



The Triple Logic of Chinese-Style Modernization

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Abstract. Modernization is a historical category. On the basis of inheriting past experience, the Communist Party of China has continuously deepened its understanding and expanded its practice, and initially formed a clear, scientific and feasible discourse system of “Chinese modernization”. “Chinese-style modernization” has given an original scientific answer to the question of building a modern power, which is the organic unity of historical logic, theoretical logic and practical logic. From a historical point of view, the Chinese modernization is the crystallization of wisdom of Chinese Communists and like-minded people of all generations, which has deepened the understanding of the law of the development of the Chinese modernization. From the theoretical perspective, Chinese modernization has enriched and developed scientific socialism, surpassed Western modernization in many aspects, and demonstrated a new path of modernization. From the perspective of practice, China, as a latecomer to modernization, has given China's answers in terms of the direction, path, process, achievements and leadership of modernization, providing Chinese wisdom for the course of human history.

Keywords: Chinese-style Modernization, Historical Logic, Theoretical Logic, Practical Logic.

1 Introduction

In the diverse landscape of human modernization, Chinese-style modernization has broken the long-held misconception that "modernization equals Westernization". It is a development path that the Communist Party of China has led the Chinese people to explore over a century of struggle, one that suits China's national conditions and combines theoretical depth with practical warmth. Its formation not only carries the historical aspiration of national rejuvenation but also embodies the theoretical genes of scientific socialism and is deeply rooted in the vivid practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. A thorough analysis of its historical, theoretical and practical logic is not only the key to understanding China's development miracle but also an important path for contributing Chinese wisdom to the cause of human modernization.

2 Historical Logic

Whether a modernization path different from that of the West can be blazed up ultimately comes down to a practical issue. It was not until the founding of the Communist Party of China in 1921 that China's modernization met the conditions for realization and had a fundamental turning point. At first, Chairman Mao pointed out: In 1945, Mao Zedong, when discussing the program of the CPC at the Seventh National Congress of the Communist Party of China, proposed: "The task of the Chinese working class is not only to fight for the establishment of a new democratic state, but also to fight for the industrialization and modernization of agriculture in China."^[1] Under the correct leadership of the Party, we have been liberated from the oppression of the "three mountains", truly enabling the people to be the masters of the country and providing the fundamental conditions for the path of modernization.

After the founding of the People's Republic of China, in order to change the backward appearance of the old China and achieve the country's independence and prosperity, the Communist Party of China has put industrialization on an important agenda and has never wavered. In 1964, Zhou Enlai said in a government report: "We should build our country into a socialist power with modern agriculture, modern industry, modern national defense and modern science and technology within a relatively short historical period."^[2] At the same time, a "two-step" strategic goal was proposed. This is the "Four Modernizations" that have been adhered to for many years since then, including during the period of reform and opening up. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, the whole Party and the people of the country shifted their attention to large-scale and planned socialist industrialization. Great achievements were made in economy, agriculture, science, education, culture, health and other fields, laying a fundamental political foundation for the rapid rise of New China from the ruins and for its modernization drive.

In July 1979, Deng Xiaoping pointed out that by the end of the 20th century, "If our per capita income reaches 1,000 US dollars, it will be very good. We can eat well, dress well and use well."^[3] Here, he describes the development goals of modernization in everyday language, making the abstract concept of "modernization" easier to understand. At the end of 1979, when Deng Xiaoping met with Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira, he pointed out: "Our concept of the Four Modernizations is not like your concept of modernization, but rather a moderately prosperous family."^[4] For the first time, the term "moderately prosperous society" was used to answer the blueprint of modernization planning, which fully demonstrates that "the modernization we are pursuing is a Chinese-style modernization." Subsequently, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, we put forward the "three-step" strategic goal, established the socialist market economy system, and proposed the "Two Centenary goals". By concentrating on construction and development, through the hard work of the Chinese people, the level of productive forces has achieved a leapfrog development and entered the ranks of upper-middle countries, providing institutional guarantees and material foundations for China's modernization path.

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, our Party has stood at the forefront of The Times, based itself on new development, and led Chi-

nese-style modernization towards a new journey in both theory and practice, achieving "double blooming". In 2013, on the basis of the previous "Four Modernizations", "Modernization of the national governance system and Governance Capacity" was added, and its connotation was expanded to the field of production relations. In 2020, General Secretary Xi Jinping proposed: "We must unwaveringly advance the modernization of China."^[5] Meanwhile, we have also achieved rich practical results, such as building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, having the world's largest foreign exchange reserves, and vigorously carrying out opening up to the outside world...

These facts indicate that the modernization proposed by our Party and the connotation of Chinese-style modernization have undergone a dynamic development process.

