

Revitalizing Value of Humanities in the Twenty-four Solar Terms through Visual Design, Liaoning Province, China

Liu Wei¹ and Veerawat Sirivesmas²

¹University of Science and Technology Liaoning, 185 Qianshan Middle Road, Anshan High-tech Zone, Liaoning, China

¹PhD international Program of Design Arts, The faculty of Decorative Arts,
Silpakorn University, Taling Chan, Bangkok, Thailand

²Faculty of Decorative Arts Silpakorn University, Taling Chan, Bangkok., Thailand

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Abstract: The system of “Twenty-Four Solar Terms” (TST) is an order of seasonal solar orbit being used in the Chinese traditional calendar to understand nature and regulate local festivals to their way of life. It is ancient intelligence for more than 2000 years of harmonious living with nature, which reflects value of humanities in philosophical art of living. However, its time-guide function in modern Chinese calendar has gradually lost its importance because modernization in the recent decades has changed people’s lifestyle. Several terms are still used for some popular festivals, e.g. Qingming (Pure Brightness) and Dongzhi (Winter Solstice), however other terms are ignored by modern Chinese society. Although UNESCO submitted it to be intangible cultural heritage of mankind in 2016, which could be a turning point and opportunity to promote it, many Chinese people are still unaware of its traditional importance. Investigation into its cultural loss and possibility of revitalization in the educational field has been carried out in Liaoning Province of China by using questionnaires to understand its familiarity and retained cultural inheritance practices. The target groups contain students, parents, teachers and general population. The results show that 84 % of sampled young individuals were willing to learn and inherit it, while 41% of sampled parents were willing to participate in parent-child activities. Furthermore, almost all of sampled target group supported incorporating it into education. The results also confirm that children are interested in the system of TST, which could be transformed into various lessons through visual communication design.

1 INTRODUCTION

The Twenty-four solar terms (TST) are an ancient Chinese system of relational management between man and seasons for agricultural time and other daily lifestyles reflecting the crystallization of wisdom created by the ancient Chinese. For more than 2000 years, the system has been widely used in agricultural production and daily life in China. As a unique time knowledge system, the “TST” is a typical representative of Chinese culture which affects all aspects of people’s lives. In addition, several important festivals are closely related to the TST. However, with the arrival of China’s industrial and information technology era, modern Chinese lifestyles have been rapidly changed by globalization trends. People are getting farther from nature, and rather abandoning the TST. Some scholars believe

that there are some problems in the survival and inheritance of the TST today (Wang Jiahua, 2017). The TST have no survival crisis in traditional society, but now they have problems in modern society and has now become an intangible cultural heritage that need to be consciously protected (Zhang Bo, 2017). Due to the influence of Western civilization, the relationship between TST and people’s lifestyles has gradually become alienated, and people’s understanding of TST has become more and more superficial, even near zero (Ye Shiyi, 2015). On November 30th, 2016, the TST were announced in UNESCO’s list of Intangible Cultural Heritage. This is a right time and important turning point in revitalizing the TST in public space (China People’s Network 2016). The announcing reflects that the TST still have certain cultural significance and social functions in modern society.



Figure 1: The name of China's twenty-four solar terms and solar terms.

01. Feb 04	立春	Spring begins
02. Feb 19	雨水	The rains
03. Mar 06	惊蛰	Insects awaken
04. Mar 21	春分	Spring Equinox
05. Apr 05	清明	Pure Brightness
06. Apr 20	谷雨	Grain Rain
07. May 06	立夏	Beginning of Summer
08. May 21	小满	Lesser Fullness of Grain
09. Jun 06	芒种	Grain in Beard
10. Jun 21	夏至	Summer Solstice
11. Jul 07	小暑	Lesser Heat
12. Jul 23	大暑	Greater Heat
13. Aug 08	立秋	Beginning of Autumn
14. Aug 23	处暑	End of Heat
15. Sep 08	白露	White Dew
16. Sep 23	秋分	Autumn Equinox
17. Oct 08	寒露	Cold Dew
18. Oct 24	霜降	Frost's Descent
19. Nov 08	立冬	Beginning of Winter
20. Nov 22	小雪	Lesser Snow
21. Dec 07	大雪	Greater Snow
22. Dec 22	冬至	Winter Solstice
23. Jan 05	小寒	Lesser Cold
24. Jan 20	大寒	Greater Cold

Figure 2: Twenty-four solar terms time-table in 2019.

