

# Research on the Application of Lantern Culture in Urban Landscape

Fubin Li

Sichuan University of Science & Engineering, Zigong, China

## Abstract

Today, China has entered the state of urbanization, urban construction, landscape effect has made great achievements, people's quality of life and the standard of a well-off society, spiritual construction and cultural construction has also made a series of achievements. All these achievements are due to the construction of high-quality design talents, but the cultural awareness of talent training in colleges and universities needs to be strengthened, especially in the aspect of the important role of culture in the promotion of urban soft power. For example, the urban space and environment based on cultural symbols to shape the urban image and characteristics is still underdeveloped, and the relevant theoretical research is not perfect. Especially, the inland cities in western China still remain on the surface of the urban landscape, and the expression of urban cultural symbols and urban connotations is relatively lacking. Paper select create folk characteristics of urban landscape design practice as the breakthrough point, first in this paper, the different regional culture characteristics of the relevant theory and the construction of urban landscape, and then illustrate the definition of urban landscape and the corresponding cultural symbol and system, based on the current research status at home and abroad at the same time discusses the culture symbol and the connection of the urban landscape, In order to provide the corresponding reference for curriculum teaching in the form of practical cases.

## Keywords

Cultural Symbols; Regional Culture Characteristics; Urban Landscape; Lantern Culture.

## 1. Research Background

At present, China's urbanization process is increasing significantly. With the promotion of the western development strategy, inland city construction and urban appearance have changed greatly, and all aspects of the city where the author lives have also changed significantly. Urban planning, urban leisure, urban environment and so on have achieved leap-forward development. The author noticed that people did not realize the importance of urban individuality, nor did they realize the shaping and creation of urban personalized image in the process of construction and design. As a result, the urban individuality was shallow, and the homogenization of urban landscape became more and more serious, showing bland and boring. In addition, the reconstruction of regional culture in town planning is too extensive, so that many originally very characteristic cultural traits gradually disappear in the social development. Urban style is the best carrier to highlight urban characteristics, as well as the specific presentation of urban bearing and characteristics. It is also the symbol of the overall aesthetic with regional similarity, the demand of folk custom development, and the core of landscape construction [1]. At the same time, urban construction should be based on culture and carry out urban construction with historical characteristics, regional characteristics, folk characteristics and other elements. In the specific implementation process, it should be formulated in a scientific way, and corresponding laws, standards and mechanisms should be

created and improved. In addition, different regions should explore the urbanization path with regional characteristics according to their actual situation.

Many cities in China are like this, and the urban landscape design is an effective means to show the regional culture, and it is also very beneficial to explore the urban characteristics. Because the construction of regional culture involves several different disciplines, specialties and fields, strengthening the construction of regional culture is also an important part of strengthening the country's "soft power".

In the final analysis, regional culture is the interaction between people and the environment, and we should have a completely different strategic thinking. In the post-Olympic and post-World Expo era, can culture serve as a spiritual symbol? The issues related to culture deserve further consideration. Drucker once said "now, culture is the real overwhelmingly dominant status of resources and factors of production", that is to say, the cultural construction must be used to the greatest extent and show the power of culture, rather than to stay on the discipline construction, should try to avoid "only knowledge and characteristic is lost culture and taste". In the process of cultural construction, we must pay attention to long-term accumulation and precipitation, not too radical; certain policies should be formulated to support it, and regional culture should be controlled as the key content of urban culture [5].

## 2. Research Significance

The emergence of the concept of landscape can be traced back to Europe and The United States and other countries. This theory has a short development time in China, so it is necessary to explain its definition in this paper. By referring to relevant works at home and abroad, we can explore the regional cultural elements reflected in the works from various angles, which can promote us to find, inherit and improve the regional cultural factors in the contemporary landscape structure. In addition, mastering the theory of symbol correlation can apply the relevant theories and measures to the landscape architecture, and apply the regional cultural factors appropriately to the landscape architecture through the medium of symbol, thus forming the contemporary landscape architecture system with Chinese traditional characteristics and regional cultural identity.

The traditional culture of our country cultivates the specific aesthetic taste of foreigners, so the landscape structure connected with the culture of ethnic areas can be recognized by people. The appearance of traditional visual symbols in modern urban landscape is one of the fusion elements. It can reflect a sense of identity and belonging of Chinese people to culture.

## 3. Research Methods

The corresponding researches are mainly carried out from two aspects: first, the special researches are carried out on semiotics, Chinese traditional pattern, landscape architecture and urban landscape; the second is to explore the use of symbols in landscape architecture. Known throughout most of the existing research results about traditional Chinese symbols of reality research situation: according to "the visual symbol of arts and crafts" definition of visual symbol, it is a kind of symbolic indication signs, while reveal a strong visual aesthetic feeling, also can cause people's imagination, further realize the organic integration of emotion and landscape. Since such symbols are usually planar patterns, many related symbols will be analyzed in the two-dimensional structure. At the same time, three-dimensional symbols are seldom used in the process of landscape construction, and more are applied to the structural model of domestic landscape architecture. Domestic spread of cultural symbols for a long time in the application of garden design: the five design factors of traditional garden cover stone stacked, rockery forest; Plant collocation; Antique bricks, tiles and walls; wooden plaques, couplets and other

garden symbols. Such symbols are described in detail in *The Study of Chinese Traditional Gardens* compiled by Professor Peng Yi-gang.

