

# *On the Core Arguments of Ethnomusicology and Musical Anthropology*

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**Abstract:** With the continuous development of China's social economy, national music plays a more and more important role in our life. It is indispensable, indispensable and foundation for the inheritance of human spiritual civilization and traditional culture. In today's society, with the improvement of people's living standards, they also have a higher pursuit of spiritual and cultural aspects. Therefore, music art has become an important way to cause changes in people's inner feelings and aesthetic taste experience. This paper analyzes it from the perspectives of ethnomusicology and anthropology. First, it gives an overview of ethnomusicology, then analyzes its current research situation, and then theoretically expounds and proposes to analyze the music creation style and form characteristics in ethnic minority areas, as well as how to promote better and faster exchanges and cooperation between the people of all ethnic groups in China and promote mutual benefit through localization. After that, this paper adopts the form of questionnaire to investigate the current situation of students' learning of ethnic music. The survey results show that most students learn and learn ethnic music from music classes, the Internet and extramural activities. More than 80% of the respondents are interested in the content of ethnic music knowledge in music textbooks. The frequency of listening to ethnic music is 0.84-0.98, To sum up, it shows that most of the students like China's outstanding and have distinctive local characteristics, educational significance, profound cultural connotation and other characteristics, or a special aesthetic consciousness generated by the combination of national spirit and China's traditional art, which plays a significant role in all aspects of society. At the same time, because of its strong practicality and wide adaptability, So in the whole process, it will greatly improve people's quality of life.

## **1. Introduction**

Ethnomusicology is an ancient and rich discipline, which is gradually maturing in the process of continuous development and improvement. With the progress and innovative development of society, people pay more and more attention to traditional culture and enhance their awareness of protection [1, 2]. The localization process in China has also gradually accelerated, and music education has begun to emerge and gradually been accepted by the public and widely disseminated.

At the same time, some western countries have studied and explored their own cultural heritage and found that many of their works have entered the domestic and even international markets, which puts forward broader development space and prospects for national vocal music art [3, 4].

Domestic scholars have made great progress in the study of ethnic music, mainly on the integration of ethnic musicology and primary and secondary school courses, teaching models and methods, and teaching contents. Some scholars believe that there are many deficiencies in the current folk art activities in China [5, 6]. If the Chinese traditional cultural elements are not well integrated into the classroom, the lack of protection of excellent works in ethnic minority areas is an important reason that hinders our development of national music. Some scholars believe that singing is an art form. Western composers also expressed this style in a very mature, specific and vivid way. Most of the songs they created have a deep level and profound sense of meaning. He also advocated that when singing a song, attention should be paid to the depth and integrity of the lyrics to show the artistic conception contained in the music language [7, 8]. The above research has laid the research foundation for this paper.

With the development of society, people have more knowledge and understanding of music. Music is an art form that plays an important role in human life. However, there are still some problems and shortcomings in our national vocal music teaching, which requires us to strengthen the research on minority music creation, singing and other aspects, and propose corresponding solutions to improve students' learning interest, learning ability and skill level to better cultivate students' love for Chinese traditional culture, so that they can understand national music more comprehensively and systematically.

## **2. Discussion on the Core Arguments of Ethnomusicology and Musical Anthropology**

### **2.1. Ethnomusicology**

Ethnomusicology is a subject with rich cultural connotation, which is presented in various forms and contents, and obtains a new aesthetic way by analyzing and processing these works. It mainly studies the relationship between man and nature and its society. In this process, we not only need to understand the impact of human environment on their living conditions. We should also learn how to correctly treat the bad or bad phenomena brought about by the natural environment, and at the same time, we should master some basic scientific knowledge, such as the basic theory of musicology, national culture and national art, which must be understood and applied. Ethnomusicology is a discipline based on China's traditional culture and other art forms, developed in constant practice and formed with Chinese characteristics, advancing with the times and not lagging behind the current situation [9, 10]. Ethnomusicology refers to the creation of folk instrumental musicians who spread in the minority regions or regions of China and have a certain scale, and are rich in characteristics and can reflect their unique styles and characteristics (such as traditional Chinese musical instruments) and various forms, and can express the characteristics of these works. Our country also has a deep research on minority music. For example, the Dai dance in Yunnan, with its rich and diverse expressive force and unique beautiful and moving style, is unique and unique. The purpose of ethnomusicology research is to enable people to better understand and appreciate Chinese traditional culture, and to systematically understand it. For us, we should not only master some basic knowledge and skills, but also recognize the excellent spirit of the Chinese nation. Therefore, it is of great significance to our people. First, it can improve people's sense of novelty and profound understanding of the motherland, the country and the world. Second, it can also cultivate students' emotional abilities such as national pride and sense of responsibility. These are very useful and worthy of recognition methods for research [11, 12]. Figure 1 is an integral part of folk music.

