

On Exploration of Universities to Integrate into “One Belt and one Road” Strategy

Chao Jiang

College of Liberal Arts
Jinan University
Guangzhou, China 510632
E-mail: jiangchaosaosao@qq.com

De Wang

General Office
Hexi University
Zhangye, China 734000
E-mail: 540680594@qq.com

Abstract—To implement the strategy of “One Belt and one Road” need the higher education in our country to provide a strong intellectual support. Fudan University took supporting Hexi University as the conjunction point of Silk Road vigor rejuvenation. After “One Belt and one Road” being put forward, Fudan University was actively based on the strategy to power scientific research, construct research institute, explore service mode and integrate into think-tank alliance, which made a positive and useful exploration for the ancient Silk Road. To integrate into “One Belt and one Road” strategy: The existing results are the foundation; scientific research is the premise; Talent training is the key; Think-tank construction is the path.

Keywords—One Belt and one Road; Fudan University; Gansu Province; Hexi University

I. INTRODUCTION

The “Silk Road” started in ancient China, which is an ancient trade routes connected to Asia, Africa and Europe. Silk Road plays a very important role of promoting the exchange of ideas, culture blending in the East and West, integration of world economy and multiple global civilizations[1].The construction of “the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road”, for short “One Belt and one Road”, proposed by general secretary Xi Jinping, mainly includes 3 aspects: economic trade, regional order and cultural exchanges, and 5 main contents: policy communication, facilities connectivity, trade flow, currency circulation, common people, which is related to politics, economy, culture, society, ecology and so on. The implementations of “One Belt and one Road” strategy need to provide a strong intellectual support for higher education in China. Fudan University is one of the famous universities in the World and the vanguard of Chinese building world-class university. For years, Fudan University considering seriously and practicing continuously to boost the “One Belt and one Road” construction, have done a positive useful exploration for the revitalization of ancient Silk Road. This paper stand at Hexi University, based on the ancient Silk Road and the “One Belt and one Road” strategy; By carding the practice of Fudan University and Gansu province’s cooperation, especially the support for Hexi University, to pursue the rules of Fudan University in serving “One Belt and one Road” and inheriting the Silk Road culture; Make a

discussion on the responsibility of fulfilling the mission of universities in China.

II. TAKE THE COUNTERPART SUPPORT AS MEETING POINT FOR THE REVITALIZATION OF THE SILK ROAD

Fudan University in Shanghai locates at the intersection of “One Belt and one Road” and the Yangtze River Economic Zone, and it isn’t only a window, but also the bridgehead and on the tap. As one of the national high level universities of key construction, Fudan University is responsible for the inheritance and innovation of the Silk Road culture. As early as before the “One Belt and one Road” strategy proposed, Fudan University actively explores the vitality of the meeting point and focus of the Silk Road in the form of cooperation with Gansu province and support for Hexi University in the golden area of “One Belt and one Road”.

Gansu Province is in golden section of the Silk Road Economic Zone. The province’s 1,655 km channel is the only way of the Silk Road. There are advantages of obvious location, rich cultural resources, rapid development of science and technology, considerable education development, complete higher education system and discipline category, and so on.

Gansu Province can provide Fudan University the training base and platform with research, teaching, social practice, achievement transformation, the students’ employment, etc.[2] Fudan University can take advantage of its own personnel, research conditions, and provide important talents, intellectual and technical support for the development of Gansu Province.

On October 18, 2012, Fudan University signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Gansu provincial government in Lanzhou. According to the agreement, Fudan University and Gansu Province will focus on education, medicine, decision-making advice, personnel training, collaborative innovation and other aspects to strengthen cooperation. The two sides will achieve high levels of interaction in education, science and technology, etc. Fudan University continue to optimize the enrollment in Gansu province and professional structure, expand enrollment number, confirm the urgent key disciplines of Gansu Province to help each year ,receive a

certain percentage of provincial college undergraduate to Fudan University [2]. The strategic cooperation between Gansu Province and Fudan University is conducive to play their respective advantages and promote common development; it's a useful exploration for the vitality rejuvenation of the Silk Road.

Hexi University locates at the Historical and cultural city Zhangye in the Silk Road, and it is the only local undergraduate University in Hexi Corridor. Hexi University becomes the focus of cooperation between Fudan University and Gansu Province. On June 11, 2012, "The Agreement of Fudan University to Support the Development of Hexi University" was signed in Shanghai.

According to the agreement, Fudan University will rely on scientific research strength and innovation team of biological, environmental science and other disciplines, to extensively cooperate with Hexi University in new energy development and utilization, environmental engineering, biotechnology, etc. Hexi University and Fudan University will jointly promote cooperation and development in personnel training, scientific research, social services, etc.

