

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LAW  
MANAGEMENT & HUMANITIES**

**[ISSN 2581-5369]**

---

**Volume 4 | Issue 5**

---

**2021**

© 2021 *International Journal of Law Management & Humanities*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://www.ijlmh.com/>

Under the aegis of VidhiAagaz – Inking Your Brain (<https://www.vidhiaagaz.com/>)

---

This Article is brought to you for “free” and “open access” by the International Journal of Law Management & Humanities at VidhiAagaz. It has been accepted for inclusion in International Journal of Law Management & Humanities after due review.

In case of **any suggestion or complaint**, please contact [Gyan@vidhiaagaz.com](mailto:Gyan@vidhiaagaz.com).

---

**To submit your Manuscript** for Publication at **International Journal of Law Management & Humanities**, kindly email your Manuscript at [submission@ijlmh.com](mailto:submission@ijlmh.com).

---

# Analysis of the Artistic Characteristics of Mongolian Horse Dance Works

---

HAN SHUAI<sup>1</sup> AND LI JIA<sup>2</sup>

## ABSTRACT

*Mongolian, a nation with profound cultural deposits and good singing and dancing, is also known as the "horseback nation". Steed is not only a means of transportation and production, but also the most important friend in Mongolian people's life. More importantly, the steed is a symbol of Mongolian spiritual culture. People express the close relationship between herdsmen and horses by dancing related to horses, so as to show the Mongolian people's resolute and unyielding national character, warm, loyal and courageous national spirit. The works of Mongolian horse dance organically combine the dynamic style characteristics of traditional Mongolian dance with the movements of horse form to express the ideological content of the works of horse dance, and express the vivid plot and shocking atmosphere through different stage creation techniques. Mongolian horse dance works are the display of a nation's living conditions and the transmission of a nation's spirit. Therefore, I analyze the artistic characteristics of Mongolian horse dance works.*

**Keywords:** *Mongolian, Mongolian horse dance, Mongolian dance characteristics, Mongolian spirit*

## I. THE ORIGIN OF MONGOLIAN HORSE DANCE

Steed with vigorous and powerful, flexible and agile, galloping such as flying characteristics, won the love of herdsmen, aroused herdsmen and horse close and intimate feelings. And dance comes from life, the original national and folk dance is from the body simulation of life.

### ***The Relationship between Mongolian People and Horses***

Mongolian is an ancient nation that rode on horseback from ancient times to civilization, known as the "horseback nation". Mongolian people, who have lived on the grassland for generations, have a close relationship with horses. Both the elderly and children can use horses for walking. Steed is a totem developed from Mongolian clan totem to Mongolian national spirit culture. From the symbol of tribal clan culture, to the symbol of Mongolian national culture. Horses

---

<sup>1</sup> Inner Mongolia Arts University/Kolej International College, Krirk University, Thailand.

<sup>2</sup> College of Music, Shanxi Normal University, Linfen, China.

not only have social functions, but also reflect the spiritual and cultural connotation of the Mongolian nationality. Horses are a means of transportation in Mongolian life; A loyal friend of the Mongols; A partner of the Mongols during the war; It is the eternal theme of Mongolian people's eulogizing life; It is the spiritual wealth of Mongolians. Mongolian folk legends, folk songs, dances, Musical Instruments, sculptures and other works with horses as their creation materials are numerous (Wang, 2015). There are many festivals related to the horse, such as horse racing festival, mare's milk festival, foal Festival and so on. Every year on March 21 of the lunar calendar, the descendants of Genghis Khan at home and abroad will gather from all directions to the Mausoleum of Genghis Khan on the Ordos Plateau to offer sacrifices to Genghis Khan's Nwendugen Chagan and two white horses. The horse is closely related to the Mongolian nation, is the friend of the Mongolian people, is the embodiment of luck, is a symbol of prosperity, which is the basis of life and traditional basis of the horse. Therefore, Mongolians believe that horses are honest animals and reliable friends in life. The horse has been deeply integrated into the Mongolian spiritual world.

