



Research Article

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## How is Marxist philosophy connected with reality

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### ABSTRACT

*Generally speaking, Marxist theory is based on theoretical philosophy. If we want to use Marxist theory to address practical issues, we have to step out of the trap of mere theory and to combine philosophy with economics. In our society, it has been proven by facts that economic issues are the most important ones. If we do not analyze economics, then we can not understand the social-economic structure of our society and can not understand the essence of things. This essay explores how Marxist philosophy is connected with reality from the perspective of economics. I put economic issues in the context where China is still in the primary stage of socialism to try to find the connection between Maxim philosophy and economics and to specify how Marxist theory pays attention to economy in practice.*

**Keywords:** economic reality, Marxist philosophy, socialist market economy

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### INTRODUCTION

In terms of research perspectives, we can not only define Marxism as a philosophy that can only be discussed by philosophers. The essence, function and historical mission of Marxist theory decide that Marxism must be based on reality and the life of ordinary people. This is the only way for Marxist philosophy to solve people's practical problems by establishing right menstruation and methodology. If Marxist philosophy is marginalized, and gets unconnected with reality, then it will get unconnected with our times.

We should solve philosophical problems by connecting Marxist philosophy with reality. Only through concrete actions can we let the world know that Marxist philosophy does not exist independently, that Marxist philosophy is important in solving practical problems by connecting with other subjects.

### 2 PHILOSOPHIES SHOULD ADDRESS ISSUES OF ECONOMIC THEORIES TO GET CONNECTED WITH REALITY

#### 2.1 *The combination of Chinese Marxist philosophy and Western Marxist philosophy*

When we analyze Marxist philosophy, we only focus on China's Marxist philosophy or western Marxist philosophy. We should combine China's Marxist philosophy and Western China's Marxist philosophy to find the shining points and common points of them, which enables philosophic communication between different nations. Broadly speaking, Marxist philosophy is an open theory which can be applied in every country. But if we keep it away from reality, then China's Marxist philosophy would lose connection with Western China's Marxist philosophy, and get out of the context of international culture, and gradually wither away in China.

When Karl Marx and Frederick Engels were establishing Marxist philosophy, they learned from existing ideas. They tried to find ideas from literature about law and art, which influenced the later development of Marxist philosophy. So Marx and Engels were reading previous works of others, they were summarizing and communicating ideas, which was the way for Marx and Engels to communicate with previous writers.

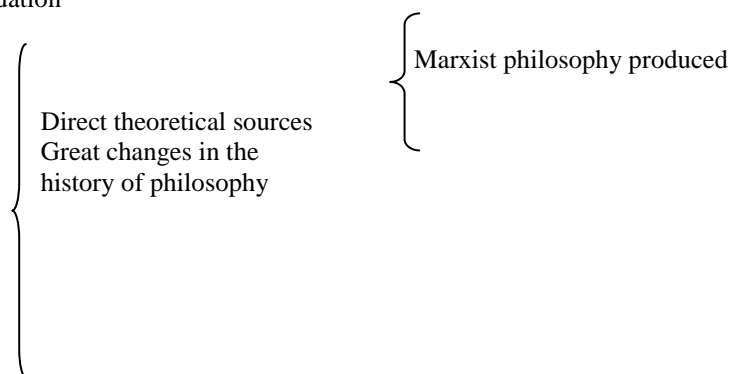
Modern researchers of China's Marxist philosophy should act as Marx and Engels to communicate ideas with others,

and realize the fact that when western philosophies were introduced to China, people were learning from western philosophy. After the culture revolution, the traditional Chinese philosophy was reviving, changing the situation where Marxist philosophy was the dominating ideology in China. So, if we want to change the position of China's philosophy fundamentally, we have to change by combining and communicating, especially combining China's Marxist philosophy with western Marxist philosophy.

The table below shows the great changes in the history of philosophy.

Table 1

Natural science foundation



Marxist theory in China's three major theoretical achievements

1. Mao Zedong Thought and the living soul and essence
2. Deng Xiaoping Theory and Its theme
3. "Three Represents" important thought and nature

### 2.2 The difficulties of combining China's Marxist philosophy with western Marxist philosophy

Before combining China's Marxist philosophy with western Marxist philosophy, we have to specify the difficulties: firstly, there is difference between the dominating idea and ways of thinking of them. They all stress the Marxism world outlook and methodology at the philosophical level, but they are in different contexts, so the dealing method of real issues will vary a lot and problems can't be solved by using the same philosophical point. Secondly, they have different views towards the solution of problems. Because they have different cultural backgrounds, so they have different, or even totally opposite, views towards a problem and its solutions. At present, the Marxist philosophy adopted by China is guided by the basic theories and methods of Marxist philosophy on the base of traditional Chinese philosophy. It all depends on western ideas which can promote the development of China and is put into the context of China. This is favorable for developing contemporary China's Marxist philosophy with Chinese characteristics. As for means of communication, they only focus on philosophy, and philosophers' communication is about ideology and concepts. If we want to expand this communication, we have to know the direction so as to make use of the same or different ideas of them and turn differences into characteristics which can benefit its own development.

