A Study on the Inspiration for Corporate Governance Based on President Xi’s thought on the Governance of China: Taking the Landscape Engineering Company as an Example

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Abstract: This article analyzes the main ideas and the scientific logic system in president Xi’s thought on the governance of China, and for the first time attempts to apply the ideas and scientific logic embodied to corporate governance. Besides, with the example of the landscape engineering company, this article explains how to draw on the scientific logic and certain ideas reflected in the governance of China.

1. Introduction

President Xi’s thought on the governance of China is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people. The whole party and government members at all levels have thoroughly studied the thought. Scholars have also conducted multi-leveled, multi-angled and comprehensive analyses, discussions and summaries of Xi’s administration politics, and some of the representative viewpoints are as follows:

Han Qingxiang believes that Xi’s thought includes ten aspects: 1) socialism with Chinese characteristics and matters of self-confidence, 2) the realization of the Chinese Dream, 3) all-round and deeper-level reform, 4) the modernization of country governance, 5) the relationship between the market and the government, 6) “To forge iron, one must be strong”, 7) the development of a law-based country, 8) the cultural soft power and ideological discourse power, 9) to put up a great struggle, and 10) the philosophical methodology of analyzing and solving problems. [1]

According to Di Chengguang, Xi’s thought is a scientific and logic system contains socialism with Chinese characteristics to be developed, Chinese dream of revitalizing China to be fulfilled, strategic deployment by “four comprehensiveness” to be pressed ahead coordinated, “five major development concepts” to be firmly developed and practiced, overall layout to be promoted by “five aspects in one unit”, national defense and army to be strengthened in all round way, new-type international relation for win -win effect through cooperation and people to be focused consistently. [2]

Yan Shuhan believes that the main ideas of Xi's thought can be summarized as: upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics as the main line, achieving rejuvenation as the dream and struggle goal of the Chinese people, and the Four-pronged Strategy. [3]

Lu Shuyu concludes Xi’s thought as: One Mainline, Two Century Goals, Three Value Guides, Four-pronged Strategy and Five Development Concepts. [4]

Jin Nuo and Liu Wei consider the main ideas of Xi's thought of governance as follows: the development goal of achieving the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, the basic road of upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics, the value of people-centered approach, the Five Development Concepts as the core ideas of development philosophy, the Four-pronged Strategy, the supply-side structural reform as the main line of economic development, the modernization of national governance system and capabilities, the legal ideology of developing a law-based country, the comprehensive and strict governance of the party, the whole national security concept, and the vision of a community of shared future for mankind. [5]

Definitely, there are many other scholars who have summarized the ideas of Xi’s thought of the
governance of China, just listing a few as above. This article holds that Xi’s thought can be summed up as the following 13 aspects: 1) the goal of development and struggle: to realize the Chinese Dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, 2) the basic road: to uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics, 3) the value orientation: people-centered approach, 4) the new development strategy: the vision of an innovative, coordinated, green, open, and shared development, 5) strategic blueprint: the Four-pronged Strategy—finishing building a moderately prosperous society, the all-round and deeper reform, advancing the law-based governance of China, strengthening self-discipline of the party, 6) Overall layout: the Five-sphere Integrated Plan—a plan to promote political, economic, cultural, social and ecological progress, 7) Economic Development: supply-sided structural reform, 8) National governance: the modernization of national governance system and capabilities, 9) Governance by law: comprehensively develop a law-based country, 10) Governance of the party: comprehensive and vigorous governance of the party, 11) National security: the whole national security concept, 12) Governance of the Globe: the vision of a community of shared future for mankind, and 13) “Four Matters of Confidence” embodied in Xi’s Governance of China—the confidence in the path, theory, system and culture of the socialism with Chinese characteristics.

2. The Internal Scientific and Logical System in Xi’s Thought on the Governance of China

There have been heated discussions on the scientific and logical system of Xi’s governance thought.