### ***The Position of Horse Dance in Mongolian Dance***

Hospitable grassland people are good at singing and dancing. Herdsmen like to use dance to express herdsmen's happiness, sadness and good expectations for life (Luo, 2001). They like to use Mongolian horse dance with unique style to express Mongolian people's tough and open-minded national character, chic and heroic national temperament and never give up national spirit (Chen et al, 1987). Because of the importance of horse in Mongolian life, Mongolian horse dance is a national, typical and representative Mongolian dance. Since the 1940s, teacher Jia Zuoguang first put on the stage the subjects based on real life, such as horse and horse riding, roping and taming, and created a solo dance called "Horse Dance", a series of horse dances began to develop rapidly (Jia, 1992). In the 1960s, "The Tamer of horses" gave a typical interpretation of the feelings of the horseman nation towards the steed and the natural and romantic galloping on the grassland, with pioneering artistic value. "Horseshoe Dance" in the 1970s is the ideal of herdsmen flying in the era; Yang mane changming, the performance of herdsmen dancing aspirations. In the 1980s, "God Riding" was the hope of grassland take-off; Roam freely, that is the ideal that aims high. The Mongolian horse dance is an imitation of the natural life form, embodying the Mongolian horse and revealing the nation's perception of life and passion for life. It shows the national spirit of unremitting self-improvement, the open-minded and unrestrained national character and the rich ethnic flavor, and shows the people of the prairie love life, positive and never say die (Chen, 2012). Therefore, Mongolian horse dance represents a nation's culture, a nation's connotation, a nation's pride.

## II. MONGOLIAN HORSE DANCE MOVEMENT CHARACTERISTICS AND STYLE CHARACTERISTICS

The movements of Mongolian horse dance show Mongolian people's love for life and pursuit of beautiful things in a lively and sensitive, rich and enthusiastic performance. The famous Mongolian dance artist Sikhentariha teacher once said that "one of the most prominent features of Mongolian dance is" horse step or movement on horseback ".In the characteristic course "Mongolian Dance Skill Training" of Inner Mongolia Art Institute, it takes horse step and horse movements as the basic training content to train students' body coordination ability, imitation ability, expression ability, movement understanding ability, control ability, bouncing ability and comprehensive technical skills. It mainly trains the muscles, ligaments, bones and abilities of the body through horse step and horse movements, laying a solid foundation for the national dancers to master and perform Mongolian dance comprehensively. I only keep my personal point of view on the Mongolian horse dance for the basic division: one is image dance (people imitate the form of horse dance), the other is horse dance (people ride on horseback dance).

### *The Characteristics of Figurative Dance*

Figurative dance is a dance in which people simulate the form of horses, and it is a body movement produced by imitating the image of horses and the dynamics of horses in the running movement and performing artistic dance processing. In the dance, human beings are horses and horses are people. Works such as: dancing horses in my dream, is a meaning endowed with content and the thoughts and feelings of the image of a typical type of dance works, on the horse's mane dancing jitter curled hair, work step using a large number of plane point, zhang, Benz, jumping, dodging the Mongolian horse dance steps, such as to imitate the horseshoe to action, while on the run for actor muscle reaction is rapid, flexible and accurate (Li, 2014). The performance should grasp the form of the horse and the characteristics of the horse in running, and closely combine the traditional Mongolian dance movements with the form of the horse to show the ideological connotation of the dance work.

### *The Characteristics of Horseback Dance*

Horseback dance is the image of herdsmen, showing grassland people on horseback dance, is the closest to life dance. Through the movement of upper limbs, such as shoulder and back, arm and posture, the herdsmen can create dynamic dance styles generated by reining in the horse, reining in the horse sideways, throwing rope and lapping up the horse in life, showing the warm and natural image of grassland people and the heroic spirit of braving dangers and courageously (Meilisi, 2014). Under foot, the horse dance steps such as cradle step, palm step,

planning step and leg lift step are used to show the process of horse hoof running. In the horseback dance training, the dance posture of horseback dance can be roughly divided into two kinds: one is the fierce Pentium dance with the steed, which requires the movement of legs and feet to be fast and flexible, with the bold and bold Mongolian national spirit. The other is the leisurely and slow dance on the walking horse. The posture is high and unrestrained, showing the Mongolian people's indomitable, enthusiastic and heroic national character and the positive and unyielding national spirit.

