

Research on the Countermeasures for Rural Revitalization of the Ethnic Minorities in Border Areas

A Case Study of Heihe City in Heilongjiang Province*

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Abstract—Heihe City in Heilongjiang Province is a major inhabited area of the northern minorities, including 7 ethnic townships and 74 ethnic villages, where 38 ethnic minorities such as Manchu, Daur, Oroqen, Ewenki, and Russian live, with a population of nearly 70,000. To promote the minority rural revitalization in border areas, it is necessary to do the following practices: conform to the basic spirit of the Opinions of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council on Implementing the Strategy of Rural Revitalization, accurately grasp General Secretary Xi Jinping's requirements of "Three Generals and One Guarantee", and do a good job in top-level design; build a new mechanism for the development of minority rural industries in the border areas, solidly promote the revitalization of ethnic minority rural industries in the border areas; do a good job in the innovation of carrying forward and inheriting minority cultures in the border areas, inherit the rural civilization and solidly promote the cultural revitalization of ethnic minority villages in the border areas; implement the new development concept, to "conserve" lush mountains, promote green development and solidly promote the revitalization of rural ecology; "firmly build" fortress, solidly promote the revitalization of ethnic minority villages in the border areas, lead in developing the border areas and enriching the people; implement targeted poverty alleviation.

Keywords—rural revitalization of minority in border areas; countermeasures; discussion

I. INTRODUCTION

The implementation of the rural revitalization strategy proposed in the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China is a major innovation in the party's theory of "agriculture, rural areas and farmers", a major development in the party's work practice of "agriculture, rural areas and farmers", and also an inevitable requirement for solving the problem of imbalance in urban and rural development in China, particularly the lag in the development of agricultural and rural areas in the new era. It embodies a clear goal orientation and problem orientation, as well as the Xi Jinping's people-centered socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era; it is an inevitable requirement for building a well-off society in an all-round way and building a socialist modernization power, and a demand to meet the growing needs of the farmers for a better life. The new era has fully opened up a new journey of socialist modernization; to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and the modernization, agriculture is the foundation. We must first implement rural revitalization; due to historical, natural and geographical reasons, the degree of social development in the minority rural areas in border areas is relatively lagging behind other rural areas, where the issue of agriculture, rural areas and farmers is more prominent. Since the minority rural areas in the border areas are mostly distributed in the geographically disadvantaged areas such as mountains, plateaus, canyons and deserts, there is still a considerable gap between the development of minority rural areas in the border areas and the overall development goals for the informatization and modernization of agriculture and rural areas in the socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. The minority rural revitalization in the border areas is not only a weakness in implementing the rural revitalization strategy in the new era, but also a key and difficult point. Therefore, to implement the rural revitalization strategy, it is

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necessary to accelerate the minority rural revitalization in the border areas.

Heihe City in Heilongjiang Province is the main inhabited area of ethnic minorities in the north. There are 7 ethnic townships and 74 ethnic villages, where 38 ethnic minorities such as Manchu, Daur, Oroqen, Ewenki and Russian live, with a population of nearly 70,000, accounting for 4% of the city's population. Xunke County, Sunwu County and Aihui District are the counties (districts) that implement the policy of developing border areas and enriching the people, accounting for 17% of the border counties (districts) in the entire province. The three border counties (districts) administer 6 ethnic townships and 57 ethnic villages, accounting for 35% and 38% of the total number of border townships (towns) and ethnic villages in the entire province, respectively. Heihe District has a unique location. It faces Blagoveshchensk, which is the third largest city in the Far East of Russia and the capital of Amur Oblast, across Heilongjiang River, and the shortest distance between the two cities is only about 700 meters. It is the only pair of corresponding cities with the largest scale, the shortest distance, the highest specification and the most complete functions on the Sino-Russian border. In 1987, it took the lead in restoring Sino-Soviet border trade; in 1992, it was approved as the first batch of open cities along the border, with three national first-class ports, namely Heihe, Xunke and Sun Wu, as well as state-level border economic cooperation zone and Sino-Russian border trade zone. Heihe has built a new mechanism for the development of minority rural industries in the border areas, and solidly promoted the industrial revitalization of minority rural areas in the border areas; it is necessary to give full play to its regional advantages, and rely on the "Belt and Road" strategy and the construction of Heilongjiang Bridge, to further expand trade with Russia, promote the construction of minority village corridor belt on the Sino-Russian border, and cultivate new forms and new patterns for the new industries in minority villages in the border areas.

