# Analysis of the Red Cultural Genes in the Formation of Flying tigers Spirit

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**Abstract:** The spirit of flying tigers shows the national spirit and patriotic belief of the people in Zaozhuang, Shandong Province. It is an integral part of the red culture. The connotation of flying tigers's red culture gene includes not only the commonness of these red cultures, such as the leadership of the Communist Party, the mass line and the communist ideal, but also its unique factors: the spirit of iron and blood and the spirit of wisdom and flexibility. The red cultural gene of flying tigers spirit has its historical, natural and social background. Analyzing the red cultural gene of flying tigers spirit is of great significance for inheriting national culture, uniting ideological consensus and building a harmonious and stable society.

#### 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Research Background

Southern Shandong gave birth to a red fertile soil-Zaozhuang. This is not only the battlefield of Taierzhuang War, but also the old revolutionary base area of Yimeng Mountain and the hometown of flying tigers. In this red land, revolutionary heroes would rather die than surrender, adhere to faith, and sacrifice their lives for the revolution. Their deeds and spirit shine in the annals of revolution. Flying tigers, officially named "Lunan Railway Brigade", is a people's anti-Japanese armed force established in Zaozhuang in 1940 under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. It belongs to the "115 th Division Sulu Detachment" of the Eighth Route Army and is incorporated into the independent detachment of Lunan Military Region. This team moved along the Linzao and Jinpu railway lines and gradually grew stronger in the Anti-Japanese War. Picking up trains, seizing machine guns, attacking Japanese troops, fighting puppet troops, pulling out strongholds, searching intelligence, and sending cadres. The enemy was scared and terrified at the sight of the wind. With his life and blood, he forged the flying tigers spirit of "serving the country sincerely, not afraid of sacrifice, flexible in mechanism, and brave in shining swords", leaving us precious spiritual wealth. Do not forget your initiative mind, keep in mind the mission, the spirit of flying tigers shows our national spirit and patriotic belief, is a part of red culture, and has red genes that we need to explore and inherit.

## 1.2. The Red Cultural Gene Connotation

"Cultural gene" is the frontier achievement of cultural anthropology research. It is an idea put forward by American anthropologists kroeber and Kluckhohn in 1950s. They believe that "cultural gene" exists in different cultures and can represent the uniqueness of culture like biological gene. In 1976, British Richard Dawkins believed that cultural genes have three characteristics of heredity, variability and selectivity, and their main inheritance mode is imitation. Many scholars in our country also have different interpretations of cultural genes, which will not be repeated here. Although their views are different, the definition of cultural genes is generally the same: cultural genes are "ideological factors of living cultural traditions that can be copied and traditional cultures that may be revived." The author's understanding is that cultural genes mainly refer to various internal factors hidden behind cultural phenomena that become cultural traditions and are inherited

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and preserved.

"Red Culture" has been interpreted differently by different scholars. Some scholars have explained that "Red Culture refers to an advanced cultural form with Chinese characteristics created jointly by the Chinese Communists, all advanced elements and the people under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party during the new democratic revolution". Some scholars have interpreted it as "red culture, as an advanced culture with Chinese characteristics, is formed by the Chinese Communist Party in leading the people of all ethnic groups in the long-term revolutionary struggle, construction practice and the great process of reform and opening up. Its guiding ideology is Marxism, which itself contains the cultural gene of Marxism, and at the same time has Chinese characteristics and national characteristics." The author agrees with this view: it is a culture with Chinese characteristics and a culture with local characteristics.

Some scholars have interpreted the "red culture gene" as "the basic connotation of the red culture gene can be summarized as firm faith, strict discipline, loyalty to the party, dedication to the people, hard work, courage to sacrifice, seeking truth from facts, courage to blaze new trails, honesty and selfless dedication". Some scholars concluded that "the red gene is a vital part of the system, concept, thought, tradition and spirit of the red culture that can keep pace with the times. "The red cultural gene formed by the spirit of flying tigers is the vital concept, thought, tradition and spirit formed by flying tigers during the Anti-Japanese War.