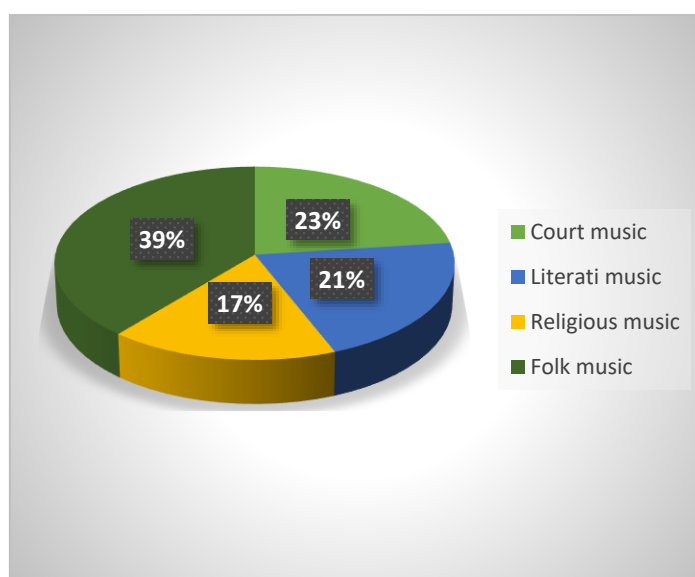


Figure 1: The component of the folk music

## 2.2. Anthropology of Music

Musical anthropology refers to the study of national music culture. It is mainly through observation and analysis to master the expression techniques and creation concepts used in China's traditional national music creation. Through the study of national culture, it helps us understand and understand the life customs of the people of all ethnic groups in China, as well as the differences and connections between them. It also helps people better understand Chinese traditional art, so as to achieve understanding Purpose of recognition and inheritance [13, 14]. It not only enables us to have a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of what is contained in it, but from this perspective, we can understand that achievements are those that are found and collected in our daily life, which are related to our own nation or the same type and other aspects, and are representative of in-depth and detailed observation and record. Musical anthropology is one of the characteristics of a highly specialized and comprehensive discipline. It also involves the study of the emotional and spiritual world represented by various musical works. First, students should know and master the basic knowledge. Second, they should understand the excellent works of various ethnic cultures in China by analyzing and studying some ethnic songs, So as to stimulate the interest in learning. In this respect, Chinese folk music has a lot of development and spread, so it is a very important topic for everyone. This is precisely why China has a multicultural background, which has formed cultural exchanges between different regions, between regions and between regions and other places. In addition, due to various differences between regions and other regions, people have a great demand for music. Therefore, ethnic music has developed very rapidly in this regard and has great potential and research value.

## 2.3. Application of Ethnomusicology in Musical Anthropology

In the 21st century, with the development of the world economy and culture, people have higher and higher requirements for the quality of life. Music is an art form that is also accepted by the public. As a discipline, musicology also studies the ways and means of communication with people in terms of human psychological phenomena, social behavior and other aspects, as well as various relationship problems in its production process. Therefore, musicology can be used to solve some complicated theoretical problems and practical research that are difficult to understand or express in

words, and to a certain extent, it has promoted people's artistic creation ability and creativity in life experience [15, 16]. Figure 2 shows the existing problems of ethnomusicology.

