# Comprehensively Promoting the Chinese-style Modernization in the Pursuit of the Great Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation

# — The Epochal Significance of Modernization and the Construction of a Socialist Modernization State

# Yixuan Liu<sup>1,a,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Northeast Normal University, No. 2555, Jingyue Street, Nanguan District, Changchun, Jilin, China
a. liuyx202@nenu.edu.cn
\*corresponding author

**Abstract:** Modernization is an unwavering pursuit across the globe. Chinese-style modernization possesses both the general characteristics of modernization and distinctive advantages. Advancing Chinese-style modernization in addressing the major contradictions in Chinese society contributes to the comprehensive realization of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Simultaneously, this process enriches contemporary Marxist theory, provides new perspectives for the development of world socialism, propels human civilization into a new stage of modernization, and contributes China's wisdom and strength to global modernization development.

*Keywords:* Chinese-style modernization, socialist modernization with Chinese characteristics, common prosperity, distinctive advantages, epochal significance

#### 1. Introduction

General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized at the 19th Fifth Plenary Session of the Party, "Our country must unwaveringly promote Chinese-style modernization, advancing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation through this process, and continuously make new and greater contributions to humanity." This new discourse further clarifies the direction for the continued modernization of China in the new era. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, the country adheres to and develops socialism with Chinese characteristics. Through ongoing exploration and development, the understanding of developmental laws deepens, the connotation of the "Four Comprehensives" goals is continuously refined and expanded, and a new path of Chinese-style modernization is created. This marks the beginning of a new journey towards the comprehensive construction of a socialist modernization state, propelling the realization of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation's dream, and offering new contributions and choices for humanity in the exploration of the path to modernization.

<sup>© 2023</sup> The Authors. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0 (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

# 2. Modernization Exploration and Evolution

#### 2.1. Origin and Development of Modernization

Modernization is an ongoing and evolving process, transitioning from agricultural to industrial society and further developing into a knowledge society and higher stages. Since the 14th century Renaissance, the exploration of modernization has never ceased. In this process, China proposed the "one transformation, three reforms" route to achieve national industrialization. Over time, our party, in response to the changing national needs and international environment, put forward the goals of "two integrations" and "four modernizations," focusing on advancing industrialization, socialist transformation of agriculture, and mechanization. These strategic adjustments reflect the Party's adaptable and progressive characteristics, holding significant importance for the recovery of the national economy and the improvement of people's quality of life. [1]

#### 2.2. Evolution of Modernization Strategies

Premier Zhou Enlai initially proposed the goal of "four modernizations," aiming to build China into a socialist power integrated with modern agriculture, industry, national defense, and science and technology in the near future. To achieve this goal, Zhou Enlai advocated a "two-step" strategy. Deng Xiaoping later adjusted it to a "three-step" strategy in response to the changing times, specifying the basic achievement of modernization goals by the mid-21st century. Jiang Zemin further refined and extended the development strategy for the "third step," and Hu Jintao summarized it as the "two centenary goals," intending to achieve basic modernization by the 100th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

#### 2.3. Modernization Path in the New Era

President Xi Jinping, in the new era, proposed a new "two-step" strategy to achieve modernization. The first step is to basically realize socialist modernization by 2035, and the second step is to build China into a socialist modernized strong nation that is prosperous, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful by 2050. President Xi Jinping emphasized the importance of developing a new path of socialist modernization with Chinese characteristics and provided a more systematic discussion of "Chinese-style modernization" in the 20th Party Congress report, offering new theoretical and practical guidance for China's modernization process.

#### 3. Uniqueness and Advantages of Chinese-style Modernization

#### 3.1. Characteristics

#### 3.1.1. Comprehensive Nature

Chinese-style modernization emphasizes the principles of common prosperity and social equity, highlighting the overall layout of the "Five-Sphere Integrated Plan." Based on China's unique national conditions, Chinese-style modernization covers a large and comprehensive population and spatial scope, aiming for a modernization that benefits the entire population. [2] Simultaneously, it pursues high-quality development economically, modernizes the national governance system and capabilities politically, promotes cultural modernization while carrying forward outstanding traditional Chinese culture, seeks to improve people's livelihoods and advance social system reforms socially, and emphasizes the construction of an ecological civilization and green transformation ecologically. This demonstrates the comprehensive pursuit of modernization in China, aiming to achieve the common development and well-being of the entire population in the modernization process.

#### 3.1.2. Coordinative Nature

Chinese-style modernization emphasizes the coordinated development of material and spiritual civilization. Efforts are made to enhance the foundation of material civilization while concurrently focusing on the improvement of spiritual civilization, aiming for mutual promotion in their development.

It advocates harmonious coexistence between humans and nature, stressing the scientific understanding and rational transformation of nature to achieve a harmonious symbiosis. It encourages the interplay of economic and social development with the natural environment, constructing a shared community between humans and nature.

