

# Analysis on the Four Paths of the Party's Clean Government Culture in the New Era

Xiao Fang\*, Anping Wang

Anhui University of Technology, Maanshan 243002, Anhui Province, China

\*Corresponding author: Xiao Fang, 992495183@qq.com

---

**Abstract:** The construction of clean government culture is the key link for the Communist Party of China to carry out the work of combating corruption and promoting clean government, and it is also an important step to strengthen the building of a clean and honest party and to win an overwhelming victory in the struggle against corruption. In the new era, promoting the construction of the party's clean government culture by firming the people's position, building up the foundation of faith, improving the party spirit cultivation of party members and strengthening the construction of party conduct, which will help to alert people, especially party members and cadres to cultivate integrity and self-discipline, can open up a new and effective path for comprehensive and strict administration of the party.

**Keywords:** New era; Construction of clean government culture; The Communist Party of China; Path

---

**Publication date:** September 2021; **Online publication:** September 30, 2021

## 1. Introduction

In his speech at the Third plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that to promote Party conduct, clean government and fight corruption. "First, we will thoroughly implement the spirit of the 19th CPC National Congress and constantly strengthen ideological armed forces. Second, we will strengthen the Party's political building to ensure the centralization and unity of the whole party and the strict enforcement of orders and prohibitions. Third, we carry forward the fine style of work and work together to achieve a well-off society. Fourth, we will resolutely punish corruption and consolidate an overwhelming victory in development. Fifth, we will strengthen the main responsibility and improve the supervision system. Sixth, we will show our sword against unhealthy practices and corruption around the people to safeguard their vital interests <sup>[1]</sup>." This provides valuable suggestions for the building of a clean government and the fight against corruption in the new era, which can help the smooth progress of the party's clean government culture. At present, there are still problems such as lack of clean government culture environment, declining social and moral level, misplaced ideas, and corruption in some party and government organs. It is urgent to build a clean government and fight against corruption in the new era. In contemporary China, exploring the methodology of building the party's clean government culture is of great significance to strengthen the building of a clean government and achieve victory in the fight against corruption.

## 2. On the Path to the People's Side: Firming the People's Position and Strengthening the Foundation of Consolidating a Clean Government Culture

Strengthening the people's position is the fundamental requirement of building the party's clean

government culture in the new era. The people are heaven, whose interests are above everything else; the people are earth, in which our party is rooted. The people's position is the fundamental position of the CPC [2]. Since the epoch-making, the Communist Party of China has attached great importance to the key role played by the people in China's revolution, construction and reform. During the hardships of Resistance against the Anti-Japanese War, Comrade Mao Zedong saw a profound insight: "The people, only the people, are the motive force to create world history [3]." In the process of building the party's clean government culture, we need to "prevent the transformation of State and State organs from public servants to social masters [4]" and "adhere to the party's mass line, be close to the people, and work vigorously by their side through thick and thin, constantly win the trust and support of the people, and maintain flesh-and-blood ties with the people [5]."

"The prosperity of politics lies in following the people's will, while the abolition of politics lies in opposing the people's will [6]," we should implant the honest and upright ideas into the minds and hearts of the people. First, we should do a good job in guiding public opinion for anti-corruption and building a clean government, enhancing the support of social members and the awareness of responsibility for participating in anti-corruption and building a clean government in an orderly manner. Second, we should combine social ethics, professional ethics, family virtues and personal moral education of citizens to cultivate citizens' concept of honor and disgrace and the moral concept of honesty and trustworthiness. Third, we should let the people learn from the political style of Party members, especially party cadres, who use their power impartially and engage in politics incorruptly in order to build a solid ideological and political foundation for building a clean and clean government culture. Fourth, we should strengthen the construction of all kinds of grass-roots clean government culture (such as carrying out anti-corruption theme education activities), enrich the people's spiritual and cultural life, and strengthen the function of moral education in the mass spiritual civilization building activities.

### **3. On the Path to the Faith: Building up the Foundation of Faith and Building the Soul of Honest Culture**

Marxist belief is the spiritual support of the construction of the party's clean government culture in the new era. In the 100 histories of our Party, generation after generation of Communists have sacrificed blood in pursuit of national independence and liberation, relying on a faith, for an ideal [5]. A country and nation without faith is like a bird without wings and a car without hub. To build the party's culture of clean government, we need always to adhere to the great Marxist belief and pay attention to maintaining the party's advanced nature and purity.

