

# CONTEMPORARY HAKKA POPULAR MUSIC. IN COMPETITION, WITH PEOPLE, AND TO THE FUTURE

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## Abstract

Contemporary Hakka popular music plays a significant role in Hakka culture. After the establishment of the Hakka Affairs Council, the government held many Hakka music competitions. Can these competitions promote the Hakka culture? How can Hakka music culture maintain its place under the influence of globalization? This research attempts to understand the development of contemporary Hakka popular music and its future trends. The author used in-depth interviews as his major research method, adopted the snowball sampling method to choose interviewees, and collected data from six Hakka musicians and producers. The findings are, firstly the definition of Hakka popular music should not be based on the consanguinity of the musician or the image of the Hakka culture. Hakka music should return to its uniqueness and importance of itself. If the Hakka music abandons the Hakka language, then Hakka music would lose its meaning. Secondly, government funding and policy generated both positive and negative impact on Hakka popular music. Public resources

encourage the participation and attention, but at the same time frustrated the varieties and originality of Hakka music. Lastly, the promotion of Hakka popular music improved the development of Hakka culture. In sum, under the influence of globalization, many regional and minority culture lose their ground. However, the prosperity of globalization came from the integration of different lines of vivid culture. The preservation of Hakka culture has its necessity. Hakka culture enriched Taiwanese culture and it is our responsibility to continue the endeavor to understand and cherish the culture.

Keywords: Hakka Music, Hakka Popular Music, Hakka Culture, Popular Music Award, Music Festival.