

Research Report on Red Traditional Chinese Medicine Cultural Resources in Bazhong Area

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ABSTRACT

To deeply explore the connotation of red traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) culture in the core area of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base, and promote the integrated development of TCM culture inheritance and red cultural resource protection, a systematic investigation was conducted on the red TCM cultural resources in Bazhong area through field visits, cultural relic sorting, and literature analysis. The survey shows that Bazhong area retains rich red TCM cultural relics, including medical books and documents, diagnosis and treatment instruments, and drug specimens, which vividly reflect the important practices of TCM in battlefield medical care, sanitation and epidemic prevention, and talent training during the revolutionary period. The study believes that these resources have important historical value and contemporary significance, and efforts should be made to strengthen publicity and education as well as protection and utilization, so as to provide support for the construction of a strong province in TCM and the inheritance of red culture.

KEYWORDS

Bazhong area; Red traditional Chinese medicine cultural resources; Cultural inheritance; Protection and utilization

1 Introduction

Traditional Chinese medicine cultural is an important part of China's excellent traditional culture, and red TCM culture is a unique heritage integrating revolutionary history and traditional medicine. As the core area of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base, Bazhong City played an irreplaceable role in ensuring the health of military and civilians and supporting the victory of the revolution during the arduous revolutionary struggle, thus forming rich red TCM cultural resources. To implement Sichuan Province's deployment for promoting the construction of a national comprehensive reform demonstration zone for TCM and a strong province in TCM, and to assist in the expansion and renovation of the Provincial TCM Museum, a special survey was carried out on the red TCM cultural resources in Bazhong area, aiming to systematically sort out their types, characteristics, and historical value, and provide a basis for subsequent protection, research, and utilization.

2 Distribution of red traditional Chinese medicine cultural resources

Bazhong area is located in the central part of the Qinba Mountains and has a profound TCM cultural heritage. As the core area of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base, it is rich in red revolutionary cultural resources, which are widely distributed and have distinct characteristics. These red revolutionary cultural resources are spread across all districts and counties of Bazhong, showing the characteristics of taking Tongjiang County as the core and extending to Bazhou District to a certain extent. Together, they constitute the profound red cultural heritage of Bazhong and are precious wealth for inheriting the revolutionary spirit and carrying out red education. According to the preliminary collection of research data, Bazhong area is rich in red cultural resources, which are distributed all over the region. However, the venues for red TCM cultural resources are relatively concentrated, involving 3 museums, namely the Former Site Exhibition Hall of the General Hospital of the Fourth red Army in Tongjiang County, Bazhong City, the red Army Martyrs Memorial Hall of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base, and the Museum of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base in Bazhou District, Bazhong City. The Former Site Exhibition Hall of the General Hospital of the Fourth red Army is a highly representative one. It is located in Wangping Village, Shaxi Township, Tongjiang County. The former site consists of 15 buildings, including the Political Department, Medical Department, TCM Department, and Nurses School, covering an area of 12,621 square meters with a construction area of 9,575 square meters. The TCM Department of the hall was of great significance during the First Revolutionary Civil War. At that time, it successfully used traditional Chinese medicine instead of western medicine to treat tens of thousands of wounded and sick. Now, its former site has a thematic exhibition "Military Qihuang - TCM Culture in the Sichuan-Shaanxi Soviet Area", which intuitively shows the unique role of TCM in those years through rich objects, pictures, and text materials. The former site is a national patriotic education base for the health system, a national TCM culture publicity and education base, a party spirit training base for the health system of Sichuan Province, and a party history learning and education base. Among them, the former site of the TCM Department once provided medical security for the revolutionary cause and retained some precious red TCM cultural relics and documents, including ancient TCM documents (Figure 1), medical instruments (Figure 2), and TCM materials used at that time, showing the

