

# Current National Recognition of Sports Culture in Minority

Qin Shaoju

*Guangxi College of Sports and Physical Education, Nanning, Guangxi, 530012, China*

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**Abstract:** Through the analysis of sports culture in minority and its national recognition, this study found channels to strengthen national recognition of sports culture in minority. Firstly, this study analyzed current problems of national recognition towards minority sport culture. Then the inheritance and development ways of sports culture in minority was proposed. It was proved that within the domain of strengthening national recognition and national cohesion, sports culture in minority could be developed with the ideas of national sport. The innovation point of this study is the analysis of advantages and disadvantages on the development of sports culture in minority.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In the 21st century, the competition among nations is becoming increasingly fierce. The competition among nations is not only in hard power, but also in soft power. In international competition, soft power of culture has been a strategic choice to enhance international influence and status. China is a country with long history. The history of China forms its profound cultural foundation. China has many nationalities with rich cultural heritage.

which was not only physical migration but also cultural migration. In migration, sports culture of minority gradually changed, and there was some discontinuity in old culture(Bai Jinxiang, 2008). Therefore, some minorities gradually lost cultural recognition of their own culture. Under the background of Han culture domination, many minorities have no longer any recognition of their national identity and cultural unity. Although this condition is beneficial to national stability, it is not beneficial for the inheritance of sports culture in minority.

## 2 ANALYSIS ON SPORTS CULTURE IN MINORITY AND ITS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

As a multi-nationality country since ancient times, China has vast territory and coexistence ecology of different nationalities and geographical conditions. The space conditions directly influences the diversity of minority culture. In particular, the local differences of sports culture in minority are blending in national culture (Bai Jinxiang, 2003). However, the distribution pattern of a high concentration of minorities will more or less affect cultural recognition of the whole country.

### 2.2 Importance of Sports Culture in Minority

Minority sports activities have already been solutions to solve the problem of Chinese sports culture deficiency. Past Chinese sports activities are mainly from western countries, such as Olympic Movement. Although these activities can help build up strength and body, they can not demonstrate the long history and broad content of Chinese culture. In addition, China is short of hardware conditions (such as gymnastics) and software conditions (such as coaches), especially in minority nationality regions, where people can not afford high salary of coaches. Therefore, there are few coaches in China. The activities of minority sports do not need too much hardware and software facilities. People need open space and self-designed sports facilities. Therefore, compared with western sports events, minority sports need more attention and development from

### 2.1 Crisis of Sports Culture in Minority

In China, many minorities faced national migration

government. From this point, developing sports culture in minority can push the enrichment of minority cultural life.

### **2.3 Relation between Sports Culture in Minority and Its National Recognition**

If Chinese nation want to realize national rejuvenation, comprehensive reforms are needed. The premise of reform is the joint development of every nationality of Chinese nation, so that minority can enjoy the fruits of reform and opening up. In cultural education and development, China should make more efforts. In order to protect and carry forward sports culture in minority, some key linkages need to be well grasped and pushed forward, gradually connecting minority culture to physical education and the National Fit-keeping Program. In addition, the resources of sports culture in minority need to be integrated to gradually change the ideas of minority and make them be aware of the importance of physical exercises. Combined with the inheritance of national festival and national traditional culture, the national recognition of national traditional culture can be strengthened to enhance national cohesion and centripetal force.

## **3 RESEARCH ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS CULTURE IN MINORITY IN CHINA**

In order to develop sports culture in minority in China, we need to analyze some subjective and objective conditions such as environment and space faced by national minority. Current advantages and disadvantages of minority culture in China should be fully analyzed and the development chances should be grasped. For relevant changing factors, structural analysis is needed to avoid disadvantages and grasp good opportunities, facilitating qualitative change and development.

### **3.1 Advantages of the Development of Sports Culture in Minority**

Firstly, sports culture in minority in China has rich contents and forms. Chinese sports culture is actually the integration and development of Chinese philosophical ideas, which advocates people's inner

spirits and ideological cultivation and emphasizes observance as well as health protection. It is a theory that man is an integral part of nature. For example, Tai chi is a national physical activity with innovation and guidance, and wrestling is an important platform to demonstrate bravery, power and conquest in Mongolian culture. Therefore, traditional minority sports have some creativity and thinking power compared with other sports events.

Secondly, with many categories and wide distribution, minority sports are easily carried out in daily life. Sports culture in minority is colorful and related to the life of minorities. The number of Chinese minority sports is incomparable to other countries. The sports culture in minority has different kind of adaptation to different areas and historical stages, showing more attraction. These activities can be adaptation to local condition, showing more vitality in different social requirements.

