The Importance, Basic Principle, and Construction Path of Strengthening Party History Education for College Students in the New Era

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Abstract: The Communist Party of China bears its eternal great cause in mind, and the centenary only ushers in the prime of life. On the centenary of the founding of the Communist Party of China, we should strengthen the education of college students 'Party history in the new era. First, we emphasize its significance from the three dimensions of keeping the original mission in mind, strengthening our faith, and encouraging our character. Secondly, we should adhere to the basic principles of shaping educational quality with value, connecting educational content with the system, and stimulating educational vitality with practice. Then, we give full play to the role of the ideological-political course, enhance the persuasion, create a good campus atmosphere, carry out social practice activities so as to perfect the construction path of Party history education, and then promote the education of college students in the new era from multiple perspectives, multi-dimensions, and multi-levels.

Keywords: New era, Party history education for college students, Great significance, Basic principle, Construction path.

1. Introduction

On February 20, 2021, General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized at the mobilization conference on Party history learning and education: "We should pay attention to the study and education of Party history for youths, focus on telling the Party's story, and deeply cultivate the feelings of love for the Party, the country, and socialism." [1] In the new era, the speech of General Secretary Xi Jinping points out the way forward for strengthening the study and education of college students' Party history. The education of Party history is the mission entrusted by the times. So we must utilize Party history in financing and educating people, help college students establish the correct Party history view and social history outlook, and to focus on fostering a new generation capable of shoulder the mission of national rejuvenation.

2. Significance to Carrying out the Study and Education of Party History in the New Era

The history of the CPC is rooted in the land of China. It is the most magnificent and heart-touching in China's modern history. It is our precious spiritual resource and ideological wealth, which will not fade with time. In the historical position of the new era, we need to pay attention to the significance of Party history education for college students. The history of the Party should use history to guide the present, serve reality, shine the light of ideals, make college students understand the great path of the Party, strengthen its ideals and beliefs, build the Four Matters of Confidence, and create a historical foundation. Furthermore, we need to strengthen responsibility and improve college students’ ideological and moral qualities. In this way, generation after generation of useful talents who strive for the cause of socialist modernization is cultivated.

2.1. Stay True to Our Party's Founding Mission and Unite the Power of Great Rejuvenation

"History is fertile soil for ideas [2]." All the struggle, sacrifice, and creation through which the Party has united and led the Chinese people over the past hundred years has been tied together by one ultimate theme—bringing about the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. To strengthen Party history education in the new era, we must guide college students to understand the glorious journey the Party has traveled over 100 years of struggle so that they can master historical knowledge, feel the spirit, and form a view of Party history. College students realize that China's achievements today are not easy, but the hard work of the Party and the people. "We are historicists. We can only convince people by telling them about history [3]." After conducting Party history education, students can understand the laws of history and grasp the course of history. When they study, believe, understand, and apply it, they can grasp the trend of the times. "Never forget our original aspiration and founding mission." We will move forward with determination, gather together the great forces to realize the great rejuvenation and push forward the great cause.

2.2. Strengthen Ideals and Beliefs and Inherit Revolutionary Traditions

A series of stories and remarkable achievements of record the great practice of the Party, leading the people to persevere in pursuing national independence and realizing people's happiness. The story contains the revolutionary traditions of the Party and shows the belief and mission of the Communists. "We were born in great times with ample opportunities." In the new era, strengthening the education of Party history is to guide them to remember the glorious history, firm their ideals and beliefs, inherit the revolutionary traditions, and let them draw forward the motive force from the stories of their ancestors. Then, we should teach them to advocate heroes and
models, memorize the revolutionary spirit of ancestors, actively pursue and inherit them, highlight the leading role of revolutionary traditions, and constantly strengthen theoretical confidence, road confidence, institutional confidence, and cultural confidence. Finally, college students make historical determinations, connect their dreams with national dreams, realize their dreams in battle, carry the burden of the times, and build their careers.

