in a new era of global communication. In this process, English media not only provides opportunities for the global promotion of traditional culture, but also brings a series of challenges. This paper will provide an in-depth analysis of the specific impact of English media on the global spread of traditional Chinese culture, and explore how to maximize opportunities while effectively addressing challenges.

2. Opportunities

2.1 The rise of social media platforms

The rise of social media marks the innovation of information dissemination, among which social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and TikTok have become important channels for global cultural communication. For Chinese traditional culture, this trend brings great opportunities. First of all, through these platforms, traditional Chinese culture can be spread to the rest of the world in a more easy and intuitive way. For example, on Facebook, users can quickly transmit cultural content they are interested in by means of liking and sharing, which makes information spread rapidly in a short period of time ^[1]. Secondly, these social media platforms provide an interactive environment with high user participation, and the audience is not only the object of passive acceptance of cultural information, but also becomes the participant of cultural communication. Through interactive means such as comments and forwarding, audiences can deeply participate in cultural discussions and form broader cultural resonance.

2.2 Internationalization of movies and TV series

Driven by the spread of English media, Chinese films and TV series are gradually realizing internationalization, providing a unique opportunity for the spread of Chinese traditional culture in the global entertainment field. First of all, some excellent Chinese films and TV series have gained wide exposure in English-language media and attracted a large international audience. For example, works such as “To Our Simple Little Beauty” and “Twelve Hours in Chang ‘an” have achieved great success around the world

through English media platforms, making Chinese traditional culture gradually establish a good reputation in the international market. Secondly, the Chinese cultural elements contained in these works, such as traditional etiquette, historical stories, local customs, etc., are vividly presented through plots and characters, arousing the audience's keen interest. Such international communication is not only a simple cultural export, but also the establishment of a global sense of identity for traditional Chinese culture.

2.3 Webcast and virtual experience

With the development of English-language media, webcasts and virtual experiences have become innovative means to promote the global spread of traditional Chinese culture. Through the English media platform, various exhibitions, performances and other activities of traditional Chinese culture can use network broadcast technology to transmit real-time cultural experience to the global audience. This way of virtual experience not only breaks the geographical restrictions, so that the audience from all over the world can come to the scene, but also makes the traditional culture closer to the modern way of life. For example, in the network broadcast, the audience can enjoy the traditional art performance at close range through the immersive audio-visual experience, and experience the charm of traditional manual skills. This interactive and highly engaged virtual experience not only expands the influence range of cultural communication, but also provides more flexible cultural contact channels for the audience.

3. Challenges

3.1 Differences in cultural context

The difference of cultural context is an important challenge in the process of Chinese traditional culture spreading through English media. The linguistic and cultural differences between English and Chinese can not be ignored, which can easily lead to the loss of the essence of the original text in the process of translation, and then lead to the distortion and misunderstanding of the traditional cultural image. For example, some Chinese idioms, slang or cultural metaphors with profound connotations are often difficult to be accurately translated into English, because the unique connotations of their cultural roots may be lost in the translation process ^[2]. Such translation challenges may lead to misunderstandings and even misunderstandings of the audience's understanding of traditional Chinese culture. In order to solve this problem, it is necessary to strengthen the professionalism of cross-cultural translation, adopt expressions that are closer to the target culture, and pay attention to cultural interpretation and background introduction, so as to better retain and convey the rich connotation of traditional Chinese culture in the translation process, so as to minimize the possible negative impact of cultural context differences.

3.2 Conflict of cultural values

The conflict of cultural values is a significant challenge faced by Chinese traditional culture in the communication of English media. There are differences between Chinese traditional values and Western society in terms of morality and human rights, which may lead to a series of cultural collisions and disputes. For example, in traditional Chinese culture, values such as family harmony, filial piety and loyalty are significantly different from those in the West, which emphasize individual freedom, independence and individual rights. Such cultural differences are easy to arouse doubts and incomprehension from Western audiences in the process of transmission, and may even lead to misunderstandings and distortions of traditional Chinese culture. In dealing with this challenge, it is necessary to explain the profound connotation of traditional Chinese values to Western audiences through in-depth cultural exchanges and explanations, and promote cross-cultural understanding. In addition, actively displaying traditional Chinese values that are interlinked with Western society and emphasizing its inclusive and relatable side can help mitigate the negative effects that may be caused by the conflict of cultural values and achieve a more harmonious cultural transmission.

