

Discussion on the Current Situation of Art Research in “Anti-corruption and Clean Government Construction”

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Abstract—It is imperative to pay attention to and research the art trend of “anti-corruption and clean government construction” under such a social background. Aiming at the problem, the thesis sets forth art research associated with “anti-corruption and clean government construction”, its social meaning and main strategies, providing constructive ideas for advocating, developing China’s “anti-corruption and clean government construction” art, and for giving play to artistic social values.

Keywords—anti-corruption and clean government construction; art; current situation.

I. INTRODUCTION

Corruption is a historical and realistic problem; it is not only a world phenomenon, but a Chinese phenomenon. Struggles against corruption in the new era are severe political battles related to the aspirations of the Party and the people, as well as the future destiny of the Party and the country. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) constantly adheres to “anti-corruption and clean government construction” and pays high attention to universal ideological education in the long-term leadership practices of Chinese revolution and construction, forming rich experiences in combating corruption and building a clean government. Mao Zedong, great proletarian revolutionist, politician of the CCP, attaches special importance to “anti-corruption and clean government construction” constantly by virtue of his high sense of politics and unique verve in the long-term revolutionary career of managing the Party and founding the country. Early in the period of Jinggang Mountains, Mao Zedong formulated “Three Disciplines, Six Attentions” for the newly established Chinese Workers’ and Peasants’ Red Army to ensure forbidding the slightest violation of the people’s interests. In 1934, Mao Zedong pointed out in the secondary National Worker-Peasant-Soldier Congress held in Ruijin: “all of the government staff should know that corruption and waste are grave crimes. There were some achievements in struggles against corruption and waste in the past, endeavors still should be made afterwards”. In the anti-Japanese war period, Mao Zedong, based on the new situation of the second Kuomintang-Communist party cooperation, stressed on “keeping the communist purity of

the members of the Communist Party sternly and resolutely”, and fought against the perverted thoughts within the party. In 1941, it was stipulated seriously in the *Administrative Program in Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region* approved by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee headed by Mao Zedong: “clean government shall be strictly built and enforced, and the public officials’ corruption practices be severely punished. Any public official is forbidden to use public office for private gain. The members of the Communist Party breaking the law shall be punished severely”. In the period of Liberation War, Mao Zedong officially announced to take the following as one of the eight fundamental policies for the Chinese People’s Liberation Army: corruption systems ruled by Chiang Kai-shek were abolished, corrupt officials were eliminated, and clean government was built. The Communist Party and the democratic government in the base areas were supposed to consciously enforce clean government. “One of the features of China’s liberated areas was to struggle hard, lead by example, produce out of work, award integrity and totally prohibit corruption”, which was in stark contrast to common corruption practices and lost sense of honor in Kuomintang governed areas. Therefore, the trusts and supports of the masses were obtained. When the communist revolution was about to seize victory nationwide, Mao Zedong promptly raised the alarm in the Second Session of the Seventh Conference: “there may be some communists. They are never conquered by enemies taking guns, and worthy of the title of hero in the presence of enemies; but they are unable to resist the attacks of sugar-coated bullets, and will be defeated in the presence of sugar-coated bullets. We must guard against such condition.” For this reason, it is necessary to know the work done by the literary and art workers in this period.

II. ART RESEARCH ASSOCIATED WITH “ANTI-CORRUPTION AND CLEAN GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION”

Anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed artistic creation activities are launched one after another, attracting the active participations of many art workers and lovers. Various forms of artistic work were created. Such activities are generally launched or led by the

The thesis is one of the phased research achievements in Tianjin Excellent Young Teachers Program

national departments and units concerned, some of which are organized spontaneously. On account of a series of uninterrupted activities, certain social influence is generated, playing an active role in the launching of national “anti-corruption and clean government construction”. This kind of fine art works is more common. However, there are few comprehensive researches on this kind of art, and nobody pays close attention to anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed art creators. Despite all this, it doesn’t mean that the monographic research is negligible, particularly in the severe situation of the present “anti-corruption and clean government construction”, there are lots of problems to be solved. Under the historical background of the Party Central Committee vigorously carrying forward socialist core values and advocating literature & artistic creation for the people, the importance and necessity of such research become more prominent.

