

Educational Innovations in the Fundamentals of Marxism in the Context of the New Era

Chenqi Li *

Heilongjiang University of Technology, Jixi, Heilongjiang, 158100, China

* Corresponding Author

Abstract. In the historical context of the new era, socialist education with Chinese characteristics faces many opportunities and challenges. With the further deepening of globalisation and informatisation, traditional economic, cultural and technological boundaries are becoming blurred, while bringing about social challenges such as intensified global competition and the polarisation of the rich and the poor. As the world's second largest economy, China is striving to find a development path suitable for itself in the wave of globalisation. In the age of information technology, cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence and big data are reshaping the economy and society, while the Internet and mobile communication technologies have made the flow of information more rapid, which not only facilitates the dissemination of knowledge, but also has a significant impact on the mode of education and the way of work. By promoting the "Internet Plus" action plan and the development of the digital economy, the Chinese government aims to improve governance capacity and efficiency, and draw up a blueprint for a digital China and a smart society. In the new era of ideological pluralism, China faces the challenges and opportunities of both socialist core values and traditional cultural heritage. China is trying to find a balance between inheritance and innovation, and to strengthen citizens' moral construction and cultural confidence. Such an endeavour not only enhances the country's cultural soft power, but is also a positive response to the changes of the times. At the same time, socialist education with Chinese characteristics is also placing greater emphasis on people's livelihoods and fairness and justice in the new era, and the public's pursuit of a high quality of life has become more intense. The rising demand for education, health, housing and the environment requires the government to pay more attention to livelihood improvement and social equity while promoting economic development. The concept of environmental protection and green development has become a social consensus, pointing to the goal of sustainable development. China's economic system is transforming into a more globally competitive modernisation and is seeking a broader space for development under the new pattern of globalisation. The changes brought about by this new era to Chinese education are not only challenges, but also opportunities. China not only needs to play an important role in the international arena, but also needs to deepen its internal reforms in order to raise the level of national education and contribute to the grand blueprint of high-quality economic development and national rejuvenation. Marxist education, as a guiding ideology, will continue to play an important role in this process, aiming to cultivate the talents needed by the times, promote the internalisation and practice of socialist core values, and ultimately realise socialist modernisation and the overall revitalization of the country.

Keywords: Principles of Marxist Education; Educational Reform; Practical Integration; Ideological Education; Thought Renewal.

1. Introduction

As times change and society develops, Marxism has continuing relevance and theoretical value. In the field of education, Marxist education is still regarded as the guiding ideology and guide to action for training contemporary youth. However, with the advent of globalisation and the information age, as well as rapid changes in economic, social and technological structures, this educational philosophy faces major challenges in practice. These challenges come not only from external multicultural impacts, but also from internal shifts in values. Therefore, it is of great practical significance to explore in depth the current practice of Marxist education and the problems that exist [1].

Initially, the practice of Marxist education is still widespread today, with education systems at all levels still emphasising its importance and investing corresponding efforts in curriculum, educational resources and teacher training. The practice of Marxist education is no longer confined to the inculcation of bookish knowledge; it is attempting to be closely integrated with students' daily life and practical activities, so as to cultivate their ability to think critically and guide them to make rational judgements and choices in a complex and changing social environment [2].

However, there are a series of problems in the concrete implementation of this educational model. Firstly, the disconnection between the theory of Marxist education and the social practice in real life is a prominent problem. In the face of a rapidly changing world, how to make Marxist principles closely integrated with modern social problems, constantly update their connotation and adapt them to new social conditions is an issue that should be thoroughly considered [3]. Secondly, Marxist education has been challenged by the competition in the ideological field and the influence of cultural pluralism. In the modern society with accelerated pace of life and information explosion, how to establish and solidify the guiding position of Marxism among young students and cultivate their correct worldview, outlook on life and values in the face of complex social phenomena is a major issue in front of today's educators.

