

# 婚礼的变奏——从家乡嫁娶礼俗看文化延续

我家乡的婚礼，曾经是一场全村的盛事。锣鼓喧天，鞭炮齐鸣，新娘穿着大红嫁衣，脸上盖着红盖头，媒人高声吟唱着吉祥话。那时的婚礼，不仅仅是两个人的结合，更是家族、乡邻共同参与的仪式，一种关于人情与伦理的公共表达。

但如今，婚礼的形式发生了很大变化。过去的“闹洞房”“抬花轿”逐渐被简化，取而代之的是西式婚礼、草坪仪式、婚礼摄影。新郎新娘常常穿着西装与婚纱，在音乐和灯光下交换戒指。那份隆重仍在，但仪式的内涵似乎悄然改变。传统中的“礼”在现代生活中被重新定义。

我曾与父亲谈起这种变化，他说：“现在人们更注重个人感受，以前讲究的是家族体面。其实也没什么不好，只要心诚，形式都可以变。”父亲的话让我想起一句老话：“礼者，敬而已矣。”无论形式如何更迭，核心始终是“敬”——对爱情的敬、对家庭的敬、对传统的敬。

在一些婚礼上，我仍能看到传统的影子。比如敬茶环节依旧保留，新人要向长辈行礼，端茶敬谢养育之恩；婚礼前仍有人请“说礼人”讲吉祥话、唱古曲。这些细节让人感受到文化的根脉仍在，只是以更灵活的方式存在于现代仪式中。

同时，现代婚礼中加入了更多个性化的表达。年轻人喜欢在仪式中加入自编誓言、回顾恋爱点滴的视频，这些都是情感的真实流露，也是一种新的文化创造。传统与现代并不是取舍关系，而是一种融合。我们不必拘泥于过去的形式，但不能忘记传统的精神。

婚礼的演变，是社会变迁的缩影。从中可以看到人们观念的变化，也能感受到文化在时间中的韧性。只要人们仍愿意以“礼”相待，以“情”为本，那份文化的力量就不会消散。它可能不再以锣鼓和盖头的形式出现，但仍以另一种温柔的姿态，延续在每一场祝福与相守之中。

## The Changing Wedding: Cultural Continuity Through Local Marriage Customs

In my hometown, weddings used to be grand community events. Drums and firecrackers filled the air, the bride wore a bright red gown with a red veil, and the matchmaker chanted blessings loudly. A wedding wasn't just about two individuals—it was a collective ritual involving families and neighbors, symbolizing respect, unity, and joy.

Today, wedding customs have changed dramatically. Traditional rituals like playful games and carrying the bridal sedan have faded, replaced by Western-style ceremonies, outdoor banquets, and professional photography. The groom and bride now exchange rings in elegant suits and gowns under soft lights and music. The grandeur remains, but the meaning behind the ceremony has evolved—the notion of “ritual propriety” has been redefined in modern life.

I once talked to my father about these changes. He said, “People now care more

about personal feelings; before, it was about family reputation. It's fine either way—as long as it's sincere.” His words reminded me of an old saying: “Ritual is simply an expression of respect.” No matter how forms change, the essence remains—respect for love, family, and tradition.

Even so, traces of tradition still linger. The tea ceremony remains an essential part, where the couple bows to their elders and offers tea as a gesture of gratitude. Some still invite traditional “ceremony narrators” to recite blessings or sing folk songs. These details reveal that cultural roots persist, though expressed in new forms.

Modern weddings, meanwhile, add creativity—personal vows, videos showing their love stories, symbolic gestures. These are genuine emotional expressions and also cultural innovations. Tradition and modernity aren't in opposition but in harmony. We don't need to rigidly preserve old forms, but we must remember their spirit.

The evolution of weddings mirrors the transformation of society itself. It reflects changing values but also demonstrates the endurance of culture. As long as people continue to approach love and family with sincerity and respect, the essence of culture remains alive. It may no longer echo in drums or red veils, but in the quiet vows and shared glances of those who promise to walk through life together.