Faith is the spiritual support of a country and a nation. If the nation has no faith, the ruling party will have no future. First, we should study Marxist theory seriously. "The ideals and beliefs of the Chinese Communists are based on the laws of the development of human society revealed by Marxism [5]." It is an important premise for building a solid foundation of belief to combine theory with practice and flexibly apply Marxist theory in the concrete work of guiding practice. Second, we need to strengthen our lofty belief in Marxism. "The belief in Marxism and in socialism and communism is the political soul of Communists and the spiritual pillar for Communists to withstand all kinds of tests [5]," which helps the majority of party members and leading cadres to be well dressed, aware of their gains and losses, aware of their honor and disgrace, and well-informed of rise and fall, which is the soul residence for them to self-discipline and keep clean in self-discipline. Third, we need to give full play to the strong strength of our ideals and beliefs. "History and reality warn us that the whole Party has firm ideals and beliefs, the Party will have very strong strength; the whole Party has weak ideals and beliefs, the Party will become a mob and will be blown scattered [5]." Ideals and beliefs are the "calcium" of the spirit of the Chinese Communists. To strengthen ideals and beliefs is to strengthen the foundation of Chinese Communists and destiny, also

the source of power to build a solid foundation for their faith. Fourth, we should absorb the spiritual nutrients of traditional Chinese culture. “Traditional culture shows the grand spirit and firm belief of a nation awakened from the ancient famine, and for generations still inspires the Chinese nation to unremitting self-improvement and passes on from generation to generation <sup>[6]</sup>.” The perseverance gene and national character in Chinese excellent traditional culture are the inexhaustible source for consolidating the foundation of Marxist belief.

#### **4. On the Path to Cultivation: Improving the Party Spirit Cultivation of Party Members and Refining the Core of the Construction of Clean Government Culture**

The party’s spirit is the political personality and expression of party members; the cultivation of party spirit is the self-education, self-transformation and self-improvement of party members, which is also the concentrated reflection of the essence of the Communist Party, and the organic unity of self-discipline and self-improvement of party members. To promote the construction of the party’s clean government culture in the new era, we need to strengthen the party spirit of party members.

Improving the party spirit cultivation of party members is the booster to refine the core of clean government culture. First, we must put the interests of the people first. “As we serve the people, we are not afraid to be criticized and pointed out if we have shortcomings. No matter who it is, anyone can point it out to us. As long as you are right, we will correct it. What you say is good for the people, so we will do as you say <sup>[2]</sup>.” Keeping closeness with the people and considering for the people is a necessary measure for Chinese Communists to avoid the danger of “divorced from the masses.” Second, we should subordinate individual interests to collective interests. “A communist should be frank, loyal, active, take revolutionary interests as the first life, and subordinate our personal interests to the revolutionary interests; at all times and places, we should adhere to the correct principles and fight tirelessly against all incorrect thoughts and behaviors in order to consolidate the party’s collective life and the ties between the party and the masses; Caring for the party and the masses is more important than caring for individuals, and caring for others is more important than caring for oneself <sup>[3]</sup>.” Taking the overall situation as the priority will help to resolve the crisis of “insufficient ability” of some party members. Third, we need to establish a correct view of power. Setting up a correct view of power is a problem to strengthen the party spirit cultivation. Leading cadres must establish a strong sense of the party. Party members and cadres should be of one heart and one mind with the party. They should maintain the image and prestige of the party in every word and deed. They should not only have confidence in the party’s cause, but also be fully prepared for the difficulties and risks on the way forward. They should work hard with a down-to-earth spirit and work style, Unite the broad masses of the people around the party <sup>[7]</sup>. Facing right squarely and not abusing power can make Communists avoid the danger of “negative corruption.” Fourth, we should be strict in self-cultivation. “To be strict in self-cultivation means to strengthen the cultivation of party spirit, firm ideals and beliefs, enhance moral realm, pursue noble sentiments, consciously stay away from low tastes, and consciously resist unhealthy tendencies <sup>[8]</sup>,” which is an important channel to avoid the danger of “mental slack.”

#### **5. On the path to a clean government: Strengthening the Construction of Party Conduct and Clean Government and Improving the Construction of Clean Government Culture**

Strengthening the construction of Party conduct and clean government is a strong guarantee for the construction of the Party’s clean government culture in the new era. During the long journey of the Chinese revolution, construction and reform, the Communist Party of China has always adhered to their original heart and mission, and constantly created miracles among people after another. They have always followed the tenet of “modesty, caution, pride, impetuosity, and serving the Chinese people wholeheartedly <sup>[3]</sup>.” They have the courage to carry out self-revolution, and constantly strengthen the construction of party

conduct, integrity and anti-corruption struggle to clear the obstacles for upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics.

