

Reflection on Khrushchev's agricultural reform from the perspective of contemporary China

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ABSTRACT: *There is no doubt that Khrushchev's agricultural reform has great historical progress. The economic system reform of the Soviet Union started from Khrushchev. The key point and breakthrough of Khrushchev's reform is agricultural reform. Khrushchev's agricultural reform, to a certain extent, recognized the seriousness of the agricultural problem, in order to solve the problem, he implemented many policies. At the same time, Chinese leaders of the same period also realized that Khrushchev's agricultural reform had many problems and many contradictions in agricultural policies during his ruling period, which also brought reflection and Enlightenment to contemporary China.*

KEYWORDS: *Khrushchev; Agriculture; Reform; China; Reflection*

1. Introduction

The reform of agricultural system in Khrushchev's period has both successful experiences and failed lessons, leaving much to be pondered. In the process of agricultural reform, Khrushchev made a strong impact on Stalin's model, but only made some repairs to the problem of Stalin's model at a shallow level, but did not touch the most fundamental problem of Stalin's model. The most important reason is that there is no strong economic theory to support the reform. Moreover, the agricultural reform is just a minor repair and a minor supplement, which does not touch its institutional roots. There is also the fact that the agricultural reform does not respect the development law of agriculture itself. It is common to formulate policies and implement policies based on feelings. These are based on the perspective of contemporary China for Khrushchev's agriculture The Enlightenment of reform reflection.

2. Economic theory should develop with the practice of reform

The development speed of economic theory obviously lags behind that of agricultural reform, which is one of the important reasons for Khrushchev's failure in agricultural reform. The development of socialist economic theory has its own unique development path. In the early days of the establishment of scientific socialism theory, influenced by the special historical background at that time, Marx and Engels decided whether socialist commodity, currency and market existed. Under the special historical background, the traditional theory of planned economy came into being. Marx's idea of socialism was inherited and developed by Lenin. After the victory of the October Revolution, scientific socialism changed from theory to practice. Lenin's understanding of commodity economy also experienced two different stages of development. Before and after the October Revolution, Lenin held the view of abolishing commodity economy, money and market. After the October Revolution, the Soviet Union entered the patriotic war. During the war period, the highly ordered wartime communist policy played a positive role. However, with the end of the war and the deterioration of the domestic economic environment, the domestic economy is in danger of collapse. In order to ease the severe situation, the Soviet Union began to implement the new economic policy in 1921. In the years of the implementation of the new economic policy, the domestic economy of the Soviet Union recovered rapidly. But as far as Lenin himself is concerned, his understanding of the theory of market economy also has shortcomings. At the Eighth Party Congress in March 1922, Lenin declared: "we have been retreating for one year, and the goal of retreating has reached the end of this period. It's even over. " In his view, the restoration of commodities, currencies and markets was only a temporary measure in the transitional period. As for entering the socialist society, commodities, currencies and markets were not needed. After Stalin came into power, he abolished the new economic policy and began to establish a highly centralized political and economic system. Stalin's understanding of commodity economy began to develop in depth in the late period. He acknowledged that commodity production and exchange do exist in socialist countries, but still insisted that the scale and scope of its development must be strictly limited.

After World War II, Stalin system, the Soviet planned economic system model, began to spread in Eastern European countries. After entering the period of peaceful development, its disadvantages began to appear in other countries. In order to solve the endless problems, a large number of economists came into being in Eastern Europe, and the idea of combining socialism with market economy was developing. As early as the 1920s and 1930s, the Soviet planned economic system model was criticized by the Austrian economist Mises and the Polish economist Langer in the United States. Although limited by the specific historical conditions, some of their views are not perfect, but many of them are shining with wisdom. For example, Langer put forward a new mode of economic regulation, which is the combination of planning and market. This creative point of view is very enlightening for later generations to explore the relationship between socialism and market economy.

After the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Eastern European countries began to change one after another, and economists in various countries began to explore the theory of socialist market economy. Koner, a famous Hungarian economist, Sike, a Czech economist and Bruce, a Polish economist, respectively put forward their own unique views on the problems of the combination of socialism and market economy, planning and market. They opposed to equate the plan with socialism completely, and also demonstrated the view of combining socialism with market economy. These views have great enlightening significance for the birth and formation of China's reform and opening-up thought. As early as the first 30 years of China's reform and development, there has been a continuous process of in-depth understanding of the plan and market. It is the early stage of incubation work that finally led to the emergence of the theory of socialist market economy.

In March 1949, Mao Zedong pointed out at the second plenary session of the Seventh Central Committee of the Communist Party of China that, unlike the unrestricted capitalist countries and the restricted and narrowed Eastern European socialist countries, everything in our country is not harmful to the national economy, but a capitalist component favorable to the national economy, which should be allowed to exist and develop. It is the emergence and practice of the controlled commodity economy under the leadership of the state-owned economy with Chinese characteristics that promotes the recovery and development of China's national economy. Until 1966, there was a lot of domestic discussion about this. However, in the next ten years, the theorists were silent, and the market economy was still in the cracks. In China, the thought of combining socialism with market economy has gone through three stages of development. The earliest breakthrough stage was on November 26, 1979, when Deng Xiaoping answered questions from foreign people, he said that socialism can also develop market economy, which is a socialist market economy based on planned economy and combined with market economy. The second stage is the breakthrough stage. At the 13th National Congress in October 1987, the CPC Central Committee reinterpreted the relationship between the plan and the market. At that time, the report regarded planning and market as means of adjustment, and did not focus on planned economy. The role of market adjustment was raised to a new level. The 13th Congress of the Communist Party of China played a great role in promoting the establishment of the theory of socialist market economy. The third stage is the establishment stage. The new theory will inevitably be questioned and denied by the Conservatives. In response to these doubts and negations, Deng Xiaoping again emphasized in his talk on the southern tour in 1992 that planning and market are economic means, more planning and more market, which is not the essential difference between Socialism and capitalism, planning and market. In the process of adjusting economy, each has its own characteristics. In October 1992, the report of the Fourteenth National Congress of the Communist Party of China formally announced that the goal of China's economic system reform is to establish a socialist market economy system, and the target model of China's socialist market economy system was formally established. In November 1993, the Third Plenary Session of the Fourteenth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China adopted the decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of

