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## Research and multi-angle analysis of inheritance and development factors on effecting China martial arts

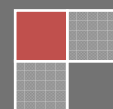
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### ABSTRACT

Martial arts is always one of the symbols representing China's world image, it is continually improved and developed by our Chinese people on the basis of long-term accumulation of practice. So martial arts is called one of historical treasures for China and the world. A nation's modernization only can be accomplished on the basis of the inheritance and development of traditional culture, which makes the inheritance and development of traditional martial arts so important for China's physical education modernization, especially maintaining its original culture intelligence and playing its modernization role. This research starts from current situation of inheritance and development of traditional martial arts, analyzes factors influencing inheritance of traditional martial arts by lots of research methods, collects relevant information with research survey to classify influencing factors presented, analyze and summarize the results with Delphi method and Mathematical Statistics in order to show an all-round cognition of factors influencing traditional martial arts from different perspectives. It also gives some advice for the strategies to carry forward China's traditional martial arts on the basis of its analysis, that is working on four aspects of "cognizing-carrying forward-understanding-developing". As the traditional martial arts is one of China's great cultural heritage, its inheritance, understanding and development has practical significance and academic value.

### KEYWORDS

Traditional martial arts; Influencing factors; Ecology; Cultural heritage.



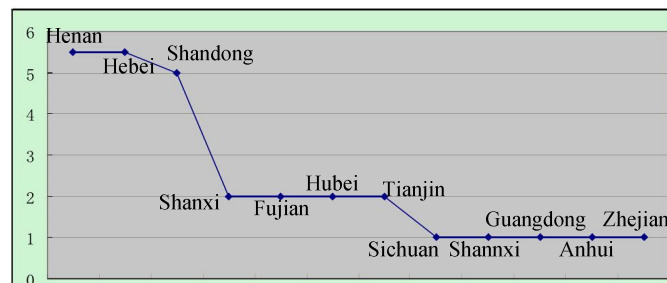
**INTRODUCTION**

Martial arts is always one of the symbols representing China’s world image, it is continually improved and developed by our Chinese people on the basis of long-term accumulation of practice. It is called one of historical treasures for China and the world because of the rich culture and people’s wisdom it contains. Nevertheless, with the continuous promotion of globalization and the cultural shock brought by modernization and foreign sports to China’s traditional culture, traditional martial arts faces inheritance crisis to some extent and its inheritance and development become a key problem concerned by all social circles and China’s government. In the reports of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Party’s Congress, the General Secretary Hu Jintao emphasized we should get sound knowledge of Chinese traditional culture, select its essence and discard its dross from cultural inheritance and development perspective so as to gear Chinese traditional culture to the times successfully and make it keep pace with the time’s development while maintain its nationality. The same is with China’s traditional martial arts. This paper analyzes influencing factors of China’s traditional martial arts from different perspectives with new system, new methods and new means.

**PRESENT SITUATION FOR CHINA’S MARTIAL ARTS INHERITANCE**

**Low proportion of the traditional martial arts in intangible cultural heritage**

As Chinese government puts more and more attention on traditional culture and intangible cultural heritage, general investigation and examination and approval of intangible cultural heritage are going full swing. This is shown in the intangible cultural heritage catalogs published in 5 years since 2006, with the number of intangible cultural heritage increasing to 1219 in 2011 from 518 in 2008, among which there are 191 national nonmaterial cultural heritage items<sup>[1]</sup>. Because of the various categories and schools, quite a few categories of China’s traditional martial arts from some provinces are included in intangible cultural heritage list during 3 statistics and examination and approval. The proportion of traditional martial arts considered as intangible cultural heritage from each province in national intangible cultural heritage list is as shown in Figure 1:

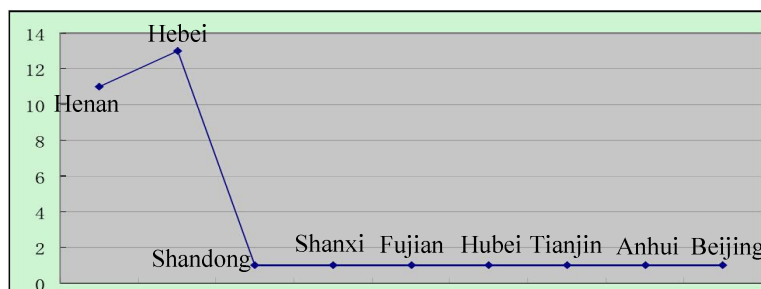


**Figure 1 : Geographical distribution of traditional martial arts included in national intangible cultural heritage list**

As is shown in Figure 1, the proportions of traditional martial arts in 3 lists are low, 6 in the first, 14 in the second and 9 in the third, with a total of 29 traditional martial arts and 12 provinces included. Some traditional martial arts from other provinces are neglected.

