

The Enlightenment of Young Xi Jinping's Growth Experience to College Students in the New Era

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Abstract: Young Xi Jinping has written many inspirational stories in the difficult environment, tempered his ideological consciousness, willpower and ability quality, and provided an important inspiration for the growth of college students in the new era. The inspiration can be described by following three points: 1 to set up lofty ideals and beliefs, plan the way of life scientifically, do the "little things" carefully and cultivate a good style of hard work; 2 to forge positive enterprising spirit; 3 to cherish youth and form habits of reading.

1. Introduction

Youth is a key period for the establishment of one's world view, outlook on life and values. Young Xi Jinping has gone through the stages of Liangjiahe queue-jumping in northern Shaanxi, studying at Tsinghua University, working in the general office of the state council and the general office of the central military commission, Zhengding in Hebei and Xiamen in Fujian. It was also the first turning point of Xi Jinping's life. In the tough environment, he tempered his ideological consciousness, will quality and ability quality, and established the Marxist world view, outlook on life and values. "When I came to the yellow land at the age of 15, I was lost and hesitated. When I left the yellow earth at the age of 22, I had a firm life goal and full of confidence." (Jinping Xi, 2002) Xi concluded in the song "I Am the Son of the Yellow Earth". During his seven years of knowledge and youth in Liangjiahe, Xi worked hard to write inspirational stories, which provided useful inspirations for college students in the new era who are of similar age.

2. The Enlightenment of Young Xi Jinping's Growth Experience

2.1 Setup Lofty Ideals and Beliefs and Plan the Way of Life Scientifically

"The road of life should be chosen by oneself. How to choose a correct road, the key is to have a firm ideal and faith. Otherwise, no matter how good the environment is, it will go the wrong way." (Jinping Xi, 2002) Xi Jinping compared ideal and faith to "calcium of the spirit", "the first button of life", "the general switch of life", etc. Setting up lofty ideal and faith is the prerequisite for scientific planning of life path as well as the spiritual pillar to withstand any challenge and test. Xi Jinping made four key choices in his youth. If the choice of the first life path bears some implication of being forced by the situation, the choice of the second, third and fourth life path fully demonstrates Xi's lofty aspiration to serve the people wholeheartedly.

The key choice of Xi's first life path was whether to cut in line in northern Shaanxi. At the end of 1968, MAO Zedong issued a call for young intellectuals to come to the countryside to accept education. At the time, Xi Jinping, a "gangster kid" who was destined to be sent to a juvenile detention center, decided to sign up to cut in line in northern Shaanxi. Qi Rong, the registration chief, began as Xi's head teacher, patiently persuaded him to stay in Beijing. Instead of taking his teacher's advice, Xi chose to cut in line in northern Shaanxi, which is the first turning point of Xi Jinping's life. Although it revealed some helplessness, it also opened up his valuable experience of thought, will, emotion and ability.

The key choices on the second life path were when to go to college and which college to go to.

Since 1970, some educated young people have left rural areas of northern Shaanxi by means of recruiting, joining the army and attending university. In the latter half of 1973, Lei pingsheng, who lived in the cave with Xi, urged him to seize a rare opportunity to recruit workers, peasants and soldiers in 1974. However, considering that the people of Liangjiahe treated him so well, Xi Jinping believed he could not leave without doing something for them, so he gave up the opportunity. In 1975, Xi Jinping, who has been the party secretary of Liangjiahe for more than a year, decided to apply for college. When filling in the application form, Xi Jinping filled in all three of them as Tsinghua University. Xi Jinping's confidence stemmed from his deep love for farmers in the countryside. If he was not admitted to Tsinghua University, he would settle down in the countryside and become the son of the yellow land.

