A Preliminary Study on Dong Jin's Artistic Aesthetics

2021, Vol.2 No.5
© Art & Design Research 2021
DOI: 10.37420/j.adr.2021.021
https://masonpublish.org

Yanmin Liang, Longyan Liu*
Guilin University of Technology, Guilin, China
*Corresponding author, e-mail: 284761107@qq.com

Abstract
With the speeding up of the process of social development and the emergence of a national culture wave, culture of all nationalities have flowers, in the development of ethnic minorities in China, there is a lot of manual works of art, but also formed a wave of ethnic craftsmanship culture research, in this wave of ethnic craftsmanship research results have mushroomed constantly emerge, its results have reference value extremely.Dong nationality brocade is one of the representative works in the research direction of many scholars. It embodies the customs and belief culture of dong nationality people, etc. After thousands of years, it is gradually known by the world and enjoys a good reputation at home and abroad.Its color, pattern, structure and other unique, from the artistic aesthetic point of view of in-depth exploration of the origin of the dong brocade art and art form, for the research of Dong culture and inheritance of the Dong intangible cultural heritage of reference and reference.

Keywords
Dong Nationality brocade culture; Aesthetic appreciation of art; Color; Grain appearance; Structure

Introduction

There are many ethnic minorities in Lingnan area of China, dong is one of them with a large number of people and a long history. Its population is mainly distributed in Guizhou, Hunan, Hubei, Guangxi and Guangdong.In the long history of development of dong, industrious and dong people created many works of art, including dong jin has become the second batch of national intangible cultural heritage in our country, as a minority in the knitwork treasure it not only as the function of the dong people's clothing, color, pattern and other elements of performance which the dong people's customs, culture and religion culture, etc., to convey the spirit of dong culture.Through field investigation, shooting and data searching, this paper analyzes the artistic aesthetics of Dong na-

tionality brocade from the aspects of color, pattern, composition etc, and provides reference for the study of Dong nationality brocade culture.

An Overview of Dong Nationality Brocade

The Implication Meaning of Dong Nationality Brocade

Dong nationality brocade is the treasure of Dong nationality produced in the constant struggle between Dong nationality people and the way of life and production. It embodies the spirit and culture of Dong nationality people, and it is also the representative of dong nationality people's superb weaving technology.In ancient times, jin was also known as "jin". Liu Xi of the Eastern Han Dynasty said in Shiming that "Jin works very hard and its price is like gold, so its characters are made from silk and gold", which shows that jin plays an irreplaceable role in the daily production and life of dong people (Zhu & Lu, 2020). Dong Nationality brocade can be divided into plain brocade and colorful brocade. The weaving method of plain brocade is simple through longitude and through latitude, while the weaving method of flower brocade is much more complicated (Zhang, 2016). Dong people to brocade as the fundamental of dong culture, recording the dong people fumbling in the struggle for life condensed out of the national culture and spirit, so busy embroidered patterns reveal the dong dong jin on cultural history since ancient times, also contains the profound details of the dong culture and national characteristics, to show the world the treasure of the Chinese dong culture.The patterns woven on them are mostly the totem of belief and geometric figures of The Dong people, which reflect the belief culture and spiritual sustenance of the Dong people, and embody the dong people's goal of believing in and loving nature and moving forward towards a better life.At the same time, its color and structure also contain a strong flavor of Dong, highlighting the aesthetic needs of Dong people.

Dong Jin Classification

Dong nationality brocade is divided into daily brocade, longevity brocade and dharma brocade according to its different uses.Generally speaking, daily brocade mainly focuses on the level of articles for daily use, common sheets, clothing and so on;And the longevity brocade is the matting in the coffin after the person dies;Dharma brocade refers to the hanging sheet and dharma blanket specially used for sacrifice.

Brocade Weaving of Dong Nationality

The weaving techniques of Dong Nationality brocade in different regions are very different, and the weaving methods are generally divided into two kinds: oblique loom and pure hand weaving (Xie,

2020).

