

# Marx's Ecological View and Ecological Civilization Construction of China

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**Abstract:** We gradually realized the important role of ecological civilization in the process of socialist construction China characteristics in our country. The eighteen Congress of the Communist Party of China put forward the idea of the construction of ecological civilization, in which one of the five combined. Our country is on the primary stage of socialism, and the ecological civilization construction has some shortcomings. But we can guarantee to maintain the correct orientation in the process of the construction of ecological civilization, and achieve a rapid development by learning the Marx ecology view.

**Keywords:** Marx; ecological view; ecological civilization.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Marx thinks that people are part of nature, has the ability to transform nature also depends on the nature, we cannot explore the relationship of man and nature without the relationship of the people and society, and we also can't attempt to achieve our development by dominating the natural. He pointed out that "we should not revel in our victory for nature. For each such victory, nature had took vengeance on us. Every victory in the first step, we have really achieved the desired results, but at the second step and third step, it has a completely different beyond expectation effect, and it often cancel the first result".<sup>[1]</sup> Since the human history started, people stressed for natural claim constantly in the process of knowing and

transforming nature, although there are some people to realize the harmony between man and nature, puts forward to the natural world mining in moderation, in the development process of the whole history for human society, it is out of control process for the development and transform the nature of most of the time. As Marx points out We are "intoxicated" in victory for the nature deeply, but ignore the harmonious relationship between man and nature, especially after the industrial revolution, human bid farewell to the original self-sufficient economy, embarked on a big machine production factory in the handicraft industry era, uncontrolled discharge the early factories force were mostly from dynamic force for mineral resources uncontrolled development and fossil fuels, which has brought the huge pollution to the environment. The UK has been referred to as a "fog capital" may because of the pollution in the beginning of the industrial and social development. Therefore, regarding the nature of uncontrolled claim, although in a certain period of time has brought great wealth of material wealth, but when the string of maintaining the relationship between man and nature once broken, it will lead to very serious consequences, the nature will use its unique way to punish human beings.

Marx also believes that the root of ecological crisis is the capitalist system, and the capitalist extracts the surplus value to the utmost extent under capitalism, ignoring the legitimate needs of the workers, also ignoring the law of natural development. He believes that only the Communist society can achieve the real harmony of man and nature." Communism, as a completed naturalism, is equal to the humanitarian, as the completed humanitarian, also is equal

to the naturalism. It is a real solution of the contradiction between people and nature, people and people, and as well as between the existence and nature, object and self-definition, freedom and necessity, individual and class the struggle".<sup>[2]</sup> In capitalist society, the extraction of surplus value maximum is the only goal what the capitalists pursue. The living status and the nature environment of the workers are not within the scope of their consideration. Such a social system will inevitably lead to the deterioration of the relationship between man and nature. With the development of human productive forces forward, tool production and object of labor people are undergoing tremendous changes. After science and technology revolution, the capitalist countries with the high-speed development of the science and technology strength, grasp more high-tech can develop the nature, degree to exploit nature also greatly deepened. At the same time, many natural resources are nonrenewable, to meet the requirements of the development of capitalist society in depth, the damage degree of human nature has to reach an irreversible point for a long time. In the interior of the social and historical development, the working class is gradually grow up with the capitalist social development, if the destruction of the resources are the external reasons the current capitalist system by changing the words, then the proletariat grew, constantly demanding to ensure their legal status is the requirement to produce the capitalist system in the interior of the new power, only through the revolutionary overthrow social system that incommensurate productivity develops, and establish a kind of new social system that person and person, person and natural harmony of communism.

## **2. The ecological civilization development in China**

Since 2002, China has begun to pay attention to the ecological environment. Until 2004, the construction of ecological civilization was basically in the preparation and incubation stage. Then China has gradually realized the important role of ecological civilization construction in the overall national development, and pointed out that constructing the well-off society must follow an ecological

development roads in some occasions. In October 2003, the Third Plenary Session of the sixteenth Congress of the Communist Party of China put forward Scientific Outlook on Development, the Party Central Committee stressed that we must insist on the people-oriented, comprehensive, coordinated, and sustainable development view. "Scientific Outlook on Development treat human, society and nature as an organic combination, to define the connotation of development. It is composed with four basic elements, including economy, policy, cultural land and ecology. This is unity of social economic development and ecological development of nature".<sup>[3]</sup> The essence of development should not only the pursuit of economic interest maximization. The people in the nature and nature itself of our survival should be an important factor in the development process, even is the most important factor. The laborer has been the most active factors for promoting the development of productive forces. Nature is the foundation of our development, any economic society progress or social development cannot be without construction of the harmonious relationship between man and man. The presenting of scientific concept of development means that China has recognized the quality of development, only adhere to the comprehensive coordinated and sustainable development strategy, can we really achieve the great rejuvenation of the our nation.

