



Cultural Heritage Protection and Historical Inheritance of Dunhuang Cave Scenic Area: A Perspective on Art Management and Oriental Art

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ABSTRACT

This article takes the Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area as an example and adopts an interdisciplinary perspective to explore the issues of cultural heritage protection and historical inheritance from the perspectives of art management and Eastern art. Through literature review and field research, it deeply analyzes how to use art management strategies to improve the protection and management efficiency of Dunhuang Grottoes, Exploring how the unique aesthetics and philosophical ideas of Eastern art are closely related to the Buddhist art heritage of Dunhuang Grottoes. Deeply studying the creative techniques and artistic expressions of Eastern art can better understand and inherit the artistic heritage of Dunhuang Grottoes, enrich their artistic connotations, and maintain their attractiveness and influence in contemporary society. Summarized the challenges faced by the cultural heritage and historical inheritance protection of Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area, and proposed corresponding countermeasures. Through a scientific management system and policy planning, as well as strengthened organizational coordination and collaboration, in order to further improve the operability of these suggestions, it is recommended to strengthen cross departmental cooperation and formulate more comprehensive and detailed protection policies. At the same time, by strengthening cultural heritage education and promotion, the public's awareness of protection and cultural literacy can be enhanced. And actively explore the application of digital technology to achieve innovative display and promotion of Dunhuang Grottoes heritage.

Keywords: Dunhuang Grottoes; Cultural Heritage; Conservation and Inheritance; Arts Management; Oriental Art.

INTRODUCTION

The Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area, located in Dunhuang City, Gansu province, is renowned for its exquisite murals and sculptures. As a treasure of China's and even the world's cultural heritage, it carries a wealth of historical significance and artistic value (Pi, 2022). Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area has witnessed significant political, economic, and cultural changes in Chinese history for over a thousand years since the 4th century AD. It is an essential hub for cultural exchanges between the East and the West, as shown in Table 1. During the middle age of the Tang Dynasty, the artistic creation of Dunhuang Grottoes was active, reflecting the prosperity of social culture at that time. The third year of Jingyou in the Northern Song Dynasty marked the continued maintenance and development of Dunhuang Grottoes during the Song Dynasty, despite facing various challenges such as war and natural erosion. During the Yuan Dynasty, Dunhuang grotto art exhibited a more diverse and integrated style, incorporating elements of Han culture and other ethnic cultures, and increasing the diversity of artistic works (Li, 2021).

Table 1. The Historical Development of The Dunhuang Grottoes

Historical Period	Main Works
First Qin Dynasty	Carving Caves
Early Sui and Tang Dynasties	Becoming the Center of the Silk Road
Dazhong Dynasty	Continuing to Construct Caves
The Fourth Year of Qianhua's Reign	Creating New Caves; Producing Open-air Murals
Year Three of Jingyou	Engaging in Construction and Restoration
Yuan Dynasty	Ceasing Cave Excavation

The Dunhuang Grottoes scenic area is also facing several challenges regarding cultural heritage protection and historical transmission. Preserving grotto murals and sculptures has become more complicated, mainly due to the passage of time and the corrosion of the natural environment. Secondly, the influx of tourists has brought potential damage to the cave murals, such as the corrosive effects of humidity and carbon dioxide in the air on the murals, as well as touch and the use of flash lamps that may damage the pigment layer of the paintings. [Table 2](#) provides the historical damage to the Dunhuang caves. In response to these problems, effective art management and cultural heritage protection measures are necessary to ensure the sustainable development of the Dunhuang Grottoes scenic area and the permanent preservation of the historical heritage. At the same time, exploring the characteristics and influences of Oriental art, combined with interdisciplinary research methods and the application of new technologies, is essential to address these challenges and to realize the transmission of the cultural values of the Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area (Chen, Xiong, Mao, Fang, & Yu, 2015; Rhie, 2017).