The key choice on the third life path was what to do after graduation. Xi, who majored in basic organic synthesis in the department of chemistry at Tsinghua University, was generally expected to work on chemical-related technology after graduation, but he did not do so. In the spring of 1978, Xi and Tao Haisu made clear when discussing their future after graduation: "to enter the political arena, we must continue our long-established ambition in rural areas of northern Shaanxi and do something bigger that will affect the destiny of the people."(Jinping Xi, 2017)Xi Jinping's lofty ideal was not to be a big official or to reach a high position, but to do more and bigger things for the people. In the spring of 2015, when Xi returned to Liangjiahe, he said this again: "I cut in line in rural areas of northern Shaanxi for seven years. The most important thing was that I chose my path by my heart. When I was working as the secretary of the branch, I thought that I would do some good work for the common people in the future if I had the opportunity." (Jinping Xi, 2017)

The key choice in his fourth life was whether to temper himself in grassroots unit again. After graduating from university, Xi worked in the general office of the state council and the general office of the central military commission. At this period of prosperity, he decided to go to the grassroots unit again. A decade of turmoil during the cultural revolution has left the ranks of cadres in tatters, leaving more opportunities for rapid promotion in Beijing and an uncertain path to the grassroots. Xi gave up on what appeared to be a more smooth path, believing that his vision and experience were still inadequate and he needed to go down to the grass-roots level to further accumulate work experience. At that time, China had started the great journey of reform and opening up, and the countryside was at the forefront of reform. "If we continue to do well this time, we will accomplish some major undertakings in the future. If we do not do well, we will do something practical for the people below.",(Jinping Xi,2017)

Every time young Xi Jinping planned his life, he placed himself in the big background of his own era. He cherished the heart of the country and the heart of the people, which is the most fundamental reason why he gradually grew from a grassroots cadre to the core of the party and the leader of the people. "When I was young, I kept thinking about the question of 'survival or destruction' in the barren yellow land of northern Shaanxi. In the end, I made up my mind to contribute to the motherland and the people". (Jinping Xi, 2015)The story of young Xi Jinping's life planning has set an example for college students in the new era. College students should not only consider their own needs in their career planning, but also take into account the mission and responsibilities entrusted to them in the new era. "Every generation of young people has its own opportunities, and they must plan their lives and create history under the conditions of their own times." (Jinping Xi, 2014) College students in the new era are basically the "post-95 generation". They will be only about 25 years old when the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects is completed, and will be younger than 60 years old when China becomes a powerful socialist modernization country with a strong, strong, strong, democratic, civilized, harmonious and beautiful culture in middle of the century. The golden period of college students' life in the new era is completely consistent with the realization process of the party's "two centenary" strategic goals. To witness and participate in the realization of the great dreams of several generations of Chinese people in person is not only a blessing in life, but also a clear responsibility of The Times. College students should have their own ideals and responsibilities, firmly establish the lofty ideals of communism and the common ideals of socialism with Chinese characteristics, consciously integrate

personal pursuit into the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, and strive to realize the Chinese dream of national prosperity, national renewal and people's happiness.

2.2 Do the "Little Things" Wholeheartedly and Cultivate a Good Style of Hard Work

Educated youth who went to the mountainous areas and the countryside were the first generation of young people trained by the People's Republic of China. They generally regarded the world as their duty and had ambitions, but some of these people's lofty ideals did not withstand the test of immediate difficulties, and they shrank from the "little things" they should do well. From the capital of Beijing to the countryside of northern Shaanxi, from study to hard manual work, some educated youth lacked the enthusiasm to adapt to the new environment. As one of the youngest of these educated young people, Xi, faced with the huge environmental gap between Beijing and Liangjiahe, soon realized a change of mindset, from being passive and optional to being actively integrated into rural life, which can be seen from the public's different views of Xi Jinping from the arriving in Liangjiahe to leaving Liangjiahe. However, Xi's departure to Tsinghua University was a different story. Villagers went from house to house to invite Xi Jinping to dinner, giving him flower insoles, big red dates, pumpkin seeds and other gifts. On the morning of his departure from the Liangjiahe, before Xi got up, many villagers had stood at the door of the cave to see him off, being tearful and reluctant leave. More than a dozen peasants accompanied Xi to the county seat, some on their way to Yan 'an. Xi Jinping's change in the public's impression mainly stemmed from his change in thinking and behavior. After arriving at the Liangjiahe for a while, Xi realized that the bright road he hoped for was at his feet. He should take seriously every "little thing" around him, work hard, and "step on" a sunny road with diligence to win the respect and trust of farmers.

