

The Role of National Traditional Cultural Elements in Character Modeling

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Abstract: National traditional cultural elements have evolved and developed continuously in the long river of history, with both inheritance and innovation. In modern society, due to the influence of globalization, some ethnic traditional cultural elements are facing the danger of disappearing, but some elements have gained new vitality and development. The purpose of this paper is to explore the application and significance of traditional national cultural elements in modern role modeling. By analyzing character design in different cultural contexts, this paper reveals how the elements of national traditional culture enhance character identification, cultural connotation and emotional expression, while playing an important role in promoting cultural diversity and inheritance.

Keywords: National traditional culture; Role modeling; Cultural inheritance; Visual recognition; Cross-cultural communication

National traditional cultural elements refer to the unique and representative cultural phenomena and cultural forms formed by a nation in the course of long-term historical development. These elements include language, writing, art, customs, religious beliefs, moral norms and other aspects. According to its form and content, it can be classified into material cultural elements and non-material cultural elements. National culture is an important part of national identity, which is of great significance for enhancing national cohesion, shaping national image and safeguarding national dignity. At the same time, national culture is also an important way for individuals to identify themselves, understand others and know the world.

1. The theoretical basis of role modeling

1.1 Definition of role modeling

Character modeling refers to the process of shaping the image and character of a character through costumes, makeup, props and other means in the performing arts such as stage plays, movies, TV plays, animation and games.

1.2 Function and purpose of role modeling

The function of role modeling is mainly to shape the image and character of the role, so that the role has a unique personality and charm, so as to attract the audience's attention and enhance the artistic appeal of the work. Its purpose is to better convey the theme and emotion of the work, and improve the artistic value and social influence of the work.

2. The application of traditional national cultural elements in role modeling

2.1 Clothing design

(1) Use of color: Color is the most direct visual element in clothing design, and different colors can express different emotions and atmospheres. The use of color in traditional national culture can make the role modeling more national characteristics and cultural connotation. For example, red symbolizes joy and enthusiasm in traditional Chinese culture, while green represents vigor and vitality. The use of these colors in the character modeling allows the audience to better understand and feel the character's personality and emotions.

(2) Patterns and ornamentation: Patterns and ornamentation are important elements in clothing design, which can increase the beauty and symbolism of clothing. The patterns and decorations in traditional national culture can make the role modeling more storytelling and symbolic. For example, the dragon pattern symbolizes power and honor in traditional Chinese culture, while the phoenix pattern represents beauty and auspiciousness. The use of these patterns and patterns in the character modeling can make the audience

better understand and feel the identity and status of the character.

(3) Material selection: material not only affects the comfort and durability of clothing, but also affects the visual effect and touch of clothing. The selection of materials in traditional national culture can make the character modeling more authentic and textured. For example, silk is a noble and luxurious material in traditional Chinese culture, while cotton represents simplicity and nature. The use of these materials in character modeling can make the audience better understand and feel the life status and values of the characters.

2.2 Body language

(1) Posture and action: posture and action are an important part of body language, they can express the emotions and personality of the role. The postures and actions in traditional national culture can make the role modeling more dynamic and lively. For example, Chinese martial arts moves can show a character's strength and skill, while Japanese tea ceremony moves can show a character's grace and restraint.

(2) Facial expression and makeup: Facial expression and makeup is an important means to shape the image of the character, they can express the character's inner world and emotional changes. The facial expression and makeup in traditional national culture can make the character modeling more profound and complicated. For example, Chinese Peking Opera facial masks can show a character's character and destiny, while Indian forehead dots can show a character's marital status and religious beliefs.

3. Case analysis

3.1 Character Modeling in movies and TV series:

In the creation process of movies and TV plays, role modeling is an important means to shape the character image and convey the cultural background. Through careful design of costumes, makeup and props, the production team was able to integrate elements of traditional ethnic culture into the characters, thereby providing a visual cultural experience for the audience. Take the classic Chinese film *Red Sorghum* as an example, the film deeply embodies the traditional Chinese wedding customs and culture through the shape of the heroine Jiu 'er. Jiu 'er wore a bright red wedding dress, which symbolizes happiness and good wishes in traditional Chinese culture. Her headscarf is also red and decorated with gold patterns, reflecting the preference for red in traditional Chinese weddings and the wish for the bride's purity and happiness. This style not only adds distinct national characteristics to the characters, but also makes the audience feel a strong atmosphere of traditional Chinese culture.

