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# Research on the Role Path of Socialist Core Values in the Context of the Epidemic

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#### **Abstract**

Since 2020, COVID-19 has rapidly spread worldwide. The epidemic has had a profound impact on our daily lives and relationships between countries in the past few years. The article takes the connotation of socialist core values and the characteristics of the times as the starting point, and discusses the international and domestic situations we face in the global systemic crisis, as well as the impact of the crisis situation on our values. On this basis, exploring the important role of socialist core values in the fight against the epidemic has important theoretical value and far-reaching practical impact on better playing the leading role of socialist core values in the new journey of socialist modernization construction.

#### **Keywords**

**Epidemic situation; Socialist core values; Action Path.** 

#### 1. Introduction

Since 2020, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese people have launched a series of struggles against the COVID-19 virus, which can be called a "people's war" without gunpowder. In the struggle against diseases, we constantly overcome various dangers caused by viruses. At the same time, in the process of global prevention and control, we are also facing challenges from various values. Different values provide different goals and meanings for people's spiritual life, while also affecting their spiritual pursuits. Values are the soul, fundamental principles, and direction of people's spiritual life. They "carry the spiritual pursuits of individuals, society, nations, and countries, and reflect the value standards of a society's judgment of right and wrong. Therefore, in the process of epidemic prevention and control in China, it is crucial to adhere to and promote the socialist core values.

#### 2. The Connotation and Timeliness of Socialist Core Values

The core socialist values represent the direction of socialism, reflect the basic principles of socialism, reflect the mainstream values of socialism, and reflect the essence of socialism. The socialist core values have established clear norms and guidelines at the three levels of the state, society, and citizens, indicating the direction of action for normalized epidemic prevention and control. The socialist core values not only contain the intrinsic beliefs and value pursuits of the value subject, but also contain the behavioral norms and practical orientation of unity of knowledge and action. It is in this sense that Xi Jinping pointed out: "The core values are actually a kind of virtue, both personal virtue and great virtue, that is, the virtue of the country and the virtue of society.

The core values of socialism have two characteristics: firstly, from the perspective of the nation, it is the inheritance and promotion of the excellent traditional culture of the Chinese nation; Secondly, it conforms to the laws of human social and historical development, conforms to the

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direction of the Chinese people's progress, and reflects the characteristics of the times. It is precisely because of the national and contemporary nature of the socialist core values that they can fully play an important spiritual force in consolidating social consensus, consolidating strength, and leading national progress in epidemic prevention and control.

It is necessary for the times to vigorously promote the spirit of "anti epidemic" and explore the ways in which socialist core values can play a role in the overall environment. The impact of this global crisis on different cultural values is unprecedented. In this context, how should we face the changes in new values and guide a country's future direction is a very thought-provoking issue. In this process, it is necessary to comprehensively stimulate the patriotic emotions of the people, improve their moral cultivation, and enhance their spiritual realm, so that the whole society can help each other and overcome difficulties together, and use their own actions to practice the connotation of socialist core values and the spirit of the times.

## 3. The International Situation Faced by China in the Context of the Epidemic and its Impact on Values

### 3.1. Analysis of the International Situation Faced by China in Epidemic Prevention and Control

Looking back on the past, in the first two years when the global epidemic situation remained severe, although China had achieved phased victories in COVID-19 prevention and control, we still faced a very serious situation at that time. Internationally, the outbreak of diseases has disrupted the economic and social life of many regions, and people around the world are concerned. There are many speculations about the post pandemic world, and opinions can be roughly divided into two factions. One view is that when this epidemic passes, we will return to the past and take an optimistic view. However, others hold the opposite view, believing that the world cannot return to its previous state. The pandemic has had a huge impact and impact on people's thinking patterns, values of people from different countries, and global economic and social connections, which will be profound and irreversible. This epidemic has had a profound and lasting impact on the world.

## 3.2. Two different perspectives on the transformation of global values during the post pandemic period

In the post pandemic period, the pandemic brought two different values to people. The first value is related to the global fight against the epidemic. On this basis, we believe that establishing a community with a shared future for mankind is very necessary. Faced with the epidemic, each country has different choices and response methods. We have seen some examples of cooperation, but we have also seen many instances of disconnection from the world. Although people believe that after the end of the epidemic, the mainstream value of the international community will be cooperation, there will also be conflicts and collisions of values when cooperation and closure compete with each other.

