

Research on Cultivation Approach of Socialist Core Values of Sports Colleges and Universities

From the Perspective of Carrying forward Chinese Sports Spirit

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Abstract—This paper is designed to clarify difference and relations between Chinese sports spirit and socialist core values, discuss possibility and specific approach of cultivating socialist core values by carrying forward Chinese sports spirit and finally realize that cultivation of socialist core values are put into practice and effective taking carrying forward Chinese sports spirit as entry point. Chinese sports spirit is an industrial value different from other national sports spirit; socialist core values are mainstream values of modern Chinese society based on condensation of Chinese traditional culture and present conditions of China; both are rooted in Chinese traditional culture and evolved from Chinese national spirit. Socialist core values are value benchmarking of the whole China, Chinese sports spirit is thought engine of sports industry, both are the relationship of universal and individual. Carrying forward Chinese sports spirit is an effective way to cultivate socialist core values in sports colleges and universities.

Keywords—socialist core values; sports colleges and universities; Chinese sports spirit

I. INTRODUCTION

After Report to Eighteenth National Congress of the Communist Party of China clearly stated socialist core values, General Office of the CPC Central Committee issued *On the Cultivation and Practice the Socialist core values Opinions* in December 2013, pointing out cultivation and practice the socialist core values shall be integrated into overall process of national education, proposing cultivation and practice socialist core values shall start from childhood and school and expand an effective way to cultivate and practice the teenagers' socialist core values. Students in sports colleges and universities are reserve talents of sports field, cultivation of socialist core values for them is need of Chinese sports development. This paper is designed to discuss an effective way to cultivate socialist core values in sports colleges and universities from the perspective of carrying forward Chinese sports spirit.

II. WHAT ARE SOCIALIST CORE VALUES?

A. Connotation of Socialist Core Values

In November 2012, Report to Eighteenth National Congress of the Communist Party of China clearly stated clearly stated “Three advocates”, that is, 24-word socialist core values of “advocating prosperity, democracy, civility, and harmony; advocating freedom, equality, justice and the rule of law; advocating patriotism, dedication, integrity, and friendship so as to cultivate socialist core values”, which propose value goal required to pursue at national, social and citizen levels.

1) *Prosperity, democracy, civility, and harmony is value pursuit at national level.*

As the old Chinese saying goes, “The nation is prosperous and the people are strong and powerful”, only the nation is prosperous can people are strong and powerful. National prosperity provides economic base for social development, the economic base determines superstructure, therefore, national prosperity is important basis of other values pursuit.

Democracy is that people are the masters of their own country. China's Constitution stipulates that the state organs of the People's Republic of China apply the principle of democratic centralism. State organs at all levels are responsible to people and subject to their supervision; avoid personal arbitrariness and feeble and lax phenomenon, which is the key of establishing socialist country.

With civilization of over 5,000 year, China is known as “a state of ceremonies” since ancient times. General Secretary Xi Jinping stresses that to realize China dream of a great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, material wealth shall be overwhelming abundant, spiritual wealth shall also be overwhelming abundant; we shall preserve to grasp socialist cultural and ethical progress consistently.

Harmonious society is common pursuit of human. The Sixth Plenum of the 16th CPC Central Committee clearly put forward the guiding thought of constructing harmonious socialist society. Harmony was endowed with five

connotations: Firstly, harmony of individual; Secondly, harmony between people; thirdly, harmony between systems and stratum; fourthly, harmony between individual, society and nature; fifthly, harmony between the whole nation and external world. Establishing a harmonious society in which people of all stratum get along with each other and rule together harmoniously is the ideal state that socialist spiritual civilization finally realizes.

2) Freedom, equality, justice and rule of law are value pursuit at social level

Realizing "the full and free development of every individual" is the highest value ideal of Marxist theory: "In place of the old bourgeois society, with its classes and class antagonisms, we shall have an association, in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all."¹ Freedom is also the ultimate goal of the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics. To realize the free and full development of people, we must mobilize the enthusiasm and creativity of the masses, and speed up the reform and opening up and the socialist modernization process.

Equality is the premise of the socialist society. The capitalist society advocates "all men are created equally," is a natural right. The socialism shall learn from this achievement of civilization, not only shall respect and guarantee human rights, realize that all people are equal before the law, but also shall "ensure that everyone enjoys the right of equal participation and equal development, and shares the achievement of reform and development".² Everyone in society shall have equal right and obligation, and shall be provided the same opportunity to achieve success through effort.

