

Analysis on the Failure of Robespierre in the French Revolution

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Keywords: French Revolution; economic growth; democracy; Robespierre

Abstract: Although Robespierre's attempt in the French Revolution failed, it is a great attempt and an important reference for the transformation of the country. By analyzing the facts that occurred in the French Revolution, and then listing the data model, then intercepting some economic data from the World Bank for analysis, and finally listing examples of successful transformations in countries such as Singapore, Japan, and Germany for a comprehensive analysis and conclusions, the transformation of China's third world countries has important implications.

1. Introduction

From the gentle and knowledgeable youth of knowledge to the revolutionary leader of the bloody hurricane, and finally embarked on the guillotine at the age of 36, Robespierre's life is horrifying, more frightening and more reflective. This article will analyze the failure of Robespierre in the French Revolution and try to find a way to solve the problem for the countries that carry out modernization. Robespierre was a French revolutionary and an important leader during the French Revolution. He was in the period of feudal society and capitalist transition and was in a period of national peril. After the defeat of the French Revolution and the Girondists, Robespierre took control of the country's real power, but after he became the national leader, after he presided over the compilation of the first bourgeois revolutionary constitution in French history, It quickly lost its rights. The desire of Robespierre's life was to establish a democratic republic, but it was not realized. In 1802, Napoleon boarded the plane and became the emperor, marking the complete collapse of the dream of democracy and republic. Now this article attempts to analyze the reasons for the failure of Robespierre and try to find a solution by analyzing the causes of failure and learning from it.

2. Analysis of the background of the times

The French Revolution broke out in 1789, overthrowing the feudal monarchy of France. This was a spontaneous, unprepared revolution, and the French Enlightenment had been carried out for more than half a century. After the revolution, there are differences on how to take the French road. People are still searching for a way out. The main reason for the Great Revolution was due to the financial crisis, which existed before the revolution. The successive foreign wars, especially the "seven-year war" and the "American independence war" that France participated in, caused the country's serious financial crisis, and the nobles were luxurious. Life is hollowing out of France. These pressures have been transferred to the lower classes. They are the main victims of the financial crisis, and the lives of the poor people are suffering. However, the nobles still dreamed of restless and lavish life as before, and still refused to make some concessions. At that time, King Louis XVI firmly stood on the side of the broad masses of civilians. He carried out a series of reforms, such as liberating the royal serfs, implementing the provincial and rural council system, the landlords not allowed to enter the local government, and the privilege tax. The king is even more fearless, trying to cancel the tax privileges of the nobility and the priests, and he will not hesitate to break with the nobility. The contradiction exists not only in the ruling class and the ruling class, but also the rift between the ruling classes. In 1788, France was in a cold winter, causing crops to be poorly harvested. The harvest was as meager as the previous year. The price of bread rose sharply. The poor people not only faced hunger and poverty, but also faced the threat of death. This was the direct cause of the outbreak of the French Revolution. the reason.

Because of the constitutional monarchy in the UK across the sea from France, the industrial revolution was successfully completed. Therefore, after the French Revolution, in fact, more people are more inclined to implement the constitutional monarchy system, as is Robespierre himself. Before 1790, Robespierre did not support France to establish a republican system. The French Revolution broke out on July 14, 1789, and the Human Rights Declaration was adopted on August 26 of the same year. The Declaration adopted the 18th century Enlightenment Theory and the Natural Rights Theory, and declared that freedom, property, security, and resistance to oppression are inalienable. Human rights, the Declaration also establishes the principle of separation of rights, equality before the law, and sacredness of private property. In 1791, the constitution of the first constitutional monarchy of France was promulgated, and France became a constitutional monarchy. This constitution was influenced more by Montesquieu and established the principle of separation of powers. It was the first written constitution in French history. For the king, although the rights of the former feudal monarchy were restricted many times, they still enjoy administrative power and military command, such as appointing ministers, approving declarations of war, approving laws and other rights, but Louis XVI is still lost for lost rights. It was not reconciled, so he secretly colluded with Austria and Prussia in an attempt to restore the monarchy.

The establishment of the constitutional monarchy in the French Revolution caused dissatisfaction among other feudal monarchies in Europe. Prussia and Austria formed a coalition attack on France. At that time, the French army was defeated because Louis XVI's wife, Queen Mary, leaked military secrets to the Austrian and Israeli coalition forces. Afterwards, King Louis XVI and Queen Mary colluded with the coalition forces and were discovered by the French people. This behavior is equivalent to selling the country to the enemy. People are completely disappointed with the king and no longer expect the constitutional monarchy. After the king colluded with the Austrian royal family and was known by Robespierre, he was shocked at first. He could not believe this fact. He had always supported the constitutional monarchy. Later, he slowly accepted the fact that France did not follow the path of constitutional monarchy, but only to the path of democratic republicanism. He began to support the execution of the king. On January 21, 1793, the National Association passed the trial to punish Louis XVI for treason. On June 24 of the same year, the National Assembly passed the new constitution. It was France's first republican constitution, also known as the Jacobin Constitution. The Constitution was influenced by Rousseau more. Although it was still formally divided into three powers, it did not emphasize a constitution that restricted power. This is also a constitution of sinful radicality in French history and a constitution that has never been implemented.

