

Research on the Ecological Justice Thoughts in the New Era and Its Contemporary Value

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Abstract—This paper deeply analyzes and grasps the regional ecological injustice, urban-rural ecological injustice, group ecological injustice and other issues in the current construction of ecological civilization in China, and expounds the scientific connotation of ecological justice in the new era, namely the ecological justice ideas such as "the relation between man and nature", "the rural revitalization strategy", "the ecological poverty alleviation", "the ecological compensation mechanism", "people-centered" and "a community of shared future for mankind". Then, it points out the guiding significance of the ecological justice thoughts in the new era for the construction of China's ecological civilization, and explores the future strategy for the construction of China's ecological civilization based on this.

Keywords—new era; ecological justice; ecological civilization; realization path

I. INTRODUCTION

Xi Jinping's ecological justice thoughts have particularity in the socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. It is the concentrated reflection of Xi Jinping's thoughts of fairness and justice in the construction of ecological civilization. Xi Jinping's ecological justice thoughts are not only in line with Xi Jinping's thought of fairness and justice, but also closely related to the construction of ecological civilization. Xi Jinping's ecological justice thoughts come down in one continuous line with the Marxist natural ecological concept and keep pace with the times. As an important part of the socialist ideology with Chinese characteristics in the new era, in the face of the ecological injustice issues in the current construction of ecological civilization, Xi Jinping's ecological justice thoughts provide a solution path for it, and enrich and develop the Marxist ecological justice thought; Xi Jinping's ecological justice thoughts provide theoretical guidance for implementing the concept of green development and building beautiful China.

II. THE SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE OF INJUSTICE ISSUE IN THE ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE THOUGHTS OF THE NEW ERA

The ecological injustice issue in China's modernization construction is mainly reflected in the differences in regional economy, urban and rural issues in the process of urbanization, and differences in the interests of social groups.

A. Regional Ecological Injustice Issue

The increasingly imbalance between the gains from environmental resources and the environmental protection duty that should be borne is a major issue in terms of the ecological environment in the eastern and western regions of China. At present, the western regions with relatively concentrated energy and resources have made great contributions to the development of the country, especially in the eastern regions of China; however, due to the large-scale deforestation and excessive exploitation of mineral resources, the environment there has been greatly damaged. As a beneficiary, the eastern regions have not appropriately compensated to the western regions while enjoying the benefits, despite of the high level of economic development and good natural environment.

B. Urban and Rural Ecological Injustice Issues

At present, in the process of China's urbanization, the widespread unfairness between urban and rural areas is very obvious in terms of ecological environment. The performance of urban and rural ecological justice issue mainly includes the following aspects: pollution industries and pollutants in the city are transferred to rural areas, but there is no relevant compensation; the investment in urban and rural environmental governance is uneven; the urban and rural environmental legal resources are unfairly distributed. It can be said that China's cities rapidly develop at the expense of the sacrifice of rural environment to a certain extent. In addition, rural residents in special areas, such as national nature reserves and state-owned forest farms, have contributed their own strength to the state's development and ecological benefits, but have not been able to enjoy the economic benefits of forests, and they are hardly compensated as they should be.

C. Group Ecological Injustice Issue

Many scholars believe that the confronting degree of mass incidents caused by environmental problems is significantly higher than that of general group events. In terms of environmental consumption, the rich consume too many resources and emit too many pollutants, but they do not fulfill their obligations to protect the environment. They have a lot of wealth and have the ability to move to relatively clean places, to compensate for the decline in the living quality caused by environmental pollution; the poor often become the direct victims of the destruction of the ecological environment, for

they have no ability to choose high-quality life, and cannot cope with the various damages caused by environmental pollution. Two relative lifestyles and consumption patterns coexist in this society, and the excessive and luxury consumption of the rich is supplemented by the savings or even damages of the poor.

III. THE SCIENTIFIC CONNOTATION OF ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE THOUGHTS IN THE NEW ERA

In the new era, General Secretary Xi Jinping includes important ecological justice thoughts in his governance. Specifically, they are reflected as the ecological justice thoughts about "the relation between man and nature", "the rural revitalization strategy", "the ecological poverty alleviation", "the ecological compensation mechanism", "people-centered", and "a community of shared future for mankind".

A. *Ecological Justice Thought About "The Relation Between Human and Nature"*

In response of the common tendencies and viewpoints of "anthropocentrism" and "natural centralism" in society at present, Xi Jinping emphasizes establishing a scientific view of human and nature and "building the modernization with harmony between man and nature". He points out that people can't just regard nature as a development tool, but must respect nature, conform to nature, and protect nature. People's value pursuit is not limited to rich material wealth, but also includes high-quality ecological environment. It is necessary to get rid of the misunderstanding of anthropocentrism, make up for the natural destruction caused by human development, repair the relation between man and nature, and truly respect nature, protect nature, and love nature. At the same time, it is a must to prevent an extreme tendency of over-emphasizing the importance of nature. It is also necessary to make appropriate use of natural resources based on ensuring the normal environmental benefits of human, so as to achieve harmonious coexistence and benign interaction between man and nature.

