The Protection and Suggestion
of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage

WANG Ning-xuan
Research Institute of Marine Economy and Culture, Shandong Academy of Social Sciences, Qingdao, China

It is of great practical significance to study and protect the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage. This is conducive to a profound understanding of the spirit of the East Asian region, especially traditional Chinese marine culture, and the maintenance of peace and order in East Asia and the world as a whole. But at present, some problems increase the difficulty for the protection of East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage, for example, improper development and utilization in the process of urbanization, imperfection of the management mechanism, multiplicity of the ownership of the estate. Propose to carry out a survey of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage as soon as possible, build regional integration cooperation mechanism, improve the marine cultural heritage protection technology, perfect the relevant laws and regulations.

Keywords: East Asia, Maritime Cultural Routes, Protection

Introduction

China has a long maritime history, and since ancient times, China and the Korean Peninsula, Japan islands, the Ryukyu Islands, Southeast Asia, India ocean area and other regions have communication. In this process, the maritime cultural routes became an important link between People in related areas. It is of great practical significance to study and protect the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage. This is conducive to a profound understanding of the spirit of the East Asian region, especially traditional Chinese marine culture, and the maintenance of peace and order in East Asia and the world as a whole.

The Concept and Connotation of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage

In October 2008, the sixteenth International Council on Monuments and Sites adopted the “on the cultural route of ICOMOS charter”, in which cultural routes are interpreted as follows: Cultural routes include land, sea, and other forms of communication. It has clear boundaries, unique dynamic and historical features, as well as special service goals. It reflects human interaction, as well as the exchange and interaction between countries and regions in terms of goods, ideas and values which are reflected in the material and intangible cultural heritage. Cultural routes integrate the historical and cultural heritage into the dynamic system. In addition, the conference also has carried on the research to the connotation and scope of Cultural Routes (DING, 2011, p. 88), which has

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WANG Ning-xuan, Associate Researcher, Research Institute of Marine Economy and Culture, Shandong Academy of Social Sciences.
an important practical significance for the protection and development of cultural routes.

Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage is an important part of Cultural Routes heritage. It mainly refers to the linear cultural heritage, which was established by the human sea voyage, and it realized the cultural communication and integration (QU, 2003, p. 56). The scope and existing space of Maritime Cultural Heritage is based on the sea routes historically formed. It is not only limited to the sea, but also includes the coastal areas and relevant land, and its content is very rich and diverse.

The East Asian Maritime Cultural Heritage includes sunken ship and cargo in East Asia Sea. It also includes the coastal, harbor, channel, island, wharf, lighthouse, temples and so on, which is mainly created by artificial technology in the history of marine communication in the East China Sea, including the creation of objects and buildings.

In addition, it also includes the form of intangible cultural heritage, such as legend, belief, arts and so on. They reflect the prosperity of the ancient maritime trade and exchange, as well as the prosperity of the marine culture.

**Value of the Protection of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage**

It is of great practical significance to study and protect the East Asian maritime cultural routes and heritage, which connect China to the Korean Peninsula, Japan islands, the Ryukyu Islands, Southeast Asia. This is conducive to a profound understanding of the spirit of the East Asian region, especially traditional Chinese marine culture, and the maintenance of peace and order in East Asia and the world as a whole.

1. **It is Beneficial to Highlight and Inherit the Deep Connotation and Spiritual Core of Regional Marine Culture**

   In history, the practice of overseas navigation in the East China Sea has been in constant progress, and gradually formed a network of East Asian marine cultural routes. Here not only spread the ancestors sweat, more show their courage and determination, these are not only simple routes and trade networks, but also the communication networks of culture and wisdom, which links the countries and peoples of East Asia together and also makes politics, economy, culture, folk customs and religion to get effective communication. And all these are carried out in a peaceful and friendly way, which is quite different from the invasion of modern western culture (QU, 2015, pp. 271-276). The East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage reflects the deep connotation and spiritual core of the open and inclusive, cooperative and win-win situation of the maritime culture in East Asia, the value of its deep level lies in the interconnection and common destiny. This concept is what we have to uphold in the process of building 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. The civilization spread by the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes, and its deep value connotation, make it become the high quality historical and cultural symbol. We should fully exert the value of it, so that it can be protected and inherited, and play a greater value and role in the contemporary.

2. **It Is Beneficial to Maintain Peace and Order in East Asia and the World As a Whole**

   A large number of marine cultural heritage widely distributed in East Asia has witnessed the history of friendly exchanges between people of all countries in East Asia and Chinese local ancestors, and highlighted the harmony principles of foreign exchanges. The development and protection of the East Asian Maritime Cultural
Routes Heritage is of great value in promoting the regional interest based on the multilateral cooperation, and greatly breaks through the extension and driving effect of cultural heritage value. At the same time, through the development of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage, it will help to carry out the multinational economic and cultural cooperation, and the development of regional economy and culture, which will be more flexibility compared to the single economic cooperation. The East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage also has important functions to further promote the harmonious development of the regional civilization, which will bring the sense of identity and intimacy to traditional culture in relevant countries and region, help alleviate the local conflicts, enhance mutual understanding between each other, reduce the conflict, promote peace and stability in the region, and construct the marine peace and order in East Asia and the world.

**Problems Faced by the Protection of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage**

The rich and precious maritime cultural routes heritage in East Asia has already exceeded the single value of the historical relics, which provides valuable materials and evidence for understanding the marine culture and enhancing the confidence of the marine culture. But the concern is that the precious Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage is facing threats from many aspects.

