

## Fusion Creation of Chinese and Thai Folk Dance (Long Armor Dance)

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**Abstract**

In the world of dance art, Southeast Asian dance art is an important part. In some countries in Southeast Asia, such as Thailand and Vietnam, their religious culture, dress culture and dance art have a close relationship. Strong religious culture runs through the dance music, style characteristics and dance vocabulary. By studying the dance of the Futai nationality in Sakong Nakhon Prefecture, Thailand, I found that there are performers wearing nails while dancing. In China, there are many kinds and forms of Dai dance, and the Dai Changjia dance is the most distinctive one. It is the main part of religious art study to study the dance art of Southeast Asia through the fusion creation of dances of different cultures of China and Thailand. The study on the dance culture of Futai Jiancha dance of Thailand and Dai Changjia dance of China is conducive to the exchange and dissemination of dance culture. With the development of tourism in China and ASEAN countries, most scenic spots have integrated Thai dance culture into their tourism culture. However, the current research on ASEAN dance is relatively weak, especially the research on Changjia dance, which lacks innovation and development. I will create more novel works through the integration and creation of Futai dance in Thailand and Dai Changjia dance in China. To spread the culture of Chinese and Thai Changka dance, and at the same time, the integrated Changka dance will be arranged into a cultural performance program, which will be performed regularly in tourist attractions, cultural centers or theaters to promote the development of tourism. Taking the "Changjia Dance" of Fu Tai nationality and Dai nationality of China and Thailand as an example, we will study the differences and similarities between the two and carry out the fusion creation. This research will help the development and promotion of dance culture, spread the dance culture of "Changjia dance" of China and Thailand, and better inherit and develop folk dance culture.



**Keywords:** Fusin creation; China and Thai Folk Dance; Changjia Dance

## Introduction

The Changjia Dance of the Dai nationality in China is a folk dance of the Dai nationality, spread in the Menglian Dai Lahu Wa Autonomous County, Pu 'er City, Yunnan Province. This dance was originally performed by men wearing bamboo armor on their fingers. Later, with the evolution of The Times, it was mostly performed by women wearing golden long armor on their fingers. According to legend, the Changjia dance is a type of classical dance in Menglian Yifu Guyue Dance, which was performed especially for toast and dignitaries in the court.

The Thai Changka dance is a kind of national festival dance popular in Thai folk, which often appears in the scene of welcoming distinguished guests. In addition, the Thai folk dance is also very popular on the day of Songkran, a traditional national festival in Thailand.

The origin of the Changka dance can be traced back to the northern court culture of Thailand a long time ago, and it was a court dance at that time. Its birthplace was mainly Chiang Mai Province in northern Thailand and its nearby areas. During the field visit and investigation, it was found that the Futai people in Sakhon Nakhon Province in northern Thailand also had folk Changka dance. They used red cloth to tie their hair and sometimes used red cloth to pack their hair while performing. Their costumes were mainly red and black. A long nail made of paper or metal, wrapped with thread and with a white or red tassel at the end of the nail, is mostly used in the folk Changka dance.

Taking the “Changjia dance” of Fu Tai nationality and Dai nationality in China and Thailand as an example, I will study the differences and similarities between them, carry out fusion creation, and inherit and develop folk dance culture.

## Objectives

1. Expand the artistic expression and communication power of Changjia Dance.
2. The integrated creation of Changjia dance, it can bring new highlights and attractions to the tourism industry



3. Forms of promotion and dissemination of Chinese and Thai “Changjia dance” dance culture, better inheritance and development of folk-dance culture.

### Literature Review

Changjia dance, also known as "Changjia dance drama", is a traditional dance form originating in China with a history dating back to ancient times. It has been praised for its unique dance gestures and costumes, as well as its profound cultural connotations.

During the development of Changjia dance, it has gone through many stages. In the early days, Changjia dance was mainly performed in the royal court and temples, but later it gradually spread to the folk and became a much-loved art form.

