Dilemma and Solution: Marxism and Ideological Education in Colleges and Universities

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Abstract

The Fourth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee defined the guiding position of Marxism as the fundamental system in the ideological field and made a series of major arrangements. This is the first time in the history of our party and country, and it is of milestone significance. At the same time, Colleges and universities undertake the important task of cultivating people by virtue, Shouldering the heavy responsibility of cultivating the future of the Party and the country, it is the frontier in the ideological field in the new era, facing the contradictions between "murmur and tonic", "market and collective", "network positive and network negative", "front wave and back wave", "penetration and reverse osmosis", which leads to the dilemma of Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities at present. For the current dilemma, efforts should be made to integrate ideological education into the teaching and research platform of ideological and political disciplines in colleges and universities, actively clear the cyberspace, strengthen cultural construction, promote the youth of Marxism in China, and realize the integration of Marxism and ideological education in colleges and universities.

Keywords

Marxism; Ideological education; Ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

1. Introduction

In the new era, China's struggle in the ideological field is becoming more and more complicated, Social contradictions are also changing at all times, Hostile forces have stepped up their impact and penetration on China’s ideological field. Facing many difficulties in the ideological field, as the main front and battlefield of China’s ideological construction, Marxist ideological educators in our universities should always be firm and persistent, seek truth from facts and work hard to firmly grasp the ideological leadership. The Decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Several Major Issues Concerning Upholding and Perfecting the Socialist System with Chinese Characteristics and Promoting the Modernization of the National Governance System and Governance Ability, which was deliberated and adopted at the Fourth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, emphasizes the fundamental system of upholding the guiding position of Marxism in the ideological field and puts forward a series of new requirements. This is the first time that our Party has clearly put forward the guiding position of Marxism in the ideological field as a fundamental system. It fully reflects that the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core has summed up the laws of China's socialist construction to a new height. It has irreplaceable practical and historical significance for realizing the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and provides important guidance for the education of Marxist ideology in colleges and universities in the new era, and points out the way forward.
2. The Significance and Basis: The Distinctive Features of Marxism

The theoretical guidance, ideological guidance and practical guidance of Marxism in the field of ideological work are overall, fundamental and directional. It is related to our national security, the vitality of political parties and the happiness of the people. Marxism attracts us, guides us and educates us with its distinct scientific nature, powerful revolutionary nature, full practicality, broad people’s nature and constant development, which provides a strong theoretical support for our party to keep its purity and advanced nature forever, and provides a strong ideological weapon for our party to understand and transform the world. Therefore, in the education of Marxist ideology in colleges and universities, we should always take a clear-cut stand, Do not forget your initiative mind and unwaveringly.

2.1. Marxism Is Scientific and Scientific Truth

Marxism is a scientific reflection of the essence and law of history, human beings, nature and social development, and a high summary of the history of social development. Scientificity is the essential attribute of Marxism, and Marxism is scientific, which has become a consensus. Xi Jinping once commented in "Speech at the Conference Commemorating the 200th Anniversary of Marx's Birth" that Marxism is a scientific theory and creatively reveals the law of human social development. It shows that Marxism plays an indelible and important role in human understanding and transforming the world. In addition, Lenin once pointed out the scientific nature of Marxist theory: "In Marx's works, Marx didn’t want to create utopia at all, and didn’t want to guess things he couldn’t know out of thin air. Marx raised the question of communism, just as a natural scientist already knows how a new biological variety came into being and in which direction it evolved before he raised the question of the development of the biological variety. This can stand the test of history and reality. Take today's China as an example, Since the October Revolution brought Marxism to China, The Chinese people will have a correct direction and road choice, Whether in resisting Japan and saving the nation, National independence, People's liberation, Industrial construction, Economic development has also made great achievements in the current novel coronavirus pneumonia struggle. We can see that no country can make great achievements in just a few decades like China, no country can shoulder such a huge scale in scientific and technological innovation and personnel training, and no country can quickly control the epidemic and minimize losses in the current epidemic struggle. All these achievements fully prove that Marxism is a scientific truth. As Mao Zedong emphasized: "The Communist Party does not rely on scary people to eat, but on the truth of Marxism-Leninism, seeking truth from facts and relying on science to eat."