On the basis of the agreement between Gansu Province and Fudan University, along with the agreement of Hexi University and Fudan University, the Ministry of education in China made a decision that Fudan University began to support Hexi University in June 2013. According to the decision, Fudan University will provide Hexi University with support in teacher training, cadres sending, discipline construction, graduate students enrollment, research and social service, management promotion and other fields. Since China has carried out counterpart support to the western Higher Education, Fudan is the highest supporting universities for Gansu Province.

Under the Ministry of education in China' decision, Fudan University and Hexi University officially take the Silk Road as the theme to interconnect personnel training, scientific research, curriculum construction and other aspects.

In March 2013, Fudan University and Hexi University co-hosted "The Hexi Corridor Habitat Environment and the National Harmonious Development Academic Seminar". In August 2013, along with Zhangye municipal government, Hexi University organized "The Ancient City of Silk Road International Symposium". In July 2013, "The History and Geography Research Center of Fudan University and "The History and Tourism College of Hexi University" jointly launched a historical geography academic investigation in Hexi Corridor.

Under the agreement and the decision, Fudan University and Hexi University cooperate sincerely, work hard commonly, and go a real support Road, which is hailed as a classic case of counterpart support.

With the support of Gansu Province, relying on qualified education resources of Fudan University, Hexi University fully utilize the location advantages of Golden Section in the Silk Road, make Silk Road article, produce characteristic results, open the door and the school, develop to Xinjiang, taking Xinjiang as improving point of teaching practice, and

servicing the national strategic needs along with local economic and social development needs as the direction, make efforts to improve the ability; The strength and social impact improves significantly, gradually enhance the economic capacity of serving the Silk Road. Through the above efforts, Fudan University further integrate into the Silk Road, and contribute to the vitality rejuvenation of the ancient Silk Road, which promote Fudan University carry out some positive and useful exploration to undertake own mission in talents cultivation, scientific research, service for society, cultural heritage and innovation.

III. DOCK "ONE BELT AND ONE ROAD" NATIONAL STRATEGY

In September 2013 and October, Chinese President Xi Jinping during his visit to Central Asia and Southeast Asian countries, has successively put forward "the Silk Road Economic Belt" and "the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road", called "One Belt and one Road", [3] wins high attention of the international community. The Silk Road is divided into two parts of "The Land Silk Road" and "The Maritime Silk Road". The land Silk Road is the commercial and trade channels connected to the mainland of China and Europe, named by German geologist Ferdinand Freiherr von Richthofen in 1870s. The maritime Silk Road is a maritime channel to communicate trade and culture with ancient China and foreign countries, and the South China Sea is the main center. In "One Belt and one Road" strategy, "One belt" is "the land Silk Road", and "One Road" is "the maritime Silk Road". After "One Belt and one Road" proposed, Fudan University dock actively and integrate into it consciously, as follows:

A. Power "One Belt and one Road" scientific research

Fudan University used its own discipline superiority of historical geography, ancient literature, tourism, economy, biological and others, paid attention to the combination of humanitarian feeling and scientific literacy, tried to build the country's first multi-discipline research platform focusing on "One Belt and one Road".

Based on many times field investigation of Pamir in Silk Road, Professor Hou Yangfang of Chinese Historical Geography Research Institute in Fudan University developed the world's first set of "Silk Road Geographic Information System", and on May 19, 2014, the system was formally launched out. "The Silk Road Geographic Information System" first accurately show the Silk Road to cross the Pamir, the "Xuan Zang, a great monk to west" and many other different routes to the West. In future "The Silk Road Geographic Information System" will complete the precise positioning and restoration of all sections of the Silk Road. "The Silk Road Geographic Information System" integrated important landmark, ruins, cultural relics and scenic of Silk Road, combing video, audio, pictures, written words and so on, which is a basic platform on the study of the Silk Road.

In particular, for more than 3 years "The Agreement of Fudan University to Support the Development of Hexi University" have been signed. Fudan University successively

had more than 300 experts and scholars to carry out academic exchanges with Hexi University, including: doctors' volunteer teaching, donating books and materials, sharing teaching resources, cooperation in academic investigation, organizing regional development seminar, services and support for the development of local culture and health education, as well as exchanges between departments and the relevant scholars etc. so far, Hexi University has more than 400 teachers and students to study at Fudan University in different varieties, including 126 visiting teachers, 25 teachers to be doctoral or post-doctoral.[4]

B. Construct "One Belt and one Road" research institutions

Research institutions are the effective carrier to promote the study of "One Belt and one Road". On December 7, 2013, "Fudan University National Research Center of Hexi University Research Base" was officially inaugurated. On August 15, 2014, "Fudan-Gansu Collaborative Development Research Institute of Silk Road Economic Zone" was founded in Hexi University, "Silk Road Economic Zone collaborative development Postdoctoral Work Base" relying on the Institute was also inaugurated at the same time.