**Shortage of inheritors of traditional martial arts included in intangible cultural heritage**

For inheritors play a important role in traditional culture inheritance, a sort of intangible cultural heritage influenced by the traditional apprenticeship model and rapid economic development are at the risk of disappearing. This is mainly because of inheritor shortage. The same goes for traditional martial arts. According to the statement released by the Ministry of Culture in 5 years since 2007, the total number of the inheritors of intangible cultural heritage is 1986, 31 for traditional martial arts, accounting 1.5 percent of the total inheritors<sup>[2]</sup>. Geographical distribution of inheritors is as shown in Figure 2:



**Figure 2 : Geographical distribution of traditional martial arts inheritors**

According to Figure 2, the proportion of traditional martial arts inheritors in total intangible cultural inheritors is low, and most inheritors are from martial arts developed areas like Henan, Hebei and Shandong, few are from other areas. Besides, except for 9 areas including Henan, Hebei, Shandong, Shanxi, Fujian, Hubei, Tianjin, Anhui and Beijing, martial arts from other areas are not included in the list. This weakens the local traditional martial arts inheritance to some degree and shows the inheritor shortage in general.

### Diverse bases of traditional martial arts inheritance

The inheritance and development of traditional culture is closely related to the development of the area, especially traditional martial arts relies on regional culture and contains cultural spirits. Inheritance base is the foundation of the inheritance and development of intangible cultural heritage. Based on the high attention paid on traditional culture by all parties, parties concerned work hard to build inheritance bases to promote and enhance the inheritance and development of traditional cultural. Current inheritance bases familiar to people include cultural ecological reserves of Southern Fujian, Huzhou, Regong and Qiang ethnic minority. Some other areas vigorously promote selection and development of traditional cultural inheritance bases in response to the call of country<sup>[3]</sup>. After the national inheritance bases are released, provinces also start to select and promote inheritance bases. In terms of the construction of traditional martial arts inheritance bases, bases trend to diversity including martial arts schools of different size and corporation models. On one hand, cultural inheritance bases enrich the diversity of China's traditional martial arts and infuse fresh blood into the inheritance and development. On the other hand, bases and these two conditions benefit each other, they cannot independently develop without cultural environment and inheritors, which limits the building of inheritance bases.

## ANALYSIS OF FACTORS INFLUENCING THE INHERITANCE OF TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS

### Mastering situation of martial arts boxing genres by students in physical education colleges

Traditional martial arts boxing genres account a high rate of China's traditional martial arts, the mastering of martial arts boxing genres by students in physical education colleges through investigation and statistics in several colleges is as shown in Figure 3:

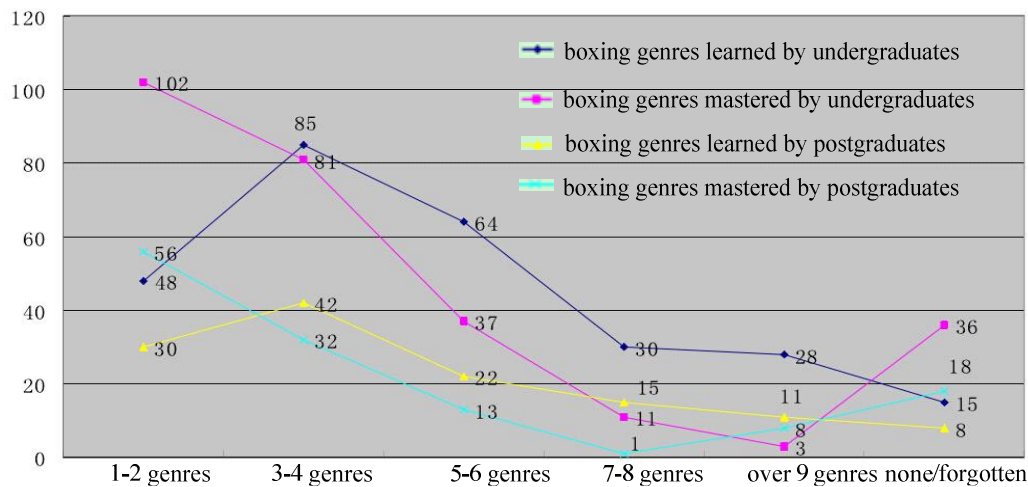
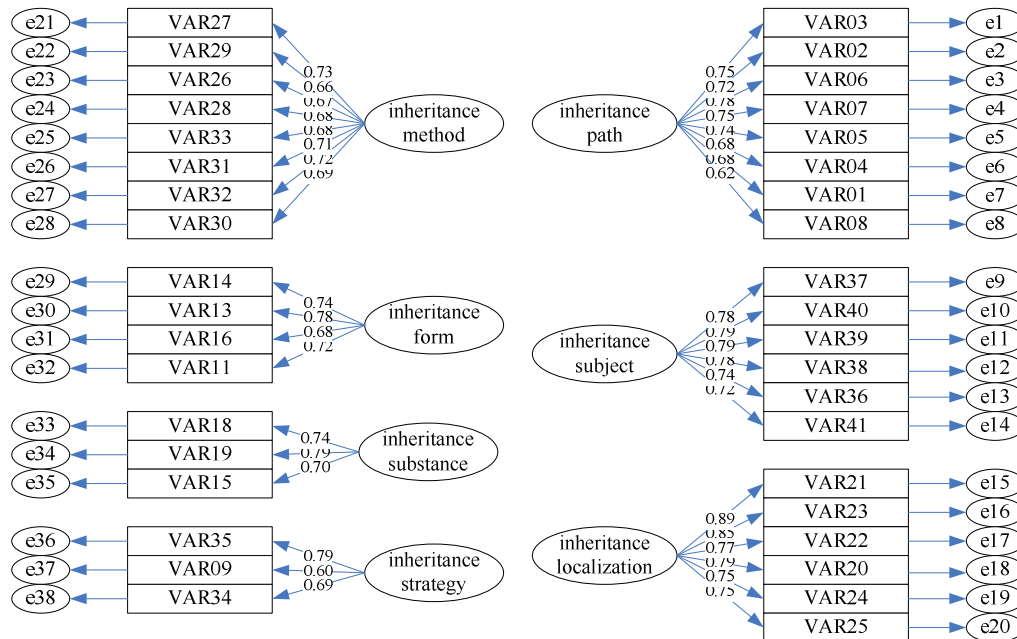


Figure 3 : Mastering situation of martial arts boxing genres by students in physical education colleges

According to Figure 3, respondents of the above investigation cover undergraduates and postgraduates, investigation indexes include genres and proficiency of traditional boxing learned by them. As statistics shows, 48 undergraduates master 1 to 2 boxing genres, 85 master 3 to 4 genres, 64 master 5 to 6 genres, 30 master 7 to 8, 28 master 9 genres or more. Only 15 undergraduates have never learned or mastered traditional boxing. Compared to undergraduates, the mastering situation by postgraduates is not so good, among them 30 students master 1 to 2 genres, 42 master or have learned 3 to 4 genres, 22 have learned 5 to 6 genres, 26 have learned or master 7 or more<sup>[4]</sup>, 8 have never learned traditional boxing. The number of boxing genres learned or mastered by undergraduates is higher than that of postgraduates. In terms of China's education model, diverse education models are designed for undergraduates. As traditional martial arts or basic course, traditional boxing is a compulsory course for undergraduates. Besides, undergraduates are much more than postgraduates, the former can select more broadly and free than the latter. There are more undergraduates have learned or master more boxing genres than postgraduates. But less than 10 percent of undergraduates can keep mastering and almost 60 percent of postgraduates can keep. Because 25.6% of undergraduates inherit traditional boxing from their teachers, only 25% of postgraduates do the same. Thus, postgraduates are more likely to be appointed as inheritors of traditional boxing. Different colleges may have different rates.