After the execution of the king, there are still many differences in France. The feudal monarchy system that this country has experienced for too long has been accustomed to democratic negotiations. For the new forces, they have various factions, but there is no concept of cooperation between different factions. Therefore, the Girondists representing the interests of the big business bourgeoisie and the Jacobin on behalf of the petty bourgeoisie have had disputes. The Girondists advocate economic liberalism, which suppresses those who hinder food transactions, while the Jacobin advocates the implementation of ceiling prices. Because of the soaring prices at that time, people's lives were challenged. More importantly, because of the call for freedom and democracy, and the people's sovereignty, the Jacobin's policy of applying the highest price limit was supported by the pantsless, so the Girondist Failed in the struggle. After the Jacobin took office, a series of ceiling prices were implemented. The Jacobin Party led by Robespierre actively implemented the ceiling price. The ceiling price really relieved urban residents in the winter of 1793-1794. The price hike stopped, residents could buy cheaper necessities, but the overall price limit sacrificed the interests of merchants and farmers, hindering the circulation of goods and production. All sectors of society have had an impact, leading to an increase in the number of people who have turned out the Goyabine, and Robespierre has to take the rule of terror, and finally led to the failure of the Jacobin.

3. The deep reason for the failure of Robespierre

Why did Robespierre fail, and we are doing an in-depth analysis here. Robespierre was

considered a pioneer of socialism, and Marx developed their theory. After the victory of the October Revolution, the Russians established a monument to Robespierre, which seems to prove that Robespierre is indeed the beginning of socialism. As far as Robespierre himself is concerned, he was born into a civilian class and lost his father in his early years. He was very sympathetic to the poor. Later, even when he became a representative of the National Assembly and the economic conditions were greatly improved, Robespierre still lived very poorly. He can see his view of money and is not too concerned about money. After Robespierre took power, he also had money and rights, so this article thinks that Robespierre will not pursue money and rights at this time, but is more eager to do something real, Get good fame. For Robespierre, he wants to realize his political ideals and establish an equal, free and fraternal democratic republic, including Robespierre to impose the highest price limit. These are the prototypes of socialism. We first analyze why Robespierre failed, and then explore how to build an equal, free, and fraternal country, even a socialist country. Suppose a society has a total of eight people, each of whom needs a food a year to maintain a minimum standard of living. The problem now is that the entire society can only produce 7 foods a year. We can see that 7 foods are not enough for these 8 people.

We distribute food like this: People 1 and 2 each dispense 2 servings of food, and the remaining 6 each dispense 0.5 servings of food. We can see that this distribution is unfair, but people who are divided into two foods will maintain this system. Since characters 1 and 2 distribute more food and have more resources, they can suppress it. The remaining 6 people.

We can see that Model 1 is operational, even though he has a hidden crisis because the latter six are not satisfied and want to overthrow the system. We can see that most of the feudal dynasties worked like this. For example, on the eve of the Great Revolution, the king and the priests and the great aristocracy belonged to the characters 1 and 2, while the poor third-class people in France were the latter six. Model 1 is a pyramid-shaped structure with internal instability and relatively stable external. In Chinese society, since the Sui Dynasty, the imperial examination system has been created to absorb the elites at the bottom, thus opening up the way for the lower elites to flow upwards through the imperial examination system. Then the bottom elite will find ways to maintain this system, so that this The pyramidal exploitation system is more stable.

Assume that there is also a total of eight people, each of whom needs 1 item per year to maintain the minimum level. But the problem is that this society can only produce 6 foods a year, and the leaders here are distributed like this. He distributes 6 foods evenly, and each person gets 0.75 foods, but the ending is not good, because everyone's food is Not enough, causing everyone to be dissatisfied. If people are full of consciousness, they will overthrow this kind of distribution. Although the average distribution of products is very equal here, it is not a socialist system envisioned by Marx, nor will it be very happy because of the low level of economic development.