The second value is about choices of freedom and security. From a practical perspective, in a dangerous society, we will face a dilemma of freedom and security. Although this viewpoint may seem controversial to the outside world, the conditional abandonment of some of the value of freedom after the outbreak of the epidemic has been widely recognized globally. This poses a great challenge to human values. In terms of the values of fighting the epidemic in the East and the West, whether it is economic or life first is a difficult choice. At a specific level, there has been a lot of controversy over whether to undergo quarantine, whether to wear masks, and whether to implement health codes. During the process of epidemic prevention and control, some Americans held long guns to oppose quarantine, and strong protests against "health

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passes" broke out in many parts of France. This epidemic crisis can be said to be a symbol of dividing a new era.

#### 3.3. Understanding of the reconstruction of current values

In this global crisis, the values in the world have been greatly impacted from universality to particularity. The reorganization of various values is inevitable, which requires us to have a better understanding of values.

One is the unprecedented emphasis on the quality of life. Since the outbreak of the epidemic in China, the Communist Party of China has always made "seeking happiness for the people" its top priority. The health and safety of the public is not only related to people's life safety, but also to their happy life. While fighting against the epidemic, we have always adhered to the principle of "putting the people first and life first", which is the guiding principle of China's fight against the epidemic.

The second is a re understanding of the relationship between "human" and "heaven". At present, our understanding of nature is still limited. Looking back at human history, we have found that people's attitudes towards nature play an important role in establishing a new type of relationship that is fundamentally unified between humans and nature to promote harmonious coexistence. This epidemic has made us realize that we should respect nature and learn how to live in harmony with it.

The third point is a new understanding of good and evil in human nature. During the outbreak of the epidemic, it showcased the most authentic and beautiful side of humanity. When China first encountered the epidemic, we witnessed thousands of medical workers and volunteers courageously advancing, and at the same time, many touching scenes emerged around the world. However, the epidemic has also revealed the existence of some countries, individuals, and dark sides.

The fourth point is to overcome the epidemic and establish a community with a shared future for mankind. The viewpoint of "establishing a community with a shared future for mankind" proposed by Xi Jinping has been validated in this epidemic and has also sparked the thinking of many countries. However, in the process of building a community with a shared future for mankind, we are still facing many challenges such as nationalism, unilateralism and racism. We need to interpret these challenges from the perspective of pursuing common prosperity and also from the perspective of human coexistence.

The fifth point is about the constraints of individual freedom and social public order, as well as how to coordinate the two. We emphasize values such as freedom, democracy, equality, and justice in a universal sense, but the pandemic has made people realize that even in Western society, there is a need for a balance between individual freedom and social public order. In fact, many Westerners initially opposed masks, but with the outbreak of the epidemic, they gradually accepted the importance of masks. Therefore, people are beginning to think about how to build a society in the future social system that can not only safeguard individual freedom but also enable everyone to assume civic responsibility, in order to achieve better social functioning.

## 4. China's Institutional Advantages -- the Role of Socialist Core Values in Achieving Victory in the Fight against the Epidemic

In the struggle against the epidemic, the socialist core values have provided us with the strongest strength. It is a common cognition and behavior to combine socialist core values with people's inner emotional identification and external practice. This is our greatest strength in combating the epidemic.

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#### 4.1. Driven by patriotism, it has comprehensively enhanced national cohesion

In the struggle against the epidemic, people of all ethnic groups in the country have united and worked together, demonstrating the spirit and strength of China, inspiring our national confidence, and strengthening our sense of identity and belonging to the country. Driven by patriotic enthusiasm, the Chinese people followed the unified deployment of the central government: sending the best medical personnel in China to different epidemic areas; Researchers worked day and night to successfully develop a safe and effective vaccine in the shortest possible time, providing strong technical support for controlling the epidemic. During this period, relevant government and community workers gave up their vacation and stayed on the front line. In the struggle against the novel coronavirus, the Chinese people have demonstrated the strongest patriotic enthusiasm. Patriotism cannot rest on slogans, but should closely link one's ideals with the future of the motherland, one's life with the fate of the nation, take root in the people, and contribute to the country.

Xi Jinping said that our nation has gone through many hardships in its long history, but our nation has never been overthrown. On the contrary, it has become more and more courageous as we grow and rise amidst hardships. Patriotism has always been the source of the spirit of the Chinese nation, as well as the cohesion and centripetal force of the Chinese nation. Through the practice of this epidemic, the significance of patriotism in the era has been further enriched, enabling the world to understand a different China from the past.

### 4.2. The younger generation in China has been influenced by the core socialist values

In the work of epidemic prevention and control, batches of advanced models have emerged, which further strengthen the recognition of values among young people. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, while the people of the whole country are fighting the epidemic together, the younger generation also realizes that many exemplary figures have come from around us. It is this kind of ordinary person who has made the younger generation empathize with them. Under such emotional infiltration, young people have a deeper understanding of our role models and the core socialist values reflected behind them. In practice, our traditional and new media, as well as our ideological and political courses, will be continuously described and disseminated, reviving touching stories in service, moving people with emotions, and enhancing the dissemination of socialist core values among young people.

