

Field Investigation Report of Zhouqin Town in Guizhou Province

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Abstract

This paper starts with the author's two visits to Shuidong Village, Zhouqin Town, Sandu County. Through visiting inquiries and participating in local activities, we investigate the geographical environment, language, clothing, festivals and wedding customs of Shuidong Village respectively, and compares them with the existing data. The study found that with the increase of communication channels between the people in Shuidong Village and the outside world and the promotion of poverty alleviation work by the local government, the society of Shuidong Village is also experiencing great changes. In this process, the villagers gave full play to their own wisdom, and constantly adjusted all aspects of the culture in the adaptation, which played an important role in protecting and inheriting the traditional aquarium culture.

Keywords

Sandu Aquarium; Aquarium Festival; Marriage Customs; Field Survey Report.

1. Introduction

The location of this field survey report was Shuidong Village, Zhouqin Town, Sandu County, Qiannan Prefecture, Guizhou Province. Two reasons. First, the author and the daughter of a local family were a university classmate and close to him. He was invited to attend his wedding during National Day in 2021 and was responsible for the whole shooting. Second, the author also went to Shuidong Village 5 years ago to participate in the terminal, and still retains some information. In the comparison, we can see the development and changes of Shuidong Village in recent years.

2. The Basic Situation Introduction of Shuidong Village

Shuidong Village is in Qiannan Prefecture, Guizhou Province, and is an administrative village under the jurisdiction of Zhouqin Town, Sandu County. Sandu is the only aquarium autonomous county in China. Sandu has an aquatic population of 202,400, accounting for 64.8% of the total population. The Shuidong Village in this survey are all aquarium people. Shuidong Village has beautiful scenery and pleasant climate, adjacent to Fuan Village, Banyu Village, Hengfeng Village, Xinyuan Village, Lianxin Village, Yangxin Village, Yang'an Village, Jiayu Village, Minan Village, Xinlian Village, Xinhe Village, Xinyang Village, Sanwish Village, Jiawang Village and Tingpai Village. Near Shuidong Village, there are tourist attractions such as Gusu egg cliff, Gulu Christmas Cliff, Qiannan aquarium tomb group, Shuishu Cliff, Snow Cave, there are Buyi native cloth, Zhou Qin fragrant rice, Sandu aquarium horsetail embroidery, chicken cooking porridge, Sandu Jiuqian wine and other specialties.

The stockade where my friend lives, located on a high ground in the center of Shuidong Village, climbs a long steep slope in and out of the stockade. Five years ago, it was a narrow trail, and drivers who were not very familiar with the road dared not drive here at night. Today, roads are widened and as the fields are replanned, they are relatively straight and flat. There are about 40 households and more than 300 people, all of whom were moved here by ancestors. There are mainly Liang and Wei in the village, and other surnames. For example, my friend, whose

name is surnamed Wu, is because her family moved late. There are many elderly people in the village, and most of the young people choose to go out to work, but fortunately, the young people left are basically businessmen in nearby towns, local government staff, teachers and other good occupations. The loss of young labor force has not had much impact on the development of the village.

The second visit, give me the most intuitive feeling is that all the wooden houses in the village have become concrete buildings, the past small houses are now built two-story villas, the balcony fence carved with golden dragons and golden pigeons, quite imposing. A few remains of the old houses, no one has lived in them, with white paint written "safe housing", must be the result of the relocation of poverty alleviation. Come back here five years ago, to a friend's house, her house is made of wood, very high, very wide entrance, but only with a door frame and no door. Into the home is facing a hall, here is all the family daily life entertainment place, sofa, table, fire, TV are located in the hall, many neighborhood children gather here to watch TV, the elders gather at the table to drink and chat. On each side of the hall, there are separate small rooms, and the roof of the room serves as the floor on the second floor of the hall, with beds, where I slept for guests to rest. Can be directly up from the hall, and can directly see the first floor of the hall. Now the second time to her home, has been completely changed, the former hall was separated into many small rooms, the outer wall has been replaced by concrete walls, the outside of the house also built many small rooms.

In terms of language, the propaganda language in the village, the school textbooks, and the daily written records in the villagers' homes are all Chinese characters, and the young people can speak Mandarin, and the young people prefer to use Mandarin for communication on weekdays. In children's education, parents encourage their children to develop the habit of speaking Mandarin from an early age. But that doesn't mean that people here don't speak water. My most common situation for local people is that when they communicate with the elderly, most of them don't speak Mandarin or know Chinese characters, or just know some basic Chinese characters. Recalling the first time to a friend's home, the old man of her family has been smiling at us, but also give us fruit to eat, very enthusiastic, but is not speak, later just know that the old man has language dysfunction, but can only speak water, and do not understand Mandarin. However, the language barrier does not affect the warmth between people, the host home only with a smile, a food, can make the visitors feel warm, appreciate the simplicity and kindness of the local people. Now, with the convenience of transportation, the village has become more communication with the outside world, and the children who go out to work and receive education also often use Mandarin to communicate at home, and the old people can gradually understand some. For example, when I was walking alone in the village, I met two old people. I tried to communicate with them. From their reaction, they could see that they could clearly understand what I was saying, but they just answered or used water dialect. The author had not received water dialect training, so naturally I could not understand, and the dialogue could not go on smoothly.

