

Connotation and Value of Study Travel Education in the Temple of Heaven from the Perspective of Ritual and Music Civilization

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Abstract: From the perspective of ritual and music civilization, various study travel activities are currently being organized in different stages of teaching, leading students to experience traditional ritual and music culture in various places and fostering a strong cultural foundation in education. This article mainly analyzes the connotation of ritual and music civilization in the study travel teaching of the Temple of Heaven, clarifies the value of study travel education in the Temple of Heaven, explores the inheritance of traditional culture and students' personal development, and finally proposes practical strategies for study travel education to improve its effectiveness.

Keywords: Ritual and music civilization; Study travel education in the Temple of Heaven; Connotation; Value; Practical strategies

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1. Introduction

Ritual and music civilization is an important component of traditional Chinese culture. However, under the impact of modern civilization, many elements of ritual and music civilization have gradually faded, and modern youth have a limited or even complete lack of understanding of it, leading to the risk of traditional culture being lost^[1]. Therefore, in recent years, education has begun to focus more on ritual and music civilization, providing students with opportunities to encounter and understand it through daily teaching and study travel activities. The Temple of Heaven is an important carrier of ritual and music civilization in China, and a significant way for students to understand it. Therefore, it is necessary to fully utilize the opportunities of study travel in the Temple of Heaven to promote the inheritance of ritual and music civilization and enhance students' personal development.

2. Connotations of ritual and music civilization

Ritual and music civilization originally emerged in the sacrificial rituals and life norms of Chinese civilization. With the passage of time and changes in society, ritual and music gradually evolved into a civilized system ^[2]. In primitive society, people expressed their gratitude for nature's bounty and awe through sacrificial singing and dancing activities, which formed the foundation of ritual and music culture. As society changed, ritual and music civilization further developed during the Xia and Shang dynasties, incorporating politics, social norms, various etiquette, and daily life regulations into two systems: "ritual" mainly served to regulate behavior, while "music" was a system of emotional expression. Later, ritual and music became important bases for national governance and social norms. During the Spring and Autumn and Warring States periods, Confucianism became the dominant social ideology, and ritual and music civilization became the core value guiding society, exerting a significant influence on Chinese civilization ^[3]. In ritual and music civilization, "ritual" regulates citizens' behavior and can be applied to various social fields as a behavioral norm for social interaction and personal conduct, helping to maintain good social order and promoting civilized social development. "Music," on the other hand, achieves the effect of cultivating sentiment through emotional expression. The combined development of ritual and music forms a dual norm from both internal and external aspects, enabling individuals not only to exercise self-control in their behavior but also to cultivate good moral character internally.

3. Values of study and educational tours in the Temple of Heaven from the perspective of ritual and musical civilization

Study and educational tours in the Temple of Heaven from the perspective of ritual and musical civilization enable students to have close encounters with the architecture of the Temple of Heaven, understand China's traditional sacrificial culture, appreciate the architectural aesthetics of the Temple of Heaven, and experience the charm of China as a land of etiquette and the profound sense of history. These tours play an important role in cultivating students' cultural confidence, building moral literacy, enhancing aesthetic abilities, and recognizing historical development ^[4].

3.1. Inheriting traditional culture

The Temple of Heaven, completed in the 18th year of Yongle's reign in the Ming Dynasty and adopting a double-walled architectural structure, has a history of more than 600 years. It was a royal building for worshipping the heavens during the Ming and Qing dynasties, carrying rich ritual and musical civilization. Firstly, from the analysis of the architectural structure of the Temple of Heaven, the structure, decoration, and sacrificial etiquette all embody ritual and musical civilization. During the study tour, students can visit the buildings and observe the sacrificial ceremony process, which is conducive to understanding the significance of ancient ritual and musical civilization. For example, the Circular Mound Altar of the Temple of Heaven adopts a three-tiered circular design based on the Ming Dynasty people's belief in the "round sky and square earth" ^[5]. The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests, as the core building of the Temple of Heaven and an important site for sacrificial ceremonies, highlights ancient prayers for good weather in its architectural decoration. Students can more intuitively experience the charm of culture during the study tour, which is beneficial for their understanding of ritual and musical civilization and promotes the inheritance of traditional culture.

3.2. Strengthening moral training

Ritual and musical civilization includes content on human behavior and moral norms, which are reflected in

the sacrificial etiquette and decorative patterns of the Temple of Heaven's architecture. Through the study tour, students can observe various etiquette systems of the sacrificial ceremony from a close distance. These systems are not only ritual actions and processes but also encompass respect, integrity, and awe for nature. All participants in the ceremony need to fast, bathe, and change clothes beforehand to ensure the solemnity of the etiquette. Observing these rituals can help students establish correct moral concepts, learn to obey rules and respect others, and enhance their moral cultivation.