According to Wang Cunfu, Xi Jinping’s thought on the governance of China is a scientific system that includes the five parts of goal of struggle, development path, two strategies, overall layout and guarantee conditions which interconnect with each other.[6]

Li Anzeng and Zhu Chenchen hold that the ideological system in Xi’s thought can be studied from macroscopic, mesoscopic and microscopic views.[7]

Lu Zhiyuan believes that the new concepts, new ideas and new strategies embodied in Xi’s thought of governing the country, have helped to enrich and develop Marxist epistemology, methodology and practice, which not only points out “how to think of it” but also “how to do it”, and which not only deploys the task of “crossing the river” but also solves the problem of “bridge or ship”, opening up a new pattern and new level for the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics. [8]

This article believes that Xi’s thought on the governance of China is the rigorous, complete and systematic scientific theoretical system, proposed from macroscopic, mesoscopic and microscopic views based on epistemology, methodology and practice. It is of far-reaching historical significance, great contemporary significance and guiding significance for future development. The scientific and logical relationships among them are as follows:
In simple terms, the scientific logic in Xi’s thought of governance is as follows:

First, from a macroscopic view, based on epistemology and the value orientation of people-centered approach, the goal of development and struggle and the basic road are proposed for the country and communists.

Second, from a mesoscopic view and based on methodology, the new development strategy, strategic blueprint and Five-sphere integrated plan are made to realize the goals at macroscopic level.

Third, from a microscopic view and based on practice, detailed plans for reforming are made and measures are taken to achieve the goals at the mesoscopic level, so as to realize the goals at the macroscopic level. What’s more, Four Matters of Confidence, embodied in Xi’s governance of China, which are not only part of it, but also play a role in mutual promotion and support with it.

3. The Definition and Content of Corporate Governance

As for the definition and content of corporate governance, opinions are divided. Wu Jinglian and Gilson and Roe attach importance to the mutual checks and balances in corporate governance; Zhang Weiyiing holds that the ownership arrangement is the key to corporate governance; Lin Yifu emphasizes the decisive role of market mechanism in corporate governance; Li Weiian points out the key role of scientific decision-making in corporate governance, just to list a few. In general, corporate governance consists of internal governance and external governance, which is a series of constraints and incentives, and a set of procedures, conventions, policies, systems, rules and institutions that exert influence on how to lead, manage and regulate a company.

4. The Inspirations for Corporate Governance Based on Xi’s Thought on the Governance of China

The scientific logic of epistemology, methodology and practice, embodied in Xi’s thought of governing the country, is worthy of reference, which can be flexibly applied to all aspects of corporate governance. First of all, from the view of epistemology, we understand the company's ultimate goals, demands, visions, responsibilities, effects to achieve and values to choose, and so on. Then, from a methodological view, we formulate strategic ideas, strategic layouts and strategic methods which are suitable and reasonable for the corporate. Finally, from the view of practice, specific events and activities can be implemented based on the epistemology and methodology. Definitely, new problems will arise in practice, which in turn affect and help our continuous revision of the views of epistemology, methodology and practice, and so it goes on.

The scientific logic of viewing, considering and solving issues from macroscopic, mesoscopic and microscopic three levels, embodied in Xi’s thought on the governance of China, is worthy of reference as well. This logic can be borrowed and applied in the process of corporate governance, from the future development of corporate to the construction of various systems. From the macroscopic view, we get to know and consider issues, ask what is needed and what should be solved. From the mesoscopic view, we think about the problems and how to solve them. From the microscopic view, we formulate and practice some detailed and practical solutions and terms in every aspect for solving the problems. Of course, this mode is repeated in this way and completed in every aspect.

