

The Generative Logic, Unique Connotation and Value Implications of the Road of Chinese Modernisation

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Abstract: The path of Chinese-style modernisation is a great miracle in the history of the development of the Chinese nation and even the human society, and the generation of Chinese-style modernisation reveals three major logics, namely, the logic of history, the logic of theory and the logic of practice. Based on the national conditions of China, the theory of Chinese-style modernisation has unique connotations in five aspects: the main body of modernisation, the goal of modernisation, the support of modernisation, and the path of modernisation, which demonstrates the confidence in the road, the theory, the system, and the culture, and provides a fundamental guideline to promote the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and contributes to Chinese wisdom to answer the problems of mankind, the global issues, and the world problems.

Keywords: Chinese-style Modernisation Path; Generative Logic; Unique Connotation; Value Implication

Introduction

General Secretary President Xi has repeatedly mentioned that the Communist Party of China (CPC), after decades of efforts, has explored a Chinese-style modernisation path that suits China's national conditions. Rooted in socialist modernisation with Chinese characteristics and wandering amidst the diversity of modernisation in the world, this path is of great theoretical and practical significance for promoting the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and realising the Chinese dream.

1. The Generative Logic of Chinese Modernisation Path

1.1 The Communist Party of China's arduous exploration of the road to modernisation has formed a historical logic.

Firstly, the Chinese-style modernisation path is the CPC's arduous exploration of the road to modernisation. During the New Democratic Revolution, the CPC led the entire people to end the history of exploitation and enslavement, and completely overthrew the semi-colonial and semi-feudal history of old China. In the new period of reform, opening up and socialist modernisation, Comrade Xiaoping put forward "Chinese-style modernisation" and the "three-step" development strategy, laying a solid institutional guarantee and material foundation for the rapid development of Chinese-style modernisation. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the Party Central Committee, with Comrade President Xi at its core, has united and led the people of all nationalities to continue to explore on the basis of the existing foundations, and to make continuous innovations in theory and breakthroughs in practice.

Secondly, the formation of the Chinese-style modernisation path is a profound critique of the capitalist modernisation model. The capitalist model of modernisation is to maximise one's own interests in the short term by exploiting workers and oppressing other countries and peoples. For the big Eastern countries, which are politically, economically and culturally backward, to change this starving situation and achieve national wealth, national revitalisation and people's happiness, we must abandon the erroneous models of the Western countries, and always explore a road that meets China's national conditions from the perspective of our basic national conditions.

1.2 The CPC's inheritance and development of the Marxist theory of modernisation has formed a theoretical logic.

Firstly, The path of Chinese-style modernisation is an adherence to and inheritance of Marxist theory. The Marxist theory of modernisation, which is based on social equity and public ownership, has shown the way for the exploration of Chinese-style modernisation and has become the theoretical precursor and theoretical cornerstone of Chinese-style modernisation. It also tells us that as long as backward countries take into account their own actual situation, we may be able to cross the Kaftin Canyon and directly embark on the road of modernisation in line with our own national conditions.

Secondly, the path of Chinese-style modernisation is the promotion and development of Marxist theory. First, in the process of socialist construction, China has been adept at studying and applying Marxist theory to identify, analyse and solve the difficulties and problems encountered in the development of the Chinese revolution. Secondly, the Chinese Communists are good at combining Marxist theory with the reality of the Chinese revolution to solve the problems encountered at present; they are also good at combining it with the excellent traditional Chinese culture to promote the essence of the Chinese culture and continue to push forward the development of socialist modernisation with Chinese characteristics.

1.3 The Communist Party of China's great exploration of modernisation has formed a practical logic.

Firstly: The path of Chinese-style modernisation is rooted in the great practice of the new era. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), General Secretary President Xi has comprehensively and profoundly elaborated the significance of Chinese-style modernisation, leading the people of the country to move forward, and we have achieved precise poverty eradication, built a moderately prosperous society that is pleasant to live in, pleasant to work in, and beautiful to live in, and solved the problem of absolute poverty, which is an important milestone in the process of China's modernisation construction. The resolution of the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee put forward the important assertion of "two establishments", leading the people of the country to achieve the overall goal of stable economic growth, people's well-being and social peace and stability, and the people of the country's sense of happiness and a sense of achievement.

Secondly, the path of Chinese-style modernisation aims to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. On the one hand, it signifies that China has found a correct path to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation in line with China's national conditions; on the other hand, it signifies that we have made China's contribution to the advancement of human civilisation, that is, "a form of material civilisation with common prosperity, a form of spiritual civilisation with cultural confidence, and a new form of social civilisation with openness, win-win situation and inclusiveness".

