

Returning to Marx: Thinking About the Current Teaching Reform of Marxist Theory Course*

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Abstract—Returning to Marx is an important way to study Marxism. With the development of the times, how to highlight the great value of Marxism has become an important proposition of the times. However, the current ideological and political theory course has not properly dealt with the relationship between promoting Marx and returning to Marx, and there are some problems that deviate from the essence of Marxist spirit in the course of the current ideological and political teaching, furthermore, which affects the understanding and absorption of Marxism by the educational object. This paper takes "returning to Marx" as the way to solve the problem of deviation from the essence of Marxism in the aspects of educational subject, educational content, educational object, etc., in the process of emphasizing on promoting the development, dissemination and popularization of Marxism, "returning to Marx" is the most important.

Keywords—Marx; return; ideological and political theory course; spiritual essence

I. INTRODUCTION

"Returning to Marx", there is a lot of opposition from the very beginning. Some scholars exaggerate and render the development and criticism of Marxism. They even think that returning to Marx is book worship of useless. They believe that the study and development of Marxism should be a new interpretation of Marxism, but in this process there has been a deviation from the essence of Marxism. In fact, this utilitarian Marxist color is nihilism and does not deepen its theoretical development on the basis of practice. To return to Marx is to return to the basic stand, viewpoint and method of Marxism. However, due to the complexity and unpredictability of the social and cultural environment, at present, the teaching of ideological and political theory in colleges and universities inevitably appears problems in the process of propaganda and popularization of Marxism, this has also greatly damaged the propaganda and development of Marxism. Therefore, in the process of ideological and political theory teaching in colleges and universities, insisting on "returning to Marx" is a problem that cannot be ignored, and it is also an important path for the teaching reform of ideological and political theory course in

colleges and universities.

II. THE DEVIATION FROM THE ESSENCE OF MARXISM SPIRIT

In his speech marking the 200th anniversary of Marx's birth, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that Marxism is a scientific theory, a theory of the people, a theory of practice, and a constantly developing and open theory. To understand the nature of Marxism is to always maintain vitality and keep pace with the times. However, the deviation from the essence of Marxism spirit is reflected in all aspects of ideological and political theory courses in colleges and universities.

A. Teachers

In the course of teaching, teachers have deviations or personal colors, and the logical and scientific nature of Marxist theory has not been realized in teaching. Due to the lack of strict argumentation, only formal exploration and reform, teaching entertainment is more than teaching purpose. On the other hand, some teachers tend to theorize the ideological and political theory course too much or lack effective expression, which makes the original rigorous concept vaguer. These problems often increase the one-sidedness of the students' understanding of the teaching content and affect the persuasiveness and appeal of the ideological and political course.

The traditional examination-oriented education model seriously damages the fundamental significance of ideological and political courses, disconnects theory and practice, and makes educational ideas utilitarian. Engels believed that "our theory is a developed theory rather than a dogma that must be memorized and mechanically repeated." [1] Under the current educational model, the existence of examination-oriented model makes the study of ideological and political theory more utilitarian, but the students' real thinking on learning Marxist theory is very little. Breaking away from the understanding of the connotation of Marxism, from the long-term and persistent characteristics of learning, and from damaging the laws and characteristics of students' own study, this will undoubtedly lead to great confusion in the content of Marxism itself, which is very harmful and cannot be ignored to directly damage the function of ideological and political theory course, the realization of its function, the improvement of persuasion, and the enhancement of the scientific nature and effectiveness.

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B. Content of Courses

Teaching content, especially teaching material, is the spiritual carrier of Marxist theory and plays an extremely important role in the study of Marxist theory. Therefore, the compilation and updating of textbooks is of great significance to the dissemination of the essence of Marxist theory. However, in the process of practical education, the development of teaching content does not bear the responsibility of spreading Marxism due to historical and practical reasons.

Traditional textbooks cannot fully and accurately reflect Marxism. Influenced by historical factors, Marxist theory education draws lessons from the ideological and political education of the former Soviet Union to a great extent. For a long time, dogmatism and utilitarianism are very common in the teaching content; the rich Marxist theory is simply transformed into the "concept principle" mode in the teaching material. Although the teaching forms are various and the teaching materials are various, the content of the students' learning in the textbooks is always the same, and the content of Marxist theory has not kept up with the pace of the times in every era. Some so-called new textbooks even appeared a lot of plagiarism phenomenon. Obviously, the lack of characteristics and the updating of teaching materials are the important reasons why Marxist theory has always been bound. College students are easy to accept the latest knowledge of new things and groups, and the contents of teaching do not match the objects of education. How to help students understand that Marxist theory is the "essence of the spirit of the times" and "the living soul of civilization"? In traditional textbooks, the basic principles of mechanical synthesis are converted into the same absolute principle as mathematical axioms. Marxist theory cannot be developed, and the purpose of ideological and political teaching cannot be realized.

