Study on the Status Quo of Cultural Regeneration of Chongqing Bayu Culture in the Square Landscape

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Abstract: At present, with the acceleration of urbanization and the strong embedding of foreign cultures, traditional urban culture faces serious threats and disintegration. Cultural faults have become a common problem in Chinese cities. As one of the four centrally administered municipalities in China, Chongqing has a history of two thousand years. In recent years, with the development of modernization, Chongqing’s original unique regional urban characteristics are gradually disappearing. This paper selects the most representative urban landscape of Chongqing as the research object. The purpose of this paper is to find out the phenomenon of cultural regeneration of Chongqing Bayu culture in modern landscape design, and to find out the method of cultural regeneration of traditional Bayu culture in modern landscape. In order to achieve this goal, this paper uses the research method of case investigation. First, select the landscape of the Three Gorges Square, which best represents the image of Chongqing city, for investigation. Then through the on-the-spot investigation, shooting records, conversation records and other forms, the investigation found out the phenomenon of the regeneration of Chongqing Bayu culture in the square landscape, and finally, by analyzing the phenomena appearing in the landscape of these Bayu cultures, the traditional methods of cultural regeneration in the modern landscape can be analyzed.

Keywords: Bayu culture, Square, Landscape, Cultural regeneration

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1 Research background

1.1 Summary of the Bayu culture
Bayu culture is the historical and cultural form of the new Chongqing and the root of Chongqing culture. It originated from the history of Pakistani culture, with the mountain environment and the regional characteristics of the Three Gorges water system. It is represented in the Ba people’s ruins, the Bayu cultural relics and remains, the Bayu literature and other carriers. The broad sense of Bayu culture refers to the entire achievements of human social activities that existed in the Bayu region in history, including all material and non-material achievements created by human beings. The narrow sense of Bayu culture refers to the spiritual products created by humans in the Bayu region. And the spiritual factors exhibited by material products are the spiritual culture that people often say. In simple, the Bayu culture is the culture of the Bayu region³.

1.2 The concept of city square
City square is the urban space that has the characteristics of exterior space which is enclosed by various types of buildings². As early as the 8th century BC, there was a square in ancient Greece, called Agora, which means “concentration”, representing the concentration of people and the place where people are concentrated³. The book “City Square Design” explains: “The city square is built to meet diverse needs of urban society. It is based on the integration of buildings, roads, landscapes, and terrain, consisting of various soft and
hard landscapes by means of pedestrian transport. It’s a Nodes-type urban outdoor public activity space with certain themes and scale. Among them, urban social life includes political, cultural, commercial and other activities. The themes refer to the expression of multiple purposes such as urban style, culture and the urban landscape environment. Nodes-type refers to the core spatial form in the urban space.\(^{(c)}\)

According to Kevin Lynch in “Urban Imagery,” “City Square is the expansion of nodes or nodes in the urban spatial form. It prominently represents the characteristics of the city. Its main feature is the ground pavement, the perimeter and space which defined by the buildings or streets. It should also have features such as providing venues for parties and attracting large numbers of people\(^{(d)}\).”

Different scholars have different definitions of city squares, but they also have similarities. They all pay attention to the public attributes of the square. That is, the city square must be a public open space, and it is a place with basic functions that can carry out various activities such as entertainment, assembly, and leisure. The city square also has an important function that is to reflect the charm of the city, to show the characteristics of the city’s regional culture, and the city square is a symbol of urban civilization, an identity, and a symbol\(^{(e)}\).

### 1.3 Cultural regeneration

Culture can only inherit and carry forward the cultural spirit in contemporary landscape design if we find a regeneration model that meets the functional needs in modern people’s lives. Therefore, according to this requirement, the paper introduces the term “regeneration”.

“Regeneration” is the biological process of regenerating a certain organ of an organism after it has been damaged\(^{(f)}\).

