Research on Influencing Factors of Traditional Village Distribution in Shaanxi Province

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Abstract: Traditional villages are those left over from the ancient agricultural civilization in China, which have abundant cultural and natural resources and multiple values of history, culture and science. At present, the list of shaanxi traditional village protection published in China shows the characteristics of loess plateau and hilly land with less tableland and plain. Its characteristics are mainly influenced by natural geographical environment, agricultural development level, population distribution, historical and cultural accumulation and other factors.

Keywords: Shaanxi province; Traditional villages; Influencing factors

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Traditional villages are the accumulation of thousands of years of history and culture of the Chinese nation, and are rare cultural heritages in China (material cultural heritage and intangible cultural heritage). As one of the important birthplaces of Chinese civilization, Shaanxi has 13 in the historical period. As the capital was built here, as a political, economic and cultural center of China for a long time, many of them have bred traditional villages with distinctive characteristics. Based on the directory of traditional village protection published by the state, the article analyzes the distribution characteristics and influencing factors of traditional villages in Shaanxi Province, with a view to promoting the systematic and holistic protection of them.

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1. Current Situation of Traditional Villages in Shaanxi Province

From December 2012 to December 2016, the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development and the Ministry of Culture jointly announced 4,153 national-level traditional villages in four batches, among which 71 were shortlisted in Shaanxi, accounting for about 1.71% of the total number published; The density is 0.34 per thousand square kilometers, slightly lower than the national average of 0.43%. In terms of absolute quantity, traditional villages in Shaanxi Province are much lower than those in Yunnan, Shanxi and other provinces. Since 2015, the Shaanxi Provincial Department of Housing and Urban-rural Development, the Provincial Department of Culture, the Provincial Cultural Relics Bureau, the Provincial Department of Finance and other departments have published the list of traditional villages in the province in two batches, a total of 323, with an average of 32.3 cities in each province (figure 1).

![Figure 1](image_url)
2. Influencing Factors of Traditional Village Distribution in Shaanxi Province

(1) Natural environmental factors

In the process of site selection, villages generally choose to be high or close to the water source. The back of the mountain and the vast natural hinterland are the best sites for site selection \[1\]. The spatial layout of the village and the mountain-shaped water potential are integrated as much as possible. The buildings are combined along the terrain. Although the three elements of sky (air), land (land), and person (inhabitant) are independent of each other, they can form a whole environment through the mutual transmission of energy, which provides the material foundation for the development of traditional villages \[2\]. (Figure 2).

![Fig.2 The ideal village location](image)

The mountains in the southeast and southwest part of Shaanxi are mostly in the Qin Mountains. They form the natural boundary with Henan and Hubei provinces, and also the geographical boundary between the north and the south of China. The southern slope of Qin Mountains has a high forest coverage and a high altitude, but the per capita arable land area is small and agricultural production is not developed. It is not the main concentration area of traditional villages. On the other hand, due to the inaccessibility of the mountainous areas and the less interference from external factors, the self-sufficient natural economy can be well preserved as long as it is established. As long as the natural environment meets the population’s
needs for food, the villages are provided with the necessary conditions for stable development \[3\]. The diversity of terrain enhances the ability of defending natural disaster to some extent. Under the combined effect of the above natural factors, though the density of Qinba Mountain area is small, the traditional villages are the most.

In Guanzhong, the land surface is flat and fertile, the surface and underground water resources are abundant, and the agricultural production conditions are favorable \[4\]. Both well and well irrigation are carried out. Human beings have been living here since the old and Neolithic Era Times, and carried out agricultural and handicraft production, such as Jiangzhai, Xi’an, Xi’an Banpo, Mijiaya and other primitive village sites are located in Wei River and its tributaries Chanba, Fenghe on the first and second terraces. Historical cities such as the Zhou Dynasty’s Fenghao, the Qin Dynasty’s Xianyang, and the Han Dynasty’s Chang’an established this area. Although the natural conditions are good and the social civilization is high, it was once the capital of the 14 dynasties, but it was easily affected by the war, so there are fewer villages to save \[5\].