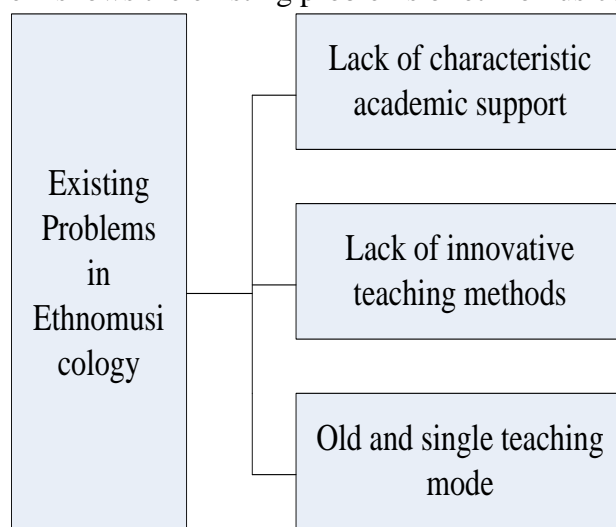


Figure 2: Existing problems in ethnomusicology

The application of ethnomusicology in musical anthropology usually refers to that people use what they understand, use with other people or can be appreciated, and can express certain emotions, thoughts and feelings to express certain things or events and their connotations, and get a sense of identity to form a special form of expression. We should pay more attention to the further research and study of ethnomusicology, because it is not easy for many people to accept or understand. This requires some mass media to let people understand and know themselves, so as to better serve them. Our country has a long, rich and colorful history, but the people are very fond of and admire the characteristics of local characteristics and have certain aesthetic characteristics or forms of expression and other reasons, which makes the development of all aspects of our country more balanced and diversified. Secondly, because of the differences between different regions, the national music styles in different regions are also varied, but the most important of these factors are music anthropology the related theoretical knowledge of culturology. So what we need to do is to popularize the representative and characteristic cultural and artistic forms in ethnic minority areas, so that they can become a popular trend and spread in various places, and be recognized, loved, studied and practiced by the masses [17, 18].

### 3. On the Investigation Process of the Core Arguments of Ethnomusicology and Musical Anthropology

#### 3.1. Investigation Purpose

Through the investigation of ethnomusicology, we can understand the difficulties faced by the traditional arts of ethnic minorities in music creation and dissemination, and put forward corresponding suggestions. This paper hopes to provide help for the creation of ethnic minority folk songs in the future. In the research process of this topic, we will use the literature method, questionnaire survey analysis method and other methods to collect relevant information and data, and systematically collate and summarize the collected aspects about the development status and future trend of ethnic music. Through the collection and analysis of relevant information on ethnic musicology, we can understand the current creation style and development status of ethnic music in China. According to my own investigation purpose and topic, this study mainly makes an in-depth

and systematic observation from the perspective of "anthropology". From the collection of a large number of questions about national music culture and its role in contemporary social life, make a simple exposition, and through the review of literature and information and their own knowledge, put forward problems and countermeasures on the creation style and development of China's minority music. It is the support and reference for this paper.

### 3.2. Investigation Content

In order to make the investigation more targeted, this paper conducts an in-depth study of ethnomusicology and musical anthropology. This survey is mainly conducted on students through questionnaires, interviews and other methods. First of all, we should know how much students know about this topic and their views on national music creation ability. Second, we should know whether they like minority musical instruments or love their own culture. Finally, the most important thing is why they choose this topic. We hope that we can find some materials and data related to this topic to help us better research and analyze musicology and bilingual teaching. Figure 3 shows the content flow of the survey.

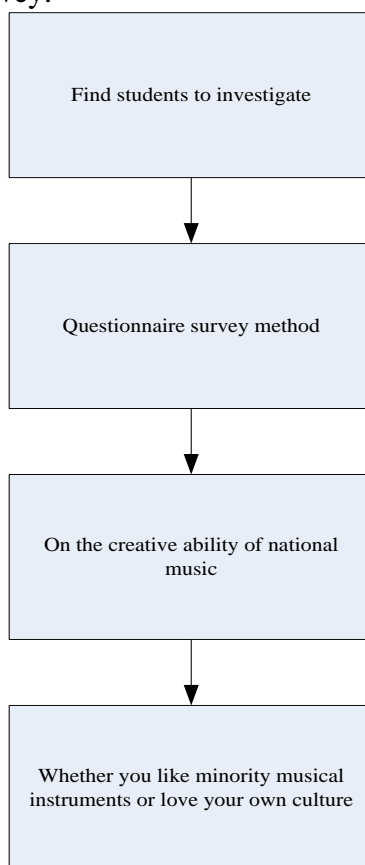


Figure 3: Survey content

### 3.3. Investigation Methods

The survey method refers to the collection of relevant materials and data by means of questionnaires, interviews, etc., with certain scientific methods as the research object. This survey mainly adopts the combination of literature analysis and interview. By consulting relevant books and periodical papers, we can obtain the information needed and collect and sort it out. At the same time, we should also use the Internet to search for representative research results and historical

experience on the development status of ethnomusicology and minority musicology, so as to provide a reliable theoretical basis and data support for the research of this topic. In this paper, through field investigation, the relevant data of ethnomusicology are collected, sorted and analyzed. In order to make the research results more authentic and reliable, the calculation method of credibility is selected as follows:

$$r_{kb20} = \frac{K}{K-1} \left[ 1 - \frac{\sum_i^k = pq}{S} \right] \quad (1)$$

$$r_{kb21} = \frac{K}{K-1} \left[ 1 - \frac{\bar{X}(K-\bar{X})}{KS} \right] \quad (2)$$

Where, K is the number of questionnaire items, S is the variance of the score of question i, p is the percentage of the number of correct answers to question i, q is the percentage of the number of wrong answers to question i, and X is the average of the total scores of all questionnaires.