Finally, sports culture in minority has different kinds of values. Minority sports can help physical exercise and make contributions to physical health, which is quite different from western exercise. Traditional sports activities of minority can be used as important entertainment. In addition, minority sports have high artistic aesthetics with unique artistic charm. Minority sports also can be used to strengthen the national recognition of the country and ethics, offering important cultural resources to Chinese historical culture.

### **3.2 Disadvantages of Sports Culture in Minority Development**

Firstly, due to the content of ceremony, sports culture in minority has some color of feudalism. As most minorities worshiped witchcraft in ancient times or some religious rites, the primary sports culture was marked with religious belief by singing, dancing and sports activity. Some sports activities like Shangdaoshan, Mao Gus and Wooden Drum have some religious cultural characteristics and adhere to minority sports events.

Secondly, sports culture in minority is conservative since most minorities have developed on the basis of agricultural economy. Therefore, sports culture in minority has comparatively conservative patriarchal clan system and many minorities emphasize nourishing of life. However, with low popularization, these emphases are mainly constrained by their patriarchal clans or ethics, without any cross-minority exchanges. Therefore, the deep value of a sports culture in minority can not

be recognized by other minorities, so large-scale transmission has not been formed.

Finally, the recognition of sports culture in minority is insufficient. The so-called recognition, a focal point, is minorities' cognition of their own national culture. The acceptance or refusal of one culture by minorities mainly developed from the level of consciousness. Currently, due to the requirement of economic benefits, some minorities have conducted large-scale of development, especially for the enhancement of economic effects. They have changed some cherished contents in their sports culture and make them become popular national shows, thus losing their original ecology and self-recognition.

## **4 CONSIDERATIONS OF SPORTS CULTURE IN MINORITY DEVELOPMENT UNDER NATIONAL RECOGNITION**

### **4.1 Grasping the Development Chances from a Big Sports Country to a Big Sports Power**

China has already held a great sports event, the Olympic Games. However, the successful Beijing Olympic Games is not an end but a beginning. In the new century, China needs to transfer from a big sports country to a big sports power. Currently, the development of Chinese sports culture needs to transfer from single competitive sports to the coordination of public sports and competitive sports, developing the sports affairs in a wider range. Therefore, each Chinese nationality, especially national minority, should emphasize place sports culture. The development of Chinese sports affairs should rely on both western sports activities and traditional Chinese sports activities. For Chinese nation, sports activities with national characteristics are preserved better in ethnic minorities. We should find and develop some minority sports activities into national cultural essence, which can not only make China a sports power, but also gradually strengthen national cohesiveness and centripetal force, as well as minorities' recognition of China.

### **4.2 Enhancing Minorities' Self-Recognition and the Unity of Chinese Nation**

China is a multinational country with vast territory and long history. Therefore, the differences among different nationality are still very large. In recent years, some hostile forces in western minority regions have instigated the emotions between Han nationality and minorities under the name of religion. These activities were actually the results of low national recognition and self-recognition of some minorities. In the process of promoting the development of minorities and helping them conduct construction of modernization, we should allow minorities to inherit their cherished cultural tradition. Then, minorities can have more self-recognition and recognize the Chinese nation. The traditional sports culture of minorities should be the combination of tradition and modernization, so minorities will recognize and participate in modern sports activities and demonstrate their unique charm. We should also popularize minorities' sports culture in other nationalities, facilitating all nationalities mutually learn good national culture and the great development and great prosperity of Chinese sports culture as well as national solidarity. Through sports activities, minorities can gradually have more recognition to China.

### **4.3 Protecting Intangible Cultural Heritage and Developing Leisure Sports**

Sports culture in minority is actually an intangible cultural heritage, and joint efforts of each nation are needed for its protection. Nowadays, some concentrated areas of nationalities caused severe damages to minorities' sports culture in tourism development, which should be corrected. Therefore, we should change development notion and emphasize traditional sports culture under the protection of intangible cultural heritage. Through the combination of leisure culture and minorities' sports culture, we can create some forms and methods, enabling minorities' culture to demonstrate minorities' influence in a wider range. With good minorities' sports culture, we can gradually form national sports culture and symbol, allowing more minorities to spread their sports culture to the whole world. As a result, people all over the world can recognize the colorful Chinese sports culture.

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

Among the historical accumulation of Chinese culture, sports culture is precious wealth. Statistics show that the number of traditional sports events preserved by Chinese nation is about 1000, and about 700 of them belong to minorities. Thus, Chinese are passionate towards sports activities. With the help of sports activities, people will have more recognition of Chinese nation and China. The development of minorities' sports culture can not only protect Chinese culture, but also promote international recognition of China, thus forming cultural soft power. Besides, it is significant for the construction of socialist harmonious society.

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