First, learn local languages and communicate with farmers actively. Educated youth from Beijing could not understand the northern Shaanxi dialect, and they often needed local educated villagers to translate. By the time he cut in line, Xi had realized the importance of language, worked hard to learn the northern Shaanxi dialect and gradually eliminated the language barrier of communication with villagers. Xi mingled with the villagers, setting up bookshops for them, telling them stories, chatting with them, and make suggestions for them. Soon, the cave he lived became a center of activity in the Liangjiahe.

Second, care about the sufferings of farmers and work with them. In the eyes of farmers, it is far more important to judge the work of an educated youth than to judge the family background. Like other educated youth, Xi was initially unaccustomed to intensive labor, earning less than women on a daily basis. To do a good job in agriculture, he learned labor skills from farmers with an open mind and worked with them to pick up poles, plow fields, sow seeds and chase after fertilizer. A year or two later, he became a strong labor force and earned the same wage as the adult male labor force every day. Through more and more contacts with farmers, Xi experienced the hardships of farmers' lives, and the urge to do practical things for them arose spontaneously. During serving as the secretary of the village party branch, Xi avoided the popular formalism of learning and political movements and led farmers to build dams, dig wells, build mills and thresh grain to improve their living conditions. Xi has worked hard not to build his own performance chips for promotion, but to find the meaning and fun of life. The good style of hard work cultivated in Liangjiahe laid a solid foundation for Xi's future career development. No matter he served in Zhengding, Fujian, Zhejiang, Shanghai and other places, or worked in the central government, Xi Jinping always adhered to the spirit of seeking truth, being practical and doing what is necessary to rejuvenate the country. Hard work makes dreams come true. The wonderful stories of Xi Jinping as a "doer" provide vivid examples for college students in the new era to forge the good qualities of being real people and doing real things. Today's college students are the main force to realize the Chinese dream of great rejuvenation in the future. This not only requires them to keep their ideals in mind, but also to keep their feet on the ground and work hard. They should make full use of time in college, do well in each class, finish every assignment carefully, do every "little thing", constantly improve the ideological and political quality and professional knowledge capabilities, so as to grow into a qualified builder and reliable successor to the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics and

take on the responsibilities that the new era has entrusted to them.

2.3 Dare to Face Difficulties and Obstacles and Cultivate a Positive Spirit of Progress

Liangjiahe is the first stop for Xi Jinping to walk into the society. Facing many difficulties and tests, he was brave to overcome problems, and indomitable in the difficult situation to achieve the spiritual sublimation, worked hard and cultivated pioneering and innovative spirit.

First, face difficulties and hardships calmly, and forge a strong psychological resilience to pressure. The economic and social development of northern Shaanxi was backward. For example, in aspect of diet, daily food in northern Shaanxi were coarse food pickle, wild vegetable ball, corn residue, which was lack of oil and salt and difficult to swallow, so hungry stomach was a common thing. Physically, educated youth had not experienced excessive labor before, but they had to carry water, chop wood and hoe land. In addition to facing life and physical suffering, Xi also had greater mental suffering. At that time, Xi Jinping's father was persecuted politically and his mother lived a life of being censored and criticized. He and his brother and sister were regarded as "gangster children". Faced with the triple hardships in life, physical strength and spirit, Xi Jinping sometimes felt lost and sad, but he hid them in his heart. He did not complain, did not bow to difficulties, but forged a strong psychological ability to resist pressure.

Second, face setbacks and failures positively, and forge a strong spirit of never giving up. During the seven years of his youth in Liangjiahe, Xi experienced many setbacks and failures, especially when it came to membership of the communist party of China (CPC). Xi Jinping was born and raised in a revolutionary family. He has been influenced by his parents' loyalty to the party and patriotism since his childhood, and has developed a strong desire to join the communist party. The abnormal political situation during the "cultural revolution" further stimulated Xi Jinping's enthusiasm for joining the communist party of China (CPC). But as a "gangster kid," Mr. Xi had a hard time joining the communist party. As some complained about unwarranted criticism, or some leading cadres were afraid to break the wrong path, Xi repeatedly applied for membership without the approval of the party organization. However, once Xi Jinping confirmed the matter, he never gave up and constantly pursued progress. He won the trust and approval of the organization after submitting the application for admission to the Youth League at the 8th time and to the communist party at the 10th time. After holding the post of party secretary, Xi faced some setbacks in leading farmers to build silt dams, iron industry associations and biogas digesters. He always tried hard to find a way to deal with it, and nothing was done by half. He forged a strong spirit of never giving up.