This process is in line with the change in the function of regional culture to adapt to modern social life. This kind of regeneration is not a complete denial of the original form, but by introducing a new culture that can adapt to modern functions; the original regional cultural prototype is recombined with new cultural elements to obtain “regeneration.” Cultural regeneration is not a formal renewal on the level of cultural archetypes, but a complex process of re-shaping the new vitality of the contemporary spirit by absorbing the essence, removing its dross from the original cultural prototype.

### 2 An overview of cultural regeneration in the Three Gorges Square

#### 2.1 Project overview

1997 was an extremely glorious year for Chongqing. In this year, the National People’s Congress of China approved Chongqing to become a municipality directly under the Central Government. At the same time, China’s largest project, the Three Gorges Project, achieved successful closure of the Yangtze River. Chongqing faces the opportunity of great development and urgently needs to integrate resources to promote economic development and social progress. In this context, in 1997, Chongqing Shapingba District Committee and District Government tightened the opportunity, judged the situation, responded to the people’s minds, exerted their advantages, and made the decision to build the Three Gorges Square. The Shapingba District Construction Committee of Chongqing Municipality has implemented a large-scale urban plaza integrating trade, culture, landscape and leisure\(^{(g)}\).

#### 2.2 Object research and analysis

The Three Gorges Square is located in the downtown area of Shapingba District, Chongqing. The plane shape is irregular cross, divided into four parts: Green Art Park, Commercial Culture Street, Celebrity Sculpture Park and Three Gorges Landscape Park. The total land area is 80,000 square meters. The green area reached 50%, it is the 56th square in Chongqing and the largest square in western China. Among the 56 squares in Chongqing and the other provinces and cities in western China, the Three Gorges Square is the most distinctive and culturally attractive square\(^{(h)}\).

The Three Gorges Square is divided into three parts, the Three Gorges Landscape Park, the Celebrity Sculpture Garden and the Green Art Park.

#### 2.2.1 Three Gorges Landscape Park

The Three Gorges Landscape Park is divided into two parts, the Three Gorges Art Monument and the Three Gorges Square Water Landscape.

#### 2.2.1.1 Three Gorges Art Monument

The Three Gorges Art Monument is the landmark of the Three Gorges Square. Located in the center of the Three Gorges Square, it consists of the Three Gorges Dam, a large river intercepting stone tetrahedron, 19 meters
high, straight and piercing the sky. The Water Curtain Film is one of the most distinctive landscapes of the Three Gorges Landscape Park. It is 25 meters wide and 18 meters high. It is the largest water curtain film in the west and attracts thousands of people to watch every night.

### 2.2.2 Celebrity sculpture garden

15 cultural celebrity sculptures such as Guo Moruo, Ba Jin, Feng Zikai and Bing Xin, who lived in Shapingba, Chongqing, are located in the green grass. Their deep eyes, through a long history of time and space, quietly watched the changes of the times. When you walk in the square in your spare time, walk along the 100th memorabilia of the 20th century engraved on the ground and relive the history of the Chinese revolution, people will see the great change of a hundred years of vicissitudes, and truly feel the reform and opening up. The tree array consisting of 66 golden laurels, silver laurels and 6 coveted urns is the soul of the green life of the square.

#### 2.2.3 Green art garden

The Green Art Park is adjacent to the Celebrity Sculpture Garden, where there are cherry blossoms in spring, yellow flowers in summer, bouquetville in autumn, and plums in winter. All year round, the evergreen trees and the fragrant flowers are refreshing. At the same time, the Green Art Park is a window for the dissemination of commercial information in the Shapingba District of Chongqing. Every weekend and major festivals, the green Square is a literally a sea of humanity, and various public welfare activities and commercial advertisements are carried out here.