2. The unique connotation of the Chinese-style path of modernisation

The path of Chinese-style modernisation is neither a rigid copy of the Western modernisation model, nor a figment of the imagination of the classic Marxist writers, but a modernisation with Chinese characteristics, which not only contains the common features of modernisation of all countries, but also has Chinese characteristics based on its own national conditions. The five unique connotations of Chinese-style modernisation.

2.1 Chinese modernisation is a modernisation of a huge population.

The first and foremost task in achieving Chinese-style modernisation is to give priority attention to human development, so that the people can have enough to eat and wear, so that their children can receive a good education, and so that their standard of living can steadily rise and their quality of life can be improved. At the beginning of the founding of New China, the country's population of more than 500 million had an education rate of only about 26 per cent. Entering the new era, the country's school enrolment rate has reached 99.9 per cent, and the quality of the population continues to improve. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, China has placed population issues at the forefront of its governance, and we have achieved precise poverty eradication, accomplished the historic task of building a moderately prosperous country in all respects, and the quality of life of the people has continued to improve. It is an extremely extraordinary thing that such a country with a huge population of more than 1.4 billion people has completed in just a few decades the industrial journey that developed countries have travelled for hundreds of years. The historical and practical experience of China's revolution, construction and reform over the past century has taught us that it is imperative to implement Party leadership in all aspects of national governance and development, to insist on the spirit of struggle, and to insist on analysing and solving practical problems in the light of the country's national conditions.

2.2 Chinese-style modernisation is a modernisation for the common prosperity of all people.

One of the essential requirements of Chinese-style modernisation is the realisation of common prosperity for all people. Chairman Mao

pointed out during the period of socialist revolution and construction that the common wealth is not the wealth of some people or the wealth of all the people, but rather that it should be sequential, with the first to get rich bringing up the rear, so as to ultimately realise the common wealth. Comrade Xiaoping pointed out in the new period of reform, opening up and socialist modernisation that common prosperity is one of the greatest advantages of socialism, and that in order to realise common prosperity for all the people, we must adhere to the principle of “emancipation of the productive forces and development of the productive forces”. The report of the Twentieth Party Congress states that we must uphold social justice, prevent polarisation, and always make the people’s pursuit of and aspiration for a better life our top priority. On the road to achieving common prosperity, everyone must actively strive to maximise and safeguard the tangible interests of the people.

2.3 Chinese-style modernisation is a modernisation that harmonises material and spiritual civilisation.

If our country is to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation in the process of socialist modernisation, we must insist on the parallel and synergistic development of material civilisation and spiritual civilisation. On the journey of Chinese-style modernisation and development, we still continue to face new challenges. For example, the ability of scientific and technological innovation still needs to be improved, high-quality development is still constrained, and economic structure contradictions are prominent. Chinese-style modernisation has taken corresponding measures around these problems from political, economic and cultural perspectives. Firstly, economically, it has increased the investment in scientific research funds, continuously improved the level of scientific and technological innovation, and enhanced the speed of economic development. Secondly, politically, insist on always letting the people be the master of their own house, so that the people can practically feel the standardisation and proceduralisation of the system of the people being the master of their own house; in terms of the development of Chinese culture, it is necessary to vigorously strengthen the propaganda of the excellent traditional Chinese culture, to create a socialist modernisation spiritual civilisation construction of love for the Party and love for the country throughout the whole Party and to continuously enrich the spiritual world of the people.

2.4 Chinese-style modernisation is a modernisation of harmonious coexistence between human beings and nature.

Drawing deeply on the bitter lessons learned from the destruction of the ecological environment in Western capitalist countries, China has paid great attention to the protection of the ecological environment during the process of modernisation, and has vigorously promoted the harmonious coexistence of human beings and nature. Since the beginning of the new century, there have been outbreaks of new infectious diseases such as the Ebola virus and the H1N1 influenza A virus, which have led to global economic crises, and the frequent occurrence of such events has triggered people’s deep criticism of and reflection on the capitalist development model. Chinese modernisation has always placed the construction of ecological civilisation at the forefront of its overall work, and has incorporated the “five-in-one” into its overall layout. In the new development concept, Chinese modernisation adheres to the principle of starting from the actual situation, and adheres to the principle of turning the “green mountains and green waters” into the “silver mountains and gold mountains”. In the new development concept, Chinese modernisation adheres to the practical approach, insists on turning “green mountains” into “golden mountains”, realises the harmonious coexistence of man and nature, and builds a beautiful new China together.

