# The Historical Choice and Cultural Integration of Sinicization of Marxism

## **Zhihong Zhuo**

Southwest Jiaotong University, Chengdu, Sichuan, 611730, China Chongqing Technology and Business University, Chongqing, 400067, China 641138249@qq.com

Abstract: As China entered a new era, Marxism entered a stage of high-quality development. Focusing on the Sinicization of Marxism guided by the thought of socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era, China needs to propose a more suitable proposition for constructing socialism with Chinese characteristics and the innovation of Marxist theory. Based on the dynamic evolution of the Sinicization of Marxism, the theoretical analysis framework of Sinicization of Marxism constructed according to the internal logic of historical choice and cultural integration can show the mechanism of Sinicization of Marxism combining the basic principles of Marxism with China's reality. Moreover, from the perspective of the historical changes and practice of Marxism in China, we explore the possibility of moving towards the high-quality development goal of Marxism. The Sinicization of Marxism aims to provide scientific guidance for the Chinese people in line with the times' requirements and continuously improve the theoretical level of Marxism and enhance people's identity. Therefore, we should strengthen the theoretical innovation based on seeking truth from facts to construct the interaction and communication mechanism between the Sinicization of Marxism and Chinese excellent traditional culture and worldadvanced civilization. In addition, it is necessary to establish an evaluation system for the Sinicization of Marxism, to achieve high-quality development of Marxism, promote the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and meet the people's aspirations for a better life.

Keywords: Sinicization of Marxism; Historical choice; Cultural integration; High-quality development

## 1. Introduction

Marxism is the guiding ideology of the Communist Party of China, and it is the theoretical foundation of socialism with Chinese characteristics [1]. It is divided into basic principles and Sinicization, which consists of the universal truth of Marxism and the theoretical achievements of the Sinicization of Marxism. To promote the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics, China uses excellent Chinese traditional culture to integrate the basic principles of Marxism with specific conditions. Since the founding of the Communist Party of China, the Sinicization of Marxism has become the key to China's revolution, construction, and reform. Unlike traditional Marxism, Chinese Marxism emphasizes historical choice and cultural integration. China's excellent traditional culture has become an evaluation index. Therefore, China has put forward the issue of historical selection and cultural integration of the Sinicization of Marxism. Moreover, socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era provides new historical choices and cultural integration.

The Marxism with Chinese Characteristics originated from the Communist Party of China movement with Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought as the core. Historical choice and cultural integration contain the deep spiritual pursuit of the Chinese nation, and it is also the outstanding advantage and the most profound cultural soft power of the Chinese nation. From a historical perspective, the Sinicization of Marxism corresponds to people's aspirations for a better life [2]. People will witness the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation through the combination of the basic principles of Marxism and the excellent traditional Chinese culture. However, those are contained in a hundred years of history. Today, the Sinicization of Marxism has practiced a unique path of high-quality development. The comprehensive development of socialist thought with Chinese characteristics in the new era will rewrite the development history of Marxism, embody the spirit of the times, change the course of world history, and make significant contributions to the human destiny community. Therefore, it is necessary to discuss Marxism's historical choice and cultural integration in China from a global perspective and strategic pattern. Since the new era, with the enhancement of China's comprehensive national strength and international

influence, China has begun to attach importance to the reference and exchange of Marxism in China to the world's advanced civilization. However, problems such as insufficient theoretical innovation, insufficient cultural self-confidence, and poor international communication still need to be solved. Therefore, China puts forward the proposition of high-quality development of Sinicization of Marxism for the new era.

To sum up, the high-quality development of Sinicized Marxism provides the historical condition and guarantee for realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. From the perspective of history, Chinese Marxism has made significant progress, but there are also problems, such as insufficient theoretical innovation, insufficient cultural self-confidence, and poor international communication.

