Study on Mao Zedong's cadre Education Thought in Yan'an Period and its Enlightenment

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Abstract: Mao Zedong's cadre education thought in Yan'an period is an important part of Mao Zedong's cadre education thoughts. Its main contents include education of Marxist theory, education of serving the people wholeheartedly, education of professional knowledge and education of historical and cultural knowledge. Re-study Mao Zedong's cadre education thought in Yan'an period, it is of great significance to the construction of cadres in the new era.

Keywords: Yan'an period, Cadre education thought, Enlightenment

1. Introduction

During Yan'an period, the older generation of proletarian revolutionaries with Mao Zedong as the leading core combined the basic principles of Marxism with the practice of cadre education in China in the long-term revolution and construction, formed Mao Zedong's cadre education thought with complete system and strict logic, and realized the creative transformation and innovative development of Marxist education theory. This thought has trained a large number of leading cadres with foresight and sagacity for China's revolution and construction. Mao Zedong once pointed out that to guide a great revolution, there must be a great party and many best cadres. General Secretary Xi Jinping once stressed that the key to the great struggle with many new historical characteristics lies in the Party and people. The key is people, to build a large contingent of high-quality cadres. After long-term efforts, socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, which requires the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping as the core to cultivate new backbone forces, unite and lead the people of all ethnic groups in China, and make efforts to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In the new era, we need to re-learn Mao Zedong's cadre education thought in Yan'an period, and get new inspiration and new nutrients from Mao Zedong's cadre education thought.

2. The Main Contents of Mao Zedong's Cadre Education Thought in Yan'an Period

2.1. The education of Marxist theory

It is the primary content of Mao Zedong's cadre education thought to educate leading cadres in Marxist theory. Mao Zedong regarded studying Marxism-Leninism as an important task of the whole party. He pointed out that all party members and comrades need to study, cadres and comrades need to study more and have greater responsibilities than ordinary party members. But also can drive the whole team. Comrade Mao Zedong believes that only when the broad masses of leading cadres in the Party raise their theoretical level can they always be highly consistent with the CPC Central Committee's thinking, and then the revolution can succeed. Although theoretical study is important, we must never regard Marxist theory as dogma. "until now, there are still many people. It seems that as long as we get it, we can cure all diseases effortlessly "[1]. Mao Zedong thought that Marxism should not be studied as dogma, let alone as a universal template, but should be combined with the specific actual situation. In the process of practice, we should better understand the profound connotation of Marxism and play its role. It is necessary to persist in taking Marxism-Leninism as the guide, taking practice as the basis, and persisting in seeking truth from facts in uniting and leading the people of all ethnic groups in the socialist revolution and construction. This is the theoretical character that the Communist Party of China(CPC) people and leading cadres should possess.
2.2. The education for the purpose of serving the people wholeheartedly

Serving the people wholeheartedly is the fundamental purpose of our the Communist Party of China (CPC), and it is also an important content of Mao Zedong's cadre education thought. From the beginning of Marx and Engels' theory of communism, it was pointed out that the Communist Party is not a special political party opposed to other workers' political parties, and that the Communists are working for the interests of the whole proletariat. Besides, He has no personal interests to profit from. Practice shows that the Communist Party of China (CPC) is a faithful representative of the best interests of the Chinese people and the interests of the whole Chinese nation. It serves the people wholeheartedly and has no self-interest.

As early as the revolutionary war, Mao Zedong pointed out: "Party members should not put their personal interests first at any time and place, but should obey the interests of the nation and the people with their personal interests." [2] We cadres should not forget that it is the power given by the people. Cadres should not oppose the people, take root among the people, and always be alert not to be separated from the masses. No matter what happens, we must proceed from the interests of the masses, conform to the interests of the people, be responsible to the people, win the loyal support and support of the broad masses of the people, and cadres should become the people's conscripts. "All our working cadres, regardless of their positions, are the servants of the people. Everything we do is to serve the people. What bad things do we have to throw away?" [3] For the education of party members and cadres' personal cultivation and moral conduct, Mao Zedong highly praised Bethune in "Commemorating Bethune", requiring party members and cadres to learn from Comrade Bethune, calling on the whole party to "be a noble person, a pure person and a moral person. A person who is out of the vulgar taste, a person who is beneficial to the people."