2.2. Marxism Is Revolutionary and Has A Clear-cut Banner

The revolutionary nature of Marxism is concentrated in its completely critical spirit and distinct proletarian stand. China’s Constitution stipulates that the People’s Republic of China is a socialist country under the people’s democratic dictatorship led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants. And the Communist Party of China is a political party of the proletariat, Representing the fundamental interests of the broad masses of the proletariat, Is the ruling party in our country, Maintaining revolutionary is the inherent requirement of our party's long-term governance. In such a country where Marxist political parties are in power, revolution is our “weapon”, as Marx and Engels mentioned: "Communists disdain to conceal their views and intentions", so Marxist theory clearly shows its class stand and revolutionary attribute, which is its innate important attribute. Xi Jinping also pointed out: "Do not forget your initiative mind, keep in mind the mission, don't forget that we are Communists, we are revolutionaries, and don’t lose the revolutionary spirit." Therefore, the educators of Marxist ideology in our colleges and universities, It is necessary to teach the scientific theory that our party's revolution is a weapon to fight against hostile forces. Only by adhering to Marxism and
making good use of Marxist revolutionary methods can college students remember their mission and responsibility, and our party can take the lead and succeed in the struggle in the ideological field.

2.3. Marxism Is Practical and Can Stand the Test of Practice

Marxism is a theory that comes from practice, goes to practice, is tested in practice, and develops continuously with practice. Marxism is derived from practice, having experienced the test of practice, have enough convincing power. This is the root of its strong vitality. In the great practice of the Communist Party of China in the past 100 years, Marxist theory has been fully tested and implemented in China, providing a practical guide for our party and country, and bringing great changes to our country and the world in the past century. China is proving with practical actions that Marxism is completely feasible, feasible and good. However, with the changes and development of the times, the social environment facing Marxism is changing all the time. In order to meet the needs of environmental change, it is necessary to enrich the content of Marxism through practicality. It is necessary to adhere to the guiding position of Marxism in the ideological field, to make good use of its practical characteristics, to point out the direction for the education of Marxist ideology in our colleges and universities, to seek truth from facts in the work, and to make the educated fully understand the importance of Marxism, thus illuminating the way forward.

2.4. Marxism Has the People's Nature and Represents the People

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Xi Jinping has repeatedly emphasized the importance of the people's position, which shows that our party always adheres to the people-centered development concept and enriches and perfects the people's nature of Marxism. The political stand of Marxism is to uphold the supremacy of the people. The reason for this is that the people are the creators of history and the relying force of the socialist cause. Relying on the masses of the people has always been the source of strength for our party to succeed. From the historical law, only relying on the masses of the people can achieve success. Marx has always regarded the pursuit of the liberation of all mankind as his lifelong goal. Because of this, Marxism has a distinct people's nature. It is Marxism that can unite all the people, strengthen our ideals and beliefs together, and form common values and common goals for us. "People's hearts are United, Taishan moves", Only by uniting, Only with one heart can our cause move forward forever; Only in this way can we have enough courage to face the increasingly complex ideological struggle. Therefore, only by adhering to the guiding position of Marxism in the field of ideological education in colleges and universities, giving full play to its fine tradition of people's nature, making everyone unite closely, studying and implementing Xi Jinping's socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, can we win an all-round victory in ideological work at an early date.

2.5. Marxism Is Developmental and Keeps Pace with the Times

Marxism is a developing theory with the theoretical quality of keeping pace with the times. Marxism is not a dogma or a static one. It is precisely because it is constantly developing and improving that it can keep its vigor and vitality forever, stand at the forefront of theory all the time and cope with various situations. Marx and Engels summed up the changes of basic social contradictions, deduced the law of social development, scientifically predicted the future social development, and concluded that the bourgeoisie will perish and the proletariat will win. It is these two necessities that make us strengthen our confidence and unite our development forces. Because of this, Development is the key to solve all problems in China at present. We should strive to catch up with the times by development. To catch up with the times is to grasp the times first. The core is the objective development trend, The second is to grasp one's own objective situation, Finally, we should understand the objective opportunities and challenges
faced by our own development through comparison. The core lies in "correctly analyzing the characteristics of the present era and the overall international situation and making new scientific judgments" Therefore, We should apply the developmental characteristics of Marxism to the field of ideological education in colleges and universities, profoundly grasp the "mainstream" of the times, and make a comprehensive analysis of the current struggle situation in the ideological field, so as to cope with the ever-changing ideological struggle. Marxist theory is extensive and profound, and its vitality lies in constant innovation. We should learn from others in opening up, constantly improve ourselves, deepen our understanding of the development of Marxism, strive to do a good job of "keeping integrity and innovating", sum up the laws of education, and open up a new road in the field of ideological education in colleges and universities with Marxism.

