

Ecological Justice: Perfecting Environmental Ethics New Idea

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ABSTRACT. *China's social development is inseparable from the use of natural ecological resources, in the continuous progress of productive forces, China's ecological also appear many problems, with a clear understanding of China's ecological situation, we need to attach importance to the guidance of environment ethics in social development, so that China's ecological civilization construction can get considerable progress.*

KEYWORDS: *Environment, Social development, Ethics*

1. Introduction

Chinese leaders have always attached great importance to the natural ecology of the country, and have their own understanding of the development of natural resources and the protection of the natural environment in China. On the basis of studying Marxist ecological thought, Chinese leaders have formulated the idea of natural ecology with Chinese characteristics.

2. China's Current Ecological Conditions Are Mainly Composed of Three Main Aspects:

First of all, China's natural environment is seriously polluted, and it is pointed out at the World Environment Congress that China's natural environment is the reciprocal position in the world's natural environment pollution.^① In China's natural environment report, it is pointed out that the ecological problems caused by China's natural environment have reached a very serious level. In the report, it is considered that China's natural environment is facing three major problems. First, China's water sources are generally polluted, not only surface water, but also groundwater resources. At the same time, China's Qinghai-Tibet Plateau is one of the most polluted plateaus in the world. The Qinghai-Tibet Plateau is the birthplace of China's two mother rivers, the Yangtze River and the Yellow River. The destruction of the natural environment of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, the destruction of China's most important water source will expose the people in most parts of China to waterless availability. Second, air pollution is the most important pollution to the broad masses

of the Chinese people. Human beings need to live in the air, air pollution will seriously threaten the health of the people, make the people's physical damage, and if serious, will harm the survival and development of the future of the entire Chinese nation. Third, the destruction of natural resources is a serious loss to China's economy. The pollution of the natural environment in China has a bad effect on the economic development of China and make the living standard of the poor people in China can not be improved. The Chinese government has to devote a lot of manpower and material resources to solve the ecological problem of the natural environment pollution.

Secondly, the destruction of China's natural resources in over-exploitation, the ecological reasons of the disintegration of the Soviet Union tell us that if only blindly over-exploitation of natural resources, will cause serious harm to the natural ecosystem of our country. In the past, when China was building the socialist society, they did not really attach importance to the rational exploitation and management of natural resources, but believed that in order to make China a modern country as soon as possible, it was necessary to fully exploit China's natural resources. Lack of scientific and systematic planning for natural resources leads to serious over-exploitation of natural resources and ultimately the depletion of natural resources. We understand that although China is a country rich in natural resources in the world, but China's population accounts for one fifth of the world's total. China is a country with scarce natural resources per capita, and if natural resources are not rationally developed and managed, China's natural resources will not be able to provide material support for China's socialist construction. At the same time, we should also realize that it is very unrealistic to give up socialist development to protect natural resources. China is a developing country, and the living standard of the Chinese people is still far behind that of the western developed capitalist countries. It is relatively difficult for China to catch up with the social development level of the western developed capitalist countries in a short period of several decades. Therefore, the development of China's natural resources is inevitable. China's natural resources are far from being able to satisfy the extensive socialist construction of the past. If we persist in adopting an innovative mode of economic development, it will lead to an ecological crisis like that of the Soviet Union. In the end, it will be the broad masses of the people who will be hurt. China needs to change its high pollution and high consumption socialist economic production mode.

And, the impact of population pressure on the natural environment is increasing. China was the most populous country in the world before liberation. In the socialist social development, China's population is increasing. China's population growth has already had a serious impact on the already fragile natural ecological environment. First, the large number of people in China need more natural resources to consume. In modern society, people are not only satisfied with the food, clothing, housing and transportation, but also have higher requirements for material and spiritual life. The ecology of human beings is the natural ecological balance, social ecological harmony and order, and the all-round development of human beings requires "harmony between man and nature".^② The consumption of natural resources in daily

life of the new generation in China is much higher than that of the older generation. They need more electronic products, more colorful clothes and more advanced household appliances. All these put forward higher requirements for the production of natural material materials. Second, the large population will cause the shortage of natural resources for human and nature, people have to expand the exploitation of natural resources. Since the reform and opening up, China's soil erosion has been increasing. A large number of rivers and lakes dried up, and turned into people farming fields, marine fish resources are slowly exhausted. In China, the contradiction between the development of human society and the protection of the natural environment is increasing. Third, the population growth also causes serious natural ecology pollution, the garbage which the human society produces flows into the natural ecosystem finally, for example the electronic product itself has very many harmful substances, is very difficult to be digested in the natural ecological environment, these all cause the natural ecosystem unbalance and the breakdown relations between human and the nature, and will finally threaten the survival and the development of human society.

Finally, the living things of China are decreasing and dying out under the natural environment, the demand for animals and plants of China social development is also expanding, In China's continuous socialist construction, natural resources are exploited, a large number of forests and grasslands are destroyed, so that the animals and plants lose their natural environment on which they depend for existence, and finally a large number of animals and plants are extinct in China. The United Nations has pointed out that China has become a serious disaster area for the protection of endangered species in recent decades. The destruction of China's biosphere is a serious threat to China's ecological and natural protection and China's species diversity. All these pose threats to the realization of harmony between man and nature in China.