2.3. Business knowledge education

In 1942, the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee passed the Decision of the CPC Central Committee on In-service Cadre Education, which pointed out that the proportion of cadre education in all educational work should be the first, and the proportion of in-service cadre education in cadre education should be the first. The first priority of in-service cadre education is business education, which requires "what to do and what to learn". At the same time, it stipulates the specific content of business learning and the investigation of business learning achievements. Mao Zedong once sharply criticized cadres who didn't know business knowledge and could do nothing, which was worthless. It is precisely because of the importance attached to cadres' talents that our party cadres can lead various undertakings of the government in the Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Region under extremely difficult conditions. Only then can we get out of a "Yan'an Road" and win the whole country. Leading cadres should have the determination to study the business, and the study of the business should not only be "specialized" but also "complete". Leading cadres should not only become "professionals", but also "generalists". Don't be afraid to be "dog skin plasters". If cadres know everything, no matter which line they lead, will be spiritual. Only when leading cadres adapt to and do well in the cause of the party and the country can they blossom and bear fruit in various undertakings. Leading cadres should be diligent and good at learning, and learn Marxist theoretical knowledge and professional knowledge well. Marxist theoretical knowledge is the guide to guide China's revolution and construction. Business knowledge is the method and means to achieve the success of China's revolutionary construction, but knowing only one of them will not work. If leading cadres only know professional knowledge, they are likely to drill a dead end and get out. Marxist theoretical knowledge is the key thing. Only by learning Marxist theoretical knowledge well, only in this way can leading cadres master all the business knowledge they have learned. On the other hand, if you only know the theoretical knowledge of Marxism but lack the professional knowledge, you can only talk on paper and can't apply the theory to practice well. Therefore, only by learning both theoretical knowledge and professional knowledge well can we serve the people better. Conversely, if leading cadres deviate from the fundamental purpose of serving the people, they will go astray.

2.4. Education of historical and cultural knowledge

During Yan'an period, Mao Zedong especially emphasized the importance of studying history. He said that it is impossible for a political party guiding a great revolutionary movement to win without revolutionary theory, historical knowledge and profound understanding of the actual movement. Mao Zedong and other leaders, vigorously promote the history education of cadres. In 1940, the Central
Committee issued the Central Committee's Instructions on Cadre Learning, which stipulated that the primary courses for cadre learning should include the history of modern Chinese revolution, Chinese revolution and the Communist Party of China (CPC), guerrilla warfare and social science knowledge. Intermediate courses include the history of the Communist Party of China and Marxism-Leninism. Advanced courses include political economy, historical materialism and dialectical materialism, and the history of modern world revolution. In May, 1941, Mao Zedong pointed out in "Reforming Our Learning" that not paying attention to studying history is one of the extremely bad styles. He said: "Chinese history, both in the past century and in ancient times, is still dark in the hearts of many Party members. [5] At the same time, he also criticized those who do not pay attention to historical study and research. He pointed out: "I don't know anything about my own history, or I know very little, I am not ashamed, but I am proud of it. What is particularly important is the history of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the nearly 100-year history of China since the Opium War. Nearly one hundred years of economic history, nearly one hundred years of political history, nearly one hundred years of military history, nearly one hundred years of cultural history, almost no one seriously began to study. [6] Mao Zedong advocated studying and studying historical and practical problems, which he thought would help to better integrate the basic principles of Marxism with the concrete reality and practice of Chinese revolution and development, and explore the road of revolution and development with national characteristics. At the same time, it also provides an important reference and guidance for future revolution and construction.

3. The Characteristics of Mao Zedong's Cadre Education Thought in Yan 'an Period

3.1. Clearly pointed out the position and role of cadre education in winning the victory of the revolutionary cause

War of Resistance against Japan is a feat in the history of Chinese national liberation and an important stage of the new-democratic revolution. If the Communist Party of China (CPC) wants to shoulder the heavy responsibility of leading to complete this sacred mission, it must bring up millions of qualified cadres with both ability and political integrity. In the face of the special situation that the number of cadres was obviously insufficient and the educational level of cadres was low at that time. The Party Central Committee and the leading comrades of the Central Committee clearly realize the necessity and urgency of this work. They not only link the training of cadres with the victory of the Anti-Japanese War, but also raise this to the height of the cause of the Party and the victory of the new-democratic revolution.

