

The course of the communist party of China of leading Chinese people to conquer difficulties over the past century, and its summation of experience, and implication of the times

Qi Zhou*

Associate Professor, School of Marxism, Shanghai Civil Aviation College, 200232 Shanghai, China

Abstract. The experience of the Communist Party of China over the past century is a great course of leading Chinese people to constantly conquer difficulties and finally achieve victory. The Communist Party of China has always adhered to the fundamental guidance of Marxism, kept emancipating our mind and enhancing our theoretical confidence, and formed valuable experience in leading the people to conquer difficulties. In the new era, the Communist Party of China relies on the broad masses, strengthens the "four-sphere confidence", improves the combination of ideological Party-building and institutional Party governance and other innovations of the times, and starts a new journey of building a modern socialist country in an all-round way.

1 The course of the communist party of China of leading the Chinese people to conquer difficulties over the past century

In the great journey of constantly forging ahead, the Communist Party of China has encountered numerous difficulties and setbacks, as well as sufferings and challenges. Xi Jinping once said: "the road is always bumpy and tortuous in the history of nearly 100 years of party building, more than 70 years since the founding of New China, and more than 40 years since the reform and opening up." Thanks to the spirit of perseverance and courage to overcome difficulties, the Communist Party of China, established in the midst of domestic trouble and foreign invasion, managed to lead the Chinese people to emerge from the semi-colonial and semi-feudal society, establish a new China, and implement reform and opening up and construction of a socialist system with Chinese characteristics, to achieve great development and leap in the economic, political, cultural and other fields. It not only represents the one-hundred-year development course of the Communist Party of China, but also marks the practice of the Communist Party of China to adhere to Marxism and development of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and apply the Marxist theory in China.

Ever since the Opium War in 1840, people with lofty ideals in China began to explore the way of reform and survival, but all failed due to the class limitations. After the October

* Corresponding author: shzq18@126.com

Revolution in Russia, Marxism was introduced to China. The Communist Party of China was established in 1921. Afterwards, Mao Zedong explored to apply the Marxist theory in China's practice. Mao Zedong Thought was confirmed as the guiding ideology of the Communist Party of China in the Seventh National Congress of the Communist Party of China, which is a landmark event in the history of the Party.

On October 1, 1949, the People's Republic of China was founded, which ended the situation of domestic trouble and foreign invasion for the Chinese nation. And finally, we achieved the victory. But historical development was always full of twists and turns, and difficulties and victories went together. In the new stage of development, we would face new challenges and conquer new difficulties. Starting from scratch, we faced the mess left by the previous invaders, with no materials and industrial base. During this period, due to the lack of experience in socialist development, we were careful and went through many detours, such as the Great Leap Forward, the People's Commune and the Cultural Revolution. But we had also overcome difficulties and made great achievements. For instance, during the three-year period of natural disasters, we were united under the leadership of the Party, to implement land reforms and restore economic development; we won the war to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea and counterattack against Vietnam, we also improved our foreign relations and rejoined the United Nations, which truly reflected the practice of the Chinese Communist Party of leading the people to conquer difficulties.

In 1978, the Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh Central Committee was held, and the Party put forward the development strategy of reform and opening up and realized rapid economic development. In the late 1990s, with the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the drastic changes in Eastern Europe, international socialism suffered a major blow, and many people had lost confidence in socialism. But the Party insisted on Marxism and proposed to build socialism with Chinese characteristics. Nowadays, winning the battle against the epidemic is not only a test for the Party and the people, but also a testament to the correctness of our path. Moreover, it starts a new journey to build a modern socialist country in an all-round way.

