

Marx's Concept of Fairness and Justice and Socialist Practice

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ABSTRACT. *Fairness and justice is the core value pursuit of socialism. From the perspective of realistic human and realistic social relations, especially from realistic social production relations or economic relations, Marx profoundly criticized modern Western civilization. However, due to various reasons, there is a huge contrast between theory and practice in the process of achieving fairness and justice in socialist countries. It is of great theoretical and practical significance to carefully examine and reflect on the contrast between Marx's concept of fairness and justice in socialist practice. It is of great theoretical and practical significance to correctly understand the issue of fairness and justice in socialist practice and establish Marxist concept of fairness and justice.*

KEYWORDS: *Fair and just, Socialism, Enlightenment*

1. Introduction

In the theoretical writings of Marx's life, there are not many words directly discussing the theory of fairness and justice, but as a great philosopher, political economist, and founder of scientific socialism, he devoted his life to the pursuit of fairness and justice. All his works are a call for fairness and justice. The uniqueness of Marx's view of fairness and justice lies in: starting from the realistic human and realistic social relationship, especially from the realistic social production relationship or economic relationship, it profoundly criticizes the justice principles of modern Western civilization, especially Western capitalism And practice, and on the basis of critical reality, expressed his outstanding social justice thought--Communist ideal

2. Marx's View of Fairness and Justice

Marx's view of fairness and justice was put forward to the reality of the alienation of the early capitalist economy, and it is the result of scientific reflection on the reality of social unfairness in the process of Western modernization. In the mid-19th century, with the victory and consolidation of the bourgeois revolution, with the development of modern society and political and economic progress, freedom and equality in political rights have made great achievements, and people's social and political participation has become increasingly common. However, the development of political freedom and equality and economic freedom and equality are inconsistent. As a result, various socialist thoughts and theories that doubted and criticized the corruption and unfairness of the capitalist system and actively sought new social systems emerged.

As early as the 18th and 19th centuries, utopian socialists formed their own socialist ideals from abstract concepts such as "fairness", "justice", "equality", and "rationality". Socialism is seen as the antithesis of capitalism: Capitalism is synonymous with injustice and evil, and socialism is the embodiment of justice and goodness. The idea of utopian socialism provides important ideological data and theoretical basis for Marx's scientific socialism theory and fair and just view.

In short, in Marx's view, the most important thing to achieve social fairness and justice is to implement the rational adjustment or reform of social production relations.

3. Reflections on the Practice of Socialist Fairness and Justice

Socialism was first proposed as a kind of values and ideals. As a reaction to the unfairness of capitalism, fairness and justice are the core values of socialism. However, consistent with the entire socialist movement, Marx's view of fairness and justice also encountered various difficulties and twists and turns in the process of practice.

As predicted by Marx in his later years, some Eastern and “semi-orient” countries such as Russia and China did not follow the path of Western Europe step by step. They did not go through a complete stage of capitalism but entered socialism before developed Western Europe. The Bolsheviks led by Lenin founded the world's first socialist country, thereby turning socialism from theory to reality.

However, in the process of realizing social fairness in the real socialist countries, there is also a huge contrast between theory and practice. The establishment of public ownership of socialist means of production only laid the foundation for the realization of social equity and provided some possibility, but it does not mean that labor equality and distribution equality can be realized immediately. On the contrary, after winning the socialist revolution, the eastern countries encountered unexpected difficulties and setbacks in the process of building socialism and achieving socialist justice. There are three main reasons for the huge contrast between theory and practice.

Firstly, as far as fairness and justice are concerned, socialist fairness and justice itself has ideality. Therefore, the realization of socialist fairness and justice is a difficult process of exploration, and inevitable twists and turns. First of all, from the perspective of practice, Marx's concept of fairness and justice is realized through the socialist and communist movements. What the socialist and communist movements want to achieve is an ideal social form, as the ideal social form of mankind.

Secondly, as far as the practice of socialist fairness and justice is concerned, the historical background of the realistic socialist countries and the special logic of the development of the market economy have also brought difficulties to the realization of Marx 's view of fairness and justice. First of all, this is related to the lack of social reason and formal justice in the historical traditions of Eastern socialist countries. Most of the real socialist countries are countries lacking democratic traditions. The human spirit and thought are always in a state of conforming to the subconscious, and there is no right to freedom at all. Those old ideas that hindered the construction of socialist democratic politics were not really established, the rational mechanism of social operation was not established, and the formal justice as the premise of the socialist fair and just system was not established.

Thirdly, as far as the subject of socialist practice is concerned, utopianism, dogmatism, and various errors caused by it are the root causes of the unsatisfactory development of productive forces in the eastern socialist countries and the ups and downs in fair and just practices. The practice of fairness and justice in the Eastern socialist society shows that we cannot understand socialist fairness and justice issues only from the field of social production relations, but must carry out socialist fairness and justice practices in accordance with the general laws of human social development.

4. Enlightenment

According to Marx's point of view, China is a “living fossil” of Eastern society and embodies “the common feature of all Eastern movements.” China's socialist practice is undoubtedly of great significance to the process of world history.

1) Achieving socialist fairness and justice is a goal and a process. Realizing socialist fairness and justice is the basic goal of contemporary economic and social development. In the development of human society, it was the emergence of socialist thought that made Western society pay more and more attention to the realization of social justice, and effectively institutionalized the concept of social justice

2) To vigorously develop productive forces and let material wealth flow fully is the basic prerequisite for achieving socialist fairness and justice. The development of productive forces is a red line that runs through the entire historical development process of mankind and enables us to understand this development process, including the historical process of human pursuit of fairness and justice.

3) Actively absorb the achievements of developed countries' system civilization, and strengthen legal construction is the basic way to achieve socialist fairness and justice. It is the common wish of classic Marxist writers to explore the path of modernization of the late-developing countries to integrate the modernization process of the late-developing countries into the track of historical development of the entire world.

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