Regarding the important role of party cadres in the Chinese revolutionary process, Mao Zedong pointed out: "the Communist Party of China (CPC) is a party leading the great revolutionary struggle in a big nation with hundreds of thousands of people. Without a majority of leading cadres with both talents and morality, it cannot complete its historical tasks." [7] In May 1937, in the article "Struggle for millions of people to enter the Anti-Japanese National United Front", Mao Zedong pointed out: "To guide a great revolution, there must be a great party and many best cadres. In a China of 450 million people, an unprecedented revolution in history cannot be carried out if the leader is a narrow small group. It is also impossible for the party to have only some petty leaders and cadres who are ignorant of the general situation, have no foresight and have no ability. [8] In the war environment, it is one of the main combat tasks for the Party to train a large number of new cadres in a planned way. Mao Zedong thought: "to expel Japanese imperialism from China and win the war of resistance, we must greatly increase the strength of the war of resistance. To achieve this goal, we should change the contrast of strength between ourselves and the enemy. There are many ways to increase the strength of anti-Japanese war, but the best and most effective way is to run schools and train anti-Japanese cadres. [9] Therefore, Mao Zedong demanded during the Anti-Japanese War: "Every base area should set up large-scale cadre schools as much as possible, and the bigger the more the better. [10] The people's revolutionary army is not only used as a combat team, but also as a work team, and it must be made into a huge school for training cadres.

Mao Zedong's analysis of the importance of cadre education in Yan 'an period pointed out the direction for the development of the Party's cadre education work, which is the prerequisite for carrying out various cadre education work.

3.2. To strengthen the study of Marxism-Leninism theory

Lenin pointed out: "Without revolutionary theory, there would be no revolutionary movement." [11] "Only the party guided by advanced theory can realize the role of advanced fighters." [11] In the
complicated struggle of War of Resistance against Japan, the CPC Central Committee paid attention to the study of Marxism-Leninism theory of cadres, and trained cadres to analyze new situations and solve new problems with the standpoint, viewpoint and method of communism.

Mao Zedong pointed out: "Marxism-Leninism theory is a theory that is universally applicable. Their theory should not be regarded as dogma, but as a guide to action. We should not just study the words and phrases of Marxism-Leninism, but take it as a revolutionary science. We should not only understand the conclusions about general laws drawn by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin who studied extensive real life and revolutionary experiences, but also learn their positions and methods of observing and solving problems. [12] It is not to learn theory for the sake of learning theory, but to study and study the theory of Marxism-Leninism purposefully. Cadres' theoretical study can't stop at memorizing the principles of Marxist books, but must be able to correctly understand the practical problems in the revolution according to Marxist stand, viewpoint and method, and give scientific explanations and theoretical explanations on China's economic, political, military and cultural problems. With regard to Marxism-Leninism theory, the broad masses of cadres should strive to master it. Mastery means learning to distinguish the words and expressions of Marxism from the essence of Marxism, further understanding this essence, and understanding Lenin and Stalin's theories on colonial revolution and Chinese revolution.

3.3. Focusing on studying the practical problems of the Chinese revolution

In 1941, in "Reforming Our Learning", Mao Zedong put forward the policy of "focusing on the study of the practical problems of the Chinese revolution", aiming at the situation that the Party did not pay attention to the research of the present situation, history and the application of Marxism-Leninism. He pointed out: "For the education of in-service cadres and the education of cadre schools, we should establish the policy of focusing on studying the practical problems of Chinese revolution and guiding by the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism, and abolish the method of studying Marxism-Leninism statically and in isolation. [13] the central government will run through this policy to the specific areas of cadre education, and make specific provisions in a targeted manner. In December 1941, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China passed the Decision on Yan'an Cadre School, which requires Yan'an and the cadre schools in the anti-Japanese base areas to emphasize that the purpose of studying Marxism-Leninism theory is to enable students to correctly apply this theory to solve the practical problems of the Chinese revolution. [14]

The policy of "focusing on studying the practical problems of the Chinese revolution" is the policy guiding the cadre education in the Communist Party of China (CPC). This policy was put forward on the basis of summing up the historical experience of cadre education practice in the Communist Party of China (CPC), absorbing the reasonable components of the general policy of Soviet culture and education and the policy of resisting universities, and according to the characteristics of cadre education itself. The work direction, basic means and guiding ideology of cadre education in the Communist Party of China (CPC) are highly summarized. It mainly defines four basic contents: first, the use of cadre education includes all in-service cadre education and cadre school education; Second, the work direction of cadre education is to study the practical problems of the Chinese revolution as the center; And third, The guiding ideology of cadre education is guided by the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism; Fourth, the basic means of cadre education should integrate theory with practice, and abolish the method of studying Marxism-Leninism in a static and isolated way. This policy puts the political function of education serving proletarian politics into "focusing on studying the practical problems of Chinese revolution". Putting the basic means of combining education with productive labor into the education and teaching principles of integrating theory with practice, and putting the guiding ideology of Marxism into the application of the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism, is obviously the embodiment of our party's general policy of cultural education in cadre education. Therefore, "Focusing on studying the practical problems of Chinese revolution" is Mao Zedong's most explicit, comprehensive and concentrated theoretical summary of cadre education policy.

