A review of "The Story of Nie Er and the National Anthem" from the perspective of oral history

Yanzhi Duan *, Jiayi Liang

School of Marxism, Yuxi Normal University, yuxi, China

*Corresponding author: 330260960@qq.com

Abstract. Since the 1930s, the study of Nie Er and the national anthem has attracted the attention of scholars at home and abroad. The academic circles at home and abroad focus on Nie Er's data collection, music works and life. The creation, dissemination and identification of the national anthem; The story of Nie Er and the national anthem has been studied and relatively fruitful results have been achieved. However, previous studies mostly focused on the text writing of Nie Er and the national anthem, and few scholars took the oral history of Nie Er and the national anthem as a topic to study. Based on the perspective of oral history, this paper looks into the vision, methods and content of the oral history of Nie Er and the national anthem.

Key words: The story of Nie Er and the national anthem; Review of Research; Oral history.

1. Introduction

Nie Er and others composed the March of the Volunteers, which inspired the whole nation to work together in a bloody struggle. "March of the Volunteers" was adopted as the national anthem of the People's Republic of China after it became the anthem of the anti-fascist war from the military song of the anti-Japanese volunteers. "The story of Nie Er and the National Anthem" is a history of the Chinese nation's dream seeking and struggle. How to construct stories, write stories, tell stories well, and explore their great power to gather the heart and strength have important theoretical value and practical significance.

2. Research status of "Nie Er and the Story of the National Anthem"

As a song of struggle, unity, progress and victory of the Chinese nation, March of the Volunteers has attracted the attention of all sides of the society since its composition. Nie Er, the composer, and the song have been studied by scholars at home and abroad, forming the following themes:

2.1 Nie Er research

2.1.1 Data collection.

As early as in 1935, Tian Xu and Huang Feng's "Nie Er Memorial Collection" collected some of Nie Er's works, diaries and commemorative articles.The Complete Works of Nie Er, published in 1985, supplemented Nie Er's works, manuscripts, letters and diaries.The Complete Works of Nie Er, published in 2011, supplemented some memorial, memory and research articles on Nie Er based on the collection of Nie Er's works, manuscripts, letters and diaries throughout his life.

2.1.2. Music studies.

Before the founding of the People's Republic of China, they mainly reviewed the social function of Nie Er's music works, believing that Nie Er's music works were bugle calls to encourage people to join the battle, such as Xian Xinghai's Nie Er the Creator of New Music in China and Lv Ji's Commemorate Comrade Nie Er.After the founding of New China, it discusses the characteristics of Nie Er's music creation, and holds that Nie Er creatively absorbed the heritage of folk music and western music under the guidance of the communist world view, took the working class and working people as the main object of musical artistic expression, and praised him as the creator of history and the ruler of The Times. For example, Nie Er's Creation by Li Yedao, Nie Er's Commentary on

Biography by Wang Yuhe, Artistic Features of Nie Er's Songs by Jian Er, and Female Images in Nie Er's Songs by Hou Ruiyun.

2.1.3 Biographical research.

This paper explores the cultural background and value behind his life and thought growth from the perspective of specific times and historical and social dimensions, such as Nie Er and Yuxi by Qisatsu in 1999 and Nie Er Music Research Collection by Feng Guangyu in 2006. It is believed that Nie Er's growth and success were nurtured and nourished by the unique Chinese Yunnan culture.It can be said that the research on Nie Er has experienced a development process from the collection of memories, memorials and other texts to the research of Nie Er's music creation and then to the exploration of the cultural background of Nie Er's music creation.

2.2 National anthem research

2.2.1 Data collection and research.

With the support of historical materials and based on historical facts, the historical background and far-reaching influence of the March of the Volunteers were collected, as well as the process of becoming the national anthem and being written into the Constitution and the birth of the National Anthem Law, such as Guo Chao's History of the National Anthem in 2002, Li Guocai's Birth of the National Anthem in 2015, and the 80th Anniversary of the Birth of the March of the Volunteers edited by Xu Zhong. March of the Volunteers by Zhang Jie in 2019.

2.2.2 Identification research.

In recent years, scholars have studied the national anthem and the construction of national and ethnic community consciousness from the perspective of political psychology.For example, Wang Haizhou and Pan Wenfei's Experimental Political Psychology Research on National Anthem Cognition and the Construction of National Identity in 2020, Liu Chuncheng's The Way to Establish the National Anthem Identity of the Chinese Nation's Community Consciousness in 2021, and Wei Zishun's March of the Volunteers and the Construction of the Chinese Nation's Community Consciousness believe that the national anthem is a specific medium that bears collective memory and transmits common emotions. It gives the citizens the consistent imagination, identity cognition, emotional experience and boundary consciousness about the Chinese national community. Based on the emotional experience of synchronicity, empathy and sharing, they enter the common space and time field and realize the realistic perception of the Chinese national community.It is not difficult to see that the study of national anthem by experts and scholars shows a trend from history and archival science to multidisciplinary comprehensive research.

