Conservation and Development of Traditional Villages—The Example of Song Village in Sanjiangkou, Nanning

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Abstract

The implementation of rural revitalization strategy is a long-term historical task that will accompany the whole process of modernization. Modernization cannot be built at the cost of destroying the environment, and the revitalization of the countryside cannot lose the local history and culture. Song Village in Jiangxi Town, Jiangnan District, Nanning City is located at the confluence of Yongjiang River, Zuojiang River and Right River, with an important geographical location and superior natural environment, which has nurtured a unique history and culture. Benefiting from the national implementation of the Chinese traditional village protection program, the village was protected by the state in 2016 for the local traditional houses. The protection of traditional villages should be linked to the revitalization of villages, and on the basis of fully excavating and protecting local history and culture, local historical and cultural business cards should be created to promote local coordinated and sustainable development through local regional coordinated development.

Keywords

Traditional village, conservation, development, history and culture

1. Presentation of the problem

Sanjiangkou Song Village belongs to Jiangxi Town, Jiangnan District, Nanning City, located at the confluence of Yongjiang River, Zuojiang River and Right River, about 20 kilometers away from downtown Nanning City by land and 30 kilometers by water, named because it is the confluence of three rivers. There are unique natural landscapes such as mountains, water, beaches, rocks and trees, Han tombs, Song imperial palace, Ming royal mausoleum, Ming imperial palace, Ming Zhenjiang building and ancient tomb group of Ming and Qing garrison, Shankou ancient battlefield, Fire Tower Ridge beacon and other sites in Sanjiangkou, which is rich in tourism resources. (Jiangnan District Journal, p. 136.)

In 2013, Sanjiangpo, or Sanjiangkou Song Village, Tongjiang Village, Jiangxi Town, Jiangnan District, Nanning City, was included in the list of villages in the second batch of autonomous regions' famous historical and cultural villages (Guangxi Zhuang, 2013) and the second batch of Chinese traditional villages (Notice of the Ministry of Housing, 2013). As a result, Sanjiangkou Song Village received a central financial allocation of 3 million yuan to repair and build infrastructure for the ancient houses in the village, and life has not changed much for the people of Song Village.

About the conservation and development of traditional villages, Liu Zhiwei (2017), Ma Guoqing (2017), and Yu Ruiqiang (2017) have discussed. How to make the cultural heritage of traditional villages develop in the protection, rationalize the use in the development, and benefit the local people in the use is still a very important research topic.
at present. In this paper, we hope to take Sanjiangkou Song village as an example to explore.

2. The history and culture of Song Village

The Song Village of Sanjiangkou, as a major waterway transportation route, has a very important geographical location and has left numerous historical relics. Since the founding of New China, the area around Sanjiangkou has unearthed artifacts such as gongs, swords and chimes, which are more than 2,000 years old. On land, there are also many cultural relics and monuments that have been discovered in Song Village, such as: the construction site of Na Cheng, the Han tomb of Xiaoguling, the ancient road of Yongxi, the Zhenjiang Building of Hejiang Town, the beacon platform of Song Huoluling, the banyan tree planted by Wang Shouren, the governor of the two provinces in the Ming Dynasty, and the Xingling Mausoleum, the only royal mausoleum in Guangxi and even in southwest China, which has a very strong historical and cultural heritage.

It is important to preserve and develop the many historical sites of Song Village, but we also need to respect and cherish the history of our local people. The conservation and development of traditional villages does not necessarily seek to be comprehensive and complete, but rather to respect and cherish the history that truly belongs to the local area. Only through these attractions and arrangements that can express the essence of history and culture as a whole can we tell a good local "story". The cultural vitality of a traditional village should be maintained and perpetuated by this "village story". Such localized and localized "village stories" are the true soul of village traditions. Through fieldwork, the author believes that we should preserve historical sites while paying attention to the lives of local people and the history created by the people living on this land.

Since the Ming Dynasty, there have been nine families living in Song Village, including Song, Wang, Lin, Lu, Cai, Liang, Lao, Huang and Zeng, for which data is available. These families built and developed together, creating the first shape of the present layout of Song Village. Nowadays, Song Village has a household population of about 1,300 and a resident population of about 700, with a total of seven families of six surnames, namely Cai, Zeng, Song, Wang, Lao and Liang (The author's interview with Brother Liang, 2016).

Traditional villages do not only appear because they have many cultural relics and monuments, but also because each traditional village has witnessed the development of a region, and they can be preserved with their unique internal mechanism, which has the wisdom of local people. We should pay more attention to the intangible wealth created by the local people while preserving the material heritage.

