



# “Na” culture of Zhuang

A case study of Long-an

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# “Na” culture

- Zhuang, as one of first groups to grow rice, has a long history of rice cultivation. Rich rice culture with national characteristics has been formed in the long rice-growing process.
- Zhuang people call Paddy field as “Na”, so the rice culture was also called “Na” culture.

# The place name of “Na”

- Zhuang people depend on rice and their houses were usually constructed near paddy field.
- There is a traditional naming method of place name.
- The place name of “Na” is also an important part to reflect the rice culture of Zhuang.

More than 23 thousands place name that named after “Na” in Guangxi.(广西壮族自治区地名委员会开展地名普查, 1982)

Almost 138 among 1232 natural villages with “Na” place name in Long-an (Annals of Long-an, 1982)



# The great stone spade



- Large number of ruins of the great stone spade in the new stone implements era were found in Long-an.
- arranged in order
- agricultural sacrificial utensils

# Diet custom

The Zhuang people depend on rice as their main food and create all kinds of rice products.

Up to 100 kinds of rice products according to statistics.

The series of rice porridge, rice noodle, rice cakes, rice flakes, rice dumplings, rice wine...





# The five-colored sticky rice



It is named by five colors, black, red, yellow, white, purple.

The Zhuang people must steam colored sticky rice every major holiday.

Bumper Giain Harvest



# Residential building

## Stilt house

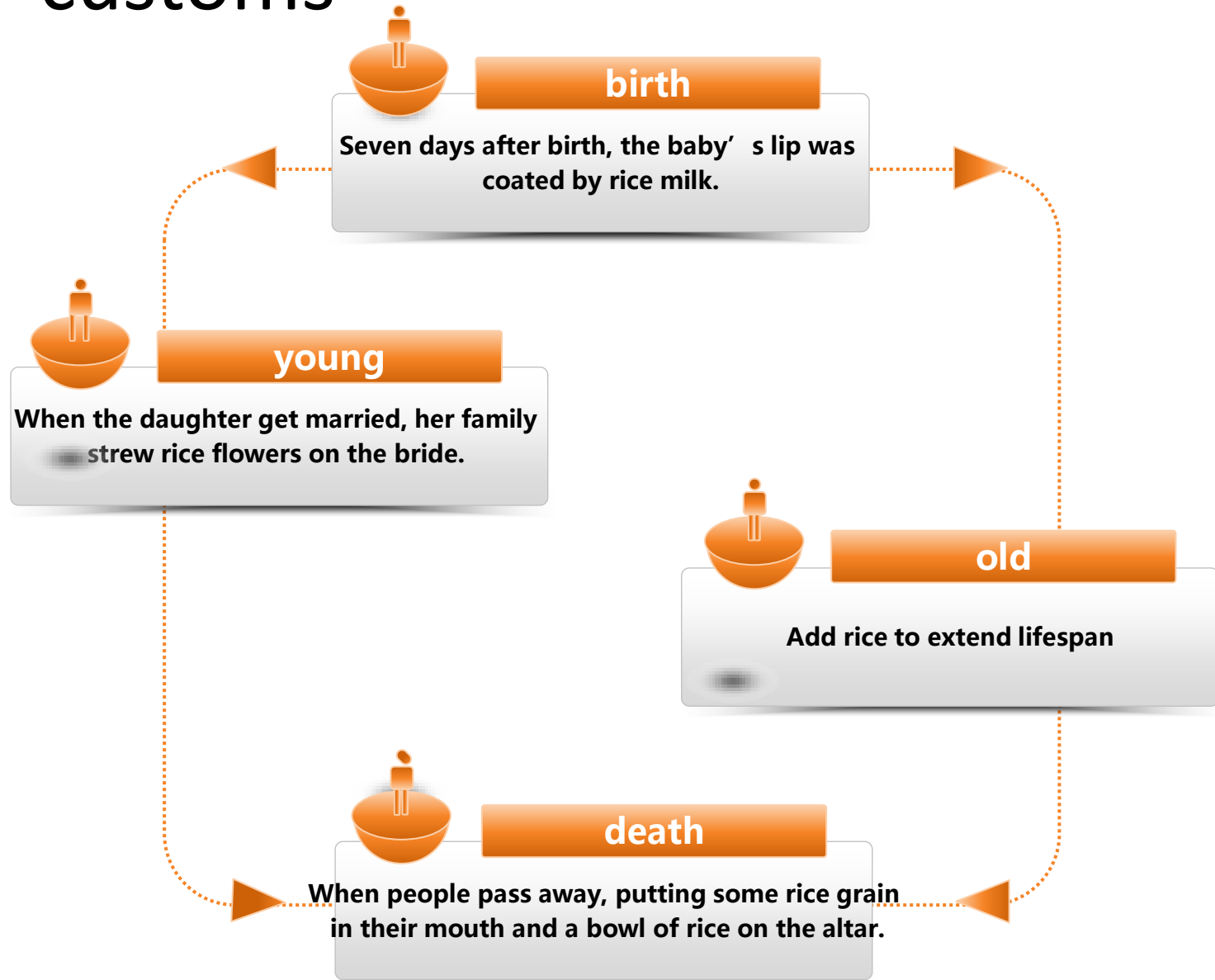


→ Drying grains

→ People live in the upper part.

→ Storage grains and farming tools, captive domestic animals.