As they are practiced today, the TST system gradually lost its original functions in high-speed modernization process. This cultural situation has become a controversial topic, bringing us severe challenges in cultural heritage. Some people questioned and some people agreed that, as the TST is for farming time, there is no need to “protect” them as long as the countryside is still there to do agriculture, the solar terms will not die (Liu Zongdi, 2017). We should consciously pass on the TST, respecting natural time and the rhythm of life (Xiao Fang, 2015). Although inheritance of the TST system has received more and more attention in academic fields, its popularity in Chinese cultural studies is still at a low level of perceptual knowledge because of the lack of government attention, and new forms of cultural exchanges making young people lost their interest in preserving and continuing practice the TST. In recent year, however, modern Chinese people begin to realize increasingly that “forgetting” is not always terrible, but “losing” thoughtful culture of the TST is a headache. Losing medium of time between man and nature for the righteously seasonal cultivation, such as the TST, is what to be worried in modern society. The successful promoting the TST to be intangible cultural heritage of UNESCO encourages many experts and scholars to pay attention in studying the TST. These experts and scholars are mostly sociologists, folklorists, but art educators are rarely dealing with this topic. It is clear that there are still more rooms for art educators creating their visual designs to educate the young generation.

In today's society, is it necessary to educate the TST in school? If so, who will be the key target of inheriting this cultural heritage? In what way is it effectively passed on? As an art educator who pays attention to Chinese culture, the author hopes to understand the situation of Chinese people's knowledge about the TST through questionnaire survey, especially among the young people. Based on the above reasons, the research team designed a questionnaire on “inheritance and cognitive levels of the Twenty-four solar terms in modern society”. The survey was conducted in Liaoning Province, China, and two questionnaires were designed for students and parents to select respondents by random sampling. The conclusions show that 72% of the sample population knows some names of the TST, but they do not understand their characteristics and customs; 33% of the sample population believes that most of the young people were growing up in the information age with lacking of intimacy to land and nature. It was one of the factors that made the TST

difficult to be inherited. 42% of the sample population believes that the task of inheriting the TST should focus on the school. 98% of the sample target groups support to distributing the TST as a cultural event in the school. Schools are the educational base that bears the responsibility of cultural communication. It plays a cultural communication role in modern society. Offering the TST in school will encourage students to effectively practice Chinese cultural heritage.

道法自然天人合一

Figure 3: Chinese Taoist philosophy: nature of Taoism is unity of man and heaven.

The TST are system of seasonal management for agriculture, folk activities and festivals on the basis of the Taoist philosophy of "Man and Heaven". Children are the sons of nature, and the TST are nature's time order and guidance of life. Children learn the TST from an early age, and when they grow up; they will consciously respect the time rhythm of nature and do something meaningful to humanity, the natural environment and society. Children can perceive natural time order while learning the TST. Learning and mastering the TST can free children from the mechanical time and enjoy the natural time. Researching on the TST in educational field is not only a contribution to Chinese children, but also worldwide children.

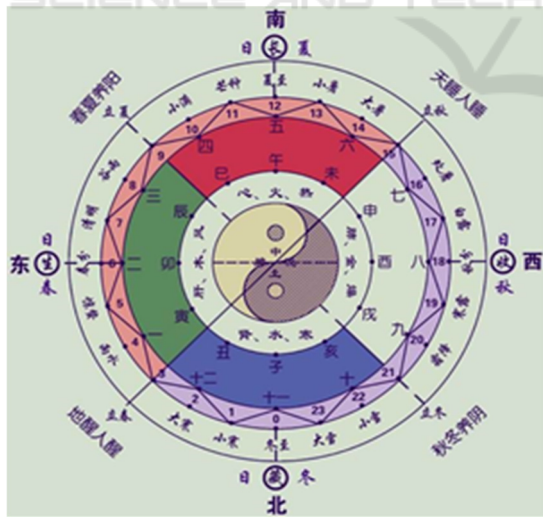


Figure 4: Diagram of China's TST and seasonal time.

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

What is the TST?. The annual cycle is the basic characteristics of natural time (Liu Xiaofeng, 2015). Ancient Chinese used Yin and Yang to summarize the seasonal changes from winter to summer in the year. This is an intricate system incorporating both solar and lunar patterns. The length of the month measured by the moon phases is the "Yin" calendar, while the length of the year measured by earth's orbit of the sun is the "Yang" calendar. Together they form the twenty-four solar periods.