3. Contradictions and Dilemmas: Major Challenges in the Field of Ideological Education in Colleges and Universities

The problems existing in the ideological field are never the problems of the ideological field itself, but a reflection of the struggles in the fields of economy, politics and culture. Today, socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era. With the increasing international status of China, Great achievements have been made in economic development, the influence of the world has been enhanced, the spread of Chinese culture in the world has expanded, and the competition between China and other countries has gradually increased and become increasingly fierce. The essential contradiction between socialism and capitalism has made the penetration and impact of hostile forces on China's ideological field constantly strengthened. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, our party and country have attached great importance to the work in the ideological field. However, at this stage, the struggle in the ideological field will not stop and has extended to colleges and universities. In the new era, Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities will face more significant challenges.

3.1. Contradiction between "Murmur" and "Tonic"

Since the reform and opening up, Great changes have taken place in our way of life, and people's living standards have been continuously improved. At present, the main social contradictions have become the contradiction between people's growing needs for a better life and unbalanced development, and the contradiction between people's growing material and cultural needs and backward social productive forces. Therefore, college students are also eager to get new things and learn new culture, and a large number of foreign cultures have been introduced into China. With the emergence of various and changeable situations in the ideological field, students' thoughts have gradually become active. Therefore, hostile forces wait for an opportunity to implant decadent ideas into cultural input, The use of various new mass media methods to "brainwash the culture" of young students in China has expanded the impact and penetration of the ideological field, Try every means to replace the guiding position of Marxism, By various means, the so-called "democracy", "freedom", "wealth" and other erroneous ideas in western society are introduced into China, and the young students' immature and impulsive characteristics are used to confuse the audience. The "murmur" is getting more and more, and the threat to the "tonic" is getting bigger and bigger. If it is not rectified immediately, it will inevitably increase the difficulty of Marxist ideology education in our colleges and universities.

3.2. The Contradiction between "Market" and "Collective"

Economic construction has always been the work center of our party and country. We have established a socialist market economic system, Give full play to the decisive role of the market
in resource allocation. However, in the process of market-oriented construction, due to the short development time of our country, with the rapid development, the corresponding experience and means are lacking, and various negative effects inevitably appear. Just as Deng Xiaoping once put forward in the promotion of reform and opening up, "I'm afraid it will take another 30 years before we can form a set of more mature and stereotyped systems in all aspects. Therefore, in the process of development, it is easy to have problems such as uneven distribution of benefits, excessive income gap and enhanced profit-seeking. It will cause psychological imbalance among some members of society, due to different interest demands, have produced different values, it also has a great impact on young students, think that what you have learned can't match the recent social reality, thereby threatening the leading power of Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities, wrong ideas such as money worship and hedonism begin to appear. If they are not solved, these wrong ideas will inevitably destroy the ecological environment of our political education, produce negative corruption, make college students become "exquisite" egoists in their youth, and also have an impact on the collectivism we have publicized for a long time.

3.3. Contradiction between "Network Positive" and "Network Negative"

The emergence of network has greatly changed our social style, living habits and entertainment activities, and the speed of information dissemination has begun to accelerate, and new network media has begun to appear, because it has the characteristics of popularity, complexity and concealment, which brings about the supervision of network public opinion environment. In the network, people's way of "voicing" is simplified, and they can express their views anytime and anywhere. It also makes some people with ulterior motives turn the network into the main position for discrediting rumors and propagating wrong ideas, resulting in the deterioration of the environment in the field of ideological education. Western hostile forces, relying on the advanced nature of network technology and the leading power of ideological cyberspace, constantly carry out infiltration in the field of network ideology, creating ideological confusion, and directly affecting the stability and development of Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities in China. The popularization of the main body of network communication weakens the dominance of Marxism. Under the inferior condition of "one-to-many", if it is not changed in time, the phenomenon of "negative network" will increase, which will lead to the further deterioration of the public opinion environment in China, which is not conducive to colleges and universities to master the initiative of ideological education.