What's more, the problems in the practice of Marxist education are also manifested in the aging of teaching methods and means. The traditional lecture method and duck-filling education are not adapted to the learning habits and psychological characteristics of today's students. The modern student body desires a teaching mode with high interactivity and participation, so it becomes especially necessary to innovate teaching methods and use multimedia resources, scenario simulation and other means to improve the fun and interactivity of teaching. Students' initiative and creativity should be paid more attention to, so as to better stimulate students' interest and enthusiasm in learning Marxism.

On the whole, the practice of Marxist education should be correct and innovative, and constantly adapt to the requirements of the new era. The updating of teaching content should be more in line with the international perspective and the actual development of contemporary China. The reform of the form of education should also cater for the development of science and technology and the characteristics of students, so as to make it an effective way for students to know the world, themselves and society [4]. This will be a systematic project that will require the joint efforts of educators, school administrators, policymakers and society as a whole, with a view to bringing Marxist education to a new lustre in the new era and nurturing more young people with a sense of historical responsibility and a sense of mission for the times.

2. Basic Principles of Marxism and Socialist Thought with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era

Under the historical coordinates of the new era, the relationship between the basic principles of Marxism and the ideology of socialism with Chinese characteristics shows a tendency of two-way deepening: on the one hand, the basic principles of Marxism provide the theoretical foundation and methodology for the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics; on the other hand, the ideology of socialism with Chinese characteristics continuously enriches and develops the theoretical connotation of Marxism. In this process, interaction and integration have become the realistic choice and inevitable result of Marxism in China [5].

Since the founding of scientific socialism by Marx and Engels, its theory, after more than a century of development and evolution, has long since transcended its initial European scope and become a worldwide theory. Especially in China, through the long-term practice of revolution, construction and reform, the basic principles of Marxism have been concretised and localised to a deeper level. The core lies in how to combine the abstract theory with Chinese reality, especially in the great practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, which has resulted in a series of original

theoretical achievements, thus shaping the theory of socialism with the characteristics of the times and national characteristics.

The ideology of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era is the latest theoretical achievement of the CPC in the new international and domestic environment of the 21st century, based on adhering to and developing the basic principles of Marxism, combining them with the actual situation in China and the characteristics of the times, and continuously advancing theoretical, practical, institutional, cultural and other innovations in all aspects, as well as forming the latest theoretical achievements in the process. This ideology has clarified the basic line at the primary stage of socialism, emphasised the deepening of reform and opening up in a comprehensive manner, adhered to the people-centred development ideology, established the new development concept, and promoted a systematic, scientific and modern transformation of governance [6].

In this process, the basic principles of Marxism have continued to take root on Chinese soil, and the CPC has combined the universal principles of Marxism with China's specific realities to form a development path with distinctive Chinese characteristics. In particular, in unswervingly advancing the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the CPC has come to the profound realisation that Marxism must be used as a guide to action rather than an empty slogan. As a result, the education and inculcation of Marxist principles have become more practice-oriented and contemporary, striving to achieve a shift from theoretical knowledge to practical ability, and thus closer to reality, life and youth [7].

In terms of updating content and transforming methods, the combination of basic Marxist principles and socialist ideology with Chinese characteristics in the new era is vibrant. For example, the new ideas and assertions in the report of the 19th Party Congress have been integrated into the education system and cadre training at all levels, which is not only a reflection of theoretical updating, but also an inevitable choice for revolutionising education methods. By integrating modern educational technology and Internet+ ideas into teaching the basic principles of Marxism, it can more effectively attract the attention of young people and stimulate their interest and enthusiasm for the cause of socialism and communism [8].

Ultimately, the education of Marxist fundamentals in the new era must realise the transition from tradition to modernity, which requires not only new educational contents, but also new teaching methods and evaluation systems. This means that educators need to study the characteristics of the new era in depth, grasp the needs and characteristics of students, and constantly innovate educational concepts and educational practices. Through such efforts, education in the basic principles of Marxism is closely integrated with the ideology of socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era, so as to make it a powerful ideological weapon that promotes the development of the country and leads the trend of the times, which is of great importance and far-reaching significance in building up a common ideological foundation for the whole society.