Table 2. Major Destruction of the Dunhuang Grottoes

Historical period	Event
Tang Dynasty	It was constructed during the Tang Dynasty, but in its later years, political and economic turmoil during the Tang Dynasty led to the interruption of the construction of the Mogao Grottoes, which were subjected to grave robbing and vandalism.
Qing Dynasty	Because of the war, the Dunhuang caves were subjected to grave robbing and destruction. The Qing government attempted to restore the grottoes, but only sporadic remedial measures were taken.
Cultural Revolution	The Dunhuang Grottoes were devastated and many of the murals and statues were destroyed and looted.
Modern Times	As a result of climate change and tourism, the Dunhuang caves have been affected by wind and sand, water erosion and light.

As an interdisciplinary field involving the knowledge and skills of many disciplines such as art, culture, economics, and management, arts management focuses on art's creativity and aesthetic value and the sustainable development and socio-economic benefits of the arts industry, as shown in [Figure 1](#). Arts management aims to promote the development of artistic creation and performance while focusing on disseminating artistic works, marketing, institutional management, and cultural policy. Arts management plays an essential role in cultural heritage conservation and management by formulating and implementing policies and plans to protect, restore, and manage cultural heritage to ensure its effective transmission and utilization (Wang, 2022). It also involves museums, exhibitions, and event planning to enhance publicity and promotion of cultural heritage through innovative display and education and to increase public awareness and participation.



Figure 1. Art Management Architecture

Oriental art has unique characteristics, philosophical ideas, and aesthetic values, focusing on inner spirituality and ideological connotations and the pursuit of natural, harmonious, and balanced aesthetic expression, which is compatible with the spiritual pursuit of Buddhist art in the Dunhuang Caves and has a potential impact on the artistic protection and historical inheritance of Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area (Yin et al., 2022; Zheng & Liu, 2022). By understanding and applying the aesthetic concepts and creative techniques of oriental art, the artistic heritage of Dunhuang Caves can be better protected and inherited to revitalize it in contemporary society.

As a Globally Crucial Cultural Heritage, The Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area carries a wealth of historical significance and precious artistic value. It has witnessed political, economic, and cultural changes in Chinese history, demonstrating a unique artistic style and cultural connotation. Protecting and inheriting the cultural and artistic heritage of the Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area is of great significance for maintaining the standard historical memory and cultural diversity of humankind. The purpose of this study is to develop a scientific and reasonable conservation strategy for the Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area through in-depth analyses of the roles and impacts of art management and oriental art, to increase its visibility and influence at home and abroad and to promote the sustainable development of cultural heritage on a global scale.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Origin and Development of Dunhuang Caves

The Dunhuang Grottoes are China's famous ancient cave art heritage, originating from when Buddhism was introduced to China in the early 4th century AD. Figure 2 describes the evolution of cave murals. As an important transport hub on the Silk Road, Dunhuang became one of the centers where Buddhist art flourished and developed (Liang, 2022; Tu & Jiang, 2022). The development of the Dunhuang caves has taken place over a period of about a thousand years. It includes the Mogao Caves, the Western Thousand Buddha Caves, the Temple of the Five Pagodas, and other cave complexes. The Mogao Caves are the largest, famous for the Buddha statues in Cave 16 and specific grotto areas are shown in Table 3, the West Thousand Buddha Caves are rich in mural paintings and are known as the "Treasure House of Oriental Paintings"; and the Five Pagodas Monastery is known for its elegant and solemn modeling and unique artistic appeal. Dunhuang Grottoes demonstrates the exquisite skills and unique style of Buddhist art and has become one of the precious legacies of ancient Chinese cave art. Mogao Grottoes cave form is a concentrated expression of its architectural art; the grotto itself is a three-dimensional space building, the first to the center of the pagoda pillar caves are mainly in the middle of the excavation of the cave is relatively large, the temple cave instead of the center of the pagoda pillar caves, the front wall of the caves in the excavation of a more significant niche, shaping the body of the statues, to the overlaying bucket for the roof of the caves, and beautifully painted patterns to decorate the patio (T. Yu et al., 2022; Yu & Xie, 2022). Later excavation of the depth of 20-30 meters of the Hall Cave, the central cave with a Buddha Hall, shaping the body of an enormous statue, in addition to the Buddha Cave, Nirvana Cave, Zen Cave, Shadow

Grottoes, and pagodas and other types of the largest as high as more than 40 meters, the smallest less than a foot.