II. UNDERSTANDING AND IMPLEMENTING GENERAL SECRETARY XI JINPING'S IMPORTANT STATEMENT OF "THREE GENERALS AND ONE GUARANTEE", AND DOING A GOOD JOB IN THE TOP DESIGN

General Secretary Xi Jinping attaches great importance to rural revitalization and creatively puts forward the "three generals and one guarantee" requirements for promoting the blueprint of rural revitalization. General Secretary Xi Jinping points out: agricultural and rural modernization is the general goal of implementing the rural revitalization strategy, adhering to the prior development of agriculture and rural areas is the general policy, industrial prosperity, ecological livability, rural civilization, effective governance and affluent life are the general requirements, and the establishment and improvement of urban-rural integrative development system mechanism and policy system is the institutional guarantee. The important statement of "three generals and one guarantee" starts from the reality of China's rural areas, scientifically clarifies the objectives, principles, overall requirements, and institutional guarantee for implementing the rural revitalization strategy, and has a very clear problem orientation and goal orientation.

It is necessary to understand and implement General Secretary Xi Jinping's important statement of "three generals one guarantee", accurately grasp the requirements of "three generals and one guarantee", and implement the General Secretary Xi Jinping's spirit of "three generals and one guarantee" throughout the minority rural revitalization plan in the border areas, establish concepts of urban - rural integration, integrated design and integration of multiple rules, meticulously do a good job in top design, achieve overall coordination, comprehensively promote the "five-sphere integrated plan", supervise the implementation, gather the strength for implementing the minority rural revitalization in the border areas, promote the overall upgrade of agriculture, overall improvement of the rural areas and overall development of the farmers in the minority villages in the border areas, so as to realize the blueprint for promoting the minority rural revitalization in the border areas step by step with solid and effective work.

III. PROMOTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF MINORITY VILLAGES AND TOWNS IN THE BORDER AREAS ACCORDING TO LOCAL CONDITIONS, IMPROVING THE ECONOMIC QUALITY OF MINORITY VILLAGES IN THE BORDER AREAS, OPTIMIZING AND UPGRADING THE INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE, AND PROMOTING THE INDUSTRIAL REVITALIZATION OF MINORITY VILLAGES IN THE BORDER AREAS

Following the development laws of minority villages in the border areas, paying attention to regional characteristics, protecting the styles and features of minority villages in the border areas, developing the minority rural economy in the border areas, and building rich minority villages are the top priorities for rural revitalization in the border ethnic areas. At present, one of the fundamental factors that affect the construction of ethnic minority villages in the rich border areas is the lack of industrial support. Most minority villages in the border areas only have the breeding links, while processing and circulation are carried out in the cities. For thousands of years, some ethnic minorities in the border areas have lived a self-sufficient life in a relatively closed geographical environment. Entering the new era, some minority villages in the border areas are still following the traditional natural economic model, lacking commodity awareness, competition awareness and open consciousness. A whole family dwells in limited land, and carries out extensive farming day after day. They are unwilling or afraid to open up new areas of production. Therefore, to implement the minority rural revitalization strategy in the border areas, it is necessary to establish a new mechanism for the development of minority rural industries in the border areas, and solidly promote the industrial revitalization of minority villages in the border areas. It is necessary to insist on balancing urban and rural development, focus on promoting the development town or central urban industries, formulate relevant supporting policies, improve the business environment of ethnic minority villages in border areas, promote the construction of minority villages and towns in border areas according to local conditions, guide industries suitable for minority rural areas in border areas to distribute in minority villages in the border areas, form a green, safe, high-quality and efficient minority rural industry system

in the border areas, and keep more employment, benefits and income in minority villages in the border areas. It is necessary to fully explore and expand the multi-dimensional functions of minority rural agriculture in the border areas, promote the extension of the agricultural industrial chain of minority villages in the border areas, and the deep integration of agriculture and industry, modern logistics, cultural creativity, tourism, and e-commerce, and promote the integrative development of primary, secondary, and tertiary industries in minority villages in the border areas.

IV. DOING A GOOD JOB IN THE INNOVATION IN CARRYING FORWARD AND INHERITING THE MINORITY CULTURES IN THE BORDER AREAS, INHERITING THE RURAL CIVILIZATION AND PROMOTING THE CULTURAL REVITALIZATION OF ETHNIC MINORITY VILLAGES IN THE BORDER AREAS

General Secretary Xi Jinping points out that culture is the soul of a country and a nation. When culture is prosperous, the country is prosperous; when culture is strong, the nation is strong. Without a high degree of cultural self-confidence and cultural prosperity, there would be no great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Strengthening the cultural construction of minority villages in the border areas and building rural civilization of ethnic minorities in the border areas are important requirements for the revitalization strategy of minority villages in the border areas. Culture is the soul of the rural revitalization strategy. Without the revitalization of ethnic minority cultures in the border areas, there would be no revitalization of minority villages in the border areas. To promote the comprehensive revitalization of minority villages in the border areas, it is necessary to attach great importance to the construction of socialist spiritual civilization, take socialist core values as the guide, strengthen the folk customs and rural morality construction of minority villages in the border areas, advocate a scientific, civilized and healthy lifestyle, inherit and develop the outstanding traditional culture of minority villages in the border areas, improve the public cultural service system of minority villages in the border areas, cultivate civilized rural style, good family style and simple folk customs, promote the organic integration of farming civilization and modern civilization, and realize the cultural revitalization of minority villages in the border areas. At the same time, it is necessary to protect the traditional minority villages, ethnic villages and traditional buildings in the border areas, carefully retain the cultural memory of ethnic minorities in the border areas, integrate the minority rural culture in the border areas into minority rural planning, landscape design and village construction in the border areas, and fully reflect the characteristics of minority villages and local customs in the border areas. Efforts should be made to excavate, protect, utilize and inherit the minority culture in the border areas, attention should be paid to avoiding the introduction of too many modern elements and urban elements into the minority villages in the border areas, as well as strengthening the excavation, protection, use, inheritance, development and exploitation of the original ecological culture of ethnic minorities in the border areas, take the creation of high-quality minority ethnic minority culture in the border areas and new ethnic minority villages with soul in the border areas as the main tasks of the rural civilization construction of ethnic