## 4. Investigation and Analysis of the Core Arguments of Ethnomusicology and Musical Anthropology

### 4.1. Applied Analysis of Ethnomusicology and Musical Anthropology

In musical anthropology. We can see that it is a very complex process. The analysis of the relationship and status is carried out from the three aspects of society, economy and culture. Anthropology believes that it is a scientific activity process with symbolic significance, which can reproduce the objective real environment through certain means or ways, and to some extent, have an impact on history and real life. Table 1 is the survey data of ethnomusicology and musicology application in this paper.

Table 1: Questionnaire survey

Respondent	Generally, through which way to obtain the knowledge of folk music	Interested in the content of folk music knowledge in music textbooks	Frequency of listening to folk music
Freshman	Music class	86%	98%
Sophomore	Internet, music class	83%	96%
Junior	Collecting the style and other activities	90%	90%
Senior	Music class, off-school internship	81%	84%

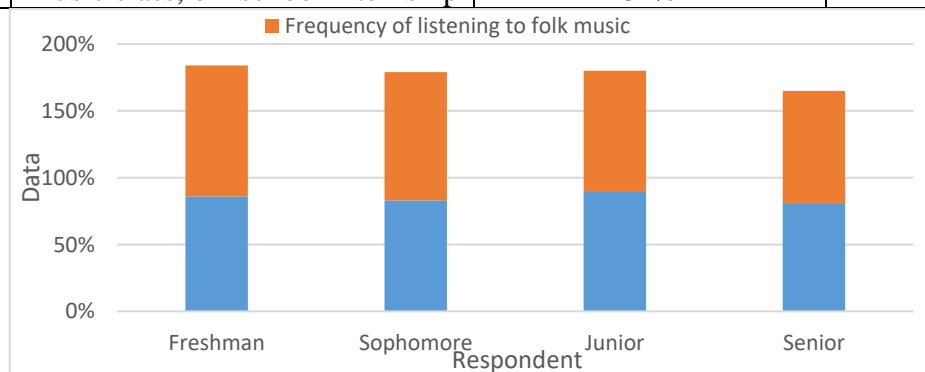


Figure 4: An applied analysis of ethnomusicology and musical anthropology

In the application of ethnomusicology and musical anthropology, students should pay attention to cultivating their interest in national music creation and western culture. First of all, let students know what style they like and different characteristics of different countries and regions. Secondly, students can be inspired to love the motherland and the construction of China's spiritual civilization by appreciating some excellent works. They can also use these themes to create content suitable for young people and children to learn and understand the unique art forms of ethnic minorities, and integrate musicology knowledge and skills into teaching, so as to better cultivate students' sense of national pride and patriotism. It can be seen from Figure 4 that most students learn about and learn folk music through music classes, the Internet and extramural activities. More than 80% of the respondents are interested in the content of folk music knowledge in music textbooks. The frequency of listening to folk music ranges from 0.84 to 0.98. In conclusion, most students like China's excellent music, which has distinctive local characteristics and educational significance. It is characterized by a deep sense of cultural connotation, or a special aesthetic consciousness produced by the combination of national spirit and traditional art in China, and has a significant role in all aspects of society. At the same time, because of its strong practicality and wide adaptability, it has a great role in improving people's quality of life throughout the process.

## 5. Conclusion

With the continuous development of China's modernization, national music plays a more and more important role in our daily life, and Chinese local composers regard it as indispensable for their own music creation. At this stage, the research on minority musicology and anthropology mainly focuses on the analysis of national instruments, folk songs and western cultural and artistic forms. One can mould people's mind, regulate their mental health and shape their personality image. Musicology is also known as the "fifth king". It is based on human culture and combined with other disciplines to form an independent scientific theoretical system, which plays a significant role in all aspects of society. At the same time, because of its strong practicality and wide adaptability, it has a great role in improving people's quality of life in the whole process. This paper expounds theoretically the influence of these factors on the formation of China's ethnic minority music creation style through literature review and logical induction, and puts forward some suggestions in practice.

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