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# A triple logical analysis of the "two combinations" from the perspective of sinicization of Marxism

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**Abstract:** The "two combinations" contain a meticulous theoretical system, rich historical background and far-reaching practical significance. In terms of theoretical logic, the critique of dogmatism by classical Marxist theorists and their elaboration of the concept of "combination" constitute an important theoretical source of the "two combinations". From the perspective of historical logic, the "two combinations" are the distilled wisdom of more than one hundred years of valuable experience, which is ultimately united in the historical process of the Sinicization and modernization of Marxism. From the perspective of practical logic, practicing the strategy of "combining the two" in the new journey is a contemporary requirement for the process of the Sinicization of Marxism in the context of the new era, as well as an important practical demand for the effective inheritance and innovative development of Chinese excellent traditional culture.

Keywords: "two combinations"; logical system; Sinicization of Marxism

# 1 Introduction

The CPC has always insisted on realizing the in-depth integration and organic combination of the basic theories of Marxism with China's actual national conditions as well as the excellent traditional Chinese culture. The innovative theoretical proposition of "two combinations", put forward in the context of the new era, builds a clear and rational framework, and provides fundamental guidance for the CPC in promoting the Sinicization and modernization of Marxism.

#### 2 Theoretical logic: theoretical crystallization of the Marxist classic writers

The innovative development of Marxist theory covers two core dimensions: first, the integration of Marxism with the specific practices of each country, and second, the linkage of Marxism with the traditional culture of each country. Marx pointed out: "I do not advocate that we raise any dogmatic banner [1]." The integration of these two dimensions is the theoretical orientation emphasized by classical Marxist theorists. The fundamental principles of Marxism possess universality, but its concrete application in different countries and nations must emphasize their particularity. The theoretical system formed by the CPC constitutes the theoretical origin of the idea of "two combinations". At various stages of the Party's historical practice, the CPC has put forward the "first combination" and the "second combination" to varying degrees. Only by deeply integrating the core principles of Marxism into China's unique practical situation, while interpenetrating China's long and rich traditional culture, and under the guidance of the scientific worldview and methodology of dialectical materialism and historical materialism, can we accurately cope with the major issues and

challenges that emerge from the changes of the times and the practical exploration.

As an important proposition in the theory of the CPC's construction, the theoretical logic of the "two combinations" is also reflected in the fact that its formulation is guided by a scientific methodology. The "first combination" embodies the scientific methodology of adhering to the unity of universality and particularity. The century-long journey of the Communist Party of China through trials and tribulations has been a process of combining the universal truth of Marxism with China's specific national conditions, and the process of continuously promoting the Sinicization and modernization of Marxism and reaping the fruits of a series of theoretical innovations. The "second combination" embodies the scientific methodology of adhering to the unity of regularity and purpose. Cultural inheritance is an important product of historical development and human activities, and its development should follow the criterion of the unity of regularity and purpose. The "two combinations" are interdependent and mutually supportive, together constituting a closely linked whole, which profoundly reflects the internal law of the modernization of Marxism.

# 3 Historical logic: the valuable experience of the Communist Party of China for more than 100 years

"Mao Zedong Thought" was groundbreaking in its creation of the "combination of the two", realizing the initial exploration of the "combination of the two". The theoretical results of the Sinicization of Marxism were formed on the basis of the inheritance of the excellent traditional culture created by human beings, and the study of Chinese excellent traditional culture does not mean blindly accepting it in its entirety, but rather selectively adopting and applying it according to the actual situation. After the reform and opening up, Deng Xiaoping advocated the revival of the ideological line of seeking truth from facts, continued to promote the Sinicization of Marxism, and continued to explore the content and significance of the "two combinations". Deng Xiaoping emphasized, "Take your own path and build socialism with Chinese characteristics [2]." It scientifically answers and explains the core question of the developmental direction China should adhere to and the developmental path it should choose.

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the CPC has reached a new level in exploring the fusion of Marxism with China's actual situation. The CPC Central Committee has innovatively put forward a series of original theories, new concepts and new strategies, integrating the excellent traditional Chinese culture into all aspects and levels of the CPC's governance in the new era, and opening up a magnificent chapter in the new realm of the Sinicization of Marxism. We must earnestly draw on the ideological essence and moral core of China's excellent traditional culture [3]. Based on the solid foundation of integrating the basic principles of Marxism with China's specific national conditions and the excellent traditional Chinese culture, a theoretical framework for the modernization of the Chinese version of Marxism has been constructed that carries forward the past and continues to innovate, and it provides a rich and precious historical mirror and empirical support for the major theoretical assertion of the "combination of the two" in the new era.

# 4 Practical logic: the realistic need for the Sinicization and modernization of Marxism

The process of localization and epochal evolution of Marxism in China has greatly enriched and expanded the content of this grand theory. The new era of global development and the profound transformation of Chinese society still urgently needs the scientific guidance of Marxism. The world is entering a period of unprecedented change, and China is at a critical point in the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In the face of the intricate international situation and challenges of the times, the CPC is faced with a number of unresolved problems and unfinished important tasks. In addition, under the current international framework, Marxism is showing more and more powerful truthfulness. The evolution of history, the leap of time and the changes in society have provided fertile soil for the localization of Marxism in

China. The Communist Party of China (CPC) has keenly grasped this rare historical opportunity and has creatively transformed and innovatively developed traditional culture, giving it new vitality and vigor.

The key to the vitality of Chinese culture after 5,000 years lies in the excellent traditional culture it contains. Excellent traditional Chinese culture carries the deep historical memory of the Chinese nation, is the accumulation and reflection of a long history, and has been deeply rooted in the spiritual lineage and collective consciousness of the Chinese nation. In the process of exchanges and integration between Chinese civilization and Marxism, Marxism has continued to shine, evolved and deepened on the vast land of China, eventually giving birth to the Marxist theoretical system with distinctive Chinese characteristics, and occupying a pivotal position in Chinese history and culture. However, in the face of the complexity and challenges of the current era, traditional culture may encounter the challenge of not matching the requirements of the times, as well as the difficulty of integration and innovation. Therefore, when inheriting and promoting traditional culture, it is necessary to uphold the valuable principle of "learning from the past and utilizing the past for the present". Under the guidance of this principle, the "combination with the excellent traditional Chinese culture" in the "two combinations" of Marxism has injected vivid vitality into Marxist theory.

# 5 Conclusion

To sum up, the "two combinations" contain a meticulous theoretical framework, a far-reaching historical lineage and a distinctive practical orientation. The three logics are mutually supportive and intertwined, providing a key analytical tool for our in-depth understanding of the important thesis of "two combinations", and at the same time providing valuable ideological guidance for the practical exploration of the continuous promotion of the Sinicization of Marxism in the new era.

#### **Conflicts of interest**

The author declares no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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