# The Triple Logic of Xi Jinping's "Feelings for the People"

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#### Abstract

Xi Jinping's "Feelings for the People", which is the the thoughts of People-centered development, is a red line running through Xi Jinping's thoughts on socialism with China's characteristics in the new era. It has profound theoretical connotation, which are embodied in three aspects: for the fundamental purpose, development is for the people; for the fundamental motive force, development depends on the people; in terms of fundamental value, the development results should be shared with the people. The thoughts of People-centered development is not invented out of thin air, the historical logic is formed by the thought of people-oriented in ancient China provided ; the theoretical logic are formed by the historical materialism view of the classic writers of Marx and Engels and the view of the people of the Successive leading collective of the realistic logic for its formation. The thoughts of People-centered development embodies the meaning of truth as soon as it emerges which has important significance and value.

#### **Keywords**

People-centered; Xi Jinping; Theoretical Value; Practical Significance.

#### 1. Introduction

A series of new ideas, new thoughts and new strategies for the governance of our country are included in Xi Jinping's thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, and "people-centered" are always carried out from begin to the end and placed in an important position. In Xi Jinping's thoughts and theory of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, as a a part of it, the People-centered development thought has answer the current question which is how to make better development. After deeply studying the People-centered development thought, we can better understand Xi Jinping's thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, and we also understand the important value and significance of continuously accelerating the practice to complete the building a well-off society in an all-round way.

# 2. People-centered Profound Connotation

Since Xi Jinping came into power, he has always put the people in an important position. He mentioned that the people's expectations for good life are an important goal of our continuous efforts [1]. From a series of national governance strategies proposed by the new Communist Party of China Central Committee leadership with Xi Jinping at the core and a series of reform and development measures, we can profoundly understand the ruling feelings is deeply rooted in the people and the People-centered value orientation. The thought of People-centered development, which Xi Jinping has emphasized , is not an abstract thought but such a thought has been reflected in the whole course of our social development. He mentioned that we must always adhere to and fully promote the People-centered development, always take the realization of people's happiness as the main task of development, truly depends on the people

for development, for the people to develop, and ultimately the fruits of development can be shared by all people .[2] The impetus for development as well as the purpose and the value of development included in the people-centred concept of development were confirmed.

## 2.1. The Fundamental Purpose of Development -- For the People

The fundamental purpose of development is for the people means the development for what kind of people. In the view of Marxists, human beings not only the subject of social activities, but also the creator of social activities, whose main purpose is to serve the development of human beings. People here are not an abstract concept, but a concrete people in real life. The question of for whom to develop is different in different systems, different countries and different political parties. From the viewpoint of China, the fundamental political position of the Communist Party of China is the people which has always adhered to since its establishment. Its main task is to safeguard the interests of the people, to take the realization of the happiness of the people and the rejuvenation of the country as its main task and historical mission. The theory of carrying out development for the people has deeply reflected Xi Jinping's feelings for the people, and has always placed the people in the most important position.

#### 2.2. The Fundamental Driving Force of Development--Depend on the People

Marxism gives a scientific explanation - the masses of the people are the subject of society and the creator of history. As Wang Fu in the Han Dynasty said: "The movement of Roc is not the lightness of a feather; The speed of steed is not the strength of a foot". In other words, Roc can soar in the sky, not only by the support of a feather; horses can run fast, not only by the help of a foot. If our country also wants to achieve better development, it can not do without the power of the people, we must always ensure that the people play a dominant role and give full play to the creative spirit what the people have. The people should not only be the people who make history, but also the people who witness history, not only the actors in the history play, but also the authors. [3]On the one hand, the masses are the people who create material and spiritual wealth .In the creation of material wealth, people will create corresponding material wealth through corresponding production activities, which is also the material foundation for social development. For the creation of spiritual wealth, people's practical activities can not only create spiritual wealth, but also lay the corresponding material foundation for the creation of spiritual wealth. On the other hand, the masses are the fundamental force to promote social change and development. All powerful material forces will not drive social change on their own. They must be mastered and used by the masses to release the due revolutionary force, and promote social development.

# 2.3. The Fundamental Value of Development -- The Fruits of Achievements should be Shared by the People

Whether the people really enjoy the fruits of development and whether the fruits of development really benefit the people, they will be used as the yardstick to measure whether they adhere to the People-centered principle. Whether People-centered can be truly implemented earnestly depends on whether the concept of sharing is properly practiced and whether the shared development is truly realized. We should not only make great achievements, but also really make the people to truly enjoy the achievements of development. On the one hand, we should give full play to the enthusiasm, initiative and creativity of the people, to engage in the practical activities of the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics, everyone should to participate in and everyone does their best to build and share together, and constantly to make the "cake" bigger. On the other hand, we must strictly abide by the principle of fairness to divide the "cake" well in order that the people can really share the fruits of development, reflecting the advantages of the socialist system. The concept of joint enjoying is a new concept. Which means that more attention should be paid to solving some fairness

problems in society and speeding up to finish the task of common prosperity of the people. Only when the people share the fruits of reform and development, the superiority of the socialist system with Chinese characteristics can be reflected.

