

Analysis on the Integration of Marxist Philosophy and Traditional Chinese Culture

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Abstract: Marxism, as one kind of social ideological trends, has been the key and difficult point researched in Chinese academia. Marxist philosophy is a significant part of Marxist ideology, and its essence is western philosophy. Marxism in China, the foundation of successful Chinese revolution and socialist construction, played an important role in Chinese history. This paper discussed what should be noticed in the integration of Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture through analyzing era conditions and current social situation.

1. Introduction

After experiencing long-term development, traditional Chinese culture represents the wisdom achievements of ancient and modern China, promotes the constant development of Chinese civilization, and becomes the endless spiritual soil of Chinese nation. The ultimate purpose of Marxism is the equal freedom and liberation of human beings. After the October Revolution of Russia brought Marxism to China, the Communist Party of China positively learned and publicized Marxism in combination with Chinese reality, and formed the most suitable kind for China.

2. Basic connotation of Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture

2.1 Connotation of Marxist philosophy

Marxist philosophy, the theoretical achievements of Marx and Engels, is the research result on human beings. It integrates materialism and dialectics on the basis of practice, realizing the integration and unification of these two sides. It is the absolute theoretical innovation in that historical condition. The victory of October Revolution in Russia manifested the enormous effect of Marxist philosophy in promoting of the development of times. It is scientific and advanced because it highlights the ideological freedom and liberation, and the respect with people ^[1].

2.2 Connotation of traditional Chinese culture

Traditional Chinese culture, totally created by the Chinese nation, is the cultural fortune and foundation left by our predecessors in the historical development, and the foundation for our Chinese people. It contains various theories of Confucianism and Taoism, including the analysis with human nature, the adaptation to the development of things, and the respect for natural rules. In terms of getting along with others, it highlights the grade concept. And in life, it emphasizes adapting to natural rules, being oriented with small-scale peasant economy and self-sufficient. As for human nature, it discusses whether man's nature is good or evil, and puts forward the concept of moderation. An independent natural person should be responsible for his own thoughts and behaviors. Traditional Chinese culture, the unique theoretical result in several-thousand-year development, is the portrayal of Chinese people. It is full of abundant connotations. As every coin has two sides, it has merits and demerits.

3. Necessity of integrating Marxist philosophy with traditional Chinese culture

3.1 Mutual relation of mass concept

Based on the basic principle of historical materialism, Marxist philosophy emphasizes the foundation of the masses, which is also the basis of the administrative concepts of the Communist Party of China in the new democracy. In other words, come from the masses, go into the masses, and emphasize the enormous power of the masses. Traditional Chinese culture highlights putting people first and emphasizes people's creation with spiritual fortune. In addition, ancient China is oriented with small-scale peasant economy, which relies on the labors to create fortune and treats people as the significant part of social progress. Therefore, the mass viewpoint existing in them is corresponding [2].

3.2 Localization of Marxism in China

Localization of Marxism in China means positively analyzing the influence of Marxism on China in specific historical stages. Marxism was the significant guidance of new-democratic revolution, and its amazing result laid the foundation of people's approval with its localization. Along with the development of new era, Chinese social and cultural development needs to combine with the specific theories of Marxism and Chinese reality. The localization of Marxism provides strong theoretical support for Chinese revolution and it is the necessary stage of developing Marxist philosophy in China. Even though both these two sides have something common, they are in the different times and countries. So it is necessary to dialectically absorb the essence and discard the dross. The integration of Marxist philosophy with Chinese reality and the attention to inner demands for the modernization of traditional Chinese culture also fully affirm its great propellant effects on Chinese social development. So how to correctly recognize and handle the relation between Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture.

3.3 Requirements to inherit and develop traditional Chinese culture

Every kind of culture needs to absorb the excellent cultural results and eliminate the poor of other nations in the progress. They highlight the communication and references among different cultures. In fact, the communication process is the inheritance and promotion of traditional culture. Recent years, China has achieved rapid development on politics, economy and culture. The increasing influence of traditional Chinese culture is testified by the number of learning it, which has realized the communication between traditional Chinese culture and Marxist philosophy, and promoted the better development of traditional Chinese culture[3].

3.4 Objective demands of the reality

The victory of the October Revolution introduced Marxism to China, which was then regarded by the leaders as the ideological culture that can change Chinese destiny. At first, they fully absorbed the Marxist philosophy, not taking Chinese reality into consideration. It could not exert huge effects on Chinese revolution, even having some bad influences. So it is necessary to consider demands of Chinese social development and reality, analyze the localization of Marxism, and instruct the development of Chinese revolution by means of the coordination of Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture. In the long-term revolution and construction, the Communist Party of China has gradually given full play to the enormous advantages after the localization of Marxism in China, and helped the communication between Marxism and traditional Chinese culture.