3.2 Character modeling in Anime and games:

As an important part of modern pop culture, animation and games are also deeply influenced by traditional national culture. Take the world-famous Japanese anime *Naruto* as an example, the protagonist Naruto Maki's shape is full of traditional elements of Japanese ninjas. The orange ninja costume he wears is not only an iconic costume from the anime series, but also reflects the choice of costume colors throughout the history of Japanese ninjas. The blue headband is a modern interpretation of the headband worn by the ninja, which is not only decorative, but also carries a special symbolic meaning in the anime, representing the identity of the ninja and the village to which it belongs. The design of these details enables the characters to convey strong Japanese cultural characteristics while maintaining their individuality.

3.3 Role Modeling in stage plays and performing Arts:

The modeling of characters in stage plays and performing arts often pays more attention to details and historical accuracy in order to better restore and interpret the cultural background of different eras. Take Shakespeare's classic tragedy *Hamlet* as an example. In different stage productions, the shape of the protagonist Hamlet is often different, but they all try to reflect the traditions and customs of European funeral culture ^[2]. For example, in some traditional performances, Hamlet wears black mourning, a color commonly associated with mourning and grief in Western culture. In addition, the crown or noble hat he wore on his head is also an emphasis on his royal status, but also reflects the social hierarchy and power of the symbol. Such styling not only helps the actors better integrate into the characters, but also provides an intuitive historical and cultural education for the audience.

4. The role of traditional national cultural elements in role modeling

4.1 Enhance cultural identity and diversity:

Under the background of globalization, the role modeling in visual art works such as movies, TV and animation has attracted more and more attention from the audience. The application of national traditional cultural elements is of irreplaceable importance to the role modeling. It can not only give characters a unique cultural identity, so that they stand out among many roles, but also strengthen the cultural differences of the works, so as to attract the audience's attention and enhance the artistic appeal of the works.

Taking the film *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* as an example, the work successfully integrates traditional Chinese martial arts

culture into the character modeling, presenting a beautiful picture for the audience. The main characters Li Mubai and Yu Jiaolong wear traditional Chinese martial arts costumes, such as long shirts, jackets, capes, etc. These costumes not only show the unique charm of Chinese martial arts culture, but also make the characters more cultural characteristics and memories, adding a strong cultural atmosphere to the film.

In addition, the traditional national cultural elements in the role modeling can also reflect the character characteristics, identity status and growth background of the role. For example, in *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, Li Mubai's clothes are simple and generous, reflecting his calm and restrained character; And Yu Jiaolong's dress is more gorgeous, highlighting her aristocratic status. The processing of these details makes the character image more three-dimensional, and also provides more imagination space for the audience.

In short, the role of national traditional cultural elements in the role modeling can not be ignored. It can not only enhance the cultural identification and difference of the characters, but also show the character characteristics, identity status and other aspects of information, but also help to spread and carry forward the national culture. Therefore, in the future creation, we should pay more attention to the use of traditional national cultural elements, and present more works with cultural characteristics and artistic value to the audience.

4.2 Enrich character connotation and story background:

The integration of traditional national cultural elements can deepen the connotation of the role and enrich the story background behind it. Such character design not only makes the character image more three-dimensional, but also provides more profound cultural heritage for the whole story^[3]. For example, Mei Changsu, the main character in the TV drama *Nirvana in Fire*, whose ornate official clothes and golden crown hat not only show the character's status, but also reflect the power struggle and complex interpersonal relationships in ancient Chinese officialdom culture. This kind of in-depth cultural detail makes the characters and stories more engaging and convincing.

4.3 Promoting cultural inheritance and innovation:

The elements of national traditional culture are the precious wealth accumulated and inherited by all ethnic cultures for a long time. In modern society, the use of these elements in various forms and ways can not only protect and promote the cultural heritage of the nation, but also inject new vitality into traditional culture. Designers, artists and artisans reinterpret traditional costumes, music, dance, crafts and more in innovative ways to make them resonate with the younger generation and inspire their interest and respect for traditional culture. At the same time, with the development of science and technology, traditional cultural elements can be combined with modern technology to create new cultural products and experiences, such as digital technology to restore ancient artworks, virtual reality to simulate traditional festivals, etc. Such innovation not only contributes to the inheritance of culture, but also opens up a new path for the development of cultural industry and promotes economic growth.

Concluding remarks:

In short, the role of national traditional cultural elements in the role modeling can not be ignored. With the development of society and the integration of culture, the application of national traditional cultural elements in role modeling will face more challenges and opportunities. In the future, we should pay more attention to the connotation mining and innovative application of national traditional cultural elements, so that they can play a greater role in the role modeling. At the same time, we should also pay attention to the inheritance and development of national culture, strengthen the research and dissemination of national traditional culture, so that more people can understand and recognize the charm of national traditional culture.

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