Analysis of the Role of Moral Values in Building a Community of Human Destiny

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Abstract: The concept of “community of human destiny” actually refers to the good world order, which is not a mechanical subversion of the current international order, but a reshaping of the current international order based on the law of human history development. A community of shared future for mankind is a concentrated expression of the common interests and responsibilities of all countries in the world. It is a new type of international relations theory built under the guidance of the thought of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era. It is different from the value orientation of “national interests first”, “hegemony theory” and “zero-sum game theory” in traditional Western theories of international relations. The community of human destiny breaks through the concepts of economic community and political community, gets rid of the shackles of western pure monism values and formal justice, returns to the essence of “human subject”, highlights the relative independence of human society, and forms the value of the community of all mankind on this basis.

Keywords: Moral Values; A Community with a Shared Future for Mankind; Common Value of Mankind.

1. Introduction

In the process of building a community with a shared future for mankind, moral values are a basic and fundamental element and an important force for forming and maintaining broad consensus of the international community. Since the new era, the developing countries in the international community have risen as a group, and all countries in the world are facing more and more challenges. Even today, weapons of mass destruction are still hanging over our heads like a “Pandora's box”, posing a serious threat to the existence and development of all humanity, while also making the neglect of moral values costly. Based on this, it is necessary to give full play to the moral guidance of the community of human destiny, conduct a detailed analysis of the role of moral values and the moral connection of the community of human destiny, and use its political advantages to better serve the common interests of mankind.

2. The Connotation of Moral Values

Moral values are the set of human norms and evaluation of moral behavior: it relates to a set of moral principles and norms of conduct observed by State actors in the international community, reflecting the community's understanding and recognition of what is good, just, honest, respectful and upright. The word "morality" originally comes from Christian doctrine and means "the law of God." In the interaction between countries, moral values emphasize that countries should respect each other's sovereignty and equality, abide by international law, and maintain peace and justice. The important significance of existence is to eliminate the harm caused by war to mankind, and thus help promote the development of international relations in a relatively just and reasonable direction. At present, as human society enters the era of globalization, all countries in the world have formed a community of "sharing a common destiny" and need to abide by some basic rules and norms in international exchanges. In a sense, such rules and norms have gone beyond the mutual relations between states and become the most important norms of conduct in the international community. Therefore, the ability to observe and abide by certain rules and norms has become an important criterion to judge whether state-to-state relations are just and reasonable.

Only by adhering to moral values can the moral values of the community of human destiny shine. Moral values are the basis of human behavior norms, it is a common recognized moral norms and behavior norms, with universality and common. In the process of building a community with a shared future for mankind, moral values can provide a common foundation for people of different cultures and countries to promote mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation. In the words of Woodrow Wilson, "In this day and age we must hold to the principle that states and governments should be equally aware of the principles of civilization that citizens of civilized nations are aware of, and of their responsibilities to those who have been abused."[1] Moral values emphasize core values such as human dignity, fairness and justice, and harmonious coexistence, which can guide people to transcend narrow personal interests and focus on the well-being and sustainable development of all mankind. Thomas Aquinas said, "The purpose of the state is to enable men to live a virtuous life."[2] In the current international environment, moral values have become a rational choice to solve international problems, and it has become an important factor that must be considered in international political decision-making. Only by adhering to moral values and the moral values of a community with a shared future for mankind can we build a peaceful and secure world and create an environment for human beings to live in harmony.

The moral value of the community of human destiny is the embodiment of moral values, and the two are inseparable. The country should not only consider in morality, but also practice in interests. The theory of absolute interests and the theory of moral superiority are not worth advocating. Only by adhering to moral values and living up to the moral values of a community with a shared future for mankind can we achieve
the goal of shared global prosperity and lasting peace. The reason why the community with a shared future for mankind is "Chinese wisdom" and "Chinese solution" with Chinese characteristics is that it has a new value foundation: the common value of all mankind.

