

Research on the Function of Ancient Poetry Culture in Realizing the Internationalization of Education in China

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Abstract: How to promote traditional culture, and how to achieve international education of traditional culture have received widespread attention. However, current research and exploration on these issues are not deep enough. This article will focus on these issues and attempt to analyze the role of ancient poetry culture in achieving educational internationalization in China. Through comparative research on various papers, it is analyzed that accelerating the internationalization of education requires finding suitable media, and ancient poetry can serve as an important medium to help promote the international exchange of traditional Chinese culture. Based on this, this article proposes the following suggestions: firstly, to strengthen the understanding and learning of ancient poetry culture; secondly, to innovate teaching models in combination with the characteristics of international education; and thirdly, to effectively disseminate educational resources. The ultimate goal is to reduce cultural barriers and achieve internationalization of Chinese language and literature education.

1 INTRODUCTION

With the proposal of the "Belt and Road Initiative" policy, China's economic development level has rapidly improved and its international influence has gradually increased. How to integrate Chinese language and literature with international practice is an urgent problem to be solved. From a cross-cultural perspective, promoting Chinese culture can facilitate cultural exchange and mutual learning among countries, while maintaining the common prosperity and diverse development of world cultures. Chinese culture is vast and profound, among which ancient poetry is an excellent embodiment. Ancient poetry contains rich ideological and cultural connotations and is the deepest cultural gene of the Chinese nation (Lin, 2023). From an educational perspective, traditional Chinese education is no longer in line with the tide of the times. The innovative development and dissemination of excellent Chinese culture such as ancient poetry is undoubtedly a way to achieve internationalization of education. Through analysis of Chinese education and the international Chinese education industry, most of the teaching focus has been on the Chinese language itself, and there is a lack of research and promotion of ancient Chinese and its culture. A scholar studying ancient poetry and Chinese language teaching pointed out that although

there is awareness of spreading Chinese culture in Chinese language teaching, there are still shortcomings in teaching methods, textbook development, and other aspects, and there is still much room for improvement (Dong, 2018). Other scholars believe that culture should not be defined and is fluid. In the context of globalization, cultural connections are created on-site. Rather than being "cross-cultural" it is better to directly understand it as the exchange of cultures (Baker, 2021). It must let Chinese traditional culture go out into the Chinese discipline, let foreigners understand China, and enhance the soft power of Chinese culture. Therefore, it is inevitable to effectively increase cultural elements such as ancient poetry. To sum up, this study will take ancient poetry as an example, focusing on its role in achieving educational internationalization, elaborating on the phenomenon of educational internationalization and the educational function of ancient poetry, summarizing practical experience, and finally proposing relevant suggestions. This study aims to shift the focus of Chinese language teaching from simply understanding the essence of the language to gaining a deeper understanding of the stories and culture behind it. This will have a positive impact on international Chinese language education and cultural communication and dissemination.

2 INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION

2.1 The Importance of Culture in the Internationalization of Education

Internationalization of education is a process of globalization, which has become one of the core operating trends of many higher education institutions. It is not only about the exchange of cultural knowledge but also about cultivating talents who can adapt to the development of a globalized society and economy (Sharipov, 2020).

The most important aspect for effectively achieving internationalization of education is the issue of cultural attributes. Culture is the cornerstone of a country and social development. When culture thrives, a country thrives; when culture is strong, a country becomes strong. Promoting traditional culture is the foundation of education. Taking Chinese language and literature as an example, the Chinese language cannot do without the basic support of culture in the process of cultural communication. Therefore, Chinese international education is not only language teaching but also cultural teaching and cross-cultural teaching (Wu and Tian, 2018). Enhancing the learning of traditional Chinese culture can not only expand various aspects of Chinese language learning in the internationalization of education, no longer being confined to the text itself, thus enhancing the confidence of the national culture but also effectively promoting mutual understanding and respect between different countries and regions, providing value guidance for building a community with a shared future for mankind. Thus cultivating talents with an international perspective, these talents will promote Chinese culture to the world. At the same time, the inheritance and innovation of traditional culture through education also provide a good platform for international exchange and cooperation. However, it is worth noting that the internationalization of education does not mean the Westernization of education. It cannot blindly copy Western educational concepts but should combine them with its national conditions. The best way to de-westernize is to restore China's local epistemology and language culture (Guo, et al., 2022). Therefore, culture plays a crucial role in the internationalization of education, and educators should not ignore the importance of culture. Instead, they should make reasonable use of the educational significance brought by excellent culture to achieve the expansion and improvement of education.