3.3. Enhancing aesthetic value

The environment, buildings, and various decorations of the Temple of Heaven are embodiments of traditional Chinese cultural and artistic aesthetics. As a royal sacrificial site, the technical crafts and decorative crafts applied there represent the highest specifications in traditional cultural aesthetics. Although there are certain differences between these aesthetic elements and contemporary aesthetics, they still possess strong aesthetic value ^[6]. The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests adopts a circular pointed roof structure, and the entire building is decorated with various colored paintings. In the landscaping of the entire garden, careful consideration is given to the seasonal changes and needs of the scenery, resulting in an exquisite layout. By admiring these buildings and landscapes during the study tour, students can appreciate the exquisite craftsmanship of traditional Chinese architecture, which plays an important role in cultivating their aesthetic abilities and artistic accomplishments.

3.4. Improving historical cognition

The Temple of Heaven, built in the Ming Dynasty and having witnessed more than 600 years of historical vicissitudes, reflects the changes in different eras of political, economic, and cultural development. During the study tour, students can learn about the historical changes of the Temple of Heaven, form a more intuitive perception of history, and develop an interest in exploring history ^[7].

4. Practical strategies for study and educational tours at the Temple of Heaven from the perspective of ritual and music civilization

4.1. Creating a theme of ritual and music civilization to optimize the study and educational tour model at the Temple of Heaven

Under the development of ritual and music civilization, study and educational tour work at the Temple of Heaven should focus on the theme of ritual and music civilization, optimizing the research model. Firstly, a curriculum system on "Exploring the Mysteries of the Temple of Heaven" can be developed. Teachers can design story-based and experiential exploration tales for students ahead of the study tour. The architectural structures of the Temple of Heaven can be personified, with each building containing a story about ritual and music. Students can learn about the norms and procedures of sacrificial rituals through advanced research and on-site teacher explanations ^[8]. At the same time, using knowledge of scale, students can measure the buildings of the Temple of Heaven and analyze the concept of ritual and music culture presented there from a mathematical perspective, such as the embodiment of the nine heavens culture. During the tour, students can record and photograph the actual scenes of the Temple of Heaven, and then create short videos under the guidance of teachers and parents to promote the ritual and music civilization of the Temple of Heaven, cultivating students' sense of responsibility for cultural dissemination. Secondly, after the study tour activities, a diversified evaluation system can be constructed based on the students' performance during the tour, their absorption of knowledge, and the completion of assignments. Evaluation can enhance students' focus during the

study tour and promote the transformation of learned knowledge into their own reserves and guiding thinking. On the other hand, it can test the results of the study tour, laying a foundation for future improvements and optimizing the study and educational tour model at the Temple of Heaven.

4.2. Constructing immersive teaching scenes to enhance students' learning experience

During the study tour at the Temple of Heaven, students may be unable to watch the entire process of the Heaven Worship Ceremony due to time and crowd restrictions, affecting their perception and understanding of ritual and music civilization. To address this, students can be led to participate in holographic imaging activities. Holographic images can be used to recreate scenes of the emperor worshipping the heavens, allowing students to fully participate using VR glasses and experience the royal demeanor and the ritual and music atmosphere created by the sacrificial team. This viewing method effectively compensates for the limitations of on-site viewing, is not restricted by space, and provides a more comprehensive and three-dimensional experience for students, facilitating their connection with the Heaven Worship Ceremony at the Temple of Heaven. Moreover, the time for study travel is limited, and most visits are conducted during the daytime. However, the Temple of Heaven at night actually has a unique charm. Students can also utilize information technology to experience the grandeur of the Temple of Heaven at night. Through the interaction of architecture and lighting, as well as the combination of folk music and etiquette, the etiquette civilization in the Temple of Heaven can be further reproduced, deepening students' understanding of etiquette civilization. After the tour, teachers can assign a project for students to design their own cultural and creative products based on their perceptions of the Temple of Heaven's architecture, ritual and music culture, decorations, and celebration procedures. Students can design stationery, magnets, clothing decorations, and more through drawing. Students with average drawing skills can adopt group collaboration, using software to complete digital cultural and creative product creation through collective wisdom. Furthermore, a training program for explainers of the ritual and music culture at the Temple of Heaven can be launched. Students can combine information obtained through their own visits and additional research to provide explanations to teachers and students who have not participated in the study tour through community training and the use of image resources. Alternatively, students can be encouraged to participate in volunteer explanation activities at the Temple of Heaven, promoting their learning, expression, and dissemination of the ritual and music culture there.