2 Summation of experience of the communist party of China in leading Chinese people to conquer difficulties in the past century

2.1 We must constantly emancipate the mind and break down ideological barriers

Ideological emancipation is an important premise for social development, and the degree of ideological emancipation determines the depth of social change. The history of China's reform is essentially the history of ideological emancipation, and it also suggests that when ideology is stagnant, social development will come to a deadlock. Only by constantly emancipating the mind and breaking ideological barriers, can we achieve rapid social development. Looking back at the history of the Party, major emancipation of mind was conducted twice. One was the extensive discussions on the criterion for testing truth in 1978, which proposed that practice is the only standard for testing truth, and an important ideological foundation for reform and opening up; the other was Deng Xiaoping's "South Tour Speech" in 1992, which solved the problem of whether the market economy is capitalist or socialist, broke the ideological shackles of the relationship between planning and market economy, and achieved rapid economic development. Judging from the results of ideological emancipation, China's development has reached a new level. Therefore, the degree of ideological change determines the depth and breadth of reform and opening up.

2.1.1 The purpose of ideological emancipation is to break the original doctrines, including backward traditional ideas and codes of conduct

In the past development, many mistakes and backward ideas were regarded as the criteria. For example, only public ownership is socialism; planning is opposed to the market, and market-oriented reform is a capitalist practice, enterprises shall be nationalized to ensure the guarantee of socialism. If these thoughts are not emancipated, we may fall into a wrong path for socialism with Chinese characteristics. Therefore, the object of ideological emancipation shall be these traditional socialist ideas, so as to prevent socialist development from falling into dogmatism and ideology, that is, the “left” mistakes.

2.1.2 The means of ideological emancipation is the Marxist theory, and the belief in rational spirit

At the Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, through rational research and scientific decision-making, the criterion of truth came from the test of practice, which truly implemented Mao Zedong Thought. Similarly, both market and planning are economic means, which have no connection with the social system. The market is available in the capitalist system, so it is also applicable for and the socialist system. But many people were still confused about the theories about planning and market. Deng Xiaoping's "South Tour Speech" in 1992 solved this hidden ideological problem and the ideological attribution of the market, so that the socialist system also adopted the market economy, and started the socialist development with Chinese characteristics.

2.1.3 The principle of ideological emancipation should be people-oriented, complying with the will of the people, and representing the interests of the people

Since the founding of the New China, quite a few methods have been applied to revitalize the rural economy, but with unsatisfactory results. Since the reform and opening up, the household contract responsibility system received good results. Thanks to the farmers' active cooperation and warm response from the whole country, rural economy has developed rapidly. Why was there such a big difference between the two? Because the latter was drawn from the experience of farmers in Xiaogang Village, Anhui Province, representing the will of the people. Therefore, only by respecting the experience of the masses and the interests of the masses, and giving play to the pioneering spirit of the masses, can we truly emancipate the mind.

2.2. We need Marxist confidence, as well as optimism

In the one-hundred-year history of the Communist Party of China, the Party managed to lead the people to constantly conquer difficulties and forge ahead, thanks to the Marxist confidence and optimism. The theoretical confidence of Marxism came from CPC's correct understanding and the correct application of it according to the actual situation in China. Today, we are able to win the battle against the epidemic and poverty, proving the correctness and truth of Marxism. Besides, it enables the Party and its people to develop full confidence in its scientificity and correctness, and keep strengthening it in the process of development.

Optimism about Marxism and revolution is the spiritual treasure of the Party, which is rooted in the understanding of the objective development law, as well as the confidence in Marxism. In the practice of road construction, theory construction, system construction and

cultural construction of the Communist Party of China, our confidence in Marxism and optimism have been reflected, constituting an organic and unified relationship. Such confidence and optimism are based on the calmness and composure of the Communists and the people, as well as their courage to never give up no matter what difficulties they encounter. For instance, in the early revolutionary years, Mao Zedong once said: "the great power of Marxism-Leninism lies in its connection with the specific revolutionary practice of each country. For the Communist Party of China, it is to learn to apply the theory of Marxism-Leninism to the specific circumstances of China." After the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the drastic changes in Eastern Europe, the international socialist movement suffered a major blow, and there were doubts on the scientificity and correctness of Marxism worldwide. At this critical juncture, Deng Xiaoping pointed the way: "I firmly believe that there will be more people in the world agreeing with Marxism, because it is a science." During the arduous struggle, it was fully proved that the more difficult the challenge was, the more correct guidelines were needed, and the more optimistic and confident we shall be. Now that the country has entered a new stage of socialist development, only by firmly believing in the truth of Marxism, can we adhere to the winning belief of developing socialism with Chinese characteristics. As Xi Jinping said, "faith in Marxism and belief in socialism and communism are the political soul of the Communists and the spiritual pillar of the Communists to withstand any test."

