

# Research on the Construction of a Sichuan Intangible Cultural Heritage Archive Chinese-English Parallel Corpus

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**Abstract:** This study aims to construct a Chinese-English parallel corpus of Sichuan's intangible cultural heritage (ICH) archives to facilitate the protection, inheritance, and international exchange of ICH. Through field research, literature review, and the application of digital technology, this project analyzes the current state of Sichuan's ICH archives, discusses the construction plan for the Chinese-English corpus, and proposes strategies to enhance the internationalization level of ICH inheritance and exchange. The research results indicate that the construction of the Chinese-English corpus is of great significance for the digital protection of ICH resources, optimization of translation practices, and promotion of cultural heritage.

**Keywords:** Intangible Cultural Heritage; Chinese-English Parallel Corpus; Digitalization; International Dissemination; Sichuan.

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Research Background and Significance

China is a country with a long history and rich culture, and Sichuan Province, as an important representative of cultural diversity, possesses numerous valuable intangible cultural heritages. These ICHs include not only traditional skills, folk cultures, and traditional festivals but also contain profound historical value and unique ethnic characteristics. However, with the acceleration of the modernization process, many ICHs are facing the crisis of inheritance discontinuity and cultural disappearance. To effectively protect and inherit these cultural heritages, it is urgent to adopt systematic and scientific management measures, among which the digitalization of archives and the construction of a corpus have become key means.

### 1.2. Research Objectives and Questions

This study aims to explore effective ways of digitalizing ICH archives and how to enhance the international communication capacity of ICH through a Chinese-English bilingual platform by constructing a Sichuan ICH archive Chinese-English parallel corpus. The main objectives of the study include investigating the current state of Sichuan's ICH archives, analyzing the needs and feasibility of constructing a Chinese-English corpus, designing a reasonable construction plan, discussing the application value of the Chinese-English corpus in ICH protection, inheritance, and international exchange, and evaluating the role of the Chinese-English corpus construction in enhancing the international influence of Sichuan's ICH.

## 2. Research Status and Literature Review

### 2.1. Research Status of Intangible Cultural Heritage Archives

Intangible cultural heritage (hereinafter referred to as "ICH"), as an important manifestation of cultural diversity,

has become a global cultural movement in terms of protection and inheritance. China has made significant achievements in the protection of ICH, especially in the aspects of archiving and digital protection. At present, the research force for ICH archives is relatively weak and dispersed, and the research perspective is relatively limited, and the research topics need to be deepened. Future research needs to integrate research forces from multiple fields, expand interdisciplinary research perspectives, and deepen research topics.

### 2.2. The Role of Chinese-English Corpora in the Dissemination of ICH

The construction of a high-quality Chinese-English corpus is of great importance for the international dissemination of ICH. By constructing a Chinese-English corpus, rich resources can be provided for ICH research, promote academic exchanges, and provide references for translation practices. In addition, the use of digital technologies such as artificial intelligence and virtual reality can enhance the display effect of ICH and improve the experience of the international audience, thus more effectively disseminating ICH culture.

### 2.3. Domestic and International Research on the Digitalization of ICH Archives

The digitalization of ICH archives is a key approach to protecting and inheriting ICH. Domestically and internationally, many explorations have been made in the digitalization of ICH archive resources. During the "14th Five-Year Plan" period, China has set standards and plans for the data collection, recording, and database construction of ICH resources, promoting the process of digitalization of ICH archive resources. The application of digital technologies, such as data collection and storage technology, form conversion technology, and interactive communication technology, provides new possibilities for the preservation and dissemination of ICH archives.

## 2.4. The Current State of Sichuan ICH Archives

As a major province for ICH resources, Sichuan has a wealth of ICH projects. The Sichuan Provincial Department of Culture and Tourism has proposed the overall goals and main tasks for ICH protection during the "14th Five-Year Plan" period, including achieving effective protection of representative ICH projects, training of inheritors, and the construction of ICH databases. Sichuan's ICH protection work focuses on the investigation and recording of ICH resources, the construction of archives and databases, and the regional overall protection of ICH, which provides policy support and practical guidance for the construction and utilization of Sichuan's ICH archives.