The policy of "focusing on studying the practical problems of Chinese revolution" points out the working direction for the concrete implementation of cadre education in the Communist Party of China (CPC) and plays a leading role in the practice of cadre education in the Communist Party of China (CPC).

3.4. The educational principle of connecting theory with practice

The cadre education policy of "focusing on studying the practical problems of Chinese revolution" comes down to one point, that is, cadre education must adhere to the fundamental principle of linking
theory with practice. The so-called "linking theory with practice", in Mao Zedong's view, means studying and studying Marxism-Leninism theory. It is necessary to "be good at applying the stand, viewpoint and method of Marxism-Leninism, be good at applying Lenin and Stalin's theory of Chinese revolution, and further make theoretical creations that meet China's needs in all aspects from the careful study of China's historical and revolutionary realities." [14]

Mao Zedong and other leaders attach great importance to the implementation of this principle in cadre education, and strive to realize the organic combination of Marxism-Leninism theory and Chinese revolutionary reality. Mao Zedong pointed out: "Marxism-Leninism is the general conclusion drawn from historical reality and revolutionary reality according to the theory created by revolutionary instructors." [15] It can only be combined with China's reality. Only in this way can we really play a role in promoting the Chinese revolution, which is the truth proved by the Chinese revolution. "To talk about Marxism without Chinese characteristics is only abstract and empty Marxism. Therefore, to make Marxism concrete in China, to make it carry the necessary Chinese characteristics in every expression, that is to say, to apply it according to Chinese characteristics, it has become an urgent problem for the whole party to understand and solve." [16]

Therefore, the CPC Central Committee and Mao Zedong emphasized that among the broad masses of cadres, "it is necessary to increase the education of Chinese history and China's situation and the party's history and policies" [17], including: First, we must learn the history and present situation of China and understand the characteristics of China's revolution; Second, we must pay attention to investigation and research; Third, we should keep close contact with the masses. Adhere to the working method of coming from the masses and going to the masses. Mao Zedong pointed out: "The' book' of Marxism should be studied, but it must be combined with the actual situation of our country. We need' books', but we must correct the bookishness that is divorced from the actual situation." [18] Only in this way can we make theoretical creations that meet China's needs in all aspects. So as to find out the law of development and truly connect theory with practice.

4. The Enlightenment of Mao Zedong's Cadre Education Thought in Yan'an Period to the Construction of Cadres in the New Period

General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out: "To govern the country, we must manage the party first and strictly. If the party is weak and the party is not strict, and the outstanding problems within the party that the people have strongly reflected cannot be resolved, then our party will lose its ruling qualification sooner or later and will inevitably be eliminated by history." [19] Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, and the major social contradictions have changed. It has brought the party a new topic of the times. In the new era, "great struggles and grand undertakings require high-quality cadres." [20] During the Yan'an period, the Communist Party of China(CPC) paid attention to the education and training of cadres under extremely difficult conditions, and trained thousands of outstanding cadres for the victory of War of Resistance against Japan and the Liberation War. It also provides a reference for strengthening the construction of cadres at present.

4.1. Strengthen the education of ideals and beliefs and solve the problem of "master switch"

In June 2013, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out five standards for good cadres at the National Organizational Work Conference, namely, firm belief, serving the people, diligent and pragmatic, daring to take responsibility, and being honest and honest. Among them, strengthening ideals and beliefs is fundamental and the source of strength for good cadres. To manage the party and strictly manage the party, the first task is to strengthen the ideals and beliefs of party members and cadres. General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out: "We must strengthen our ideals and beliefs and effectively solve the 'master switch' problem of world outlook, outlook on life and values" [21]. A firm belief in Marxism and a firm belief in socialism and communism are the ideals and beliefs of the Communist Party of China (CPC) people. During Yan'an period, The Communist Party of China(CPC) people, represented by Mao Zedong, strengthen the education of Marxist theory to party members and cadres, pay attention to training cadres with Marxist stand, methods and viewpoints, and emphasize the scientific method of combining theory with practice to study Marxist theory and analyze specific problems. Therefore, in the new era, party members and cadres should strengthen the education of ideals and beliefs, it is necessary to learn the theoretical achievements of Marxism and the sinicization of Marxism. As the latest theoretical achievement of Marxism in China, Xi Jinping's new era socialism with Chinese characteristics scientifically clarified what kind of socialism with Chinese characteristics should be adhered to and...
developed in the new era and how to adhere to and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics. It can be said, achieving the goal of "two hundred years" cannot be separated from Xi Jinping's socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, the scientific development concept, the important thought of "Three Represents", Deng Xiaoping Theory and Mao Zedong Thought. In the final analysis, it is impossible to leave Marxism. At any time, party members and cadres should strengthen their ideals and beliefs. Solve the problem of "master switch". Only by adhering to Marxism and solving the problem of "master switch" can the majority of party members and cadres have a clear-cut stand in front of big and wrong; Stand firm under western ideology and various temptations; "Reliable, trustworthy and assured at a critical moment" [22]