3. New Era Contextual Analysis

In the historical context of entering a new era, the core of the background analysis that cannot be ignored is the double circling and deepening of globalisation and informatisation, as well as the fact that socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, which is an important stage of national development. China in the new era is faced with a diversified and complex domestic and international environment, which requires a deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges brought about by globalisation, as well as the impact of the characteristics of the information age on social development.

Firstly, the features of globalisation in the new era are more complex and changeable, and the traditional national boundaries are gradually weakening in terms of economic, cultural and technological restrictions. The integration of the global economy has brought about the rapid growth of commodity and capital flows, the reorganisation of the international industrial chain and supply

chain, and the increased influence of large-scale transnational corporations. At the same time, it has brought complex challenges such as intensified international competition, polarisation between the rich and the poor, and environmental problems [9]. As the world's second largest economy, China's deep integration with the global economy has made it play an increasingly important role in promoting the Belt and Road Initiative, participating in global governance, and promoting trade and investment liberalisation and facilitation.

Secondly, the shockwaves of the information age have brought about the rise of the knowledge economy, especially the breakthroughs in cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence, big data and cloud computing, which continue to shape new economic and social forms. The popularity of the Internet and the innovation of mobile communication technology have greatly promoted the sharing of information resources and the speed and breadth of knowledge dissemination. This has had a far-reaching impact on the education mode, work style and even entertainment and leisure of human society. In China, the government promotes the "Internet Plus" action plan, vigorously develops the digital economy, and seeks to build a digital China and a smart society, so as to improve governance capacity and efficiency, and realise the in-depth integration of scientific and technological innovation with economic and social development [10].

Third, the ideological scene in the new era is becoming increasingly diversified. During China's long process of reform and opening up, not only has the economy and technology undergone radical changes, but people's ideological concepts have also undergone subtle transformations. Under this diversified ideological landscape, the inheritance and development of socialist core values and excellent traditional Chinese culture are facing unprecedented challenges and opportunities. China is endeavouring to seek a balance between inheritance and innovation, responding to the calls of the times, enhancing its cultural soft power, and shaping the country's cultural image by strengthening the building of civic morality and the cultivation of cultural self-confidence.

Finally, socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, which is also characterised by a greater concern for people's livelihood and fairness and justice. As the people's living standards improve and their aspiration for a better life grows stronger, the public's needs in the areas of education, health, housing and the environment have become increasingly urgent. This requires the Chinese government to pay more attention to improving people's livelihoods and promoting social justice while promoting high-quality economic development, so as to continuously enhance the people's sense of gain, happiness and security. The deepening popularity of the concept of environmental protection and green development indicates that sustainable development has become a social consensus. Under such a general trend, building a modernised economic system with global competitiveness and promoting the formation of a new pattern of comprehensive opening up are becoming China's strategic choices in the new era.

To sum up, China, as the world's largest developing country, has a special historical mission in this major historical orientation of the new era. Its door of opening up to the outside world will only get wider and wider, while internally it will continue to deepen reforms, striving to realise the grand blueprint of high-quality economic development and national rejuvenation. The new era is not only an era of change, but also an era full of challenges and opportunities. Against this backdrop, it is expected that China will continue to play an important role on the global stage and lead a series of new international changes.

4. Analysis of Current Practices and Problems in Marxist Education

Current Marxist education, as the core content of ideological and political education, occupies an important position in the domestic education system. It aims to guide students to correctly understand and master the basic principles of Marxism, to cultivate modern citizens with socialist core values, and to ensure the security of national ideology and cultural heritage. However, Marxist education has faced many challenges and problems in practice.