The meaning of justice is "fair and just". Justice emphasizes fairness and righteousness, and is the basic value orientation that human society always pursues. The premise of justice is human liberation and the acquisition of the right of equality and freedom. Justice is the substantive characteristic and cornerstone of harmonious society. The Chinese Communist Party adheres to the principle of "Building a party for the interests of the vast majority, Governing for the people" in the governing process, which means that upholding social justice is the struggle objective of the party and the chief value.

Rule of law is the system guarantee for realizing social freedom, equality and justice. Rule by law shall be achieved. There must be laws to go by, the laws must be observed and strictly enforced, and lawbreakers must be prosecuted in social development. It is an objective requirement of developing socialist market economy, an obvious sign of social civilization and a necessary guarantee of lasting political stability of a nation. Therefore, rule by law becomes a basic administering tactic of CCP.

¹ Marx and Engels. *The Communist Manifesto, Marx and Engels Anthology* (Volume I) [M] Beijing: The People's Publishing House, 1995 edition, P294.

² Sun Jie. Study on Socialist Core Values in Contemporary China[D]. Beijing: Graduate School of Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C, 2014 edition, P86-87.

3) Patriotism, professional dedication, integrity and friendship are value pursuit at citizen level

During historical development of thousands of years, the Chinese nation forms the national spirit with patriotism as the core. Patriotism has become a national sentiment rooted in people's heart. Carrying forward the spirit of patriotism is beneficial to strengthening national cohesion, arousing people's patriotic enthusiasm and helping to guide people to establish correct ideal and belief, consciously standardize behavior, unite as one, be positive and make joint effort to establish a rich, strong and prosperous country.

Professional dedication is the core concept of professional ethics. People in various industries are required to cherish posts and devote wholeheartedly to work, be dutifully dedicated to their own posts, realize self-value and contribute to the material civilization construction of the society. Strengthening the construction of professional ethics with professional dedication as the core both is beneficial to constructing good order of the market economy, and has strong boost to the social and economic construction.

Integrity, namely honest and credit, is a traditional virtue of Chinese nation. It is of special significance under market economy. It can strengthen the trust between people, improve the efficiency of market economy, and enhance citizen's sense of safety and happiness.

Friendship is also a traditional virtue of Chinese nation. Confucius said, "Don't do to others what you don't want others to do to you." We can get along with others and create harmonious social atmosphere only through treating others liberally, mutual respect and mutual consideration. It is crucial for the stability and unity of society and the prosperity of nation.

B. Essence of Socialist Core Values: People Oriented

The requirements of socialist core values at three levels are people oriented from the essence, regarding the vital interests of the masses as the final pursuit. Since people are the main body of nation and society. Both the construction of nation and the development of society are to realize people's free and full development. Insisting on people oriented and respecting the subjectivity of the masses are the essential requirements of constructing the socialism with Chinese characteristics.

III. WHAT'S CHINESE SPORTS SPIRIT?

Huang Li (2008) believes that Chinese sports spirit is a tenacious and positive value pursuit with patriotism as the core, which is formed in the long-term sports practice of Chinese sports professionals, and that it is a specific embodiment of Chinese national spirit in the field of sports. The Olympic spirit is a spirit benchmark recognized by international sports circles. The Chinese sports spirit has the ideology with Chinese national features, which is different from that of other nations. Each nation has different values and sportsmanships that directly result in different performance of each country in Olympic Games. Therefore, Chinese sports spirit can be called sinicized Olympic spirit.

A. Extraction Process of Chinese Sports Spirit

On August 8, 1996, Jiang Zemin met with the Chinese sports delegation of the 26th Olympic Games and delivered a speech. He emphasized that the excellent result achieved by the athletes of the Chinese delegation is closely related to their "carrying forward patriotism, collectivism and revolutionary heroism, scrupulously abiding by sportsmanship, uniformly struggling and maintaining strong fighting will", and required that "all industries shall learn from the athletes who win honor for the country in Olympic Games, carry forward the spirit of patriotic dedication and hard work and construct a better country".³

In 1996, Wu Shaozu, Director of General Administration of Sport of China at that time, made a speech in Free Paper Session of Leading Cadres in State Physical Culture and Sports Commission System & 2010 Sport Reform and Development Strategy Meeting. He summarizes the connotation of Chinese sports spirit as "Nation first, Professional dedication, Be scientific and realistic, Observe law and discipline, Solidarity and friendship, Hard work and plain living" according to the speech of Jiang Zemin and combining with practice.⁴ Thereafter, Mr. Zhang Zhenting put forward "Six discussions on Chinese sport spirit", made a detailed illustration from the theoretical level that plays the role of carrying forward and propaganda.

