

The Essence and Significance of Work Based on Socialist Core Values

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Abstract: Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the President of the CPC has put forward a series of new ideas, viewpoints, and judgments around cultivating and practicing socialist core values, forming important theoretical achievements on this topic. The Report to the 19th National Congress further pointed out: “We will advocate prosperity, democracy, civilization, and harmony; advocate freedom, equality, justice, and the rule of law; advocate patriotism, dedication, integrity, and friendliness; and actively cultivate and practice core socialist values.” This is a summary and refinement of the experience in building socialist core values since the 18th National Congress. Implementing the President of the CPC’s important expositions on cultivating and practicing socialist core values is of great and far-reaching significance for advancing the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

Keywords: Socialist core values; Cultivation and practice; Essence and significance of work

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1. Introduction

In the system of socialist core values, “prosperity, democracy, civilization, and harmony” are the value goals at the national level, “freedom, equality, justice, and the rule of law” are the value orientations at the social level, and “patriotism, dedication, integrity, and friendliness” are the value criteria at the civic level. At the individual level, one’s value orientation should be measured by “patriotism and friendliness.” As the core content of the construction of socialist culture with Chinese characteristics, integrating socialist core values into people’s daily work enables people to better understand and grasp the essence and significance of work, fully recognize their social responsibilities and historical missions, consciously establish correct outlooks on life and values, thereby improving work quality and efficiency^[1].

2. Fully grasp the important significance of cultivating and practicing socialist core values

In his speech at the National Conference on Propaganda and Ideological Work, the President of the CPC profoundly expounded the status and role of socialist core values in contemporary Chinese society. He pointed out: “Cultivating and practicing socialist core values is not only a key link in improving national quality and enhancing cultural confidence but also an inherent driving force for promoting the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity. It is both the cornerstone of strengthening ideological and political work and the core content of building socialist spiritual civilization.” These remarks profoundly reveal the importance of cultivating and practicing socialist core values in the new era^[2].

Over time, people have become more aware that internalizing these values in the mind and externalizing them in action has become a major task related to the future development direction and national image building. By continuously promoting education on socialist core values, people can effectively guide the broad masses of people to form correct worldviews, outlooks on life, and values, thereby providing strong spiritual support and moral strength for China’s economic and social development.

Furthermore, cultivating and practicing socialist core values plays an irreplaceable role in realizing the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation. It can not only unite the common will of the people of all ethnic groups but also stimulate tremendous social vitality and creativity, injecting a steady stream of positive energy into the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. At the same time, it is also an important guarantee for safeguarding national unity and promoting ethnic harmony, helping to build a harmonious and stable social environment and ensuring China’s long-term stable development^[3].

Therefore, people must fully recognize the profound significance of cultivating and practicing socialist core values, regard this work as a common responsibility of the whole society, carry out in-depth publicity and education activities, and make it a code of conduct consciously followed by every citizen. Only in this way can people continuously enhance the civilized quality of the whole nation, push the construction of socialist spiritual civilization to a new level, and provide a solid ideological guarantee and spiritual motivation for building a great modern socialist country in all respects and realizing the Chinese Dream^[4].

3. Cultivating and practicing socialist core values is an important guarantee for building a harmonious society

Building a harmonious socialist society is not only a strategic choice of the country but also a historical responsibility that every Chinese should shoulder together. Since the proposal of creating a new situation in the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics during the journey of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, this major task has been put on the agenda. The vision of a harmonious society aims to build an ideal society where all people can give full play to their potential, find a social environment suitable for their own development, and achieve harmonious coexistence on this basis^[5]. It means that all aspects of society—political, economic, social, cultural, etc.—can be properly coordinated and balanced, contradictions and conflicts among the people can be resolved in a timely and fair manner, and social fairness and justice can be effectively maintained and realized.

To build such a harmonious socialist society, people must adhere to the scientific outlook on development as the fundamental guide, which is not only a guiding ideology but also a practical guideline. The scientific outlook on development emphasizes putting people first, focusing on overall planning and coordination, emphasizing

sustainable development, and highlighting reform and innovation^[6]. Guided by this, people can more scientifically handle various contradictions among the people, avoid the intensification of interest conflicts, and maintain social stability and harmony. At the same time, improving the socialist market economic system and expanding opening up can provide new momentum for economic growth, promote the effective allocation of domestic and foreign resources, and promote economic restructuring and upgrading.

In addition, building a country, government, and society under the rule of law is an important guarantee for realizing a harmonious society^[7]. The rule of law is the basic way of governing the country. Only by combining governing the country according to the law, exercising administration according to the law, and building a society under the rule of law can a good social order be formed. Regulate people's behaviors through legal systems, ensure fairness and justice, and thus maintain the overall harmony of society.

To this end, people need the joint efforts of the whole society. Every citizen should actively participate in the construction of a harmonious society and contribute to building a harmonious society through voluntary services, community work, or every bit of behavior in daily life^[8]. Only when everyone realizes their responsibilities and takes practical actions can people truly realize the beautiful vision of all people doing their best, getting their due, and living in harmony. Building a harmonious socialist society is a complex and arduous task, but as long as people persist unremittingly, dare to explore, and continuously promote the implementation of various policies and measures, people will surely gradually achieve the harmonious state that people pursue, laying a solid social foundation for realizing the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation^[9].