### 1.3. New Perspective

In different red cultures, the cultural genes have both the same commonality of inheritance and the individuality that distinguishes them from other cultures. Based on this, the author believes that the spirit of flying tigers not only has the common characteristics of the red culture gene: the leadership of the Communist Party, the mass line, the communist goals, etc., but also has its own uniqueness: keeping improving, adjusting measures to local conditions, folk wisdom and tough guy spirit.

# 2. The Connotation Interpretation of Flying Tigers's Spiritual Red Cultural Gene

The core of flying tigers's spiritual red culture is that the Chinese Communist Party took Xuecheng as the center during the revolutionary period, especially during the Anti-Japanese War, and led the people in Zaozhuang area to be active on the railway lines around Zaozhuang and Lincheng in Shandong Province. They fought flexibly in various ways: picking up railways, bombing trains, pulling out strongholds, and making foreign trade. They fought bloody battles with the Japanese invaders and formed a combination of revolutionary beliefs, revolutionary will, revolutionary ideas, revolutionary quality and spiritual state guided by communism in the long-term revolutionary struggle.

### 2.1. Flying Tigers Red Culture Gene Formation Background

#### 2.1.1. Historical Factors

The formation of red cultural genes is not a matter of day and night. Like biological genes, red cultural genes are inherited from past dynasties and natural selection. The excellent traditional culture and national spirit inherited by the Chinese nation for thousands of years are the intrinsic ingredients and natural nourishment of red culture. Therefore, the formation of the red cultural gene of flying tigers spirit is inseparable from Zaozhuang's historical and cultural tradition.

Zaozhuang has a long and profound history and culture, with a large number of famous people, with Lu culture as the main body and Confucian culture, canal culture and Shuihu culture as the backing, which constitute unique cultural characteristics. Inventions and creations emerge one after another here, with representatives of the wisdom of the working people: Mozi, the sage of science, Xi Zhong, the father of car making, and Luban, the father of craftsman. The people here are brave, intelligent, hardworking and progressive, attach importance to talents, have the courage to recommend themselves, Meng Changjun, who knows how to make good use of others, Shu Suntong,

who has outstanding intelligence, Kuang Heng, who has cut through the wall and stole the light, Zuo Qiuming, a historian's representative, and so on.

Zaozhuang is close to the hometown of Confucius and Mencius. The traditional Confucian culture has far-reaching influence on people. Confucius told us that truth and belief need to be guarded by life with "people with lofty ideals and humanity, no survival to harm humanity, and death to achieve humanity". Mencius told us to stick to morality and not be afraid of power by saying, "poverty cannot be removed, wealth cannot be adulterated, and power cannot be bowed down." The Confucian people-oriented thought of "people first, country second, king first" is similar to the Marxist thought of "people first", while the mass line in the red cultural gene and the aim of serving the people come from the traditional people-oriented thought. The story of Liangshan, which is widely circulated among the people in Weishan Lake area, fully illustrates the influence of the outlaw of the marsh culture on the people to rescue the enslaved compatriots and to fight against injustice. The canal culture of endless growth, innovation and cooperation, loyalty and integrity is quietly infiltrating people's lives. People here are warm-hearted, enthusiastic, warm-blooded and love their hometown and people. They have a historical tradition of emphasizing the importance of the country.

The red culture of flying tigers spirit embodies the essence of these excellent historical and traditional cultures, absorbs the nutrients of the national spirit, and forms its own brand-new cultural form on the basis of carrying forward the excellent national traditional culture.