3. The Importance of International Morality

International morality is a set of moral principles and norms of behavior observed by state actors in the international community. The word "morality" originally comes from Christian doctrine and means "the law of God." In the interaction between countries, international morality emphasizes that all countries should respect each other's sovereignty and equality, abide by international law, and maintain peace and justice. The significant importance of existence is to eliminate the harm caused by war to mankind, so as to promote the development of international relations in a relatively just and reasonable direction. At present, as human society enters the era of globalization, all countries in the world have formed a community of "sharing a common destiny" and need to abide by some basic rules and norms in international exchanges. In a sense, such rules and norms have gone beyond the mutual relations between states and become the most important norms of conduct in the international community. Therefore, the ability to observe and abide by certain rules and norms has become an important criterion to judge whether state-to-state relations are just and reasonable.

To promote and maintain international peace and security. In the global era of social information, international morality is a prerequisite for mutual benefit and win-win results between countries. Because each country has an army that integrates "form and content," conflicts between nations are more destructive than conflicts between people, especially as military technology continues to advance. Thom-as Woodrow Wilson said, "In this day and age, we must hold to the principle that nations and governments should be equally aware of the principles of civilization that citizens of civilized nations are aware of, and of their responsibilities to those who have been abused."[3]ThomasAquinas said, "The purpose of the state is to enable men to live a virtuous life."[4]A notable development in the process of globalization is the increasing number of international social interaction and non-governmental organizations, which, although they have not yet reached the point of fundamentally questioning the power of governments, have begun to exert pressure on governments in different ways. Violations of international morality can lead to repeated protests and denunciations by such bodies and groups, especially on the issue of counter-terrorism, thus damaging the image of the State. The core of the fight against terrorism is the restoration of moral principles in foreign policy, and terrorism is a disregard for international morality. According to HansJ.Morgenthau, "The discussion of international morality must guard against two extremes: first, the overestimation of the impact of ethics on international politics; One is to underestimate its impact on international politics, denying that politicians and diplomats are motivated by any consideration other than material power."[5]As JosephNye put it, "Morality does play a role in international relations, though not in the same way as it does in domestic politics."[6]

Strengthen international legitimacy and enhance international credibility. In the late Middle Ages in Europe, competition between Kings and popes led not only to the Reformation, but also to the creation of the sovereign state system, which at the same time swept away medieval ethical and legal standards and replaced them with ideas related to the sovereign state system: "national sovereignty" and "national interest." The first, proposed by the French thinker JeanBodin, emphasizes that sovereignty refers to the absolute, permanent, and supreme power of a state at home and abroad, which is limited only by "the will of God, a few absolute moral codes, and the fundamental laws of the kingdom (especially the law of succession to the throne)."[7]It forms the basis of international morality; The second view, espoused by NiccoloMachiavelli in Italy, is "the primacy of the state," meaning that "it is lawful to promote the welfare of the state by any means; National interests replaced the medieval world morality, and the balance of power replaced the yearning for a unified kingdom ".[8]pointing out that the motive of state behavior was" national interests ". While conflicts may arise in some cases, international ethics and national interests are not mutually exclusive. The state can effectively integrate the two. Some scholars have pointed out that morality is often mistakenly regarded as altruism without considering one's own interests, but "in fact, no ethical theory holds such a view", and ethical theories oppose the one-sided pursuit of narrow self-interest regardless of the interests of others.[9]Many people believe that the morality promoted by the government is only an empty statement and an appearance, but in fact a cover for the interests of the government. On a global scale, 3 it is clear that there are indeed some acts disguised as "morality", the essence of which is to pursue personal gain at the expense of others. But morality is self-contained, and national interests are far from the whole of international politics, and countries should not only consider morality, but also practice their interests. The theory of absolute benefit and the theory of moral advantage are not worth advocating.

Therefore, with the progress of human society, power and international morality as two aspects still play an important role in the evolution process. However, in the current international environment, international morality has become a rational choice to solve international problems, and it has become an important factor that must be considered in international political decision-making.