The diagonal loom, also known as the diagonal loom (see Figure 1), is an improvement on the original standing loom.At present, most of the machines used by dong people in weaving Dong brocade are inclined loom, and the difference between different types of inclined loom is only limited to the height of the frame and the number of beam rods.In the process of brocade weaving, the Dong people use the inclined frame loom and operate the inclined frame loom with shuttle to weave the double-sided pattern, so that the woven bed sheet, quilt cover and other large Dong nationality brocade can be used double-sided.



Figure 1. Oblique loom (self-photographed by the author)

The pure hand weaving method is to fix one end with an object, while the other end is wound with bamboo pieces like wooden combs. The whole part is the warp thread, and the colored silk thread is used as the weft thread for weaving.This method does not rely on large loom weaving, so pure hand weaving can only weave jewelry, such as suspenders, cuffs and so on.There is no fixed weaving pattern on the pattern pattern of this kind of Dong nationality brocade, and the final effect of each weaver is different, which makes the pattern and aesthetic feeling of the small Dong nationality brocade will not be the same, and it is constantly innovating and developing.

The Artistic Beauty of Dong Nationality Brocade

The Style of Dong Brocade is Beautiful

The color selection of the whole color block and the ornamentation of Dong nationality brocade depends on the position of each region, and the color of Different positions of Dong nationality brocade is not the same.Generally speaking, the dong nationality brocade with a little bulk is mostly plain brocade, compared with plain brocade, the color brocade color choice is more bright and beautiful, generally used for collar, cuffs, shoes and hats and other small Dong nationality brocade. By combining the warm color jumping of the color brocade with the calm cool color of the plain brocade, it gives people a distinct feeling visually, and contains a pure color in the prosperity. This

strong visual contrast effect highlights the preciousness of the Dong Nationality brocade.The color of Dong nationality brocade also reflects the dong people's feelings towards things. Red represents joy, white represents sadness, green represents vitality, etc. In color selection, it is not affected by the inherent color of things, nor is it limited to the scope of contour, and highly focuses on the balance sense of color collocation.The use of complementary and adjacent colors on the Dong brocade fully highlights the color characteristics of the Dong people. Even the collocation of large pieces of red and green and even the solid colors with strong visual impact become coordinated and coexist after the coordination of other colors, which exactly reflects the national characteristics of getting along well in dong people's life.

1. Simple Beauty

The general color of plain brocade is solid color and dark color, with white, dark blue, gray, black and other main colors (as shown in Figure 2).White reflects the dong people's pursuit of pure things and light, dark blue and black give a person a sense of massiness and stability, gray is the state that harmonizes these two kinds of opposite colors mutually in order to achieve balance.They weave world-famous Dong brocade with simple colors, just as the Dong people create a prosperous Dong culture with simple folk customs.At the same time, the overall color of Sujin conveys to people the dong people's steady progress on the road of yearning for a better life, and also shows the simple beauty of Dong people.



Figure 2. Banyan tree pattern with heart (taken by the author)

2. Pure Beauty

The dong region has a subtropical climate, and both temperature and humidity are suitable for the growth of crops and other plants. The abundant plant fiber resources provide a solid backing for the development of the Dong people.Dong jin is the main raw material required to cotton, it is because of the climate makes the cotton quality is good, the dong people by picking cotton and brown cotton, cotton, rub cumbersome process of cotton, woven cotton produced dong jin, at the same time dong jin colour dye is by the dong people through a and a process the plant dyestuffs extracted

from plants, and natural characteristics.The patterns on the Dong brocade seem to be various, but in fact they are in good order. The industrious Dong people weave intricate patterns with simple lines, but they are not messy.The pastoral atmosphere of Dong nationality runs through the production process, color dye, pattern weaving and so on, giving people a pure and tranquil beauty.

The Ornamentation of the Dong Brocade is Beautiful

1. The Beauty of the Faith

The nation that worshipping and worshipping nature is rich in spirituality. It can refine the appearance of nature and observe nature so as to inject the patterns with spirituality into it and then interweave them into the brocade, showing the worship to gods and nature (Li & Chen, 2020). Dong people believe in animism and keep faith to all living things.In their long life, Dong people have felt the kindness bestowed by nature through personal experience and observation, so they have worshiped and believed in all things in nature.Sun, moon and stars, mountains and rivers, birds and animals, flowers and plants and other aspects have become the belief culture of the Dong people, and the dong people weave the exquisite patterns of dong brocade with these, which change from abstract to concrete, deeply reflecting the national belief beauty of the Dong people's love for life, nature and the nation (See Figure 3) (Wan, n.d.).