As seen in Figure 2, the Chinese calendar is shown in 360 degrees. Each fifteen-degree section is one solar term. Two of these solar terms correspond to one international calendar month. The moon phases can also be shown in degrees, see figure 5.

Fundamentally speaking, the TST system is based on accurate observations and understanding the law of solar cycle changes. Ancient people invented this system to engage their life with nature because most of them were farmers who planted in the spring and harvested in the fall. As the change of seasons is very important in agriculture, they observed and investigated the relationship between seasonal change and astronomical movement to create the TST system which was used to manage their annual agricultural time, especially for sowing and harvesting (Liu Xiaofeng, 2015). The TST are used to reflect changes in the four seasons, temperature, rainfall, phenology, etc. This is a summary of the experience of the ancient working people in China in the farming season and is an important part of the Chinese traditional calendar system and its related practical activities. Concept of the TST has affected the life of Chinese people for more than 2,000 years since its origin.

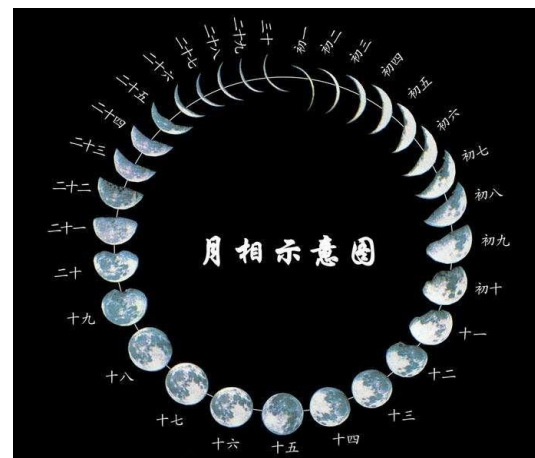


Figure 5: Phases of the moon orbiting around the earth

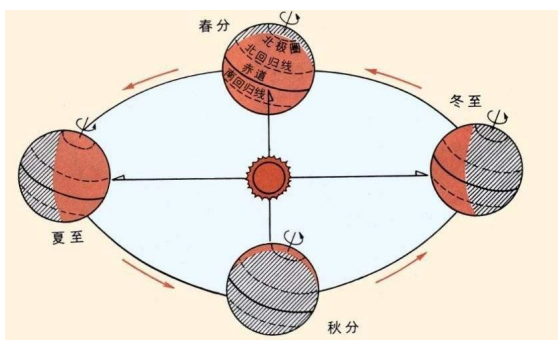


Figure 6: The earth rotates around the sun for a return year.

2.1 The Status Quo of the TST

As the TST system is the knowledge of time management between solar movement and human activities in year-round, it played historically an important role in many cultural aspects, e.g. agricultural production, national affairs, and traditional lifestyle. Because of social changes in modernization, the TST are facing a survival crisis and need to be seriously protected.

Modern Chinese social structure has a trend to change from agricultural to industrialized societies within the acceleration of urbanization process. People respond and accept precisely modern measurement of time, and almost neglects the relationship between seasons and the solar terms. After the founding of the Republic of China, the use of Chinese traditional calendar was replaced by the Western Gregorian calendar, the recent official calendar of the republic.

Although the TST system is still retained in the national almanac issued by the government, its cultural importance has significantly dropped in the field of modern agricultural production and lifestyle. This phenomenon makes the cultural role of the TST be nearly forgotten. Its function in daily life is no longer outstanding. It seems that every cultural aspect is being reduced or lost. For example, function as the time markers is greatly reduced; using the time node for national custom is completely lost; traditional activities have been greatly reduced; function as agricultural guidance is evidently decreased. (Zhang Bo, 2017)

However, it was recently selected as the UNESCO Representative List of Human Intangible Cultural Heritage on November 30th, 2016 (China Agricultural Museum, 2016). This is an important event in the history of its development, and it is also a turning point in revitalizing the TST system to the modern history of humanity. As soon as the good news came out, it immediately caused widespread

concern. The Chinese Ministry of Culture said: "The success of project declaration is not the end of the mission, but it is just another milestone in the work of non-legacy protection" (ZhangBo,2017).