**Analysis of factors influencing the inheritance of traditional martial arts**

There are various factors influencing the martial arts inheritance, they can be classified into several main species including inheritance path, inheritance subject, inheritance localization method, inheritance substance, inheritance form and inheritance strategy. The influencing factors model is built on the basis of internal structure of inheritance situation, with 38 visible variables and 45 invisible latent variables. By testing general simulation fitting of influencing factors, the Chi-square of the model is 10.251, namely  $P=0.256$  and  $CMIN=1.281$  (CMIN is Chi-square value),  $RMR=0.374$ ,  $RMSEA=0.031$ <sup>[5]</sup>, specific proportions of each value is as shown in Figure 4:



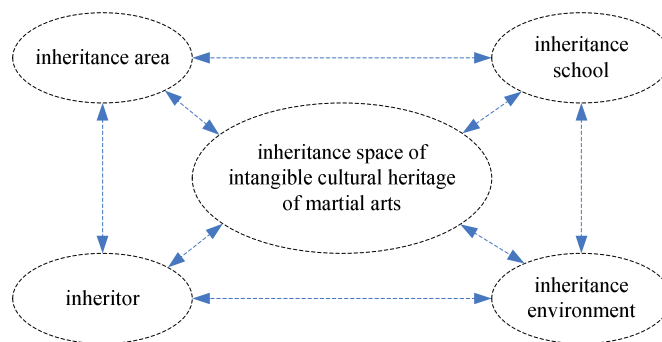
**Figure 4 : Correlative coefficients of influencing factors of traditional martial arts**

Figure 4 shows the correlations between influencing factors, especially the strong correlation between visible variables and invisible latent variables<sup>[6]</sup>. Correlative coefficient between latent variables including inheritance method and inheritance strategy and traditional martial arts is 0.73, meaning that inheritance method and strategy which are difficulties in martial arts development have a great effect on inheritance and development of China’s traditional martial arts<sup>[7]</sup>. As physical education colleges playing a more and more important role in traditional martial arts inheritance, China’s traditional martial arts have to face two problems: how to improve technology level and how to expand the path of development and inheritance.

**INHERITANCE STRATEGY STUDY OF TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS**

**Protection strategy of traditional martial arts**

Inheritance must start with protection, and protection requires attention firstly. Apart from this, the most important thing to maintain integrity of traditional martial arts is exploring ecological value and cultural value. Traditional martial arts is the crystallization of the people’s collective wisdom, many genres replaced original value with economy in inheritance. Therefore, attaching importance to internal cultural meaning is a must to realize traditional martial arts inheritance. For the rich content and category of traditional martial arts, its inheritance needs an integral protection system like the one in Figure 5:

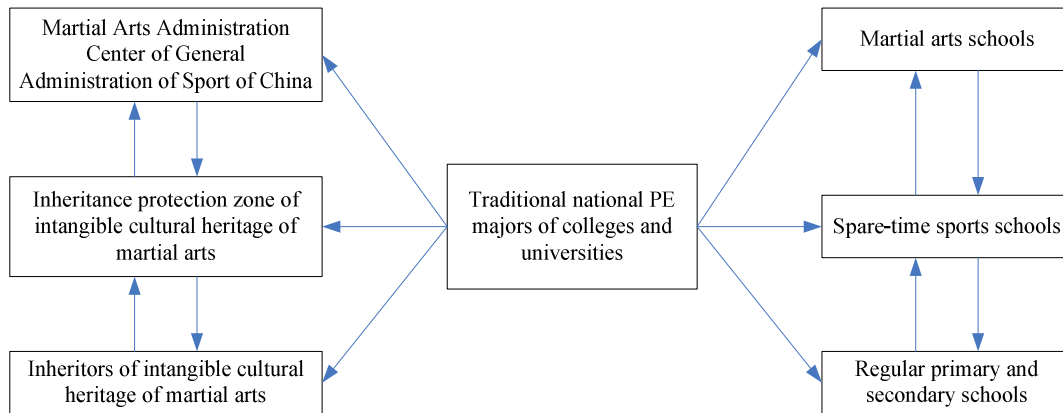


**Figure 5 : Protection structure of traditional martial arts**

Figure 5 shows that China’s traditional martial arts can realize integrity essentially only if it uses all protection resources available in dynamic inheritance way as well as static protection. Only in this way, dynamically developing traditional martial arts can merge with static environmental culture and develops into a real “Walking History Book”<sup>[8]</sup>.