3.4. Contradiction between "Front Wave" and "Back Wave"

On the eve of the May Fourth Youth Day this year, Bilibili gave the declaration of "Post-wave" to the younger generation, which was delivered by the famous actor He Bing. As the film said, "You are fortunate to meet such an era, but the times are even more fortunate to meet such you." The "post-wave" is the future and hope of our country, shouldering the historical mission. Teenagers are the "jointing and booting stage" of life. Teenagers have stronger adaptability and reception ability when they are exposed to new things than other ages, and they are also very curious about exploring unknown fields. In many cases, "front wave" and "back wave" have different ways of thinking. It is easy to have contradictions. If the "front waves" can't keep up with the ideological changes of the "back waves" in time and try to grasp the initiative of the ideological and political education of the "back waves", it will easily give hostile forces the opportunity to make a fuss about the immature thoughts and psychology of the "back waves", which will bring serious consequences to the ideological field of our country.

3.5. Contradiction between "Osmosis" and "Reverse Osmosis"

China's rapid development has attracted worldwide attention, China is also using its own development to actively help other countries. Fully demonstrate the mind of a big country, But
in the eyes of some Western countries, China's rise is a threat. Influenced by the previous Cold War mentality, Western hostile forces have always regarded China as a "thorn in the eye" and a "nail in the meat". Politicians of Western hostile forces have never stopped writing the "China threat theory", try to use various ways, Exaggerated description and malicious smear of the prominent social contradictions in China, Since the outbreak of the epidemic, Western media have reported distorted facts one after another, ignoring the chaos in their own country and the achievements made by China, stepping up their penetration into China's ideological field, and trying to make a big fuss about the epidemic. In fact, China is completely opposite to China in the mouth of Western media. We should recognize the malicious infiltration of hostile forces in time, Do a good job in reverse osmosis to stabilize our Marxist ideological environment, strengthen the education of ideals and beliefs for college students, and strengthen the "four self-confidence", so that students can realize that reverse osmosis is a long-term work, and the infiltration and impact of hostile forces will accompany the development of our country all the time, so they should strive to shoulder the heavy responsibility of the times.

4. Path and Solution: Integration of Marxism and Ideological Education in Colleges and Universities

Although the Fourth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee established the fundamental system in the ideological field, However, the vitality of the system lies in its implementation, which should be sublimated through repeated practice. On the basis of referring to relevant documents, the author understands that in the critical period of socialist construction, the fundamental system of adhering to the guiding position of Marxism in the ideological field is a historical summary, a realistic necessity and a people's choice, which is of great significance and far-reaching. In the new era, how to give full play to the role of Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities depends first on what "people" do, and there are mainly the following ways.

4.1. Integrate Marxist Ideological Education Into the Teaching and Research Platform of Ideological and Political Disciplines in Colleges and Universities, and Cultivate People By Virtue

The main purpose of setting up the teaching and research platform of ideological and political discipline in Party schools, universities and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences is to "purify" ideological and political theory so as to form high-quality teaching content, and finally achieve the goal of moral education. Similarly, Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities also needs to cultivate people by virtue. At present, the research results in the field of ideological education have begun to increase, which has promoted the perfection and development of Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities to a certain extent. Therefore, we should continue to intensify research in this field, integrate Marxist ideological education into the teaching and research platform of ideological and political disciplines, and realize the goal of cultivating people by virtue at an early date. First of all, it is necessary to build a research platform for the integration and development of ideological education and ideological and political education, and lay a solid foundation in the field of ideological education. Secondly, it is necessary to increase the national and provincial related scientific research projects to promote the integration and development of the two, improve the attention of researchers, strengthen the transformation of research results, and "purify" the effective syllabus of the connection between the two, so as to provide theoretical innovation for strengthening the education of Marxist ideology in colleges and universities in the new era. Finally, the education authorities should introduce an all-round curriculum system in which ideological education is integrated into ideological and political education, which runs through all stages of education in China, from basic education to higher education, so as to exert a subtle
influence and make ideological education deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and win the future.