In 2000, Xie Qionghuan, Head of Department of Policies and Laws of General Administration of Sport of China at that time, condensed the Chinese sports spirit again and summarize it as "Win honor for the country, selfless dedication, Be scientific and realistic, Observe law and discipline, Solidarity and friendship, Tenaciously strive".⁵ He keeps the original contents such as patriotism, dedication, factualism, law-abiding and solidarity, and changes "hard work and plain living" into "tenaciously strive" to adapt to the actual requirement of new era.

Dr. Huang Li (2007) summarized the viewpoints of predecessors and closely combined with new trend of current sport development in her study on Chinese sports spirit, and put forward the new Chinese sports spirit--"Patriotism and dedication, solidarity and cooperation; Catching up with, surpassing and striving for change, fair competition; Struggling for self-improvement, happiness and healthiness".⁶ She keeps the patriotism, dedication, solidarity and striving, replaces the original factualism and law-abiding with fair competition and adds "happiness and healthiness". Chinese sports spirit, which was originally limited to competitive sports, was expanded to mass sports scope, covering a more comprehensive content and more reflecting the humanistic care.

B. Connotation of Chinese Sports Spirit

- Patriotism and dedication. Under the same condition, Chinese sports spirit advocates that the precedence shall be nation, society and individual. The national interest takes priority over personal interest. An individual shall standardize his/her behavior to safeguard the national image, and selflessly devote to the sports cause for national honor. "Nation first" has been deeply embedded into the spiritual gene of Chinese athletes. The responsibility and the sense of mission aroused by patriotism urge the athletes to tenaciously strive and fight for the honor of homeland. Excellent sports performance not only helps to consolidate the international status of a country, but also facilitates the cohesion of people and the degree of participation of sports.
- Solidarity and cooperation. In competitive sports, excellent achievement is the joint effort of many parties including coach, leader of sports team and team doctor, etc., not merely the personal effort of athlete. The team members can achieve the final victory in team event only through solidarity, cooperation and collaboration. Many international players have the following impression on Chinese team: "When I compete with Chinese team, I have a feeling that what I face is not just a Chinese player but a Chinese collective".⁷
- Catching up with, surpassing and striving for change. The Olympic Motto of "Higher, Faster, Stronger" encourages the athletes and sports teams to challenge the limit, go beyond oneself, approach to high international level, cover the shortage and continuously innovate in the aspects of hardware facilities, personnel allocation as well as technique and tactics, etc.
- Fair competition. Competitive sports refer to that the winner is determined through competition of both parties during the process. The competition is meaningful due to competition. Sports competition emphasizes fairness. Each sport competition has its established rule that is the premise of objective and fair judgment. Fair competition is a respect both for the participator and for the competition.
- Struggling for self-improvement. Rong Guotuan had the brave words of "How many decisive battles one can encounter in his whole life, If not now, when?" when he participated in the Olympic Games in 1959. After he won the world champion, the spirit of struggling is gradually embedded to the spiritual gene of the Chinese athletes. It inspires the athletes to bear hardships and stand hard work, tenaciously struggle to realize self-worth and win honor for the country.

³ Zhang Zhenting. Chinese Sports Spirit[M]. Beijing: Beijing Sport University Press, 1996 edition.

⁴ Same as the above book, P11-12.

⁵ Xie Qionghuan. Chinese sports spirit is the spiritual wealth of the whole nation [J]. Seeking Truth, 2000 (21), P11-13.

⁶ Huang Li. Chinese Sports Spirit Study [M]. Beijing: Beijing Sport University Press, 2008 version, P 47-51.

⁷ Xie Qionghuan. Why the star is so brilliant? -For 50th anniversary of Chinese table tennis team, *Sports Culture Guide*, 2002(5).

- Happiness and healthiness. Sports competition is a double test for physical quality and psychological quality. Staying optimistic and peaceful attitude, never back down facing the dilemma and never losing heart facing the failure are perfect performance of personality. The mass sports also have the value and function of facilitating physical and psychological happiness and healthiness.