4. The West's International Moral Dilemma

In the long historical development process, the "democratic theory" of Western countries also contains the affirmation of the interests of the people. Especially in the Enlightenment period, the concept of "people's sovereignty" has been widely spread in the world. As we all know, to build a country and government based on legitimacy, the power is absolutely controlled by the people, and the interests of the people should be taken as the action criteria of the country, such as Rousseau's theory of the general will. However, in the current Western party politics, the people are by no means the priority on the policy list of the party, and the interests of big capital represented by interest groups and the interests of the party are always higher than and before the interests of the people, and there is a trend that the discourse of "people's interests" is contrary to political practice.[10]From the perspective of the international order, the Western countries have created the so-
called "universal values" and continued to promote unilateralism and hegemony, which has had a serious negative impact on the vast number of developing countries. From the perspective of security, the world is currently facing security challenges such as terrorism, regional conflicts and refugee crises, which are related to the "political tribalization" pursued by the Western countries. From the perspective of development, Western countries still have serious inaction in dealing with global development issues, and have created political discourse such as the "Kindleberger trap" to undermine international morality. It can be seen that in terms of moral foundation, moral ability and moral responsibility, there are obvious defects and deficiencies in the international morality of Western countries.

The world order generalized by the "universal values" of the United States and the West has derived the imbalance of the international political pattern. The transformation of Christian doctrine into a norm of values that should be followed by all mankind, who are considered to be extremely abstract pseudo-beings and have long ago been infused with the universal values of Western "cultural nationalism", is the main means of "differentiation" and "westernization" under the leadership of the United States, causing many disasters and genocides in history. "Christianity has universal adaptability, the establishment of the church will not be limited by differences in culture, race and social class, and the local churches of all nationalities will form a universal church".[11]Western values have become the driving force of "de-globalization", and all non-Western development modes, development paths, and development values are regarded as conservative and reactionary, which run counter to democracy and human rights. America's universal democracy has become the source and culprit of global problems, while America's "model of democracy" and human rights have become the source of misaligned global values. Sandel believes that the public good of the community takes precedence over individual rights, simply because individual rights cannot be separated from the value system and public good of the political community, and the principle of justice, which dominates contemporary political theory, cannot remain neutral to the moral and religious conviction of the political community.[12]The human destiny community inherits the tradition of the western community theory in terms of morality, but does not adopt the metaphysical thinking mode. Through practical actions, China has demonstrated its international image as a "public health community" to the world. Chinese volunteers extended a helping hand, showing "the most beautiful rebel" and "the spirit of fighting the epidemic", and contributing China's wisdom to the global fight against the epidemic. However, influenced by "virus politics", the public health community has become the target of slander by the West, and the community of human destiny has become the value of promoting the development of the international community, which is strongly opposed by the United States and the West.

The double standards and interventionism of the United States and the West in international affairs have led to their values and world outlook being unable to get rid of the opposing logic, namely, "civilization and barbarism", "democracy and dictatorship", "progress and reaction" and so on. For example, the "end of history conclusion," as represented by Francis Fukuyama, holds that Western liberal democracy has triumphed over other systems represented by socialism, and that there is only one path for the nations of the world to follow.[13]Despite this absurdity, Fukuyama still bases the "end of history" on American and Western hegemony, promotes the spirit of America, and emphasizes Western democratic values. The other is the "clash of civilizations" theory represented by Samuel Huntington, which believes that due to their differences in historical experience, cultural forms and institutional structures, major civilizations will inevitably break out into conflicts and cannot coexist harmoniously.[14]Corresponding to this, the international exchanges between Europe and the United States also show a strong split and extreme characteristics: first, based on national interests, they compete with each other, seize geopolitical advantages, and suppress latecomer countries. At the same time, from the ideological level, the global democratic process has carried out "values diplomacy" and "human rights" diplomacy. Such two-sided attacks have caused lasting instability to the vast number of less developed and developing countries. In addition, the belief in American exceptionalism symbolizes the end of the whole human race, and a series of values and political systems such as "land of freedom" and "City on a hill" should be widely promoted, but these foreign policies have not provided any real freedom and democracy for human beings, but will aggravate the "four deficits" and trigger more "color revolutions". "The story of American expansion has been one of power, not of virtue or moral principle, as many often believe."[15]As far as the combination of morality and spirit is concerned, the West still tends to be monistic and neglects the integration with other civilizations. On the one hand, it leads to excessive individualism, social fragmentation and conflicts of interest. On the other hand, monist values may overlook the importance of social responsibility and collective interest, and ignore the principles of social fairness and equality.