4.2. Actively Clear Cyberspace and Educate People in the Environment

At the 2018 National Conference on Propaganda and Ideological Work, Xi Jinping emphasized: "We must scientifically understand the law of network communication, improve the level of using the network to manage the network, and make the biggest variable of the Internet become the biggest increment of career development." Therefore, to effectively resist the penetration of Western ideology, it is necessary to purify the current complex network environment, find out the law of network development, and seize the commanding heights of network propaganda as soon as possible. Ensure the guiding position of Marxism in the ideological field. First of all, led by the Propaganda Department of Party Committees and Party Schools in colleges and universities, Integrate Marxist theoretical research institutions, network technology service platforms and mainstream media organizations, form a joint force, build a Marxist publicity and education platform with distinctive characteristics, and constantly enrich the publicity and education content and create a good Marxist learning environment on the premise of ensuring "surnamed Ma" and "speaking Ma". Secondly, we should give full play to the positive role of the network. Inhibit its negative effects, On the basis of respecting the development law of the network industry, The operators, editors and network technicians of the vast number of online media should strengthen the education of "four consciousnesses", learn the internship of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, cultivate their high sense of responsibility, snatch the highland of online public opinion from hostile forces, adhere to the correct direction, and educate people in the environment. Finally, strengthen technological innovation, Research and development of network public opinion firewall, Filter network information, constantly improve the IDS-Intrusion Detection System, use big data analysis means to analyze topics that may have ideological problems, establish an early warning mechanism, prevent in time, fortify three important barriers of network information transmission, and enhance the ability to clean ideological cyberspace.

4.3. Strengthen Cultural Construction and Educate People with Literature

Strengthen the effectiveness of Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities in the new era, The most important thing is to strengthen cultural construction. Chinese culture has a history of more than 5,000 years. First of all, it is necessary to cultivate college students' high cultural consciousness and self-confidence, and consciously resist foreign decadent culture. In the process of cultural construction, we must always adhere to the leadership of ideological work, so as to ensure that cultural construction always develops in the right direction. Secondly, efforts should be made to get rid of erroneous ideas such as cultural takenism, cultural retro-ism and historical nihilism, and ideological and political educators in various cultural colleges and universities should do an important job of "taking its essence and discarding its dross". Thirdly, we should regard culture as a carrier, give full play to the ideological and political education function of cultural carrier, and make good use of its characteristics such as diversity of forms, comprehensiveness of influence and permeability, so that educators can feel the influence of advanced culture in a subtle way. Finally, we should correctly understand the connotation and characteristics of inner-party political culture in colleges and universities, Grasp the key points of cultural construction, It is necessary to strengthen the political consciousness education of young student Party members, Efforts should be made to integrate ideological construction with revolutionary spirit, skillfully use the guidance of traditional virtues and "clean government" culture, sublimate the spiritual realm of young student party members, strengthen the cultivation of socialist core values, play the leading role of student party members, and give full play to the cultural education role of Marxist ideological education in colleges and universities.
4.4. **Promote the Youth of Marxism in China and Move People with Emotion**

The theoretical characteristics of Marxism are highlighted in the process of sinicization of Marxism. Marxism is a scientific theory, but the theory needs to contact the masses and combine with China’s concrete reality in order to play a better role. At the present stage, the level of knowledge and culture mastered by our young students is uneven with the level of theoretical understanding, and it is difficult to understand and read the original works of Marxist theory. Therefore, we lack a rational cognition of Marxism, can't empathize with it, and can't form a correct judgment. Therefore, we should actively promote the sinicization and youth of Marxism, on the premise of ensuring its completeness and neatness, through concrete practice, the theoretical language is simplified, change boring into vivid, realize its transformation from professionalism to daily life, and endow it with certain emotions, so as to show it to everyone in a way that young students like to see and hear, help everyone establish Marxist belief, and internalize this belief in the heart and externalize it in the form. Strengthen socialist ideals and beliefs, enhance students' ability to distinguish right from wrong, enhance the affinity and appeal of Marxism in the ideological field, strengthen ideological construction, and build a dream-seeking spirit together.

**Acknowledgments**

Every Marxist theoretical researcher struggling on different fronts.

**References**