#### 2. Research Background of Sinicization of Marxism Based on Historical Choice

#### 2.1 The Concept and Connotation of Sinicization of Marxism

Sinicization of Marxism is a concept developed in parallel with Marxism. The Sinicization of Marxism is permeated with the practice and innovative ideas of the Chinese Communists, highlighting the times and national conditions of Marxism [3]. In addition, it reflects the basic strategy of upholding and developing Marxism since the founding of the Communist Party of China. However, getting a consistent and accurate answer is challenging when we try to find the definition and essence of Marxism in China with some fixed standards. Because the Sinicization of Marxism is not a static concept but a dynamic development process, it is constantly enriched with the changes of the times, the development of practice, and the innovation of theory, showing the characteristics of multi-level, multi-dimensional, and multi-form. Therefore, for the research of Marxism with Chinese characteristics, we do not be divorced from the historical background and practical basis or apply a specific model or formula. We should grasp its internal logic and development law from the perspective of historical choice.

## 2.2 The Historical Necessity and Practical Significance of Sinicization of Marxism

The Sinicization of Marxism is an essential standard for developing Marxism and a scientific expression of the combination of the universal truth of Marxism and China's specific realities. Marx and Engels discussed the various definitions of Marxism from the perspectives of philosophy, political economy, and scientific socialism [4]. Some scholars believe Marxism is a world outlook, methodology, scientific theory, and practical guidance. It is because Marxism is universal, dialectical, open to some extent, and belongs to the revolutionary science to liberate humankind. The history of the Sinicization of Marxism can even be traced back to before the founding of the Communist Party of China. Its principal activities include translation, dissemination, and practice of Marxism. Moreover, the concept and methodology of the Sinicization of Marxism are closely related to the revolution, construction, and reform led by the Communist Party of China. In practice, adapting Marxism to Chinese conditions has become a responsibility of the Communist Party of China. The main contribution of the Sinicization of Marxism in the new era is socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. Therefore, the concept of Sinicization of Marxism initially focused on the appropriate measurement based on the attributes of practical standards.

## 2.3 The International Influence and Evaluation of Sinicized Marxism

Compared with traditional Marxism, Chinese Marxism emphasizes the relationship between Marxism and practice in China, reflecting historical choice and cultural integration [5]. Although some scholars have questioned that Marxism may not be directly related to practice in China, most scholars argue that Chinese Marxism can rationally evaluate Marxist philosophy. Althusser et al. proposed a classical theoretical model of Marxism containing four elements. Since then, the model has become a standard tool for the Sinicization of Marxism, thus developing the concept of adapting Marxism to Chinese conditions. These scholars believe that Marxism's Sinicization is innovative and "new Marxism". Only when Marxism is combined with practice can Marxism develop. Therefore, the Sinicization of Marxism is the result of the development of Marxism. In addition, some scholars divide Chinese Marxism into two models: the practice-based model and the culture-based model of the Sinicization of Marxism. The former focuses on practical innovation, the latter on inheriting excellent Chinese traditional culture. Although the Sinicization of Marxism has experienced some difficulties in practice, from a historical point of view, it can promote the continuous development of the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and the concept of a community of shared future for humankind gradually becomes the

consensus of the research and practice of the international community.

## 3. The Basis and Key of the Study of Sinicization of Marxism with Cultural Integration

#### 3.1 Theoretical Innovation and Methodology of Sinicization of Marxism

The essence of the theoretical innovation and methodology of Chinese Marxism focuses on the combination of Marxist philosophy and the Chinese condition. Marxism is the application of dialectical materialism and historical materialism in social science [6]. To overcome the defects of metaphysics and dogmatism, it has entered the research field as an alternative model- the Sinicization of Marxism. The basic idea of the framework is that Marxism should ensure the practical realization of socialism with Chinese characteristics, set professional standards for the construction of the ruling ability of the Communist Party of China; through practical innovation and theoretical innovation, capture the combination of the universal truth of Marxism and Chinese condition; using historical analysis and logical analysis to measure the effect of Marxism in China. The Sinicization of Marxism reconstructs the research paradigm of Marxism, emphasizes the need to enhance the times and national conditions of Marxist philosophy, and builds a theoretical system, practical system, cultural system, and institutional system that conforms to the development law of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