In the light of a large number of queries, there are more theoretical research achievements related to “anti-corruption and clean government construction”. For example, Sun Xiaoli made a comparative study on foreign clean government culture in 2007, which will contribute to our more profound understanding of the cultural root of corruption phenomenon occurrence, rigid system construction of clean government, and the importance of shaping soft consciousness. The *Outline of Foreign Clean Government Culture* was compiled. In 2009, Lin Yan, Wang Wensheng and Ren Jianming et al. made a research on China’s clean government culture, corruption and anti-corruption theory, model and methods from different perspectives. In 2010, Shan Weihua carried out a systematic research on China’s clean government cultural history. Luo Renquan conducted a research on the construction of clean government culture in a new era. Duan Longfei performed a research on Hong Kong’s anti-corruption institutional system. In 2011, Li Qiufang and Sun Daoxiang respectively made researches on the theory and practice of clean government culture construction, and the theory of anti-corruption and clean government construction with Chinese characteristics. Ma Chengzhao compiled the *Clean Government Culture Generality*, in which China’s clean government cultural history was researched systematically and comprehensively, the relations between basic theory of clean government culture, historical development and related disciplines were discussed, and the connotation of clean government culture was interpreted from multiple angles such as legal system, thought of clean government and folk customs etc. It provided abundant and accurate data for researches on China’s clean government culture. Starting from historical perspective, Chen Hui systematically expounded the course of the CCP’s 90-year anti-corruption construction as per the construction of the ruling party and party politics, fully representing the achievements and experiences that our party obtained in the practices of anti-corruption and clean government construction. The basic laws were probed from the construction of anti-corruption and clean government construction in the hope of giving enlightenment to the deep launching of the current construction work of anti-corruption and clean government construction. Li Xiaohong made a research on Chinese ancient history of clean government

ideas. In 2013, Yang Shaohua performed an innovation research on anti-corruption and clean government construction system with Chinese characteristics, proposing power caged into systems. In 2014, the research group of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences compiled four in succession *Blue Books of Anti-corruption and Clean government construction-Reports on China’s Construction of Anti-corruption and Clean Government Construction*, becoming one of the driving forces in China’s anti-corruption career. Chen Hui et al. compiled the *History of Anti-corruption and Clean Government Construction of the Chinese Communist Party* again, in which the development processes of the CCP’s anti-corruption and clean government construction in different historical periods were meticulously collated, and the social historical reasons of anti-corruption and clean government construction in different historical periods, tasks, characteristics, experiences and enlightenments were introduced specifically. Si Yang, based on the world situation, national conditions, the Party’s situation and the condition of clean government, made exploration and innovation from creative thinking methods, thought viewpoint and thinking of work, and compiled *New Thought of Anti-corruption and Clean government construction: System·Technology·Culture*. Tang Xianqiu made a modern transformation research.

The researches above are inclined to politics, sociology, science of law, economics, literature and management science etc, and almost not involved in art theory. According to the query results from the angle of art theory, anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed fine art works are more common while the research results of art theory are quite few. Such kind of works mainly include the artistic forms such as cartoons, illustrations, picture posters, traditional Chinese painting, oil painting, printmaking, sculptures, images and animation etc, which are commonly displayed in the media such as books, periodicals and magazines, newspaper, album of painting in art exhibition, show windows for publicity, T.V., and website etc. For example, the fine art works associated with the theme are shown in politics kinds of periodicals and magazines such as Party Construction, *Honesty Outlook*, *Southern Window*, *Lingdao Wencui*, *Qingfeng* etc, in culture kinds of magazines such as *Reader*, *Ideas Magazine* etc, as well as other kinds of periodicals and magazines. In album of painting in books, Shandong Discipline Inspection Commission Declaration Classroom compiled *Selected Calligraphy and Painting about Shandong Anti-corruption and Clean Government Construction* in 2007. In 2010, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection published Pan Shengkui’s *Black and White Life—Comic Sketch about Anti-corruption and Clean Government Construction*. The book is a good reading material publicizing clean government culture, in which various social corruption phenomena are reflected through common and readable cartoon artistic expressions. In 2013, China Procuratorate Press published *Sample Reels of Painting and Calligraphy Photographic Exhibition on Integrity and Honesty of National Procuratorial Organs*. The book covers two fascicules: calligraphy and painting photography. The works collected mainly reflect the theme of clean government construction of procuratorial organs and

of anti-corruption and clean government construction work, including such works as procuratorial heroes and models, in-service procuratorial personnel and procuratorial policemen etc. In the same year, Shao Jingjun, famous theory expert and cultural scholar in clean government in China, and other authors compiled *Illustrated Handbook of China's Clean Government Culture*. The book gives collation and exposition to the development history and display form of the pre-Qin period-contemporary China's clean government culture, summarizes the experiences and lessons in clean government culture construction of China's previous dynasties, and extracted beneficial factors conducive to China's clean government culture construction, providing sufficient resource supports for China's clean government culture construction. From the vertical, the *Illustrated Handbook of China's Clean Government Culture* takes history as longitude line, and is a historical picture scroll showing China's clean government culture from prehistoric five emperors to before the 18th CPC National Congress; from the transverse, culture is taken as latitude line, covering the thought, the system and the social practice of clean government. There are more art activities related to the theme in the media of other forms. For example, the CPC Central Disciplinary Committee and Ministry of Supervision is holding the second "Clean Government China" news photography, public service advertising and cartoon collection activities. The theme of the activities is "Clean Government China". The new thoughts, practices and explorations of every region and every department in the construction of clean government politics are prominent in the forms of news photography, public service advertising and cartoons etc. Publicizing and reporting are made under the cooperation of news media such as newspaper office, radio station and network etc.