2.3 The story of Nie Er and the National anthem

After the 1950s and 1960s, "Nie Er and the National Anthem" gradually became the research object of scholars, such as "Nie Er and the National Anthem" by Sakematsu (1990), "Nie Er in People's Daily" (2008), "Military Song and War Song National Anthem" by Sakematsu (2015), "Nie Er from Kunming to the World" (2019). This paper introduces Nie Er's creation of March of the Volunteers, its spread and the course of being made as the national anthem, and its influence.It can be seen that the research on Nie Er and the national anthem is still in the process of collecting historical materials and combing historical facts.Japanese scholar Takoji Saito's Nie Er: A Shining Career and Yuko Okazaki's Biography of Nie Er, Who Did Not Want to Be a Slave, based on Chinese and Japanese historical materials, introduce Nie Er's growth process, Nie Er's death, the March of the Volunteers' March to the national anthem, especially the discussion of Nie Er's death, with solid evidence.These works to some extent promoted the foreign research on Nie Er and the national anthem.

3. Research evaluation and future prospect based on the perspective of oral history

By combing the research results of scholars at home and abroad, it can be found that the research on Nie Er and the national anthem has achieved fruitful results.First, it has accumulated abundant research materials, including Nie Er's works, manuscripts, letters, diaries, memory, memorial, oral history materials, field investigation materials, archives and so on.Second, it clarifies the evolution of "The Story of Nie Er and the National Anthem", including Nie Er's life story, the creation and birth of "March of the Volunteers", its determination as the national anthem and the process of the national anthem being written into the Constitution and the enactment of the National Anthem Law of the People's Republic of China.Third, it discusses the communication logic of the national anthem, including the history of the spread of March of the Volunteers in China and overseas as a famous anti-Japanese salvation song and anti-fascist war anthem, the history of the acceptance of March of the Volunteers by different political forces, social groups and people, and the history of the spread of the national anthem as a national symbol at home and abroad.Fourthly, it analyzes Nie Er's music works and their creation characteristics, including the arrangement of the works, the characteristics of history, times, nationality, people, artistic characteristics and artistic value.

The relevant achievements of scholars have important reference value and significance for developing and deepening the study of "The story of Nie Er and the national Anthem". However, it should also be noted that there is still room for breakthrough on the basis of existing research. Among numerous research works, few scholars take the oral history of Nie Er and the national anthem as a topic to study, and even if there are, they focus on the writing of recalling texts.Therefore, the study of the story of Nie Er and the national anthem still has a large space of interpretation and narrative direction. First, it has not been examined in the field of social memory theory, let alone systematically revealed the Anti-Japanese War memory, national memory and national memory constructed by the oral history of Nie Er and the national anthem.Second, there are few comprehensive studies on Nie Er and the national anthem from the theoretical and methodical aspects, and the lack of in-depth discussions on the historical contribution, contemporary value, especially the international significance of Nie Er and the national anthem.Third, there is no focus on "Why Nie Er? Why March of the Volunteers?How does the national anthem take us forward?"These three questions build the story system.The author believes that future research on "The Story of Nie Er and the National Anthem" can be further deepened and expanded from the following aspects:

3.1 In the field of research vision

Collective memory theory can be applied to the analysis and interpretation of oral historical materials of "The Story of Nie Er and the National Anthem", so as to accurately reveal national memory and national memory from the perspectives of individual life history and national history, individual and national identity. Nie Er and the national anthem are the profound historical memory of the Chinese nation, and the story of Nie Er and the national anthem is a living history of the Chinese nation's bloody struggles and innovation. How to construct, write and tell stories well is an important source of oral historical materials. However, most of the current documents are written in text, and the oral historical materials are lacking. Meanwhile, the relevant historical figures and the witnesses and participants of important events, as well as Nie Er and the researchers of the national anthem are in their 80s and 80s, so the rescue work of the oral historical materials is urgent.

3.2 In terms of research methods

The oral history of the story of Nie Er and the national anthem involves a study of Nie Er's relatives; Nie Er's friends and descendants; Nie Er researchers and research groups; A person designated as a promoter, participant or witness of the national anthem or a person designated as a promoter, participant or witness of the national anthem; Interviews were conducted with people involved in the drafting, preliminary examination and approval of the National Anthem Law. Therefore, in-depth

interview, narrative interview, event interview, focus (group) interview and other oral history research methods should be used to collect oral historical materials about Nie Er and the national anthem.

3.3 In the research content

Story system. To tell the story of Nie Er and the national anthem well, we must first accurately answer the essential connotation of "the story of Nie Er and the national anthem" and correctly answer the question of what "the story of Nie Er and the national anthem" is. Therefore, the oral history research of "Nie Er and the Story of the National Anthem" should first build a story system. Scholars can focus on "Why Nie Er? Why March of the Volunteers? How does the national anthem take us forward? "Build a story system and tell a good story.

Historical data research. The oral history study of "Nie Er and the Story of the National Anthem" can be based on the collection, sorting and research of oral historical materials, and form a comprehensive thematic research result on a macro level. At the micro level, this paper studies the historical details of Nie Er's creation of March of the Volunteers and the widespread spread of March of the Volunteers, which was later established as the national anthem and the birth of the National Anthem Law.

Remolding meaning. "March of the Volunteers" flew across national boundaries during the Fascist war and spread around the world, inspiring revolutionary soldiers in many countries to unite and fight. It is not only the battle anthem of the Chinese nation's valiant resistance against Japanese aggression, but also the international battle anthem of all nations in the world to fight for national independence and people's liberation. Through the oral history research of "The Story of Nie Er and the National Anthem", it can systematically reveal the national identity, patriotic feelings and anti-fascist spirit, and profoundly clarify the contemporary value and international significance of Nie Er and the national anthem.

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