#### 3.2 The Interaction between Sinicization of Marxism and Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture

The interaction between the Sinicization of Marxism and Chinese excellent traditional culture is the main content of Sinicization of Marxism, which focuses on the Chinese style, and directly reflects the spiritual status of the Chinese Communists and the Chinese people through cultural inheritance and cultural innovation. Some elements in the interaction of Marxism in China and Chinese excellent traditional culture are gradually formed; the dialogue and integration between Marxism and Chinese excellent traditional culture have been paid much more attention. However, from the perspective of the practice effect, some practices of the interaction between the Sinicization of Marxism and Chinese excellent traditional culture are still at the superficial stage, which is contrary to the logical framework and generation mechanism of Sinicization of Marxism, resulting in insufficient theory, improper methods, and poor effect. In general, there is room for improvement in the depth, breadth, and height of the interaction between the Sinicization of Marxism and Chinese excellent traditional culture. Its evaluation criteria and system need further improvement, which is also an essential task of current research.

The interaction mechanism between the Sinicization of Marxism and the Chinese excellent traditional culture is shown in figure 1.

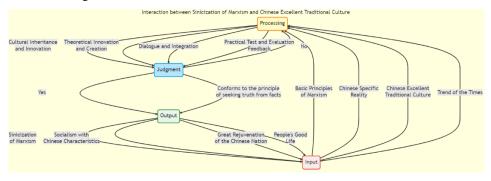


Figure 1: The Interaction between Sinicization of Marxism and Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture

# 3.3 The Chinese Marxism and the Exchange and Reference of the World's Advanced Civilization

From the perspective of culture, the exchange and reference of Chinese Marxism and the world's advanced civilization is the primary link between the Sinicization of Marxism and the core embodiment of Marxism in China. Therefore, the Sinicization of Marxism takes cultural integration as the main generating logic. Cultural integration is the theme of the communication between Chinese Marxism and the world's advanced civilization, and it is also the cultural subject of the Sinicization of Marxism. Currently, the Sinicization of Marxism strengthens cultural integration from theoretical and practical innovation. There are three primary forms. First, adhere to the principles. Marxism should maintain its characteristics and communicate with other civilizations in cultural integration. Second, adhere to the

standard. The government realizes the standardized control of cultural integration by formulating the objectives, principles, and methods of cultural integration and publicizing the standards to society. Third, adhere to innovation. In recent years, the thought of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era has improved the level of cultural integration and the effect of cultural integration by innovative means. However, compared with the world's advanced civilization, the international influence of Chinese Marxism needs to be further improved. To sum up, there is still room for improvement in the depth, breadth, and height of the exchange and reference between Chinese Marxism and the world's advanced civilization. Moreover, the evaluation criteria and system need to be further improved, which is an essential task of current research.

#### 4. The Application of Sinicized Marxism Based on Practical Exploration

## 4.1 The Application of Sinicized Marxism in Socialist Construction

Admittedly, the Sinicization of Marxism in socialist construction cannot avoid "Sinicization". In the mechanism of socialist construction, the Sinicization of Marxism is a standard and effective theoretical tool for guidance, which plays a vital role in the economy, politics, culture, society, and ecology. It makes adapting Marxism to Chinese conditions not only a theoretical concept but also a practical concept. Therefore, socialism with "Chinese characteristics" has become the practical mechanism of the Sinicization of Marxism. The practice of socialist construction is generally a path of socialism with Chinese characteristics gradually formed based on the basic principles of Marxism. However, this path is full of exploration and attempts. From the New Democratic Revolution to the reform and opening up, socialist construction has always been closely connected with the Sinicization of Marxism. Socialist construction is committed to keeping pace with the times to meet the demands of the times. However, with the emphasis on globalization and diversification, there is also a dilemma: the imbalance between localization and internationalization. To sum up, the application of Marxism in China in socialist construction needs to be improved in depth, breadth, and height. Moreover, the evaluation criteria and system need to be further improved, which is an essential task of current research.