General Secretary Xi Jinping has warned the whole Party: under the new circumstances, “some party members and cadres need to work hard to solve the problems of corruption, detachment from the masses, formalism and bureaucracy <sup>[9]</sup>.” In order to continue and deepen the construction of the party’s clean government culture in the new era, we should require Chinese Communists to always keep a clear mind, be clean and self-disciplined, and resolutely put an end to the corruption wind of taking a formality, firing empty guns and going through the motions. First, we should conduct self-revolution. “Making iron still needs their own hard <sup>[9]</sup>.” In the new era, the most important thing to strengthen the construction of party style and clean government is to carry out self-revolution; self-revolution is a key for the Communist Party of China to crawl forward and win the people’s revolution, construction and reform. The reason why our party can promote the self-revolution is that it inherits and carries forward the self-examination cultivation methods in the excellent traditional Chinese culture, and develops a positive and healthy Inner-Party Political Culture to constantly activate the thorough self-revolutionary spirit, constantly alert and spur itself. At the same time, our party always examines its own problems from the standpoint of the people to determine the target of self-revolution, and never conceals its shortcomings, evades problems, and disguises its mistakes. Second, we will strictly regulate intraparty political activities and activities. This is an effective measure to “focus on solving the problems of insufficient democracy, insufficient correct concentration, insufficient criticism and insufficient serious discipline, so that every party member can remove the ideological dust in time through the melting pot of self-revolution <sup>[10]</sup>.” Under the new situation, China’s development path is dangerous and thorny, and new problems and challenges come one after another. We should “adhere to the unity of integrity and innovation, and unswervingly adhere to the party’s nature, purpose, ideals, beliefs, and original mission. At the same time, we should solve all kinds of contradictions and problems within the party with new ideas, ideas, methods, and means. We should adhere to the unity of strict control and great love, improve the supervision and management mechanism, restrain some people’s random actions, and let go of the majority of party members and cadres’ hands and feet of acting and doing business. We should fully stimulate the enthusiasm, initiative and creativity of the majority of party members and cadres, so as to form a strong atmosphere and vivid situation of building contributions to the new era and striving for innovative achievements <sup>[10]</sup>.”

## **Funding**

2020 Ministry of Education Humanities & Social Science Research and Planning Fund Project: Study on the ideological work history of the Communist Party of China in 70 years of new China, project no.: 20YJA710035; The Key Construction Project of Demonstration Marxism College and Excellent Teaching and Research Team of the Ministry of Education, project no.: 19JDSZK002.

## **Disclosure statement**

The author declares no conflict of interest.

## **References**

- [1] Ren Y, Cheng H, 2019, In an Important Speech at the Third Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, Xi Jinping Stressed the Greater Strategic Achievements in Comprehensively Enforcing Strict Party Governance and Consolidating the Overwhelming Victory in the Fight Against Corruption. People’s Daily Online, 2019-01-12.

- [2] Liu G, 2019, Explore Why the Chinese Communist Party “Can” the Key. Marxist Research Network, 2019-10-29.
- [3] Mao Zedong anthology, 1991, The Second Edition. Beijing: People’s Publishing House, 3: 1027, 1030, 1031.
- [4] Marx and Engels anthology, 1972, First edition. Beijing: People’s Press, 2: 335, 361.
- [5] Office of the Theme Education Leading Group of “Never True to the Original aspiration and Keeping the Mission in Mind” of the Central Committee of the Party History and Literature. 2019, Excerpts from Xi Jinping’s remarks on “Staying True to your Original Aspiration and Keeping your Mission Firmly in Mind.” Beijing: Party Building Literature Publishing House, Central Literature Publishing House, 73, 82, 83, 87, 127, 182.
- [6] The Editorial Department of the Magazine. Revlive the Immortal Classic to Build the Foundation of Faith. Development, 2013. (09).
- [7] Sun C, 2002, Jiang Zemin: Leading Cadres Should Firmly Establish a Correct View of Power. China Net, 2002-01-26.
- [8] Wan P, Zhao J, 2015, Xi Jinping on “Three Stricts and Three Honests”: Leading Cadres Should Know the Scale of Doing Officials. People’s Daily Online, 2015-06-08.
- [9] Xi J, 2018, Xi Jinping on the Governance of China. Beijing: Foreign Language Publishing House, 1: 4-5.
- [10] Jiang P, 2013, Xi Jinping Spoke at the Symposium Commemorating the 120th Anniversary of the Birth of Comrade Mao Zedong. People’s Daily Online, 2013-12-27.