Figure 7: China's TST are listed on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage on November 30, 2016



Figure 8: China's TST guide agricultural production. The picture shows the Bearded Grain solar terms (It is the 9th of the 24 solar terms, June 5, 6, or 7, the end of the grain-growing season and the last chance for sowing)

2.2 Application of TST in Other Fields

Although the role of the TST in agricultural guidance has been reduced, their values are still preserved and inherited in other fields, e.g. traditional medicine and education. Chinese traditional medicine deals significantly with relationship between man and nature. The earliest medical book "Huangdi Neijing" records that People's health communicates with heaven and earth. Changings of seasons, day and night as well as geographical environments have influence on one's body.

The most distinctive feature in this classic book is the "Solar Qi" which is considered as the echoes of the TST being used in clinical diagnosis and treatment (Fang Wei, 2016). Human body can feel

changes of the nature in forms of solar and lunar movements, seasonal changes, cold and warm temperatures as well as philosophical concept of the Ying and Yang.

Living between heaven and earth, people’s life depends on their changes which can cause death or alive. They, therefore, must understand these changes to adapt their lifestyle for suitable longevity as "NeiJing" emphasizes that people must adapt themselves to live in seasonal transition for their quality of health and longevity. On the other hand, if people neglect to understand and adapt themselves to live harmoniously with the nature, their body will feel uncomfortable and prone to illness.

In the field of education, Tianyi Middle School in Wuwei City, Gansu Province, carried out cultural activities introducing the TST concepts through farming and harvesting experiences. The activities aim that students understand how the TST guide the farming activities. Through the activities, students learned about origins and legends of the solar terms as well as lessons of agricultural activities that are related to the solar terms. Through the participation in the TST, the students really understood function of the TST and recognized the importance of the Chinese traditional calendar.



Figure 9: The relationship between the TST and Traditional Chinese medicine health.



Figure 10: Children becoming closer to nature while learning agricultural practices.

3 METHODOLOGY

The discipline of this study is based on “cultural consciousness” proposed by Fei Xiaotong (2019, Libo) who is a famous sociologist and the first one to propose this concept in the second high-level seminar on sociocultural anthropology held in 1997. “The concept deals with phenomena of cultural self-awareness and self-creation occurring among different cultural groups which are facing cultural conflicts. Cultural consciousness is also a kind of cultural accumulation, which provides the potential for the development and creation of culture.” With the discipline, the authors aim to test and analyse people’s cultural consciousness about the TST in three steps: 1) situation of people’s cognition, 2) situation of people’s inheritance, and 3) people’s expectation of revitalization.

The regional target of this study was Liaoning Province, north-eastern China, where agriculture has been the primary industry since ancient times. Historically, the TST has not only guided farming practices, but also cultural practices such as the origin for household names and the twenty-four festival songs. While it is true that elders can still sing the twenty-four festival songs, the new generation is no longer able. It is obvious that at present the loss of TST culture is great in Liaoning Province.



Figure 11. Map of Liaoning Province, China.

To obtain data on the cultural consciousness of modern society in Liaoning, this project uses a combined method of questionnaire sampling and in-depth interviews, and the target group is composed of students and their parents in the target area. Data collection has been carried out by surveying opinions of the target group about their cultural consciousness in the TST. The questionnaire survey was chosen as the tool for receiving the raw data. Five hundred questionnaires were randomly asked the target group, and two parents were chosen for in-depth interviews. As a result, the survey conducted questionnaires for different areas, different ages, different educational backgrounds, and different occupational groups. This questionnaire survey was completed by our team

composing of six members: one university teacher and five undergraduates.

The questionnaire entitled, “Cognition and Inheritance Levels of the Twenty-Four Solar Terms in Modern Society” was completed in June 2018. The questions compose 1) the level of awareness and inheritance of the TST in contemporary society, 2) parents’ attitudes towards family education and public education, and 3) what responsibility and expectations are assumed by the school as an educational base. All questionnaire data were checked and verified by the research team, and results were transferred into statistical display for analysing percentages of the target group’s characteristics and cultural opinions dealing the TST.



Figure 12: A questionnaire survey was conducted among students in Liaoning Province, China.