In terms of clothing, the villagers' daily clothes are no different from ours. Occasionally, the elderly women in the village were wrapped in cloth, wearing blue (dark or light) shirts, indigo trousers and ingot-like embroidered shoes. but during the festival, people will wear the aquarium characteristic ethnic costumes, dressed up to travel.

In terms of inscriptions, I can see only see two places in the village. One of them is engraved with the "rules of WeLiang clan", the monument is unknown, but its content should be newly established in recent years. It is roughly some expectations and requirements for family members, emphasis on family unity, and penalties for violations of family rules. Another tablet is inscribed as "The Convention on the Construction and Maintenance of Basketball Courts," inscribed with the rules for the use of basketball courts and penalties for violating these rules. A list of people who funded the basketball court is attached. No photos are made available here.

3. The End Section of Shuidong Village

Duan festival is the largest and longest traditional festival. The Aquarium Duan Festival was included by the State Council as the first batch of national intangible cultural heritage list in 2006. The end festival in Shuidong Village usually begins during the National Day period every year. Here we take the author as an example to describe the situation of the villagers. We arrived at Shuidong Village at about 10:00 the first day. As soon as we entered the host's house, we were warmly entertained by --a pot of thick broth. After a full meal, our friend took us to visit the oldest and most prestigious old man in the village. As soon as the old man entered the house, the bronze drum hanging in the middle of the old man's room was particularly conspicuous. Seeing our curiosity, the old man also played in great interest, and his voice was deep and deep, which could not help but make people respect. Talking and laughing, has already passed 12 o'clock, to say goodbye to the old man, we also went back to a friend's home to rest.

The next day at 5 o'clock in the morning, a friend's uncle woke us up, said it is ready to take us to visit the New Year. Lost downstairs, introduce the eye is the distinctive food, the table on a circle of homemade rice wine, next to some fruit, several plates of melon seeds, and several bowls of pink glutinous rice, it will be a local plant called red blue boil juice, and then steamed with glutinous rice, natural harmless, eat red glutinous rice is a symbol of good luck, peace kangtai. In the middle of the table was a dish called "fish wrapped leeks," carefully wrapped in straw and sprinkled with peppers. After treating people, the host family used scissors to cut the straw tied to the fish, and the fish belly revealed the leek inside. Everyone raised his glasses, the host said some blessing people good health, pray for the coming year good words, everyone shouted 3: " xiu...!" Drink all the wine in the cup, and then taste a fish bag leek, eat a glutinous rice. The whole process will not be very long, because, after a cup of wine, a few dishes, people will go to the next New Year, our trip is from the oldest elderly people in the village began. Almost every table is the same configuration, fish wrapped leek, glutinous rice, rice wine is standard, because the aquarium pay attention to the end of the first day of the festival do not eat meat dishes (aquarium people think fish, shrimp calculate vegetable dishes). So the difference is only whether there are melon seeds and fruit, or whether glutinous rice is dyed red and other subtle aspects. The village is filled with a strong festive atmosphere, Shuidong Village people hospitality, make me, an outsider also gradually into their pleasant atmosphere, together for this sacred day cheers. Follow the friends to visit a dozen households, drank more than a dozen cups of rice wine, tasted a lot of food, imperceptibly has arrived at noon. We were also a little drunk, so we went back to the room to rest.

In the afternoon, the grandest aquarium duan festival, the most distinctive activities began, that is the Duanpo horse racing. At that time, thousands of aquarium villagers will gather at Duanpo to watch the grand event. It is reported that the Duan Festival horse race has a long history, before the reform and opening up of the aquarium Duan Festival horse race is basically follow the ancient aquarium customs. Due to the economic and social influence of that time, horse racing also experienced some twists and turns. Aquarium compatriots agreed that the end of the festival custom is the rules set by the ancestors, if do not follow the customs for, great disrespect. Therefore, the aquarium festival into "underground" in batches, the festival horse racing activities are still lively. The concealment of the aquarium festivals and horse racing continued until 1980. On August 27 of the same year, the People's Government of Sandu County announced the decision to cancel the unified crossing of the aquarium, restoring the traditional custom which had been interrupted for nearly 16 years. The aquarium festival and horse race returned to the historical track, and this traditional custom has been preserved today. In 2013, Sandu Shui Autonomous County was awarded the honorary title of "Hometown of Horse Racing in China" by the Chinese Ethnic Minority Sports Association. The scale of horse racing is constantly expanding and the racing level is constantly improving. The 2014 Guizhou (Sandu)

National Horse racing Invitational competition is the most grand, with more than 40,000 spectators, becoming an important event of national horse racing in China.

With the development of social and economy, the waves of globalization, modernization and "pan-festival" are constantly impacting the traditional Chinese national festivals, and the aquatic Duanfestival and Duanpo horse race are also experiencing fierce changes. Relying on their own wisdom, the aquarium people retain the excellent traditional culture left over by their ancestors, and constantly adjust their forms, so as to adapt to the development of the society. For example, the Duanpo horse race, attached to the national sports festival, not only retains the traditional horse racing customs, but also promotes it to the whole country, greatly improving its influence. End festival and end festival horse racing activities are the modern inheritance in the process of continuous adaptation.

