

The Protection and Inheritance of Dunhuang Calligraphy Art

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Abstract

Dunhuang calligraphy fully reflects the development process of ancient Chinese calligraphy art. Because of its uniqueness and regional characteristics, it has high cultural and artistic value and aesthetic value, but few people study Dunhuang calligraphy. Dunhuang Sutra Cave is a huge treasure house of Chinese calligraphy art. More than 50,000 calligraphy works have been unearthed. These works are huge and rich. After the changes of calligraphy, they involve many fields, including politics, economy and culture, reflecting the ancient Chinese society. The changes of characters provide factors for the innovation and change of contemporary calligraphy.

Keywords

Dunhuang calligraphy; Historical origin; Aesthetic value; Protection; Inheritance.

1. Introduction

Calligraphy is an ancient art with complex composition, far-reaching spread and complex cultural background.[1] Dunhuang calligraphy is mainly based on suicide notes, including Chinese bamboo slips, inscriptions, etc. It is the most complete and vivid original archive of Chinese calligraphy. The Dunhuang Sutra Cave, which has been covered in dust for thousands of years, is undoubtedly the treasure house of Chinese civilization, and it is also a treasure of calligraphy. It can be said to be the eighth wonder of the world. Whether it is studying the history of Chinese calligraphy, or analyzing calligraphy in the Sui and Tang Dynasties, or it is of decisive significance in the evolution of calligraphy. In June 1900, Taoist Wang accidentally discovered the 17th cave of the "Tibetan Scripture Cave", which is more than 1,600 years old. This article must first clarify the historical origin, analyze and study its aesthetic value, reflect on the main issues of the protection and inheritance of Dunhuang calligraphy, and then put forward targeted suggestions, jointly excavate the artistic treasures of Dunhuang, inherit the innovative spirit of Dunhuang calligraphy, and promote Dunhuang calligraphy. The art of calligraphy is inherited in protection, innovated in inheritance, and kept with the times.

2. Historical Origin and Aesthetic Value of Dunhuang Calligraphy

Due to the rise of the Maritime Silk Road and the establishment of the Western Xia Dynasty, the Dunhuang Scripture Collection Cave was sealed. Taoist Wang accidentally discovered this Scripture Collection Cave after being sealed in dust for more than 700 years. The so-called "sand breaks out of the wall with a hole, which seems to have light, and when the wall is broken, there is a small hole, which suddenly opens up. There are thousands of scrolls of Tang scriptures inside." The date when 60,000 volumes of ancient documents came out, was when the Eight-Power Allied Arms burned the Yuanmingyuan, and British Stein, Fa Percy, Japanese Ji Ruichao, and Russian Oldenburg crossed the ocean to the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang. With rhetoric, tens of thousands of suicide notes were swept away from the hands of Taoist Wang. Among

them, there are cultural relics that can be called national treasures, such as "Ouyang Xun Dunhuang Posthumous Note", "Theory of Enlightenment in the Ming Dynasty", etc., which are all treasure-level cultural relics in the history of calligraphy. In the end, there are only more than 10,000 Dunhuang suicide notes left in China. The most important Sixty percent were sent to the West, which is a great loss to the Chinese nation. But it was here that Dunhuang Studies started, and since then it has become an internationally renowned study that has swept the world. Due to the special natural environment, Dunhuang has completely preserved the murals, painted sculptures and other thousand-year-old relics, and calligraphy and ink marks are numerous. Unlike other ancient documents, they suffered from war or decay. Dunhuang calligraphy is an indispensable pivot in the history of the development and evolution of Chinese calligraphy. Before the discovery of Han bamboo slips and suicide notes, it was difficult to prove the writing quality of calligraphy in the Tang Dynasty. When this link emerged, the cognition of calligraphy became more organized and systematic.

In the Dunhuang suicide note collected by Britain and France, Found 8 copybooks including "Shangdafu, Qiu Yiji, Hua Sanqian, Seventy Shi, Er Xiaosheng, Bajiuzi, Jia Zuo Ren, Knowing Li Ye." [2] Although the structure of these 25 glyphs is simple, its structure already implies a fundamental aspect of our Chinese calligraphy. Just like the "Eight Methods of Eternal Characters", after you are familiar with each stroke, the stroke order structure of the character will be written naturally. After Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties, until the early years of the Republic of China. Mr. Lu Xun wrote "Kong Yiji", which has been in circulation for more than 1,000 years. In ancient times, it was considered to be the most popular teaching material in the introductory stage of school children.