### 3 Analysis on the characteristics of cultural regeneration of the cultural elements in the Three Gorges Square

Located in Geleshan, Shapingba District, Chongqing, the Three Gorges Square is the city center, cultural center and commercial center of old Chongqing. The Three Gorges Square is geographically adjacent to the Shapingba Railway Station in Chongqing, and is the largest place for commercial traffic. The cultural regeneration of the Three Gorges Square in the landscape of the Bayu culture is very representative. Therefore, in the choice of the target area for cultural regeneration, the author chose the Three Gorges Square as one of the research targets. In terms of the type of cultural regeneration, the author of the cultural re-type of the Three Gorges Square summarized him as a type of commercial and crowd-directed cultural regeneration.

In the study of the cultural regeneration characteristics of the Bayu cultural elements in the landscape of the Three Gorges Square, the author uses the research
method of treasure-seeking cultural regeneration, mainly from three aspects: (1) Classification analysis of the cultural elements of the Bayu culture in the landscape culture regeneration of the Three Gorges Square (2) Quantitative analysis of the cultural elements of the Three Gorges Square landscape culture regeneration; (3) Analysis of the cultural regeneration status of the Bayu cultural elements in the Three Gorges Square landscape.

3.1 Classification and analysis of the cultural elements in the reconstruction of the landscape culture of the three gorges square

3.1.1 Classification and analysis of the cultural elements of the Chinese and Pakistani cultures in the landscape culture of the Three Gorges Square

According to the site visit, the Bayu culture was divided into three types.

(1) Public facility type

(2) Public sculpture type

In the analysis of the cultural regeneration characteristics of the Bayu cultural elements in the landscape of the Three Gorges Square, the three main components of the cultural regeneration of the Bayu culture in the cultural landscape of the Ba Culture Park were analyzed. The three main components are public facility types, public sculpture types, and public sign types. When analyzing these three types, the author starts from the three aspects of landscape characteristics, Bayu culture characteristics and cultural regeneration characteristics, and seeks the treasures of Bayu culture in these three types.

3.1.2 Public facility type

After analyzing the Bayu Cultural Park, it was found that in terms of the types of public facilities, landscape bridges, landscape lights and sidewalks were used to express the Bayu culture. In the characteristics of the Bayu culture, traditional patterns were used, and the traditional architectural styles were refined and reorganized. In the characteristics of cultural regeneration, the direct representation and abstraction are used to culturally reproduce the Bayu culture on public facilities.

3.1.3 Public sculpture type

The Three Gorges Square is the largest traffic area for business people in downtown Chongqing. The reconstruction of Bayu culture and culture on the landscape of the Three Gorges Square is more about the geography and culture of the entire Chongqing area.
and the culture of the Three Gorges Dam area. In the characteristics of the landscape, it is mainly divided into landscape sculpture, rockery, waterscape, Yangtze River, relief, bronze bell and the Three Gorges art monument. In the characteristics of the Bayu culture, it describes with the use of topography, hydrology, traditional patterns, folk culture, Bayu Totem, Ba Shu characters, folk history stories. In terms of cultural regeneration characteristics, the Bayu culture is culturally regenerated directly on relief or sculpture.

3.1.4 Type of public signs

In terms of the types of public signs, the culture of the Three Gorges Square has less cultural regeneration on the public signs. It mainly presents historical culture and traditional architectural decoration styles on public signs by means of direct presentation and abstract refinement.

3.2 Quantitative analysis of the cultural elements of the Bayu culture in the landscape of Ba Culture Park

A quantitative analysis of the cultural elements of the Three Gorges Square landscape culture regeneration found that the most common type of public facilities is the abstract shape of public facilities landscape lights, mainly due to the geographical location and actual functions of the Three Gorges Square. Located in the center of Chongqing, the Three Gorges Square generally use highly detailed and concise landscape lights when exhibiting the Bayu culture. In the public sculpture type, the most frequently occurring non-abstract public sculptures appeared 24 times, and the reliefs appeared 18 times. These public sculptures tell the long-term knowledge of geography and culture and the history and culture of the Bayu.