4. Take a Wife or Marry a Man

As mentioned above, my second visit to Shuidong Village was mainly to attend a friend's wedding. I arrived the day before the wedding ceremony and participated in the wedding ceremony. The marriage conclusion procedure in Shuidong Village can be roughly divided into three steps: marriage, engagement and marriage.

Said relatives, like the Han nationality, Shuidong Village said relatives also has a matchmaker as the intermediary between their parents. For example, the parties to this marriage are in college years, similar age, have maintained a love relationship for a long time, both parents have already known. But for a formal marriage, the man's parents must seek a matchmaker (usually the woman's relatives) to the woman's family for wine. If the woman's family agrees, the matchmaker will bring the gift money, jewelry, clothes, bedding and other items prepared by the man's family next visit. The woman agreed and accepted the gift, prepared a banquet for the matchmaker, had to drink each other to drink wine. That's not a close success. After that, the relatives of the woman's family usually take turns to entertain the matchmaker, who needs to attend in turn. If refused, it will be regarded as rude and affect the smooth progress of the marriage.

Marriage, said close success, Shuidong village people will ask Mr. Yin and Yang according to the bride and groom birth day to calculate the wedding day, the man's home in a period of time before marriage and another auspicious day, to the woman's home to send rich betrothal gifts. The betrothal gift generally includes betrothal money (the amount varies according to the economic situation, but generally not an integer, ending with "888"), collars, jewelry, clothing, bedding, pork, brown sugar, etc. The bride price should be fully paid off just before the marriage date. When the man sends all the betrothal gifts to the woman's home, the woman's home also holds a banquet. At this time, the matchmaker of both the men and women must be present. If they are satisfied with the betrothal price of the man's home, the matchmaker will drink all the mouth of the wine on the table. At the end of the banquet, the woman's family will also return some glutinous rice, cloth, cash or some daily necessities as a dowry, and the amount must be in pairs. On the day of the engagement, the woman's family will place all the bride price in the house for relatives and friends to watch. The cash will be placed in a large red box with a brush on the amount of money the family to support the marriage. In this way, the engagement ceremony is concluded.

On the wedding day, the female elders of the new family began to help the bride dress up, others also do their own duties, some cooking, some help to decorate the wedding room, the steps are covered with the red carpet, the handrail is covered with colorful balloons, forming a jubilant scene. On this special day, the visiting female relatives have changed into aquarium ethnic costumes, and in the different usual blue jackets, the colors are richer, including purple, black, pink or two colors. However, although the color is different, but the style is the same: the clothes

are all cloth, wearing a round collar calendar with wide sleeves, with open seams on both sides. Shoulder, tail, cuff lines have white lace, lace style is a little different, some like a chain, The trousers are all indigo trousers with legs of white lace matching the top. Wear ingot or sharp hook embroidered shoes. Most middle-aged and elderly women will tangle, while young girls are almost not tangle. The bridesmaids were more conspicuous: no cloth on their heads, and the upper body was also slit with wide sleeves of a round collar calendar, in apricot, sky blue and white. The lace is thick and fine, different from the small lace of ordinary clothes, the lace on the shoulders, cuffs, tail, trousers will fill all the edges, and the pattern is more complex, showing golden or colorful flowers. There are two ways to wear the lower body, one is the traditional trousers, the color and clothes are consistent. The other is over-knee long skirt, color is different, tone and lace tone are close, skirt body has no special adornment, the transition between skirt is natural, give a person a kind of harmonious feeling. According to the data, the aquarium do not like colorful clothes, taboo in the use of red and yellow such hot colors, and like blue, white, green, three cold colors. They think that light, simple and elegant color, is beautiful. In fact, this visit completely broke my inherent concept of aquarium clothing, they also like pink, gold, yellow... This shows that the aquarium for clothing aesthetic is not unchanged, it is also changing with the development of The Times. This suggests us that the study of ethnic minorities should not only rely on the records of existing data. It is very important to actually go to the field to obtain their own first-hand materials. The development of things is movement, and only by respecting the objective reality can we make our research more valuable.

5. Peroration

This field survey made me deeply feel the simple folk customs and hospitable character of the Sandu Shui people, and their folk culture has a very strong national characteristic. Sandu people use their own wisdom to fully develop and use this cultural resource, which not only promotes the reputation of the whole festival, drives the development of the local tourism industry, but also plays an important role in protecting and inheriting the traditional aquarium culture. In addition, through the two visits to Shuidong Village, I have witnessed the great changes in Shuidong Village, which is undoubtedly the result of the hard work day and night of the people in Shuidong Village, but it also cannot be separated from the country's strong help to Shuidong Village. It is because countless poverty alleviation cadres struggle day and night on the frontline of poverty alleviation that the people of Shuidong Village can quickly get out of poverty and create their own happiness with their hands.

References

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