In the face of ancient calligraphy ink, many modern people have such a sigh: "Due to different cultural backgrounds, I can't write the good handwriting of the ancients." The ancients first learned seal script and official script, but nowadays, students learn regular script printing, imitation Song script, and Song script characters from childhood. Moreover, the literacy and writing of students in the Tang Dynasty were not completely synchronized. They read "Thousand Characters", "Thousands of Characters" is an ancient text, the process of its birth is full of legends. Emperor Wu of Liang was very fond of Wang Xizhi's calligraphy, so he ordered 1,000 unique characters to be extracted from his calligraphy and taught his descendants to literate and practice calligraphy. But it was messy and difficult to remember and had little effect, Zhou Xingsi was sent to compile it into an easy-to-understand article. Knowledge of astronomy from the top, geography from the bottom, and people in the middle, combining knowledge in various fields into one furnace. Clearly organized, citing scriptures, and flourishing. It is a vivid encyclopedia of Chinese culture, and it is also the oldest and most widely used teaching material for literacy and Calligraphy education in China. Mr. Hu Shi began to read "The Mysterious Yellow of Heaven and Earth" and "The Great Desolation of the Universe" since he was a child. Until he has been a professor for ten years, he is still thinking about the connotation of these two sentences. It can be seen that the meaning of "Thousand Characters" is wonderful, from this, I understand the traditional Chinese cosmology and the order of the ancients' self-cultivation, and admire the splendid and long-standing civilization. Nowadays, modern education combines literacy and writing, if you will recognize it, you will be able to write. They are not practiced in an easy-to-difficult manner, which is inconsistent with the way a child's brain thinks. It is true that Dunhuang calligraphy has a very high aesthetic value. The author will analyze it from the following three aspects.

2.1. Artistic Value

Dunhuang calligraphy can reflect the artistic development level and aesthetic concept of its era, many of which are precious works of art. For example, the Four Rams Square Zun as a practical utensil, Calligraphy and painting dedicated to artistic appreciation, Tang Sancai used as burial

utensils have extremely high artistic value. The artistic value of Dunhuang calligraphy is reflected in two aspects. On the one hand, study the history and origin of calligraphy evolution. By analyzing various styles of Dunhuang calligraphy, it is helpful to sort out the context of calligraphy history. For example, the transition from official script to regular script in the late Han Dynasty, and the transitional stage of Wei, Jin, Southern and Northern Dynasties, showed the writing characteristics of the integration of official script and regular script. On the other hand, from the aspects of form to content, Dunhuang calligraphy is very different from traditional calligraphy. From the point of view of calligraphy, there are not only the strong and vigorous seal script and the solemn official script, regular script but also smooth running script, hearty cursive script. The vast works show the innocence of calligraphy. From this, it can be seen that, Dunhuang calligraphy has the function of satisfying the needs of appreciation, pleasure and aesthetics, and also has a reference function for the development of new culture and contemporary art creation. For example, students from the Central Academy of Fine Arts created the animation "Beautiful Forest" using ancient paintings such as "Furong Golden Pheasant", which received unanimous praise at home and abroad once it was broadcast. For example, the small script "The Debate on the Death of Luji in the Western Jin Dynasty" in the National Library of China, talking about the rise and fall of Soochow, Lu's meritorious deeds. However, the work unearthed from the Dunhuang Tibetan Scripture Cave is a work written by the copyists of the Tang Dynasty. As a yellow paper and ink book, meticulous regular script, the font is sparse and handsome, with the style of handwriting in the early Tang Dynasty, it is a masterpiece of the handwriting masterpieces of the Tang Dynasty. Mr. Zhou Shaoliang commented: "The book of the various classics, the later Zhao Mengfu may not be able to handle it; "Shangshu: Fragments" written by Wang Laozi, the pen is like a hanging needle, and it is difficult to be firm in Liu Gongquan; The Han book "Wang Mang Biography" is recorded, and the style of the book is clean and beautiful, which can match the forehead of Yu Shinan's book; The description of "Chunqiu Guliang Biography" is comparable to that of Chu Suiliang. "