Third, face the test and challenge bravely, and forge a bold, pioneering and innovative style. A difficulty is a test, a goal is a challenge. In the face of various tests, Xi Jinping did not shrink from depression, but overcame the customs of local eating and drinking, working and thinking, and reversed the unfavorable environment and conditions, and finally realized the leap of joining the communist youth league, joining the party, serving as the secretary of the village branch and attending university. What is commendable was that during this period, Xi Jinping not only formed a tenacious style of work, but also cultivated a pioneering spirit of innovation. During his more than one year's tenure as the secretary of Liangjiahe village, he created many milestones for the village, for instance, digging wells, digging dams, planting flue-cured tobacco, setting up sewing agencies and setting up distribution centers, constructing biogas digester, which brought significant changes to the Liangjiahe. Villagers are still benefiting from the some projects.

The positive and enterprising spirit that Xi Jinping cultivated in the difficult environment of Liangjiahe has become a valuable asset for future development. Since entering the new era, Xi's spirit has been fully embodied and further developed. Faced with a number of difficulties such as comprehensively deepening reform, the party central committee, with comrade xi Jinping at its core, has made unremitting efforts and made a series of new strategic measures and policies, which have solved many problems that have not been solved for a long time, and achieved many great things that have not been done in the past. It can be seen from the life experience stories of young Xi Jinping that the youth period is crucial to the development of a person's character, spirit and quality,

which provides important enlightenment for college students in the new era. In the new era, most college students are the only children in their family and have relatively superior family economic conditions. On the one hand, this creates good material conditions for their growth, but on the other hand, this also brings a negative impact on the character and quality of some students. Some lack the spirit of hard work and are not interested in physical work; some are self-centered and are not good at communicating with classmates; some are eager for quick success and quick profits; some have poor psychological ability to resist pressure, love to complain, face setbacks in a hopeless situation; some lack the spirit of struggle, do not love to learn, muddle along. College teachers should actively guide college students to learn from the growth experience of young Xi Jinping, motivate them with his touching stories, encourage them to develop good character and enterprising spirit in college, and lay a solid foundation for their growth and development in life.

2.4 Cherish the Youth of the Years, Cultivate Habits of Like Reading, Reading Good Books, being Good

For college students, reading is the most direct way to learn. It is a pity that some college students in the new era are not able to treat reading correctly, and the three prominent problems need to be improved. First, they do not like reading, spend a lot of time on playing games but limited time on study. Second, reading with a mind of utilitarianism and pragmatism, and not interested in books other than the major. Third, not good at reading, learning without thinking, theory being divorced from practice. Forming a good habit of reading in youth and accumulate rich knowledge influences and even determines the height of one's life development. Xi Jinping loved reading in his youth, and he developed the habit of reading, reading good books and being good at reading, setting an advanced example for college students in the new era.

First, love reading. Xi's love of reading is one of the biggest impressions during his time in Liangjiahe. He reads as much as he eats and drinks. Some educated young people and farmers called him "a book addict". Three of the stories about Xi Jinping's reading in the book- "Xi's seven years of knowledge and youth," highlight his love of reading. First, Xi brought two boxes full of books all the way from being to Liangjiahe. Second, crossed the mountains to borrow books. During period of Liangjiahe, Xi heard that a young educated man 30 miles from the Liangjiahe had brought a set of "Faustian" from Beijing, he borrowed this book by walking more than 30 miles of mountain road. Third, make time to read. During the rest of the farm work, everyone was resting in the fields, but Xi was lost in his books. While herding sheep, Xi Jinping sat on the ground and read a book. While eating, Xi eat with mouth with eyes fixed on the book. In Xi's view, books are the crystallization of the minds of the sages, containing the wisdom and successful experience of many people. Since he was a teenager, reading has become Xi's biggest hobby, and it has never stopped at any stage of his development.

