The Exploration and Practice Path of Ecological Civilization Construction under the Background of "Carbon Peaking and Carbon Neutrality"

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Abstract: The concepts of carbon neutrality and peak carbon emissions have emerged as global concerns in the current decade. The proposition of the "carbon peaking and carbon neutrality" goal is an essential requirement for the comprehensive development of a modern socialist country and a crucial aspect of China’s strategic plan for ecological civilization. To promote green and low-carbon development and facilitate supply-side structural reform, it is of great significance to enhance ecological civilization education in colleges and universities within the context of the "carbon peaking and carbon neutrality" goal. Integrating the concept of ecological civilization into the evaluation system of teaching work in universities is a key part of building a green and low-carbon conceptual education system under the goal of "carbon peaking and carbon neutrality". However, there are challenges in the current state of ecological civilization education, such as inadequate participation and faculty development. Therefore, it is imperative to take practical actions to support the implementation of the "carbon peaking and carbon neutrality" goal and contribute to the overall advancement of building a beautiful China.

Keywords: carbon peaking and carbon neutrality, ecological civilization, exploration and practice path

1. Introduction

General Secretary once profoundly pointed out that "when ecology flourishes, civilization flourishes; when ecology declines, civilization declines". Ecological civilization refers to a civilization that, in the process of human social development, is ecologically oriented, adheres to the harmonious coexistence of human beings and nature, and strives to achieve a balance between economic and social development and ecological and environmental protection, thereby realizing sustainable development. It is the transcendence and development of agricultural and industrial civilization, and is an inevitable requirement for the progress of human civilization.

In ancient times, mankind depended on the natural environment and lived in harmony with nature, forming a rich and colourful agricultural civilization. However, with the advent of industrial civilization, mankind began to consume large quantities of resources and emit pollutants, leading to the gradual deterioration of the ecological environment. This short-sighted mode of development not only destroys the ecological environment, but also threatens the sustainable development of human society.

This assertion of General Secretary has profoundly revealed the intrinsic connection between the ecological environment and the progress of human civilization. If the ecological environment is good, civilization will flourish, if the ecological environment is poor, civilization will decline. This is an indisputable fact. Therefore, the construction of ecological civilization is not only about the protection of the natural environment, but also about the sustainable development of human society. Only by achieving a balance between economic and social development and ecological and environmental protection can human society truly move towards the path of sustainable development.

2. The idea of ecological civilization

This idea of ecological civilization, as the core concept of modern China’s approach to the relationship between environment and development, was formed on the basis of a profound summary of domestic and international experience in building an ecological civilization. It not only represents China’s firm stance on environmental protection, but has also had a far-reaching impact internationally. The idea can be regarded as an important part of socialist thinking with Chinese characteristics in the new era, as it reveals how to protect our precious ecological resources while developing rapidly[1]. "Lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets". This idea emphasizes the close relationship between the environment and the economy, implying that if we can cherish and protect our green waters and mountains, then these natural resources will bring us continuous and sustainable economic returns.

In practice, this idea of ecological civilization emphasizes three key aspects: green development, circular development
and low-carbon development[2]. Green development means that environmental considerations are fully taken into account in the development process to ensure that the ecology and environment are effectively protected; circular development means that we should fully recycle resources and reduce waste, and low-carbon development emphasizes the reduction of carbon emissions in development in order to meet the challenge of global climate change.

Globally, faced with challenges such as climate change, resource scarcity and environmental pollution, the ecological civilization provides us with an effective solution. By adhering to this idea, we can not only ensure China’s ecological protection but also contribute to global sustainable development.

### 3. Practice of ecological civilization

#### 3.1 Strengthening teachers’ sensitization

Teachers are not only the bearers of knowledge, but also the leaders of civilization. Their influence in the hearts of students is far-reaching and long-lasting. Therefore, teachers play a pivotal role in the construction of ecological civilization[3].

First of all, every educator needs to study the idea of ecological civilization in depth, not only to understand its core content, but also to truly feel the philosophical thinking and vision of the future that lies behind it. In this way, teachers can better integrate this idea into classroom teaching, so that students can feel the charm and importance of ecological civilization in every class.

Secondly, teachers also need to innovate educational methods and approaches. The traditional way of education often pays too much attention to theory and neglects practice. In ecological civilization education, practice is especially important. Teachers can organize all kinds of theme activities related to ecological environmental protection, such as outdoor field trips, garbage classification activities, environmental protection handmade and so on. These activities can not only enhance students’ practical experience, but also improve their awareness of environmental protection and practical ability.

