

Hence to take the road of socialism with Chinese characteristics, it is a must to always pay close attention to the changes in the world trend, the development directions of the world productive forces and culture, be tolerant to diversity, keep learning from the other countries, nations and civilizations, grasp the development trend of the times, and enable the Chinese economy, politics, culture and society to fully demonstrate the spirit of the times and creativity.

All in all, the road of China is the correct road to achieve state prosperity and people's happiness and good health.

II. The International Influences of the Road of China

The socialist development road, after a brilliant course of more than 30 years, has enabled China to build a good international image, changed people's views on China, and provided a reference for the other developing countries with its enormous achievements and the great contributions it has made to the mankind. More importantly, it has generated extremely profound influences on world socialism.

1. The rapid development of China has had far-reaching influences on world peace and development

After over 3 decades of reform and opening up, the relationship between China and the world has seen historic changes. China's development has benefited the world. Comrade Hu Jintao delivered a speech at the annual meeting of 2008 Bo' ao Forum for Asia, in which he pointed out: "The practice of 30 years of reform and opening up tells

us that the development and progress of China is inseparable from the world, and the world prosperity and stability is inseparable from China”. Since over 30 years of reform, the Chinese economy has become an important component of the world economy. John Rutledge, the world’s famous economist and the former economic adviser for the U. S. president, once was amazed by the shocking and unprecedented economic growth of China, and said that China had changed the world’s politics, economy and culture, etc. in a unique way.

The prospect and fate of China are closely connected to those of the world. The successful experience of China has played a demonstrative role in promoting the development of the world economy. The achievements made by China in the construction of the economy provide precious “Chinese experience” for the whole world and bring hope to the poor and backward developing countries. The rapid development of China does not threaten the world. Instead, it provides an unbelievable opportunity for the world economic development.



Since the reform and opening up, Chinese economy has developed fast and gained the success attracting worldwide attention

The road of peaceful development advocated by China has promoted the new development of world peace and development. China refuses all forms of hegemony and power politics, and objects against any country which interferes with the internal affairs of other countries with any excuse. It has been against arms race and requested all-round prohibition and thorough destruction of the nuclear weapons as well as large-size reduction of weapons and army, and advocated the new concept of peaceful development. All these are of great significance to unite the world people and isolate hegemony. In the meantime, it proposes to settle the disputes between countries peacefully with negotiations. It vigorously supports the United Nations to work following the purposes and principles of the *Charter of the United Nations*, and actively takes part in UN activities which are good for world peace and development. It has also proposed to take the road of peaceful development and to construct new ways and methods of building a harmonious world. All these strategic ideas benefit the stable development of socialist construction in China, and provide a guarantee for changing the world balance of power and rationally settling world disputes.

China sticks to the policy of independent, self-reliant and peaceful diplomacy, which contributes to the balance of world strategies and world stability, and is a new pushing force to world peace and development. Being independent and self-reliant is the core of the policy of peaceful diplomacy. It requires protecting state sovereignty and security and national interests, and never allows any country to interfere with the domestic affairs of China. Meanwhile, the diplomatic principles of not aligning with other countries, not serving as the leader or playing

cards contribute to the resistance and objection against the hegemony of any big power, the exchanges among world countries and world peace and stability. China respects other countries' independence and sovereign rights. It never classifies the world countries by ideology and social systems, but sets its stance and attitude according to whether it contributes to world peace and stability. It is a containment of hegemony, which will play demonstrative role and unite the Third World countries, contribute to the development of multi-polarization, and vigorously push forward world peace and development.

China has abandoned the stereotype of "big family" by social system during the Cold War, and insists on taking the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence as the sole criterion on dealing with relations between countries, actively develops the friendly cooperative relations with the other countries, and promotes the new development of China and the world. It makes "opening up" and "accelerated development" the main methods of promoting peace and development, and builds and develops the friendly cooperative relations with all countries. Since the reform and opening up, China has built multi-layered international friendly cooperation. First of all, it makes building and developing the friendly cooperative relations with the Third World countries the standpoint of its diplomatic policy. Secondly, it surmounts the differences in ideology and social systems, and regulates and improves its relationships with the United States, Japan and the other Western countries. Thirdly, it resumes and develops the friendly cooperative relations with the other socialist countries. Fourthly, it improves and develops the good-neighborly cooperative relations between China and its neighboring countries. Besides, China also actively advocates the

building of a new world political and economic order on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, which is another contribution made by the China to world peace and development.