China on Several Issues concerning the establishment of a socialist market economic system, which decided that the establishment of a socialist market economic system is to make the market play a fundamental role in resource allocation under the state's macro-control. At the meeting, the overall framework and specific tasks for the establishment of the socialist market economy were also systematically clarified, marking the formal formation of the theory of the socialist market economy in China. In the new era, the Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee adopted the decision of the CPC Central Committee on several major issues of comprehensively deepening reform, continued to deepen the development of market economy theory, and put forward the major point of view that the market plays a decisive role in resource allocation. However, looking back on Khrushchev's agricultural reform, although the theorists had a great discussion on economic theory during his tenure, and had a certain in-depth understanding of the relationship between commodity and currency, it was of great significance to break the ice, but generally speaking, the reform he led was a top-down reform, and the reform did not have a strong economic theory as the support, once some results or some results were achieved in the reform process The problem is that some active and effective policies have been cancelled and the reform has finally died. Therefore, in terms of theory, if the reform is to succeed, it must be supported by a strong theory.

3. Agricultural reform should touch on the institutional roots

First of all, Khrushchev made minor repairs and supplements to Stalin's system, but he did not have a deep understanding of the institutional roots hidden in the problem of agricultural development. As an important part of the national economy, agriculture enterprises are also inseparable from the traditional socialist system in the development process. Khrushchev led the agricultural reform, but it was more about minor repairs and minor supplements to Stalin's system, not to the system level, more in-depth is not to the level of agricultural production factors. As one of the most important agricultural production factors, land has always been controlled in the hands of the state. In the process of reforming the personal sideline management system, farmers have obtained certain independent management rights. They are allowed to cultivate small plots of land beside their houses. Their enthusiasm for production and management is very high, and the effect is very obvious. However, once there is more energy invested by farmers in the personal land economy Khrushchev believed that this would damage the interests of state farms and collective farms, but he did not realize that more effective measures could be taken to keep farmers' enthusiasm for production and minimize the adverse effects, so he directly cut off the personal sidelines with good momentum of development. In the traditional socialist economy of the Soviet Union, where the factors of land production are restricted, even though the agricultural production has been improved by means of reclamation and raising the purchase price of grain, the shortage of grain is still inevitable, because fundamentally, the restrictive system of land resources restricts the improvement of working efficiency of state farms and collective farms, their profits and their production Quantity or quality is not directly

related, wages are not linked to work efficiency, and farmers' enthusiasm for production is constrained. Looking back on China's reform, the rural land reform is very successful. The main reason is to change the single collective ownership into the joint ownership of collective and individual, and the form of ownership is developing from unity to diversification. It is this bottom-up reform, which goes deep into the internal reform of the system, that has thoroughly stimulated the enthusiasm of farmers.

4. Agricultural reform should respect the law of agricultural development and seek truth from facts

The development of agriculture should be combined with the specific situation of the country, respect the law of agricultural development, and take increasing the well-being of farmers as the ultimate goal. At the beginning of Khrushchev's coming to power, he had a deep understanding of the current situation of agricultural development and achieved some results by means of material benefits stimulation. However, after the development of agriculture, he began to be "complacent" and various aggressive policies were constantly put forward. Large-scale reclamation, corn fever and other agricultural policies that were not in line with the situation of the Soviet Union were frequently announced and tractor stations were reorganized. They also act too hastily, which has a great negative impact on the people. At that time, the agricultural development plan formulated by the central government was very detailed, even specific to which areas and what kinds of food were planted. For example, when Khrushchev saw that the heavy corn production of the Americans was very high, he came back to China and started the "corn fever". The law of agricultural development is not something that someone or a group can conjecture. Only local cadres who have been engaged in agricultural work for a long time and farmers who are diligent in planting on the land can best understand what is suitable for their land. Moreover, the first beneficiary of agricultural reform must be farmers. During Khrushchev's period, he took many measures to reform agriculture, such as expanding the power, increasing the purchase price of agricultural products, reforming the personal sideline management system, reorganizing the machine tractor station, etc. many policies had good original intention and good effect at the initial stage of implementation, but in the later stage, many measures were either abandoned halfway or ended in a hurry, which basically failed. Enough to achieve the desired effect. In the 1960s, Khrushchev even put forward the idea of building socialism within 20 years. Even when the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party announced that it had been built, the people were still hungry. This slogan was meaningless after all. Agriculture is the foundation of the national economy, and the relevant personnel engaged in agricultural work should also enjoy due treatment. According to statistics, in 1948, the daily income of most collective farm workers in Siberia was less than 500g, even in some collective farm workers, the daily income was only 300g. In an age when natural conditions are very bad and science and technology are lagging behind, it is entirely up to people to develop

agriculture. Therefore, it is necessary to improve the living standards of farmers and improve the status of agriculture and farmers.

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