Returning to Marx, is not to the classical works that a road to darkness in accordance with this book worship. We want to return to the spiritual essence of Marxism, which is scientific, practical and critical. It is not utilitarianism that regards Marxist theory as a gimmick, nor is it formalism that loses flexibility and fundamental spirit. These common drawbacks in current textbooks are the pursuit of "formalization", that is, the question for the sake of the problem and the study for the study, which is a false problem with the representation of the problem. The researchers of Marxist theory are merely mechanically obedient or mechanical opponents, these are deviations from the road to return to Marxism.

This obedience will lead to the phenomenon that many people want to be very close to the original, but ignore a lot of problems, only to make a judgment of specific things. There is still a certain distance from the truest law summarized by classical writers, which needs to be supplemented and developed. As we all know, Marxist theory is the foundation stone and theoretical foundation. No matter it is Leninism, Mao Zedong thought, or the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, they are the product of Marxism and the times. Thus, it is the responsibility of every generation of Communists to continuously develop Marxist theory. However, many people are used to one-sided exaggerating the scientific nature of Marxist theory, believing that Marxist

theory is a complete and flawless system, but neglecting the scientific nature is to a large extent dependent on its epoch and inclusiveness. If we can't develop new theory with new practice and guide new practice with new theory, which will make Marxist theory fade gradually. The teaching content of the Soviet model has great influence on the theoretical research and study of Marxism in China, but the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the rapid development of China prove that the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics is more scientific than the Soviet model. Because the first socialist country and the vanguard position of Leninism had a profound influence on the Soviet Union's teaching contents on Marxism in the process of compiling and updating them, which is in this process that Marxist theory appears rigid tendency.

This objection is also dangerous. Conservatives and radicals have been at opposite ends, and conformists are never alone. With the rapid development of modern society, information is spreading and popularizing at an unpredictable speed. Teaching materials are no longer the most important carrier of information dissemination in the hands of students. Its existence and replacement have been confronted with unprecedented challenges. There is no shortage of the phenomenon of promoting the combination of Marxist theory and new teaching forms. At the same time, giving up the traditional textbook and teaching mode, many people even question the scientific nature of Marxist theory. For example, the changes in the technological environment have promoted the overall reform and innovation of Marxist theory education, and the new discoveries of the modern scientific and technological revolution have proved the scientific nature of Marxism, which not only provides new technology for Marxist theoretical education and new technology products, but also brings new problems and challenges to Marxist theoretical education. The teaching mode is more advanced, the form is more diverse, the method is more flexible, the teaching object is more and more popular. However, due to the rapid development of the Internet, the widespread popularization of mass media and the increasing acceptance of information channels by educational objects, the ideological and political course as the main channel of Marxist theoretical propaganda has also been seriously affected. This has greatly affected the object of education to accept Marxist theory.

The Marxist theory has the characteristics of practicality and critical, and needs to advance with the times. The inflexibility of research methods and the lack of reality have always been the tendency of the development of Marxist theory. Only by closely connecting with the social reality and maintaining the essence of criticism can we truly understand the spiritual essence of Marxist theory. From the perspective of the theory of Marxism in the development of contemporary China, the problem is often rigid and divorced from nature. From the perspective of the theory of Marxism in the development of contemporary China, the problem is often rigid and divorced from nature. The main performance is that, on the one hand, the western culture is highly recommended, and this tendency is hidden as the purpose and starting point of its own research. In some articles published this year on the Marxist theory, it can be seen that some of the articles are just

the title of the slogan, but the actual content is very different. They not hesitate to praise the Western philosophy, but seldom mention the relevant knowledge of the Marxist theory. We do not object to the culture of the west, but for the development of the Marxist theory, adhere to our own position, views and methods, the principle of the combination of theory and practice is the bottom line of the study of the Marxist theory of contemporary China. On the other hand, some researchers focus on academic rather than practical problems. Are Marxist theories academic? The view of practice is one of the important viewpoints of Marxist theory. Marxist theory has made its clear position to the world since its birth, which is inseparable from the struggle for liberation of the proletariat and the great cause of all mankind. From the beginning, it could not get rid of the link with the real problems. This kind of over-academic expression of Marxist theory is actually a dogmatic form, not a return to Marxist theory, but another kind of deviation. Philosophy is the most sensitive cell of the times, but on the basis of reality, its spirituality seems to be gradually weakened by deviations from its original course. Criticism, revolution and reality are the life of Marxist theory, once separated, it is easy to influence the latest research content of Marxist theory update. The study of Marxist theory must proceed from the social reality of contemporary China and sublimate the problem field of contemporary China in the way of Marxist theory.