2.3. It is necessary to cross the river by feeling the stones, and to strengthen the top-level design

Throughout the one-hundred-year history, in addition to facing the emerging difficulties and challenges, the Party shall also find a development path that is suitable for China. To put it simple, socialist development is like crossing the river by feeling the stones. How to develop socialism? How to make people live a happy and beautiful life? These problems could not be completely solved by relying on the original works of Marxism or the development experience of other socialist countries such as the Soviet Union. Since the reform and opening up, the Party has clearly realized that it is impossible to simply apply the systems and models of other countries to China. Due to the special situation in China, the blindly copying cannot guarantee the success of socialism. Only by constructing the socialism with Chinese characteristics through combining the universal truth of Marxism with concrete reality, can we solve the construction and development problems. It is exactly the way of crossing the river by feeling the stones combined with the strengthening of the top-level design.

This development model was particularly remarkable during the reform and opening-up. The establishment of special economic zones, the reform of the rural contract responsibility system, and the reform of the market economy system were all starting from pilot projects and implemented on a small scale. After practice and summation of experience, it would be promoted nationwide if it received good effects. Just because of the repeated attempts of understanding and practice, the Party constantly deepened its understanding of Marxism in China and finally found the most suitable development path.

From the view of dialectical materialism, crossing the river by feeling the stones and top-level design are in dialectical unity, and at the same time, there is also a subjective and objective relationship between the two. Combining the two is the process of achieving desired goals by using the regularity of things.

3 Implication of the times in the course of leading the people to conquer difficulties

3.1 Endow the Party's mass line with a new practical connotation

On the way of conquering all kinds of difficulties, the Party's mass line has also been endowed with new connotations while standing up to challenges. Under the historical orientation of the new era, the Communist Party of China has incorporated the mass like into all activities of state governance, and gave priority to the settlement of contradictions and problems of the people. Xi Jinping once said: "we shall not forget whom we are fighting for, relying on and who we are at any moment." We shall keep in mind that the people are the real heroes as well as the source of power to conquer all difficulties and meet all challenges. For instance, the Communist Party of China has told the masses with its active anti-epidemic actions that the Party and the country will never give up any of its compatriots. We are able to stand out despite of changes in the past century, just because of the constantly strengthening community of the Party and its people, which is united as one. The Party fully believes in its people, while the people actively respond to the Party's call, so that we achieve success in the battle against epidemic and poverty, start a new journey of building a modern socialist country, and expand the socialist cause.

In addition to deeply understanding the dominant position of the people and adhering to people-oriented development, the Party also knows clearly the fundamental interests of the people, accomplish the mass work, and ensure to know the demands of its people and solve their problems. The Party formulates policy goals based on the interests of the masses, and seek benefits for its people with scientific and clear thinking, as well as precise and effective policies. The Communist Party of China also lays the foundation for a strong socialist country with a sound system and culture and a solid material foundation.

3.2. Put forward the "four-sphere confidence" in overcoming difficulties

Under the historical orientation of the new era, Xi Jinping put forward the new concept of "four-sphere confidence", namely road confidence, theory confidence, institutional confidence, and cultural confidence, which develops Marxism in China, with a far-reaching significance in realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and strengthening of China. In the new era, the Communist Party of China has continuously strengthened the confidence of the Party and its people in conquering all difficulties, providing a strong belief for building a powerful modern socialist country. In theory, the Communist Party of China incorporates the "four-sphere confidence" into the thought of socialism with Chinese characteristics, which becomes an important part of Xi Jinping's new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, as well as the basic compliance of all party members for strengthening their confidence in overcoming difficulties.