At present, under the support of Fudan University and others, Hexi University has declared and successfully built "Provincial Key Laboratory of Characteristic Resources Utilization in Hexi Corridor", "Collaborative Innovation Center of Edible Mushroom Industry in Gansu Province", "Hexi Ecology and Oasis Agricultural Research Institute", "Research Center of the National Folk Culture in Hexi Corridor", "Hexi history and Culture Research Center" and other more than 20 provincial-level local research characteristic platforms on the Silk Road. Besides, Chinese Department and library of Fudan University set up a joint Jia Zhifang research center and Jia Zhifang auditorium with Hexi University, which gain better achievements in scientific research platform and project construction.

The establishment of research Institute of Fudan University provided an important scientific research platform for the Silk Road Economic Zone strategy and development of the western region, and it was conducive to the strategic cooperation of Fudan University and Gansu Province, which actively promoted the supporting for Hexi University. Because of the above efforts, Fudan University began to take roots in the Silk Road, and has taken the first step on the construction of "One Belt and one Road" by providing intellectual support and research support.

C. Explore "One Belt and one Road" service model

Serve "One Belt and one Road" needs innovating service model. On December 23, 2014, Fudan University and Shanghai Ruinan Development Group Co., Ltd. started strategic cooperation and signed grants and awards of the Silk Road. Fudan University and Shanghai Ruinan began to cooperate from setting up the first Silk Road research grants and awards, aiming to build a first-class think tank, gradually integrate internal and external strategy, policy research team and resources, through improving academic status, to promote win-win cooperation with local government, schools, enterprises, build a comprehensive

research platform of multi discipline, academic based, real services, and effectively serve Chinese "One Belt and one Road" strategy, which is the first case of Chinese universities and private enterprises in response to the "One Belt and one Road" strategy.

At the same time, based on the consideration of improving the medical level in "One Belt and one Road" area, Fudan University innovated the service mode of "One Belt and one Road", supporting Hexi University develop medical undergraduate education, gradually formulated five measures such as "Shanghai Medicine School of Fudan University to Support the Development of Medical Undergraduate Education in Hexi University" and "The One to One Five Year Plan of Improving Medical Teachers' Teaching Ability of Hexi University". Under the above, Fudan University signed an agreement with Hexi University to support Hexi University's development of medical science, and help Hexi University declare and be approved 4 medical undergraduate specialties. With the support of Fudan University, Hexi University's medical education achieved leapfrog development and had a good start, in 2015 Hexi University first completed the undergraduate enrollment task above the minimum passing score line of Gansu Province. [4]

D. Integrate into the "One Belt and one Road" think tank alliance

Think tank alliance as an exchange platform based on its information sharing, resource sharing, results sharing, has the high features of interpreting the policy, consulting political suggestions, promoting development and others, which is conducive to enhancing the "One Belt and one Road" research level, producing more rich think tank results, absorbing more country participating in think tanks, which can promote Chinese think tank go to the world, and accomplish win-win cooperation with "One Belt and one Road" countries.

The integration of the university into the "One Belt and one Road" think tank alliance is conducive to coordinating the higher education resources, which can accomplish complementary advantages, joint research and collaborative innovation to promote the international development of discipline construction, personnel training and teaching staff. It can also give full play to the leading role of higher education in the construction of regional innovation system, and contribute to the cultural and economic development of the Silk Road. [5]

On April 8, 2015, Fudan University EMBA joined "One Belt and one Road" think tank cooperative alliances, as the backbone, opened up the first step to contribute "One Belt and one Road".

On May 19th, 2015, Fudan University promoted Shanxi Normal University and Hexi University build "Hexi Corridor Think Tank of Silk Road Economic Zone", and committed to carry out research cooperation by circling on national religion, historical geography, resource development and others about the Silk Road economic belt.

On October 17th, 2015, “The High Academic Seminar on Cultural Heritage” was held in Dunhuang of Gansu Province, Fudan University joined the “One Belt and one Road” strategic alliance, with other 46 universities of the countries and the regions along “One Belt and one Road” issued the “Dunhuang Consensus”, working together to promote cooperation in the fields of education, science and technology, and make contribution to the construction of “One Belt and one Road”.