Finally, in the process of Marxist research, we still need to grasp the principle of eclecticism. The change of the theme of the times provides a stable international environment for the integration of Marxist theory. The change of international structure and the increasingly mature technical conditions also promote the overall reform and innovation of Marxist theory. But at the same time, the development of Marxist theory itself has also been severely challenged. When all parties attach great importance to communication and dialogue, the necessity, scientific nature and fundamental characteristics of Marxist theory are easily misread. In particular, in the case of more and more advanced, more diversified forms and more flexible modes of communication, the channels for receiving information are becoming more and more extensive, the speed of acceptance is fast, the position of the main channel of information in the ideological and political education is increasingly seriously affected, the diversity of ideology and theory is more and more influencing the leading position of Marxist ideology. In the current teaching of ideological and political courses in colleges and universities, thinking about new ideas and new problems is frequently put on the agenda. It is particularly important to update the new content. In the process of the multi-aspect integration and development of the thought, it is the fundamental method to insist on the subject status of Marxist theory essence and principle all the time.

C. Students

First of all, "believing in Marx ideologically" is often just a slogan, "the attitude of students who believe in Marxism is pure faith, not rational belief." Marxist theory is the premise of studying Mao Zedong thought and scientific socialist theory system. It is also the ideological origin of shaping socialist young students' world outlook, outlook on life and

methodology. But many students regard it as a necessary preparation for political examination and ignore the true intellectual nature of Marxist theory. Imagine that in such a wrong learning atmosphere, it is not easy for Marxist theory to truly penetrate into the masses' beliefs. Improving people's ideological quality is the primary significance of Marxist theoretical education. It is manifested in human consciousness, value orientation, moral pursuit, work attitude, responsibility and so on. Students can't understand the motivation of learning Marxist theory correctly, and then they can't deeply understand its connotation and form firm communist belief.

Secondly, the principle of combining theory with practice is neglected in the course of ideological and political teaching. The characteristics of practice reflect the basic principles of understanding the wheel of Marxism and the fundamental nature of Marxism. Marx and Engels not only reformed the system and content of the old philosophy, but also reformed the function of the old philosophy. They believe that any theory is the product of practice. Only in practice can theory develop, verify, play a role and be understood and accepted. Facts are stronger than arguments. Only by always standing in the position of Marxism, analyzing theory from practice and revealing facts with theory, can we improve our understanding of Marxist theory. However, in the present learning system, the students' absorption of the philosophy system is not comprehensive enough, and their practical ability is commendable.

Finally, students' self-education awareness is very weak, showing negative acceptance and obedience. A person's acceptance of a philosophical system, only when the self needs to play a role can strengthen the individual belief and actively understand its internal laws and thoughts. In a word, the purpose and method of studying Marxist theory deviate from the basic concept of Marxism. Students' lack of self-confidence, self-reflection, self-exploration and self-experience greatly affect the acceptance of core ideas.

III. HIGHLIGHTING THE CHARM OF THE CURRENT IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL COURSES IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

A. Actively Exploring New Methods of Marxist Theoretical Education

The subject of Marxist theoretical education plays a guiding and leading role in the cognition and practice, and has the initiative, autonomy, creativity and sociality, which is the main aspect of the current ideological and political teaching reform. In the course of the current Marxist study theory, Marxist theory is scientific, practical and critical, open, In the course of the current Marxist learning theory, Marxist theory is scientific, practical and critical, open , Colleges and universities must adopt new methods of injection, such as interactive education, so that students can learn philosophy knowledge from passive to active learning, so as to solve practical problems. Under the background of learning, the essence of Marxist theory and the prospect of its development can promote the formation of true Marxist world outlook and methodology in colleges and universities.

The method of problem-oriented interactive education is to design the educational content around the problem, give full play to the enthusiasm of both sides in teaching, and use theory to analyze the problem equally. Through the analysis of the problem, students can deepen their understanding of the theory and improve their ability to apply it. In view of the fact that the current Marxist ideological and political teaching neglects the scientific, practical and critical nature of Marxist theory, a problem-oriented interactive education method is worth exploring. The question-oriented interactive education not only improves the subject status of the students, but also emphasizes the combination of theory and practice. In the current study of Marxist theory, it is necessary to pay attention to the unity of objectivity and subjectivity, and to adopt the method of problem-oriented interactive education. The problem of leadership should not only be an important social reality, but also be close to the theoretical structure of the thought of the educated. If the problem of choice is little or no practical problem with the educatees, the actual thinking of the educated is not really touched. Therefore, in the study of the Marxist theory, only the objective world and the subjective world can be unified, so that the unification of the objective world and the transformation of the subjective world can be achieved.