4. Cultivating and practicing socialist core values is an inevitable requirement for strengthening the construction of spiritual civilization

The construction of spiritual civilization is an important part of the socialist modernization drive, a spiritual motivation for promoting the sustained and healthy development of the economy and society, and an important foundation for maintaining social harmony and stability. Vigorously cultivating and practicing socialist core values, and forming and promoting positive, healthy, and civilized ideas and moral customs in the whole society, play an important role in improving citizens' ideological and moral qualities and promoting economic and social development^[10]. Only by integrating core values into the whole process of spiritual civilization construction and all aspects of people's daily life can people better serve the people, serve reform, development, and stability, and serve to consolidate the common ideological foundation for the unity and struggle of the whole Party and the people of all ethnic groups. Therefore, people must actively cultivate and practice socialist core values to provide spiritual motivation and intellectual support for the construction of material civilization^[11].

The construction of spiritual civilization is not only the core of the socialist modernization drive but also an important manifestation of a country's soft power. It is related to the improvement of people's ideological realm, moral cultivation, and cultural literacy, and plays an irreplaceable role in building a harmonious society and promoting the all-round progress of the economy and society. In this process, the cultivation and practice of socialist core values are particularly crucial. By widely disseminating and practicing these core values, people can create a positive, healthy, and upward spiritual atmosphere and moral customs in the whole society^[12].

Such an atmosphere and customs can not only help improve citizens' ideological and moral levels but also effectively stimulate the innovative vitality and development momentum of the whole society. They can guide people to establish correct worldviews, outlooks on life, and values. As an ancient saying goes: "When granaries

are full, people know etiquette; when food and clothing are sufficient, people know honor and disgrace.” The enrichment of material life has laid a solid foundation for the construction of spiritual civilization, and at the same time, the achievements of spiritual civilization construction have provided strong spiritual motivation and intellectual support for the sustained development of material civilization.

In short, the construction of spiritual civilization is an important part of the Party’s governance strategy and a powerful spiritual force for realizing the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation. Let people work together with greater enthusiasm to engage in the construction of spiritual civilization, continuously push China’s spiritual civilization construction to a new level, and contribute wisdom and strength to building a great modern socialist country in all respects and realizing the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation^[13]!

4.1. Cultivate socialist core values

The Report to the 18th National Congress clearly proposed the socialist core values of “advocating prosperity, democracy, civilization, and harmony; advocating freedom, equality, justice, and the rule of law; advocating patriotism, dedication, integrity, and friendliness”, which is a concise summary and refinement of the socialist core value system. The national spirit with patriotism as the core and the spirit of the times with reform and innovation as the core are the essence of the socialist core value system and the internal driving force for its existence and development. Therefore, people must thoroughly study and implement the spirit of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, earnestly practice socialist core values, and provide strong spiritual motivation and intellectual support for building a prosperous, democratic, civilized, harmonious, and beautiful great modern socialist country.

Here are some superficial views on how to cultivate socialist core values: First, people must vigorously promote the national spirit. The Chinese nation has a 5,000-year history of civilization, with hard work, courage, love for peace, pursuit of justice, and excellent traditional culture, whose core is patriotism. People must take promoting the national spirit as an important content of cultivating socialist core values, educate and guide the broad masses of cadres and people to inherit and carry forward the fine traditions of the Chinese nation, consciously integrate personal pursuits into national development, and make unremitting efforts to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation^[14].

Second, people must vigorously strengthen the construction of citizens’ ideological and moral qualities. People must adhere to putting people first, be close to the masses, continuously improve working methods, and guide people to pursue noble moral sentiments and cultivate good social customs. People must deepen mass spiritual civilization creation activities, and extensively carry out activities to create civilized industries, civilized units, and civilized communities.

4.2. Practice socialist core values

As the value cornerstone of our country, socialist core values not only embody the traditional virtues and spirit of the times of the Chinese nation but also reflect the essential requirements pursued by the great cause of socialism. Rooted in a profound cultural soil, they absorb the wisdom and essence of 5,000 years of Chinese civilization, and at the same time keep pace with the times in the continuous development of the times, showing unique Chinese characteristics and national styles. In this context, people must actively advocate and practice these values and build a harmonious and progressive society under their guidance.

To achieve this goal, people need to carry out extensive education work across the whole society to

ensure that the cultivation of socialist core values becomes part of everyone's daily life. From kindergartens to universities, from families to communities, people must sow the seeds of these values and let them take root and germinate in every corner. At the same time, people must integrate them into all links of the national education system, making them deeply rooted in the hearts of the people through various forms of learning and practice activities.

In addition, the cultivation of socialist core values should not be limited to school classrooms but should extend to every corner of the whole society. In many fields, such as economic construction, political construction, cultural construction, and social construction, the requirements and orientations of these core values should be reflected. People should take the opportunity of various major commemorative days, traditional festivals, and cultural activity weeks to organize rich and colorful mass spiritual civilization activities, such as voluntary services, environmental protection, and civilized travel. These activities can effectively convey positive energy, enhance citizens' awareness, and promote social harmony^[15].

5. Conclusion

Socialist core values are our common belief and the ideological foundation for uniting the people. In future work, people must adhere to the guidance of President of the CPC Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, fully implement the spirit of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, actively cultivate and practice socialist core values, guide social trends with socialist core values, enhance people's recognition and sense of belonging to socialist core values, and give full play to their positive role in building consensus and gathering strength. At the same time, people must take socialist core values as the guide, give full play to the publicity and guiding role of mainstream media, actively carry out various thematic practice activities, promote the harmonious and stable development of society, and provide spiritual motivation and intellectual support for realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Disclosure statement

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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