The folk dance of Mongolian nationality starts from simulating life labor with body posture, and gradually becomes the folk dance art of Mongolian nationality through baptism of time, and finally settles into the artistic language of Mongolian folk dance. Among Mongolian dances, the dance movements related to horses have become mature and novel after long-term accumulation and refinement.

### **III. ANALYSIS OF MONGOLIAN HORSE DANCE WORKS**

Dance comes from life. The Mongolian horse dance has experienced the company of history, the baptism of time and the repeated extraction and refinement of several generations of artists. Therefore, the Mongolian horse dance is the national dance with the most abundant movements, the most passionate emotions and the most rich style, which can best reflect the Mongolian people's kind-hearted, honest, brave and upright spirit.

#### ***The Creation Concept of "The Wild Horse Chasing the Wind"***

In 2009, Mr. Shi yuping's photography collection "Chasing the Wind with a Galloping Horse" won the international award in the 9th Pingyao International Photography Exhibition (Yang, 2012). Professor Zhao Linping, director of dance Department of Art College of Inner Mongolia University, was inspired by Mr. Shi yuping's photographic works and created a dance named "Galloping Horse Chasing the Wind". The dance was premiered at the 2013 Inner Mongolia Spring Festival Gala and won unanimous praise from all walks of life. Works from the deepest Mongolian culture inside information to find the most abundant in the dance of the spirit of things, the heart and the inner world of the Mongolian mining, while keeping the dynamic law of the Mongolian national traditional folk dance style at the same time, injected new cultural connotation, to make the dance work more can reflect the new look of the Mongolian, show the Mongolian culture, Mongolian national spirit.

"The Fierce Horse chasing the Wind" is a male and female group dance. The choreographer presents the images of "eight steed horses" and "herdsmen" at the same time, which appears for the first time in Mongolian horse dance works. The choreographer uses the technique of the

combination of virtual and real, dynamic and static, and the transformation of true and false to show this dance, which is not only a horse dance but also an image dance, which is a new breakthrough in the artistic technique of dance. It gives a new artistic life on the basis of Mongolian traditional dance and makes the dance work more full of strong national consciousness and spirit of The Times.

As one of the performers, I deeply understand the hard work of Mongolian horse dance choreography. Director of the Mongolian traditional dance filtered specific movement vocabulary refining, development and changes, more important is to use the Mongolian dance movement vocabulary, to the right of the male and female dance moves outside and inside collect scale perfect fusion, the height of the ideological content to dance and dance performance form is unified. It is necessary to organically combine the dynamic style characteristics of Mongolian dance with the movements of horse form, and also to show the ideological content and spirit that the work wants to express. The variation, connection, and development of each movement should be very reasonable (Zhao, 2010). Performers should integrate the emotional and physical rhythms of the dance so that the musical and emotional rhythms are closely combined. The dance is a mixture of powerful, galloping gestures and relaxed steps. Sometimes legs and feet quickly sensitive, passionate unrestrained; Sometimes he was very high and very free. The middle part of the dance gradually accelerated the rhythm of the music to the climax of the dance, the dancer with the tempo of the feet stamping, making people high and passionate, with the momentum of ten thousand horses galloping. In the process of performance, "the inner emotions of the actors drive the dance movements, and the dance movements should contain rich thoughts and feelings". First of all, the actors should express their own emotions and feelings through the body, so as to drive the audience's emotions and trigger the audience's heart vibration. In the process of performance really achieve from "similar in shape" to "similar in spirit", from the reproduction of life in the process of life. The harmonious transformation of "man" and "horse" in the dance shows the Mongolian people's love for life and perception of life. Spirited "zhweifeng" important breakthroughs in the dance of the Mongolian dance creation, it is different general national style show, but a on the basis of the traditional and gives a new art life after fuller of the spirit of dance works, shows the soul of a prairie, horse charm and lithe herdsmen feelings for horses. What he describes is the character of the Mongolian nation and inherits the blood of heroes. Works through the charm, unique creative techniques, rich and elegant style, magnificent and brilliant, giving a look of touch and spiritual shock.