2.2. Historical Value

Historical materials refer to the materials formed and preserved in history, to understand and study historical culture.[3] In prehistoric society, it played an important role in restoring the natural and social environment at that time. In the historical period, it can play the role of proof history, formal history and supplementary history, for example, the study of oracle bone inscriptions has confirmed the records of the lineage of Shang kings in "Historical Records Yin Benji". It is the manifestation of the historical role of cultural relics. Dunhuang scriptures not only preserve a large number of precious historical materials, such as copies and rubbings, but also original materials of folk nature. It accurately and detailedly reflects the original appearance of calligraphy history, which is conducive to improving the aesthetics of contemporary calligraphy and inspiring artists to create calligraphy. For example, the "Thousand Characters in Seal Script" combines the seal script with the regular script, and the decorative strokes are obvious. The posture is twisted, the handwriting is clear, there is a sense of three-thirds of the wood, the structure is square and round, and the horizontal and vertical arrangements are neat. There are obvious differences with "The Tang Dynasty Hexi Guannei Seng Tongtong Miao Zhenzan and the Order". The layout of this work is staggered and changed. These two works reveal the real situation of seal script writing in the Dunhuang area of the Tang Dynasty. The rare piece of Zhangcao in the Dunhuang posthumous posthumous work, "Theory of Enlightenment and Enlightenment", is now in the National Library of France. Complete preservation, clear text, elegant and smooth writing, plump and graceful, it is a rare example of Zhangcao study. Written by the Tang Dynasty Dade Jingyan Master Jingshi. Not only the value of classics is extremely high, but also its calligraphy value is enough to dwarf the heroes in any ancient Chinese herbal works. Some experts say this work has reached a state of ecstasy.

3. Main Issues in the Protection and Inheritance of Dunhuang Calligraphy

First, theoretical research lags behind. The study and creation of Dunhuang calligraphy precedes theory, and calligraphers have begun to practice, but there is a lack of systematic and scientific research. The study of Dunhuang calligraphy is only at the initial stage. "Dunhuang Posthumous Letters", "Oracle Bones", "Bamboo Slips" and the cabinet archives of the Qing Dynasty are the four major discoveries in modern times. However, compared with the other three discoveries, the Dunhuang suicide note lacks theoretical and creative research. "In the past century, Dunhuang Studies have made great progress in many fields such as Buddhism, history, literature, music, and fine arts, but the study of calligraphy has not been paid enough attention." Second, a large number of printed scriptures were lost overseas. When Britain, France, Japan, and Russia swept away the essence of Dunhuang, it was only then that Chinese scholars turned their attention to Dunhuang. Although there are more and more publications about Dunhuang calligraphy today, such as "Dunhuang Literature" in the British collection, "Dunhuang Collection" in the French National Library, etc., but the domestic has lost the opportunity to study a large number of Dunhuang calligraphy objects. Third, Dunhuang was the first stop for Buddhism to be introduced into China, and it was an important town for the translation of Buddhist scriptures throughout the country during the Sixteen Kingdoms period. Before the invention of printing, the growing popularity of Buddhism made handwritten Buddhist scriptures in short supply. Most of Dunhuang script writers were scripture students or commoners, and their works were rarely titled, so more research clues were lacking in the study. Fourth, researchers lack knowledge of Dunhuang calligraphy. Thinking that the Dunhuang scriptures are more stylized, and they don't pay attention to writing against the front. However, the overall style is quite ancient and clumsy, vigorous and stretched, skilled in technique, elegant in body, warm and elegant. It is true that scriptures have not yet been fully understood.

4. The Inheritance and Innovation of Dunhuang Calligraphy

After the Dunhuang Scripture Collection Cave was opened, a large number of precious cultural relics were unearthed, including a large number of Tang Dynasty manuscripts, such as the "Wheel-turning King Sutra", "Ling Fei Jing", "Lotus Sutra" and other classics. There are also ancient classics copied by the Tang Dynasty, such as Lu Ji's Debate on Death in the Western Jin Dynasty, Lu Jiwu's Manuscripts, and Li Xiaoyuan's Destiny Theory in the Dunhuang Academy. Then, how to inherit and innovate Dunhuang calligraphy, the author puts forward feasible suggestions from the following aspects.