Adhere to the value orientation of environment ethics

After realizing the problems of China's natural ecology, the Chinese leaders believe that in order to carry out the sustainable development of natural ecology, first, we must improve the natural ecology concept of the broad masses of the people, and then can better provide ideological guidance for the construction of ecological socialism and can educate the broad masses of the people by cultivating the value orientation of environment ethics. The core of environment ethics is to pursue the harmonious coexistence between man and nature, and to realize the sustainable development of natural resources and the protection of natural environment on the basis of fairness and justice. Therefore, environment ethics emphasizes the strengthening of the concept of sustainable development in China's socialist construction. In order to cope with the increasingly serious natural ecological problems in China, sustainable development will become the basic national policy of social development of China.

3. The Concept and Main Points of China's Environmental Ethics

Environment ethics originates from the western developed capitalist countries, and mainly studies and discusses the ideological and moral relationship between human society and natural environment. “The idea that man stands outside nature and fairly exercises a right to rule nature has become a prominent feature of the ethics consciousness that governs Western civilization.”^⑧ Environment ethics tries to standardize the practice of human beings under the condition of natural environment by means of morality, and at the same time, guide people how to correctly understand and transform the world. At present, the research scope of environment ethics is expanding, which is not only satisfied with the relationship between human and nature, but also extended to the ethics relationship between people, the harmonious relationship between human society and people and so on. Environment ethics holds that the relationship between human beings and nature is the basis of all relationships, only when the relationship between the two is harmonious, can human society develop and the protection of natural environment be truly realized. Therefore, environment ethics focuses on the relationship between human beings and nature, and obtains fruitful research results. Generally speaking, there are two most important understandings about environment ethics, one is the understanding of anthropocentrism, the other is non-anthropocentrism.

In the past, in the value concept of environment ethics, the anthropocentrism thought occupies the mainstream status. They thought that in the understanding and the transformation of natural environment we must first consider human's factor. If there is no human in the natural environment, then studies and the analysis of natural environment is meaningless. The premise of final realization of natural ecology development is human's practice. Anthropocentric scholars believe that only human beings can really understand and transform nature, and the difference between human beings and animals lies in that human beings have more emotions and values, so human beings have the sole right to speak on environment ethics, and are also the creators of environment ethics. Human beings in the practice of nature are far more important than animals in the natural environment, so human beings are the masters of nature, and also the moral benchmark of nature. Anthropocentric scholars point out that in nature, except for human beings, other organisms are of no value, and are all practical objects and practical tools for human practical activities. Anthropocentrism is very popular in the past, and also provides moral guidance for human beings' continuous exploration of natural ecology. But anthropocentrism will lead to one-sided emphasis on human subjective initiative towards nature, while ignoring there are limitations for people towards nature. The practical activities of human beings to meet their own interests have not made people truly understand nature, and has not played a very good role for the protection of the natural environment.

Generally speaking, non-anthropocentrism has two aspects, one is biological egalitarianism, they believe that good is the origin of environment ethics, only to maintain a kind attitude towards all living things in the natural environment, then human society and nature will develop and progress. All biological egalitarians demand that people must do what they can to help all living things in the natural environment, such behavior is the expression of human moral level, and when

people have to destroy the natural environment in the practice of nature, there is a mentality of gratitude and necessary moral concepts. For example, in modern western capitalist countries, slaughtering live poultry in farmers' markets has been basically eliminated, which is not only a matter of hygiene, but also a more humane way to slaughter live poultry in slaughterhouses, which reflects the concept of biological egalitarianism. The respect for life and conscience enable people to produce the value standard of environment ethics. Another aspect is ecological holism. People think that they care too much about the individual of living things for biological egalitarianism, and do not analyze the relationship between man and nature from a macro perspective. Ecological holism requires the integration of man and nature into a whole ecosystem to study the ethics of man's path to nature. Ecological holism scholars believe that people can not derive human's own environment ethics from the biology itself, but construct the existence of natural life in human's moral concept, and regard natural life as the object of moral ethics of the combination of human and nature, so as to make human's environment ethics have real existence value, which is the moral concept that human get from the objective existence of nature.

4. Adhere to the Behavior of Environmental Ethics

Environment ethics is one of the core values in the current construction of ecological socialism in China. Adhering to environment ethics in China means that the Chinese people can abandon the anthropocentrism theory in the past natural concept, and guide people's practical activities in natural environment with the moral standards in human society, and finally establish the moral standards and value standards of man and nature. Therefore, the construction of environment ethics in China is to formulate a development model in line with the development of ecological socialism in China, and to think about any moral paradigm that forms a harmonious coexistence between man and nature in the political, economic and cultural of human society.

Adhering to environment ethics is to insist on how to deal with the rational development and utilization of natural resources wealth correctly in modern human society, Marx clearly expressed the view that “the development of social and economic form is a natural and historical process.”^④ Human desire makes people constantly take from nature, regardless of the consequences. Environment ethics is to make people realize that the moral standard of natural material resources for man and nature is not possession, but moral harmony between man and nature.

Adhering to environment ethics is to insist on reasonable consumption of natural resources, people should realize that excessive consumption of natural resources makes China's natural resources constantly exhausted, and makes people face the threat of natural morality, people should bring natural ecology into the economic system of the whole human society, and advocate a sustainable development economic model to pay attention to the consumption of natural resources.

Adhering to environment ethics means insisting that people return to nature,

which is not only a slogan, but a real requirement to make people and nature live in harmony, form a new ecosystem, and ultimately achieve harmonious and healthy coexistence between man and nature.

After recognizing the importance of environment ethics to the construction of ecological civilization in China, we will through guiding China's socialist construction and development to solve the current ecological problems and make unremitting efforts to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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