



The core essence of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction and its practical revelation

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Abstract. Facing the requirements of the era of Chinese modernization and the construction of a strong socialist cultural country, and based on the 120th anniversary of Deng Xiaoping's birth, we comprehensively analyze Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction with its theoretical value, historical significance, and practical revelation. It clarifies the development lineage of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction, sorting out the important expositions and representative deeds in the germination, formation and deepening stages, and systematically and holistically refines, summarizes and concludes its core meaning based on the three dimensions of the theory of guarantee, subject theory and methodology. The practical revelation of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction lies in the fact that, through the implementation of concepts, the construction of a long-term system, the clarification of scientific methods, and the drawing of future paths, it can help to promote the high-quality construction of the cultural field, the innovative development of cultural undertakings, and the creative transformation of the cultural industry, and thus serve to promote the modernization of a strong cultural country.

Keywords: Deng Xiaoping; cultural construction; cultural power.

1 Introduction

General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out in the report of the 20th Party Congress that "in order to build a modern socialist country in all aspects, we must adhere to the road of socialist cultural development with Chinese characteristics, enhance cultural self-confidence, and build a strong socialist culture around raising the flag, gathering people's hearts and minds, educating new people, promoting culture, and displaying the image of a strong socialist culture."¹Scientific theory is the "fixing star" of thought and the "compass" of action. "Scientific theories are the "compass" of thought and action, and the theory of cultural construction is indispensable to the construction of a strong socialist culture. Deng Xiaoping was an outstanding leader of the Communist Party of China (CPC), and Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction condensed his unique thinking about China's cultural development, and he creatively put forward the idea that the construction of material civilization and spiritual civilization should be grasped with both hands, laying a theoretical foundation for the construction of a strong

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cultural country. By sorting out the development of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction, summarizing the core essence of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction, and summarizing the practical revelations of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction, it is of great significance in promoting cultural prosperity and accelerating the construction of a strong cultural country.

2 The Core Essence of Deng Xiaoping's Theory of Cultural Construction

Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction unites a profound understanding of the importance of cultural construction and strategic thinking about national development, and through the three important domains of safeguard theory, subject theory and methodology, it makes it clear that its core essence lies in adhering to the Party's leadership, serving the people and focusing on emancipation of ideas, so as to enhance the country's soft power of culture and boost the construction of a strong cultural nation.

2.1 Guarantee Theory: Party Leadership is the Fundamental Guarantee for Cultural Construction

Deng Xiaoping emphasized that Party leadership is the fundamental guarantee of socialist cultural construction. This was based on a profound summary of China's revolutionary and construction practices, and the realization that only by adhering to the Party's leadership could the correct direction and path of cultural construction be ensured. In Deng Xiaoping's view, Party leadership is not only political leadership, but also ideological and cultural leadership. Through the guidance of the Party's advanced cultural concepts, it can effectively promote the prosperity and development of socialist culture and the overall progress of socialist spiritual and material civilization.

First, cultural construction should adhere to the Marxist ideology and the Marxist view of culture. The first and foremost principle of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction is the unswerving implementation of the Marxist ideology and cultural outlook. This is not only the ideological foundation of cultural construction, but also its guide to action. ²In Deng Xiaoping's view, Marxism provides a scientific worldview and methodology that can guide people to a correct understanding of history and society, thus playing a role in the cultural field.

Secondly, cultural construction should adhere to the combination with the actual situation in China. Another core element of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction is the emphasis on the need to combine cultural construction with China's actual situation. This means that in promoting cultural construction, foreign models and experiences cannot be simply imitated or copied, but rather China's historical traditions, social conditions and people's needs should be thoroughly analyzed, so as to ensure that cultural construction conforms to the basic principles of Marxism while having distinct Chinese characteristics.

Thirdly, cultural construction should adhere to the leadership of the Communist Party of China in cultural construction. Deng Xiaoping emphasized that the leadership

of the Party is the fundamental guarantee that cultural construction can be carried out smoothly. The CPC is not only the leading center of China's socialist cause, but also the guide and promoter of cultural construction.³In Deng Xiaoping's view, the goal and direction of cultural construction must be consistent with the Party's theory and line to ensure that cultural construction serves the overall goal of socialist modernization.

2.2 The Main Body Theory: the People Are the Main Force in Cultural Construction

The "main body theory" of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction emphasizes the central position of the people in cultural construction, both as creators and beneficiaries of culture. This viewpoint profoundly embodies Deng Xiaoping's understanding of the relationship between culture and the people, emphasizing that cultural construction originates from the people and must also serve the people, thereby promoting the prosperity of socialist culture.

On the one hand, the people are the creators of cultural construction. In Deng Xiaoping's view, culture is not the monopoly of a few, but a wealth jointly created and enjoyed by the masses of the people.⁴He emphasized that cultural development and innovation must be rooted in the actual lives of the people and reflect their needs and aspirations, so that culture can take root and blossom.

On the other hand, the people are the beneficiaries of cultural construction. Deng Xiaoping emphasized that the ultimate goal of cultural construction is to raise the material and spiritual living standards of the people. Culture not only meets the growing spiritual and cultural needs of the people, but also promotes the building of socialist spiritual civilization and enhances the moral and scientific and cultural qualities of the nation.