3.3 Analysis of the regeneration status of the cultural elements in the Three Gorges Square landscape

(1) The Bayu culture in the landscape of the Three Gorges Square is regenerated, and the topography of the Bayu culture is regenerated through abstract public sketches and rockeries. The karst landforms and hot springs were not regenerated in the landscape of the Three Gorges Square. The elements of the river were regenerated through the waterscape of the square, and the plant elements were regenerated through the plant configuration of the Three Gorges Square, and the animal elements were regenerated through the appearance of the sculpture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural category</th>
<th>Shape classification</th>
<th>Whether X has been regeneration</th>
<th>Manifestations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topography</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Abstract public sketch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castel landform</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Water feature</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spa</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal and plants</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Park plant configuration, sculpture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruins</td>
<td>Daxi Cultural Relics</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dongliang Cultural Relics</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone carving art</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious architecture</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ancestral hall building</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folk house</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Folk Music</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>National dance</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethnic dance</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Painting</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calligraphy</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folk history story</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional pattern</td>
<td>Bayu Totem</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Emboss + Shaped object</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayu traditional pattern</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Emboss + Shaped object</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Social Humanities</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Emboss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Historical figure</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Emboss</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Celebrity</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Emboss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folk Culture</td>
<td>Food Culture</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Emboss +sculpture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clothing culture</td>
<td>O</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Festival culture</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(o stands for regeneration, X stands for non-regeneration)

(2) In the ancient ruins, the elements of the Daxi cultural relics and the elements of the Dongliang culture were not regenerated in the Three Gorges Square, and the stone carving art of the Bayu culture was regenerated by reliefs and sculptures. In the ancient
architectural elements of the Bayu culture, religious buildings and ancestral buildings were not regenerated, and residential buildings were regenerated by reliefs.

(3) In the art, folk music, folk drama, folk dance, and painting were not regenerated in the landscape of the Three Gorges Square. In the landscape of the Three Gorges Square, many reliefs have been regenerated on the folk history. In calligraphy, calligraphy is not used in the landscape of the Three Gorges Square. In terms of traditional pattern elements, the Bayu Totem and the traditional patterns of the Bayu have been regenerated on reliefs and shapes. The characters, historical figures, and celebrities in the historical and human elements have all been reborn through relief. In terms of folk culture elements, the food culture and festival culture did not reappear in the landscape of the Three Gorges Square. The costumes worn by the people in all the reliefs and sculptures of the Ba Culture Park reflect the costumes of the time and the regeneration of the costume culture by the reliefs and sculptures.

4 Summary

Through the analysis of the cultural regeneration of the Chinese-Palestinian culture in the Three Gorges Square landscape in Chongqing, we can see the current situation, principles and manifestations of the Bayu culture in the landscape design of the Three Gorges Square. The classification of the Bayu culture in the space of the Three Gorges Square, the quantification frequency, and the elements derived from the cultural regeneration status are the most representative elements of the Bayu culture. They are all important factors in the cultural regeneration of the Bayu cultural landscape in Chongqing and they are the treasure elements of cultural regeneration.

When analyzing the cultural relics of the Three Gorges Square, it was found that a large number of sculptures and reliefs explaining the story of the Bayu culture were used in the exhibition of the Bayu culture. These treasure elements and narrative methods of storytelling are very necessary to explore the spirit of Chongqing, establish the landscape characteristics of Chongqing, and seek new strategies and regeneration modes of square landscape regeneration with the characteristics of Chongqing Bayu culture.

Through the analysis of the results, cultural regeneration can be used in the design of the square in the future. In the regeneration of the Bayu culture, it is necessary to systematically introduce the treasure-seeking cultural regeneration design method and the story-telling cultural regeneration method, and establish the theoretical system of the Chongqing Square landscape Bayu culture regeneration design. It provides some feasible guidance for the future design of the Bayu culture in Chongqing Square. Therefore, it is possible to create a culturally-reproduced work that is compatible with national culture and regional culture, blends with the surrounding environment, and is full of cultural connotations.

References