## 3. Construction of the Sichuan ICH Archive Chinese-English Parallel Corpus

### 3.1. Principles of Corpus Design

The construction of the Sichuan ICH archive Chinese-English parallel corpus follows the following design principles:

- Comprehensiveness Principle: The corpus should fully cover all categories of Sichuan's ICH.
- Representativeness Principle: Select representative ICH projects and inheritors.
- Diversity Principle: Include various types of materials.
- Scalability Principle: The corpus design should have good scalability.
- Interoperability Principle: The corpus should be able to effectively interface with existing archive management systems, databases, and other related platforms.
- User-friendliness Principle: The interface design of the corpus should be simple and intuitive, facilitating user retrieval and use.

### 3.2. Organization and Classification of Corpus Content

The organization and classification of the content of the Sichuan ICH archive Chinese-English parallel corpus are as follows:

- Project Classification: Organize according to different categories of ICH projects.
- Regional Classification: Classify according to ICH projects in different regions of Sichuan Province.
- Inheritor Classification: Include relevant materials of representative ICH inheritors.
- Temporal Sequence: Establish a temporal sequence based on the historical development and evolution of ICH projects.
- Thematic Classification: Classify according to the themes and content of ICH projects.
- Multimedia Materials: Integrate text, images, audio, and video, and other multimedia materials.

### 3.3. Technical Implementation and Maintenance of the Corpus

The technical implementation and maintenance of the Sichuan ICH archive Chinese-English parallel corpus include:

- Digitalization Technology: Use high-definition scanning, photography, videography, three-dimensional scanning, and other technical means to digitally process ICH archives.
- Database Technology: Construct a stable and secure

database system for storing and managing digitized ICH archive materials.

- Corpus Alignment and Annotation: Align and annotate Chinese-English bilingual materials as needed.
- User Interface Design: Develop a user-friendly interface that supports multi-language retrieval.
- Data Security and Backup: Implement effective data security strategies and regularly back up data.
- Technical Updates and Maintenance: Regularly update and maintain the corpus system with the continuous development of technology.
- Cooperation and Sharing Mechanism: Establish a cooperation mechanism with other research institutions, museums, archives, etc., to share resources and jointly promote the protection and research of ICH archives.

## 4. Application and Practice of the Chinese-English Corpus

### 4.1. Application of the Corpus in ICH Education

The application of the Sichuan ICH archive Chinese-English parallel corpus in ICH education is mainly reflected in the following aspects:

- Teaching Resources: The corpus provides rich teaching materials for ICH-related courses.
- Case Studies: Teachers and students can conduct in-depth analysis through cases in the corpus.
- Language Learning: The Chinese-English corpus provides real bilingual comparison materials for students learning Chinese and English.
- Educational Projects: Educational institutions can use the corpus to carry out various educational projects.
- Curriculum Development: Educators can develop new courses based on the content of the corpus.

### 4.2. Application of the Corpus in ICH Tourism Development

In the development of ICH tourism, the application of the Chinese-English corpus is helpful for:

- Tourism Product Development: Use information from the corpus to design tourism products themed around ICH.
- Promotion and Marketing: Use images, videos, and bilingual descriptions from the corpus as promotional materials.
- Tourism Services: Provide training for tourism service personnel using materials from the corpus for cultural background and language expression training.
- Cultural Heritage Protection: Enhance public awareness of ICH protection through tourism development.
- Sustainable Development: Promote the sustainable development of cultural tourism in conjunction with ICH projects in the corpus.

### 4.3. Application of the Corpus in Cultural Communication

The application of the Chinese-English corpus in cultural communication includes:

- Cultural Exhibition: Use materials from the corpus to showcase the unique charm of Sichuan ICH through exhibitions, performances, and publications.
- International Exchange: The Chinese-English bilingual corpus facilitates international exchange and introduces

Sichuan ICH to a global audience.