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important role of TCM in medical security during the period of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base. At that time, the TCM hospital offered courses such as national language, arithmetic, pharmacology, nursing, and political common sense, providing valuable materials for studying TCM cultural education during the period of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base. It not only reflects the important role of TCM in the revolutionary war but also shows the emphasis on the training of TCM talents at that time. Regarding health, the exhibition narrative mentions that during the period of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Soviet Area, the General Hospital of the Fourth red Army carried out a smoking cessation campaign, developed "smoking cessation pills" with safflower, mustard seed, Poria cocos, etc. as the main components, publicized the hazards of smoking, and advocated the concept of "being clean and paying attention to hygiene". It not only effectively reduced the harm of opium to soldiers and the masses but also promoted the formation of good hygiene habits, laying the foundation for the stability and development of the revolutionary base. During the battle, the Fourth red Army made full use of TCM resources and gave play to the important medical role of TCM in battlefield support. It not only left red TCM cultural relics and documentary resources but also many touching TCM stories. For example, the story of Zhang Qinqiu inviting Yang Chengyuan three times is particularly typical. These stories tell the deeds of the red Army saving lives through TCM technology under difficult conditions, showing the important role of TCM in the revolutionary war. These stories not only reflect the profound heritage of TCM culture but also inspire future generations to inherit the red gene and carry forward the spirit of TCM.



Figure 1 Compendium of materia medica from new perspectives used by the tcm department of the sichuan-shaanxi soviet area

(Note: Photographed by the author, collected in the former site exhibition hall of the general hospital of the fourth red army)



Figure 2 Medicine pot with a bamboo stick bearing a name

(Note: Photographed by the author, collected in the Former Site Exhibition Hall of the General Hospital of the Fourth red Army)

The exhibition of the red Army Martyrs Memorial Hall of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base is themed "red Flags Fluttering over the Daba Mountains". The museum collects TCM-related instruments, ancient TCM documents, and health manuals used by the General Hospital of the Fourth red Army, including precious exhibits such as porcelain medicine bottles and the glasses case of famous TCM doctor Yang Chengyuan (Figure 3), which have high historical, artistic, and scientific value and provide valuable physical materials for studying the history of TCM in the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base.

The exhibition of the Museum of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base centers on the theme "History of the Struggle in the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base", showing the historical context of military struggles, regime construction, land revolution, economic and cultural development, etc. through more than 20,000 revolutionary cultural relics, more than 400 historical photos, and more than 100 red Army stone inscriptions. There is less content involving TCM culture. The museum collects some medicines and medical devices used by the "Huoren Pharmacy" (Figure 4), health booklets, and other objects. These cultural relics reflect the medical history of the TCM Department of the red Army General Hospital during the period of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Soviet Area and systematically present the development process and historical status of red TCM in the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base.

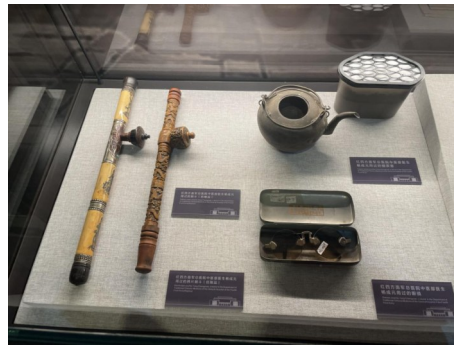


Figure 3 Instruments used by Yang Chengyuan, a doctor from the TCM Department

(Note: Photographed by the author, collected in the red Army Martyrs Memorial Hall of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base)



Figure 4 Some medicines and medical devices used by "Huoren Pharmacy"

(Source: Photographed by the author, collected in the Museum of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base)

In general, the red TCM cultural relics in Bazhong area are rich, covering diagnosis and treatment instruments, medical books and documents, medicines, and Chinese medicinal material specimens, reflecting the TCM diagnosis and treatment characteristics, attempts of integrating Chinese and western medicine, epidemic prevention practices, and the connection with the revolutionary cause during the period of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base; TCM was applied in a diversified way in revolutionary practice, playing a key role in battlefield medical support, sanitation and epidemic prevention, smoking cessation campaigns, and infectious disease prevention and control; At the same time, the Fourth red Army promoted the popularization of TCM knowledge and talent training by enrolling students to train red medical cadres, reflecting the emphasis on and systematic practice of TCM.