### 4.3. China's socialist core values play a role in the global fight against the epidemic

In 2020, with the effective control of the domestic epidemic in China and the further deterioration of the overseas epidemic, China dispatched a group of experienced medical teams to severely affected areas such as Iran and Italy. China, Europe, the United States, Russia and other countries have all achieved good clinical results, therefore, conducting large-scale immunization worldwide has become an inevitable trend. China's combined aid and exports to countries around the world are greater than those of other countries combined. Whether it's our medical team or our vaccines, these are all the concepts that our country practices in practice as "people-oriented". The COVID-19 pandemic is currently the greatest threat to humanity. The joint efforts to combat the epidemic worldwide have made us more deeply feel the necessity of cooperation and sharing to build a community with a shared future for mankind. It reflects that in today's world, all countries are interdependent and closely connected as a whole. In this epidemic prevention and control, we have implemented our socialist core values into everyone's lives. We will make China's achievements in this epidemic, as well as our achievements in this war, a part of our country. The measures taken by China are not only

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protecting the Chinese people, but also protecting the people of the world, "said Tan Desai, Director General of the World Health Organization.

### 5. Strengthen the Confidence in Values during the Post Pandemic Period and Strive to Practice the Core Socialist Values

At the Political Bureau meeting of the Central Committee on April 17, 2020, Xi Jinping emphasized: "We must cherish the hard-earned achievements in prevention and control, consolidate the achievements of prevention and control, tighten the string of epidemic prevention and control, and pay close attention to the normalization of epidemic prevention and control, which is after the Party Central Committee has comprehensively understood the situation of COVID-19 prevention and control at home and abroad, and conducted research and deployment on epidemic prevention and control work, Major strategic decisions made.

## 5.1. The Chinese people's value perception has undergone a profound transformation in the post pandemic period.

- (1) The fight against the epidemic has made people more identify with and trust the leadership ability of the Communist Party of China. During the first outbreak of the epidemic, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China led the people of the whole country to fight against the epidemic. During the spread of this epidemic, we witnessed firsthand the "Chinese speed", "Chinese power", and "race against time". In practical work, we need to ensure that all fronts play their rightful roles. All of this indicates that the Communist Party of China can effectively organize a huge crisis. From the current epidemic, it can be seen that the Chinese people have a high understanding of the Party's leadership ability and a strong dependence on it.
- (2) The fight against the epidemic has made people more identify with the socialist system with Chinese characteristics. This statement has also received the strongest confirmation in practice. The leadership of the Communist Party of China is China's greatest superiority and strongest guarantee in combating the epidemic. The biggest characteristic and advantage of the socialist system with Chinese characteristics is the leadership of the Communist Party of China over it.
- (3) It is through the fight against the epidemic that the people are more convinced of the ruling ideology of the Communist Party of China. In this prolonged struggle against the epidemic, our country and our party have always adhered to the value principle of "life first, the people first" in the fight against the epidemic. Xi Jinping has repeatedly emphasized the need to prioritize the safety and health of the people's lives. The principle of 'putting the people first' has always been upheld by the Communist Party of China as a governing principle.

#### 5.2. How to practice socialist core values in the post pandemic era

In this epidemic prevention and control struggle, adhering to and practicing the core socialist values plays a crucial role. In the post pandemic period, we will still face many challenges, and adhering to and practicing the core socialist values is the most fundamental guarantee for us to address these challenges. Specifically, there are mainly the following aspects:

Firstly, carry forward the excellent Chinese culture and absorb its nutrients. The excellent traditional culture of China contains a spiritual appeal deep within the hearts of the Chinese people. Therefore, new requirements have been put forward for the construction of China's socialist core value system.

Secondly, strengthen the moral cultivation of party members and leading cadres. During this period, everyone can deeply experience that "there is no time when things are quiet, only because someone carries the weight to move forward." A group of "most beautiful and

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retrograde" individuals are constantly emerging across the country, using their personal charm to inspire and infect the masses, and promoting the deep development of core socialist values. Thirdly, strengthen the promotion of the "anti epidemic spirit" and enhance the ideological awareness of the people. The key to cultivating core values lies in the unity of "knowledge" and "action". In the epidemic prevention and control, there are many list style figures who are just the most ordinary people, but in critical moments, they have defended the most basic essence of socialist core values with their actions. Therefore, we must vigorously promote the "anti epidemic spirit", use their deeds to influence people, and make them consciously practice the core values of socialism.

#### 6. Biography

Yan Huang (1982-), female, born in Hefei, Anhui, is a teacher at the School of Marxism at Anhui University of Finance and Economics. Her research direction is ideological and political education.

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