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从动荡的中原举族南迁,几经流徙多方辗转,一支支客家人群先后来到了山高水长、偏安 一隅的中国南部山区。

闽西南是客家人较早落脚的地方,其中宁化 县一个叫作石壁的山村被称作客家祖地。这是一 个敢于放逐自己的人群,从远处走来,又不断地 向远处走去。他们走在路上的身影正是中华民族 几千年来奋斗不息的写照。赣南、粤北粤东的山 谷坡地也成了客家人的重要聚居地。在这块三省 接壤的土地上,饱经沧桑的客家人创造了他们的 家园,开始安居乐业,繁衍生息……

数百年过去了,当居住在钢筋水泥建筑里的 现代人回望乡村,发现客家人的家园虽然主要是 用土夯成的,却是那般庞大和奇特,处处充满着 客家精神和人文气息,不由令人叹为观止。

在中国传统民居里,客家人所创造的民居形式无疑是一个巨大的惊叹号。尽管在福建叫作土楼,在江西叫作围屋,在广东叫作围龙屋,但实质上它们都是同源同构的民居,只不过在外观样式和建筑用材上有所不同,而它们所体现出来的客家文化和客家精神,却是一脉相承、息息相通的。这三地的客家民居,目前以闽西南土楼最广为人知,闻名遐迩而游者日众,已正式列入2006年世界文化遗产候选名单。基于这一事实和三者之间的同源关系,也为了行文的方便,我们将此书命名为"中国土楼"。"中国土楼"首先是中国的,然后是世界的,它是世界上独一无二的民居模式,它是客家文化的璀璨结晶。

客家人曾经失去家园而游走他乡, 在动荡不

安的迁徙过程中,他们最渴望的就是能够安居乐业。一旦找到落脚之地,便安营扎寨,建造自己的居所。土楼、围屋、围龙屋,便成了他们理想中的永远的家园。

作为客家文化的结晶,它们并非横空出世, 其出现首先必须具备几个条件:强大的家族凝聚 力、相对安宁的生活环境、较为雄厚的物质基础。

"中国土楼"无疑都来源于中原的夯土文明。当然,其传承的过程中发生了变异,这也正是每一种文化传播必然遇到的正常现象,人类学家认为,"文化的变异是一种适应性变化。"所以,客家人在闽西南建造土楼,在赣南建造围屋,在粤北粤东建造围龙屋,正是适应了当地的自然地理特点和社会经济发展水平。

这三种客家民居所表现出来的向心性、匀称 性和前低后高的特点,以及血缘性聚族而居的特 征,正是儒家文化和道家文化的一个缩影。不论 是闽西南土楼,还是粤北粤东围龙屋,抑或赣南 围屋,其蕴含的价值观念完全一致。

所以,福建永定的振成楼、广东梅县的温公 祠、江西龙南的燕翼围,不同的形态,给人的印 象却是同样深刻,它们是一脉相承的客家文化精 华,它们是十分中国的南方山村建筑。

一群人,像一家人一样生活在一片大房子 里,这种奇特的生活景观,本身也成为了一道风 暑。

这就是客家人,在闽西南、赣南和粤北粤东 这块传奇的土地上,创造出全世界独一无二的民 居,并在这里悠然自得地生活和劳动。 To escape war and famine, the hakka people migrated from the ancient Central China to have settled down, after flounders and stopovers, in the remote and mountainous areas of the Southern China.

The South-west Fujian is one of the earliest places for the hakka people to gain permanent residence, with Shibi, a small village famed as the Hakka Homeland. The hakkas were brave people who dare to exile themselves from the well-developed ancient Central China to the out-of-way Fujian and to places even further off. They're always on the way, which is an excellent portraiture of the Chinese people struggles in the past thousands of years. The valleys and sloping fields in the South Jiangxi, North and East Guangdong have become the major hakka homelands. At the bordering area of the Fujian, Guangdong and Jiangxi provinces, the weatherbeaten hakkas created their own homes and began to live in peace, and prosper.

Hundreds of years have gone by when the modern people who are dwelling in the urban concrete forests look back to these ancient villages, they would nevertheless find the hakka earthen buildings gigantic and unique, though these houses were mainly rammed into shape with layers of earth.

Among the traditional Chinese ancient houses, the earthen buildings created by the hakka people have won praising words from the visitors. Being called the round earthen buildings in Fujian, the square enclosed fortresses in Jiangxi and the encircled (emperor's armchair) houses in Guangdong, these ancient buildings are actually of the same structure and share the common cultural background, different only in styles and building materials. Moreover, the cultural symbols and the individuality these hakka buildings carry are communicative and come down in one continuous line. Among the hakka houses of these 3 provinces in China, the earthen buildings in South-west Fujian are the most popular among the tourists. It was formally listed as a candidate for the 2006 World Cultural Heritage. And it is for this reason and the common cultural background that this book was entitled "China's Earthen Buildings".

"China's Earthen Buildings" firstly belongs to China, then

the world, it is a unique local-style dwelling houses mode in the world, it is the bright crystallization of Hakkas' culture.

At one time, the hakka people lost their own home and wandered in alien lands. In the nervous turbulences of migration, they were looking forward to a peaceful life. When they found a land to stay, they settled down and built their own dwellings. The earthen buildings, or the enclosed fortress, or the encircled (emperor's armchair) houses have become the ideal homes for the hakkas.

As the precious results of the hakka culture, these hakka buildings were not the castles built on the sand. Strong cohesion of the family clans, relatively peaceful habitat and substantial means of subsistence were essential.

"China's Earthen Buildings" originated in the ancient Central China, and varied when the hakka people migrated to different areas. This is a normal phenomenon in the cultural communication as the anthropologists claimed, "the variation of a culture is an adaptability to changes". It is for this adaptability to the natural conditions and social development that the hakka people built dwellings of different styles in different places.

The centrality, the symmetry and the basic feature of "lower in the front and higher in the back compound" as put up in these hakka houses, as well as its characteristic of dwelling according to their consanguinity is but an epitome of the Chinese Confucianism and Taoism. Either the earthen buildings in Fujian, or the enclosed fortresses in Jiangxi, or the Encircled (emperor's armchair) houses in Guangdong, they share the same cultural value. Though different in style, the Father Wen's Temple in Guangdong's Meixian County, the Zhengcheng Castle in Fujian's Yongding County and the Swallow wing's Enclosed fortresses in Jiangxi's Longnan County gave visitors the same impression—— they are pride of the hakka culture, they are extremely China's south mountain village construct building.

A group of people lives in a big house like a family. This unique life of hakkas has become unique scenery itself.

This is the hakka people, who lived and are still living on this legendary land of southern China for thousand years, have created the unique dwellings and enjoyed leisure and labor.

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福建土楼•一

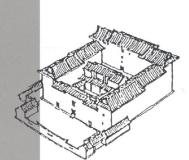
江西围屋。

广东围龙屋。

楼里楼外 客家民俗 • 一

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