## 3. The Generative Logic of People-centered Development Thought

#### 3.1. Inheritance and Development of "People-oriented Thinking" in the Traditional Culture of the Chinese Nation--Historical Logic

The people-based thought in ancient China originated in the Western Zhou Dynasty. Along with the development of productive forces, people's thoughts gradually became civilized, and gradually transformed from the initial theism to the people-oriented theory. In the Spring and Autumn and Warring States period, the people-based thought gained further development. The awareness of the importance of the people continues to deepen, as Mencius said: "The people are the most important, the state comes second, and the king is the light." At the end of the Ming Dynasty and the beginning of the Qing Dynasty, the people-based thinking really reached the peak stage of development. As Huang Zongxi mentioned, "The World is the master and the king is the guest", which also significantly improved the position of the people. In generally, the people-oriented thinking in ancient China referred to the people as the dominant position of social development. Although it represented the interests of the people to a certain extent and promoted social development at that time,but its ultimate goal was to maintain the feudal autocracy. It is only built on the moral level, but does not establish the people's main position from the entity, so it has class nature and limitations.

General secretary Xi Jinping's "people centered" development thought has been innovated and perfected on the basis of absorbing the rational core of people oriented thought. It is essentially different the Traditional People-oriented Thought from the choice of subject position, value goal orientation and ultimate value destination. In the selection of subject, the people-oriented thought has a relatively shallow understanding to the importance of the people, and has not go deeply into the main position of social development. The thought of People-centered development is more in-depth in the understanding of the importance of the people, and the important role of the people in social development. In terms of value goal, although the peopleoriented thought advocates to maintain the interests of the people, this kind of maintenance is realized on the premise of relying on the reward of the monarch, and people cannot realize their own values and interests independently. In the thought of People-centered development, the people are the masters of the country, they can truly realize their own value as long as the purpose and regularity can be conformed. In the ultimate value destination, although in the traditional people-oriented thought, the governor practiced the thought of "people as the foundation of the state", this practice was limited to the basic necessity of survival of the people, and in fact, it served for the maintenance of feudal autocracy. The people are the fundamental political position in the People-centered development thought. The main goal is the people's yearning for a happy life, and the ultimate task is to truly achieve the common prosperity of the people.

#### 3.2. Inheritance and Innovation of Marxist Historical Materialism and Sinicized Marxist Mass View--Theoretical Logic

"People's nature is the most distinctive character of Marxism" [4], due to social development and changes, the form and content of Marxism have also undergone corresponding development and update, but the People-centered position remains unchanged. The historical materialism of Marxism provides reference and integration points for Xi Jinping's Peoplecentered development thought. He proposed that the common people are heaven, and the earth. This also shows the important position of the people. Without the people, just like a fish leaving the water, no better achievements can be obtained.[5] We must always put the people in the most important position and strengthen the dominant position of the people, in this way, we can get more power through the people. This is also the development of Marxist historical materialism in the environment of the new era.

Since the establishment of the Communist Party of China, it has taken Marxism as its guiding ideology and action guide. The successive leaders of the Communist Party of China have based on China's national conditions and continuously explored, forming a view of the people that is both inherited in one line and with Chinese characteristics. Mao Zedong pointed out that the people have provided an important source of power for social development and creation. It is necessary to obtain more sources of power through the people, and always adhere to the dominant position of the people which are for the development of social history. Deng Xiaoping mentioned that the essence of socialism is to liberate the productive forces, to make the productive forces to achieve better development, to completely solve the problem of exploitation once or for all, and ultimately to achieve common prosperity [6], taking common prosperity as the main task of social development, it also truly embodies the People-centered concept. Jiang Zemin perfected the concept of the people through practice and put forward the important thought of the "Three Represents." Hu Jintao deeply developed the concept of the people, and he put forward the most important of the scientific development concept which is people-centered, reflecting the important role and position of the people in social development. On the basis of absorbing the essence of the views of the masses of the leading collectives of the past generations, Xi Jinping has given it new connotations in combination with the development requirements in the new era, and carried out innovative development.