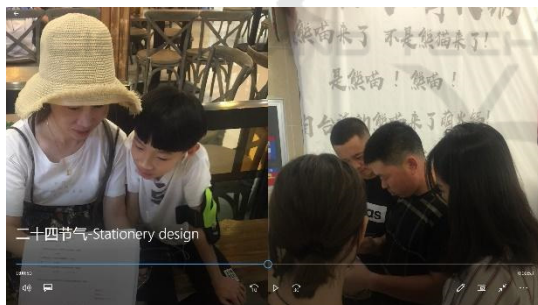


Figure 13: Questionnaire survey conducted among parents of students in Liaoning Province, China.

4 RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

According to the total questionnaire of five hundred, 438 were valid responses. The result of this questionnaire includes responses of 176 males and 242 females, both of which have an age range from 8 to 60 years old. Among these respondents, there are 4% from primary schools, 46% from junior high schools and high schools, 48% from junior colleges and undergraduates, and only 2% from masters and

above. Regional distribution shows that 68% of the target group live in central urban areas, 22% live in urban and rural areas, and only 8% live in rural areas. Occupations of the parents in the target group included unit leaders, private business owners, Employees of Government Institutions, hired employees, self-employed persons, as well as unemployed, retirees, housewives etc.

4.1 People’s Cognition

4.1.1 Cognition Level of Elders Is Higher than That of Young Generation

According to the perspective cognition, elders have level of cognition about the TST higher than that of young people. China used to be an agricultural society, and Liaoning province was a big agricultural province. Most of families had rural backgrounds. After China resumed the college entrance examination in 1977, many young people migrated to urban areas for work and study, leaving the countryside gradually and resettling in cities. Therefore, people born before 1970 were generally more aware of the TST. This group of people can clearly remember the time order of the solar terms and understand their specific dates and characteristics. Most of them can still sing the TST song. On the other hand, young people know some names of the solar terms but do not understand their characteristics and customs. Moreover, most cannot remember the time order of the solar terms and cannot sing the solar terms songs.

春雨惊春清谷天，
chūn yǔ jīng chūn qīng gǔ tiān
夏满芒夏暑相连。
xià mǎn máng xià shǔ xiāng lián
秋处露秋寒霜降，
qiū chù lù qiū hán shuāng jiàng
冬雪雪冬小大寒。
dōng xuě xuě dōng xiǎo dà hán

Figure 14: TST poetry as a song composed by choosing Chinese character from TST names for memorizing. The following sections are the twenty-four solar terms songs.

4.1.2 Cognition Level of Educated People Is Higher than That of Comparatively Lower One

The difference in educational levels was found to relate to the cognition of the TST. People from higher

education had a better capability in understanding the roles of the TST in cultural situations. The degree of education also determines that social roles are different from living educational concepts are different, and preference for traditional culture is different. Therefore, the proportion of education in the study population has a great influence on whether the TST can be transmitted and accepted in the population. Because the proportion of people with higher education level is larger, the probability of traditional culture spreading and being accepted is relatively large.

4.1.3 Cognition Level of Current Situation of the TST in UNESCO Is Moderate

Most people do not know that the TST is now a world's intangible cultural heritage; only 40% of the target group knew the status. The result shows that people have little understanding of the historical and cultural values of the TST. In fact, being rated as intangible cultural heritage is an important turning point in its revitalization. Perhaps the government has not promoted the TST enough.

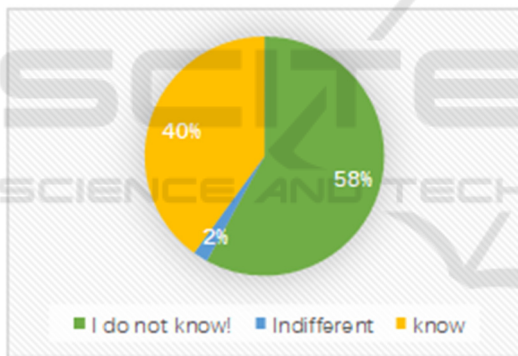


Figure 15: Percentage of respondents that aware of the acceptance of the UNESCO acceptance of the TST as an intangible world heritage.

4.1.4 Cognition Level of Perception of the TST Is Not High

According to the question, "Are the TST solar or lunar calendars?" only 22% of the respondents were correct, 6% of them were unclear, and 72% of them confused it with the lunar calendar.

In fact, the TST are the solar calendar in the traditional Chinese calendar. It is a knowledge system and social practice formed by the Chinese to observe the sun's yearly movement and to recognize the changes in the seasons, climate, and phenology of the year. The ancient Chinese divided the trajectory of the

sun's movement into 24 equal parts. Each equal part is a "solar term," collectively referred to as "TST." The lunar calendar in astronomy mainly refers to the calendar arranged by the cycle of the moon around the earth.