3.3 Commercialization leads to stereotypes

Although the commercialization of Chinese traditional culture in the communication of English media has brought funds and resources for cultural promotion, it has also brought the risk of stereotyping. Some English media may pay too much attention to commercial elements when catering to the needs of the audience, presenting traditional Chinese culture as a symbolic commodity, resulting in over-simplification and commercialization of culture. For example, in some commercial activities or advertisements, traditional Chinese culture is often limited to superficial cultural symbols, such as dragon, lion dance, etc., while ignoring its deep historical, philosophical and artistic connotation. This kind of commercial performance is easy to cause the audience to stereotype Chinese traditional culture, so that they think Chinese culture is only a superficial cultural label, and ignore its extensive and profound connotation. In order to avoid this phenomenon, English media should pay more attention to respect the essence of Chinese traditional culture and advocate in-depth understanding and experience in the process of commercial communication, so as to ensure that the audience can recognize and understand Chinese traditional culture more comprehensively and truly, rather than just staying on the

surface of commercial symbols. At the same time of commercial promotion, the richness and diversity of culture should be emphasized to promote the audience to form a more profound cognition.

4. Coping strategies

4.1 Customized translation and cultural adaptation

When traditional Chinese culture is transmitted through English media, customized translation and cultural adaptation are key measures to ensure the accuracy of the message and the authenticity of the culture. In the process of translation, the use of customized translation means that translators need to have a deeper understanding of the context, connotation and background of Chinese traditional culture. This includes an in-depth understanding of Chinese idioms, cultural metaphors, historical stories, etc., to avoid mistranslations and distortions. At the same time, translators need to have a deep understanding of the target culture to ensure that the translated information is accurate and appropriate in the target context. Acculturation, on the other hand, requires the translator to be flexible in the way of expression and to integrate the unique features of traditional Chinese culture into the target language culture, so as to make the traditional culture more acceptable to the target audience in the process of communication. Through customized translation and cultural adaptation, the original taste of traditional Chinese culture can be preserved to the greatest extent, the distortion of information in the process of transmission can be avoided, and the audience can have a deeper understanding and appreciation of the rich connotation of traditional Chinese culture.

4.2 Deepen international cultural exchanges

In order to promote the more accurate and in-depth presentation of Chinese traditional culture in English media, deepening international cultural exchanges has become a crucial strategy. By participating in international cultural exchange programs, English-speaking media practitioners have the opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of the essence of traditional Chinese culture, including its historical origins, values, and artistic expressions. This kind of deepening exchange is not only the transmission of cultural information, but also through field visits, discussions and exchanges, so that practitioners can personally experience and feel the unique aspects of Chinese culture. Through such exchange programs, practitioners can have a more comprehensive understanding of traditional Chinese culture and avoid one-sided or misleading statements in reports. In addition, it also helps to establish cross-cultural friendly relations and promote understanding and respect between different cultures. Deepening international cultural exchanges is not only a unilateral transmission of information, but also a process of mutual learning and communication. In this way, English media practitioners can better broaden their horizons, eliminate cultural misunderstandings, and lay a more solid foundation for the global spread of traditional Chinese culture.

5. Conclusion

The global dissemination of Chinese traditional culture by English media brings both opportunities and challenges. By adopting diversified communication means, precise cultural adaptation strategies and deepening international cultural exchanges, Chinese traditional culture is expected to achieve a more extensive and profound spread on a global scale, and realize the diversity and integration of civilizations.

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