IV. HOW TO FOSTER SOCIALIST CORE VALUES WHILE CARRYING FORWARD CHINESE SPORTS SPIRIT? IS IT FEASIBLE?

A. *The Relation between Chinese Sports Spirit and Socialist Core Values Is the Relations between Generality and Particularity.*

- The difference of the two. Different scope: Socialist core values belong to the core value of the whole society. Chinese sports spirit belongs to the core value of sports industry. The former is a general concept that applies to the whole, while the latter is a particular concept that applies to the local.
- The relation of the two. Generality exists in particularity. Socialist core values can be reflected only through the value of each industry. Particularity shall firstly conform to generality and then have its own characteristic. Therefore, Chinese sports spirit must conform to the requirement of socialist core values.

B. *The Mechanism for the Interaction of Carrying forward Chinese Sports Spirit and Fostering Socialist Core Values*

The relation between fostering socialist core values and carrying forward Chinese sports spirit is not only the one between objective and means, but also the one of mutual promotion and interaction.

- The sports colleges and universities can foster socialist core values only through carrying forward Chinese sports spirit. The materialist dialectics of Marxism believes that generality implies in individuality, and that the conflict can be truly solved through the combination of universality and peculiarity. That is to say, the sports colleges and universities can truly implement the cultivation of socialist core values only through combining with the spirit of sports industry and carrying forward the Chinese sports spirit. Otherwise, it will stay in the level of propaganda slogan forever.
- Carrying forward Chinese sports spirit under the leading of socialist core values can facilitate the sound development of sports cause and sport industry. Reviewing and correcting the decision-making and the behavior of sports professionals with socialist core values help to vigorously carry forward the spirit of sports industry, contain the unhealthy trend and the bad habits of sports industry, form good social

atmosphere and ensure the sound development of sports cause and industry.

V. CHANNELS OF CARRYING FORWARD CHINESE SPORTS SPIRIT IN FOSTERING SOCIALIST CORE VALUES

A. *Improving quality of teachers, paying attention to words and deeds*

The teacher is the most important life tutor in the growing process of undergraduates. In addition to teachers for cultural courses, the teachers of sports colleges and universities also include coach and counselor who administrate the students' daily work. These three types of teachers are crucial for fostering the student's socialist core values. Therefore, the teachers not only shall improve their accomplishment from the aspect of theory, but also shall pay attention to the teacher's ethics, be a model for and set themselves as an example to students in the aspect of practicing the Chinese sports spirit conforming to socialist core values.

B. *Combining cultivation with daily teaching*

Propagandizing excellent achievement of Chinese Olympic players in daily teaching is an effective way to carrying forward Chinese sports spirit. The sports colleges and universities shall explain the content of socialist core values in combination with the concrete content of Chinese sports spirit, illustrate the concrete embodiment of socialist core values in the field of sports, timely guide and restrain the students' classroom performance in corresponding classroom behavior, and make the students understand and practice the specific requirements of Chinese sports spirit conforming to socialist core values.

C. *Realizing self-education utilizing the specific sense of belonging and sense of pride of students in sports colleges and universities*

Men of talent come out in succession in the field of Chinese sports. Excellent athletes of each sport fight in the racecourse and obtain excellent achievements that draw the attention of many people domestic and abroad. Compared with students in ordinary universities, various achievements in the field of sport have a larger influence on students of sports colleges and universities, because they are the successors in the field of sport. Their sense of belonging and sense of pride shall be utilized to make them consciously standardize personal behavior, actively learn from models in the field of sports, absorb and internalize Chinese sports spirit, and add strong power to fostering socialist core values by sports colleges and universities.

D. *Fostering and practicing socialist core values in sports practice*

Sports activities in many forms, such as outdoor training, sports meeting, sports teaching assistance and volunteer service, are carried out. At different times and different phases, we shall formulate sports practice plan conforming to students' development, and shall not merely pursue scale or merely pay attention to effect. Advance publicity and

encouragement shall be utilized to improve the students' enthusiasm of participation, and make them to practice the connotation of Chinese sports spirit in the process of sports practice. Only regarding sports practice as the carrier of fostering socialist core values and conveying it to students in the way of practice, can socialist core values be externalized as practical action, and make training be truly effective.

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