- Media Content Production: Provide rich ICH content for movies, television, and online media.
- Public Education: Use materials from the corpus for cultural popularization in public education activities.
- Creative Industries: Provide inspiration and materials for the creative industry.

## 5. Case Analysis

### 5.1. Research on the Translation of Sichuan ICH Archive Cases

In the research on the translation of Sichuan ICH archive cases, we have adopted a variety of translation strategies to deal with the names of ICH projects and specific cultural expressions. Through the translation of ICH project names, we found that direct transliteration or direct translation often fails to convey the cultural connotations of ICH. For example, Sichuan's "Chuan Opera" is translated as "Chuan Opera," which, although retaining the original name's syllables, lacks an explanation of this traditional art form. To enhance the cultural transmission function of the translation, we suggest adopting the "transliteration + annotation" method, such as translating "Chuan Opera" as "Chuan Opera—A Traditional Sichuan Drama," supplementing information through annotations to help readers who are not native Chinese understand the uniqueness of Chuan Opera.

### 5.2. Effect Evaluation of the Corpus in Practical Application

The effect evaluation of the Sichuan ICH archive Chinese-English parallel corpus in practical application shows that the corpus has played an important role in several fields. In the field of education, the corpus has provided students with rich learning resources, helping them understand ICH culture while improving their language skills and cross-cultural communication abilities. In terms of tourism development, materials from the corpus have been used to design tourism products and promotional materials, enhancing the attractiveness and international image of Sichuan ICH tourism. In terms of cultural communication, the corpus has promoted the international dissemination of ICH culture, enhancing the international audience's understanding and interest in Sichuan ICH through accurate translation and rich cultural background information.

## 6. Results and Discussion

### 6.1. Main Research Findings

In the process of constructing the Sichuan ICH archive Chinese-English parallel corpus, the following main findings were achieved:

- Digitalization is a key step in the protection and inheritance of ICH.
- The establishment of the Chinese-English corpus provides a platform for the international dissemination and academic exchange of ICH.
- The diversity of translation strategies is crucial in the translation of ICH project names and cultural expressions.
- The application of the corpus in the fields of education and tourism significantly enhances the social influence of ICH.

### 6.2. Research Limitations and Challenges

In this study, we faced the following limitations and challenges: limitations of the size of the corpus. Challenges in translation accuracy. The need for technical updates. Enhancing user participation.

### 6.3. Implications for ICH Protection and Inheritance

This study provides the following implications for the protection and inheritance of ICH: adopting a digital strategy. Establishing a multilingual ICH data platform. Valuing translation quality. Combining education and tourism. Encouraging community participation. Continuous research and evaluation.

## 7. Conclusion

### 7.1. Research Summary

This study has conducted a comprehensive research and analysis on the construction and application of the Sichuan intangible cultural heritage archive Chinese-English parallel corpus. The research results show that the construction of the Chinese-English corpus is of great practical value for the digital protection, international communication, educational promotion, and tourism development of Sichuan's ICH.

### 7.2. Research Contributions and Practical Significance

The main contributions of the research are: enriching the theoretical framework of ICH archive digitalization and bilingual corpus construction. Providing practical strategies for the protection and inheritance of Sichuan's ICH. Providing rich teaching resources for ICH education. Promoting social awareness of the importance of ICH protection and inheritance. Building a bridge for the international communication of Sichuan's ICH culture.

### 7.3. Future Research Directions and Prospects

Future research can explore in the following directions: expanding the scale of the corpus. In-depth study of the translation strategies of ICH terminology. Exploring the application of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and other advanced technologies in corpus construction and translation practices. Researching how to improve user participation in the corpus. Combining perspectives from cultural studies, sociology, education, and other disciplines for in-depth interdisciplinary research on ICH protection and inheritance. Strengthening cooperation with international academic institutions and organizations.

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