

A Study on the Loss of Tourist Attractions in Central China Hubei Province During the Anti-Japanese War*

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This paper takes the Wudang Mountains and Wuhan Battle Memorial Hall as examples to investigate and analyze the losses of Wuhan during the Anti-Japanese War. The paper concludes with two inspirations: to make full use of the intangible cultural heritage spots to carry out patriotism education for primary and middle school students; and to effectively transform the cultural resources of the tourist spots in Hubei Province into cultural industries, in order to achieve the sustainable development of intangible cultural resources of Hubei Province tourist attractions.

Keywords: during the Anti-Japanese War, Hubei Province, tourist attractions, losses

Introduction

Huang Yonglin (2013), former vice principal of Central China Normal University, in the paper “Research on digital protection and development of intangible cultural heritage in China”, pointed out that intangible cultural heritage has some special properties, such as activity, ecology, inheritance, variability, etc. In order to better develop and protect the intangible cultural heritage resources of the famous tourist spots in Hubei Province, the famous tourist spots in Wudang Mountains and the Memorial Hall of the Battle of Wuhan both have the above characteristics, it is necessary to study the damage of tourist attractions during the Anti-Japanese War.

The Damage of Tourist Attractions in Central China Hubei Province During the Anti-Japanese War

Damage in Wudang Mountains During the War of Resistance Against Japan

During the Anti-Japanese War, Caodian, located in the Southern District of Junxian County, Wudang Mountains, Hubei Province, was the birthplace of the Anti-Japanese Democratic Movement in Wudang Mountains. In November 1938, the Chinese Communist Party organized the First Rural Party branch in Wudang Mountains (Meng, 1996). Wudang Mountains is located in the northwest of Hubei Yunyang (today Shiyan) and Sichuan, Shanxi, Henan three provinces at the junction, after the outbreak of a comprehensive anti-Japanese war in central China to become a major rear. According to relevant statistics, in July 1937, to

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meet the needs of the War of resistance, Fang County set up a “mobilization committee”, a total of 21,510 able-bodied men. The number of able-bodied men killed in the transportation of military supplies was 47, and the number of soldiers killed in the war of resistance against Japan in this county was 233. On December 5, 1941, seven Japanese planes strafed Yunxi County from the Sun Pass, killing six people and destroying more than 20 rooms. In March 1945, 3rd Regiment of 3rd Tank Division of Japanese Army, about a division, invaded Dongmei, Bamei and Long’an in Yun County, killing and wounding 295 villagers and burning 196 houses. During the War of Resistance Against Japan, 28 villages and towns in Yunyang organized a total of 3,200 people and more than 1,600 stretchers to carry the sick. During the War, 837 people lost their lives in the war front, and 183 were captured and killed in battle (Xing, 2018).

Through the statistical analysis of the damage of the tourist attractions in Wudang Mountains during the Anti-Japanese War, we can draw a conclusion that the strategic goal of establishing an anti-Japanese base area in Wudang Mountains during the Anti-Japanese War was not achieved, but there was a vigorous appearance of the area, this spirit of unity and sacrifice among the people of Wudang Mountains, including the entire northwest of Hubei, has an indelible historical merit in the history of the War of Resistance Against Japan, which is worth learning from.

The Memorial Hall of the War of Resistance Against Japan Recorded the Details of the Damage to the People of Wuhan

During the Second Sino-Japanese War, from June to October 1938, the Chinese army fought a battle with the Japanese invaders in Wuhan, Hubei Province, there were more than 400,000 Chinese soldiers killed and wounded. In the history of the Second Sino-Japanese War, Wuhan’s status as the wartime capital of the Wuhan campaign could not be underestimated. After the fall of Shanghai in November 1937, the National Government of the Republic of China announced that it would move its capital to Chongqing, and Wuhan quickly became the political, military, economic, and cultural center of the Anti-Japanese War (Dong, 2010). In the series of operational notes to China, it is recorded that there were about 2,300 dead and more than 7,300 wounded in the battle of Jiangbei, 4,500 dead and 17,386 wounded in the battle of Jiangnan. During the Wuhan Battle, the Japanese army also used poison gas to the Chinese army. The Japanese used poison gas more than 370 times. The poison gas war caused a poisoning rate of 80% among Chinese officers and soldiers, resulting in more than 2,000 casualties among Chinese officers and soldiers (http://www.360doc.com/content/18/0827/20/22346171_781672604.shtml.2020-8-25).

In the Second Sino-Japanese War, Japanese troops committed heinous crimes in China, whether they were targeting Wudang Mountains tourist attractions or data from the Wuhan Battle Memorial. All these show that the Chinese people’s losses in the Second Sino-Japanese War are tremendous, and the crimes committed by the Japanese army in China are inexcusable. Today, peace has not come easily, and we should make good use of the remaining historical sites for patriotic education, as a warning to the Chinese people: Do not forget the national humiliation, remember the mission.

Culture, education and the remains of ancient relics are the signs of human civilization. The excavation and development of the cultural industry in intangible cultural heritage has the function of protecting and passing on the historical relics. During the War of Resistance Against Japan, the Japanese army did great damage to the intangible cultural heritage and caused great losses to China’s cultural undertakings. In addition to the above tourist attractions in central China’s Hubei Province, schools in Hubei Province also suffered

heavy losses. For example, Huazhong University in Wuchang, Hubei Province, Wuhan University, Boone Library School in Wuchang, Wuchang Art Vocational School and other schools were all destroyed by the Japanese army in different forms and degrees. For example, during the relocation of these schools during the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, on the one hand, they suffered from the bombing of enemy planes, on the other hand, their property was partially damaged. In some schools, the bombing of the library directly caused serious damage to the collection, on the one hand, the road lost part of the property (books and newspapers fall into the water, fall, and so on) .

The Revelation of the Damage of the Tourist Attractions in Hubei Province During the Anti-Japanese War

Make Full Use of Intangible Cultural Heritage Sites to Educate Primary and Secondary School Students About Patriotism

The tourist spots, cooperating with the middle and primary schools, carry out the patriotism education by visiting the tourist spots unregularly. The tourist spots train the representative students of middle and primary schools during winter vacation and summer vacation, and they come to the tourist spots and serve as the interpreters.

Effectively Transform the Cultural Resources of the Scenic Spots in Hubei Province Into Cultural Industry

The professional researchers of scenic spots, professional teachers of colleges and universities, and professional teachers of primary and secondary schools form a research team to develop school-based teaching materials on the theme of scenic spots, to integrate the knowledge of tourism culture into the classroom learning in primary and secondary schools. The development of cultural resources and school-based teaching materials will be digitized, to achieve the goal of resource sharing in Hubei Province and even the whole country. The remote village primary and secondary schools can also make better use of this distance learning resources.

Conclusion

As for the investigation and research on the damage of the tourist attractions in central China during the Anti-Japanese War, the author only takes the tourist attractions in Wudang Mountains and the Memorial Hall of the War of Resistance in Wuhan as the case studies. The aim is to generate a more comprehensive and in-depth study of the topic. The research will play a positive role in promoting the study of tourism, Chinese history, the rise of modern China, the history of the War of Resistance Against Japan, cultural industry, intangible cultural heritage, etc., and it will be of great value to the academic circles of history and culture industry in Hubei Province, and be used for reference and guide. It is of great guiding value and far-reaching significance both in theory and practice.

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