3. The dilemma facing Song Village and the development path

The unique geographical location has given Song Village a unique landscape and human customs, but it has also brought a series of development dilemmas to Song Village. How to deal with these problems is related to the preservation and development of Song Village's history and culture.

3.1 The dilemma faced

In March 2005, Nanning City carried out a series of administrative division adjustment, Xixiangtang District and Jiangnan District in the three river mouth part of the Yong River and the center line of the Zuojiang River as the boundary, each exercise administrative jurisdiction, in the three river mouth area of the north bank of the Zuojiang River Song Village is also "inserted" into the scope of Xixiangtang District. In other words, Song Village in the administrative division belongs to the Xixiangtang District, social security is responsible for the Xixiangtang District, and other major social affairs are managed by Jiangxi Town, Jiangnan District.

Environmental constraints on traffic and travel. Song Village is separated from the village council seat by the Zuojiang River, and villagers need to cross the right river or take the land route to and from Shibu and Jinling in the Xixiangtang District for production and trading. For the residents of Song Village whether they go to the village committee office or to the more geopolitical and people-oriented Xixiangtang District to buy and sell goods they must use the ferry to cross the Zuojiang River, passing through about 3 kilometers of field paths. The backwardness of the traffic not only makes it extremely inconvenient for Song Village residents to travel, but also restricts the access of tourists.

3.2 The path of development

Here are some thoughts on how to promote the preservation and development of Song Village, a traditional village.
Regional coordinated development to form a scale effect. Sanjiangkou Song Village, which is connected to Yangmei Ancient Town above and Beautiful South below, and nearby ancient villages such as Pingfeng, Naamo, Xinhuanggong, Lao Wanggong and Bryan Temple, should be packaged for regional coordinated development. Firstly, the relationship should be administratively rationalized, unified command, unified planning and coordinated development; secondly, the infrastructure should be improved, especially the traffic, to enhance the convenience of travel; then the visibility and reputation of Nanning Sanjiangkou should be improved, the investment environment should be improved, and the urbanization and social and economic development of the area on the south bank of Zuojiang and Yongjiang should be promoted.

Shaping tourism with culture and highlighting culture with tourism. Local folk art and folklore contain important historical and cultural information, which is of great significance to the study of history and culture. This requires us to pay full attention to in-depth investigation, excavation, scientific research with multidisciplinary research methods such as folklore, ethnology and linguistics, to find out relevant and important information, to explore its evolution process, and to restore the original appearance of the history and culture of Sanjiangkou Song Village and even the whole Nanning Sanjiangkou as far as possible. The excavation, development and protection of local history and culture will promote the development of local tourism, and the development of local tourism will promote the development of local economy and culture, which will eventually feed on local history and culture.

Use sufficient policies and increase investment. Actively broaden the financing channels and innovative ways of financing to provide solid financial guarantee for making Sanjiangkou Song Village a famous historical and cultural village. Take the path of "government-led, while developing and building, while attracting investment", with both internal and external investment, "the early stage of government input is the main, and the middle and late stages are considered to be market input-based" way to raise funds to make Sanjiangkou in Xixiangtang District a famous historical and cultural village. At the same time, land or houses can be used as shares, so that farmers become shareholders of economic organizations with multiple economic components and participate in the form of investment and management, so as to make good use of the policy, full use of the policy, to alleviate the difficulties of the lack of funds, to give full play to the enthusiasm and creativity of the local people, to ensure the long-term income of farmers and the sustainable development of Sanjiangkou Song village.

4. Summary

The development of traditional villages should be based on the full exploration of the existing cultural resources of the local society, respecting the natural texture and historical heritage, and the creation and innovation of the living world with local people as the main body. The community creation based on this not only realizes the living preservation and innovative reproduction of local culture, but also gives the cultural symbols an inner life and becomes an important force to maintain the cultural identity and historical identity of local residents. Therefore, in the conservation and development of Sanjiangkou Song Village, we always emphasize the endogenous development of localness as the mainstay, integrating local cultural ecology in the process of modern rural construction and tourism development, meeting the needs of local residents for daily life and interpersonal interaction, sustainably maintaining and inheriting the inner vitality of the basic elements of local traditional production, livelihood and life, and on this basis encouraging and nurturing local residents to carry out cultural development and creative reproduction of products and living landscapes. Preserving local culture, creating local historical and cultural business cards, linking the preservation of traditional villages with the revitalization of villages, and promoting coordinated and sustainable local development through coordinated local regional development.

References


Obtained from the author's interview with Brother Liang, who drives a ferry on the river, on December 22, 2016.