3 Theoretical Logic

3.1 The People are the Value Subjects of Chinese-Style Modernization

Chinese-style modernization surpasses Western-style modernization in terms of value orientation. In the West, driven by capital and profit, modernization unfolds according to the "logic of capital", emphasizing the maximization of profits. Western society is based on private ownership. Driven by capital and profit, modernization unfolds according to the "logic of capital", which is a modernization that pursues maximum interests and focuses on the interests and destinies of a few people. Chinese-style modernization is carried out in accordance with the "people's logic", embodying the unity of "modernization of things" and "modernization of people", and is a modernization driven by individuals, society and the state. The starting point and ultimate goal of all his theories are real people and people engaged in actual activities, rather than capital. The core of his theories revolves around "people", putting people first and focusing on the overall interests and future destiny of people^[6]. The basic economic system of our country is also aimed at enabling the general public to gain the greatest benefits and facilitating the overall modernization of over 1.4 billion people. Ultimately, our Party keeps the living people in its heart, creates a better life for the people, and relies on the people to move towards modernization.

3.2 Common Prosperity is an Essential Requirement of Chinese-Style Modernization

In terms of the distribution of achievements, Chinese-style modernization has avoided the state of common poverty and polarization disparity. In Western society, "capital is the foundation". The disorderly expansion of capital and the profit-seeking nature of capitalists have led to social wealth being held by a few bourgeoisie, making the working class even poorer and more miserable. The more capitalism develops, the more unfair the distribution of wealth becomes, the more severe the polarization becomes, and the people's aspiration for a better life cannot be realized. Chinese-style modernization is committed to achieving common prosperity, benefiting all the people and realizing the second centenary goal^[7]. The ideal of great harmony and the peo-

ple-oriented ideology in China's fine traditional culture all embody the vision of common prosperity. Marx aimed at the prosperity of all people and focused on the development of people's "free individuality", "seeing not only the objects but also the people". Since its founding, our Party has been committed to seeking happiness for the people, discarding the one-sided development of "seeing people but not objects" and "seeing objects but not people". Over the past century, we have written a new chapter in upholding fairness and justice and opened up a new realm in preventing polarization.

3.3 Coordinated Advancement is the Operational Mode of Chinese-Style Modernization

Chinese-style modernization has transcended the distorted development model of the West that unilaterally pursues material things. We affirm the vast material wealth created by Western modernization, but capitalism does not focus on the all-round development of human beings. It exploits and oppresses workers like a "vampire", giving rise to ideologies such as commodity fetishism and materialism. Capitalism has dismantled social relations centered on blood ties and regions. Material desires are intense, and contractual transaction relationships are prevalent. Spiritual emptiness and moral misconduct occur from time to time. Individualism and hedonism are rife in people's spiritual world, lacking positive values. From this, it can be seen that capitalism cannot create a highly developed material civilization. Chinese-style modernization is not a "GDP-only" approach. We not only pursue material abundance but also spiritual richness, always taking the coordinated and balanced development of the two as an unchanging pursuit. We take a holistic approach, promote as a whole, and build in multiple dimensions to overcome people's one-sidedness, "materialization" and rigidity, so as to make people dynamic, "cultural" and all-round individuals.

3.4 Harmonious Coexistence is the Development Path of Chinese-Style Modernization

In handling the relationship between human beings and nature, Chinese-style modernization has blazed a new trail. After several hundred years of development, Western countries have achieved a high level of modernization. However, their wanton plundering of natural resources and vicious damage to the ecological environment have caused serious ecological problems. Ecological Marxism holds that the root cause of ecological crises lies in the accumulation of capital. It is true that in capitalist society, a utilitarian view of ecological sustainability has emerged, which goes against objective laws, conquers nature without considering the consequences, and irresponsibly shifts ecological crises. As a result, humans and nature have become opposing sides. Although China's modernization started much later than that of the West and there is still a certain gap in its modernization level compared with the West, in the face of stronger and stricter constraints on energy resources and the environment, China has not chosen to take the old and wrong path. Instead, it has always adhered to the bottom line, practiced frugality and intensification, and sought high-quality de-

velopment in industrial structure, production methods and lifestyles. The broad and smooth path of harmonious coexistence between man and nature, the right way for humanity.

3.5 Peaceful Development is the Way to Achieve Modernization with Chinese Characteristics

Chinese-style modernization has surpassed Western-style modernization in terms of its realization methods. The West has been concentrating resources internally by sacrificing the interests of the lower-class people and depriving small producers of land, thus initiating modernization. To achieve modernization, it plundered huge wealth through forms such as the slave trade, opium trafficking, colonies, and wars. While the modernization of the West was completing its own capital accumulation, it also brought profound disasters to the people of the colonies. It can be said that a history of the West's pursuit of modernization is also a history of sinful plundering. The path of China's modernization is clearly different. China has no colonies and no genes of plundering. More than 600 years ago, Zheng He's voyages to the Western Seas brought about the development of civilization rather than the suffering of war. While adhering to its own purpose, mission and original aspiration, not engaging in colonial wars or aggression, and seeking its own modernization through win-win cooperation and peaceful development, the Communist Party of China actively advocates building a "big security" pattern, sharing the responsibility for global stability and security, working together on the right path for the world, promoting the realization of peace and tranquility, and building a universally secure world.