Research on the use of regional cultural symbols in urban public space landscape design, most of which are gathered in the northwest and southwest regions, basically highlights regional culture through landscape design such as cultural parks and the establishment of city images. Related materials for Zigong lantern folk custom and urban landscape construction include: *Beyond classical and Contemporary Obstacles: Research on configuration Effectiveness of Folk Culture to Create Urban Culture -- Taking Zigong Lantern and Urban Cultural Composition as an Example* (2008) by Huang Bo. In this article, the writer put forward the folk culture to build urban cultural behavior is in order to stimulate urban progress of the overall goal of existence, is geared to the needs of all kinds of cultural factors, is the embodiment of folk culture in the current era, is also a town culture inheritance and development of history, is no substitute for the contemporary development of towns. It further emphasizes the important role of culture in urban construction. *Problems and Solutions in the Branding Process of Zigong Lantern Culture* written by Gu Chun-mei (2012). The article explores the problems encountered in the process of building Zigong lantern brand and the corresponding measures to deal with them. It talks about the important role of building the city landscape with characteristic lantern culture in promoting the lantern cultural brand. *Lanterns and Zigong City Cultural Construction* by Liang Chuan and Zhou Yu (2007). The author discusses the rise of urban culture and its effect on folk traditions. Choose Zigong lanterns as the target to explore the cross-linking progress between folk characteristics and urban culture. The article holds that urban culture is the carrier of urban features and characteristics, and the overall collection of people's lives. It highlights the historical origin of the city, the construction mode of the town and the configuration of the town, and explores the positive relationship between the lantern folk custom and Zigong style and the construction of the town landscape from a deeper level. Huang Chang-ming, in *Reconstructing the Southern Light City to Improve the City Image* (2007), analyzed the realistic constraints of improving the city image of Zigong, and proposed that integrating colored lights into the urban landscape facilities of Zigong would help improve the city image of Zigong. Xin Yi-ping's "Talk about Urban Landscape Decoration and regional Culture" talks about the role of regional culture in urban landscape decoration themes, techniques, materials and other aspects, and makes relevant examples on Zigong Lantern Fair. The above literature connects Zigong's lantern art with its urban culture building, and expounds Zigong's lantern art brand building, urban landscape building and promoting urban development [7].

#### **4. The Application of Lantern Cultural Symbols in Urban Landscape**

From the perspective of direct and indirect application of symbols, the application of lantern cultural symbols in urban landscape can be summarized into two aspects, that is, the application of form and the application of cultural connotation. In terms of promoting history and culture to have spatial characteristics and architectural characteristics, figurative and abstract models are fully used in terms of morphology to ensure that it has "connotation representative characteristics". The use of cultural heritage point of view is to clearly grasp the connotation of historical and cultural signs. This kind of meaning belongs to hidden, stable feelings, spirits and thoughts, and is not a constantly changing external way.

Cultural symbols can acquire and represent the cultural characteristics of a place at a deeper level. When refining cultural symbols, we should combine the situation of the urbanization process and apply a kind of easily perceived model to let people recognize regional culture. Regional characteristics should be considered in the refining process. The cultural characteristics of different regions of the world vary greatly. At present, city types can be divided into political, economic, cultural, religious and tourist types in a broad sense. In this

way, a city is characterized using certain symbols through the characteristics of the city, and its culture is embodied in the city. In the framework process, the history, current and future of the region are covered, and the cultural progress that such cultural factors can be included and spread to the city in the future is predicted. The cultural value of a city needs to be explored and perfected, and it has a strong promotion effect on the progress of urban characteristics. How to extract the unique culture of a city? In the study of urban landscape, Pierce's three symbolic languages are used for comparative analysis and demonstration analysis, to find the most able to show the actual situation of the city and the expression of the intention of the symbol, to be refined and applied in urban landscape design.

## Acknowledgments

The Project Supported by the teaching reform research project of Sichuan University of Science and Engineering: "Research on practical teaching reform and innovation of Art Lantern Design", 2018, (No. JG1871).

## References

- [1] Hu Fei, Yang Rui. Design Symbols and Product Semantics theory, Method and Application [M]. Beijing: China Architecture and Architecture Press, 2003.
- [2] Ding Ke. Application of Semiotics Theory in Landscape Design [D]. Beijing: Beijing Forestry University, 2005.
- [3] Forman, R, T. T. L. Mosaics. The Ecology of Landscapes and Regions [M]. London: Cambridge University Press, 1995.
- [4] Li Min. Modern urban green space system planning [M]. Beijing: China Architecture and Building Press, 2002.
- [5] Yu Kongjian. Landscape: Culture, Ecology and Perception [M]. Beijing: Science Press, 2000.
- [6] Tang Maolin, Jin Qiming. The history and development trend of cultural landscape research [J]. Human Geography, 1998 (6).
- [7] Huang Bo. Crossing the Boundary between Tradition and modernity: Structural and Functional Analysis of Folk Culture construction of Urban Culture--Taking Zigong Lantern Culture and Urban Culture Construction as an Example [J]. Fujian Forum (Social Science Education Edition), 2008(4).