2.2 Cultural and Educational Issues Related Times Internationalization of Education

The biggest challenge in internationalizing education is how to face different cultural backgrounds.

In terms of educational forms, Western society tends to advocate individualism, encourage individuals to express their views, and prioritize individual interests over collective interests. China places greater emphasis on collectivism, emphasizing that collective interests outweigh individual interests, and viewing excessive individualistic behavior as selfish (Zhao, 2020). In the international teaching of Chinese, because of these differences in concepts, the teaching forms of China and the West are very different. Traditional Chinese teaching stays in the textbook, taking the class as a whole, and the teacher gives lectures mainly. In the teaching of traditional culture such as ancient poetry, most of them stay in the stage of knowledge infusion and rote learning; Western countries, on the other hand, are pursuing an "exploratory" learning approach, emphasizing the autonomy of learning and the expression of personal thoughts.

Given the current situation, seeking a balance is particularly important. Another major challenge is to find a suitable platform to connect traditional teaching with international teaching. Many scholars have emphasized this issue, but some methods can be borrowed, such as applying cross-cultural communication to disciplinary fields to enhance the effectiveness and internationalization of traditional teaching (Zhao, 2024). Similarly, in the education of Chinese language and literature, it is even more necessary to find corresponding cultural carriers to implement abstract concepts. Finally, in terms of cultural education, the issue of "cultural evolution" has become increasingly prominent. Excellent traditional culture has been neglected, and the instrumental and utilitarian nature of culture has become stronger, thus ignoring the humanistic nature brought by culture (Li and Jiang, 2017). In this way, Chinese language teaching is easily influenced by other cultures, and China's cultural security will also be threatened. It can be seen that there are still many problems in the cultural field of internationalization of education, and it is necessary to find excellent ways to better achieve its internationalization.

3 THE CULTURE AND EDUCATIONAL FUNCTION IN ANCIENT POETRY

3.1 The Cultural Connotation of Ancient Poetry

Firstly, ancient poetry occupies an important position in traditional Chinese culture. From the "Shi Jing" to the Yuan Dynasty, the development of ancient poetry is a witness and epitome of Chinese culture throughout history. In addition, ancient poetry, with its unique artistic form, expresses the excellent cultural heritage of the Chinese nation. This is not only the focus of Chinese language and literature majors, but also a valuable carrier in the internationalization of education. As a treasure of Chinese civilization, ancient poetry is the pinnacle of ancient Chinese literature and art, carrying profound historical and philosophical ideas as well as diverse emotional values (Wu, 2024). For example, the "Shi Jing" reflects the social situation from the early Western Zhou Dynasty to the mid-Spring and Autumn Period, the "Chu Ci" reflects the political turmoil of the Warring States period, and Qu Yuan's struggle between ideals and reality, the Han Yuefu's "Mo Shang Sang" reflects the customs and habits of Han society and the elevation of women's status, Du Fu's "Chun Wang" reflects the historical turning point of the Tang Dynasty from prosperity to decline and the poet's concern for the country and the people, and Liu Yong's "Yu Lin Ling" reflects the cultural atmosphere of Song society and the aesthetic taste of literati. Secondly, from the perspective of language teaching, ancient poetry conveys the lofty aspirations and emotions of ancient literati through concise language and often expresses emotions through objects, which is a unique charm in Chinese cultural language. Raising the cultural connotation of ancient poetry to a philosophical level has made significant contributions to understanding some Chinese philosophical views. From materialism to epistemology to dialectics, corresponding lines can be found in Chinese ancient poetry. The philosophical wisdom contained in it is thought-provoking and plays an important guiding role in understanding and transforming the world, thus making education internationalization full of Chinese characteristics (Ma, 2018).

