

Analysis on the Lack and Improvement of Peasants' Subjectivity in Rural Governance

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Abstract: Peasants are the endogenous subjects of rural governance, and their subjectivity affects the effect of rural governance. At present, there is a three-dimensional dilemma of peasants' lack of subjectivity in understanding, creating and valuing in rural governance, which is mainly restricted by multiple factors such as social and historical conditions, urban-rural dual structure, rural democratic governance mechanism, peasant organization, and peasants themselves. It is necessary to respect the subjective status of peasants, stimulate the endogenous motivation of peasants, and protect the interests of peasants to alleviate the practical difficulties of realizing peasants' subjectivity.

Keywords: Rural Governance, The Subjectivity Of Peasants, Path Selection

1. Introduction

With the dissolution of people's communes and the implementation of villagers' self-governance in the late 1980s, the issue of rural governance has become an important issue of concern to the state and academia. After the 19th National Congress of the CPC, the Party and the State clearly emphasized a series of strategic plans for rural revitalization that it is necessary to "adhere to the dominant position of peasants and effectively give play to the dominant role of peasants in rural revitalization" [1]. In this context, the academic research paradigm on rural governance began to shift from the external "national perspective" to the internal "peasant standard" [2], and produced fruitful research results. However, whether in theory or in practice, the problem of peasant subjectivity has not been well solved. How to promote peasants' subjectivity and mobilize their enthusiasm in rural governance is still an important topic in the rural governance process.

2. The three-dimensional dilemma of lack of peasants' subjectivity in rural governance

As the main body of rural society, peasants are the builders, maintainers and beneficiaries of rural order. The construction and operation of rural governance system should also give full play to the subjective initiative of peasants. But from the current governance practice of rural society, the lack of subjectivity in rural governance is still relatively serious. The connotation of peasants' subjectivity includes three dimensions: cognition subject, creation subject and value subject, in which the cognition subject is embodied in peasants' cognition and perception, the creation subject is embodied in peasants' initiative and autonomy, and the value subject is embodied in peasants' realization of rights and interests [3]. From these three dimensions, it is helpful to accurately grasp the development dilemma of rural governance to examine the peasants' subjectivity in the process of rural governance.

2.1. The lack of peasants' cognitive subjectivity

The cognitive subjectivity is the first prerequisite. On the basis of knowing and perceiving things, peasants can promote the creation of things, the realization of their own value and rights and interests. The lack of peasants' cognitive subjectivity is mainly manifested in their two-way cognitive limitation of rural governance and themselves.

2.1.1. Peasants' cognitive limitation to rural governance

Peasants have low comprehensive qualities such as cultural literacy, professional literacy and legal literacy, and their understanding and cognition of rural governance are limited. Most peasants,

especially the older ones, know little about the national and provincial policies, systems, laws and regulations. At the same time, due to incomplete information and unclear understanding of policies, some peasants are easy to misunderstand relevant policies, resulting in information bias. The outflow of young and middle-aged people and the hollowing out of rural areas aggravate the phenomenon, which makes village cadres, as the main body of rural governance, can only be selected among some groups with low educational level and older age, the countryside falls into the double predicament of talent shortage and governance failure. ^[4]

2.1.2. Peasants' cognitive limitation to their own subjects

Affected by the limitation of traditional thinking and the decline of traditional culture, peasants have a vague cognition of their own status as the subject of rural governance, and have not yet realized their own subject status and unclear cognition of their own rights and interests. Especially in the process of villager autonomy, peasants underestimate their own position and weight in village-level public affairs. The lack of the right to know makes it difficult for villagers to have the right to speak in the participation of rural public affairs, unable to exercise the right of expression, resulting in the phenomenon of power transfer, political indifference and political blindness. Under the multiple influences of the lack of the right to know, the small-scale peasant consciousness and the standard thought, many peasants hold the mentality of "Nothing to do with themselves", peasants' passive and indifferent attitude towards rural politics, rural governance and other affairs still exists in a certain extent. In some areas, the peasants still have the inertia mentality of "Waiting, needing and relying", positioning themselves as "Others", thinking that rural governance is a matter for the party and the government, and they are used to being attached to and obeying, lack of self-awareness. Because of the regional limitation and the focus on their own development, the migrant workers in cities generally do not pay much attention to the governance of their hometown.

2.2. The lack of peasants' creation subjectivity

Creation subject is not only the result of cognition subject, but also the secondary premise of value subject. The lack of peasants' creation subjectivity is mainly manifested in the lack of peasants' innovation consciousness and the lack of peasants' innovation ability.