Reform of the assessment methodology should also be on the agenda. The change of evaluation method can promote and deepen the development of other teaching links. The impact of the examination-oriented model is still profound, leading to self-evident utilitarian thinking. In the current injection model, it is necessary to expand the "significance" of testing students. Knowledge is not only difficult, but also an innovative evaluation method, a deep understanding of the student's Marxist theory and a respectful degree of consensus, which has become his own worldview, establish the degree of new scientific concepts to the student's ability to combine theory with practice. Returning to the essence of Marxist theory is not only a two-way problem between teachers and students, but also a top-down integration process.

B. Scientifically Updating Existing Learning Content

In the teaching content, in view of the similarity and the dull weakness of the existing teaching materials, it is imperative for the new content to enter the teaching scope. On current college campuses, there are many students who can recite the basic principles of Marxist theory, some of whom can form a complete ideological system. So why not bring some of the essence of the original to class? With its wonderful and complicated background, broad and meticulous field of vision, rigorous and atmospheric description, the original firsthand materials can completely capture the students' thinking and enable them to experience the essence of philosophy itself face to face. In the course of the new research of Marxism, we must insist on the scientific methodology, always take the scientific, critical, practical and open nature of the Marxist theory as the center, based on our own reality and use it for ourselves.

C. The Object of Education Needs to Enhance Their Initiative

Ideological and political education should be inspired by the way of thinking. The self of educational object plays a very important role in the process of education. The ultimate goal of education is to change the world outlook and methodology system of educational objects. Kant once said, "I don't teach you philosophy. I only teach you to think from a philosophical point of view." Therefore, it is necessary to give full play to the role of students in the process of education so as to give full play to their self-spirit. The combination of theory and practice in the course of teaching comes from the students' thinking and exploration after meeting problems. Only by doing a good job of problem consciousness, can students move from theory to practice. In the course of the study of Marxist theory, the relationship between subject and object is not rigid and mechanical, but mutual premise and transformation. The adherence and return of scientific, practical and critical Marxist theory must also give full play to the students' ability of active learning, active practice and initiative creation.

Under the current situation, ideological and political education is still the main way to carry out Marxist theory curriculum education. Once deviating from Marx in the course of Marxist theory teaching, it cannot convey the situation of Marxism spirit essence, its influence is far-reaching and very harmful. It is very important and necessary to treat Marxist theory with the attitude of Marxism, that is, materialism. The development history of Marxism shows that the theoretical quality of Marxism advancing with the times is determined by its nature. The relative correctness of Marxism can be correctly understood only on the premise that Marxism is an objective truth. To return to the concept of Marx is not a metamorphosis of bookishness or dogmatism. When we find that Marx's original theory is in line with the actual situation, it will undoubtedly become our guiding ideology. When we find that some of the expositions of the classical Marxist writers are out of date and unsuitable for the current situation, we can naturally combine Marxism with the current reality and develop Marx's theory. It is important to remember that critical nature is the fundamental characteristic of Marxism. The times are constantly developing, and keeping pace with the times is also an important principle for the Marxist theory to maintain life and vitality for a long time. However, the current ideological and political teaching tells us that we are not lagging behind the contemporary, and we are just lagging behind the history. In order to push Marxist theory to the forefront of ideology all the time, we must draw nutrition from the original Marxist theory. To use the prestige of Marxism to achieve a certain purpose, to turn Marxism into a utilitarian formalism, or the lack of spiritual communication caused by improper learning methods, etc., in fact, which is the deviation on the road of learning Marxist theory; "keeping pace with the times" is not a cover, nor is it an supporter of theory of historical nothingness. "Return to Marx" is not only a slogan, which is a principle that must always be adhered to in the course of ideological and political teaching, including the whole research and popularization of Marxism. "In short, it is to return to the original of Marxist theory, to open up The New of Modern Spirit"

IV. CONCLUSION

Under the current situation, the ideological and political course reform should avoid deviating from Marx and unable to convey the essence of Marxism and its influence is far-reaching and very harmful. It is very important and necessary to treat Marxist theory with the attitude of Marxism, that is, materialism. The development history of Marxism shows that the theoretical quality of Marxism advancing with the times is determined by its nature. The relative correctness of Marxism can be correctly understood only on the premise that Marxism is an objective truth. The times are constantly developing, and keeping pace with the times is also an important principle for Marxist philosophy to maintain life and vitality for a long time. However, the current ideological and political teaching tells us that we are not lagging behind the contemporary, and we are just lagging behind the history. To push Marxist philosophy to the forefront of ideology, we must draw nutrition from the original Marxist theory. "Return to Marx" is not only a slogan, but also a principle that must always be adhered to in the current Marxist theory course, including the whole process of Marxism research and popularization. "In short, it is to return to the original of Marxist theory, to open up The New of Modern Spirit"

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