4.1. Strengthen the Connection with Other Disciplines and Complement Each Other

Engels said: "Theoretical thinking is indispensable for a nation to reach the top of science." [4] Theory comes from practice and is a professional research result based on experience. Dunhuang calligraphy theory is also the essence of ancient philosophical thought, including Chinese people's thinking about the universe, nature and life, and is the most valuable heritage in Chinese art theory. Dunhuang calligraphy is classified under the discipline of Dunhuang Studies, which is the collation and research of documents and materials. Through evolution and development, the scope of research has been expanded. The author consults relevant materials and finds that few people associate Dunhuang Studies with other disciplines, and most scholars are only limited to one branch of Dunhuang Studies. On the one hand, Dunhuang calligraphy should be linked with other disciplines, and it needs to continuously absorb the knowledge and achievements of other disciplines to promote its own

development; On the other hand, Dunhuang calligraphy also gives inspiration to other disciplines with its own research results, and proposes new topics to other disciplines. The two are interdependent, influence and complement each other, and promote the development of Dunhuang calligraphy. Take the example of antiquities and archaeology: Cultural relics and archaeology are related disciplines that are different, interconnected, and interact with each other, and their relationship is mainly reflected in the following aspects. First, cultural relics and archaeology are independent disciplines. From the perspective of the era, archaeology only studies the ancient human cultural heritage before the Ming Dynasty. The earlier the age, the more obvious the advantage of archaeology in the study of human history. But cultural relics study the representative objects of modern times; Second, from the perspective of research objects, archaeology only studies the cultural relics obtained from archaeological investigations and archaeological excavations, and mainly studies the entire series of relics and cultural relics not only study archaeological excavations, but also study handed down artifacts and cultural historical relics left to the present; Third, from the perspective of research purposes, archaeology is mainly to clarify the general laws existing in the process of historical development, and to expand the scope of horizontal and vertical research at the same time. The research of cultural relics is mainly to prolong the life of cultural relics, provide physical materials to other disciplines, and use cultural relics to publicize and educate the public. Both cultural relics and archaeology belong to the historical sciences, and the relationship between the two is very close. Ancient science provides scientific material materials for cultural relics, and cultural relics can provide reference for archaeology in dating, and the two learn from each other and absorb each other to promote the common development of both parties.

4.2. Promote the Digitization of Dunhuang Suicide Notes to Share the Return

Workers or research institutions engaged in the return of Dunhuang posthumous writings should extensively cooperate with overseas academic institutions and libraries to build a digital display platform for Dunhuang in China supported by libraries around the world. Searching through the web for clerical regression. For example, the "International Dunhuang Project" (The International Dunhuang Project) built by the British Library, through which the Dunhuang scriptures were made public, let the world read the wonderful inkblot for thousands of years. In the context of globalization, more countries still need to participate in this project, which is an important way for the Chinese Dunhuang suicide note to be transferred from the paper circulation method to the digital information return method to spread around the world. In addition, the digital museum is of great significance to the inheritance of Dunhuang calligraphy. The digital museum is the product of the combination of modern information technology and museum work, and it exerts the function of education and communication through the display of collection information in digital form. It is based on the realization of museum functions and is an information service system that collects, preserves, manages, utilizes and disseminates natural heritage and cultural heritage in digital form. The implementation of its display and education can be carried out in the physical museum or through the network. Digital museums have many unique functions, which make up for the defects and deficiencies of physical museums to a certain extent, mainly reflected in the following aspects: Improve the quality and quantity of collection-related information; Alleviate the conflict between collection protection and use; Display and dissemination of collection information across time and space; Interdisciplinary collection information integration and sharing; Personalized collection information service; Interactive collection information exchange. Use big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence and other advanced technologies to build a smart museum and realize the open sharing of information resources. For example, the "Datang Fenghua" digital exhibition hall of the National Museum, its collection of cultural relics is recorded in the cloud. Through 3D modeling, AR, VR and other digital technologies, the

details of cultural relics and the design of exhibition halls in the museum are restored, so that the public can experience the exhibition without leaving home.

4.3. Integrate with Local Economic Development

The protection of Dunhuang Mogao Grottoes belongs to the protection of large sites. Large ruins refer to immovable cultural relics with large scale, great value and far-reaching influence among the sites that have been excavated by archaeology. The protection of Dunhuang is of great significance, and often the period of rapid economic development is the high-risk period for Dunhuang to be destroyed. Therefore, in the process of protecting Dunhuang, the most important thing is to deal with the relationship between local economic and cultural development and urban construction. From the perspective of the promotion of Dunhuang protection to urban development: First of all, the travel aspect: Dunhuang is located in an area with beautiful environment and good ecology. In the process of protecting Dunhuang, building a beautiful ecological cultural tourism park can not only promote the development of local tourism, but also promote the development of urban economy. Second, in terms of education: Dunhuang is the concentrated expression of the wisdom and creativity of ancient ancestors, and has important historical, artistic and scientific value. The construction of the Dunhuang Museum to display the connotation and value of Dunhuang can not only educate the local people on the history and culture, but also enhance the spiritual and cultural outlook of the whole city; Then, the environmental aspect: In the process of overall protection of Dunhuang and its surrounding environment, it can also improve the local human environment and ecological environment at the same time. Under the concept of today's green development, building an environmentally livable city and provide an example for the comprehensive development of other cities; Finally, the construction of historical and cultural cities: The declaration of historical and cultural cities has become the goal and focus of many large cities. Dunhuang is a concentrated expression of the historical and cultural connotation of a city, and protecting Dunhuang has a great effect on the city winning the new name card of a famous historical and cultural city. Since there are some conflicts and contradictions between the protection of Dunhuang and the development of the local economy, the local government should increase the protection of Dunhuang, formulate relevant laws and regulations, and form an effective protection mechanism, so that Dunhuang can continue to play its value and role. Foreign countries are very worthy of our reference in cultural heritage protection. Japan's vast cultural heritage is not in a state of isolated protection, but continues to use them, protection and development are complementary. This promotes the complete inheritance of cultural heritage, the benefits brought by scientific development, and the better protection of resources.