**Propagation strategy of traditional martial arts**

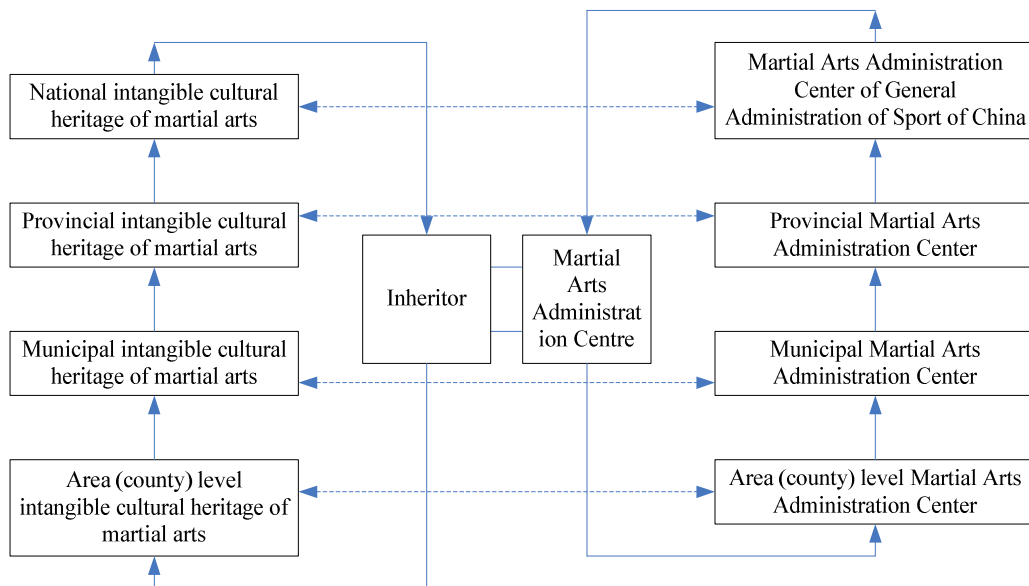
The main reason why China’s s traditional martial arts inheritance is so hard to proceed is its small audience range and inadequate propagation. With the rapid development of high technology, propagation means of traditional martial arts become varied. But still, an integral propagation system like the one in Figure 6 is needed. China’s traditional martial arts should combine society, school and inheritor with government to give full play to their propagation function, and should make full use of college, government and martial arts organization to form a propagation system. Only so can the influence of traditional martial arts be raised and its combination with the times be developed.



**Figure 6 : Propagation structure of traditional martial arts**

**Inheritance strategy of traditional martial arts**

With the aim to carry forward China’s martial arts culture, the protection and propagation should work comprehensively and form mutual interaction between inheritors and martial arts schools in order to get increasingly stronger propagation from country to county.



**Figure 7 : Inheritance structure of traditional martial arts**

As is shown in Figure 7, inheritance structure supervised, strengthened and developed layer by layer can promote China’s traditional martial arts with traditional martial arts as the core and the interrelation among martial arts administration center at every level. Meanwhile, martial arts inheritors should form a structure in the same way. This inheritance model containing influences from top and study from below will strengthen people’s cognition about importance of traditional

martial arts for China's socialism with Chinese characteristics and inheritance of Chinese culture. It contributes to the protection, propagation and inheritance of traditional martial arts.

### CONCLUSION

Inheritance of traditional martial arts is one of current traditional culture needing attention. Under the impact of foreign competitive activities and national cultural fraction, it is a major problem for the protection, propagation and development of traditional martial arts to combine it with social development. During this, traditional martial arts should select the refined and discard the crude, absorb the propagation and inheritance method in foreign competitive activities, positively explore its potential ecological value and cultural value to build unique inheritance system of traditional martial arts, and show the real charm of traditional martial arts comprehensively and dynamically in front of the whole country and the world. This will raise its position in world competitive activities as well as enhance Chinese people's cognition, understanding and inheritance of traditional culture and traditional martial arts.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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