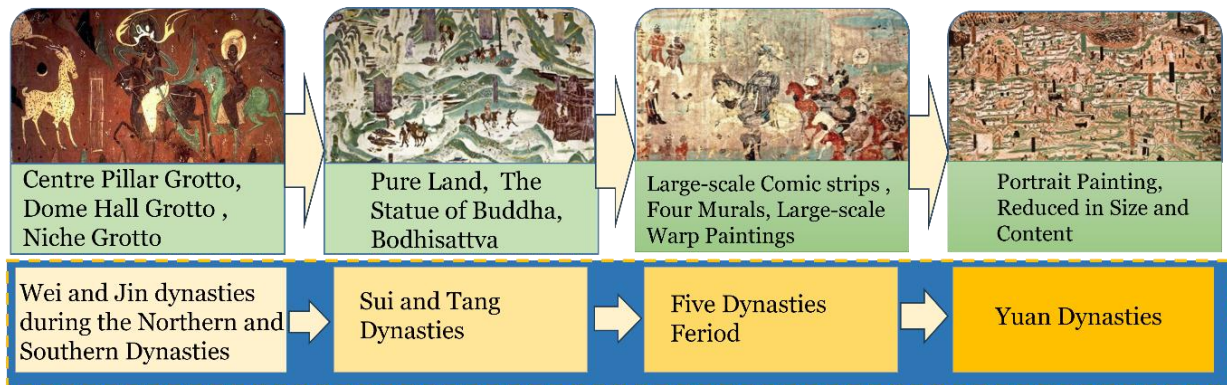


Figure 2. The Development History of Grotto Mural Painting

Table 3. Dunhuang Mogao Caves Specific Area Number Statistics

Area of Caves(m ²)	Quantity	Percentage(%)
>100	18	3.7
50~100	21	4.3
25~50	41	8.3
10~25	123	25
<10	289	58.7

The geographical advantage of the Dunhuang Grottoes made Dunhuang an essential node of cultural exchange between the East and the West (Dabanlı & Şimşek, 2023). As a pivotal area on the Silk Road, Dunhuang attracted merchants and missionaries from Central Asia and India, bringing Buddhist ideas and art, as shown in Figure 3. Dunhuang was also the cultural crossroads of northern and northwestern China, and the fusion of diverse cultures promoted the innovation and prosperity of Buddhist art. The arrival of Buddhism fulfilled society's need for religious belief and spiritual support. Buddhist temples and grottoes became places for the faithful to practice and worship and for art to be created as a way of expressing their faith and pursuing liberation, a religious need, and support that allowed Dunhuang's grottoes to be continually expanded and adorned over the centuries (He & Chu, 2022; Qu & Xu, 2022). Political and social stability also guaranteed the prosperity of the Dunhuang caves. In a relatively stable social environment, people were able to devote more energy and resources to excavating caves, carving Buddha statues, and painting murals, resulting in a wide variety of exquisite works of art.