2.3. Forge Tough Character and Carry Forward Revolutionary Spirit

"A country will be full of hope and can look forward to a bright prospect when its young generation has ideals, abilities, and a strong sense of responsibility." [4] The development of a country cannot be separated from the youth. Young college students are full of passion and are the key subjects to carry forward the revolutionary spirit. For Party history learning, college students need to earnestly study textbooks such as "On the History of the Communist Party of China", "Questions and Answers on the Study of Xi Jinping's Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era", "A Brief History of the Communist Party of China". College students should understand the great revolutionary spirit in its original context, realize its revolutionary and practical nature, understand the Party's discipline and fine style, recognize the difficulties on the road of growth and development, and temper the quality of will. At the same time, they should establish a tenacious character of continuous learning, advancing with the times, and going forward bravely, internalizing the great revolutionary spirit in their hearts and expressing it in their actions. Moreover, continuously increase knowledge and wisdom, enhance skills and will, and work together with the Party and the country to forge ahead.

3. The Basic Principles of Strengthening the Party History Education of College Students in the New Era

History is the best textbook [5]. In order to strengthen the education of college students in the history of the Party, colleges and universities should and must strengthen the education of college students in their view of history. We uphold Marxism as our guiding ideology and focus on cultivating people with firm ideals and beliefs and overall development. We reflect the Party's and society's basic requirements and establish more explicit educational goals, robust long-term mechanisms, higher political stances, and more effective and infectious methods. We owe the success of our Party to the fact that Marxism works. We endow college students with the historical mission and responsibility of the times, strengthening their political, historical, national, and cultural identities.

3.1. Hold High the Great Banner and Shape Educational Quality with Value

As the orientation of consciousness, value is the essential attribute of educational activities. Party history education is rich in broad and profound content, which is the best way to realize the value of guidance to students and promote students to establish moral cognition. To do an excellent job of Party history education for college students, we need to follow the principle of value. In the new era, the value of learning is strengthening their understanding, conviction, integrity, and diligence through continued study of Party history. We will focus on fostering a new generation capable ofshouldering the mission of national rejuvenation. Therefore, in the education of college students, it is necessary to objectively and comprehensively analyze and clarify the theoretical, historical, and practical logic of Party history. We had better rigorously, thoroughly, and scientifically clarify the Party's historical events and problems, guide the values of knowledge education, raise the level of theoretical explanations, and enlighten university students about the theories and thoughts of the Party.

3.2. Change of Thinking to Systematically Link up Educational Content

Phylogenetics is a fundamental category of scientific thought and a fundamental attribute of educational action. The learning and formation of Party history is an operational process of the organic connection of many elements concerning the subject, object, environment, management, and organization. These elements interact with each other to form forces that play an integral role in college student concepts and behavior. A lack of any of these elements can hinder educational progress. Therefore, when teaching Party history to university students, systematic principles must be observed. Consider the internal relationships of objectives, methods, media, and other elements in accordance with educational content requirements, work closely with each department and pay attention to the structure, the completeness of the elements, and the clarity of the hierarchy between them. Furthermore, we focus on students, promote their all-around development, and cultivate students' patriotism. Finally, we use a teaching method that combines students' ideals and beliefs with extroverted behavior to promote the steady development of Party history teaching.

3.3. The Innovation of Mode, Stimulating the Vitality of Education with Practicality

Practicality is an inherent attribute of educational activities. The education of college students' Party history in the new era needs to follow and adhere to the practical principle. On the one hand, the Party history education of college students in the new era should conform to the characteristics of the times, pay attention to the organic connection between the teaching content and social development, and adhere to actual life. As for the education of college students, we should seize the opportunity of the one hundred years of the founding of the Party and stimulate the vitality and creativity of college students by carrying out in-depth thematic education activities such as "Never forget original aspiration and founding mission" and "follow the instructions and guidance of the Party". We guide college students to realize the theory, temper their ability to bear responsibilities and strive to internalize correct ideological understanding into inner spiritual pursuits and externalize them into conscious actions.

On the other hand, the education of Party history in the new era should conform to the rules and characteristics of students' growth and constantly innovate teaching methods. Contemporary college students have quick thinking, broad interests, and quick acceptance of new things. We should adopt methods that enrich the content of Party history education, integrate the social and school educational resources, and establish an open and multi-dimensional practice system of Party history education that is conducive
to the growth of students so that they can set up lofty aspirations and pursuit dreams in the new era.

4. The Path Construction of the Party History Education for College Students

"We will not be able to achieve greater success unless we have a clear understanding of our history and of the roads we have traveled." [6] Strengthening college students' Party history education in the new era is not only the need for social development but also the return of education essence and the inevitable requirement of historical progress. The essential function of the university is talent cultivation. To do an excellent job in college students' Party history education, we need to explore multiple dimensions and methods, guide college students to change from thinking to doing, internalize the great revolutionary culture and spirit into the heart, and help them grow up healthily.