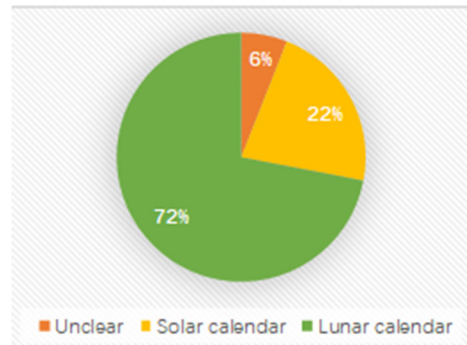


Figure 16: Percentage of respondents that believed the TST were based on solar or lunar calendars

4.2 People's Inheritance

4.2.1 Cognition Level of Current Situation of the TST in UNESCO Is Moderate

Strong sense of inheritance is moderately high: Although the TST have gradually moved away from people's daily life, the target group still has a strong sense of inheritance. According to the question, "Should the Twenty-four Solar Terms be inherited?" 66% of the target group believed that the TST has a huge impact on the lifestyle of Chinese people and the terms should be passed on to the next generation. However, 30% of the target group believed that the TST has little impact on the modern lifestyle, yet they also believed it should continue to be passed on. Only 4% believed that the loss of the TST does not greatly impact modern lifestyle, indicating the sense of cultural consciousness is quite weak. In the occurrence of a strong sense of inheritance among the target group is a huge contrast to the current situation. Although the TST are getting farther away from a modern lifestyle, the consciousness of inheritance is still very strong. Most have a high potential in recognizing and revitalizing the cultural value of the TST and are also expecting the TST to be applied to their lifestyle in a new format.

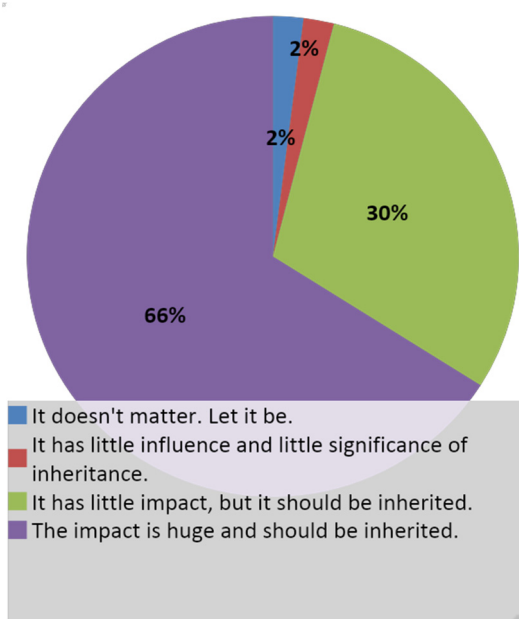


Figure 17; Should the twenty-four solar terms be passed down? Answer situation

4.2.2 Inheritance of Some TST Are Promoted as National Festivals by Government Policies

Two national Chinese festivals still practiced today are the Qing Ming and Winter Solstice festivals. The Qing Ming Festival (or the stepping grass festival) is on the fifteenth day after the spring equinox. During this festival, people go to their ancestors' tombs to worship and pay respect. As it has been important to people's way of life since ancient times, therefore the government of China has officially promoted this festival as a three-day national holiday. The Winter Solstice Festival is held on December 21-23 of the Gregorian calendar each year. The winter solstice is the shortest day of the year, and from this day Yang Qi which is the warm air slowly begins to rise, the weather gradually warms up. The ancients regarded the winter solstice as a lucky day, for which a winter festival was performed to worship ancestors. Winter Solstice Festival is not a national festival, yet there is a Chinese folk saying that "winter is as big as the year." Winter Solstice is also known as "small year." As the winter solstice arrives the New Year is just around the corner, so the ancients believed that the importance of the winter solstice is no less than that of the New Year. The traditional custom of offering sacrifices to ancestors in the winter solstice still continues in some coastal areas of southern China. In some parts of northern China, it is customary to eat

dumplings every winter solstice. The celebrations of winter solstice are widely varied in the different regions of China. Unfortunately, many young people today know little about the specific dates and features of other solar terms.



Figure 18: The Qing Ming Festival is a national holiday in which people return home to worship their ancestors. Source from internet: Banbaowang (2019).