It can be seen that in the final analysis, whether it is the democracy manipulated by capital or the hypocrisy of human subjects in "universal values", or the lack of inclusiveness and the concept of formal fairness, it is caused by the model dominated by the values with the West as the core. In order to solve the dilemma of Western international morality and bridge the gap between democracy, peace, fairness and justice in the West, in fact, the community of human destiny is an initiative with Chinese characteristics and completely different from Western values, which has a new value foundation: the common value of all mankind.

5. The Moral Value of a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

The spirit of dialogue and consultation and the sense of sharing weal and woe in the universal security pattern of a community with a shared future for mankind are conducive to the formation of a moral concept centered on people's security. In the spirit of "putting people first", the community of a shared future for mankind advocates peaceful development, but not at the expense of the legitimate rights and interests of one's own country. In handling disputes with other countries, China adopts the method of consultation and negotiation. At the same time, in the process of dealing with differences, China has actively explored and cultivated a relationship of common interests to promote mutual trust and strengthen exchanges. On the basis of building a closely linked destiny for all mankind, every modern country should give top priority to the aspirations of the people of the world for a better life, peace and security. Despite capacity constraints in
the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, we have maintained our commitment to deliver vaccines to 43 countries while providing assistance to more than 80 developing countries most in need. Although the Chinese people have made concerted efforts to curb the spread of this infectious disease, large-scale infectious diseases have erupted in South Korea, Italy, and the United States, and the world’s supply chain will produce a "butterfly effect", and the entire human world is a global village where "good and bad things are shared." This shows that the community of shared future for mankind is based on international moral consciousness, promotes equity among countries, and enables everyone in the global village to share the fruits of world development.

Tolerance is a core value for building a community with a shared future for mankind and a symbol of international cultural exchanges. Not only pay attention to different cultural differences, but also advocate the symbiosis between different cultures. "Civilizations communicate through diversity, learn from each other through exchanges, and develop through mutual learning".[16] Therefore, it is necessary to fully respect the different cultural values of different countries, absorb the excellent elements of human society on the basis of "harmony in diversity", and promote cooperation and common development between the two sides. This shows that the international moral concept of "openness, inclusiveness, universal benefit, balance and win-win" advocated by the "Community of Human Destiny" "reflects the pursuit of development justice in the process of capital logic globalization, highlights the protection of common values in the field of diverse civilizations, and highlights China's responsibility and moral responsibility in building a new international order".[17] When developed countries have made some achievements in the pursuit of equality, justice, democracy and other issues, and their comprehensive national strength has been enhanced, it is inevitable to seek a cultural orientation commensurate with it. Therefore, the increase in political and economic power has also increased our cultural confidence to some extent. Just as the West still uses the "clash of civilizations" theory of the 1990s as its guiding ideology, it maintains that the contradictions between civilizations are the root cause of differences between nations, and if such contradictions continue, then we will not be able to achieve a future of harmonious coexistence. The idea of a community with a shared future for mankind is based on the modern democratic system, which is in stark contrast to the traditional hierarchical concept of "harmony". For example, the idea of "harmony" is essentially embodied in the world harmony under the rule of feudal monarchs. However, the world harmony pursued by the community of human destiny is based on the sovereign equality and democratic autonomy of states, that is, the realization of harmony among all states. Based on this, the spirit of "common progress and common retreat" embodied in the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind can be regarded as a creative interpretation and innovative development of the concept of "harmony".