### 2.1.2. Natural factors

Zaozhuang, Shandong Province, as a heroic land, has its unique and distinct regional characteristics and geographical advantages: traffic forts, important military areas, fertile plains, economic and strategic positions are all very important, and it has always been a must for military strategists. It is located at the junction of the four provinces of Jiangsu, Shandong, Henan and Anhui. It is the southern gate of Shandong. It is located at the transportation hub. The railway lines-Beijing-Shanghai, Tianjin-Pu railway, the Eurasian continental bridge Longhai railway, and the "Golden Waterway" Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal pass through the border. It is the intersection of the south and the north, connecting the east and the west. Zaozhuang is located in the transition zone between the north and south climate, backed by Taidai and Mengyin, with a dangerous terrain and rich products. It has abundant mountain forest resources-Baodugu, and water resources-Weishan Lake and Grand Canal. It can be attacked when entering, and it is eyeing the Central Plains. It can be defended when retreating and hidden in remote mountains. It is also one of the most important energy centers in eastern China. It is rich in coal and is a real coal city. There is ZTE Corporation, the largest Chinese-owned coal mine in the country. However, on March 18, 1938, the Japanese army occupied Zaozhuang and stationed troops there. A large number of high-quality coal was transported to Japan along the feeder line from Zaozhuang to Jinpu Railway and then transported to Japan by sea. The frenzied plunder of the Japanese invaders stimulated the enthusiasm and revolutionary spirit of Zaozhuang people to defend their country.

#### 2.1.3. Social factors

## 2.1.3.1 The mass base-the great alliance of the proletariat

According to data records, "(Railway Team) has only six or seven initial members. Apart from Du Jiwei and Wang Zhisheng who are members of the Communist Party of China and Hong Zhenhai who have been nurtured by the Party, the rest are all from the" coal-grabbing road "at the bottom of the society. "At first, flying tigers was just a team of railway workers, street vendors, miners and vagrants. They came from poor farmers, lake people and fishermen and struggled hard to have a bite to eat. Natural disasters, war aggression, capitalist exploitation and oppression, landlord exploitation ... The harsh living environment, the common experience of being enslaved and oppressed, and the single limitation of their means of livelihood unite them. At first, they established kinship relationships to support and assist each other in a unique way of alliance among the people, such as worshipping sons, identifying relatives, forming relatives, etc. In their brutal

struggle with the enemy and their personal experience of fighting side by side with the communists, they felt the wisdom and greatness of the party, inspired the revolutionary feelings and high political consciousness of saving the nation and the people, and turned these feelings and consciousness into practical actions, they united and made progress, fought with one heart and one mind against the Japanese aggressors and the Kuomintang reactionaries, and completed the great alliance of the proletariat, in their thoughts, they also rose from their initial simple expectation of survival to the height of fighting for the communist ideal.

Whether it is "flying tigers" or "Weishan Lake Brigade" or "Canal Detachment", revolutionaries came from the masses, went deep into the masses, became one with the masses, worked hard to consolidate the mass foundation, and did everything for the masses and for the masses. Therefore, they won the firm support and sincere support of the masses, gave full play to the wisdom and strength of the masses, united into a city, overcame numerous difficulties and won the final victory. This also fully shows that the mass line is always a magic weapon to win.

### 2.1.3.2 Organizational basis-the leadership of the communist party of China

The earliest party organization that appeared in Zaozhuang was the Zaozhuang Mining Area Branch of the Communist Party of China, founded in July 1926 at Zhongxing Coal Mine in Zaozhuang. At that time, it was in the great revolution period of Kuomintang-Communist cooperation. It mainly led the workers' movement, carried out party building activities, and guided workers to take the road of revolution. Since then, the Party organization has been continuously developed and perfected, and the ranks of the Communist Party have also been continuously developed and strengthened. They have led Zaozhuang people through more than half a century of glorious fighting and have successively gone through major historical periods such as the Great Revolution, the Agrarian Revolutionary War, the Anti-Japanese War and the National Liberation War, leaving behind many valuable revolutionary struggle experiences and glorious revolutionary traditions.