Hu Jintao put forward formally the concept of "ecological civilization" in population resources environment in 2005. He pointed out that "one of the focus of our current work is to improve ecological construction of the legal and policy system, making the plan of national ecological protection, and vigorously promote the ecological civilization education in the whole society".<sup>[4]</sup> Since a long period of time. Facing the situation of poor and weak, party and state leaders decided to learn from the Soviet Union give priority to developing heavy industry industrialization model. The successful completion of the first five year plan, it lay a solid foundation for the industrialization development in China in the future. But it ignores the protection of the ecological environment for a long time, the relevant laws and regulations is not perfect.

After entering the new era, we are beginning to realize the importance of the development of the protection of environment and resources of the people. With the road China characteristic socialism gradually clear, for the layout of promote the ecological civilization construction has started to become an important part of China's overall planning<sup>1</sup>

After the party's eighteenth Congress held, it put forward that taking the ecological civilization construction into cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Putting forward this theory is a new deployment to implement Scientific Outlook on Development and a beneficial exploration of Marx's ecology. Marx's ecological view is the important theoretical guidance of ecological civilization construction in China. It is not only make the relationship between social system and ecological environment clearly, but also explain the relationship between people is an important content of the influence of the relationship between man and nature, and only improving the relation between person and person constantly can we really guarantee the harmonious development between man and nature. We can grasp the correct direction in the continuous construction of China characteristic socialist road and achieve rapid progress by learning and exploring it.

### **3. The problems of China's ecological civilization construction**

#### **3.1. The ecological administrative system of government is not scientific**

First, the environmental protection and resource management belong to different departments in our country's government department, so the administrative management and supervision function are more dispersed. However, the work they undertook is often having overlapping parts. Sometimes they even absolve themselves from responsibility mutually with the same problems, which greatly reduces the work efficiency. Secondly, the lack of examination system for necessary resource management and environmental protection is not conducive

to promote the construction of ecological civilization. For a long time, the most important standard we measure a government work is the level of economic development, and ignoring the important role of the construction of ecological civilization. The government usually get wide support through social resources such as factory, mining support, most of them are the high consumption, high pollution industries, but it can bring high economic returns. Therefore, they were totally money blinded, they make the construction of ecological civilization behind, ignoring the important role of ecological civilization construction. There are many local governments do not pay attention to the environmental protection or take the governance environment work into the administrative evaluation. Finally, the inter regional cooperation system has not formed. Environment problem is different from other development, and most of the time, it cannot be solved by only a region. For example, the atmosphere, rivers, they may cross domain boundaries of Province. It needs a benign inter regional cooperation system to ensure that the ecological civilization construction can be implemented successfully.

#### **3.2. The resource and environmental protection laws and regulations are not perfect**

Based on the principle of environmental economics, the sewage fee collection standards should be higher than the cost of management. Only in this way can we avoid excessive pursuit of economic interests and ignoring the problem of environmental protection. But China's environment and resources protection of the relevant laws and regulations are not so enough for some serious exceed the standard company. The punishment measures is mainly administrative fine according to the environmental law. the consequences of polluting the environment is only paying some fine in in many enterprise's eyes, it will not affect the long-term development of the enterprise, they have to pay the fine but it is a small part of annual profits of enterprises, therefore, they cannot understand the severe degree of environmental pollution such as emissions of industrial

waste water completely. The cost of punishment is so low that they cannot realize the protection of the ecological environment is a long-term project to benefit the later generations. They only saw the rapid development of the current enterprise economic benefit. Never consider whether the environment pollution, resources waste and is independent of whether these enterprises profit problem. They also cannot find the important role of energy saving and emission reduction from the heart. In addition, there is a breakdown in law enforcement in the environment and resources protection supervision. Taking economic construction as the center lead has led to many local governments pay more attention to profitable business, even if there is excessive pollution. It will form a vicious spiral that the faster development of economy, the more serious environmental pollution.

### **3.3. The public participation is not enough, concept of ecological civilization is weak**

The construction of ecological civilization is not only the state of things, not just government things, it requires all members of the society of common concern and participate in it. Only every individual in a society has realized the importance of environmental issues. Start from their own side of things, care for the environment, save resources. We can play together more, promote the construction of ecological civilization in China. Ecological environment is good or bad has a big effect on everyone living in the same earth, breathing the same air. According to Marx's ecological view, the relationship between human beings causes great problems of the relationship between man and nature, ecological crisis has shown its huge power. It is obvious that important role of "people" in ecological civilization construction. Our country has experienced the development of nearly forty years of reform and opening, the rapid development of economy, people's living standards continue to improve, people who having adequate food and clothing began to seek more experience in nature, but they ignore the important role of the protecting the environment. China has a large population, vast territory,

improving the people's ideological and moral level is a long process, the public think that protecting the environment or ecological civilization construction is not their own business. They do not approve the important role of construction of ecological in their heart, so they cannot take action for the construction of ecological civilization in our country.