Chinese-style modernization is committed to the path of peaceful development, emphasizing the coordination of security and development, considering development as the foundation and purpose of security and vice versa. In the complex and changing international environment, Chinese-style modernization strives to find the optimal balance between high-quality development and high-level security, ensuring maximum development while safeguarding security. This is achieved through deepening reforms, strengthening innovation, optimizing structures, and ensuring security, gradually realizing the strategic goals of Chinese-style modernization.

#### 3.1.3. Proactive Nature

Chinese-style modernization is the result of years of exploration and practice by the Communist Party of China. It is not only reliant on external impetus but also places significant emphasis on tapping into internal potential. There is no fixed model of modernization on the global stage, and the Communist Party of China has, through years of exploration, found a modernization path that aligns with the national conditions. The establishment of New China laid the foundation for independence; the Three Major Transformations provided the political and institutional basis for Chinese-style modernization; reform and opening up liberated and developed productivity, providing institutional guarantees and material foundations. In entering the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the Four Comprehensives and the "Five-Sphere Integrated Plan" are coordinated, leading to new achievements in Chinese-style modernization.

Chinese-style modernization is an active choice based on the national conditions of more than 1.4 billion people, aiming to modernize on a massive scale for the happiness of over 1.4 billion people. The process of China's modernization is full of reform, exploration, pioneering, and innovation, always rooted in the era's background and national conditions, demonstrating the proactive choice of Chinese-style modernization and paving a solid foundation for the country's sustained development and people's happy lives.

#### 3.1.4. Global Nature

Chinese-style modernization presents a unique path of socialist modernization and has become an essential component of the global modernization process. It not only propels domestic modernization but also contributes to global modernization. The deep-seated goal of global modernization is to achieve "the free and comprehensive development of human beings," echoing China's development philosophy of "putting people at the center" and the goal of improving people's well-being. This demonstrates the connection between Chinese-style modernization and global modernization. Chinese-style modernization provides valuable practical experience for global modernization, showcasing China's proactiveness and sense of responsibility in promoting the global modernization process. It contributes Chinese wisdom and solutions, deepening the understanding of modernization, and making significant contributions to the diversity and richness of global modernization.

#### 3.2. Advantages

# 3.2.1. Fundamental Advantage of the Leadership of the Communist Party of China

- 1) Distinctive Socialist Modernization with Chinese Characteristics: Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the pursuit of common prosperity for all citizens is combined with China's unique national conditions and traditional culture, providing unique guidance for modernization practices.
- 2) The leadership of the CPC has shaped the "five characteristics" of Chinese path to modernization: a huge population, achieving common prosperity for all people, pursuing the coordinated development of material civilization and spiritual civilization, advocating the harmonious coexistence of man and nature, and firmly taking the path of peaceful development, which reflects the CPC's profound understanding and unique contribution to the law of social development.
- 3) Providing Assurance for Chinese-style Modernization: CPC leadership ensures ideological continuity through the Marxist framework, organizes and unites the masses to participate in modernization construction with people at the center, and provides spiritual support through the "spirit" formed during the party's struggle. [3]

# 3.2.2. Guided by Marxist Theory

The CPC, guided by Marxism and adapting it to Chinese realities, provides a theoretical direction for Chinese-style modernization. In the new era, Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era has become the guiding ideology, emphasizing comprehensive deepening of reforms and the modernization of the national governance system and governance capabilities. This provides clear and concrete theoretical guidance and practical direction, leading Chinese-style modernization towards a new stage of becoming "strong." Combining Marxist theory with Chinese realities, Chinese-style modernization will continue to advance under the leadership of the CPC, creating new developmental wonders. [4].

#### 3.2.3. Advantages of the Socialist System

China's socialist choice has created institutional advantages for Chinese-style modernization. Socialist revolution and construction have established the socialist direction for modernization. Reform and opening up, along with socialist modernization, provide institutional guarantees and material foundations for Chinese-style modernization. In the new era, Chinese-style modernization has achieved new developmental achievements, laying the foundation for the comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized state.

The institutional advantages of Chinese-style modernization include: 1) Institutional Guarantee: The socialist system ensures the rational allocation of resources and stable social development; 2) Fairness and Justice: It promotes common prosperity for all citizens, reflecting the core values of Chinese-style modernization; 3) Continuous Innovation: Through institutional innovation and optimization, it provides momentum for Chinese-style modernization; 4) National Governance: It strengthens the governance capacity of the state, providing a solid social foundation and national guarantee for Chinese-style modernization.

#### 3.2.4. Creating Material Advantages with Economic Development as the Core

As the core of Chinese-style modernization, economic development has accumulated material foundations, promoting mutual promotion among the economic, political, cultural, social, and

ecological fields in the "Five-Sphere Integrated Plan." Economic development ensures rapid development of material civilization, laying the foundation for the comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized state. Progress in other areas provides a favorable social environment and institutional guarantees for economic development, promoting sustained and healthy economic development and supporting comprehensive deepening of reforms and governance according to the law. [5].

Chinese-style modernization demonstrates unified concentration of advantages under the leadership of the CPC, including theoretical, institutional, and material advantages. This forms the foundation for promoting the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, achieving common prosperity, and creating a beautiful life. It not only showcases common features of global modernization but also reflects China's unique characteristics and advantages, contributing Chinese strength to the common development and progress of all humanity.

