

# Analysis of Lanping County Circle Dance Culture and Its Function of Casting the Consciousness of the Chinese Nation Community

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**Abstract:** The research is based on Lanping Bai and Pumi Autonomous County in Yunnan Province. It is now affiliated to Nujiang Lisu Autonomous Prefecture. It was subordinate to Lijiang Prefecture in the Ming and Qing Dynasties. According to the records of ‘Lijiang Fuzhi Road’ and ‘Chinese Southwest Folk Literature’, ‘Chinese Local Chronicles Literature Collection: Southwest Volume’, there was a mixed situation of various ethnic groups in the Ming and Qing Dynasties. The main native ethnic groups were Bai, Pumi, Lisu, Han, Nu and Yi. Under the restriction of terrain, all ethnic groups carry out trade, singing and dancing activities in a closed area. Dance is accepted and shared in cultural practice, which makes it a good observation point to explore the coexistence and co-dancing of mixed ethnic groups. Starting from the sharing of ethnic traces of Chinese culture, this paper explores the promotion effect of circle dance culture in Lanping County on the interconnection of regional multi-ethnic cultures and the formation of common ‘cultural memory’, which is an important manifestation of the cultural identity of the Chinese nation.

**Keywords:** Circle dance ; Lanping County ; Build up the consciousness of the Chinese nation community

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Lanping Bai Pumi Autonomous County belongs to Nujiang Lisu Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province. Located in the longitudinal valley of Hengduan Mountains in Nujiang Lisu Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province, it is adjacent to Weixi Lisu Autonomous County in the north, Yulong Naxi Autonomous County in the northeast, Jianchuan County in the southeast, Yunlong County in the south, and Lushui City and Fugong County in the west. There are 14 ethnic groups, such as Bai, Pumi, Nu, Tibetan, Han, Lisu and Yi, living in the territory, which is a mixed place of ethnic minorities. Every Dragon Boat Festival, the various ethnic groups in the village will come from all directions, collecting honey, digging herbs, drinking and eating, and then coming to the square to dance together. Their gait movements are basically the same, and they have not undergone unified training, which is contrary to the unique dance style concept between different ethnic groups in our imagination.

## 1. One Dance Three Circles Multi-ethnic

Circle dance is a kind of dance with a ‘ring’ around the circle. The dancers come from all directions, surround a circle in the city, and do the same lower limb steps and upper limb movements according to the same dynamic rhythm, flowing in a clockwise or counterclockwise direction. Lanping County circle dance is generally carried out during the Dragon Boat Festival and the red and white happy events. The people of all ethnic groups can be used as one of the members of the dance. The direction of the dance is counterclockwise, facing the center of the circle. The main lower limb movements are stepping, stamping, kicking, twirling, and twitching, with knee shaking, knee flexion, upper limbs holding hands together, and swinging up and down. Specifically, under different tunes, dance routines are also different.

## 2. Cultural causes

### 2.1 Symbiosis - living space

The climate here belongs to the low-latitude subtropical mountain monsoon climate. However, due to different terrains, the

climate characteristics are also different. There are four temperature zones : cold temperature, medium temperature, warm temperature and sub-heat. The weather of ‘ cold spring in March ‘ , ‘ low temperature in August ‘ and ‘ continuous rain in autumn ‘ often appears. The changeable temperature makes the ‘ sheepskin ‘ exist in the costumes of all ethnic groups. When it is necessary to keep out the cold, it is used as a shawl. When it is not needed, it is folded into a package as a sheepskin drum to accompany the dance. In the old times, the village had the habit of dancing all night. It was because the villagers who came from a long distance could not return because of traffic inconvenience. In order to overcome the cold weather at night, they danced all night to entertain and warm up, which also created conditions for the formation of ring dance.

## **2.2 Co-construction-survival mode**

Natural ecology determines the way of livelihood. Most of the ethnic groups in Lanping County are mountainous economies, mainly planting corn, potatoes, wheat and beans, as well as forestry and animal husbandry. Lanping is rich in salt in history. The Qingshui Lang Mountain in the territory is the only way for Lanping salt to be sold to Jianchuan, Lijiang, Heqing and other places. In the era of inconvenient transportation, the various ethnic groups in the mountains meet the needs of life through the exchange of goods. For example, the Yi people living on the mountain have potato and tartary buckwheat, the Bai people living under the mountain have salt and cloth, the Han people have chili, iron hoe and other tools and tea, and the Pumi and Lisu people living in the mountain have corn, livestock and beans. They make up for the types of materials in the way of exchange of goods. At the same time, trade brings the connection of villagers ‘ emotions. Therefore, there are folk customs among all ethnic groups to fight with each other and recognize the old roots. After recognizing the old roots, the relationship is closer. Your family has something to help my family.