In practice, Marxist education has penetrated into all stages from primary school to university, forming a multi-level and all-round education system. In colleges and universities, this education is mainly carried out through Marxist theory courses, covering the basic principles of Marxism, ideological and moral cultivation, and the outline of modern Chinese history. The courses aim to cultivate students' sense of historical responsibility and mission, and to enhance their sense of national identity and self-confidence. In terms of teaching methods, various forms have also been tried, such as situational simulation, discussion and exchange, and social practice, in order to enhance students' participation and discursive ability.

However, Marxist education also encounters some dilemmas in practice. The first is that the teaching content is far from the actual life of contemporary students. Marxism preaches historical materialism and focuses on the unity of theory and practice, but the reality of how to combine abstract theoretical knowledge with students' daily life is a dilemma for educators. For example, the language style and historical background of classical literature differ greatly from the context of contemporary students, who find it difficult to understand and absorb [11]. This requires teachers to focus not only on the systematic nature of theories but also on the reality of the theories in the teaching process, combining the theories with the real life of students and the development practice of contemporary China, so as to enhance the relevance and effectiveness of teaching.

Secondly, Marxist education was once understood by some people as mere political indoctrination, and students tend to adopt a coping attitude, lacking active learning and in-depth thinking. This phenomenon is partly due to the fact that the traditional way of education puts too much emphasis on the indoctrination of knowledge and fails to fully mobilise students' initiative and creativity. To solve this problem, educators are trying to enhance students' understanding and identification with Marxism through interactive teaching methods such as case analyses, role-playing, and classroom discussions, but it will still take time for these methods to become popular and deeper.

In addition to this, Marxist education also suffers from a shortage of teachers. Excellent teachers of Civics should not only have profound theoretical knowledge, but also have the ability to communicate with students, understand their ideological dynamics, and be able to guide them to think positively. However, the current construction of such a teaching force is an ongoing challenge that needs to be addressed systematically from various aspects such as university teacher training, institutional incentives, and career development.

The long-term goal of Marxist education is to cultivate high-quality talents that meet the needs of socialist modernisation. To this end, it is necessary to solve the problem of combining the basic principles of Marxism with the practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics, which is a challenge not only in terms of educational content but also in terms of educational methods. Under the background of globalisation and informationisation, how to make Marxist education not lose its theoretical sophistication, but also be close to the students' reality, and stimulate the students' inner interest in learning and sense of identity, is the major issue of Marxist education at present. In addition, educators also need to pay attention to the dissemination and interpretation of Marxism in the international perspective, constantly update the concept of education, and actively build a platform for exchanging and mutual understanding with global knowledge, so as to open up a broader thinking space for students. Only through continuous self-innovation can Marxist education blossom into a more vivid and lively vitality in the new era.

5. Exploring the Innovative Path of Marxist Education

Marxism, as a system of thought with a profound historical and theoretical foundation, still has great practical significance and educational value in the 21st century. Facing the trend of globalisation, the rapid development of science and technology as well as the change of social structure, traditional Marxist education is facing unprecedented challenges. To keep the theoretical and practical education of Marxism advanced and attractive in the times, it is necessary to explore and innovate its teaching path continuously.

As the foundation of Marxist education, the systematic nature of its theoretical education must first be strengthened. This not only means comprehensive and in-depth teaching of the basic principles, fundamental views and methodology of Marxism, but also means, on this basis, incorporating the development practices of contemporary Chinese society with the times. Marxism is not a static set of doctrines, but a theory in constant development. In specific educational practices, it is important to emphasise the combination of theory and reality, such as combining the development achievements of socialism with Chinese characteristics with the basic principles of Marxism to provide students with an intuitive and concrete learning platform. Through the mutual reflection of history and reality, students can be inspired to think deeply, thus enhancing their understanding and application of theory.

