

An Innovative Exploration of Integrating Xi Jinping's Thoughts on Governance into the Practical Teaching of Administration Major

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Abstract: Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee with General Secretary Xi Jinping as the core has stuck to the general position of Marxism and proposed a series of new ideas, strategies, judgments and concepts according to the new changes in global, national, the Party and the people's situations, which formed Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance with complete systems and rich content. Administration is a complex discipline that cultivates administration professionals for the Party and government offices, enterprises and institutions and various social organizations. During its practical teaching, we need to innovate the teaching methods and incorporate Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance into the whole process of talent cultivation. In this context, the paper designs targeted practical teaching schemes for typical thematic education bases in Liangjiahe, Zhengding, Ningde, Anji and Xiong'an.

1. Introduction

Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee with General Secretary Xi Jinping as the core has been committed to embracing broad and long-term views, daring to take the lead, accurately grasping the development trend of the times, quickly responding to the practical demands of the reform, consciously meeting the people's expectations[1], firmly upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics, and vigorously pushing forward the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics with the sincere spirit of "serving the people", superb political wisdom, extraordinary theoretical courage and strong sense of mission. They proposed a series of new ideas, strategies, judgments and concepts [2], which gradually formed Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance with complete systems and rich content. Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance have remarkably enriched and developed the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, continued the second theoretical leap of the localization of Marxism in China and become a scientific guide to the great rejuvenation of all ethnic groups in China.

As a complex applied discipline that organically combines management and politics, the purpose of administration major is to cultivate administration professionals for Party and government organs, enterprises and public institutions and social organizations. Considering the intrinsic public attributes of administration major, the public power organizations represented by Party and government departments are the basic demand subjects of the administration industry [3]. Therefore, it is essential to identify the basic questions of "what types of professionals to cultivate, how to cultivate them and for what purpose to cultivate them" in learning Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance and integrating them in the practical teaching of administration major. On the one hand, the core content of Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance - one mainline (uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics), two centennial development goals, three guiding values, "four comprehensive" strategic layout, and five development concepts has become the basic knowledge that socialist builders and successors of the new era must firmly grasp and understand [4], and must be incorporated into administration major teaching as soon as possible. On the other hand, Chinese universities tend to focus on teaching theoretical content of administration major in

the classroom while overlooking practical teaching [5], which can neither satisfy the realistic demands of employers nor pass on valuable knowledge and skills to students.

Based on the above understandings and in order to better integrate Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance in the practical teaching of administration major, the author analyzes the characteristics of the practical teaching of administration major and designs targeted practical teaching schemes for typical thematic education bases in Liangjiahe, Zhengding, Ningde, Anji and Xiong'an. The paper aims to enrich and expand the practical teaching methods for administration major and provide reference for implementing Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance in the teaching of other humanities and social science majors.

2. Practical Teaching Scheme in Liangjiahe

On February 13, 2015, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out during his visit to Yan'an City of Shaanxi Province that, "Liangjiahe is where my learning life began. Don't look down on it. It's a place where great learning resides." On January 1969, 15 educated youths from Beijing, including Xi Jinping, went to live and work in a production team in Liangjiahe Village, Yanchuan County. During his seven years of study and work in Liangjiahe Village, Xi grasped the nature of countryside, the Chinese nation and its people. This experience strengthened his practical abilities of working at the grassroots level and serving the people and tempered his moral character of being realistic and pragmatic [6]. Many of Xi's thoughts on governance are closely related to his experience of study and work in Liangjiahe Village.

Practical teaching objectives: recalling General Secretary Xi's study and work experience in Liangjiahe Village, reviewing Xi's thoughts on governance, and setting up lofty ideals and firm beliefs of staying true to the mission, striking root at the grassroots level, going deep among the masses and serving the people.