3 Historical value of red traditional Chinese medicine cultural resources

The red TCM cultural resources in Bazhong area have profound and unique historical value. In terms of TCM cultural relics, the ancient TCM documents, medical instruments, and Chinese medicinal material specimens preserved in museums such as the Former Site Exhibition Hall of the General Hospital of the Fourth red Army and the red Army Martyrs Memorial Hall of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base are direct physical evidence of the development of TCM during the period of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base, providing precious physical support for the study of medical technology at that time; From the practical level, TCM not only treated tens of thousands of wounded and sick with traditional Chinese medicine instead of western medicine in the revolutionary war but also played a key role in sanitation and epidemic prevention (such as putting out plagues in the Soviet Area) and smoking cessation campaigns (developing "smoking cessation pills" and setting up smoking cessation institutions), laying the foundation for the stability and development of the revolutionary base; From the perspective of talent training and education, the red Army's emphasis on TCM talents (such as Zhang Qinqiu inviting Yang Chengyuan three times) and the development of TCM education (such as recruiting students in field hospitals to train medical cadres) not only reflect the inheritance of TCM culture but also reflect the construction of the medical security system during the revolutionary period. These resources vividly show the important value of TCM under special historical conditions and are indispensable important materials for studying the medical history of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base and the development history of TCM.

4 Suggestions on the development and utilization of red traditional Chinese medicine cultural resources

(1) Strengthen the foundation of the collection, and deeply explore and interpret the historical heritage of red TCM cultural resources Carry out the collection of red TCM cultural relics to enrich the collection system.

Take the collected red TCM literature and cultural relic resources as the research object, deeply explore the cultural

essence contained in them, establish an interpretation system for the connotation of red TCM culture, and provide academic research support for the TCM immersive education platform. Establish a special protection database for red TCM cultural relics, repair and digitally archive precious TCM cultural relics, and record and display the precious cultural relics such as ancient medical books, medicinal specimens, and medical instruments in the museum in an all-round and multi-level way through high-precision digital technology. In particular, conduct in-depth excavation and systematic sorting of the unique TCM cultural resources and famous doctors' data in the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base, and form a multimedia database integrating text, pictures, and videos. Enrich the digital presentation of the collection resources to provide more vivid and intuitive teaching materials for the education of red TCM cultural relics, and further enrich the presentation mode of educational resources in red cultural venues.

(2) Adhere to the collaborative education of red resources and TCM culture, and establish a new "red TCM + ideological and political education" integration explanation mode

In the compilation of the explanation script, with the help of the interpretation system of the connotation of red TCM culture, skillfully integrate ideological and political elements, and realize the in-depth integration of red TCM cultural knowledge and ideological and political education through vivid story-telling. On the one hand, deeply explore the deeds of famous doctors during the period of the Sichuan-Shaanxi Revolutionary Base, tell their noble medical ethics and exquisite medical skills, let students deeply understand and master the value connotation of TCM culture and the people-oriented spiritual core, and guide students to establish professional ethics of dedication to the group, striving for excellence, and inheriting medical ethics. On the other hand, combined with red classic stories, such as the important role of TCM in treating the wounded during the revolutionary war and the vigorous development of TCM after the founding of New China, tell the stories of the Communist Party of China in the history of TCM development, and stimulate students' patriotic feelings and national pride. The presentation through the explanation method integrating ideological and political elements not only inherits the essence of TCM culture but also carries forward the red gene, further giving play to the educational effect of red TCM culture in ideological and political construction.

(3) Innovate the educational and popular science forms of red TCM cultural resources, and build a professional team for the integrated communication of "red TCM + ideological and political education"

The popular science talent team is a bridge connecting museums with teachers and students, and an important force in spreading TCM culture. We will build a team of popular science talents who are proficient in TCM professional knowledge and good at ideological and political education through a series of professional training and practical activities. Carry out cooperation between museums and schools, integrate the academic resources of TCM colleges and universities, invite experts and scholars in the field of TCM from colleges and universities to give special lectures, and improve the professional quality of team members; Organize visits, studies, exchanges, and discussions to broaden horizons and enhance the sense of innovation; Carry out ideological and political education training to improve the ability of team members to integrate TCM culture with ideological and political education. At the same time, encourage team members to innovate popular science forms, such as carrying out online communication through new media platforms and making short videos, so as to make the spread of red TCM culture more extensive and in-depth, and inject new vitality into the immersive education of red TCM cultural resources.

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