## **2.3 Sharing - Artistic language**

Lanping multi-ethnic enclave, there is a variety of language interaction. From the perspective of linguistic classification, the subordinate relationship of Bai language is not clear. One belongs to the Yi branch of Tibetan and Burmese in the Sino-Tibetan language family, and the other belongs to the Bai language branch. The same situation also exists in Pumi language. One is that it belongs to the Qiang branch of the Tibetan-Burman language of the Sino-Tibetan language family, and the other is that it belongs to the Tibetan branch. Lisu language belongs to the Yi branch of Tibetan-Burmese language of Sino-Tibetan language family. The species classification of the languages of the various ethnic groups is not clear, and the actual use is more complicated. Even if there are differences in different regions of the same ethnic group, for example, the same Bai nationality, the Bai nationality living in the Tongdian and Jinding basins speaks the Bai language, while the Lama people, a branch of the Bai nationality living in Hexi and Lajing, speaks the Lama language. The villages that belong to the same language as the Oulama language will be different from the language of the eight nine miles. If they are thirty or forty miles apart, language communication will be difficult. At the same time, even if the language of the same ethnic group is used in the same ethnic area, frequent loanwords will occur. What kind of language is used in public communication between villagers depends on the occasion of communication. In official occasions and documents, general Chinese ;In life, the people of all ethnic groups in the county speak Mandarin Yunnan dialect version, the people of all ethnic groups in the villages and towns of Tongdian area, the common Bai language ; when living in the village, the villagers in the mountain dam will speak their own Pumi language or Lisu language and Yi language, while the villagers living near the road and convenient transportation will speak Bai language regardless of nationality. On the whole, Bai language is most frequently used in daily life.

## **2.4 Empathy- ‘ I ‘ and ‘ we ‘**

The common living space provides a field for the interaction between the ethnic groups in Lanping County. The co-built green home deepens the connection between the ethnic groups in Lanping County in production and life. The shared artistic language brings similar dance genes to the ethnic groups in Lanping County. The generation of empathy makes the sense of national boundaries gradually fade. From ‘ I ‘ to ‘ we ‘ , the change of emotional consciousness makes co-dancing more natural, and co-dancing further strengthens the cohesion between people. The emergence and development of the ring dance culture in Lanping County happens to be played by the silent role of dance moistening things, which makes the ethnic groups more mutual aid and unity, and has the function of casting the consciousness of the Chinese nation community.

## **3. The function of the circle dance culture in Lanping County to strengthen the consciousness function of the Chinese national community**

The dance culture of Lanping County has promoted the exchanges and exchanges between local ethnic groups,

established the consciousness of the Chinese nation community, enhanced the recognition of Chinese culture, and realized the strong root and soul of the consciousness of the Chinese nation community and the recognition of Chinese culture. It can promote the development of local economy and culture, maintain national unity, and safeguard the peaceful reunification of the motherland.

### **3.1 All ethnic groups in Lanping County dance together to forge the consciousness of the Chinese nation community**

Marx and Engels once said : ‘ The frequent exchanges and dependencies of trade, culture and many other aspects of various ethnic groups will gradually replace the closed state of self-sufficiency and closed eyes and ears in those places. The spiritual wealth of the nation is endowed with public attributes, and the one-sided and limited national culture has thus evolved into a world literature. ‘In the process of promoting exchanges and exchanges between various ethnic groups, the circle dance culture takes dance as the core to carry out exchanges, consistent movements, the same dance techniques, and dance steps to promote spiritual communication and destiny. Circle dance culture is a typical representative of the development of multi-cultural cohesion of all ethnic groups. The common dance of all ethnic groups has continuously consolidated the ideological basis of the consciousness of the Chinese nation community, enhanced the recognition of the Chinese nation and Chinese culture by the people of all ethnic groups, strengthened cultural self-confidence, and achieved the purpose of forging the consciousness of the Chinese nation community. It is also the common aspiration of the children of all ethnic groups in Lanping County and the people of all ethnic groups in the country, forming a good and harmonious social relationship, protecting the multi-ethnic culture, and building a multi-ethnic common spiritual home. Under such a good situation, social stability has promoted the development of economic industry, spawned a large number of ethnic cultural industries such as tourism, promoted the simultaneous development of local economy and culture, and solidified and consolidated the material basis of the consciousness of the Chinese nation community.

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