It can be seen that the existing art research achievements are commonly embodied in the specific research of certain point, certain problem, or some brief description, comments and image recording of certain specific fine art works, certain activity. The research contents are relatively scattered, lacking deep and systematic research. However, the data and research achievements available lay a foundation for contemporary China's "anti-corruption and clean government construction" art research.

III. SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCHING "ANTI-CORRUPTION AND CLEAN GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION" ART

"Anti-corruption and clean government construction" means corruption combating and advocacy of clean government. Political ethics term is in the scope of political morality. It is basic content of clean government construction and the concentrated reflection of ideological and moral education. Corruption must be combated to achieve clean government construction, and clean government construction can be achieved through corruption combating. It admits of no exception in ancient and modern China and western countries. The CCP takes "anti-corruption and clean government construction" as action program of clean government construction. Throughout Chinese history, it can

be found that the "flourishing age" of logical administration, harmonious people, peace and prosperity appeared in the dynasties with clean government; political corruption and greedy officials tended to cause turbulent political scene and seething popular discontent, becoming an internal cause of feudal dynasty changing dynasties. "Anti-corruption and clean government construction" art serves "anti-corruption and clean government construction" construction work, and is one of the important publicity, education carriers to reinforce "anti-corruption and clean government construction" culture construction. Through research in the art project of "anti-corruption and clean government construction", socialist core values are advocated in the form of art representation.

Over 30 years since the reform and opening-up policy, the CCP has kept carrying forward the construction of anti-corruption and clean government construction in the spirit of advancing with the times, forging ahead, paying attention to innovative development in thoughts, and pursuing actual effects in practices, thereby ensuring smooth development of every undertaking in the reform and opening up. By collating the theoretical innovation in anti-corruption and clean government construction and the basic paths to propel practices of the second generation of central collective leadership of CPC by Deng Xiaoping, the third generation by Jiang Zemin, the CPC central collective leadership of General Secretary Hu Jintao and the new Central Party Committee leadership of General Secretary Xi Jinping, lots of art work about the cultural construction of "anti-corruption and clean government construction" can be summarized and extracted. Therefore, it is necessary to make profound and systematic research in anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed art activities since the reform and opening up. The reform and opening up promotes significant development in social politics, economy and culture of our country. Art ideas go deeper into people's hearts with the progress of human society. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, anti-corruption work has obtained remarkable achievements, and the general mood of society is lifted. However, we are supposed to see corruption phenomena are prone to happen in some fields. Under such background, the propaganda mode of innovative anti-corruption and clean government construction is of great importance. Launching positively anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed art activities is an important publicity channel to adapt to the new situation of anti-corruption education. The typical cases of "anti-corruption and clean government construction" are profoundly analyzed in artistic form, and the negative examples shall be used flexibly, giving play to warning, deterrent and educational effects. It is specifically embodied in the following three aspects:

Firstly, social value: it benefits the nation and the people to do well in "anti-corruption and clean government construction", and concerns rising and falling of our Party and country. Not only does the Party Central Committee pay high attention to, but also the attention and voice of common people are high. The "anti-corruption and clean government construction" art serves "anti-corruption and clean

government construction” construction work, and is one of the important publicity, education carriers to reinforce “anti-corruption and clean government construction” culture construction. A systematic research made on the art development state of contemporary China’s “anti-corruption and clean government construction” is beneficial to promote the publicity of “anti-corruption and clean government construction” thought, improve its work efficiency, create good general mood of society for all the people, and establish socialist core values.

Secondly, artistic value: “anti-corruption and clean government construction” work is involved in every field during social development of human beings. The typical people and events occurred in every field, positive or negative, are in most cases the objects expressed by art creators or reflected problems. These fine art works not only reflect painters’ understanding, opinion and attitude toward the spirit of “anti-corruption and clean government construction”, but advocate, eulogize its spirit, and criticize, resist corrupt and extravagant officials. A systematic research made on the art development state of contemporary China’s “anti-corruption and clean government construction” provides learning and reference basis for the current and future “anti-corruption and clean government construction” art activities, and simultaneously leads more people to know and pay attention to such art, giving play to its unique artistic value.

Thirdly, cultural value: anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed artistic creation is a more specific constituent part in art culture, and a part of Chinese political culture. Specializing in anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed art development state is supplement and improvement to China’s cultural and artistic cultural contents. This kind of artistic creation itself reflects the ideology of the ruling party, carries national cultural benefits of socialist art, and completely represents aesthetic pursuit and humanistic care of realistic art.