minorities in the border areas, giving full play to culture in the minority rural revitalization in the border areas, cultivate the sense of responsibility and participation of ethnic minorities in the border areas in the construction of rural civilization, and fully mobilize their enthusiasm, initiative and creativity to consciously promote the rural civilization construction of ethnic minorities in the border areas. In the rural civilization construction of ethnic minorities in the border areas, it is necessary to change the development concept of putting economy above culture, strengthen the construction of cultural facilities, enhance the cultural service levels, create a brand of minority cultural characteristics in the border areas, give full play to culture in leading the construction of rural civilization, use culture to mobilize rural governance and shape the spirit of being positive and kind. The development of folk tourism is conducive to promoting the all-round development of the national economy, enhancing the market expansion capability, stimulating the development of special food culture, handicrafts and other industries, creating social and economic benefits, and promoting poverty alleviation in ethnic areas.

V. IMPLEMENTING THE NEW DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT OF "CONSERVING" LUSH MOUNTAINS TO PROMOTE GREEN DEVELOPMENT AND SOLIDLY PROMOTE THE REVITALIZATION OF RURAL ECOLOGY

"Being ecologically livable" is an important support and background for realizing rural revitalization. For this reason, the following steps should be carried out: the environmental awareness of ethnic minority villages in the border areas should be enhanced; it is necessary to firmly establish the ecological concept of "lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets", "conserve lush mountains" and take the new path of "green development and ecological rise" to revitalize rural areas. People and nature live in harmony and the sanitation environment should be clean; it is necessary to establish garbage disposal stations for minority towns and villages in the border areas, adopt market-based clearing, and form a long-term cleaning mechanism for toxic and harmful garbage in the rural areas; explore the establishment of professional village-level cleaner system for ethnic minorities in the border areas, and promote "toilet revolution" in minority rural areas in the border areas; strengthen the construction of public infrastructure in minority villages in the border areas, and comprehensively improve the living environment of minority villages in the border areas; strictly implement the "river chief system" and "depot chief system"; strengthen the construction of beautiful minority villages in the border areas, protect the virgin forests, maintain the local characteristics and rural scenery of minority villages in the border areas, and take environmental protection measures such as returning farmland to forests and soil pollution control, so that the sky of minority rural areas in the border areas is bluer, the mountains are greener, water is clear and environment is more beautiful, and make the production and living environment better. In addition, it is also necessary to correctly handle the relationship between economic development and ecological environmental protection.

VI. "FIRMLY BUILDING" FORTRESS, PROMOTING THE REVITALIZATION OF MINORITY RURAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE BORDER AREAS AND LEADING IN VITALIZING BORDER AREAS AND ENRICHING THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE

The rural grassroots party organizations are the strong fighting bastion for the revitalization of minority villages in the border areas. The revitalization of minority rural organizations in the border areas is to cultivate a batch of strong rural grassroots party organizations and outstanding rural grassroots party organization secretaries in the border areas, and build a more effective and dynamic new governance mechanism of minority villages in border areas. It is necessary to focus on strengthening the party's leadership at the grassroots level of minority villages in the border areas, build thousands of strong rural minority grassroots party organizations in the border areas, cultivate thousands of outstanding grassroots party organization secretaries of minority villages in the border areas, promote people to live and work in peace and contentment, and ensure that the minority villages in the border areas are stable, orderly and full of vitality.

VII. CONCLUSION

"Rich life" is the starting point and foothold of the revitalization of minority villages in the border areas. Entering the new era, poverty alleviation is not only a political task, but also a demand for people's livelihood. With the implementation of a series of minority development plans during the "Twelfth Five-year Plan" and "Thirteenth Five-year Plan" periods as opportunities, it is possible to build harmonious minority villages in the border areas, optimize the governance structure of multiple governing, transform the governance concept, and improve the governance methods combining the rule of law and the rule of virtue, so as to realize the effective development of minority villages in the border areas, the harmony between different ethnic groups and between different religions, to promote rural development, and achieve rural revitalization.

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