Figure 3. Hem of dress (taken by the author)

2. The Beauty of Rhythm

Rhythm in the pattern expression form is usually different spacing, the same shape of repetition;Or repetition with different shapes and the same spacing.Generally speaking, there are rhythmic graphs composed of individual unit's similarity, regularity and other properties.The continuous pattern of Dong Nationality brocade is the pattern of infinite circulation formed by repeated arrangement of the pattern of a certain unit. There are two kinds of two-sided continuous pattern and four-sided

continuous pattern, sometimes not subject to the limitation of its skeleton. It can present the composition form of two-sided continuous pattern and four-sided continuous pattern, with distinct primary and secondary pattern and rigorous composition (Liu, 2019). (As shown in FIG. 4) The dong Nationality brocade pattern on the cuff is woven in a two-square continuous way. The overall pattern is striped, complex but not messy, with extremely rhythmic beauty.



Figure 4. Jacket cuffs (taken by the author)

3. The Beauty of Prosperity

The art patterns of The Dong Nationality brocade include multiple combinations of points, lines and surfaces. Many bird and animal patterns are simplified into abstract geometric figures, and the straight lines and curves are also flexibly matched, forming a concise and lively geometric style (Yang, 2019). when the people of dong brocade is not limited to the designs in the framework of spirit prompted a dong jin is often more than one (as shown in figure 5), using the design of belts, neckline, top edge pattern such as the flowers, grass, birds, beasts, make such dong jin overall effect to the person with the beauty of the bustling, when adornment to brunet dong costumes, best line, that contains the original rustic charm heavy coat become classic and luxuriant.



Figure 5. Tongle Bridal Costume (taken by the author)

The Beauty of the Dong Brocade

1. Balanced Beauty

The principle of aesthetic balance applies to all aesthetic compositions, which means to maintain the balance of visual forces among various elements, such as points, lines and planes, within a specific space.In composition, it usually takes the visual center as the fulcrum, with each element as the fulcrum to maintain the balance of strength in the visual sense, so as to give people a sense of balance, harmony and stability in the visual sense (Qin & Chen, 2019). Dong Nationality brocade takes the static equilibrium beauty as the basic principle whether in the whole or in the aspect of patterns, and the static equilibrium beauty can be roughly divided into symmetric equilibrium and asymmetric equilibrium. The symmetric equilibrium beauty strictly follows the symmetry on both sides of the central axis, giving people a rigorous and normative idea.However, asymmetrical and balanced beauty is not too limited to the central axis, but can be visually and mentally balanced (as shown in FIG. 6).The pattern on the cloth bag is composed of diamond, triangle, pattern, moire and so on. It is woven according to the symmetrical way of the vertical axis and the horizontal axis, giving people a feeling of symmetry, stability, regularity, cleanliness and so on (Song & Chen, n.d.). This symmetrical and balanced beauty is a common style in Dong Nationality brocade.Asymmetric balance is characterized by the overall picture balance, but in local form is more free, more dynamic sense.Generally speaking, the overall imbalance of Dong nationality brocade is almost non-existent in the asymmetric balanced Dong nationality brocade, most of which are the local detail asymmetry of the pattern. However, from the overall effect, Dong nationality brocade still maintains coordination (as shown in Figure 7).From the overall effect, it can be seen that the patterns on the Dong Jin brocade are numerous but not chaotic, and the patterns are coordinated and orderly between them. However, the patterns of individual flowers are not symmetrical before and after, and the colors are also red, yellow, green and blue. The single patterns do not have the principle of symmetrical equilibrium, but the dynamic feeling is strong, making the patterns vivid.