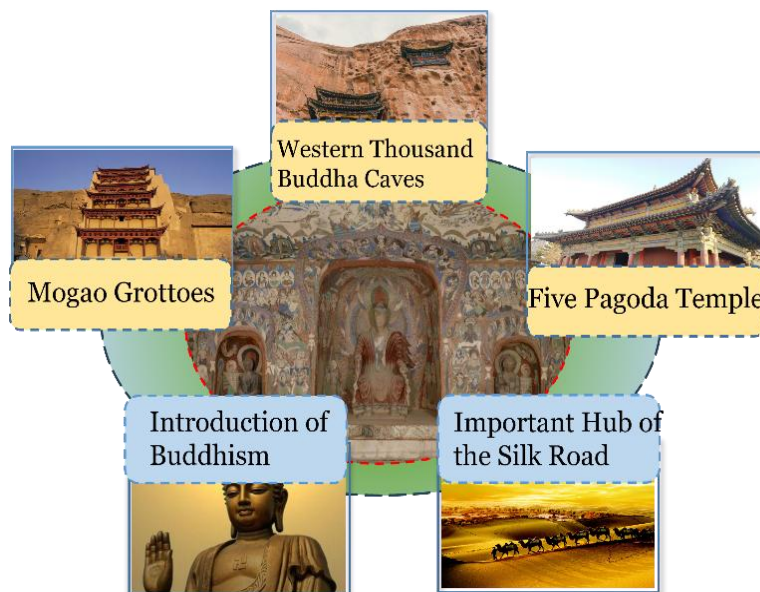


Figure 3. The Pluralistic Integration of Dunhuang Grottoes

Cultural Heritage Values and Impact on World Art

The Dunhuang Grottoes are one of the most important representatives of ancient Chinese painting and sculpture (L. Chen, 2021). Mural paintings were painted on the top and four walls of the grottoes and were divided into different types. The ones painted on the top are primarily decorative and free patterns, with algae wells and flat chess as the main ones, and various patterns on the trusses on the four sides, such as cloud patterns, linden patterns, bird and flower patterns, cloud and air patterns, lotus and lotus patterns, as well as the style of the flying beasts and other patterns. On the waist of the four walls are Buddhist theme paintings, roughly divided into Buddha statues, sutra stories, traditional mythological themes, and portraits of supporters. A large number of murals, colorful sculptures, couplets, poems, and other cultural relics that have survived from the Tang and Song dynasties to the Ming and Qing dynasties not only represent the essence of traditional Chinese culture but also serve as a bridge and an essential witness to cultural and artistic exchanges between China and foreign countries. The Dunhuang Grottoes are diverse in artistic style and full of historical precipitation and cultural heritage, not only embracing traditional Han Chinese culture but also absorbing elements of Western culture to form a unique national art style, which has had a far-reaching impact on world art. Visually, the colors and compositions presented in the Dunhuang Grottoes have a high degree of beauty and artistic value. Culturally, the historical background, religious beliefs, artistic techniques and other aspects of the Dunhuang caves are essential information for studying the development of human civilization and the intermingling of cultures. Dunhuang Grottoes' murals, Buddha statues and other artworks are unique in their creation techniques, subject matter and artistic style, and their majestic modeling, exquisite and delicate painting techniques and unique oriental aesthetic concepts have attracted the attention of artists, scholars and audiences at home and abroad (Heo, Cai, & Choi, 2021; Hughes, 2021). These works, with their exquisite carving and painting techniques, demonstrate the high achievements of ancient Chinese murals and sculptures, which cover a wide range of fields such as Buddhist classics, historical legends, and social life, as shown in Figure 4 and Table 4, also show rich ideological concepts, artistic aesthetics and the style of the times.