How to Apply Xi’s Thought on the Governance of China to the Construction of Part of the Theoretical Framework of Corporate Governance--Taking a Landscape Engineering Company As an Example

With the example of a landscape engineering company, this part aims to illustrate how to apply Xi’s thought to the construction of part of the theoretical framework in corporate governance. From the table below, it is found that not only can we draw on the framework structure and ideas from Xi’s thought, but also the specific content and even the keywords be exactly the same, and it’s worth mentioning that these keywords are proposed with different meanings, levels and patterns.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels</th>
<th>Thought on the Governance of China</th>
<th>The Landscape Engineering Company</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Epistemology</td>
<td>Four Matters of Confidence—the confidence in the path, theory, system and culture of the socialism with Chinese characteristics</td>
<td>To realize the Chinese Dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macroscopic View</td>
<td>The goal of development and struggle</td>
<td>Four Matters of Confidence—the confidence in the industry, path, technology &amp; capabilities, system and culture of company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The basic road</td>
<td>The implementing road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics.</td>
<td>To adhere to the road of “active innovation, active learning, active struggle, active cooperation, sharing and win-win approach”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>The development strategy</td>
<td>The development strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mesoscopic View</td>
<td>The new vision of an innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development.</td>
<td>Independent innovation, coordinated development, green and healthy, open and cooperate, share with all staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic blueprint</td>
<td>Four-pronged Strategy-- finishing building a moderately prosperous society, the all-round and deeper reform, advancing the law-based governance of China, strengthening self-discipline of the party.</td>
<td>Strategic blueprint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall layout</td>
<td>The Five-sphere Integrated Plan--a plan to promote political, economic, cultural, social and ecological progress.</td>
<td>Overall layout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Development philosophy</td>
<td>Community, road, municipal, park, scenic and rural landscaping construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice</td>
<td>National governance</td>
<td>Corporate governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microscopic View</td>
<td>The modernization of national governance system and capabilities</td>
<td>The modernization of corporate governance system and capabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Governance by law</td>
<td>Governance by rule and system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comprehensively develop a law-based country</td>
<td>Developing a rule-based and system-based corporate</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Governance of the party</td>
<td>Governance of the team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comprehensive and vigorous governance of the party</td>
<td>Comprehensive and vigorous governance of the team</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National security</td>
<td>Corporate Security</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The whole national security concept</td>
<td>Work environment security, occupational security</td>
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<td></td>
<td>With the</td>
<td>To construct a</td>
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</table>
Governing the globe, we construct new international relations, adhering to the governance philosophy of “to consult, to construct and to share together” for the vision of a community of shared future for mankind.

Industry relations community for the development of the industry with the cooperation concept of kindness, sincerity, benefit, and inclusiveness.

5. Innovations and Deficiencies

With the team management experience of more than 10 years, for the first time, this article introduces the ideas and scientific system in Xi’s thought on the governance of China to corporate governance. Compared with the governance of a corporate, there is no doubt of higher levels and greater difficulties in the governance of a country. In the governance of a corporate, it is of great guiding and referring significance of Xi’s thought.

Due to the limitations of professional expertise and research level, there are some deficiencies in this article:

Firstly, this paper just aims at certain companies in a certain industry, applies Xi’s thought on the governance of China to the part of a theoretical framework of corporate governance, and has not yet flexibly applied his thought to all aspects of corporate governance.

Secondly, this paper only proposes a theoretical framework, and does not elaborate on how to integrate each part of Xi’s thought with corporate governance, nor does it explain how to apply Xi’s thought to practices.

Thirdly, this paper analyzes and sums up the main ideas and structure of Xi’s thought on the governance of China, the conclusions of which may be incomplete or inaccurate, and your comments and suggestions are greatly appreciated. Furthermore, this article hopes to be encouraging for entrepreneurs to apply Xi’s thought on governance of China to corporate governance practice in every industry.

References


[8] Lu Zhiyuan. Enrich Epistemology, Methodology and Practice with the Thought on the Governance of China[N]. Study Times(Special Issue), 2\textsuperscript{nd} June 2016 (005).