In short, there are still many cultural connotations in ancient poetry, and its influence cannot be underestimated. Firmly grasping the foundation of ancient poetry is a manifestation of international

education that does not forget its roots, and it is also a window to understanding ancient Chinese history and culture.

3.2 The Educational Function of Ancient Poetry

Ancient poetry also has important educational functions. It not only cultivates students' literary literacy and aesthetic taste but also enhances their language expression ability and creativity. By studying ancient Chinese poetry, students can gain a deeper understanding of China's history, philosophy, and culture, enhancing their cultural confidence and national identity. Because ancient poetry plays a significant educational role, there is an increasing emphasis on teaching poetry and culture in Chinese language and literature education.

Firstly, it is aesthetic education. Discovering the beauty in poetry is the key to understanding poetry. For example, environmental descriptions are often used in poetry to depict beautiful scenery, and poets also use scenery to express their emotions and aspirations. Moreover, ancient poetry often has the phenomenon of "leaving white beauty". This method of preserving a certain amount of imaginative space can resonate with readers to the greatest extent possible, while allowing people to immerse themselves in the scene and have endless aftertaste. This is the aesthetics in ancient poetry (Qi, 2021).

Secondly, ancient poetry also has educational significance in shaping personality and establishing values. Ancient poetry contains socialist core values such as patriotism, friendliness, and harmony. Because it has inspired political revolution and encouraged the military in history, it has an enlightening and leading role in people's thinking. The patriotism, friendliness, and harmony ideas in ancient poetry play an important role in strengthening the sense of responsibility and moral cultivation of contemporary students and contribute to the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation (Dou and Fan, 2018).

Finally, it has a positive impact on the cultivation of language thinking ability as well. Literature has shown that "thinking development and improvement" refers to the ability to consciously analyze and reflect on one's language expression, and ultimately improve the ability to use language. As a special form of language expression, ancient poetry is based on social experience, and the language expression of different styles of poetry varies, which is closely related to the quality of thinking (Guo, 2018).

In one word, ancient poetry education is an important way to inherit culture, inspire wisdom, and cultivate sentiment, so it is necessary to combine ancient poetry culture with international education.

4 ANCIENT POETRY AND INTERNATIONALIZATION OF EDUCATION

4.1 The Role of Ancient Poetry in The Internationalization of Education

Ancient poetry can serve as a bridge for cross-cultural communication in international education. The most obvious one is the increasing demand for Chinese language education among overseas Chinese, who are also important carriers of exporting Chinese culture. The understanding of Chinese culture among overseas Chinese determines how far Chinese culture can go overseas (Xiang, 2022).

Internationalization of education should first focus on understanding the national culture of the language being studied. As a major feature of Chinese culture, ancient poetry can help foreigners or students learning Chinese as a second language understand the deep structure and values of Chinese culture. Thus promoting mutual understanding and respect among people from different cultural backgrounds, enhancing communication and mutual learning between different cultures, and contributing to the construction of a diverse and harmonious international community.

Secondly, the internationalization of education requires easily accessible and diverse teaching content. Taking Su Shi's poetry as an example, the changes in tone and the ups and downs of tone are major characteristics. By mastering the tone of the poem and gaining a preliminary understanding of its content, combined with Su Shi's own experience and the poetic lines describing the beautiful scenery of West Lake in Su Shi's poetry, the content of the poem is combined with the Chinese region and food culture, enabling overseas students to better understand and making the teaching content vivid and vivid (Lin and Zhang, 2024). Studying ancient poetry in this way can narrow the gap between foreign culture and Chinese culture, and improve students' thinking, language communication, grammar understanding, and other aspects.

The but not least, the global sharing of educational resources is worth paying attention to. For example, Chinese ancient poetry culture plays an important role

in international culture. Learning about ancient poetry culture should not be limited to the classroom, but can be shared comprehensively through cultural festivals, the production of interesting short videos on major video platforms, social media promotion, and other means. These activities not only promote the dissemination and sharing of ancient poetry culture but also contribute to the promotion and deepening of international education. Nowadays, more and more scholars are studying the foreign language translation of ancient poetry, with the aim of promoting and developing traditional Chinese culture.