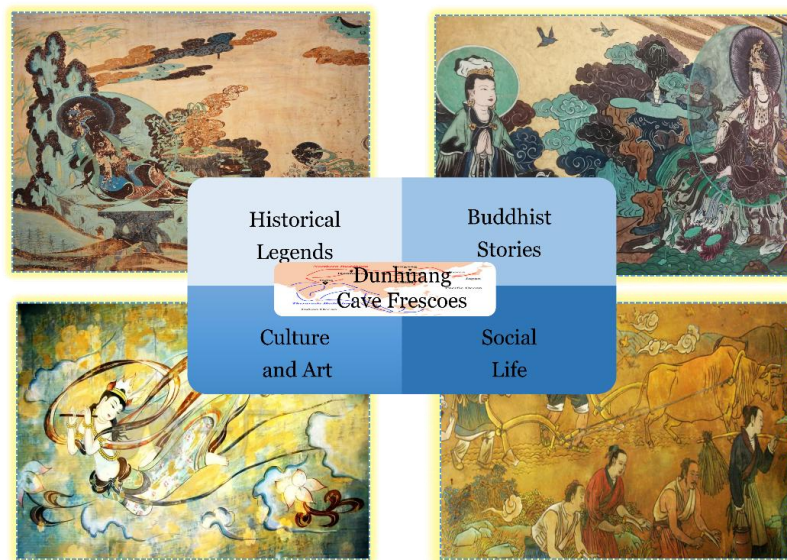


Figure 4. The Content Involved in Cave Murals

Table 4. Categories of Cave Paintings

Main Category of Murals	Contents
Buddha Paintings	Including various Buddha images (3rd Buddha, 7th Buddha, Shakyas, etc); Bodhisattvas (Manjushri, Puxian, Avalokiteshvara, etc); Dragon Babu, 12208 Buddha statues with different expressions.
Warp Paintings	The esoteric Buddhist scriptures that express them in an easy-to-understand way are called "sutra changes"; Those who express classic content with painting techniques are called "disguise"; The expression of words and singing techniques is called "changing words".
Human Portraits	In order to show their devotion to the Buddha and leave a name for future generations, when opening the cave to make statues, they painted portraits of themselves and their families, relatives, slaves and other people in the cave.

Main Category of Murals	Contents
Decorative Paintings	The colorful decorative pattern paintings are mainly used for the decoration of cave buildings, but also for table circumferences, crowns and utensils.
Story Paintings	It can be divided into 6 main categories: Buddhist stories; Bunsen story painting; karmic story painting; Buddhist historical story paintings; figurative story painting; Tang Xuanzang took the scripture story painting.
Landscape Paintings	Most of them are integrated with warp paintings and story paintings, and some are based on the landscapes in Buddhist scriptures, referring to real scenes and superb imagination, depicting the beautiful natural scenery of "Elysium" with green mountains and green waters, birds and flowers; Some are independent paintings with landscapes as the main body.
Other	Architectural paintings, utensil paintings, flower and bird paintings, animal paintings, etc.

The formation and development of the Dunhuang Grottoes reflect the religious, cultural, and historical change process in ancient China. The study of the Dunhuang Grottoes provides an insight into the development of society, religion and art in ancient China and fills in the gaps in the understanding of history and culture. This influence is not only reflected in the artistic creations of East Asia but also plays a role in enlightening the modern art movement in the West.

Status and Challenges of Dunhuang Cave Conservation and Historical Inheritance

At present, the local government and relevant agencies have stepped up their efforts to protect the Dunhuang caves, and experts and engineers have carried out meticulous work in restoring and reinforcing the cave structures, consolidating and repairing damaged caves to prolong their lifespan. Appropriate disaster prevention and mitigation measures have been carried out, such as installing rainwater collection systems and adding waterproofing layers to mitigate the environmental impacts in the caves. They have also worked with international organizations such as UNESCO, academics and other countries to promote the conservation of the Dunhuang caves. However, due to their geographical location, long-term wind and sand erosion are the main natural destructive factors faced by the Dunhuang caves, further exacerbated by climate change and human activities. Greening treatments have been carried out through the development of relevant plans to prevent desertification from further eroding the caves (H. Chen & Wang, 2020; Chun In Pyong, 2019). Mural paintings, sculptures and other cultural relics are affected by time and the aging of materials, and problems such as cracked walls and flaking pigments require timely restoration and protection. In recent years, the booming tourism industry and the influx of visitors to the Dunhuang Grottoes have put pressure on the grottoes, with carbon dioxide, dust and water vapor from activities and breathing causing damage to the murals, illegal mining and theft of cultural artifacts are also among the challenges faced (Acai, 2020).

In response to these challenges, continued efforts to protect Dunhuang grottoes, strengthened supervision and management, advances in scientific research and technology, and increased awareness and education are all essential measures to protect Dunhuang grottoes. Through international cooperation and joint efforts, we are confident that this important cultural heritage will be preserved so that it can continue and be appreciated by future generations.

METHODOLOGY

Art Management and Oriental Art in Dunhuang Grotto Scenic Area

Fusion of Arts Management and Oriental Art

Arts management can provide stable support and efficient execution for artistic activities through rational resource allocation and exemplary organizational operations and is particularly important for the inheritance and development of oriental arts, which are usually characterized by complex production processes and high human resources costs. Art management should not only consider the commercial value of artworks but also focus on the impact and significance of artworks on society. In oriental art, traditional culture and philosophical thinking are often integrated into artworks, and the values of oriental culture can be better conveyed and promoted through art management (Wang, Wang, Chang, Zhang, & Xu, 2020; Agnew, Reed, & Ball, 2016). Art management also focuses on market development and international exchanges, which promotes the development of the art industry and artists' creative drive and provides an excellent economic basis for the protection and inheritance of cultural heritage. On the other hand, international exchanges help broaden the horizons and influence of the arts and

promote the dissemination and recognition of oriental arts on a global scale.