4.3. Constructing a collaborative education model to achieve multi-party resource integration

During the study activities at the Temple of Heaven, in order to promote students' better understanding of ritual and music culture, attempts can be made to collaborate with the management unit of the Temple of Heaven to construct a dual-teacher classroom for students. Currently, there are many records about the Temple of Heaven and ritual and music culture on the internet and in various materials, but there is still a certain gap compared to scholars who study the management of the Temple of Heaven and ritual and music culture. To ensure the comprehensiveness of learning about ritual and music civilization during the study, a combination of teaching instructors and guides can be used to provide students with more exciting study courses. Besides collaborating with the management unit of the Temple of Heaven, extensions can also be made from the ritual and music culture of the Temple of Heaven. Thematic activities on ritual and music civilization can be formed by combining the ritual and music cultural content of cultural museums such as the Forbidden City. Through visits to various exhibits and cultural relics, the effect of linking ritual and music civilization can be achieved. In

addition, students can be led to participate in the experience of colored drawing, wood carving, and mortise and tenon craft activities, divided into groups to make models of the Temple of Heaven, experience the production process of the Temple of Heaven, and have close contact with ritual and music culture. To deepen the study process at the Temple of Heaven, teachers can use the study APP to show students the full picture of the Temple of Heaven and the various ritual and music cultural content involved once again after the study. Then, the study content can be divided into different modules, including sacrificial activities, architectural art, and ritual and music culture. Students can communicate with each other about each module and share their experiences and insights.

4.4. Strengthening teacher training and improving teaching ability for study

In the traditional study of ritual and music civilization at the Temple of Heaven, teachers need to have rich knowledge of ritual and music civilization and a deep understanding of the architectural structure, culture, and environment of the Temple of Heaven to better explain it to students and enhance their understanding of culture. Therefore, to ensure the smooth development of the study, it is necessary to strengthen the construction of the teacher team. Firstly, before the study begins, historians, ritual and music culture experts, and architectural experts can be invited to provide training for teachers, which can be conducted in both online and offline formats depending on specific resource conditions ^[9]. Enrich teachers' knowledge of history and ritual and music civilization so that they can flexibly explain it to students in combination with the construction and sacrificial procedures of the Temple of Heaven during the study. At the same time, teachers should actively participate in relevant academic research activities and conduct field visits ahead of time to effectively combine ritual and music civilization with the structure and layout of the Temple of Heaven, avoiding omissions in subsequent studies. Active communication can also be established with teachers who have completed their studies to enrich the experience of subject research and development. Teachers also need to keep a study log during the teaching and research process, recording the study process and students' performance, and clarifying the highlights and shortcomings of the study to lay a foundation for subsequent teaching and research activities. To stimulate teachers' research enthusiasm, competition activities such as on-site teaching and curriculum design can be organized to enhance teachers' comprehensive skills. Corresponding rewards can also be set for teachers who perform well in the competition.

4.5. Emphasizing the transformation of research learning outcomes and expanding the influence of ritual and music culture

After conducting research and learning at the Temple of Heaven, students gain a deep understanding of its ritual and music culture. Through various activities, they are able to deepen their impression and produce numerous works and achievements. These achievements encompass students' harvest from research learning, their cognition of ritual and music culture, and their insights from visiting the Temple of Heaven. To expand the influence of ritual and music civilization and deepen students' perception, teachers can organize activities to transform research learning outcomes after the completion of research learning. These activities can include exhibiting students' cultural and creative works, paintings, and architectural models themed around the ritual and music culture of the Temple of Heaven. By inviting parents and other students to visit and experience these research learning outcomes, the influence of ritual and music culture can be strengthened, and the role and value of research learning activities can be extended ^[10]. Furthermore, students' completed research works can also be taken off campus and applied to more cultural venues, providing reference for the dissemination and protection

of the ritual and music culture of the Temple of Heaven. For instance, collaborations can be established with cultural propaganda departments or media outlets to provide materials for the dissemination of ritual and music culture. This encourages students to apply their research findings and ideas to social practices, attracting more people to pay attention to ritual and music culture and promoting its inheritance and development.

5. Conclusion

In summary, study travel education at the Temple of Heaven, viewed through the lens of ritual and music civilization, needs to explore the content of ritual and music civilization by combining various aspects such as history, culture, sacrificial ceremonies, and architectural decoration in the Temple of Heaven. Through explanations, immersive experiences, and the creation of immersive scenes, students are led to have close contact with ritual and music culture and experience the grandeur it brings. This enhances students' comprehensive abilities such as cultural perception, moral accomplishment, aesthetic judgment, and historical understanding, ensuring the effectiveness of study travel teaching. After the study travel activities are completed, teachers also need to sort out the process, summarize the achievements made during the study, provide secondary inspiration to students, and expand the effectiveness of the study. Additionally, teachers should guide students to transform research results, providing more people with opportunities and ways to understand ritual and music culture and the Temple of Heaven, contributing to the inheritance of ritual and music culture, and forming a long-tail effect of study travel education.

Disclosure statement

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