

An Analysis of the Cultural Elements of Chinese Medicine in International Chinese Language Teaching Materials

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Abstract: In order to respond to the call for the cultivation of complex international Chinese education talents, highlight the cultural characteristics of Chinese medicine in international Chinese education, effectively enhance the influence and coverage of Chinese medicine culture and Chinese language culture, and promote the healthy and high-quality development of international Chinese education, the article conducts an in-depth and systematic investigation. The article first briefly analyzes the relationship between elements of Chinese medicine culture and international Chinese language teaching, and then discusses feasible ways to integrate elements of Chinese medicine culture into international Chinese language teaching materials, and gives specific suggestions from the perspectives of writing general Chinese language teaching materials and Chinese language teaching materials for Chinese medicine professionals, hoping to provide reference for the optimization and improvement of international Chinese language teaching materials.

Keywords: International Chinese language teaching materials; Cultural elements of Chinese medicine; Cross-cultural communication

1. Introduction

Chinese culture is a civilization as a whole, and language, writing and its culture are inseparable. As a textbook for introducing Chinese culture to the world, international Chinese language teaching materials are bound to include various elements of Chinese culture, and among them, the examination and analysis of the elements of Chinese medicine culture can deepen the knowledge of the content of Chinese civilization, which is a typical symbol of Chinese culture.

2. How to View the Cultural Elements of Chinese Medicine in International Chinese Language Teaching Materials

Chinese culture has always been profound to foreigners, and the fact that it contains a wide array of cultural symbols is the consensus of the entire world culture. The Chinese culture contains symbols such as martial arts, Beijing opera, Chinese medicine^[1] and other symbols that can represent Chinese culture, which can be promoted to the outside world through international Chinese language teaching materials.

Chinese medicine, as a unique medical art that has been practised in China for thousands of years, should not only be passed down in our own country, but should also be used in international Chinese language teaching materials to promote Chinese medicine, one of the most important symbols of Chinese culture, to the world. As China has promoted Chinese medicine to the world, there have been a number of different Chinese language teaching materials for Chinese medicine professionals around the world. While some of these general Chinese language textbooks are generally intended for general Chinese language learners who have not been introduced to Chinese medicine and only have a relative understanding of it, the Chinese language textbooks for Chinese medicine professionals have a different content, with the Chinese language textbooks for Chinese medicine professionals mainly targeting those Chinese language learners around the world who are studying Chinese medicine as their profession. The presence of TCM cultural elements in international Chinese language textbooks also makes a distinction between the content of professional and non-professional TCM cultural elements. The cultural content in ordinary TCM cultural Chinese language textbooks and professional TCM cultural Chinese language textbooks is hierarchical, and different levels and contents are distinguished between professional and non-professional. However, as the cultural elements and contents expressed in the general and professional Chinese language textbooks are different, the various incidental contents and cultures contained and intended to be expressed in these two textbooks need to be adapted to the learners' own Chinese language foundation and their own bathing cultural background.

With the promotion of TCM cultural elements in international Chinese language teaching materials, TCM cultural elements have

successfully broken through the boundaries of professional fields and profoundly realised the cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary integration of cultural elements, and the TCM cultural elements in international Chinese language teaching materials have become a powerful driving force in bringing Chinese culture closer to the world. From 2010 to 2020 alone, the number of Confucius Institutes for Chinese Medicine established by the Confucius Institute Headquarters worldwide reached 18, and the scope of the Chinese medicine cultural experience courses offered was even wider, covering 240 Confucius Institutes worldwide^[2], which shows the ability of promotion and publicity.

3. Suggestions for Integrating Chinese Medicine Culture into International Chinese Language Teaching Materials

3.1 General Chinese Language Teaching Materials

When writing international Chinese language textbooks that are oriented towards different cultures and whether they are sufficiently specialized, it is necessary to consider what perspective should be adopted when writing them, whether it is a professional or non-professional perspective, a different perspective on the content of Chinese culture, or an intercultural perspective between different cultures. Among these, the intercultural perspective is the most effective one for the integration of Chinese cultural elements into international Chinese language teaching materials. For example, when writing a general Chinese language textbook, the mode of diagnosing a patient's illness can be shown by going to see a Chinese doctor, and in this way some simple Chinese medicine vocabulary and names of herbs, such as lobster, cinnabar, niuhuang, ginseng and musk, can be introduced and shown to non-specialist learners^[3]. This way, learners are guided to understand the stories behind the herbs and thus build up a strong interest in Chinese medicine culture. This is how many international Chinese language textbooks for non-specialist learners of TCM culture are presented, using such easy-to-understand vocabulary and methods to teach non-specialist learners of TCM culture simple elements and knowledge of TCM culture, which can not only effectively improve beginners' learning of TCM cultural content, but also promote learners' learning of Chinese cultural content, so that the elements of TCM culture can be taught in an easy-to-understand manner. It will also facilitate the learning of Chinese cultural elements and knowledge for beginners.

The layout of the textbook for non-specialists is also quite convenient and easy, with some textbooks making reference to the layout of herbs according to Chinese cuisine, introducing some of the more common herbs and their effects that can be used in general, and gradually increasing the depth and difficulty of the textbook, which on the whole is updated and processed according to the learning ability of the learners^[4], and on the whole in a The content of Chinese medicine in Chinese culture is presented to learners on a more abstract intellectual and spiritual level.

3.2 Chinese Language Teaching Materials for Chinese Medicine Majors

As a long-established cultural element in Chinese culture, Chinese medicine is not a good way to understand the cultural elements of Chinese medicine in depth just by "arranging recipes" as described above. When studying Chinese medicine, it is important that the names and names of the herbs are in line with scientific and technical language and scientific names, especially in the preparation of teaching materials, which should not be overly colloquial, for example, ginseng is called "stick" in the north-east of China. For example, in the north-east of China, some local colloquial names for ginseng are called "stick mallets", which should not be included in Chinese language textbooks for Chinese medicine. At the same time, when writing textbooks, care must be taken to avoid expressions that are popular but not professional, and when faced with vocabulary that has different semantic meanings, one should choose to use words that are sufficiently professional so that the content of Chinese textbooks for Chinese medicine majors can deepen the Chinese language learners' learning of Chinese herbal medicine and Chinese culture as a whole, and at the same time, in order to better teach learners, it is important to avoid the use of popular science as much as possible. At the same time, in order to better teach learners, it is important to avoid the use of scientifically popular terms^[5] and to use terms that are more specialized to help deepen learners' impressions of medicinal herbs.

For example, many herbs have different names and names in different parts of the country, which are not the scientific names of these herbs. Perhaps the local common name for these herbs will be understood by the people of our region, but perhaps the name will change in another region, even the common name for ginseng "mallet" has several different terms to describe it in the northeast of the Vagon region. The term "mallet" may not even be thought of as ginseng to people in other parts of the country, let alone to foreign learners of Chinese.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, Chinese medicine culture is an indispensable part of China's traditional cultural treasury, with a long history and profound heritage, which can provide more usable materials for international Chinese language education and promote the effectiveness and quality of international Chinese language education, and must be given full attention in practice. We should actively promote the integration of TCM cultural elements with international Chinese language teaching materials, extract the names of usable herbs and examples of prescriptions from TCM texts, and simplify, condense and transform them according to the needs of general Chinese language teaching materials and TCM professional Chinese language teaching materials, so as to enhance the fun and cultural connotations of the teaching materials and provide a strong boost to the promotion and dissemination of Chinese language and culture and TCM culture.

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