The development of China has allowed more and more Western scholars to realize below things. Firstly, world development needs China. To achieve the world economic growth, China is needed. It is unnecessary and impossible to isolate China. A powerful China may be a challenge, but a decayed, slack and uncontrolled China is a threat whose results are hard to be measured. Secondly, as the most populated country in the world, China's consumption of oil, steel and coal will pull the growth of the world economy. China's interests tally with the world interests. What is more possible is not how the world will change China, but how China will change the world. Thirdly, the traditional Chinese culture advocates tolerance, and tolerates various forms of social systems, respects choices and tries, pays attention to group interests, and focuses on the priority of social interests over individual interests. All these ideas will replace the resisting thinking in the Cold War period before becoming the mainstream ideas in the 21st century. Fourthly, the most successful thing about the development road of China is that it never copies the other countries' patterns. Though the development road of China apparently cannot be copied by the other countries, much experience therein is worth learning and referring to.

2. The theoretical innovations based on the practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics have achieved a new leap of the scientific theory of socialism

The theory of socialism with Chinese characteristics has developed socialism from the traditional form to the modern form, and provided a

scientific guidance for overcoming the influence of the “traditional form”, stimulating the vigor and vitality of socialism, and for the countries led by the communist party to take the development road of socialism with local characteristics.

First, it perfectly blazes the new socialism road of combining Marxism with its reality and the features of the times that adapts to its national conditions. Since the reform and opening up, the Communist Party of China has always adhered to the ideological line of seeking truth from facts, insisted on combining the universal truths of Marxism with the reality of China, and set the political route of building a prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced and harmonious modern country. The success in the socialist practice in the recent 30 years has demonstrated the great power of thoroughly implementing this ideological and political line and created a new situation of socialist modernization.

Second, it profoundly reveals the nature of socialism, and forms a new theory to guide the development of the socialist productive forces. The central leaderships of the Communist Party of China have grasped the primary fundamental theoretical issue of “What is socialism and how to build socialism?” and generalized “the nature of socialism”. It breaks through the traditional view on the nature of socialism, defines that it is the fundamental and primary task of socialism to emancipate and develop the productive forces, highlights the most essential attribute revealed by the Marxist classic writers, i. e. socialism shall create higher labor productivity than capitalism, which has greatly improved people’s understanding of socialism.

Third, it puts forward the theory of the primary stage of socialism,

enriches and develops the Marxist theory of social development stages. Marx and Engels once divided the communist society into “the first stage” and “the senior stage”; Lenin called the socialist society “the primary form of the new society”, but failed to discuss the details of the several small development stages of the socialist society. Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and China all made the mistake of bypassing stages on their cognition about the development stages of socialism. During the reform and opening up, Deng Xiaoping clearly proposed that socialism in itself was the primary stage of communism and China was at the primary stage of socialism, i. e. the underdeveloped stage, so all work had to be done and all plans had to be made based on such reality. It indicated that the primary stage of socialism was different from the transitional period of traditional socialism or the lower stage of communism, and defined that it was the greatest reality and basis of all routes, guidelines and policies in this period, placing scientific socialism on the basis of the reality once again.

Fourth, it combines socialism with the market economy and forms the socialist market economic theory with Chinese characteristics. Classic Marxist writers once believed that socialism equaled the planning economic system. The traditional concept that the planned economy is socialism and the market economy is capitalism has existed in the former Soviet Union and in China for a long time. However, with the further development of socialism, it showed many disadvantages. In the new era of reform and opening up, the Communist Party of China clearly proposes the theory of socialist market economy and makes clear the goal of improving the socialist market economy, which fundamentally lifts the ideological restraint of viewing the planned economy as the

attribute of socialism, creatively solves the historical topic of what road and mode of systems China should take to realize the central task of economic modernization.