4. The relation between the excellent results of Chinese Marxism and traditional Chinese culture

4.1 Mao Zedong Thought is the excellent product of integrating Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture

Mao Zedong Thought is the earliest theoretical achievement on the study of Marxism in China under specific historical conditions. Mao Zedong's works clearly reflect the combination of Marxism and traditional Chinese culture, and discuss the important thoughts in Marxism by means of a lot of popular language and basic principles. For instance, the enormous force of newly-born things can be manifested by "a single spark can start a prairie fire", and the great creation ability of the masses can be shown by "three cobblers with their wits combined would equal Chukeh Liang, the master mind". This way, the masses are more easy to accept the specific cultural connotation of Marxist philosophy. Mao Zedong Thought, innovated on the basis of learning traditional Chinese culture, is the unique cultural connotation combined with the characteristics of times.

4.2 The concept of Chinese style in Deng Xiaoping Theory

Deng Xiaoping theory, guided by Marxist philosophy and rooted in the soil of the Chinese nation, combines China's specific times conditions and social needs. For example, several goals of China's development and construction in modern times were put forward along with the concept of "moderately prosperous" in ancient China. We often hear in the news that "building a moderately prosperous society in all respects", which is the inheritance of Deng Xiaoping with traditional Chinese culture.

4.3 Three Represents

The important thought of Three Represents means that our party should always represent the development requirements of China's advanced productive forces, the orientation of China's advanced culture, and the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the Chinese people. It underscored the requirements of improving social development and people's life level, which is the modernization of the people-oriented thought in ancient China. In other words, people's demands are always regarded as the developing goal and the emphasis is serving people.

5. Problems required to be noticed in the integration of Chinese Marxism and traditional Chinese culture

5.1 Realize the modernization of traditional Chinese culture

Traditional Chinese culture has wide humanistic foundation and huge influence around the world. In order to achieve a better integration of Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture, China should respect them, highlight the inheritance and promotion with traditional Chinese culture, uphold the direction of advanced culture, and constantly absorb the essence of traditional Chinese culture. In addition, China should strive to develop socialist culture with Chinese characteristics based on current social status. Their integration, a complex long-term history task, should be together promoted from politics, economy and culture. And both the ideological problems and basic requirements of respecting the construction of human social civilization should be considered.

5.2 Push forward the localization of Marxism in China

We have pointed out the important functions of Chinese Marxism on Chinese social development and socialist modernization with Chinese characteristics. The integration of Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture should be based on practice, and the localization of Marxism in China should be promoted with the development of times. Practice is the only criterion for testing truth. It is its constant development that makes it possible to continually give full play to its advantages in the new era. Their integration pay attention to their equal status.

5.3 Center on the socialist core value system

The constant development of traditional Chinese culture is instructed by Marxist philosophy, and the development of Marxist philosophy is enriched by socialist core value system, which is the strength for the promotion and innovation of traditional Chinese culture. From the perspective of material concept, they have the same characteristics. In order to realize their integration, it is necessary to underscore enriching the cultural connotation of Marxist philosophy and promoting its development in China under the guidance of new social concepts under the new era [4].

6. Measures of integrating Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture

6.1 Improve ideological and political education level

The integration of Marxist philosophy with traditional Chinese culture has promoted the development of traditional Chinese culture and Chinese society in a long time. Improving ideological and political education level means making it easy for the masses to accept the related education activities of traditional culture, which can inspire the educated and help them gain a deeper understanding with Marxist philosophy. Its integration and promotion mostly depend on the ideological and political education in various fields, among which the school is the most important part. Students' ideological and political education is emphasized to make the educated fully recognize the significant meaning of integration of Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture.

6.2 Emphasize the humanistic connotation of traditional Chinese culture

Humanistic teaching is cultivating people's moral quality and improving the connotation of their spiritual quality. Marxist ideological and political education will include these social functions and improve the spiritual quality of the educated through promoting education, so that their independent thinking abilities and cultural recognition can be trained under the influence of traditional Chinese cultural and humanistic concepts.

6.3 Strengthen the ideological and political education of Marxism

Courses for ideological and moral education are arranged from the primary school to control students' ideology and morality. In the political class in middle and senior school, students can understand Chinese Marxism and fully feel the enormous achievements of its localization through the detailed teaching with new-democratic revolution and learning in history class. It is the training with the cultural cognition of the Chinese nation, and it tells students that the development of every kind of national culture needs communication and cooperation.

6.4 Connect the characteristic of times and social demands

Peace and development are the themes of current era. China keeps treating the construction of socialist culture with Chinese characteristics as its main task, and the integration of Marxist philosophy and traditional Chinese culture is the social construction on the basis of fully recognizing peace and development.

7. Conclusion

The Communist Party of China is always paying attention to integrating Marxist philosophy with Chinese practical conditions and traditional Chinese culture, and has formed Mao Zedong Thoughts, Deng Xiaoping Theory, Three Represents, Outlook on Scientific Development and Chinese Dream. All these concepts have played a significant role in China and brought the Chinese nation with strong fighting power and vitality. The localization of Marxism in China is always exerting positive effects on Chinese development, so in the face of new challenges in the world, China must closely connect them under the characteristics of times to promote the development of Chinese culture.

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