# Life customs



# Traditional farming festivals



- The traditional festival of Zhuang was developed from agricultural worship initially.
- Until now, the sacrifice rites are also an important part of various festivals.
- Glutinous rice is used to offer sacrifices to gods and ancestors.

# Traditional farming festivals

## Preparatory stage

- plow the field; manure collection



## Lunar February-March

- Songs Fair Festival

## Seedling stage

- fertilization; soaking seed; scatter grain; transplant seedlings



## Lunar April

- Farm implements Festival
- Buffalo Festival

## Field management stage

- cultivated scarification; fertilizer irrigation; control of insect and disease



## Lunar May-July

- Mangna Festival
- Ghost Festival
- Ya queen Festival

## Harvest and storage stage

- harvest; drying in the sun; go to barn



## Lunar August-December

- Changxin Festival
- Warehouse God Festival



# Mangna Festival

Lunar June 6<sup>th</sup>; at the critical stage of earing, flowering, grain-filling; offer sacrifices to rice to pray for a good harvest.



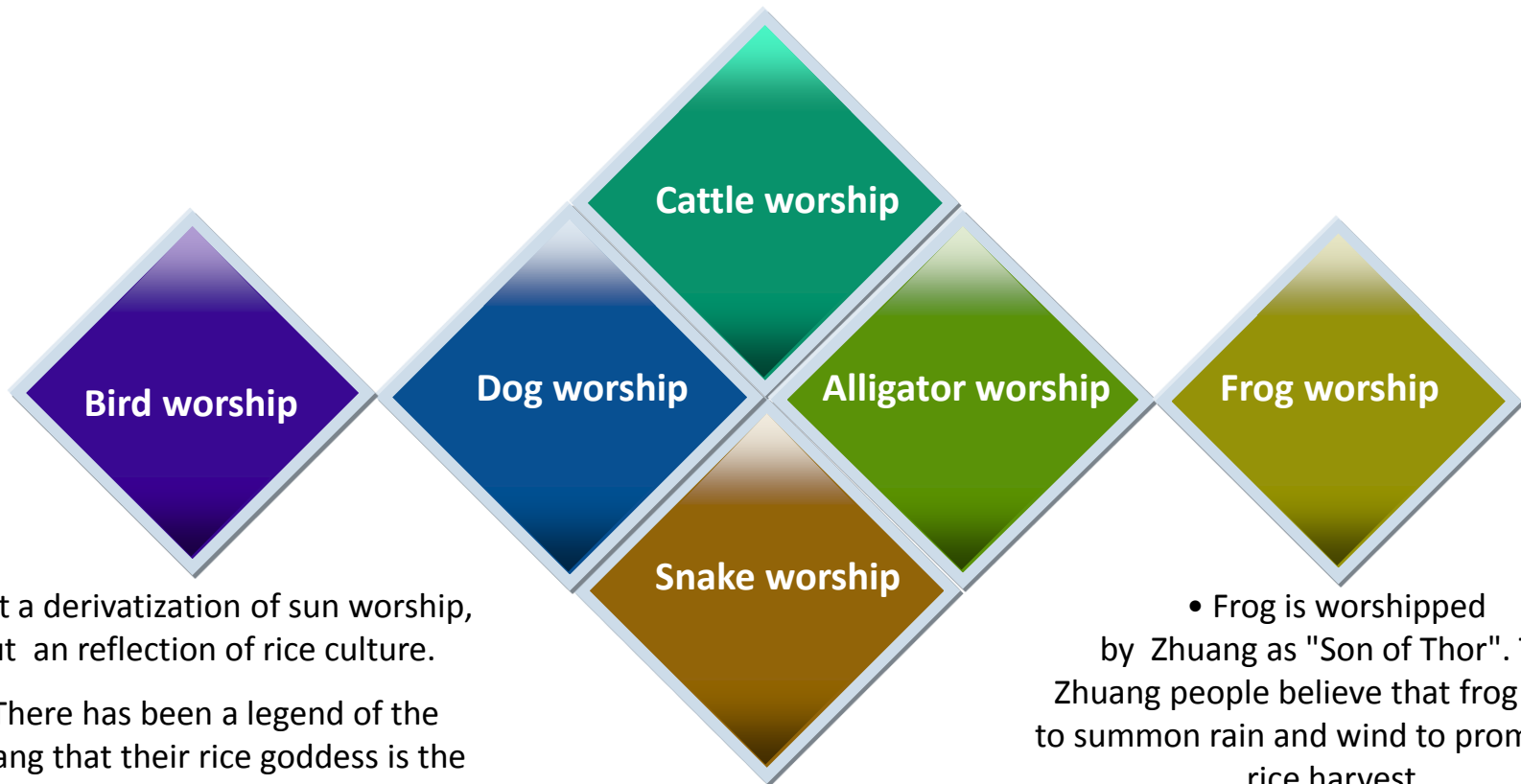
# The Frog Festival

- Frog is worshipped by Zhuang as "Son of Thor". The Zhuang people believe that frog is able to summon rain and wind. Zhuang people celebrate a "frog festival" every year.



# Totem Worship

Main totem related to rice culture









# The protection and development of “Na” culture of Long-an

- “Na”culture system of Zhuang in Long-an has elected to the third batch of Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems in China.
- Build ecological agriculture tourism and leisure livable village with “Na” cultural characteristics.  
(2013)
- Finish”Na”culture trademark registration
- Declare the village of “Na” culture of China successfully.
- Hold “Na” cultural tourism festival

# “Na” cultural tourism festival





Thank you for your  
attention !