#### 4.2 The Application of Sinicized Marxism in the Reform and Opening up

Applying the Sinicized Marxism in the reform and opening up is an essential standard of Chinese Marxism. It is also a scientific expression of the combination of Marxism and reform and opening up. Marx and Engels discussed the definitions of reform from the perspectives of philosophy, political economy, and scientific socialism. Some scholars believe that reform represents a degree of social change or a way of social development because reform is more flexible, creative, and open to some extent and belongs to the reformation to adapt to the times' requirements. The application history of Sinicized Marxism in the reform and opening up can be traced back to the Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh Central Committee in 1978. The main activities include theoretical innovation and practical innovation. The concepts and methods of Sinicized Marxism are closely related to the experimental conditions and objectives of reform and opening up. In reform and opening up, adapting Marxism to Chinese conditions has become a responsibility of the Communist Party of China. The main contribution of the Sinicization of Marxism in the new era is socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. Therefore, the concept of Sinicization of Marxism initially focused on the appropriate measurement based on the attributes of practical standards.

# 4.3 The Application of Sinicized Marxism for the New Era

Compared with the Sinicization of Marxism in the past, the application of Sinicized Marxism in the new era has the characteristics of the times and innovation. It pays more attention to the relationship between Marxism and the practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. Although some scholars question that Marxism may not be directly related to the practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, most scholars advocate that the application of Sinicized Marxism in the new era can rationally evaluate Marxism. Althusser et al. proposed a classical theoretical model of Marxism. Since then, the model has become a standard tool for the Sinicization of Marxism, thus developing the concept of adapting Marxism to Chinese conditions. These scholars believe that Marxism's Sinicization is innovative and "new Marxism". Only when Marxism is combined with Chinese practice can Marxism develop. Therefore, the Sinicization of Marxism is the result of the development of Marxism. In addition, some scholars divide Chinese Marxism into the practice-based model and the

culture-based model of the Sinicization of Marxism. The former focuses on theoretical innovation, while the latter focuses on the practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era. The Sinicization of Marxism has experienced some difficulties in practice, but from a historical point of view, it can promote the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In addition, the concept of a community with a shared future for humankind has gradually become the consensus of international community research and practice.

#### 5. Conclusion

After China entered the new era, Marxism entered a stage of high-quality development. This stage poses new challenges and demands the innovation of Marxist theory. The Sinicization of Marxism is a symbol of the "Chinese characteristics". Moreover, the Sinicization of Marxism is a vital means of combining the basic principles of Marxism with China's specific conditions and the urgent need to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and safeguard national sovereignty and people's interests. In essence, it embodies the inherent requirements of the development and transformation of Marxism. In recent years, modern information technology, such as the Internet, has promoted the spread and exchange of the Sinicization of Marxism, empowering Marxism through the Internet and improving its accuracy and scientific nature. Its value corresponds to the internal logic of the development of the times. Therefore, the network provides a new way for the Sinicization of Marxism. In conclusion, the sustained improvement and development of the Sinicization of Marxism will better advance the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics and meet the people's aspirations for a better life.

#### References

- [1] Khamtab P. The Application of Sinicized Marxism on Chinese Cultural Selection and Development in the Context of Modern Society [J]. Journal of International Studies, Prince of Songkla University, 2016, 6(1): 1-8.
- [2] Li H. A New Interpretation of Two Inequalities of Sinicization of Marxism [J]. International Journal of Education and Humanities, 2022, 3(1): 83-85.
- [3] Shen X, Hou X. Harmonious coexistence and ceaseless nourishment: The Sinicized Marxist concept of development [J]. Educational Philosophy and Theory, 2023: 1-10.
- [4] Na S. Research on the Theoretical System of Marxism Sinicization and Socialism with Chinese Characteristics Based on Modernization [J]. 2019.
- [5] Wang C, Peters M A, Yichuan W, et al. Contemporary Chinese Marxism: Basic research orientations[J]. Educational Philosophy and Theory, 2022, 54(11): 1740-1753.
- [6] Wang C, Peters M A. Contemporary Chinese Marxism: disciplines, teaching platforms and status quo of basic academic research[J]. Educational Philosophy and Theory, 2021: 1-11.