IV. MAIN STRATEGIES OF “ANTI-CORRUPTION AND CLEAN GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION” ART RESEARCH

From the viewpoint of fine arts, on one hand, the scope of the existing contents and questions about “anti-corruption and clean government construction” is narrower. In general conditions, people only attach importance to certain actual art activity or works, and neglect creation background, creator, creative idea and research on historical accounts of past events. The research on historical documents and theories is insufficient. The previous researches concentrated on the description of works property, and seldom discussed the functional analysis of the works, changes of forms and styles, and the reasons. The research emphasis is to narrate phenomenon and describe “what it is”. A majority of researches is listed materials, and there is no analysis on the relation of objects. There is no profound interpretation on “why”. Therefore, it is necessary to make a comprehensive research on it, expand its cultural connotation, and highlight the systematicness of the theme research. In the meantime, attractive historical textual and graphic files are used to lead people to pay high attention to and participate in anti-

corruption and clean government construction-themed art activity, exploit and exert the potentials of art workers, and create a fair, just, natural and harmonious social environment. The research project ascends to a systematic theoretical level. Deep analysis and research shall be made on the basic method and laws of anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed artistic creation. How to infuse the theme about anti-corruption and clean government construction into artistic creation idea shall be researched, making it shown in pictures through artistic expression technique. It forms a kind of aesthetic perception with visual image, and at the same time gives people rational thinking about life. How to carry forward the deeds of clean government and integrity in artistic form also shall be researched, exposing and criticizing behaviors of the corrupt officials, so that people can feel the praise of the whole party and the whole society for incorrupt government, and castigation against corruption. It gives play to a positive propelling effect in the social atmosphere of being proud of clean government and being ashamed of corruption. On the other hand, there are more repeated contents and questions about “anti-corruption and clean government construction” art research, and their styles and forms are similar. The patterns of thinking about problems are relatively solidified, resulting in shortage of originality in contents and theories. It is associated with different eras, social backgrounds and social economical conditions. The traditional and solidified research patterns shall be broken through, and deeper research shall be carried out in a new perspective in the new era. Due to specific research theme and fewer reference materials, it is relatively difficult to make investigation and research. The research project reflects various corruption phenomena in the realistic society in the popular and readable artistic expression. It is full of humor, liveliness and edutainment. In the current times of flourishing politics, economy and culture, it is not only an object that people make recreation at leisure, but promotes the public to raise supervision consciousness, advocates in the whole society and resists against corruption and upholds honesty. We can make systematic and deep discussions from four levels:

In the first place, the general direction of research shall be grasped taking the contents and spirit of our party’s “anti-corruption and clean government construction education and the construction of clean government culture” as the guidance. Combating corruption and constructing clean government politics is a distinct political stand that the CCP adheres to. It is pointed out in the 18th CPC National Congress to strengthen anti-corruption and clean government construction education and the construction of clean government culture, which is an important content of building advanced socialist culture, and a major constituent part of building socialist core value system. Anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed art activities are indispensable public opinion carriers and the route of transmission under the new situation to promote contemporary China’s construction development of socialist clean government culture. More art workers are needed to participate in or take up relative artistic creation, making contributions to our party’s “anti-corruption and clean

government construction education and the construction of clean government culture”.

Secondly, a systematic research is made on the development state of “anti-corruption and clean government construction” artistic creation taking contemporary China’s course of “anti-corruption and clean government construction education and the construction of clean government culture” as main clue. Since the establishment of New China, the Party Central Committee has organized to launch “anti-corruption and clean government construction” work in many ways, and a large number of such artistic works at different perspectives emerged. Such research plays a significant promotion role in the modern clean government culture construction, social health development and artistic creation.

Thirdly, the background, type, method, form and value etc of “anti-corruption and clean government construction” artistic creation are analyzed taking contemporary China’s “anti-corruption and clean government construction-themed” art activities and works as main research basis. The art workers one generation after another created a multitude of relative art works through various artistic forms. The artistic creation wisdoms and thoughts of these workers are in the cohesion of these works, which gives play to a proper role for the work. Besides, it manifests our party’s unremitting efforts and arduous course in “anti-corruption and clean government construction” work.

Fourthly, the innovative and development trend of the future “anti-corruption and clean government construction” artistic creation is discussed in conjunction with the new development of science and technology, culture and art, the new condition, changes and requirements of “anti-corruption and clean government construction” work in new era, and fusion with the traditional cultural thoughts such as Buddhism and Taoism etc. The thoughts such as self-cultivation, family regulation, country administration and world peace etc are taken as theoretical direction, further giving play to art role in “anti-corruption and clean government construction education and the construction of clean government culture”.

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