1. **Threat Caused by the Improper Development and Utilization in the Process of Urbanization**

All coastal cities in East Asia are the regions with high openness and rapid economic development. In the process of modernization, it is inevitable to destroy Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage. The expansion of the city, the constant changes in the use of the beach, the deterioration of the sea and land pollution, all of these has caused great damage to Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage. It includes not only the fishing port, channel, underwater cultural relics and other tangible heritage, and also including marine belief, art, customs and other intangible cultural heritage. In addition, the development of related industries also caused a great impact on the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage. Sea coastal tourism, for example, in order to cater to the need of tourists, also by the interest driven, the transformation of tourist attractions makes the destruction of a lot of marine cultural heritage landscape, the authenticity and integrity are lost, also the historical value and cultural value. This is not only the destruction of cultural heritage resources, but also damage and destruction of regional and national historical and cultural traditions.

2. **The Management Mechanism of the East Asian Marine Cultural Routes Heritage Is not Perfect**

First of all, for the protection of the East Asian Marine Cultural Routes Heritage, there are no special regulatory documents. Some coastal city is more concerned about the underwater cultural relics such as the ship and cargo, although the establishment of underwater cultural heritage protection base played a good role in protection of the underwater cultural heritage, but there is no effective measures to protect the marine cultural heritage on the shore, and it separates the comprehensive integrated management of underwater cultural heritage and the sea area, the island, the coast and the seabed environment resources. It is not conducive to the protection and inheritance of such cultural heritage. Secondly, in the specific management work, due to the lack of the whole and the subdivision theory of cultural heritage, especially maritime cultural heritage, the management of intangible cultural heritage and intangible cultural heritage is most often performed separately, the fragmentation phenomenon is serious. In addition, due to outside influences, marine disasters also impact directly or indirectly
to marine cultural heritage, Countries have not issued the strong security measures and solutions.

(3) The Multiplicity of the Ownership Brings the Difficulty of International Cooperation

The East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage has a specific country of origin in the formation of history, but from the view of space, different sections belong to different countries, that could lead to national sovereignty. On the other hand, although geographically dispersed, but because of the navigation route, the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage is to link together different countries and regions, and to form a special cultural areas. For each section of country, the cultural heritage of ownership must first involve state sovereignty and has obvious exclusivity, but regional features of culture require scarify part of the national interests to a certain extent in order to maintain the integrity of the heritage value. But for this problem, currently there is no effective system of international laws and regulations, and the corresponding measures to resolve and overcome.

The Countermeasures and Suggestions of the Protection of the East Asian Marine Cultural Routes Heritage

The East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage has long histories and contains rich content, requires all parties to cooperate, especially in the aspects of strengthening international cooperation, establishing perfect laws and regulations and management mechanism as soon as possible.

(1) Investigate the Whole Situation of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage

Comb the whole situation of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage, grasp the regional distribution of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage and research its intrinsic value through field survey, data collection and so on. Establish the international cooperation organization and committee for the survey of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage, and make the comprehensive and systematic survey and protection planning. In the process of the development of related work, to grasp the authenticity, as far as possible to restore the historical outlook, combine the protection of marine cultural heritage and the protection of the surrounding environment, and mobilize the enthusiasm of the relevant countries. In addition, for the understanding of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage should not be limited to tangible heritage, many may have disappeared or unable to recover, but their intrinsic value, and many of the intangible cultural heritage should cause more attention, such as regional coastal folk belief, mode of production.

(2) Build a Cooperative Mechanism for Regional Integration

At present, the public welfare value of the cultural heritage is gradually paid attention to, and it has a prominent contribution to the construction of world peace bridges. In the protection of cultural heritage, international cooperation is beyond the geographical boundaries, which were mentioned in many international laws and regulations and many of the relevant documents. The same is true of the protection of the East Asian Marine Cultural Routes Heritage. First of all, the national identity of history and culture should be established, then gradually realize the multilateral cooperation in specific regions, construct a new mode of protection of Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage, and realize its value in contemporary. This also reflects the current understanding of the transformation of international cooperation. The past is mainly from the economic interests, but at present, the first goal is to develop the cultural identity, and then push to the common progress of economy, science and technology, finally achieve the integration.
(3) Improve the Marine Cultural Heritage Protection Technology, and Perfect the Relevant Laws and Regulations

Protection of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage requires advanced scientific and technological support. It relates to history, archeology, culture, engineering and other disciplines and requires the joint efforts of multiple parties. We should learn from other countries and regions of the advanced cultural heritage protection technology, and actively promote the innovation and development of related science and technology. In the process of exploration and discovery of the cultural heritage of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage, try to minimize human damage and punish illegal behaviors strictly and enhance protection awareness of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage from the national and regional level. In addition, different countries and regions shall formulate special corresponding laws and regulations, and improve the relevant laws from the national and international angels.

Conclusion

Study and protect the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage is beneficial to highlight and inherit the deep connotation and spiritual core of regional marine culture, and to maintain peace and order in East Asia and the world as a whole. But the concern is that the precious Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage is facing threats from many aspects caused by the improper development in the process of urbanization, imperfect management mechanism of the East Asian Marine Cultural Routes Heritage, and the difficulty of international cooperation due to the multiplicity of the ownership. That requires close cooperation between different countries in the following areas: investigate the whole situation of the East Asian Maritime Cultural Routes Heritage, build a cooperative mechanism for regional integration and improve the Marine Cultural Heritage protection technology, and perfect the relevant laws and regulations.

References