B. *Ecological Justice Thought About "The Rural Revitalization Strategy"*

In response to the urban and rural ecological injustice issues occurring in the process of urbanization, Xi Jinping has proposed the "rural revitalization strategy", especially to promote rural ecological revitalization. Whether the rural areas beautiful and the environment is good are directly related to the improvement of farmers' living quality. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the Party Central Committee has attached great importance to the improvement of living environment in rural areas. Due to the unbalanced rural living environment in China, the problem of dirty, disorderly and bad environment is still prominent in some areas, and it is still a prominent shortcoming of economic and social development; therefore, all places have increased investment and strengthened the comprehensive governance of rural environmental problems, promoted the rural "toilet revolution", conducted effective management of rural domestic waste classification, to improve rural living facilities, enhance village appearance and protect rural scenery,

and significant achievements have been made in the improvement of living environment in rural areas. Therefore, the breakthrough in the rural revitalization strategy requires paying attention to the improvement of living environment and promoting ecological revitalization in rural areas. The construction of rural ecological civilization is an important content, major carrier and important starting point for the rural revitalization strategy, which is green development oriented; building rural ecological civilization is conducive to the ultimate realization of the rural revitalization strategic goal of "strong agriculture, beautiful rural areas and wealthy farmers".

C. *Ecological Justice Thought About "The Ecological Poverty Alleviation"*

In response to the ecological injustice issues caused by the social group differences in modernization construction, Xi Jinping has proposed a new model of "ecological poverty alleviation". Ecological poverty alleviation can be said to be an organic combination of ecological protection and precision poverty alleviation. It mainly promotes the realization of ecological justice by promoting ecological compensation mechanisms, developing regional characteristic ecological industries, and implementing poverty alleviation projects through relocation. Specifically, it keeps to the following basic paths: adjust the interests of all parties involved in the region according to the ecological compensation principle that "those who develop who shall protect, those who destroy shall recover, those who benefit shall compensate, and those who pollute shall pay", conducts eco-compensation in poverty-stricken areas that have contributed to ecology, so as to promote ecological justice; actively develops regional characteristic ecological industries, increases the endogenous power of precise poverty alleviation, turns lucid waters and lush mountains in economic less-developed areas to invaluable assets that local people can enjoy, and lets ecological dividends benefit people in poverty-stricken areas; implements the ecological migration and relocation policy, and accelerates the implementation of the poverty alleviation projects through relocation for poor people in areas with poor living conditions and fragile ecological environment.

D. *Ecological Justice Thought About the "People-centered"*

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, General Secretary Xi Jinping has proposed the people-centered development thought and stated that "the people's longing for a better life is our goal" for many times. In terms of the construction of ecological civilization, the general secretary not only pays attention to the contemporary people, but also pays attention to the vulnerable groups and future generations. He starts from the perspective of intergenerational justice of ecological justice, pays attention to the benefit distribution and responsibility sharing between contemporary people and future people, and repeatedly emphasizes that people cannot develop economy at the expense of environment. The construction of ecological civilization is actually to adhere to the concept of sustainable development. By protecting the ecological environment, "more trees are planted", so that future generations can "enjoy the cool", and it will be able to leave more ecological resources for future generations, rather

than regret, just because "ecological environmental protection cause will benefit both current and future generations".

E. Ecological Justice Thought About "A Community of Shared Future for Mankind"

In view of the international ecological injustice issue, Xi Jinping has proposed the ecological justice thought of adhering to "a community of shared future for mankind". From the perspective of the intra-generational justice of ecological justice, the general secretary analyzes the distribution of ecological benefits and the sharing of responsibilities between developed and developing countries, and proposes that the largest economic beneficiaries should bear more ecological responsibilities and pay more economic compensations for ecological environment governance, and the enterprises that cause environmental pollution shall pay a higher price. At the Paris Global Climate Change Conference held in November 2015, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that all countries should follow the principle of common and differentiated responsibilities, and the climate conference was held to actively promote more sharing and undertaking of countries, especially developed countries, so as to achieve mutual benefit.

IV. CONCLUSION

Fairness and justice are the inherent requirements of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and also the theoretical basis for the harmonious coexistence of man and nature. Implementing the thoughts of fairness and justice throughout China's construction of ecological civilization is an important part of the socialist construction with Chinese characteristics. Facing the ecological injustice issues in the current construction of ecological civilization, Xi Jinping's ecological justice thoughts provide a specific solution path, which has theoretical guiding significance for the implementation of the green development in the five development concepts and the construction of beautiful China; Xi Jinping's ecological justice thoughts provide "Chinese ecological wisdom" for solving the global ecological crisis. The ecological justice thoughts such as rural revitalization strategy, ecological compensation mechanism and ecological poverty alleviation not only have guiding significance for China's construction of ecological civilization, but also provide "China Program" and "China Wisdom" for the global ecological crisis.

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