During the Anti-Japanese War, the special committee of the CPC's Su-Lu-Yu-Wan Border Region set up the Su-Lu People's Anti-Japanese Volunteer Corps in Yi County, Tengxian County, and established the South Shandong Anti-Japanese Base with Baodugu as the center. In January 1939, the Lunan Special Committee of the Communist Party of China was established. In January 1940, the Canal Detachment of the 1st-5th Division of the Eighth Route Army was formally established in Zhouying Town, Yi County. In February 1940, the Lunan Railway Brigade was formally established in XiaoChen Zhuang, west of Zaozhuang Railway Station. The battalion chief Hong Zhenhai (later Liu Jinshan), the deputy battalion chief Wang Zhisheng, and the political commissar Du Jiwei (later Wen Lizheng, Yang Guangli, Zhao Ruohua, Meng Zhaoyu, Hongyi Zhang, and Zheng Ti). At the beginning of its establishment, the railway brigade had only six members, but later it grew to more than 300. Most of them were unemployed workers and vagrants. They had both a brave and fearless side and a weak self-discipline and poor organizational discipline. Communist Party members set an example by becoming one with the members in their life. They imperceptibly influenced the guerrillas with the fine style and strict discipline of the Eighth Route Army. At the same time, they set up a "Quit Smoking and Alcohol Council" in the team, organized training courses and classes, united the members politically, educated them and helped them correct their habits. Later, after ideological training, cultural upgrading and discipline rectification, the members' cultural and military and political qualities underwent a fundamental change.

It is precisely because of the correct leadership of the Communist Party of China that flying tigers has been able to continuously develop and grow in an extremely difficult and complicated struggle environment. It has established close flesh-and-blood ties with the masses of the people, united and cooperated with the Canal Detachment and Weishan Lake Brigade, and fought together on the thousands of miles of railway lines, on both sides of the Canal and on the Weishan Lake. It has made immortal contributions to the victory of the Anti-Japanese War.

### 2.2. Flying tigers Spirit Red Cultural Gene Connotation

Under the leadership of the Communist Party, Lunan Railway Brigade has been operating in enemy-occupied areas for a long time. Under the attack of multiple forces (Japanese troops, puppet troops and secret agents), it has penetrated into the masses and mobilized the masses in the railway trunk line, Zaozhuang mining area, Grand Canal and Weishan Lake area under the tight and brutal control of the enemy. Relying on the cover and help of railway miners, canal and lake area masses, it has used flexible tactics to attack the Japanese invaders Zaozhuang Foreign Company and intercept the Japanese invaders' ticket cars on the Linzao Railway branch line. Destroy the Japanese soldiers who were escorting the vehicles, seize guns and ammunition, open up "secret communication lines", write a magnificent chapter in the bloody elegant demeanour, leaving us precious spiritual wealth.

The red culture gene that makes up flying tigers has not only the leadership of the Communist Party of China, the mass line, the communist ideal, but also unique factors: the iron and blood tough guy spirit and the flexible spirit of wisdom.

## 2.2.1. Iron tough guy spirit

Flying tigers's spirit contains the iron and blood tough guy spirit. This spirit is not afraid, not yielding, not resigned, not giving up, being responsible and struggling hard ...

Flying tigers comes from railway workers, unemployed people, vagrants, poor peasants, etc. These toiling masses have no means of livelihood and have no dependence. However, they are not afraid of the turbulent and dangerous times. They depend on their own hands and bear hardships and stand hard work. They learn to be firemen and drivers. They practice picking up cars and jumping cars. They are not afraid of hardship and fatigue. They have courage and courage. Even if they deal with ferocious enemies 100 times better than their own, they have no choice but to escape and fight on the railway lines of Jinpu and Linzao. Flying over speeding trains, shuttling between enemy guns, bombing bridges, picking up railway tracks, crashing trains, cutting off supplies, pounding strongholds, killing devils, punishing traitors, protecting the masses, and protecting their hometown, the Japanese puppet troops lost their souls like sharp knives stuck in the Japanese army's railway arteries. It was called "Flying Tigers" by the enemy, and even the peace that was once feared was full of legend.