When combining art management and oriental art, the practice mode is shown in Table 5, which can be carried out by establishing relevant institutions to carry out the protection work and publicity. It can also be discussed with relevant experts to develop scientific and reasonable programs. The combination of art management and oriental art provides new ideas and methods for cultural heritage protection and historical inheritance. It can add unique artistic charm and aesthetic value to the protection process.

Table 5. A Practical Model for Integrating Arts Management and Oriental Art

Context	Art Management and Eastern Art Practice Model Path
Construction and Operation of Arts Governing Bodies	Professionals in the relevant fields are available to formulate professional management strategies and conservation programs to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of conservation work.
Synergy Between Arts Management and Heritage Conservation	Arts administrators and conservation specialists work together to develop conservation programs and restoration strategies.
Innovation and Inheritance by Combining the Characteristics of Oriental Art	To promote the development of artistic expressions and creative techniques through research and practice and to use traditional techniques for the restoration and artistic reproduction of cultural relics.
Arts Education and Public Engagement	Raise public awareness of and attach importance to the protection of cultural heritage, and enhance the awareness and sense of responsibility of all sectors of society for protection.

Integration of Art Management and Eastern Art in Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area

In the Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area use case, art management and oriental art play an essential role in several areas, including conservation, restoration, display and management strategies (Jia, 2019; Mikayama, Hokoi, Ogura, Okada, & Su, 2019).

Protection: Formulate detailed protection plans and measures, including monitoring and regulating the environment inside and outside the grottoes, to prevent damage to the murals caused by natural factors. Comprehensive digital conservation of the grottoes using advanced technological means, such as laser scanning and three-dimensional reconstruction, to ensure accurate recording and preservation of the original state of the grottoes.

Restoration: Organize professional restoration teams to restore and protect damaged murals through artistic management means, following the principles of science and prudence. Combining the expression and techniques of oriental art, the restoration is carried out using traditional painting techniques and materials to achieve the consistency of style between the restored murals and the originals.

Display: Formulate reasonable exhibition strategies and layout programs, combine the aesthetic concepts and presentation methods of oriental art, organically combine the murals in the grottoes with the overall space, and create an appropriate display atmosphere. The use of multimedia technology and, virtual reality and other means, so visitors can better understand and appreciate the details of the murals and historical background.

Management strategy: Set up specialized grotto management bodies responsible for the daily management and maintenance of the grottoes to ensure the long-term protection of the heritage. Formulate a reasonable ticketing and visitor flow control policy to protect the air quality and environmental conditions in the grottoes; as shown in Figure 5, in July, August and September, the number of tourists is the highest, accounting for 64.63 percent of the total number of tourists throughout the year, the need to make preparations in advance for the increase in the number of tourists.