3.2.1 The confidence in the path comes from the cognition of the truth of Marxism

The path of socialism with Chinese characteristics has not been smooth, which has witnessed the constant attempts and long-term exploration by generations of people. The development path of socialism with Chinese characteristics is a choice that combines Marxism with China's actual situation. Countless successful experience has proved that we choose the right path, which is also the right path to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

3.2.2 Theory confidence is an inevitable choice for the road to a powerful nation

Since the reform and opening up, the Party has successively formed Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important thought of "Three Represents", the Scientific Outlook on Development, and Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and other Chinese Marxist theories. Each theoretical achievement not only summarizes the previous thoughts, but also guides the future development, and they are inseparable from each other. All serve the development path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, as important theoretical achievements of Marxism in China. We adhere to the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics and application of Marxism in China, implying our adherence to the scientificity and truth of Marxism. Marxism has never been a doctrine either. In front of the complex domestic and foreign environment, the Communist Party of China faces formidable tasks, and only by continuously enhancing its theory confidence, can it concentrate its political wisdom and political strength onto economic development and national rejuvenation.

3.2.3 Adhering to socialism with Chinese characteristics requires institutional confidence

Institutional issues are the primary issues of national development. Institutions are related to the stability and long-term development of a nation, concerning the future and destiny of national development. In the process of building the socialist system, the Party's system policies have passed the test of history and practice, as the fundamental guarantee for China's development and progress. Building the confidence in the socialist system with Chinese characteristics is the best way to uphold socialism.

3.2.4 Cultural confidence is an integral part of building a modern socialist country

To build a modern socialist country in an all-round way, it is necessary to build a cultural power. It not only defines the direction for cultural construction and the creation of new splendor of Chinese culture in the new era, but also constitutes an inevitable requirement for the realization of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the Party has always emphasized the importance of firm confidence, which is an important part of maintaining political determination. Only by maintaining the four-sphere confidence, can we stand firm on the road of conquering difficulties in the new era and in the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and meet the tests of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation with a tenacious will.

3.3 Adhering to the close combination of ideological party building and institutional Party governance

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Xi Jinping has put forward a new conclusion that "we shall remain committed to integrating efforts to strengthen the Party ideologically with those to bolster self-governance through institutional building". Ideals and beliefs are the spiritual core of the Communist Party of China, and also the spiritual pillar for the Communists to strive and conquer all difficulties. Ideological Party building is to improve the political consciousness through ideological education of Party members, to promote Party members to form correct values, to maintain vitality within the Party, and to boost the sustainable development of the party. The ideological construction of the Party is a long-term task that runs through the entire process

of party building, as the basis for the Party to maintain its cohesion and guidance. In order to give full play to the core role of ideological Party building, we must first strengthen our understanding of the theoretical system of Marxism, and arm Party members with Chinese Marxism, especially Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and strengthen their ideals and beliefs. Second, adhering to the dominant position of the people is also the original intention and mission of the Party, and we must always stand in the position of the people in ideological construction. Finally, maintain firm confidence in the sustainable development of the country and the Party, which is also the Chinese dream that Xi Jinping has always emphasized.

Institutional governance of the Party refers to regulate the relationship between the Party, the state, and society as well as inside the Party with the thought and method of the rule of law, gradually form rigid constraints on the behavioral norms and supervision of Party members, and enhance the Party's "four-sphere confidence". Institutional governance of the Party is the fundamental guarantee of Party building work and the link of coordination and unity. Today, the Party has made significant progress in ideology, system, and style of work, but the situation at home and abroad is still grim, and there are still problems. To solve the prominent contradictions within the Party, it is necessary to strengthen institutional guarantee.

In short, only by adhering to the close integration of ideological party building and institutional governance, can the Communist Party of China lead the people to conquer difficulties, complete the arduous tasks endowed by the times, and realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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