Iron and blood tough guys have a high sense of responsibility. They keep improving their work, being careful and cautious. According to the tasks assigned by their superiors, they cut off the Japanese transportation lines many times, cooperated with the main forces of the Eighth Route Army to fight the Japanese army hundreds of times, and established the Weishan Lake Anti-Japanese Base Area, opening up the secret lake transportation line from central China's Shandong Province to Yan 'an. Liu Shaoqi, Chen Yi, Luo Ronghuan, Xiao Hua, Zhu Rui and other leaders of the Communist Party of China and more than 1,000 officers and soldiers were escorted to Yan 'an secretly across the heavily fortified and tightly sealed railway line between Tianjin and Puyang, which contributed greatly to the victory of the Anti-Japanese War. The escort process was extremely difficult and dangerous. Japanese troops, puppet troops, secret agents, traitors and secret posts were sealed off layer by layer and there was no means of communication. In order to ensure a safe escort, a high degree of responsibility was required. In the early stage, a lot of meticulous work should be done. Step on it well, the time should be accurately calculated, the pick-up point should be clear, the enemy's eyes and ears should be avoided, and every link should be carefully handled. It is precisely because of the guerrilla's boldness, carefulness and rigorous work that all escort missions can be successfully completed, and more than a dozen company troops have been sent to the main forces one after another, making important contributions to the construction of anti-Japanese forces.

Iron and blood tough guys have great courage and courage. They constantly temper themselves to become stronger and make the enemy afraid. With the strength of a few people, dozens of people and no more than 300 people at the most, flying tigers walked among the enemy troops tens or hundreds of times of his own, completing one difficult task after another and writing miracles. Their

marksmanship was fast, accurate and swift. Because the enemy won, for example, Meng Qinghai, a member of flying tigers's team, entered the Japanese army's stronghold to detain and kill Huang Zhongyun, a traitor, from under the Japanese army's eyes. When the traitor was found pointing at him with a gun, he only said, "Try to shoot him if you have the guts, and see who can outrun him. I am Meng Qinghai. "The two traitors a listen to is Meng Qinghai is afraid to put down the gun. These heroic stories were widely spread among the army and the people and gradually became legends. Therefore, this short and small team was called the Flying Tigers by the common people.

# 2.2.2. The spirit of wisdom and flexibility

The spirit of wisdom and flexibility is indispensable for flying tigers to be able to win more with less and to build outstanding achievements repeatedly. Flexibility here refers to innovation, adaptation to local conditions, contingency and resourcefulness.

# 2.2.2.1Adjust measures to local conditions

With Weishan Lake as its base camp, flying tigers skillfully dealt with the enemy on the railway line, skillfully boarded the enemy's train, and unnoticed dropped the enemy's food, ammunition and other strategic materials off the train and transported them back to the base by other members. Relying on the favorable conditions of thousands of thousands of miles of green fields, they showed their prowess, fought bravely with the enemy, and carried out guerrilla activities like hide-and-seek everywhere, making the enemy dizzy. They took advantage of Weishan Lake's advantageous geographical features of crisscrossing waterways, dense reeds and easy hiding, and built barracks in reeds to store materials, avoid enemy raids or let the wounded recover. At the same time, relying on the familiar environment of the lake region and the waterways extending in all directions, it flexibly attacked the enemy and wiped out a large number of enemy troops at a cost far less than the enemy's casualties, achieving a brilliant record of winning more with less and winning more with less. They are not only good at taking advantage of their hometown's human feelings and scenery on the ground to control the enemy, but they have even built underground legendary castles-tunnels, which hit the enemy in mysterious ways, making the little devils furious but helpless.