The concept of "honor and disgrace" of a community with a shared future for mankind helps to promote an inclusive and cosmopolitan ethic. After the proposal of the community of human destiny, "the concept of inclusive development has a higher value orientation and a larger logical framework, and has been transformed into one of the important connotations of the new modern civilization".[18] When the Community of Human destiny was included in the UN Security Council resolution and widely recognized by the international community, it also showed the importance of the international community to inclusive benefits. In the interaction between man and nature, people should not only adhere to the moral emotion of "equality and symbiosis", treat other species with ecological justice, but also adhere to the moral justice concept of "love", and maintain the "harmonious coexistence" of all biospheres on earth. At present, there are many incongruous problems between human beings and the natural environment. Human demand for environmental resources such as air and water continues to suffer from pollution, while natural resources such as land, minerals and forests are also under attack from overharvesting and destruction. The Community of human destiny raises environmental protection cooperation to a moral level. Domestically, China has proposed in its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions that it will peak carbon dioxide emissions around 2030 and strive to achieve it as soon as possible. Internationally, China has the largest number of neighbors in the world, and environmental governance mainly starts with neighboring countries, such as the construction of the Lancang-Mekong environmental cooperation community, China's over-completion of emission reduction projects in the face of the Trump administration's withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, and the establishment of South-South cooperation funds. In addition, the Belt and Road Initiative is integrated with the community of human destiny, and a sound ecological protection cooperation mechanism has been established with relevant countries. The ecological and environmental problems of these countries are closely related to the "symbiotic" value of the community of human destiny. The simple concept of "empathy", "common life" and "symbiosis" between man and nature has aroused the sense of responsibility of all countries for environmental governance, and achieved the unity of the quantitative and qualitative changes of "clear water and green mountains" and "Jinshan and silver mountains". For those countries engaged in international cooperation with China, the community of human destiny will bring different practical benefits than in the past, and give cooperative members more respect and opportunities to solve the real problems they face. The community of human destiny has greater appeal and appeal because countries around the world have achieved different results in responding to international challenges. China is undergoing a transition from "getting rich" to "getting strong", and the emergence of the community of human destiny will provide moral guidance and value guidance for global environmental governance, and then contribute to the reform of the world environmental governance system.

6. Conclusion

During the great changes of the century, the Chinese people formed the ideological system of "community with a shared future for mankind", which aims to realize national rejuvenation, people's happiness and human development. This ideological system not only integrates the ruling law of the Communist Party of China, the law of socialist construction and the law of human society development, but also the crystallization of Chinese Communists who are good at criticism and reflection, summing up experience from practice, seeking commonalities from particularities, and grasping historical initiative. The "community of shared future for mankind", with mankind as its main body and from the perspective of mankind as a whole, allows mankind to re-examine the world with a shared future, which is of great
significance to promoting freedom, equality, peace and development of all countries in the world. However, in the Western values, there is an attempt to attribute world history to a capitalist ruling system, thus obscuring the truth and justice of the community of human destiny. Based on the moral core of justice and the realistic orientation of peaceful development, the community of human destiny transcends the "exploitative" and "hegemonism" of Western values in thought, thus enhancing the concept cognition and value recognition of the community of human destiny in the outside world, and breaking through the narrowness of Western moral theory. The excellent traditional Chinese culture provides the theoretical basis for the ethical feelings of "the truest and the best" in the community of human destiny, and points out the way forward for the world in great changes. Under the framework of international morality and human morality, the community with a shared future for mankind is built on the core values shared by the world—peace, development, equity, justice, freedom and democracy. In view of this, a community with a shared future for mankind will not only benefit the Chinese people, but also benefit all mankind.

References