Fifth, it breaks through the traditional concepts of the ownership structure and the distribution system, and establishes the ownership system in which the public ownership is dominant and different economic sectors develop side by side as well as the new distribution mode adaptive to it. Since the reform and opening up, the Communist Party of China has, based on the principle that the production relations have to adapt to the productive forces, got rid of the past wrong views on the ownership and the mode of distribution, and established the basic economic system in which the public ownership is dominant and different economic sectors develop side by side and the distribution system in which distribution according to work remains the predominant mode and coexists with various other modes the mainstay and diverse modes of distribution coexist. It has also proposed to allow and support some people and some regions to get rich first with honest labor and legal operation before helping promoting the progress of those that lag behind, and finally reach “common prosperity”. All these are the major developments of the socialist ownership and distribution system.

Sixth, it follows the trend of the times and establishes the new idea of all-round opening up. Under the new conditions that peace and development has become the theme of the times, the Communist Party of China proposes the coexistence and peaceful competition of socialism and capitalism. In the meantime, China also sets the all-round, multi-layered and wide-ranging structure of opening up, boldly absorbs and learns from the developed capitalist countries their advanced modes of

operation and technologies, actively takes part in international economic cooperation and competition, makes better use of the domestic and foreign markets and resources to develop socialism. All these ideas have enriched and developed the Marxist theory of world history.

The new development made by the theory of socialism with Chinese characteristics to scientific socialism, with the demonstration effect generated in the successful practices of China in the past over 30 years, has allowed the world people to see the vigor and power of socialism with Chinese characteristics. It has impelled some other socialist countries to change their views on socialism, begin to realize that poverty is not socialism, that it is a must to develop the productive forces, ameliorate people's livelihood and achieve common prosperity as soon as possible, and put it into practice before making some achievements. It fully demonstrates that the new theoretical leap has had positive impacts on the current world socialism.

3. The great practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics and its enormous achievements show the advanced nature and superiority of socialism, and inject vigor and vitality to the development of the world socialism

After the 1970s, faced with the problems in the development of socialism, the governing Communist Party of China created two attitudes: being blindly confident and sticking to the traditional road; or being positive and determined to reform and choose a new road. In the course of advancing the reforms, some countries changed their regimes. The governing party lost its governing position and socialism was abandoned. Whereas in China, a new road was found in the course of reform and opening up and socialism with Chinese characteristics was

established. If the success of the Russian October Revolution sets an example for the countries with backward economy and culture to take the road of socialism, the formation and development of socialism with Chinese characteristics have demonstrative significance to not only socialism worldwide, but also the world after the Cold War where diverse social systems coexist.

The brilliant achievements made by China since its founding, especially in the 30 or more years of reform and opening up, have greatly enlarged the world influences of socialism, and allowed people to see that socialism is superior over capitalism and can speed up the development of technologies and the productive forces, improve people's livelihood, avoid polarization and achieve common prosperity, hence they are more

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confident about socialism. It has not only formed the great cohesion, solidarity and attractiveness for the vast developing countries to choose socialism, but also played an enormous demonstration role in helping the former socialist countries to choose the road of socialism again.

Socialism with Chinese characteristics is an innovation and development of scientific socialism in the present age, and has left many profound inspirations for the development of world socialism. Firstly, it is a must to always stick to the basic principles of scientific socialism and

the development direction of socialism and add distinct local features to it while conducting the socialist revolution or carrying out socialist construction. If the principles of scientific socialism were abandoned, it would be hard to distinguish socialism from capitalism and feudalism and go astray. If they were not combined with specific national conditions, it would be hard to have any characteristics to distinguish itself from the other diverse forms of socialism, and would lose its proper vigor and vitality. Secondly, the nature and objective of socialism are consistent, but as long as the basic principles of scientific socialism are combined with the national conditions, the implementation patterns of socialism must be various and the roads must be diverse. Thirdly, to construct, consolidate and develop socialism in a country featuring backward economy and culture, it is necessary to demonstrate the advantages and strengthen the vitality of socialism through development. The road of China attracts attention from the other countries fundamentally because China has always kept “development is the top priority” in mind, made development as the primary task of the CPC to govern and rejuvenate the country, insisted on the faith of “development for the people, relying on the people and the development results shared by the people”, solved many issues about the development objective, development concept, way of development and development power of the cause of socialism in China, and achieved brilliant development achievements. Fourthly, it is a must to build the governing party in order to develop socialism well. In order to truly and effectively achieve Party leadership over the cause of socialism, it is a must to always advance with the times, constantly improve Party’s leadership, solve the prominent problems which exist in the Party, and strengthen the