#### 3.2 Raising students’ awareness of ecological civilization

As the pride and future of a nation, students have immense potential. Their path of growth, shaping of attitudes, and patterns of behavior will profoundly determine the future direction of the country[4].

In classroom teaching, in addition to traditional curriculum content, we should deeply integrate and emphasize ecological education. For example, we can design special courses such as "environmental science", "green technology", "sustainable development strategy" and so on[5], so that students can realize and understand the importance of the environment not only from books, but also from the practice of life. The importance of the environment. In environmental science classes, students can be guided to analyze past environmental problems and disasters and learn from them, and at the same time, they can be made aware of the importance of ecological balance and ways to protect the ecological environment.

Practical activities are another key to raising students’ ecological awareness. Schools can organize regular visits to nature reserves, eco-farms, green enterprises, etc. so that they can experience first-hand the charm of nature and the impact of human production activities on the environment. In addition, schools can encourage students to participate in environmental protection activities in the community, such as garbage classification, energy saving and emission reduction, greening and tree planting, etc., to cultivate their environmental habits and sense of responsibility.

More importantly, campus cultural development also plays a crucial role. We can design some eco-artworks and eco-wall paintings on campus, or even plan some eco-related art exhibitions and lectures, so that students can come into contact with the idea of eco-civilization in their daily life at any time and anywhere. In addition, schools can establish close cooperation with parents, communities, enterprises and government departments to form a large ecological education network. In this way, students can receive ecological education not only at school, but also at home, in the community, and all corners of society.

Lastly, we must realize that the building of an ecological civilization is not something that can be achieved overnight, it requires sustained and long-term efforts. As educators and students, we must always maintain a keen awareness of environmental protection and integrate ecological concepts into every detail of our daily lives, thereby making our due contribution to protecting the Earth and building a green home.

#### 3.3 Ecological civilization construction for rural revitalization

The strategy of rural revitalization, as an important initiative for China to achieve the comprehensive construction of a modern socialist country, has a far-reaching significance that goes far beyond the rise of the economy and the prosperity of the countryside to the rejuvenation of civilization and the reshaping of its ecology.

In the broad blueprint for rural revitalization, ecological priority and green development is no longer a slogan, but
practical action specific to every field, every drop of water resource and every rural community.

Firstly, Promoting green agriculture—blending tradition and modernity. The promotion of green agriculture is not only a requirement for rural revitalization, but also the direction of contemporary agricultural development. The traditional mode of agriculture, especially the over-reliance on chemical fertilizers and pesticides, has revealed its hidden dangers to the environment and food safety. This model not only harms the health of the soil, but also pollutes water sources, making the safety of agricultural products threatened. Green agriculture, on the other hand, emphasizes ecological balance and sustainability, and it focuses on living in harmony with nature to ensure a win-win situation for both ecological and economic benefits[6].

Secondly, Development of rural ecotourism—innovation and guardianship. Rural ecotourism is not only a new engine for the rural economy, but also an important window to showcase the charm of the countryside. Our countryside is blessed with natural scenery, deep historical heritage and rich folk culture, all of which provide unique conditions for eco-tourism. However, we should also see that with the rapid development of tourism, problems such as ecological damage and cultural homogenization have emerged in some places. Therefore, in developing rural tourism, we should not only aim to attract tourists, but also focus on the protection of natural and cultural resources. This means that we need to plan and manage tourism activities to ensure that their impact on the environment and culture is controllable, and on this basis, we should continue to innovate and provide more in-depth tourism experiences.

Thirdly, Upgrading rural environmental governance—technology and people. Rural environmental management is an important part of rural revitalization. For a long time, environmental problems faced by the countryside, such as garbage disposal and sewage treatment, have been chronic problems plaguing farmers. This not only affects the quality of life of farmers, but also poses a hidden danger to the long-term development of the countryside. To this end, we need to introduce modernized governance techniques to ensure the continuous improvement of the rural environment. At the same time, we also need to focus on humanistic care and encourage farmers to participate in environmental governance, so that they can become the mainstay of rural environmental improvement; in this way, we can truly achieve the dual revitalization of the environment and the economy in the countryside. Finally, the construction of ecological civilization is by no means isolated; it is a systematic project closely connected with many fields such as economy, culture and society. And in this system, educators shoulder an important responsibility. We should not only study the ideas on ecological civilization in depth, but also translate these ideas into concrete actions, integrate them into educational practices, and cultivate new generations of people with the concept of ecological civilization.

4. Conclusion

The construction of an ecological civilization for the revitalization of the countryside is a long-term and arduous task that requires the joint efforts and participation of the whole society.

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