# 3.3. Responses and Thinking to the Problems and Challenges Faced by the New Era--Realistic Logic

The era is the mother of thought, and practice is the source of theory. After more than 40 years of development in the reform and opening up, we have achieved rapid economic development. While achieving these achievements, we also need to pay attention to the following problems. On the one hand, the contradiction between population, resources and environment has become increasingly acute. To a large extent, our rapid development has been achieved at the expense of the environment and resources. This development is not sustainable because of its high energy consumption and heavy pollution. There are many inevitable contradictions and problems caused due to the unilateral pursuit of rapid GDP growth while ignoring the interests of the people. On the other hand, there has been an imbalance and uncoordinated problem between economic development and social development. While the economy has achieve rapid development, the pace of social development has been ignored , which lead to unbalanced development and large development gap between urban and rural areas and between regions, and the gap is showing a growing trend. The many practical problems faced in the above development process call for us to make changes.

General secretary Xi Jinping is deeply aware of the problems and challenges facing China's development. These problems and challenges are not only related to the well-being of the people and happiness of the people, but also to the ruling position of our party and the sustainable development of our economy and society. In the course of development, the new generation of central collective leadership, represented by general secretary Xi Jinping, has been persisted in the problem orientation in the course of development, listening to the voice of the people, putting forward a "People-centered development thought", and taking serving the people as the center of our development. He emphasizing "We should put into practice the thought of People-centered development, realizing the well-being of the people as the goal and destination of development, and ensure that development is for the people, depending on the people, and sharing the fruits by the people."[7] The formation of Xi Jinping's People-centered

development thought is not accomplished in one day or in an action. It is supported by profound historical origin, profound theoretical logic and realistic basis.

## 4. The Theoretical Value and Practical Significance of the People-centered Development Thought

#### 4.1. Theoretical Value

First of all, Marxism has been expanded, the innovative development of Marxism has been completed in the 21st century. While adhering to Marx's view of mass, General Secretary Xi Jinping doesn't rigidly adhering to the thesis of Marxist Leninist classical writers, and he kept pace with the times, constantly carried out theoretical innovation and injected new vitality into Marxist Theoretical System based on China's specific national conditions and development fact. The thought of "People-centered development" not only inherits the Marxist view of mass, but also improves and innovates it through the combination with the actual situation of socialism on the basis of it. In this way, Marxism will have more vitality and power in the new century and achieve better development.

Secondly, it enriches and develops the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Xi Jinping's "people-centered" development thought has inherited the views of the people of all previous Communist Party of China leadership collectives, and deepened the party's mass viewpoint, carried out the party's mass line, highlighted the fundamental purpose and initial mission of Communist Party of China, and provided theoretical guidance and direction for the development of China's socialism with Chinese characteristics. The thought of "People-centered development" always adheres to the dominant position of the people, which also truly reflects the important viewpoint of People-centered view in the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics. In the new era, if we want to achieve better development, we must always adhere to the dominant position of the people. At present, the requirements of the people are becoming more diversified and increasing, we should better meet People's requirements and improve their sense of happiness. Adhere to the People-centered development thought and speed up the improvement and innovation of the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

#### 4.2. Practical Significance

First of all, we have strengthened the rules of conduct of Party members and leading cadres. "People-centered development thought" as the yardstick to measure and test whether all the party's work is qualified, in the new era,the higher requirements for strengthening the comprehensive and strict governance of the party has been put forward, and the purpose of serving the people wholeheartedly of the Communist Party of China has been further strengthened. The people are the source of Party members and cadres, and the rights of all Party members and cadres are derived from the people. Therefore, they must serve the people, Strive unremittingly for the people's happy life, contribute their own strength for the people's happy life. "We can't just want to be an official without doing anything, just want to grasp power without taking responsibility, just want to be brilliant without contributing." [8] Only when we put the people in mind, can the leadership of the party get the upholding and support of the people. Only by staying close to the people and sharing weal and woe, can we win their hearts and minds and our Party remain invincible forever.

Secondly, the cohesion power between the party and the people has been significantly strengthened. It is because of the People-centered development thought that the people's dominant position can always be adhered to, the similarities between the party spirit and the people's nature has also been reflected, and makes the people have a stronger sense of belonging and identity to the party. The "People-centered development thought" always takes

the protection of the interests of the people as the main goal, ensuring the right of people to equal development and the right to participation are effectively. This is a strong response to the people's yearning for a better life, so it must be able to get the upholding and support of the masses, and then attract the masses to consciously participate in the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The main value goal of the "People-centered development thought" is to truly achieve common prosperity and the comprehensive and free development of mankind, which also reflects the superiority of the socialist system with Chinese characteristics, improves the people's enthusiasm to participate in social development, produces strong cohesion and combat effectiveness, and speeds up the in-depth development of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

## 5. Conclusion

To sum up, the "people-centred development thought" is an innovative theory formulated by General Secretary Xi Jinping and other relevant leading groups from the perspective of the actual development of our country and according to the strategic layout of development. It provides better theoretical guidance for the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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