

# **The Logic of Practice in Passing Down Atayal Hunting Culture**

## **Abstract**

Previous researches related to indigenous hunting cultures have focused on the techniques in the context of tribal society and the local knowledge of natural environment . Few studies pay attention to the dimension of educational process in hunting. In order to echo this issues, the purpose of this research is to trace the path , through which an Atayal man is cultivated to become a hunter and the educational value may contains when passing down the hunting culture. In this study, a field work in Jin Yue tribe, I-lan is conducted and two parts of data collection are included as follows: (1) participant observation done in hunting activities in Jin Yue (2) in-depth interviews and life history analysis carried out on a hunting family with three generations .This research attempts to understand the ways of hunting inheritance: how the hunter teaches children the knowledge , skills, ethics, beliefs and values applied in hunting and how children to learn.

Under the current formally schooling system, aboriginal students' learning achievement has been found to be lower than their counterparts in mainstream society based on the standardized curriculum . However, when actually joining in hunting activities, the aboriginal students show great interests and excellent capability . This research discovers that a hunter is cultivated and trained under Atayal tradition and gaga system in which students led by elderly explore to forest and animals since childhood. In the environment of calmness in spirit, by trial and error, they learn skills and ethical values in the process of hunting. This is a personal, refined, visualized and holistic teaching mode and very different from that of main stream educational system. Therefore, educators are suggested to appreciate the strength of Atayal hunting culture, to understand the varying educational system arising from cultural difference and to reflect a suitable way of teaching based on the concern of multi-cultures.

**Keywords:** Atayal, hunting culture, learning styles, ethic education