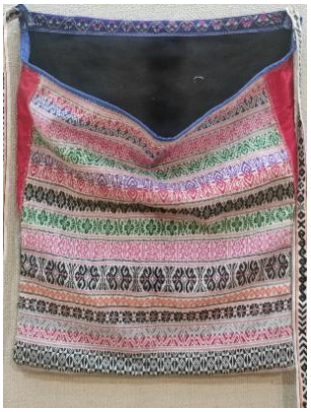


Figure 6. Cloth bag (taken by the author)



Figure 7. Hem of jacket (taken by the author)

2. Formal Beauty

The geometric pattern of Dong nationality contains the pursuit of artistic beauty of Dong people. Pay attention to the design of minimalist structure, flexible deformation, these are the integrity of the pattern, color harmony of a perfect interpretation.From Greek bottle painting to the development of Decorative art in Tang Dynasty, geometric elements such as square lozenges were applied in people's life, which is a kind of inheritance of Sinicization (Li & Chen, 2019). Geometric pattern art of Dong nationality brocade is not only regarded as an aesthetic image in the public, but also its free composition of patterns is a characteristic of Dong culture.Dong brocade weaving forms to convey the beauty of traditional art, is also the development of dong people through continuous formed the life form of dong people, this form reflects the dong people to nature, life, people, things, such as the relationship between thinking, is an orderly, dong people has gradually become a record of a system.Such formal beauty is the national wisdom agglomerated by the Dong people in the struggle of life, and it is also the cultural deposits of national weaving agglomerated in the long history of the development of Chinese minorities.

Conclusion

Culture is not only the spiritual food of a nation, but also its soft power. It is a good thing that the traditional national culture has profound cultural deposits, because the traditional culture contains inestimable value, and the protection and development of the traditional culture can make China's soft power rich.Dong nationality brocade is the top current of Chinese brocade culture, and it enjoys a good reputation at home and abroad. Its modeling pursues realism, its patterns strive to achieve a balanced beauty, and its colors are more dazzling.The origin of Dong nationality brocade art has profound historical and ethnic characteristics, which manifests dong nationality culture in color, pattern and composition. Dong nationality brocade has been the basis for scholars to study Dong nationality history culture, folk culture and belief culture.However, under the current situation of rapid economic development, how to inherit the culture of Dong nationality brocade is a problem we need to think about. Therefore, the artistic aesthetic research on the color, pattern and composition of Dong nationality brocade is expected to provide reference for the research and inheritance of Dong nationality brocade culture.

References

Zhu, Q, & Lu, Y. (2020). Aesthetic analysis and innovative application of Dong brocade art patterns. *Industrial Design*, (07), 121-122.

Zhang, J. R. (2016). Research on the categories and artistic characteristics of Dong traditional crafts. *Popular Literature and Art*, (22), 55.

Xie, Y. (2020). Investigation on Dong brocade art and its inheritance status. *Popular Literature and Art*, (13), 30-31.

Li, Y. L, & Chen, X. L. (2020). Artistic features of geometric patterns of Dong brocade. *Progress of Textile Science and Technology*, (03), 50-53.

Wan, Q. (n.d.). Research on aesthetic features and artistry of typical patterns of Tongdao Dong brocade. *Beauty and Times*, 50(24), 210, 213.

Liu, B. Y. (2019). Research on the artistic characteristics of Dong brocade. *Southern Agricultural Machinery*, 50(24), 210, 213.

Yang, J. R. (2019). Equilibrium Law and Fashion Innovation of Dong brocade Pattern. *Popular Literature and Art*, (20), 86-87.

Qin, M, & Chen, X. L. (2019). The construction and cultural transmission of the intangible Dong brocade case. *Journal of Hunan Institute of Engineering and Technology (Social Science Edition)*, 29(02), 118-122.

Song, Q. Q., & Chen, X. L. (n.d.). Pattern Art Features of Dong Brocade. *Journal of Hunan Institute of Engineering (Social Science Edition)*, 27(02), 101-104.

Li, Y. L, & Chen, X. L. (2019). Aesthetic analysis of Dong brocade art patterns. *Textile Science and Technology Progress*, (05), 43-46.