Practical teaching methods: (1) Organize students to study the documentary literature Liangjiahe and require them to share their learning experience after group discussions; (2) Teach special courses on the Thinking and Working Methods of Xi Jinping at the Young Age, Original Intention and People-Centered Thinking in Liangjiahe, Xi Jinping's Seven Years of Educated Youth Life, Xi Jinping As the Party Branch Secretary, and Buttoning up the First Button of Life; (3) Organize students to visit Liangjiahe Thematic Education Base and attend courses on the Legacy of Revolutionary Families (learn about some late revolutionists and their moving stories), Real Feelings for the People (deepen the understanding of General Secretary Xi's people-centered thoughts on governance, and set up the ideals and values of standing together with the Party and the people), Do Real Things for the People (learn from Xi's diligent spirit, problems-oriented work styles and people-centered development concepts), Taking the Lead to Work Hard (learn from Xi's hard work and spirit to change poverty and backwardness in Liangjiahe), Experience in Zhaojiahe (learn from Xi's line education work in Zhaojiahe and his spirit of doing practical things for the people); (4) Retrace the steps of educated youth, learn to build warping dams, experience life at villagers' home in Liangjiahe Village, and visit the Red Army Revolution Memorial Hall, Liangjiahe Village History Hall, Zhiqing No.1 Hall and other teaching sites.

3. Practical Teaching Scheme in Zhengding

Since the 1980s, China has taken on a new look in all areas under the Chinese reform and opening-up policy. From March 1982 to May 1985, Xi served as deputy secretary and then secretary of the CPC Zhengding County Committee in Hebei. During his over three years of work in Zhengding County, he blended fully with local officials and people, walked around every village in the county, worked hard on the front line of the reform and opening-up, and comprehensively pushed forward all his work, thus achieving tremendous political results and earning him great reputation. As a starting point of Xi's political career, Zhengding is of significant position and influence in the formation and development of Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance.

Practical teaching objectives: studying and understanding Xi's thoughts of Party building, talent work, economic construction, leadership and spiritual civilization during his work in Zhengding County.

Practical teaching methods: (1) Organize students to study the book Know More, Love More to learn about Xi's early-life thoughts through his lectures, letters and articles during his work in Zhengding; (2) Organize students to study the book Xi Jinping in Zhengding to learn about Xi's hard work in Zhengding through the records of interviews with the old comrades in the CPC Central Organization Department, then members of the Zhengding County Party committee, then office workers, reporters who interviewed him and some ordinary cadres and masses; (3) Understand the rich connotation and application conditions of Xi's thoughts of "semi-suburb type" economy, the enlightening implications of the great agriculture concepts for implementing the rural revitalization strategy, and the guiding effect of Zhengding's "nine regulations on talents" on the strategy of reinvigorating China through human resource development by means of exchanging with local retired cadres in Zhengding; (4) Organize students to visit Xibaitang Village and Tayuanzhuang Village in Zhengding New District of Hebei Province to learn about Xi's personality traits of serving the people with good governance, insisting on in-depth investigation, being realistic and pragmatic, forging ahead with determination and living up to his responsibilities.

4. Practical Teaching Scheme in Ningde City

From June 1988 to April 1990, Xi was secretary of the CPC Ningde Prefectural Committee in Fujian. In order to help Ningde, ranking the last in the total economic output of Fujian Province, get rid poverty, Xi established the system of "going down to the grass roots at four aspects" and proposed the concept of "a weak bird making an early start" based on thorough investigation. He encouraged constant efforts to bring success and focused on improving the infrastructure and people's living standards in Ningde in order to help people in eastern Fujian out of poverty.

Practical teaching objectives: studying and understanding Xi's objective, sensible and far-sighted strategic thinking, realistic, pragmatic and stringent leadership style, the true feelings of taking root at the grassroots level and getting close to the masses, and the broad mind of not taking credit for success.

Practical teaching methods: (1) Organize students to study the book Out of Poverty to understand how Xi comprehensively promoted political construction, cultural construction, social construction and ecological civilization construction by centering around economic development for the purpose of speeding up development and shaking off poverty in eastern Fujian, and learn from Xi's firm beliefs of leading local officials and people to get rid of poverty and people-centered thoughts through his lectures and articles during the work in Ningde; (2) Organize students to visit Chixi Village of Ningde City and study Xi's concept of "a weak bird making an early start" and spirit of "constant dropping wears away the stone" through reviewing the village's course of struggle from transfusion to creation; (3) Communicate with grass-roots cadres in Ningde City to gain a deep understanding of the work system and style of "going down to the grass roots at four aspects" (i.e., reception of letters and calls, working on site, investigation, and publicizing the Party's policies and guidelines) that Xi vigorously advocated and implemented during his work in Ningde, understand its significant role in responding to popular will and demands and making decisions scientifically and democratically, and reflect on how convert it into a fine tradition of "serving the people" by civil servants; (4) Understand the background and implementation of the Regulations on Integrity and Self-Discipline of Leading Cadres at Prefectural Party Committees and Administrative Offices issued in the 1980s by Ningde through communication with local retired cadres, listen to true stories of Ningde's practice of strengthening land management and rectifying cadres house building issues, and learn from Xi's quality of leading the masses and taking the lead as a Communist Party member.