4.1. Give Full Play to the Position Role of Ideological-Political Class and Improve the Party History Education

The ideological-political course is the primary channel to carry out the education of the CPC's history. It bears the important task of guiding college students to set ambitions, understands great virtues, and become great talents, shouldering the important task of cultivating their national responsibility and progressive beliefs and consolidating the foundation of national rejuvenation talents. We should take Party history education as the core content of the ideological-political course, tell the story of the CPC of China, and give full play to the leading role of the Party history demonstration. At the same time, we should achieve the integration of emotion and reason, be sincere, drive college students to learn, carry forward the Party's spirit, enhance students' patriotic feelings, and help them constantly improve their ideological-political literacy.

In addition, we should focus on the theoretical interpretation of Party history education. A profound theoretical basis is necessary for improving college students' ideological literacy. Theoretical learning casts the soul, enlightens the mind, and embellishes college students. First, we should take Xi Jinping Thoughts as a guide, adhere to correct thinking and historical laws, and analyze the Party's and the people's historical position. Moreover, major theoretical issues such as Marxism guide the Party to lead the revolution, construction, and reform and fulfill the original mission to scientifically and thoroughly explain the Party's theory. Secondly, we should master the scientific theoretical discourse, make diversified adaptations in thinking and methods, and explain the events of the Party's history through discussion and teaching. In the history of the CPC, the large-scale production movement in Shaanxi, Gansu, and Ningxia, the Nanniwan army land reclamation, and the reclamation of the Northern Wilderness all contain the red gene of the Party. These vivid historical events encourage students to follow the Party unwaveringly and strive for a better life.

4.2. The Construction of Campus Cultural Atmosphere and the Enhancement of Educational

An excellent cultural atmosphere on campus is important for the growth of students [7]. At the same time, a good campus cultural atmosphere also strengthens the education of college students' Party history. The country should create a good environment, give full play to the function of campus atmosphere in shaping, edifying, and infiltrating the Party history education of college students, integrate the Party history education into daily life, and enhance the appeal of the Party history education. Make full use of the role of modern media to achieve full coverage of history education. For example, social media, video sites, artificial intelligence, and other modern information science and technology rely on visual, intelligent, and image technology and means. On the network media platforms such as Weibo, WeChat, Tik Tok, we relay history stories and short videos to awaken students' revolutionary memories, continuously enhance the attraction of Party history learning and education and highlight the value of guiding Party history. In addition, through the development of the online course of Party history learning education, we make use of the teaching resources of the open course of the Central Party School to transfer positive energy and earnestly grasp the learning and understanding. The micro-class of Party history education is extended to the life of college students to strengthen their ideological guidance and theoretical discrimination and improve their moral and political literacy.

4.3. The Development of Social Practice Activities and the Strengthening of Party History Education

Social practice is the critical link for college students to form ideological cognition, identification, and internalization and an essential auxiliary for colleges to impart knowledge and educate people. It plays a vital role in enhancing the quality of education. Society is a big classroom," Xi said. "Young people should grow up to be the pillars of the country. They should read thousands of books and travel thousands of miles. Social practice, social activities, and various kinds of student association activities in the school are the second classroom for students, which is very beneficial to broaden students' horizons and abilities, enrich students' social experience."[8] Colleges and universities should encourage students to participate in social practice activities in a targeted, creative and hierarchical way. Therefore, students can feel the firmness of the martyrs in their original mission, ideals, and beliefs. They will also recognize the complexity, arduousness, and long-term nature of the great spirit created by the Party, leading the people to open up the road, establish outstanding achievements, and cultivate their national spirit of diligence, courage, and self-reliance.

5. Conclusion

To sum up, we can know the future by examining the past. The Communist Party of China has a history of one hundred years, rich in connotation, and has the function of valuable guidance and cultural education. Colleges should excavate various ways to tell the Party's history, analyze the history's evolution, and deeply plant the Party's glorious tradition and fine style in the hearts of college students. Therefore, college
students can gain wisdom and strength from history, strengthen ideological, political, and emotional identification, and enrich academic literacy and the spiritual world. College students have the confidence to move forward as a new generation capable of shouldering the mission of national rejuvenation and contributing to the new era's long march.

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