2.2.1. Peasants lack innovation consciousness

Only with the consciousness of innovation, the autonomy, creativity and initiative of the subject will be gradually enhanced. In China, only a few peasants in more developed areas have this kind of innovative consciousness, and it is still difficult for peasants in most areas to have this kind of innovative consciousness. Some peasants are content with the status quo, lack long-term vision, and do not like change, a willingness to conform. In addition, most of the rural governance in our country is under the unified leadership of the government, with the governments at all levels as the main body, and the development goals and tasks determined by the government, peasants often only want to passively obey the government's instructions, resulting in the rural governance of peasants "Aphasia" and "Vacancy", which to a large extent inhibit the innovative consciousness of peasants.

2.2.2. Peasants' innovation ability is insufficient

As the creative subject, peasants not only need to have creative consciousness, but also need to have innovative ability. From the historical logic of rural reform, the peasant group has the historical pioneering spirit. For the sake of their own survival and village development, peasant groups have organized themselves to constantly create alternative system models that break through the obstacles of the established system, such as the "Three great creations" of Household-responsibility system, Township and Village Enterprises and Villagers' autonomy. These initiatives and successes of the peasant community apply equally to rural governance. However, with the development of rural society, new mode of production, industrial models and governance mechanisms have put forward higher requirements on the innovative ability of peasants. Innovation ability is often closely related to knowledge accumulation, cultural and technical quality, and labor ability. And those with the ability to innovate are in the minority among peasants. More peasants lack innovative ideas and the ability to innovate, and even some attempts are often superficial, difficult to sustainable development.

2.3. The lack of peasants' value subjectivity

The value subject is the ultimate goal, and the peasants' cognition and perception of things, the creation practice of things, the ultimate goal is the realization of their own values and interests. The

lack of peasants' value subjectivity is mainly manifested as the lack of peasants' consciousness of safeguarding their rights and the lack of attention to peasants' rights and interests.

2.3.1. The peasants lack the consciousness of protecting their rights

Due to the lack of cognitive subjects mentioned above, peasants do not know their rights and interests, and their understanding of the law, means and channels for safeguarding their rights is even less. In addition, the traditional rural society is based on the "rule of etiquette" acquaintance society, influenced by the traditional "rule by man" thought, when solving practical problems, villagers still have the thinking logic of "understanding the reason, moving emotion", rather than the rule of law thinking of "facts as the basis and law as the criterion". Peasants still lack the ability to protect their rights in accordance with the law. They are not used to using legal means to solve problems when dealing with interest disputes, political participation, production and operation, and lack the awareness of protecting their rights in accordance with the law, which reduces the effectiveness of Peasants' main role. [5]

2.3.2. The degree of emphasis on peasants' rights and interests is insufficient

After the reform and opening up, with the sustained development of the economy, the rural landscape has undergone a huge change, but compared to urban residents, the living standards of rural residents are generally low, there are still large gaps in such practical issues as education, employment and Social Security. At present, peasants have little right to participate in most decisions related to their vital interests, and their rights to know, to participate, to express and to supervise in village public affairs have not been paid enough attention to.

3. Deep attribution of the lack of peasants' subjectivity in rural governance

In order to improve the subjectivity of peasants in rural governance, we must first analyze the reasons for the lack of subjectivity in order to grasp the key issues. In conclusion, it is mainly affected by social and historical conditions, urban-rural dual structure, rural democratic governance mechanism, the degree of peasants' organization, peasants' own limitations.

3.1. The existence of urban-rural dual structure

The dual structure of urban and rural areas was formed in the period of planned economy. It has long regarded the urban residents as the center, and made the peasants differ greatly from the urban residents in such aspects as household registration system, employment, medical treatment, housing, resource distribution and endowment insurance, in particular, during the period of vigorously promoting the urbanization development strategy, the emphasis on agriculture and rural areas has been reduced, which further deepens the urban-rural dual structure and makes the income gap between urban and rural residents wider and wider. The institutional barriers formed by the urban-rural dual structure cause the unfair distribution and poor flow of urban and rural public resources, reduce the development opportunities and choice space available to peasants, promote the transfer of rural young and middle-aged people to cities, resulting in the hollowing out and aging of rural areas, and the absence of peasants involved in rural governance.