5. Practical Teaching Scheme in Anji County

On August 15, 2005 when Xi, then secretary of the Zhejiang Provincial Committee, visited Yu Village of Anji County and heard that the village decisively shut down the limestone miners and cement plants, he affirmed the act, gave a high praise and stressed that, “In the past, we pursued both lucid waters and lush mountains as well as invaluable assets. Actually, lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets”. As the source of the “Two Mountains Theory”, Anji County has firmly upheld this concept in practice and has been committed to the construction of ecological economy demonstration areas, beautiful countryside sample areas, reform and innovation pilot areas and happy livelihood experience areas, providing a replicable and scalable practical experience for the construction of “Beautiful China”.

Practical teaching objectives: studying and understanding Xi’s core concept of ecological civilization construction that “lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets”, and appreciate the connotations of this green development strategy with Chinese style, manner and discourse characteristics through field visits.

Practice teaching methods: (1) Organize students to study the Series on Two Mountains Theory, and understand the dialectical unity relationship between the overall coordination of productivity and the ecological environment, as well as the status and role of ecological civilization construction in the “Five in One” overall layout through making reading notes; (2) Attend core courses such as General Secretary Xi Jinping’s Important Expositions on Ecological Civilization Construction, Research on the Path of Converting the Two Mountains Theory into Actual Productive Forces, and Anji’s Practice and Enlightenment of the Construction of Chinese Beautiful Countrysides, break the bound of “GDP Suprematism”, find out the strong force of the Two Mountains Theory, and gain a full understanding of how to improve the ecological compensation system, innovate the ecological migration methods, implement the responsibility system for ecological protection during the term of office, explore the rules for compensated use and trading of emission rights, and comprehensively implement the “lake chief system”, “river chief system” and other creative systems; (3) Organize students to visit the Two Mountains Conference Venue, Yu Village Cultural Lecture Hall and other lecture sites in Anji County - the pilot county of the Two Mountains Theory to learn about the green development path, gain a deep understanding of the profound connotations of the Two Mountains Theory, and recognize the dialectical unity relationship between developing productivity and improving the natural ecological environment.

6. Practical Teaching Scheme in Xiong’an New District

The establishment of Xiong’an New District is a major decision made by the CPC Central Committee with General Secretary Xi Jinping as the core in order to further promote the coordinated development of Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region. It is of great practical and historical significance to alleviate Beijing’s non-capital functions, explore a new model for optimizing the development of densely populated areas, adjust and optimize the urban layout and spatial structure of Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei, and foster new engines for innovation-driven development. General Secretary Xi Jinping personally planned, deployed and implemented the program and made a series of important instructions. He invested a lot of effort in the program, pointed out the direction for Xiong’an New District’s planning and construction, and is the chief designer of the district [7].

Practical teaching objectives: further understanding the vision of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development and raise greater awareness of the great course of the two centenary goals through visiting and learning about the positioning, concepts, planning and construction status of Xiong’an New District.

Practical teaching methods: (1) Organize students to study the Outline Plan of Xiong’an New District in Hebei Province to learn about the plan of building Xiong’an New District with global vision, international standards, Chinese characteristics and high point positioning; (2) Organize

students to visit the Public Service Center, Planning Exhibition Hall, Government Affairs Service Center, and Enterprise Share Area in Xiong'an New District, and gain a deeper understanding of Xi Jinping's "Xiong'an Spirits", including the "Xiong'an quality" featuring high-quality development, the reform autonomy of "taking the lead to make breakthroughs", the historical patience and strategic determination of "sticking to a single blueprint until the end", and the spirit of "not taking credit for success".

7. Conclusion

Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance are rich in content, complete in system and profound in connotations, and are undergoing constant development and improvement. Among the talent training programs of administration major, the teaching content of the basic and main courses of many subjects are closely related to the essence and content of Xi Jinping's thoughts on governance. The young college students will be benefited a lot from the efforts of innovating the practical teaching means and methods, designing reasonable, scientific and suitable practical teaching schemes, and applying the theoretical knowledge ob

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