The "subject theory" of Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction emphasizes the dual role of the people in cultural life, both as participants and as beneficiaries. This concept profoundly embodies the essential requirements of socialist cultural construction, namely, that culture comes from the people, serves the people, and is ultimately aimed at the people's well-being.

2.3 Methodology: Emancipation of the Mind as the Main Principle of Cultural Construction

In Deng Xiaoping's view, the development and prosperity of culture cannot be separated from the emancipation of ideas and innovation.⁵He emphasized that cultural construction must break through the traditional constraints and encourage the spirit of innovation to meet the needs of reform and opening up and socialist modernization. . This emancipation of thought not only refers to the "Great Discussion" in the field of thought, but also is a kind of profound reflection and transcendence of traditional culture and reality, and a strategic choice to promote the prosperity of socialist culture in an all-round way.

First, cultural construction should focus on systems thinking. Deng Xiaoping believed that the success of cultural construction required not only internal cultural innovation and development, but also external realization of effective integration and mutual promotion with other social fields such as economy and politics. This way of thinking stems from his profound historical perspective and global view, realizing that in an era of rapid change, a harmonious and stable society can only be constructed when culture develops in tandem with the economy and politics. From this perspective, culture is not only an expression of the spirit, but also a driving force for social development. Deng Xiaoping's systematic thinking on cultural construction is also reflected in his understanding of the interdependence between economic construction and cultural development. The reform and opening-up policy under his leadership did not only focus on the transformation of the economic system, but also on promoting the comprehensive development of human beings through cultural progress, thereby promoting socialist modernization. This is still of great relevance today. With the rapid growth of China's economy, how to improve people's quality of life and promote the construction of socialist spiritual civilization through cultural construction has become an unavoidable topic for us. This requires us to pay more attention to the prosperity and development of culture while promoting economic construction, ensuring that culture and economic development complement each other and jointly promote the overall progress of society.

Secondly, cultural construction should absorb the outstanding achievements of the past, the present and the future. In Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction, the importance of absorbing the best achievements of the past, the present and the future was particularly emphasized, and this idea has profoundly influenced China's cultural development path. According to this idea, in the process of cultural construction, it is necessary to not only focus on excavating and carrying forward the essence of the excellent traditional Chinese culture, but also actively learn from and introduce the modern excellent cultural resources from abroad, in order to promote the comprehensive development of Chinese culture and international exchanges. Focusing on Chinese excellent traditional culture is the foundation of cultural construction. Chinese civilization has a long history and has nurtured a rich and colorful cultural heritage and a profound cultural heritage. These excellent traditional cultures are not only the root and soul of the Chinese nation, but also an important resource for Chinese culture to go global. In the process of excavating and carrying forward the excellent traditional Chinese culture, it is necessary to focus on the transformation of its contemporary value and innovative development. For example, the idea of benevolence emphasized by Confucianism, the harmony of nature advocated by Taoism, and the holistic concepts of Chinese medicine culture all help to answer some of the problems of contemporary society. Through modern interpretation and innovative application, the essence of these traditional cultures can provide valuable ideological resources and moral guidance for the development of modern society.

3 The Reality of Deng Xiaoping's Theory of Cultural Construction

Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction is not only an important part of the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, but also an invaluable asset for guiding China's current and future cultural construction. By implementing the concept, constructing a long-term system, clarifying the scientific method and drawing a path for the future, it will not only help to promote the prosperity of China's cultural construction, but also provide theoretical support and practical guidance for realizing the goal of a strong cultural country by assisting in the high-quality construction of the cultural field, the innovative development of cultural undertakings, and the creative transformation of cultural industries.

3.1 Implementing the Concept of "Integration" to Help Build Quality in the Field of Culture

The "two combinations"⁶, i.e. "combining the basic principles of Marxism with China's concrete realities and combining them with China's outstanding traditional culture", is a major theoretical viewpoint explicitly put forward by General Secretary Xi Jinping in his important speech at the conference celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China. Theoretical point of view.⁷Deng Xiaoping also pointed out in his opening speech at the 12th National Congress of the CPC that "combining the universal truths of Marxism with the concrete realities of our country, taking our own path, and building socialism with Chinese characteristics are the basic conclusions we have reached by summarizing our long-term historical experience". Based on the new era, we should implement the concept of "two combinations" to help build high quality in the field of culture.

First, we must adhere to the guiding position of Marxism in the ideological field.⁸General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized in the report of the 20th Party Congress that "we must adhere to the fundamental system of the guiding position of Marxism in the field of ideology". Marxism is the fundamental guideline and theoretical foundation that guides us in cultural construction. We must firmly establish the Marxist concept of culture, adhere to the guiding position of Marxism in the cultural and ideological fields, ensure that cultural construction is consistent with socialist core values, and promote the prosperity of socialist culture.