#### 4. Significance of Building a Socialist Modernized Country Comprehensive

#### 4.1. Advancing the Great Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation

The comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized country marks a crucial milestone in the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. It signifies reaching new heights in both economic development and per capita income, promising a better quality of life for the people and contributing to the goal of achieving common prosperity. Simultaneously, it enhances the credibility of the party in governance. The Communist Party of China (CPC), by continually fulfilling its commitments to the people, has gained credibility. The comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized country represents a new commitment to the people, and achieving this goal will further win support and trust from the people. This, in turn, is conducive to enhancing the party's governance credibility, providing solid political assurance for the party's long-term rule, and further consolidating the party's position in governance. [6]

#### 4.2. Enriching the Development of Contemporary Marxist Theory

During the 19th Central Committee's Fifth Plenary Session, the CPC upgraded and adjusted the strategic layout from "comprehensively building a well-off society" to "comprehensively building a socialist modernized country." This reflects substantive progress in China and validates the scientific nature of Marxist social development theory. China integrates material, spiritual, governance, and human modernization, not only pursuing high-quality economic growth but also striving for all-round social progress. This prompts a shift towards "internal growth" and "people-oriented logic," highlighting the Marxist national theory with the liberation of the individual as its core in China's practice and application. Moreover, Chinese-style modernization construction provides a stage for exploring Marxist paths toward new societal forms, becoming a core issue in the development of Marxist theory and practical exploration in the 21st century. Through the guidelines and major goals of the "14th Five-Year Plan" period, China clarifies that modernization is modernization for the entire population, marking a transformation from the "theoretical possibility" to the "practical inevitability" of a new societal form.

# 4.3. Providing New Ideas for the Development of World Socialism

Promoting the comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized country demonstrates the openness and progressiveness of scientific socialism, offering a new interpretation and exploration of traditional socialist models. This not only showcases China's confidence in its socialist path but also opens a new chapter in the development of world socialism. Historically, China's socialism with

Chinese characteristics, anchored in rapid economic development and social stability, promoting common prosperity, provides beneficial experiences for the world socialist movement and demonstrates institutional confidence. Looking ahead, it indicates profound changes in the international landscape, prompting a reevaluation of socialist paths and providing experiences and insights for the world socialist movement. [7]

# 4.4. Advancing the Modernization of Human Civilization to a New Stage

The initiation of the new journey of comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized country not only signifies a leap in the primary stage of socialism in China but also propels global political and economic transformations. Particularly in the context of sluggish global economic recovery, China's development provides new impetus for global economic prosperity. Through initiatives like the "Belt and Road" and the concept of a community of shared future for humanity, it offers new solutions for international governance. Simultaneously, this new journey expands the realization paths of modernization, providing a brand-new choice for countries and nations wishing to accelerate development while maintaining independence, challenging the uniqueness property of Western modernization models. [8] Ultimately, it highlights the diversity of modern civilization, promotes exchange and mutual learning between different social systems, lifestyles, and ideologies, contributing to the construction of a community of civilizations.

#### 5. Conclusion

Chinese-style modernization has not only embarked on a new journey for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation but has also enriched the theory and practice of Marxism. It provides new opportunities for the revitalization of world socialism and the modern breakthrough of human civilization. This showcases the strength and wisdom of China, confirming the correctness and necessity of advancing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation through Chinese-style modernization.

#### References

- [1] Zhang, B., & Liu, J. (2022). On the Connotation Evolution and Inherent Logic of Chinese-style Modernization. Theoretical Perspective, 2022(09), 46-52.
- [2] Liu, Y., & Zhang, Z. (2022). Characteristics, Advantages, and Paths of Chinese-style Modernization. Journal of Xinjiang Normal University (Philosophy and Social Sciences Edition), 2022, 43(6), 103-109.
- [3] Song, C. (2022). Promoting Chinese-style Modernization in the Historical Process of the New Era. Guangxi Sociology, 2022, 11.
- [4] Li, X. (2022). New Paths of Chinese-style Modernization: Generation Basis, Practice Paths, and Value Implications. Journal of Chongqing University of Technology (Social Science), 2022, 36(10).
- [5] Zhang, Z., & Wang, X. (2022). Chinese-style Modernization: Characteristics, Advantages, Challenges, and Countermeasures. Journal of Xinjiang Normal University (Philosophy and Social Sciences Edition), 2022, 43(6), 113-118.
- [6] Wang, Y., Zhang, Y., & Zhou, F. (2021). The Philosophical Implications, Strategic Wisdom, and Era Significance of Building a Socialist Modernized Country. Old Area Construction, 2021(6), 3-10.
- [7] Wu, H., & Xu, W. (2020). The World Significance of Building a Socialist Modernized Country. Chinese Social Science News, 2020(5).
- [8] Fang, S. (2023). A Political Declaration and Action Guide for the Comprehensive Promotion of Chinese-style Modernization in the Great Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation. Academic Exploration, 2023(01).