This kind of distribution is more like egalitarianism than equality, which is what Robespierre did during the French Revolution. In addition to the implementation of a comprehensive price limit order, the Jacobin sent people to search the houses, confiscate the “surplus food” in the people’s homes, and tax the rich, and then help the poor. This egalitarian practice has weakened people's enthusiasm for production and hindered the development of productivity. The French Revolution was a bourgeois revolution. After the revolution, the capitalist economy should be vigorously developed to improve the economic situation and financial crisis in France. However, as far as early capitalism is concerned, it is almost necessary to exploit and oppress the lower classes of the society, to complete the process of primitive capital accumulation, or to open up colonies and seize the resources of the colonies for their own use. Just like the British practice, colonial activities in the mid-18th century to the mid-19th century opened up a wide range of colonies and traded globally, so they developed themselves quickly, but the opportunities offered by this era are hard to come by. The policy of Robespierre economically hinders the development of the capitalist economy. From a political point of view, it cannot be supported by the old-fashioned forces and the emerging bourgeois forces. At the same time, this will also make farmers and petty bourgeoisie feel dissatisfied, because farmers and petty bourgeoisie will also participate in the circulation of goods, and limit the prices of goods, then their products can not afford the price, on the other hand, master

the hands Emerging bourgeois forces with abundant resources are more likely to try to overthrow the rule of the Jacobin. This kind of policy can only be implemented in a short period of time, and long-term implementation will inevitably not work, leading to the failure of Robespierre.

4. How to solve this problem

We can see that in the West, such as Sweden, Norway, Switzerland and other Nordic countries, it is very close to the socialist society. They work like Model 4. We also assume that there are eight people in a society, each of whom needs a food a year to reach the minimum level. But this society is already quite affluent, and the society can produce 14 items a year.

Then we distribute these products like this: the character 1 point 2.5 parts product, the character 2, the character 3, the character 4, the character 5 each divided into 2 products, and the last three people each divided into 1.5 products. We can see that this society is still unequal, but everyone will still be satisfied, because everyone has ample products and the social happiness index is higher.

We know that there is no absolute equality in the world. We can use physics to resolve this phenomenon. Physicists believe that on an absolutely smooth plane, if a small ball is pushed, the ball will then move at an evenly smooth plane. But there can be no absolutely smooth planes in the world, just as there is no absolute equality, but when the plane is infinitely close to smooth, he is very close to absolute smoothness. A country cannot reach an absolute communist society, but we can approach it infinitely.

Western economists measure the inequality index of a country in this way. Suppose that in a country, we count the income of the top 10% of the country's highest income, and the result is X. Then we count the income of the last 10% of the country's lowest income, and the result is Y. If A is used to represent the country's inequality index, then $A = X / Y$ (that is, the income of the top 10% of the income in a country divided by the income of 10% of the income after the ranking).

After the economists counted the data, they divided all countries into three categories: When A is less than or equal to 5, we believe that the country is classified as the first gear. That is to say, in such a country, the income of the top 10% of the income does not exceed 5 times the income of the lowest income of 10%. We think that such a country is quite equal. Such countries are: Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Switzerland and other countries, the per capita gdp of these countries is extremely high, and social welfare is quite good.

Through the statistics of the World Bank staff, it is found that the authoritarian countries generally develop faster than the Western democracies. The reason is that the centralized system that concentrates on doing big things has his advantages and can eliminate the interference quickly when encountering opportunities. Opportunities, for democratic countries, because of the need for compromises and games in all aspects, opportunities may not be grasped when the opportunity comes, or although opportunities are seized, there will be delays in internal contradictions, reducing the acquisition of benefits. Because of the two sides of things, centralization and democracy have their own strengths and weaknesses, we cannot blindly pursue democracy, especially for developing countries. If you blindly pursue democracy, it is very likely to become an economic model like Model 2. Or for developing countries, blind pursuit of democracy, even if they do not become the economic model of Model 2, may have other consequences. The principle of democracy is the check and balance. For developed countries, it has been able to operate normally because of long-term operation. However, for developing countries, such checks and balances are prone to vicious competition, which is used by foreign forces and has a negative impact on the country, especially when people do not have a deep understanding of the meaning of democracy. It is easy to be stabbed. This happened in the French Revolution. After the revolution, the non-stop games of various forces brought more vicious competition than checks and balances. As a result, the economy had hardly developed after the Great Revolution, and it has been deeply mired in financial crisis.

In the case of modern countries, this is also the case. In Libya, for example, before the Libyan war, the living standards of the people there were actually higher. Although Gaddafi was authoritarian, Libya was not democratic, and there were some corruptions in this country, but the Libyan people were relatively African. For the people, the standard of living is indeed higher. The

data tells us that in 2010, Libya's per capita gdp was \$10,456, and Libya's per capita gdp greatly exceeded that of other African countries. We can see that in 2010, the per capita gdp of Algeria in North Africa was \$3,771, while the per capita gdp of Benin in another African country was \$713. In 2010, China's per capita gdp was only \$3,749. We can see that Libya's pre-war economic situation is really good. However, such Libya is not Libya that the Western world wants to see. Because Gaddafi was authoritarian and did not want Western countries to take advantage of Libya's interests and offended Western countries, the Western government secretly supported the anti-government forces and overthrew the Qaddafi government with the slogan of democracy. Later, Gaddafi was indeed overthrown, but Libya was in chaos and a large number of refugees. Libya's economy is not good enough to become a poor country in Africa. The chaos in Libya has led other countries to benefit from the fish.