4 Practical Logic

First, we must adhere to a people-centered approach. In the process of advancing modernization, the people have profound power and a great creative role. Realizing the free and all-round development of human beings is the value orientation of modernization. Adhering to the concept that "the country is the people and the people are the country", always being closely connected with the people, and gathering the people's tremendous strength are the keys to the steady and far-reaching progress of the modernization path. Chinese-style modernization is based on the lofty value of seeking benefits for the broadest masses of the people. It is born for the people and thrives because of the people. While promoting effective quality improvement and reasonable growth in quantity of the economy and focusing on high-quality development, it also aims to meet the expectations and needs of the people, keeps the people in mind, and strives to build a community of shared interests. Our Party not only focuses on the people of the present but also on those of the future, conforms to the fundamental interests and demands of the people, and ensures that the fruits of development are shared by all the people. We strive to promote the realization of all-round prosperity in the "five-sphere integrated" approach.

The second is to independently explore a modernization path suitable for one's own country. Blind superstition and worship, as well as simple "copy and paste", cannot lead to modernization. People of all countries in the world should give full play to their wisdom, think independently about their own problems, base themselves on their own realities, and unswervingly explore a modernization path that suits them. No matter in the past, present or future, we should always place the starting point of achieving modernization on independence and self-reliance, enhance self-confidence, and at the same time actively learn from the beneficial experiences of other countries, so as to advance the modernization path with our own characteristics. Chinese-style modernization is a vivid practice of China's independent exploration and realization of the "Chinese Dream". We have broken the myths that "modernization = Western industrialization", "modernization = Western marketization", and "modernization = Western democratization". In practice, we have fully played the roles of the "visible hand" and the "invisible hand", participated in competition fairly, and shared the fruits of development. It has mobilized the enthusiasm of the people, and the economy has developed steadily while making progress, truly realizing that the people are the masters of the country.

Third, we must adhere to upholding the right path while innovating. The process in which humanity advances modernization is a development process that encompasses innovation. We must have the courage to break through viewpoints and actions that go against the objective laws of modernization and are out of date. We should take the achievements of historical development as the foundation, carry forward the past and usher in the future, and explore and optimize the broad and smooth path to modernization in all aspects. To address the practical problems in modernization and contribute to the modernization development of countries around the world, our Party has been courageous in conducting theoretical innovation based on practice, adhering to the "two major combinations", and has blazed a new path of modernization with Chinese characteristics, creating a new form of human civilization. Chinese-style modernization possesses the universal nature of modernization in all countries, but it is more characterized by the features of The Times and Chinese characteristics. It presents a new picture different from the Western modernization model, points out a new path distinct from Western modernization, and opens up a new world.

The fourth is to share the fruits of modernization. In today's world, it has become a "global village", and people's shared joys and sorrows have never been more common. In international exchanges, there is a feature of "you in me and me in you". In the pursuit of modernization, we should abandon the zero-sum game concept, embrace the idea of sharing a common destiny, and adhere to the principles of universal benefit and win-win, inclusiveness, equality and respect, and sustainable development^[8]. All countries should follow the path of the world and forge a modernization path of sharing opportunities and creating a shared future. Chinese-style modernization requires promoting the building of a community with a shared future for mankind, increasing investment in poverty reduction, innovating poverty reduction approaches, and making joint efforts to reduce poverty. Build a fair and reasonable agricultural trade order and international economic and financial environment, and jointly safeguard global food security and sustainable development in a coordinated

manner. Strengthen global cooperation and good global governance to jointly safeguard human health; Fulfill climate commitments and jointly promote green and low-carbon development; Strengthen international cooperation, enrich and improve global data resources, and enhance connectivity among countries.

The fifth is to forge ahead with a vigorous and enterprising spirit on the broad path of exploring modernization. Building a modernized country is great and arduous^[9]. Only by carrying forward the spirit of historical initiative, maintaining a tenacious fighting posture, and forging ahead in the face of difficulties and challenges can we overcome the hardships and difficulties on the road ahead and win greater glory. The modernization we are promoting is the modernization led by the Communist Party of China and the modernization of socialism. This is the "general manager" and the most fundamental. The Communist Party of China knows exactly what it "wants to do" and has a tenacious spirit. It dares to tackle tough problems and holds fast to its set goals without letting go. This is invincible. Compared with other political parties, our Party is characterized by noble conduct, solemn passion, lofty beliefs and courageous behavior, which has injected inexhaustible impetus into Chinese-style modernization.

5 Conclusion

History, reality and the future are interrelated, and so are the history, theory and practice of Chinese-style modernization. The growth of new things is never smooth sailing. Currently, Chinese-style modernization is in the midst of arduous exploration. Advancing Chinese-style modernization is an extremely pioneering undertaking, with a glorious mission and a long way to go. Rome wasn't built in a day, but it must have been built day by day. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, Chinese-style modernization is bound to witness a new qualitative leap. In the relay from generation to generation, Chinese-style modernization is bound to achieve even greater brilliant accomplishments^[10].

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