4.2.3 Inheritance of the TST Has Been Lacking, Resulting in a Low Cultural Consciousness Influenced by Modern Society

Young people are growing up in the information age of modern society. This socio-cultural circumstance leaves the next generation lacking the sense of closeness to the earth and nature. Without such a sense, it would be difficult to inherit them. The sense of connectedness to nature is one of many factors that could educate and encourage people to understand the cultural importance of the TST in the future. Existing national promotion of cultural awareness does not seem to have an effect on people's enthusiasm for inheriting endangered cultures. The lack of good inspiration in practicing traditional rituals and cultural festival is one of the important factors that make culture difficult to be sustained. Reduction of social practices and fewer opportunities for cultural learning are also a factor leading to the marginalization of the TST in the modern social context. Transformation of society and increasing modern urbanization have made people gradually move away from nature, which is the main reason for the low awareness of TST today.

4.2.4 The TST Still Have Practical Value for Our Life and Culture

Most people consider that the TST are significant to the agricultural context in modern society. The TST reflect accurately the periods of seasonal changes,

which are then incorporated into farming proverbs to be a guide for effectively farming practices. Many people like the TST because of their important astronomical insight. For example, the spring equinox and the autumn equinox equally divide the year. The shortest night is summer solstice and the longest night is winter solstice. Many people enjoy the folk customs and traditional cuisine of the TST. For example, it is customary to eat spring cake for the beginning of spring, noodles for the summer solstice, dumplings for the winter solstice, as well as activities such as flying kites at the Qingming festival. Even Chinese traditional medicine’s philosophical method of curing and healing follows period changes of the solar terms. It can be said that the TST are a guide for people to know the right times to merge their daily life to the nature of seasonal changes.

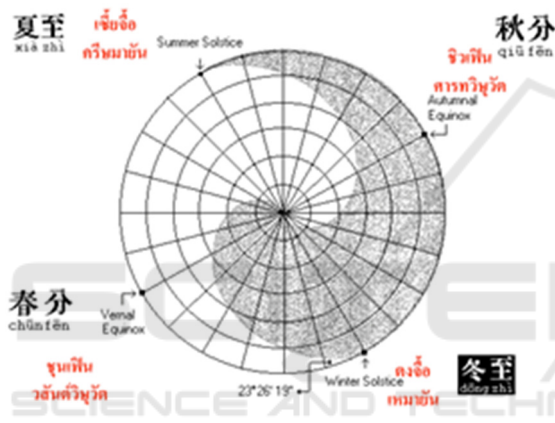


Figure 19: The vernal equinox and the autumn equinox are equally divided. The summer solstice and winter solstice are illustrated in the shortest and longest nights of the year, respectively.

4.3 People's Expectation of TST Cultural Inheritance

4.3.1 Children Are the New Force to Inherit the TST

The survey shows that 84% of children are willing to be guardians of the TST culture. The TST involve solar, animal, plant, weather, temperature and seasonal changes, which can help children better understand and perceive nature and its time order of seasonal changes. Children have the advantage of absorbing information easily and a good memory. If children have an opportunity to learn the TST from a young age, they will consciously respect the time rhythm of nature and contribute something meaningful to humanity, the natural environment, and society.

4.3.2 Most of Parents Are Willing to Study the TST with Their Children

According to the survey, 54% of parents are willing to participate in parent-child activities related to the TST to help them develop a good awareness of nature. However 32% of parents expressed their unwillingness to join due to busy work schedules and already having little time with their children. It is worth noting the desire to learn the TST does not only occur among the children, but also parents desire to learn it together with their children. Even though the knowledge of the TST is lacking in modern society, it can be revitalized by supporting children and parents to learn the TST side by side, which would also cultivate the parent-child relationship.

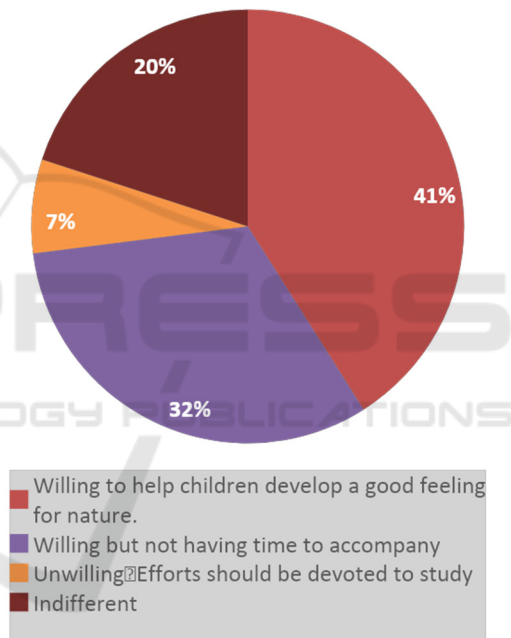


Figure 20: Responses of Parents willing to participate in educating their children on the TST.