IV. “ONE BELT AND ONE ROAD” AND UNIVERSITY’S RESPONSIBILITY

“One Belt and one Road” is Chinese important development strategy. As far as higher educations are concerned, “One Belt and one Road” is both an opportunity and a challenge. Under the background of “One Belt and one Road”, the university has a wide range of functions to show their ability and pay their duties. To release their own energy, fully play out the advantages and potential, and make full use of its leading role in the construction of regional innovation system, Fudan University need to boost “One Belt and one Road” strategy based on scientific research, personnel training, and think tank construction, to complete own mission as a famous University.

A. *The existing results are the foundation*

With the support of Fudan University, Hexi University’s ability to serve for “One Belt and one Road” improved significantly. Fudan University also accumulated valuable experience of serving for “One Belt and one Road”. Fudan University would make full use of opportunity of superimposed policy, under the support of the strategic cooperation framework agreement signed with Gansu Province, take counterparts supporting reconstruction on Hexi University as a focus point, based on the existing achievements and unremitting efforts, greatly improve their development ability and service ability for regional economic and social development, make efforts to support Hexi University become the intellectual and talents center of Golden Section in the Silk Road Economic Belt on Economic construction and social development, focus on solving the key, difficult and hot issues, and contribute to the wisdom and strength, lay a solid foundation for the construction of the “One Belt and one Road”[6].

B. *Scientific researches are the premise*

The Silk Road is a road of imagination and also a scientific exploration road. To promote the construction of the “One Belt and one Road”, University scientific research need undertake major missions. “One Belt and one Road” has profound connotation, and it is necessary for theoretical innovation, practical exploration. The vigor rejuvenation of “One Belt and One Road” must depend on the development of scientific research. Fudan University need continuing to enrich and deepen the understanding of “One Belt and one Road”, make silk road article, thoroughly integrate into “One Belt and one Road”, try to build a Human bridge, commonly explore historical and cultural heritage, strengthen cultural identification, conduct investigation and study, jointly

research on major subjects, commit to the construction of scientific research platform, make efforts to solve the major issues in regional economic and social development, with scientific research to power the implementation of “One Belt and one Road”.

C. *Talent training is the key*

Serving for the construction of “One Belt and one Road”, higher education needs to provide intellectual support and contribute valuable wisdom. To get intellectual support and make intelligence contribution, talent training is the key. Fudan University would further concentrate on own advantages of resources, strengthen characteristic disciplines and professionals closely related to “One Belt and one Road” strategy, expand international education into China, absorb them studying at characteristic disciplines and professionals, to train overseas talents suitable for the Silk Road. Fudan University can selectively establish overseas universities and education bases along countries of “One Belt and one Road”, keeping with industry trends and combing with enterprises, to train high quality skilled personnel; Fudan University can cultivate talents suitable for the development of “One Belt and one Road”, according to the needs of supported university, by the way of training teachers, sending cadres, exchange visits, sharing resources and others, further to provide personnel support and intellectual support for “One Belt and one Road”.

D. *Think tank construction is the path*

Think tank construction plays an important role in “One Belt and one Road”. In the future, the think tank alliance will produce more fruitful results. Universities are the main force to promote the construction of think Tank. Fudan University would further play its own advantages in think tank, and commit to promote cultural exchanges in the humanities. Chinese and foreign think tanks’ cooperation can enhance the people’s identification of the silk road and build a good atmosphere; it can create a solid social foundation, attracting more countries’ think tank along “One Belt and one Road” participating to promote Chinese think tank go to the world and help the countries along “One Belt and one Road” achieve cooperation and win-win. Through the above ways, Fudan University would fully play owns role in the think tank, and then provide intelligence support for “One Belt and one Road”.

The Silk Road is not only a part of Chinese ancient civilization, but also an effective method for the Chinese civilization in the international political arena, which is the spirit, relied on “Rise of Great Powers”. [7] “One Belt and one Road” is a road to promote common development and achieve common prosperity and win-win cooperation. It is also the road to enhance understanding and trust, strengthen exchanges and cooperation peacefully and friendly, [8] which is a strategic, long-term, high level and all-wave grand strategy. Fudan University has actively involved in “One Belt and one Road” carrying out a useful exploration. With the support of Fudan University, Hexi University located at “One Belt and one Road” is with great changes; School conditions improved significantly; Running level improved

consciously; The capacity of serving greatly is enhanced. For Chinese higher education, to dig deep into own potential, fully play a leading role in the construction of regional innovation system and contribute wisdom and strength for the revival of the ancient Silk Road, will be an effective way to dock “One Belt and one Road”.

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