4.2. Firmly establish the principle of party spirit, strengthen criticism and self-criticism

During Yan'an period, the Communist Party of China (CPC) effectively solved the problems existing in the Party at that time through Yan'an Rectification Movement, thus purifying the Party spirit within the Party. Looking at the present, there are still some problems in cadre party spirit education, such as the content, methods, teachers, system and mechanism of party spirit education, and the atmosphere of party spirit education needs to be further optimized. And the long-term effect of party spirit education needs to be further enhanced. Under the new situation, how to enhance the pertinence and effectiveness of cadre party spirit education has become an urgent problem to be solved in cadre party spirit education and training.

First of all, we should establish the principle of party spirit in the whole party. "Adhering to the principle of party spirit is the fundamental political character of the Communists and the fundamental requirement of political work." [23] Party members and cadres as the backbone of the cause of the party and the state, the first thing is to keep the principle of party spirit in mind. When doing political work, we must insist on putting the party's principles first; Put the cause of the party first; The fundamental interests of the people come first. Similarly, as a qualified party member cadre, it is necessary to "speak for the party, worry about the party and serve the party, and love, worry, develop and protect the party in all aspects of work" [24]. Secondly, insist on using the powerful weapon of criticism and self-criticism. In 2013, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out at the Second Plenary Session of the 18th Central Commission for Discipline Inspection: "Criticism and self-criticism require party members and cadres to treat themselves correctly, treat comrades correctly, consciously establish a sense of unity and cooperation, adhere to the truth, correct mistakes, be broad-minded, be good at it, be strict with yourself, and treat others with leniency." [25] Only through criticism and self-criticism, only by solving contradictions and problems within the party and promoting the formation of an atmosphere of right and wrong, unity, friendship and positive progress can we enhance the political, principled and combative nature of life within the party. Finally, we should establish, speak and obey the rules. On July 1, 2016, in his speech at the conference celebrating the 95th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC), General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out: "As the ruling party, the biggest threat is corruption. [26] Among them, the corruption of party members and cadres, especially senior party members and cadres, is the most harmful to the cause of the party and the state. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, our party has insisted on fighting "tigers" and "flies" together, which has effectively solved the problem of corruption within the party. To solve the problem of corruption, we must not only fight, but also establish rules. Only by specifying what can be done and what cannot be done, can party members and cadres "be afraid of their heart, keep their words, and stop their actions" [27].

4.3. Improve the level of business and serve the people wholeheartedly

In Yan'an period, in order to solve the problem of less literacy and more common illiterate of border area cadres, the Communist Party of China increased the education of scientific and cultural knowledge for Party members and cadres, so as to improve the professional level of Party members and cadres in the border region. In the new era, with the improvement of people's education level, Party members and cadres should improve their professional ability in order to serve the people better. General Secretary Xi Jinping believes that in the process of cadre education and training, we should not only focus on theoretical education and party spirit education, but also adhere to the training of cadres' professional ability. In 2010, Xi Jinping expounded the relationship among theoretical education, party spirit education and ability education at the national education and training meeting. He pointed out that: "We emphasize that the education and training of cadres should focus on theoretical education and party spirit education. It does not mean that knowledge education and leadership education are no longer important,
nor should theoretical education and party spirit education be opposed to knowledge education and leadership education. "[28] the new era, The aim consciousness of serving the people wholeheartedly and the education of mass line are the important contents of strengthening cadre education. General Secretary Xi Jinping has repeatedly stressed that party members and cadres should keep close contact with the masses, stand on the position of the masses, firmly establish the mass viewpoint, adhere to the mass line, improve the ability of mass work, and consciously safeguard the fundamental interests of the masses. Don't forget your original intention and move on. Party members and cadres should bear in mind that "the original intention and mission of the Communist Party of China is to seek happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation." [29]

References