

# The Application of Miao Costume Totem Pattern in Composition Design Teaching

Yong Yang<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Hunan City University, Yiyang Hunan, 413000, China;

<sup>2</sup>Graduate School of Sehan University, 343-186, SouthKorea

**Abstract:** As an important part of Miao costumes, totem patterns of Miao costumes record and witness the inheritance and development of Miao's history. Therefore, this paper puts forward the research on the application of totem patterns of Miao costumes in the teaching of composition design. Based on the connotation of totem pattern education of Miao costumes, this paper describes and studies the development process of Miao costumes, It shows that the composition design of Miao costume totem pattern plays an important role in teaching, and can help students establish correct life values.

**Keywords:** Miao costumes, Totem patterns, Ethnic minorities, Teaching design

## 1. Introduction

Miao nationality is a special nationality in Chinese history. It is an early mature but suffering nation. Its unique cultural landscape, customs and habits, myths and legends, religious beliefs and so on make it a unique cultural landscape of Miao people. Writing is a kind of symbol for recording and expressing. One kind of missing will be replaced by another advantage. The Miao people who do not have words use Miao costumes to replace the function of characters to some extent. They engrave their own long history, culture, religion, art and so on on various women's clothing with their own unique symbol form and women's wisdom and dexterous hands, Children and grandchildren inherit the history and culture left by their ancestors through clothing [1-3]. It can be said that clothing should be the most abundant, original, rich connotation, the most able to reproduce the Miao history, culture, religion, art, emotion and aesthetic, values, world outlook of the tangible carrier. The unique charm of Miao costumes, can explain the unique feelings of Miao people, let us explore the remote information, can let us read far more vivid and vivid stories.

Miao costumes are known as the "living fossil on the body", the "living specimen" and "Living Classics" of characters. It is the display of Miao people's cultural soul and the epitome of history. It shows great bearing capacity in recording the origin of Miao people's life, national migration and historical memory. Miao people give profound meaning to the origin, style, complicated headwear and various accessories of their own clothing, and repose their beautiful ideal and pursuit [4, 5].

In order to make Miao people feel that the totem is the real existence, they projected the original image and emotion to the specific object, so that the totem can be perceived to a certain extent, and clothing has become

the best carrier. Totem is the theme of the ancient people's clothing. Whether in color, style, pattern or pattern, the remains of totem worship are preserved in varying degrees. The rich and colorful totem patterns are applied to the cuffs, lapels, back shoulders, trouser legs, skirt waist, headscarf, quilt skirt and children's hat by means of embroidery and silver ornaments, So as to achieve the purpose of prosperous population and favorable weather. At the same time, the totem patterns of Miao costumes also have obvious tribal emblem attributes. Some branches of Miao nationality have been dispersed in different regions due to migration or expansion of branches, but they still maintain the original basic characteristics of their clothing styles and totem patterns.

## 2. The Cultural Connotation of Miao Costume Pattern

In the book "totem and myth of Miao nationality", the first half of the book mainly discusses the origin of totem and totem myth, as well as the evolution and classification of totem myth. The second half mainly analyzes the history, branch and composition of Miao totem, analyzes the totem of Miao nationality from myth and legend, and combines the totem and myth of Miao nationality. In his doctoral dissertation on the modern application of Miao traditional costume patterns, Shen huimao introduced the styles and accessories of Miao costumes from the general situation of Miao costumes. Then, he classified the Miao costume patterns, analyzed the characteristics of plants, animals and geometric patterns, and then explained the cultural connotation of Miao costume patterns from the perspective of modern art and aesthetics, It reflects the beauty of simplicity, harmony, nature and craft of dress patterns. It combines traditional costume patterns with modern crafts, and attempts to apply traditional costume

patterns to modern costume design techniques, so as to interpret Miao costume patterns from the perspective of aesthetics and art. Zhao Yifan's master's thesis "Research on the totem patterns of Miao costumes" systematically studies the totem patterns in Miao costumes from four aspects: ethnic origin totem intention, ancestor totem intention, deity totem intention and reproductive totem intention. It is of great significance to further study the totem belief of Miao nationality. Li Hui's master's thesis research on the application of Miao's costume totem patterns in modern fashion design is based on the classification and aesthetic analysis of Miao's traditional totem patterns. It describes the application of Miao's costume patterns in modern fashion design, as well as the deconstruction and Inspiration of the shape and color of Miao's Costume totem patterns, From the perspective of art and aesthetics, this paper studies the Miao costume totem. Song Kexin, in his article the social function of Miao costume pattern art, expounds the five major functions of Miao costume pattern, including writing record, ethnic emblem, totem symbol, revealing wealth and witchcraft, so as to reflect the unique cultural psychology and profound national cultural connotation of Miao nationality. On the basis of the historical memory of the Miao nationality's dress, Long Xiangping focuses on the cultural connotation of the Miao nationality's clothing. On the one hand, the author thinks that the Miao people's clothing is the crystallization of the Miao culture, and the essence of the Miao culture can be observed from the Miao costumes. The development process of the Miao nationality's dress is also the process of the formation, development and deepening of the Miao nationality's culture. On the other hand, Miao's dress is also a manifestation of Miao's national spirit, which reflects the Miao's strong sense of national self-identity, and also shows the Miao's indomitable and hard-working national essence in the face of many disasters.