In summary, the implementation of internationalization of education relies on having a holistic perspective. In Chinese language and literature, ancient poetry is a great medium, and it is a long process from ancient poetry itself to promoting the popularization of excellent cultural education. But through learning about such excellent Chinese culture, domestic students can understand the roots and sources, receive good educational guidance, comprehend cultural differences, enhance cultural identity, and let the world see and understand China externally.

4.2 Suggestions and Related Measures

Utilizing ancient poetry culture to achieve internationalization of education involves complex processes such as cultural inheritance, language teaching, and international communication and dissemination. To efficiently spread the culture of ancient poetry to the international community, on the one hand, it can increase the number of traditional cultural courses such as ancient poetry, continuously educate scholars on culture, and let quantitative changes lead to qualitative changes. On the other hand, an effective evaluation and assessment mechanism should be established. For students who have acquired Chinese as a second language, fun activities such as poetry competitions and knowledge quizzes can be held to enhance their learning enthusiasm, supervise their improvement of learning efficiency, and create a strong learning atmosphere.

In language teaching, there needs to be innovative ways, as simply reading aloud and memorizing can erode interest. In addition, some Chinese non-native speakers face great difficulty in pronunciation and intonation. At this time, they can learn from programs such as "Poetry Conference" and "Classic Chant" to sing poems. The combination of ancient poems and songs is an innovative artistic practice, which is not only for foreigners to learn, but also for domestic students. The dissemination of music far exceeds the

recitation of poetry itself, and can even be translated into languages of different countries, thereby enhancing the internationalization of education. Through diverse forms of expression and in-depth teaching research, the artistic appeal and cultural educational value of works are strengthened. For example, traditional Chinese instruments such as guzheng, guqin, pipa, etc. can be filled with poetry to create a unique charm. This combination makes ancient poetry and songs a form of cultural education, promoting dialogue and understanding between different cultures, while also enriching the diversity of global music and art (Fang, 2022). Furthermore, corresponding scenario performances can also be performed, and scenario short plays can be arranged to immerse students in the historical background and emotional will of the poet, making the words vivid and concrete, which can also leave a deep impression on students. The biggest and most crucial challenge is international communication, and the ultimate goal of achieving internationalization of education is to integrate traditional culture with the international community. One is to use digital media to produce relevant videos for promotion and publication, making the teaching of ancient poetry more vivid and intuitive. Secondly, it is possible to strengthen exchanges and learning with foreign schools, carry out cultural festivals between China and foreign countries, teach ancient poetry, and other projects. For example, the 21st International Cultural Festival of Peking University was attended by international students from 47 countries and regions. During the event, the organizers prepared three ancient poems of different difficulty levels for international students to challenge their understanding and recitation, to enhance their understanding and interest in Chinese ancient poetry. For example, the International Office of Peking University organized a poetry recitation competition for international students. In the competition, students performed ancient poems through recitation, singing, and performance. Peking University effectively integrated ancient poetry culture into international education during the International Cultural Festival, enriching the content and forms of education. Through these measures, it is possible to achieve modernization and internationalization of education while ensuring the protection and inheritance of traditional culture in ancient poetry.

5 CONCLUSION

The highlight of this study lies in finding the medium of "ancient poetry" to promote the internationalization of education and attempting to analyze its feasibility. The article elaborates on the importance and methods of internationalizing Chinese culture through the combination of education internationalization and ancient poetry culture. It is found that the current education form is developing innovatively from tradition to internationalization, and the cultural heritage contained in ancient poetry can serve as a representative and epitome of China's excellent traditional culture. Through various poetry cultural activities, poetry and song dissemination, ancient poetry education can be made vivid, and its characteristics can be played in cross-cultural communication, thus achieving the internationalization of education and aligning the Chinese language and literature with the world.

This study fully collected and organized relevant literature materials, and conducted multi-domain analysis in conjunction with the Chinese language and literature major. However, due to professional limitations, research scope, and practical data, there are still incomplete aspects. It is hoped that future research can collect more practical cases to make up for the shortcomings. In the future, in the field of international education, it is necessary to continue and deepen the study of traditional Chinese culture such as ancient poetry, and enrich teaching forms and content, so that language learning can be transformed into cultural learning, which is the trend and direction of international education development.

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