4.3.3 Children Are the New Force to Inherit the TST

According to the survey result, 42% of people believe that education in schools is an important way to inherit the TST. People have a high degree of trust in educational institutions. The educational atmosphere at schools is more advantageous for children to successfully learn the TST. Also, 25% supported education in families. In family life, parents are the everyday teachers of children, and education in a family is the foundation of life education. Parents can pass on their knowledge of daily life to children. As

children grow, schools become the mainstay because of its more comprehensive education. Education in schools fulfils what is lacking in family education by using the availability of the learning atmosphere and educational resources. As an important institution of education, schools can link to family education to provide two learning tracks for children, thereby providing opportunities for cultural practices in connecting and improving life in modern society.

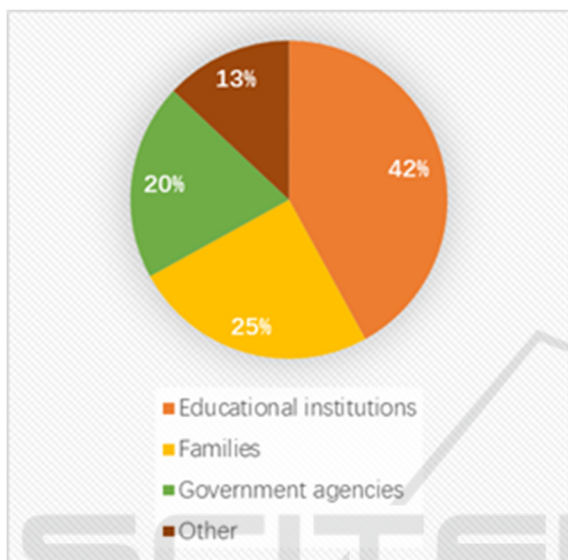


Figure 21: Survey participants' opinion on who bears the responsibility for TST education

5 CONCLUSIONS

The TST reflect clearly a relationship between Chinese people and the laws of nature: respect, conformity, cosmological knowledge, precious time of seasonal changes, and daily life activities in accordance with nature. Although it is an indisputable fact that the role of the TST in people's daily life is decreasing, it still has much cultural significance and social functions in the modern society of China. In order for the next generation to protect and inherit this cultural value in a lively manner, it must be combined effectively with people's lifestyle and able to maintain its significance to the modern context. The function of the TST system in agricultural guidance has faded away due to rapid lifestyle changes in the modern world. Although revitalizing the TST in a modern context is a challenging task, it can be done; beginning with assigning cultural value to activities in people's daily life in seasonal changes, food, and health. The use of the educational institution as a tool

to promote the TST will be an effective way to revitalize this intangible cultural heritage of China.



Figure 22: TST reflect the seasonal transition.



Figure 23: Folk activities in the TST.

Revitalizing the TST of Chinese traditional culture is a complicated and long process. In recent years, the People's Republic of China has dynamically advocated the revival of traditional culture. It seems the revitalization process might begin well with the young generation who still have the potential to learn and practice many almost-forgotten Chinese pearls of wisdom. The TST are a time guide for Chinese people to understand natural phenomena: the relationship between the sun, animals, plants, weather, temperature, and agriculture. It is suitable for children to understand and learn these concepts, Children can discover nature and experience folk customs. Because the TST are the philosophical and cultural basis for Chinese people to carry out folk activities, the effective inheritance of TST will affect children's understanding of nature and traditional Chinese culture in a deep way. This understanding influences the next generation's worldview and outlook on life in modern society. Children's contact with and knowledge of the TST will inevitably lead many

parents study together, which will have a direct and positive effect on the revival and inheritance of the TST. The TST will bring people closer to nature and their heritage. Children are China's future and hope. They are the new force to revive and continue Chinese culture and revitalize the Twenty-four Solar Terms.

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