3.2. The lack of democratic governance mechanism in rural areas

Rural Democratic governance mechanism is the institutional guarantee for peasants to participate in village-level governance, and villagers' right to know, to participate, to express and to supervise in rural governance is an important indicator of peasants' subjectivity. However, due to "the unsound mechanism of villagers' interests expression, the imperfect mechanism of rural democratic decision-making, and the imperfect mechanism of supervision of rural public rights", there is a lack of effective participation of peasants in the construction of rural public utilities. In this situation, the peasants' political mentality, consciousness of political participation and consciousness of political subject can not be developed, and some peasants are lack of enthusiasm in the democratic election, management and supervision at the grass-roots level in rural areas, they despise, or even neglect their basic political rights.

3.3. The low level of peasants' organization

The organization of peasants refers to the activities that peasants form different economic and political organizations to realize and maintain their own interests, which is the most effective way to realize and maintain their interests. However, the degree of peasants' organization is low in rural governance, which is manifested in the suspension of the party organization construction, the weak management level of rural grass-roots autonomous organizations and the loose rural economic organizations. First, the suspension of rural grass-roots party organizations. The rural grass-roots party organizations are faced with such problems as the weakening of political function, the weakening of social function and the generalization of service function. The work of grass-roots party organizations has been separated from the grass-roots masses to a certain extent, the political enlightenment role of grass-roots party organizations on the main body of peasants has been gradually dissolved, and the effect of grass-roots party members and cadres is not obvious. Second, the management level of rural grass-roots self-government organizations is not strong, the villagers' self-government system is not perfect enough, and it is impossible to effectively implement the publicity and supervision of village affairs. Peasants do not have their own political organization, there is no organized interest expression mechanism. Third, the economic organization is loose, the peasants' cooperation will is not strong, causes the peasants' benefit request to be unable to obtain the full reflection, the economic organization movement is not standard, this affects the peasants' subjectivity realization to a great extent.

3.4. The constraints of the peasant's own limitations

The quality and ability of peasants are the important factors that affect the realization of peasants' subjectivity. Due to the constraints of various factors, the cultural quality of most peasants is still poor. Most of the peasants who stay in rural areas have a junior middle school or primary school education. Although the low level of cultural literacy does not mean the low level of ability and quality, it will lead to the lack of peasants' understanding, reflection, cognition and capacity, which will affect the ability of peasants to participate in rural governance.

4. The path of promoting the peasants' subjectivity in rural governance

In view of the plight and attribution of the lack of peasants' subjectivity in rural governance, we should focus on strengthening the organization of peasants, stimulating the endogenous motivation of peasants and ensuring the interests of peasants.

4.1. Strengthen the organization of peasants

Organization is the most effective way for peasants to realize and maintain their interests. By strengthening the construction of grassroots party organizations, villagers' autonomous organizations, and rural economic and social organizations, we aim to enhance the subjectivity of farmers.

4.1.1. We will strengthen community-level Party organizations

The greatest advantage of the socialist system with Chinese characteristics is adherence to the leadership of the Communist Party of China. The grass-roots party organizations should pay more attention to listening to and absorbing the opinions and suggestions of individual peasants, strengthen propaganda and education, and complete the enlightenment of the political consciousness and cognitive subject of peasants, let every peasant realize that developing the countryside is not only the work of the party and the government, but also the work of the villagers themselves.

In addition, the grass-roots party organizations strengthen the leadership of party construction and improve the organization of peasants by the trend of changing from "Administrative leading" to "Leading by party construction". First, to strengthen the construction of grassroots party organizations, we should try to embed the party building content in the village governance system, transform the "de-embedding" into "deep embedding", give play to the leading function of party building, strengthen the standardized operation of other organizations, and then integrate various resources to the maximum extent to achieve effective governance. Second, we should give play to the vanguard role of party members, pay attention to the image of party members, strengthen the responsibilities of party members, play the leading role like "leading geese" in daily life, and play a leading role in demonstration.

4.1.2. We will strengthen the development of villagers' self-government organizations and rural economic and social organizations

The villagers' self-governing organization is an important way to safeguard the rights and interests of peasants, correct the main position of peasants and realize the return of peasants' main position. The village committee can assume the responsibility of rural governance, and the rural collective economic organization, rural local cultural organization, comprehensive service organization, and rural supervision committee can assume the professional function. To cultivate rural social and economic organizations, the decentralized, atomized peasants organized to form a collective force to promote rural governance. The rural elderly, rural elite and other influential peasants to play a role, leading the masses to achieve self-management, and eventually to shape a professional cooperative organizations and rural governance organizations as the core of the new rural community at the grass-roots level.