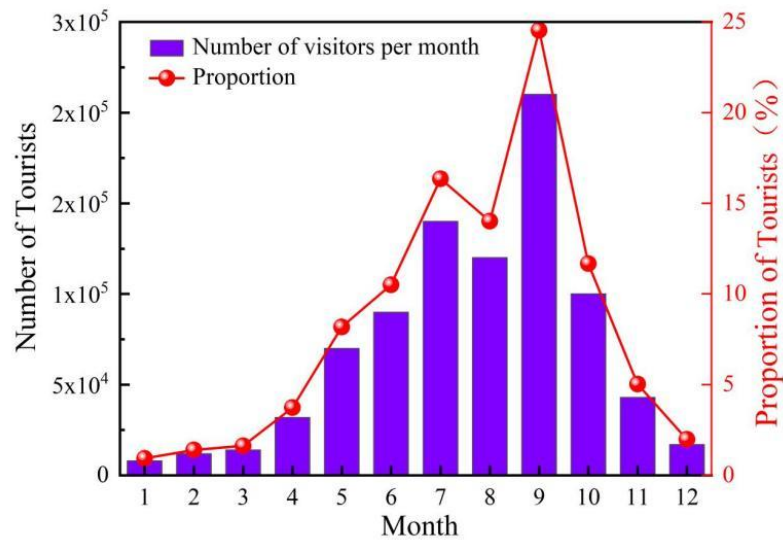


Figure 5. Dunhuang Grottoes Visitor Numbers 2018

RESULTS

Collaboration between Art Management and Eastern Art

Guangdong The synergy between arts management and oriental arts in the Dunhuang Grottoes scenic area is crucial (Rhie, 2017). Arts management can provide organizational and management support for the protection and development of Dunhuang Grottoes. In contrast, oriental art is an essential expression of the cultural connotation of Dunhuang Grottoes, which can promote the inheritance and development of traditional oriental art and culture. The effective synergy of the two can provide a guarantee for the sustainable development of Dunhuang Grottoes.

In the Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area, the art management organization needs to formulate appropriate management rules and regulations to ensure that every tourist and staff member can comply with the public order and will not cause any damage to the cultural heritage of the grottoes (Moretti, 2019; Rafique et al., 2018). At the same time, the arts management body needs to develop a reasonable mechanism for limiting the number of visitors to avoid the negative impacts of over-commercialization. In addition, local artists should be funded to create art and encouraged to inject new vigor and inspiration into the culture of the Dunhuang caves and Oriental art.

Oriental art can bring unique charm and cultural value to the Dunhuang Grottoes scenic area, attracting more tourists. At the same time, by promoting Oriental art, more people can understand and recognize the outstanding achievements of Oriental culture and thus promote the inheritance and development of traditional Chinese culture (Wilcox, 2018). Oriental art also has international influence, and as an essential part of Chinese culture, it can enhance China's influence in the international cultural arena.

However, art management and oriental art in the Dunhuang Grottoes scenic area also have some problems and challenges, as shown in Table 6, which need to be solved in future development. The synergy between arts management and Oriental arts in the Dunhuang Grottoes is critical. It is not only necessary to strengthen the protection and inheritance of art management and oriental art, but also need to integrate resources better and improve the quality of service to achieve the sustainable development of the Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area.

Table 6. Discussion of the Synergistic Effects and Problems of Arts Management and Oriental Arts

	Perspective	Advantages
Synergistic Effect	Comprehensive Protection and Restoration	Provide a holistic view of grotto conservation and restoration to maintain artistic continuity and integrity.
	Enhancing Display Value	Cave exhibition strategies can be designed to create more attractive and meaningful displays.
	Deepening Cultural Inheritance	Through the mechanism of art management, the techniques and knowledge of oriental art can be recorded and passed on in a timely manner to ensure their continued development in the conservation of the caves.

Issues and Challenges	Balancing Conservation and Development	While meeting conservation needs, there is also a need to consider openness to visitors and sustainable development.
	Talent Training and Passing on Expertise	More expertise needs to be developed to ensure its sustainability.
	Culture Clash and Management Challenges	The management and presentation of cave works should be based on respect for the traditions of oriental art and incorporate modern concepts of art management.

DISCUSSION

Exploration of Conservation and Inheritance Strategies

The Cave Heritage Discovery Strategy aims to protect the unique value and cultural heritage of the Dunhuang caves, to pass on the essence of oriental art and to make the caves a sustainable cultural landscape (Wilcox, 2018; Zhang, 2019), as shown in the detailed plan in Figure 6. Comprehensive and systematic conservation of the grottoes is carried out using modern technology, such as non-destructive testing techniques, digital recording and three-dimensional reconstruction techniques to monitor and conserve the structure and paintings of the grottoes. There is also a need to strengthen supervision and management by establishing professional grotto conservation organizations and teams, formulating detailed conservation plans and operational standards, and ensuring conservation work's scientific and sustainable nature. In addition, limiting the number of visitors per day directly avoids the possibility of overcrowding and vandalism, as well as the concentration of tourists visiting the caves. In order to alleviate the pressure on the caves and enable tourists to visit the Mogao Grottoes in a more orderly manner, the Institute has determined the routes for visiting the Mogao Grottoes in the peak season based on the range of open caves, the era of the caves, the location of the caves, the content of the caves, and the distance of each route¹², by adjusting and improving the tour line year by year so that the arrangement of the tour line is smooth. Reasonable and scientific tour lines, in the peak season, especially for the control of large passenger flow, effectively diversion of tourists, reduce the pressure on the role of the caves, and at the same time, through the reservation or time-limited visits to balance the needs of tourists and the need for protection. For example, in the early 20th century, some foreign explorers and scholars took advantage of the social turmoil in China to bring a large amount of Dunhuang literature and art out of China, causing immeasurable cultural losses. Although the Chinese government has pursued cultural relics multiple times later, many precious cultural relics have yet to be returned.