Miao costume is the external image symbol of the nation, is the comprehensive crystallization of its material culture and spiritual culture. It has many characteristics of human early clothing, and can provide rich samples of early clothing. It is valuable to explore the evolution of human clothing, especially the history of Miao clothing development. The symbolic function of Miao people's clothing is just a defining function, which shows the difference of social status and status, and also vividly shows the stage of life that the wearer has entered. This is in sharp contrast to the concept of class hierarchy in the Central Plains culture.

Clothing has its own particularity. It is impossible and unrealistic for Miao women to embroider all the characters in their costumes in a regular way. As a result, it is impossible for the words to be recorded and passed down with costumes, so the characters are gradually lost. The characters in these legends may gradually evolve into

some symbols. From today's Miao clothing patterns, we can still infer the symbolic meaning of some characters.

It can be said that there is a certain difference between the symbol and the Miao script. However, these "engraved" patterns are handed down from generation to generation, so that the Miao people can read and understand the meaning of these symbols, as shown in Figure 1. The Miao women embroidered on their clothes the cities they once owned, the Yangtze River and the Yellow River that they had benefited from, and the routes of forced migration. In this way, the Miao people's history, legend, thinking concept, religious consciousness and so on have been vividly passed down from generation to generation. The Miao nationality has successfully described the Miao nationality's hard written language and become a remarkable example of exerting the cultural value of picture characters. history of ethnic origin, war history, migration history and so on, which has replaced the function.



Figure 1. The pictorial symbols of Miao Nationality

### 3. The Educational Significance of Totem Patterns in Miao Costumes

#### 3.1. Trenchen the education of national identity and individual life

As an important component of Miao costume culture, the reproductive worship pattern in Miao costume plays an important role in the social life of Miao nationality. Through the carrier of reproductive patterns in Miao costumes, a lot of cultural information can be transmitted to the descendants of Miao nationality. On the one hand, it enables the Miao people to understand the development history of the Miao nationality through the patterns, so as to better remember the history. It is a good material for the history education of the Miao descendants. Now many students in Shidong area take the clothing culture as an important part of the school-based curriculum, which allows students to learn the Miao brocade and embroidery technology, It can also enable students to receive national culture education, with more than one action. On the other hand, through the reproductive worship patterns in Miao costumes, we can constantly strengthen national identity. The continuous development of a nation is closely related to its cohesion. Under certain natural environment and socio-economic conditions, the pop-

ulation determines the development strength of a nation. Only when the strength of the nation or ethnic group is strong enough, can individuals live and work happily and live happily.

### 3.2. Set up correct fertility values

The reproductive worship pattern in Miao costumes is a miniature of Miao nationality's fertility culture. The butterfly patterns in embroidery and batik patterns show that the Miao ancestors in ancient times had a very low level of understanding of fertility. They only believed that women had fertility, and expressed their worship of women's fertility through "Butterfly". This kind of primitive and simple recognition concept made women have a very high social status at that time. At that time, men generally married to women's families, Moreover, the married man should dress up strong and beautiful with horns and bright feathers, so as to win the recognition of women. As a result, the butterfly occupies a large proportion in the Miao dress patterns, which is also a symbol of women's social status in ancient times. Later, in the period of male social life, the higher the status of men in social life, so many dragon patterns appeared in the clothing patterns, and the dragon patterns were generally shown.

## 4. Conclusion

Through the research on the teaching, creation and design of totem patterns in Miao costumes, on the one hand, we can collect a wealth of first-hand materials on the aesthet-

ic investigation of patterns, including a large number of documents and materials about Miao costumes. These materials provide important materials for further research on Miao clothing culture. On the other hand, Miao clothing is an integral part of Miao traditional national culture, Through the study of Miao costumes, we can inherit and carry forward the traditional culture of Miao people. Especially in the modern and global era, when the development of Miao costumes is facing many problems, we should combine the Miao costumes with the social development, Constantly let the Miao people understand the Miao nationality, Miao clothing, understand the cultural connotation of reproductive worship patterns in Miao costumes, and organically combine traditional national culture with modern school education, which is conducive to the inheritance of national traditional culture, but also can maintain cultural pluralism.

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