As far as Japan is concerned, before the Meiji Restoration, it was the Shogunate era, when Japan was not strong. After the curtain collapsed, the Shogunate era ended, and a new government centered on the Emperor Meiji was established. After replacing the shogunate, the new government introduced comprehensive reforms and strengthened centralization. The Meiji government carried out two major reforms of "returning the royalties" and "destroying the county", canceling the rule of the feudal lords, and then implementing the land reform. The system of the apostolic feudal lords was abolished and the development of capitalism was basically established. Modern land ownership. After the Meiji Restoration, in fact, the rights were more concentrated than before the new era, and Japan moved toward centralization with the Meiji Emperor as the core. After that, Japan sent a delegation to Europe to inspect. After the delegation returned to China to establish a more modern system, Japan became more and more powerful. The same is true for the late-developing country of Singapore, and the Singapore government has always been known for its strength. These three late-developing countries are not strong at first. By focusing on the power to do big things and grasping the opportunities of the times to develop vigorously, it is a reliable way to catch up with the developed countries. It is still catching up. Third world countries provide a reference.

We know that Plato is also expecting the emergence of a philosophical king in his book "The Republic of China", but later he discovered that people who are not so wise and have virtues turned their heads to the rule of law. This article believes that if it is a centralized state, when the state leaders are effective, they can concentrate on the development of the country's energy, but if the leader is not strong, then it is a disaster for the country. For a democratic country, because it emphasizes the checks and balances of rights and the role of the law, it is to pursue a stable intermediate state, which will not be great or bad, and the Western countries generally choose the latter. For Robespierre, he always wanted to establish a democratic republic, but at that time there was not only interference from foreign forces, but even troops. Within France, there were contradictions between the old aristocratic forces, the emerging bourgeois forces, and the vast majority of civilians. At that time, it is necessary for a powerful regime to eliminate interference to develop capitalism smoothly and let the economy grow up to solve financial problems. France is located in the northwestern part of the Mediterranean Sea. The land is fertile and the agriculture is developed. There is no ocean-going economic needs in the sea. It is connected to Spain in the south, the United Kingdom in the north, and the German countries in the east. It has always been a place of four wars and is more vulnerable than an island country like the United Kingdom. Interference by foreign forces. For countries with four stations, if they are not careful, they will face the danger of national division in addition to poor economic development.

For developed countries, their problem is that they are too democratic. Anything too much will have drawbacks. As a multi-party system, France has experienced a financial crisis in recent years. The competition between the parties is fierce. In order to be elected, the people are generally promised many benefits. For example, former French President Nicolas Sarkozy promised to give people too much welfare, but they could not achieve it, so they could not be re-elected. But the fact that people generally ignore is that if the state is not financially enough, how can it be used for welfare construction? However, in order to obtain a full vote, the party always cannot seek truth from facts. After taking office, in order to fulfill its promise, it always adds to the failure.

Too much democracy can have even worse consequences, such as in France, which leads to the government being too weak. As far as protecting vulnerable groups is concerned, it is a good thing, but the French welfare system is very good. In France, for some low-income social groups, as long as they have children, they can get some social assistance for the purpose of protecting vulnerable groups. . For them, the income from going out to work is not much different from the subsidy from work. As a result, a large number of people are unwilling to go out to work, the social labor force is idle, and no productivity can be created. Some groups enjoy their success, leading to economic development. it is good. Without the support of the economy, how can we do a good welfare system?

5. Conclusion

After the French Revolution overthrew the autocratic Bourbon dynasty, the most important task was to clear the obstacles and develop the economy and develop the capitalist system. Although Robespierre was in power, many of the economic measures he introduced were too unsatisfactory and declared failure. France is still in deep economic and financial crisis, and the old aristocrats and bourgeois forces are also dissatisfied with Robespierre. This is the reason why Robespierre failed. In fact, whether it is democracy or not, for all peoples, their wishes are the same. They want to live a better life. Even Qatar and Saudi Arabia, which implement the chieftain system, because of the very developed economy, the people's happiness index. Also very high. Therefore, we cannot overstate the role of democracy. Rational analysis is the most suitable path for ourselves, and practical economic construction is the most correct choice.

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