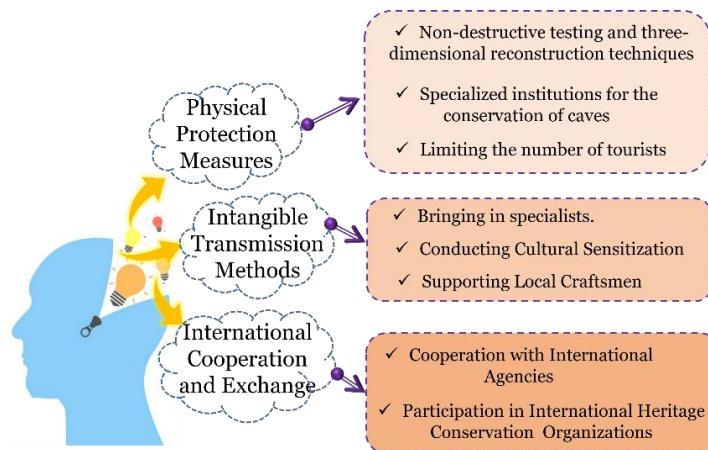


Figure 6. Exploration of Conservation and Inheritance Strategies for Grottoes

Relevant personnel can be trained in the transmission of intangible heritage and, if necessary, professionals can be introduced, including art administrators, experts in grotto conservation and scholars of cultural relics, in order to strengthen the study and transmission of oriental art and to ensure that the artistic style and techniques of the grottoes are passed on. Carry out Dunhuang Grottoes cultural education and publicity for the public and tourists to improve the public's cultural literacy and conservation awareness; organize lectures, exhibitions and cultural exchanges to increase awareness of and attention to the Dunhuang Grottoes. Local artists and artisans can also be supported through government financial support and training programs, encouraging them to innovate based on Eastern artistic traditions and promoting the inheritance and development of Eastern arts.

Cooperate with international institutions, experts and scholars, organize joint research, conservation and

exhibition projects, share experiences and resources, and improve the level of conservation and heritage of grottoes. Actively participate in international heritage conservation organizations such as UNESCO, accede to relevant international conventions and agreements, and learn from and adopt advanced international conservation management concepts and technologies.

CONCLUSION

The Dunhuang caves, as a treasure of traditional Chinese art, represent the long history and outstanding artistic achievements of the Chinese nation. The creation of Dunhuang Grottoes originated from Buddhist culture and art in ancient China. With time, the art style of Dunhuang caves has gradually evolved, forming a unique Dunhuang art style. In the long development process, Dunhuang Grottoes has faced challenges from various aspects, including time, manufacturing and environment. In order to protect and pass on this unique cultural heritage, this paper researches and discusses the cultural heritage protection and historical inheritance of the Dunhuang Grottoes Scenic Area from the perspectives of art management and oriental art.

The study also analyses the origins and development of the Dunhuang caves, revealing their artistic characteristics and historical significance. As an essential part of traditional Chinese art, the Dunhuang caves reflect the magnificent splendor of ancient Chinese culture and have far-reaching historical significance and artistic value. By analyzing the origin and development of the Dunhuang Grottoes, we can see that the creation of the Dunhuang Grottoes originated from Buddhist culture and art in ancient China. Over time, the artistic style of Dunhuang caves has gradually evolved, forming a unique Dunhuang artistic style.

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