Second, reading good books. Xi is not obviously utilitarian in his studies, but out of a strong thirst for knowledge. In his youth, Xi read extensive range of books, including a large number of domestic and foreign classics, and these books improved him in all aspects. First, read political books and cultivate patriotism feelings. Xi carefully studied classic marxist works such as the "communist manifesto", the "critique of the gotha program", the "state and revolution", and "the anti-Duhring theory", as well as "Mao Zedong's many literatures". These book have an important influence on the formation of his values and the cultivation of his patriotism feelings, and make him more determined in political aspirations and dedication for the country and the people.

Second, read philosophy books and master dialectical thinking methods. Learning and applying philosophy is a fine tradition of our party. Xi Jinping attaches great importance to the role of philosophy in governing the country, which is partly due to his philosophical thinking formed in his youth. At that time, Xi Jinping read some works of Marxist philosophy and studied dialectical materialism and historical materialism in depth. He accurately understood the viewpoints of contradiction, comprehensiveness, connection, development, quantitative change and so on, and mastered the philosophical methods of observing and solving problems. Third, read history books and set up a historical perspective. Xi Jinping thinks history is the best textbook as well as the dose

of sobriety. In his youth, xi read such historical books as the “history of ancient Chinese thought”, “the general history of China”, “selected historical records”, “the annals of The Three Kingdoms”, “the history of the middle ages”, and “the general history of the world”. These books made him only understand the history and culture of different ethnic groups at home and abroad, but also set up a historical perspective to see success or failure, to learn from right and wrong, and to know how to succeed. Fourth, read literature books to edify sentiment. Xi Jinping loves literature very much. Domestic and foreign literary works such as “li Sao”, “ancient poetry source”, “Li Bai's poetry anthology”, “Yue Yang Lou Ji”, “chairman MAO's poem”, “Lu Xun's complete works”, “silent don river”, “les miserables”, “Faust”, “midsummer night dream”, and “Macbeth” have become the “spiritual feast” of young xi. The wonderful chapters and meaningful words of these works moistened the soul, cultivated the sentiment, enhanced the aesthetic ability, and cultivated the noble life interest. Fifthly, read military books and practice the tactics of military. Military writings focus on the strategic game of war, such as giving full play to our own advantages and limiting each other's advantages, and attacking the enemy's weaknesses with our own strengths so as to win victory. Xi Jinping has made extensive reading and in-depth understanding of military writings. For example, “selected military writings of Marx and Engels”, “selected military writings of Mao Zedong”, “36 plans”, “war theory”, “the important campaign of the great patriotic war of the Soviet union”, “Pacific war: island war”, “nuclear weapons and foreign policy” played a role in shaping xi's strategic thinking. In addition, Xi has read books on economics, management and natural sciences, which pave the way for his gradual growth as an encyclopedic party and national leader.

Third, good at reading. Xi Jinping has never been a reader who read book mechanically. He has mastered the scientific method of reading books and achieved twice the result with half the effort. First, pay attention to the comparison of views in reading. Xi often reads several books at the same time, finds out many relevant books for comparison on certain view, analyzes the differences and connections between different books, and discusses the causes of different opinions, thus forming the habit of analyzing problems from multiple angles. Secondly, reading is combined with thinking and discussion. Xi Jinping abides by the old adage that learning without thinking is labor lost. Instead of mechanically reading and passively accepting the content of the book, he integrates reading with thinking. Reading is the basis of thinking, while thinking is the deepening of reading. He is willing to discuss and communicate with others when there is doubt, so as to better absorb and digest the book content. Third, the combination of reading a book with words and reading a book without words. Xi Jinping attaches great importance to the combination of reading and application, and is good at solving practical problems with his theoretical knowledge. In his youth, Xi not only read a large number of books with Chinese characters, but also read “reality”, a wordless book with heavier weight, in his daily life with farmers, realizing the integration of the books with Chinese characters and those without Chinese characters.

3. Conclusion

Xi Jinping loves young people very much and has made a series of discussions on how to promote the growth and development of young people in the new era, forming the thinking of youth work with rich connotation, the distinct characteristics, and profound influence. This constitutes an organic part of Xi Jinping's socialist ideology with Chinese characteristics in the new era. Xi Jinping's thinking of youth work is not only a scientific response to the problem of young people's growth in the new era, but also a sublimation of the spirit and thought of young Xi Jinping, which sets an example for college students' growth in the new era.

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