The Changjia dance is divided into court Changjia dance and folk Changjia dance, and the long nails of court dancers are usually made of metal and can reach tens of centimeters in length, and are also decorated with various patterns and gems. In addition, the dress of the Changjia dance is also very gorgeous, usually made of silk and brocade with various auspicious patterns embroidered on it, while the dress and props of the folk Changjia dance are relatively simple. In the Changjia dance of the Futai nationality in Thailand that I studied, the dress color is mostly red and black, the cloth is simple, and the Changjia dance is made of paper or metal and wrapped with thread.

The cultural connotation of the Changjia dance is also very rich. It is not only an art form, but also a carrier of cultural inheritance. During the performance of Changjia Dance, dancers convey the values, ethics and aesthetics of traditional Chinese culture through various movements and expressions.

With the development of The Times, Changjia Dance is gradually being forgotten by people. However, in recent years, with the gradual rise of Chinese culture, more and more people begin to pay attention to and attach importance to the traditional art form of Changjia. Many artists and scholars have begun to devote themselves to studying and inheriting Changjia dance and passing it on through various means.

In a word, Changjia dance is a shining pearl in Chinese traditional dance, which has attracted much attention for its unique dance style and profound cultural connotation. Although it faces some challenges and dilemmas in modern society, it is believed that



Changjia, an excellent traditional art form, will be better protected and passed on as people pay more attention to traditional culture and raise their awareness of protection.

### Conceptual structure

This research is qualitative research to explore cultural resources in the area and interview experts and cultural owners, along with actual fieldwork. This paper is divided into five chapters : The first chapter describes the research background and research significance, research purpose, research scope, definition of terms, research results, The second chapter elaborates the geographical location, historical background, introduction of props (Changjia), analysis of dance music and Musical Instruments, promotion of tourism development through integration and literature review of Dai nationality in China and Futai Jiongjia in Thailand, The third chapter elaborates the movement characteristics, custom analysis, formation change analysis, costume analysis, creative inspiration source and creative movement analysis of Dai nationality in China and Futai Clan Jia dance in Thailand, The fourth chapter, dance creation and Chapter Five, the thesis summary.



Figure 1 Geographical location of Dai nationality in China

Source: [https://th.bing.com/th/id/OIP.e94btzVvM4gd2RBhzlx\\_rQHafA](https://th.bing.com/th/id/OIP.e94btzVvM4gd2RBhzlx_rQHafA)





Figure 2 Geographical location of the Futai ethnic group in Thailand



Figure 3 Changjia Dance of Dai nationality in China





Figure 4 Futai Clan Chiefjia Dance in Thailand








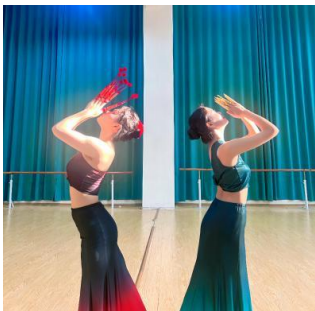
Figure 5 Display of Changjia of Dai people in China and Futai people in Thailand



Figure 6 shows part of the dance formation in the fusion creation work

Table 1 Tabulation of creation of movement posture and movement name introduction

The movement posture of creation	Action names	Action analysis
	Palm-spread dance position	Hands palm spread hand shape, small steps, one person stands in front, chest waist back, one person squat small steps in the back half, the body bends forward and looks up.
	Kneel down and dance with seven hands	Sit on your knees with your legs and bend back to form a seven-hand position with your palms.

The movement posture of creation	Action names	Action analysis
	Stand on one knee and waist position	Kneeling on one leg, rotate the long nail with both hands, one hand in front of the chest, the other hand above the head, and reverse the waist.
	Peacock hand dance posture	Peacock hand shape, long nail fan, right hand on the top, left hand on the bottom. The head looks at the right hand, and the chest and waist are inverted.
	Double palm shape hip dance position	Double palm hand swing to the left and right sides of your body, following your crotch.
	Saluting the dance position	Put your hands together and salute at the tip of your nose, pointing your right foot back

According to the main creative movements in the table, this paper will study the combination of Dai Changjia dance of China and Futai Chiefjia dance of Thailand, and integrate and innovate the Changjia dance and movements of the two to form a unique





dance art form. Through the innovation of movements, the creative achievements of the integration of Changjia dance of China and Thailand will be displayed.