2.5 Chinese-style modernisation is modernisation on the path of peaceful development.

Unlike some Western countries that have achieved modernisation through exploitation and plundering, China’s unique feature in achieving modernisation is to follow the path of peaceful development. Since the founding of New China, we are the only country that has not invaded its other countries, and we have put forward the important concept of building a community of human destiny; China has been objective and fair, insisting on dialogue, consultation and coordination, and actively resolving hotspot issues in Iran, North Korea and other countries. It has insisted on unity and cooperation in the development of security governance across the region, combating epidemics, opposing extremist terrorism, cybersecurity and other issues. China will strengthen its efforts to promote the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative, provide favourable conditions for all countries, promote mutual benefits and win-win situations among countries, and enable people of all countries to share the fruits of development. China would continue to play its role as a responsible major country and to promote the

building of a community of human destiny.

3. The Value Implications of Chinese-style Modernisation Paths

This well-trodden path, which China has explored through practice, has provided the material basis for the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and a peaceful and win-win road to independent development for the modernisation and development of other countries in the world.

3.1 Chinese-style modernisation has further promoted the historical process of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

The path of Chinese-style modernisation is the correct path explored by the Chinese people at the cost of bloodshed and sacrifice and by summing up the experience of the revolution. Since the reform and opening up, the CPC has led the Chinese people to create miracles in terms of both social stability and rapid economic development, and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation has entered a new historical stage. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee, with Comrade President Xi at its core, has put forward the “five-in-one” overall layout and coordinated the promotion of the “four-comprehensive” strategic layout, and tackled and solved major issues that had not been solved or accomplished before, resulting in historic changes in the cause of the CPC and the country. The cause of the Party and the country has undergone a historic transformation. We have achieved precise poverty eradication on schedule, completely eliminating the difficult problem of absolute poverty and providing a strong spiritual impetus for the great cause of national rejuvenation. At present, we have built the world’s largest education, medical care and social security systems, solving the livelihood issues of greatest concern and difficulty to the people, so that the people’s sense of well-being and acquisition has been greatly enhanced, and more obvious and substantial progress has been made towards common prosperity.

3.2 Chinese-style modernisation has created a new form of human civilisation.

Western civilisation is based on the destruction of the ecological environment, arbitrary aggression and oppression. In the course of China’s modernisation, however, the CPC has fully faced up to, critiqued and absorbed the advantages of modern Western civilisation, and innovatively put forward a “new form of human civilisation” based on its own national conditions. It insists on taking the road of peaceful development to seek the happiness of the people. On the political front, it proposes to build a “community of human destiny”; on the economic front, it insists on promoting the joint construction of the “One Belt, One Road”; on the cultural front, it vigorously carries forward the excellent traditional Chinese culture; and on the ecological front, it promotes the harmonious coexistence of human beings and nature. By giving full play to the systemic advantages of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the path of Chinese-style modernisation has created and generated a positive new form of human civilisation.

3.3 Chinese-style modernisation opens up new horizons in Marxist modernisation theory.

Marx pointed out that true philosophy is the essence of the spirit of the times, arises out of the needs of the times, and develops with the times. Chinese-style modernisation was also generated at a specific historical period. In the course of China’s social and historical development, the Chinese Communists have carried out a great deal of study, absorption and creative transformation of Marxist modernisation ideas, and have made profound exploration and development of socialist modernisation theories. During the period of the New Democratic Revolution, the Chinese Communists made self-innovation by applying Marxist theory and founded Chairman Mao Thought. During the socialist revolution, Chairman Mao put forward the concept of coordinated development of agriculture and industry, which greatly enriched the theory of socialist modernisation. During the period of reform and opening up, Comrade Xiaoping clarified the concept of “Chinese-style modernisation”, which is to build a moderately prosperous society in all aspects and to modernise industry, agriculture, national defence, science and technology. Since the 18th National Congress of the Party, China has entered a new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and has always insisted on combining Marxist theory with China’s national conditions and the excellent traditional culture of the Chinese nation to answer new questions and challenges raised by the times and practices. In his report to the 20th Party Congress, General Secretary President Xi systematically and comprehensively elaborated the rich connotations of Chinese-style modernisation, providing institutional

safeguards and directional guidance for the development of the Party and the people's cause in the new era, and opening up a new realm of Marxist modernisation theory.

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