### ***Analysis and Understanding of Mongolian Classic Horse Dance Works***

Since the reform and opening up, the spread and development of Mongolian horse dance is quite rapid, through the closest relationship with the Mongolian people's horse, to show the Mongolian people's passion for life. Therefore, the Mongolian "horse dance" is the most able to show the Mongolian national characteristics and the spirit of The Times.

**"Gallop"**. In the early 1980s, when The People's Republic of China was experiencing the boom of reform and opening up, Ma Yue, a teacher from the Art Department of Minzu University of China, created the Mongolian men's group dance Gallop, which was premiered in Beijing in 1986. The dance shows the Mongolian people's praise for the new life and the spiritual outlook of the new era of Chinese society with the rhythm form of steady, powerful body movements, passionate and cheerful, and the national image of strong style. The work develops and transforms the movements of traditional Mongolian dance, and is well received by the dance circle and people from all walks of life.

Gallop is a typical Mongolian men's group dance. Through the mutual foil between the lead dance and group dance, the dance layout of moving, quiet, urgent and slow fully shows the enthusiasm and generosity of Mongolian men, and shapes the simple and solemn image of Mongolian youth. It has strong ethnic characteristics. The works are based on the movements of "horse step, shoulder shaking, running jump, horse riding" in the Mongolian folk dance. Whether the movements of two feet alternately rubbing forward, arms swinging from side to side or legs drawing a wide circle are refreshing and show the magnificent momentum of taking the lead and galloping horses. The dance vocabulary of Mongolian "horse dance" is closer to the thoughts and feelings of Mongolian people. More with the unrestrained character of the Mongolian people; It shows Mongolian people's praise to the new life, and also shows Mongolian people's natural and unrestrained temperament and new height of life. The dance is rich in content and profound in meaning. With the help of "steed", it shows the rise of the People's Republic of China under the leadership of the Communist Party of China and the spirit of the third Plenary Session of the 13th Central Committee of the COMMUNIST Party of China. China's scientific, technological, cultural and educational undertakings are developing rapidly, and the Mongolian people's living standards are improving rapidly, which gives strong expression to the new socialist era, the take-off of the motherland and the progress of the people.

**Women's Group Dance "Flying Horse"**. In 2004, the group dance "Flying Mane Horse" of the secondary Art School affiliated to the Art College of Inner Mongolia University won the

National awards such as Taoli Cup and Lotus Cup, which pushed the Mongolian horse dance to a climax and had a certain influence in the country. Its success lies in the expression of form, meaning and image in the dance, which not only maintains the national characteristics, but also forms the unique style of the dance work without losing the ideological connotation. It shows vivid artistic images, rich ethnic flavor, bright and open-minded national character and positive national spirit, so it has become the most appealing dance works. In the dance, the movements of the upper limbs, the fluttering hair and the interspersed technical skills show that the whole work has greatly improved in the technical level, which can make the students get the most direct, the most substantial, the most comprehensive and the most substantial comprehensive performance. It has high training value and is passed down as a repertory.