Taking advantage of their familiarity with the geographical environment along the railway and their long-term working experience in the railway, they were able to get on and off the fast-moving trains with ease, seize drugs by flying cars, cut off vehicles skillfully and cut off the enemy's communication lines. They were called "Flying Tigers" by the Japanese and puppet troops. In 1945, when Japan was defeated and surrendered, flying tigers was the only local guerrilla army led by the Chinese Communist Party that accepted the surrender of more than 1,000 Japanese troops. At that time, there were fewer than 100 surviving fighters in flying tigers.

### 2.2.2.2 Random strain

Flying tigers is not conformist, flexible in its way of fighting, adaptable to the changing circumstances, and good at making use of all available factors. It has created many legendary heroic stories in the arduous anti-Japanese war.

In times of crisis, you should deal with them tactfully and calmly. In a battle, flying tigers was besieged by Japanese devils on an island in Weishan Lake, with more than 7,000 enemies and only over 100 of us. When the enemy rushed to the island, the guerrillas calmly and quickly put on the enemy's uniform, mixed among the enemy, commanded the enemy to kill each other, and took the opportunity to escape, killing nearly 6,000 Japanese with zero casualties.

Dress up and beat up the enemy. From the very beginning, a dozen flying tigers officials did not fight the Japanese. If they needed anything, they robbed the enemy's train. They used the railway team's undercover agents in the Japanese army to find out the situation of the train. Then they disguised themselves and infiltrated the railway station. They played with the enemy on the train and wiped out all the devils on the train cleanly. In the middle of the train, the front and rear of the train were separated so that the speeding front and oncoming truck collided violently, giving the Japanese devils a heavy blow. In addition, there are more famous examples of war, such as taking medicine by flying car, cutting off cars skillfully, and catching the thief and the king.

Soldiers never tire of cheating and adapt to changes at random. "Flying tigers real archives" recorded such a real case:

"(Zhao Rehua them) saw a spy approaching. A member of this group knew the spy, and the spy also knew the member, so they became suspicious when he saw Zhao ruohua and started walking slowly. then he turned around and ran away. Zhao Ruohua was afraid that the spy would run away. He had a brainwave and shouted: "What are you running for?" It must be route 8, chase! After listening to Zhao rehua's call, the spy thought he was one of his own and slowed his pace. When he looked back, he saw that the four men were catching up with him and hurriedly said:' don't get me wrong, they are all of our own! Here, please smoke. ""

The guerrillas turned the passive situation around in an instant by their own ingenuity, mainly opposing the guests and lifting the crisis.

At the same time, flying tigers also penetrated into the enemy's interior through various means, bought off the puppet troops, made false friends with the enemy, obtained timely information, provided a large number of war preparations for the main forces, cleverly covered the withdrawal of the main forces, assisted in supporting the struggle of the main forces, and dealt a heavy blow to deter the enemy.

## 3. Summary

During the five-year battle process from the founding to the revocation of the serial number, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, Lunan flying tigers carried out guerrilla tactics relying on the masses and fought with the Japanese invaders. He fought hundreds of battles, big and small. With the fearless spirit of the iron and steel tough guy and the flexible fighting spirit of wisdom, he fought hard for the victory of the revolution and the liberation of the people. This spirit of flying tigers deserves to be passed down from generation to generation. The red cultural gene in flying tigers's spirit, the iron and blood tough guy spirit and the spirit of wisdom and flexibility, is what we need at this stage and is also an ideological factor worthy of our inheritance and development in the future.

The red culture of flying tigers spirit shows the firm stand, clear direction, persistent pursuit and lofty political belief of Zaozhuang people. It has precipitated the deepest spiritual pursuit and code of conduct of Zaozhuang people. For hundreds of years, it has inspired Zaozhuang children to follow suit for the happiness of the people and the protection of their hometown. It has inspired people of different backgrounds, classes, cultures and backgrounds to unite and work together under the leadership of the Communist Party of China to build a harmonious society.

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