4.4. The Combination of Dunhuang Calligraphy and Design[5]

Dunhuang not only contains the unblocking code of ancient Chinese civilization, but also provides important inspiration to the developers of Dunhuang cultural and creative products in modern life. Based on Dunhuang history and culture, it provides a source of inspiration for artists. It contains rich Dunhuang cultural elements, which has inspired countless artists. "Dunhuang Dance" represented by "Flower Rain on the Silk Road" is popular all over the world, and the 2008 Beijing Olympics Chinese seal with Dunhuang Han simplified calligraphy as the basic element. These works are all artists who draw inspiration from Dunhuang. Combining the essence of ancient Chinese art with modern innovative ideas can create more eye-catching cultural and creative products, so that Dunhuang culture can be inherited and innovated through cultural and creative products. Develop a large number of digital cultural products, using the Internet to promote and sell, and carrying out cross-border cooperation projects through IP authorization. The Forbidden City Publishing House, in conjunction with the real-life escape room game chain brand "Mystery Home", launched the

interactive decryption book <Mystery Palace Ruyi Linlang Picture Book> <Mystery Palace 2 Gold List Title>.The book combines the culture of the Forbidden City with Chinese classical culture in an interesting way.It contains relatively simple measures of ritual and music, seasonal solar terms, chess and calligraphy and painting, five elements and gossip, etc., which broadens the extension of culture.

4.5. Establish the Inheritor System of Dunhuang Calligraphy

The role of inheritors in the protection of Dunhuang suicide notes can be discussed from two aspects:One is to hope that the representative inheritors of Dunhuang calligraphy will play a role in the protection process;The other is the inheritor himself - as the inheritor of Dunhuang calligraphy, what role can it play in the protection of the intangible cultural heritage production line.The role of inheritors in Dunhuang calligraphy:First, inherit, teach, summarize and organize traditional skills.Its basic characteristics mainly rely on the way of behavior, oral teaching and related practices to carry on inheritance.Therefore, the inheritor system must first pay attention to restoring and rebuilding traditional skills, and pay attention to learning and summarizing relevant knowledge that provides support.Second, the innovation of the expression of traditional skills.Appropriate innovation without compromising authenticity. Dilemmas and suggestions for inheritors:First, the ability to innovate is insufficient.In the process of protection and inheritance, the inheritor has the responsibility and obligation to grasp every link of Dunhuang calligraphy, and can innovate according to the needs of society under the condition of ensuring the complete inheritance of skills.For example, making some cultural and creative products.Second, the training intensity is small.In the process of inheriting skills, it is very important for inheritors to identify and cultivate the next generation of inheritors;Finally, financial support is not enough.At present, due to their traditional characteristics, some intangible cultural heritage techniques cannot bring good capital income, resulting in some intangible cultural heritage projects facing the risk of disappearing.In this regard, the government should increase support and increase publicity means, and the inheritors should also innovate in a timely manner.

5. Conclusion

This article explains the significance of Dunhuang calligraphy to the study of calligraphy history, as well as its aesthetic value,it solved the problems of lag in theoretical research, a large number of Dunhuang posthumous writings scattered overseas, and lack of awareness of Dunhuang scripture writing, and put forward three practical suggestions.And put forward five actionable suggestions:Strengthen the connection with other disciplines and complement each other;Promote the digitization of Dunhuang suicide notes to share the return;Integrate with local economic development;The combination of Dunhuang calligraphy and design;Establish the inheritor system of Dunhuang calligraphy.

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