### Summary

The Dai people of China have a long history, with their own cultural background, calendar, literary classics, dramas and so on. We can see from many Dai legends that diligence, bravery and kindness are the characteristics of the Dai people, and when they sing and dance, they can feel the Dai people's gentle temperament and happy atmosphere of living in harmony with others. Therefore, most of the Dai folk dances are beautiful and cheerful. We can see the life of the Dai people from the Dai folk dances. They have integrated thousands of years of cultural history into their flexible and beautiful dances.

Thai people are deeply influenced by Buddhist culture and have a simple and kind character, but at the same time, they also have a calm and quiet. Although Thai folk dances also have the kinds of dances to celebrate festivals, birthdays and religious sacrifices, they also bring their fear of God and Buddha when they get together to celebrate their joy. In addition, while absorbing the essence of foreign culture, Thai folk dance also integrates the cultural characteristics of the region to form its own dance system. However, no matter how the Thai folk dance develops, the Buddhist culture has long been deeply imprinted in the Thai art culture. The Thai folk dance, originally a part of Buddhist sacrifice, has gradually developed into a form of celebration performance for large-scale activities. With the continuous development of human history, a lot of history has disappeared in the long river of time, but we can still find the strong and profound Buddhist art and culture atmosphere in Thailand from today's Thai folk dance. Thai people's attachment to Buddhist culture and their perception of life through Buddhist culture are expressed in Thai folk dance.

We combine the traditional cultural elements of the two countries organically to form a unique dance art form through the fusion creation of Chinese and Thai Changka dances. Such novel and culturally profound dance works can attract more tourists to watch, thus enhancing the cultural attraction of tourist destinations.

The fusion creation of Dai Changjia dance of China and Futai Changjia dance of Thailand mentioned in Chapter one makes use of the cultural connection and similarities



between them to create dance works with both traditional charm and innovative elements, which increases cultural diversity and satisfies tourists' demands for cultural experience.

In short, dance is the most direct way for people to express their thoughts and emotions, and it is also one of the oldest arts in human history. I hope that through the integration and creation of Chinese and Thai folk Changjia dance, it can bring us new experiences and new visual feast, and also bring value to the inheritance and protection of Changjia dance. No matter from the Dai folk dance or the Thai folk dance, we can see that the art of dance knows no national boundaries, and the dances of different ethnic groups can learn from each other. They all fully record the hard-working and simple people bravely facing the challenges of life, the rich traditional culture and art, as well as the persistence and contribution of old artists. Today, we appreciate folk dance not only to appreciate the beauty of art created by people through continuous attempts, but also to gain insight into life through these marked dances and appreciate the beauty of humanity in different countries and regions in different times.

### Research Suggestions

Human history is constantly developing, and many histories are lost in the long river of time, and the Changjia dance, as a traditional folk dance of the two countries, is facing the crisis of extinction. Therefore, in-depth research and integration of Changjia dance will not only help us better understand and appreciate this art form, but also provide an important reference for protecting and inheriting traditional culture. We should strengthen the inheritance and promotion of traditional culture, and make traditional folk dance culture glow with new style and vitality through various cultural exchanges and exhibition activities. In this regard, I would like to make the following suggestions.

1. It can be demonstrated through performance: in important cultural festivals, art festivals or tourism festivals, the integration of Chinese and Thai Changjia dance creative achievements will be displayed to attract the attention and love of tourists and audiences.

2. The integrated Changjia dance will be arranged into a cultural performance program, and regular performances will be performed in tourist attractions, cultural centers or theaters to promote the development of tourism.



3. Choreographing the integrated Changjia dance into a cultural performance program and staging regular performances at tourist attractions, cultural centers or theaters to promote tourism.

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