Current educational practice also needs to focus on methodological innovation. Traditional classroom teaching and full irrigation can no longer meet the learning needs of modern students. With the help of modern information technology, a variety of teaching methods such as flipped classroom and online open course can greatly improve the interactivity and participation of the course, encourage students to take the initiative in learning, and cultivate their critical thinking ability. In addition, practical education is an indispensable part of Marxist education, and various forms of social practice activities, such as social investigation and volunteer service, can enable students to closely integrate theoretical knowledge and social reality, and improve their sense of social responsibility and mission.

Innovation in educational content is also the key to the continuous development of Marxist education. With the development of the times, socialist core values, ecological civilisation construction and other contents should be incorporated into the education system. This requires educators to have not only a solid theoretical foundation, but also an interdisciplinary knowledge structure and a broad vision. Through interdisciplinary curriculum design, Marxist education can be better integrated into the fields of law, philosophy, economics and other disciplines, enriching the content of education and improving its vitality.

Further, the modernisation of Marxist education also requires the establishment of a perfect evaluation system. The innovation of evaluation system is not only the assessment of students' academic performance, but also the comprehensive evaluation of their ideological understanding, practical ability and even moral cultivation. The establishment of such an evaluation system can make the education process pay more attention to the overall development of students and better reflect the characteristics of Marxist education.

Finally, the construction of teachers is one of the elements of Marxist education innovation. Teachers should not only be the transmitter of knowledge, but also the value leader and the disseminator of advanced culture. The dual training of teachers' political quality and business ability should be strengthened, so that they not only have profound Marxist theoretical knowledge, but also can accurately grasp the pulse of the times and lead students to correctly face the reality and the challenges of the future.

To sum up, the innovative path of Marxist education is not achieved overnight, and requires the joint efforts of educators and students to work creatively. Only in this way can Marxism, the spark of thought, shine more brightly in the new era.

6. Conclusion

In the context of the new era, we can clearly see the extensive penetration of Marxist education in practice and the complex challenges it faces. Modern China is endeavouring to integrate the basic theories of Marxism with the characteristics of the times in order to adapt to the fast-changing domestic and foreign environments and the new demands of the information age. However, the development of Marxist education is not a smooth one, and it also needs to face the impact brought about by ideological pluralism in the context of globalisation, as well as the challenges posed by the information technology revolution to the traditional mode of education.

Firstly, it is the task of how to effectively combine the basic principles of Marxism with the practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics, a task that is particularly prominent in the field of education. Marxist education is not only about teaching basic theories, but also about inspiring thinking, analysing current social problems and providing scientific solutions. This requires teachers and educators to deepen their theoretical skills, enrich their teaching methods, and interpret and promote the contemporary values of Marxism in the light of China's actual situation.

Secondly, the combination of Marxism and modern technical means should also be paid attention to in educational practice. In today's rapid development of information technology, the use of modern educational technology such as online platforms and multimedia tools for Marxist education has become an important trend and demand. This not only increases the accessibility and interactivity of education, but also puts forward higher requirements on the content and form of education, and educators must constantly innovate educational concepts and methods to maintain the vitality and effectiveness of education. Finally, to meet the challenges from globalisation and diversification, Marxist education needs to further strengthen cultural confidence and improve the discursive ability of young people. In international exchanges, Chinese youth should learn to critically absorb excellent foreign culture and knowledge while adhering to local cultural roots and values. Marxist education is not only about teaching a system of thought, but also about cultivating students' ability to analyse and solve problems, and the goal of education is to form composite talents with an international outlook and local wisdom. To sum up, the practice of Marxist education in China in the new era is a profound innovation process. It has to cope with the challenges of internal and external environments, embrace the development of technology, and seek a balance between heritage and innovation. It is not only a renewal of educational methods, but also a thoughtful and comprehensive upgrade of educational concepts and contents, in order to cultivate new-age talents with a greater sense of historical mission, innovative spirit and international competitiveness. In the tide of globalisation, this positive adaptation and proactive change in Marxist education will play a key role in the future development of society.

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