Secondly, it is necessary to combine the basic principles of Marxism with the outstanding traditional Chinese culture. General Secretary Xi Jinping put forward the important assertion of "two combinations" in his important speech at the conference celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China, and has emphasized the significance of the "second combination" on many important occasions since then. Excellent traditional Chinese culture is a valuable spiritual wealth of the Chinese nation, with profound ideological heritage and values. On the basis of inheriting and carrying forward the excellent traditional Chinese culture, we should strengthen our interpretation and understanding of traditional culture by combining it

with the basic principles of Marxism, integrating it with the realities of modern society, and promoting the creative transformation and innovative development of traditional culture.

In short, through the implementation of the concept of "two combinations", it is possible to contribute to the high-quality construction of the cultural field. The guiding role of Marxism in cultural ideology should be better utilized, while the connotations and values of excellent traditional Chinese culture should be fully explored, and important issues in the construction of culture in the new era should be resolved to promote the high-quality development of cultural construction.

3.2 Constructing a Long-Term System to Ensure the Innovative Development of Cultural Undertakings

Deng Xiaoping always insisted on the need to build socialist spiritual civilization and democracy and the rule of law in order to achieve overall social progress. General Secretary Xi Jinping has also repeatedly emphasized the fundamental system of adhering to the guiding position of Marxism in the field of ideology, stressing that propaganda, ideology and culture is an extremely important task, and that it is necessary to build a socialist ideology with strong cohesive and leading power. We need to add to the construction of a long-term system, strengthen institutional safeguards, and give greater prominence to the safeguarding role of institutional construction in the development of socialist cultural construction with Chinese characteristics.

First, we must adhere to the overall leadership of the Party and build an institutionalized cultural leadership system. Party leadership is the fundamental guarantee for the success of the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics, as well as an important safeguard for cultural construction. We must strengthen propaganda, communication, ideology, public opinion and spiritual civilization, and ensure that the Party's guiding ideology permeates all aspects of the cultural field.

Secondly, it is necessary to co-ordinate the Government and the market and to build a system for the development of cultural undertakings. The cultural sector bears the important responsibility of planning and managing cultural undertakings. We need to establish a sound institutional mechanism to mobilize the enthusiasm of market players and promote the prosperity of the cultural industry through government guidance and support. At the same time, we should also strengthen the construction of public culture and improve the quality and efficiency of public cultural services, so that more people can enjoy quality cultural products and services.

In short, by constructing a long-term system, we can effectively guarantee the innovative development of cultural undertakings. The Party's leadership system, the co-ordination of the Government and the market, and the participation of social institutions will work together to promote cultural undertakings in the direction of greater prosperity and pluralism, and to provide the people with a rich and varied range of cultural products and services.

3.3 Breaking Down the Future Path and Promoting the Modernization of the Cultural Powerhouse

Deng Xiaoping always insisted on "grasping both hands and doing both", emphasizing the importance of building spiritual civilization, and General Secretary Xi Jinping also pointed out: "Culture is the soul of a country and a nation. Culture is the soul of a country and a nation. A country thrives on culture, and a nation is strong on culture. Without a high degree of cultural self-confidence and the prosperity of culture, there will be no great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. We must adhere to the road of socialist cultural development with Chinese characteristics, stimulate the vitality of cultural innovation and creativity of the whole nation, and build a socialist cultural powerhouse."⁹

First, we should give full play to the role of cultural construction as a driving force for a modernized and powerful country. At the national level, we should incorporate cultural construction into an important part of the national development strategy. Through increased investment and policy support, we should cultivate and grow cultural industries, promote the integration of science and technology with culture, enhance cultural soft power and international influence, and build a cultural powerhouse with innovation, competitiveness and influence.

Secondly, we should give full play to the role of cultural construction in promoting the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. We should attach importance to the inheritance and promotion of the outstanding traditional Chinese culture, and take the history and culture of the Chinese nation as our foundation to promote the spiritual civilization of the Chinese nation¹⁰. Through cultural education, publicity and the media, we should strengthen the cultural self-confidence of the Chinese nation, stimulate a sense of national pride and belonging, and promote the realization of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Thirdly, we must give full play to the exemplary role of cultural construction in building a community of human destiny. Culture is the common spiritual wealth of humankind and has the power to transcend national boundaries and races. We should actively carry out cultural exchanges and cooperation, promote dialogue and understanding among different cultures, and promote cultural diversity and civilizational exchanges and mutual understanding. By building cultural brands with international influence and showcasing the charm and wisdom of Chinese culture, we can demonstrate and contribute to the building of a community of human destiny¹¹.

In short, by breaking down a clear path for the future, we are able to promote the layout of the modernization of a strong cultural nation. Making cultural construction an important part of the national development strategy, advancing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and contributing to the building of a community of human destiny will enable culture to play a greater role in the modernization process and to write a more brilliant future for the nation, its people and the world.

4 Conclusion

Deng Xiaoping's theory of cultural construction provides scientific guidance for China's cultural construction in the new era. Adhering to the leadership of the Party, serving the people, focusing on emancipation of the mind, promoting both material and spiritual civilization, and being open and tolerant are conducive to further strengthening China's cultural self-confidence, promoting the high-quality development of socialist cultural undertakings, and contributing to the cultural power for realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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