## **4. Marx's ecological view of ecological civilization in China reference**

### **4.1. Adhering to the guidance of the theory of ecological civilization**

Marx theory has always been the guiding ideology of China's socialist construction. We must adhere to the theoretical banner cannot be shaken, to use the development Marx doctrine to guide the construction of socialist modernization. At present, we have been aware of the importance of the construction of ecological civilization. The Marx doctrine about the ecological civilization is the important theoretical basis of our ecological civilization construction. Engels believed that we dominate the nature, not as a conqueror control a foreign nation, or stand in the nature outside, -- on the contrary, our flesh, blood and brains are belonged to nature, found in nature; our rule of nature, contributed to that we are stronger than all other animal, and we can recognize and correctly use the laws of nature".<sup>[5]</sup> After the party's sixteen plenary session put forward Scientific Outlook on Development formally, China has increasingly attached importance to harmony of man and nature. Source of scientific theory is practice, both the Marx's ecological view and the scientific development view of our party are the beneficial exploration for ecological civilization construction based on actual situation, it continues to guide us to make contributions to building a harmonious society and a harmonious world in the dynamic development.

#### **4.2. Improving the mechanism of ecological civilization construction.**

With a scientific theory to guide us, practical and effective action is an important measure to implement the construction of ecological civilization. First of all, the government should establish a perfect administrative mechanism of ecological planning. Scientific and reasonable mechanism is a prerequisite for action. It will be sure that there is a perfect and reasonable planning before making a policy, thus to ensure a solid foundation of ecological civilization construction. Secondly, establishing a virtuous administration mechanism of ecological civilization, in the aspect of government function division, environmental protection and resource management departments should be communicated, and coordinated. Finally, establish a fair and equitable evaluation mechanism of ecological civilization. In the original investigation of government performance, the level of economic development is very important evaluation standard, it has also cause a lot of local government sacrificing the ecological environment to get more economic benefits, and resulting in a large number of environmental problems. After put forward the construction of ecological civilization theory, we must increase the ecological investment in the actual operation, and add the ecological civilization construction quality to the government appraisal content, let the functional departments at all levels to realize the important role of the construction of ecological civilization and abandon the traditional view of achievements that pursuit of economic interests excessively.

#### **4.3. Strengthening the institutional guarantee for the construction of ecological civilization**

Marx thinks that the reason of ecological crisis is the development of capitalist production system. On the face of it, the ecological crisis is caused by the inappropriate relationship between man and nature, but the contradiction between man and man is the real reason to lead to the Tragedy. The discord of social relationship led to imbalance in the relationship between people and nature". The

deviation between man and nature is the deviation from the relation between people and people. In other words, that is determined by the deviation of social system".<sup>[6]</sup> In the social of capitalism, capitalist put compress costs to improve profits before protecting the environment and saving resources. The ecological crisis of capitalism will inevitably become more serious in driven by the interests. Famous Marx ecological theorists Forster thought that it is wrong to treat the environmental pollution caused by the carbon dioxide emissions as a technical problem or fuel efficiency, and the essence of the problem lies in the capital accumulation impulse the developed capitalist countries to maximize the development of automobile industry, and to treat it as production profit of the most effective ways".<sup>[7]</sup>

As a new social system, the socialist system is different from the capitalism, the most obvious thing is that it will not let the capital alone in the market. It adjust economic policies by the state's macro regulation and control. On the one hand, it ensures the interests of all parties in society. On the other hand, it avoids over development on ecological environment driven by the interests of Economics. Marx pointed out that "social person and the unites producer, will adjust the material transformation between them and the nature, put them under common control it, and not let it rule themselves as blind forces, achieving this material transformation in the most suitable way to human nature by consuming minimal power".<sup>[8]</sup> Although at present China is still in the primary stage of socialism, it is also facing up the ecological crisis that capitalism had faced, but we have realized the problem rising earlier than them. Therefore, we can believe that our construction of ecological civilization will be on the right track by continuously improving our Socialist System."The essence of protecting environment is to protect the productive forces, work in this area should continue to strengthen. Environmental consciousness and environmental quality, is an important standard to measure a country and national civilization degree"<sup>[9]</sup>

## **5. CONCLUSION**

Promoting the construction of ecological civilization vigorously in China is a necessary means to solve some of

the problems of our country nearly forty years of reform and opening to the outside environment, and it also provide necessary guarantee for socialist construction of China, besides, it is also the important premise and basis of the harmonious society which is democracy and the rule of law, fairness and justice, honesty and friendship, full of vigor and vitality, stability and order, harmony between man and nature. At last, insisting the construction of ecological civilization is the inevitable trend in the whole of the world, it is the inevitable choice to be a country who is responsible and to bear the power.

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