4.2. Stimulate the endogenous impetus of peasants

We need to strengthen the emotional identity, arouse the main consciousness of peasants, improve the quality of peasants, strengthen the construction of talent teams, and strengthen the inner strength of rural governance.

4.2.1. Strengthen emotional identity

To enhance the subjectivity of peasants, it is necessary to strengthen the common understanding of rural areas and to strengthen rural emotional identity as an opportunity to awaken peasants' subjectivity. We should give full play to the function of rural culture, strengthen peasants' emotional identity, form common feelings and common expectations of development. We should actively explore and inherit the fine traditional culture of the ethnic groups, widen the living space of the fine folk art in the countryside, and fully embody the value of the local culture. Cultivating common ethics with the emotional resonance of "Common responsibility" provides a strong spiritual force for the modernization of rural governance.

4.2.2. Improve the quality of peasants and cultivate rural governance talents in parallel

In improving the overall quality of peasants, first, we must give priority to basic education, develop rural vocational education, increase training efforts, and improve peasants' cultural and technical literacy. If rural areas are to develop, peasants are to get rich, and governance is to be effective, the cultural quality and ability of peasants must keep up. The second is to strengthen legal education, improve the legal awareness of peasants, so that peasants can study the law, know the law and abide by the law, while strengthening the rural grassroots cultural construction and spiritual civilization construction, improve the ideological and moral quality of peasants.

In the cultivation of rural governance talents, we can adopt the two-pronged approach of "cultivation + introduction". First, we can fully tap talented people in the countryside and increase the training of local talents in the countryside. Grass-roots governments should fully tap out talented people who love the countryside, understand agriculture and have the ability to encourage and guide them to actively participate in rural governance. In addition, it is also necessary to increase the training of talents, grass-roots governments should spend part of the fiscal revenue for relevant guidance and training, and improve the professional quality and ability of local talents to participate in rural governance. The second is to improve the long-term mechanism of talent return and guide talent return. Through publicity and education, emotional traction, preferential policies and other ways to attract high-quality talents to return and attract them to participate in rural governance. The third is to establish a talent introduction mechanism to introduce outstanding talents from other places into the countryside. Through preferential policies, financial support and incentive mechanisms to introduce outstanding governance talents from other places, encourage college students to return to their hometown to start businesses, expand the team of college students village officials, in order to expand the team of rural governance talents, and inject fresh blood into rural governance.

4.3. Protecting the interests of peasants

The promotion of peasants' subjectivity needs to further deepen the reform, improve the system and legal guarantee, play the leading role of the government, and maintain peasants' value subjectivity.

4.3.1. Improve institutional guarantee

The peasants' subjectivity must be guaranteed by the system. First, we will improve policies,

systems, laws and regulations related to peasants' rights and interests, and comprehensively protect peasants' basic rights and interests. Second, improve the rural grass-roots governance system with villagers' self-governance as the core. It is necessary to make village affairs transparent, improve the democratic governance mechanism in rural areas, and guarantee peasants' rights to know, participate, express and supervise. Third, reform the cadre selection and evaluation system. It is necessary to further improve the selection, appointment and supervision system of cadres, increase openness and transparency, and increase the weight of "public opinion" in the selection and evaluation of community-level leading cadres.

4.3.2. Give full play to the advantages of government leadership

The urban-rural dual structure has caused the gap between urban and rural areas in China. The key to solve this problem is to accelerate the overall planning of urban and rural areas, which should give full play to the leading role of the government and promote the integrated development of urban and rural areas. The government should do a good job in macro-control, play its functional role, use economic and fiscal means to strengthen rural infrastructure construction, establish a sound system and mechanism for the integrated development of urban and rural areas, establish a two-way flow mechanism for urban and rural factors, rationally allocate urban and rural factors, provide peasants with increasingly complete social public services, narrow the gap between urban and rural areas, and achieve equal coverage of urban and rural public services. We will fully share the fruits of reform and development with peasants and increase their happiness.

5. Conclusions

Peasants are the main body in rural governance, but the lack of peasants' subjectivity is a major problem hindering the effectiveness of rural governance. The lack of peasants' subjectivity is a complicated social reality. Only when we face it positively and solve it step by step, can we make peasants become the main body, let them take the initiative to participate in rural governance, and finally realize the overall revitalization of rural areas.

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