The pursuit of water is an important factor in the selection of sites for the traditional villages in the Some Random Place Somewhere, so the traditional villages in the Some Random Place Somewhere live by the water, are Concentrated in the vicinity of the river system \[6\].

\textbf{(2) Agriculture, handicraft industry, commercial development level}

The productivity level is one of the main factors to ensure the development of traditional villages in the historical period. Since the end of the Tang Dynasty and the beginning of the Song Dynasty, the Commodity of Chinese civil society began to develop and develop gradually. The quality of agricultural development has a direct impact on the economic situation of Traditional Society, and it is very important to have better conditions for agricultural production, in areas with long sunshine, fertile soil, abundant water resources and the ability to withstand natural disasters, the level of agricultural development is higher, the social economy is relatively prosperous, and the number of traditional villages is generally larger. As far as Weinan is concerned, it is located in the Guanzhong plain with fertile soil, a long frost-free period throughout the year, well-developed water systems and the highest level of agricultural production. Therefore, although the total number of traditional villages (64) is the third in the province, but the regional density (4.9 per thousand square kilometers) is in the lead in Shaanxi Province \[7\].
The development of handicraft industry is also one of the factors that influence the distribution of villages. After the mid-qing dynasty, some large-scale mining and smelting workshops appeared in the mountainous areas of Qin Mountains. The development of ironworks, coal mines, Gold Mines, paper mills and woodworks attracted a large number of labor, at the same time, it has also created a number of workers in the site selection, settlement.

The level of commercial development depends on the geographical location of the village within the area. The number of traditional villages (79) in Ankang is the largest in the province, and the commercial market towns, wharves and post stations are easily formed in areas with superior geographical location. The prosperity of commerce in the region can easily attract people to do business and settle here, and form settlements of a certain size.

(3) Population distribution pattern

The village population is the main factor that constitutes the village. Traditional village is the product of Traditional Society, and it is also closely related to agricultural production. During the historical period, the villages in the plain area were almost disintegrated due to the influence of many reasons, such as the political, cultural and economic centers of the country moving eastward, southward and finally northward, at the end of the Yuan Dynasty and the beginning of the Ming Dynasty, the population of the whole Shaanxi area declined sharply, and the loss of population was very serious. Therefore, at present, there are few traditional villages in Shaanxi Province before yuan and Ming Dynasty, which were built in Qing Dynasty. With the stabilization of the political structure, the migration of the northwest and Central Plain made the population of Shaanxi grow, especially in the south of Shaanxi. According to the records in the local chronicles above, most of the people in the counties and cities in southern Shaanxi today came from Sichuan, Hubei and Henan. At least in the middle period of the Qing Dynasty, the population in southern Shaanxi again reached a certain height, it provides the main guarantee for the establishment and development of the traditional villages in this area.

(4) Precipitation of historical and cultural factors

Traditional villages are a synthesis of material culture and intangible cultural heritage. The Guanzhong region of Guanzhong, Shaanxi Province, has long been the political, economic and cultural center of the Chinese traditional farming society, leaving behind a large number of historical and cultural deposits. First, the influence of historical figures and events. Some traditional villages are closely related to historical figures and events. Second, the impact of specific geographical environment. Such as Baishe village, the whole village low-lying north-south high, the
middle of the village is basically flat, complete preservation of the region’s traditional way of living. Third, the traditional customs and concepts of the rendering. Fourth, architecture, painting, sculpture and other arts play.

3. Conclusion

Previous studies on traditional villages in Shaanxi Province focused on the analysis of individual villages from the perspective of architectural form, and rarely focused on the entire village group in Shaanxi Province. The article uses the combination of theoretical research and empirical analysis, literature review and field social survey methods, qualitative analysis and quantitative research to carry out scientific analysis and research on traditional villages in Shaanxi Province, and describes traditional villages in Shaanxi The spatial distribution characteristics and influence factors of the distribution are expected to provide some reference and reference for future research on the protection and development of traditional villages in Shaanxi Province.

Works Cited

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