"Mane flying horse" is a typical "image" dance, dance has a lot of hair, and pulled the leg, spin, such as the vivid action, purpose is to girl beautiful long hair to show horse hair, let a hair swinging along the body, like a horse on the grassland free running, accurate shows the configuration, dynamic, horse do dance style from the tradition, without formality, boldly endowed with traditional dance new art life. The presentation of the horse image, the rich movement content and the unique style and rhythm of the work all change with the inner emotions of the performers. The beginning and end of the dance echo each other to strengthen the central idea of the dance. "Flying Horse" goes beyond the simple imitation of body movements and the display of style, so that the dance works produce a real spiritual call in people's hearts. The dance forms are processed by way of image change, virtual exaggeration and creation of artistic conception, forming unique Mongolian ethnic characteristics. The complete visualization of the dance enables the choreographer to express the passionate and unrestrained national character of the Mongolian people by means of the galloping steed on the grassland, as well as the spiritual state of people who love life, are positive and never give up.

#### **IV. CONCLUSIONS**

To sum up, we can draw conclusions as follows.

First of all, horse culture not only reflects the unique customs, literature and art of the Mongolian nation, but also reflects the material culture and spiritual culture of the Mongolian nation.

Secondly, the most prominent features of Mongolian horse dance are spiritual emotion, national color, distinct personality and the spirit of The Times. In the performance of Mongolian horse dance works, the unique style, characteristics, rhythm, body should be accurately grasped, and the spirit and quality of horse dance should be well displayed. Only in

this way can we better set off the enthusiastic atmosphere of dance and increase the performance effect of dance; In order to improve the artistic value and aesthetic value of dance; To be truly enjoyable to watch. Classical dance works can always bring people a shock and lasting appeal, so as to enhance people's artistic sentiment, shake people's hearts.

Furthermore, horse on the Mongolian awareness of beauty, is also the Mongolian cultural symbol, is the symbol of Mongolian spirit, so only the Mongolian horse dance works unique form of expression and Mongolia Ma Wenhua combining, spirit, and can truly show the Mongolian people's attitude towards life, understanding of life and the pursuit of a better life for the future and yearning, to create a unique style, with national characteristics, the works of artistic appeal and vitality.

There is a saying in Inner Mongolia, China: "A thousand miles of strong wind and a thousand rosy clouds cannot catch up with a hundred horses. "The Mongolian horse is short in shape and plain in appearance. However, in the wind, frost, snow and rain on the prairie, it can not be afraid of hardships, straight and straight galloping, repeated feats, casting the unique character and spirit of the Mongolian horse. "Mongolian horse spirit" contains hard-working dedication, indomitable enterprising spirit, never give up until the goal of struggle, for the realization of the Great rejuvenation of the Chinese dream into the surging power. In the dance, let the passion bloom freely, let the life gallop heartily, this is the real realm of Mongolian horse dance.

\*\*\*\*\*

**V. REFERENCES**

1. Chen, G. (2012). Research on scheduling function in ethnic and folk dance works. (Doctoral Dissertation, Minzu University of China).
2. Chen, W., Ji, L., & Ma, W. (1987). *Selection of Chinese ethnic folk dances*. People's Music Publishing House.
3. Jia, Z. (1992). *Collection of Jia Zuoguang's dance art*. Culture and Art Publishing House
4. Li, Y. (2014). Analysis of professional quality of choreographer. *Popular Literature and Art* (11), 184-185. doi:CNKI:SUN: DZlu.0.2014-11-154.
5. Luo, X. (2001). *Chinese folk dance culture tutorial*. Shanghai Music Publishing House
6. Meilisi. (2014). Research on shoulder movements of Mongolian dance. (Doctoral Dissertation, Chinese Academy of Arts).
7. Wang, J. (2015, Oct 12). The uniqueness and beauty of the Mongolian dance. *China Art Daily*.
8. Yang, J. (2012). Companion--feeling from reading the collection of Shi Yuping's photography works, galloping horse chasing the wind. *Inner Mongolia Art* (01),98-99. doi:CNKI:SUN: LMys.0.2012-01-039.
9. Zhao, L. (2010). Thoughts on the construction of Mongolian dance teaching system. *Dance* (08), 52-56. Doi: CNKI: SUN: WDWD. 0.2010-08-020.

\*\*\*\*\*