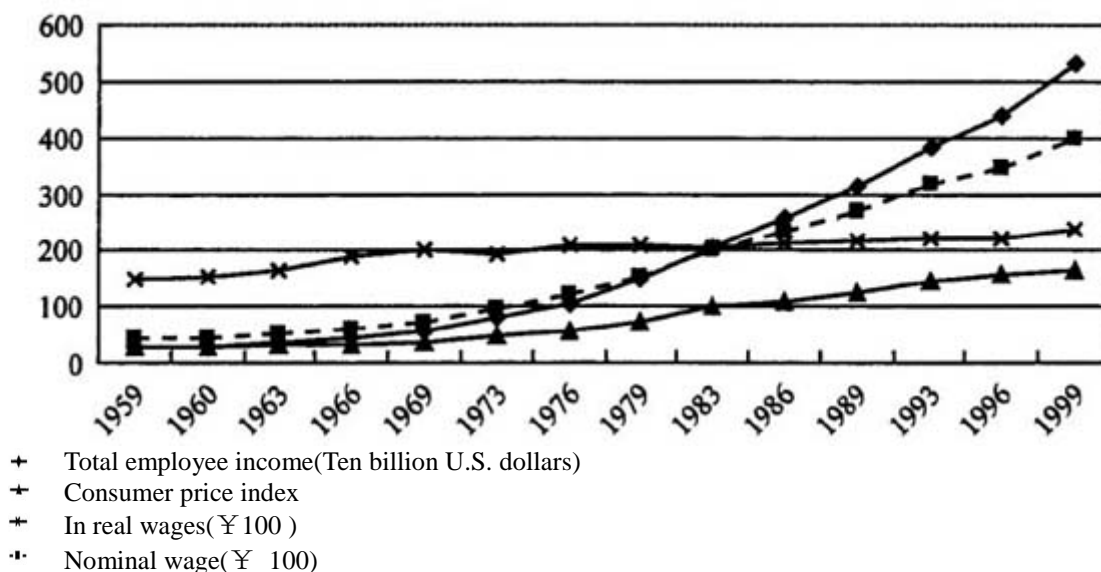
### 2.3 Solutions for the difficult combination of China's Marxist philosophy and Western Marxist philosophy

Our primary mission is to find ways for the combination of China's Marxist philosophy and Western China's Marxist philosophy. An unprecedented solution is to combine them with economic issues. I have to stress that the communication between philosophy and economics is different from communication between different philosophies. The first kind of communication demands the combination of theory and practice, which means we need to experience these problems in real life before solving the problem by theory, while the second kind of communication only stresses the use of theory to solve problems. Theories about economics all serve for a real economic system and economic development.

Economics also has basic theories, ways of thinking and domain. But the difference between philosophy and economics is that philosophy is formed by extracting the essence of all subjects while basic theories, ways of thinking and domain of economics are based on reality. So economics is the subject that is closest with economic base while philosophy is the farthest. Philosophers are conducting communication between minds while economics are communicating about real life. So the communication between philosophers and economics is a transfer from ideas to practice through economic theories. In the process of communication, we should perfect these two kinds of communications respectively and go beyond these two communications to connect Marxist philosophy with other

subjects.

Table 2 After the combination of Marxist Philosophy and Economics of the national economics changes



### 3 TOPICS BROUGHT UP BY HISTORY, AND THE POLITICAL AND VALUE ORIENTATION OF MARXIST PHILOSOPHY

#### 3.1 Marxist philosophy is both scientific and valuable

Marxist philosophy is scientific, since it is based on right world outlook and has been proven by practice. Meanwhile, it is very valuable, since it is not mere description of objective laws of the world and society, rather, it also pays attention to the environment lived by human, people's freedom and stresses the well-rounded development of man. If we only make Marxism scientific, then we can not feel the mental cohesion. Only if we make Marxist philosophy both scientific and valuable, can we reach the combination of economics a Marxist philosophy.

#### 3.2 The connection between separate parts of Marxism

Every part of Marxism is independent from and inter-related with each other. If one part is lost, the other parts also lose the essence of Marxism which is based on the integrity of all parts. Many researchers of Marxism overlook its characteristics when analyzing Marxist philosophy, thus causing the change of its ideas and the damage of its major structure. When analyzing a theory, we should not overlook its characteristics, especially in the course of studying Marxist philosophy; we should strictly follow the standard of Marxist philosophy to analyze it. We should not re-construct the theory by other means, since they would have totally different results.

#### 3.3 Conducting communication at philosophical level in many fields

Judging from its situation in China, we can see that Marxism is scientific and has the integrity of being combined with economics, which are important elements of the theory with Chinese characteristics. When Deng Xiaoping was talking about details of building socialism, he said that we need to develop and emancipate productivity at all levels and perspectives so as to build a socialist country featuring collective prosperity after abolishing polarization. After that, we also need to start from practice, especially the distribution system and market, to think more about important parts of economics. So, we can use socialism to eliminate exploitation and build a harmonious society.

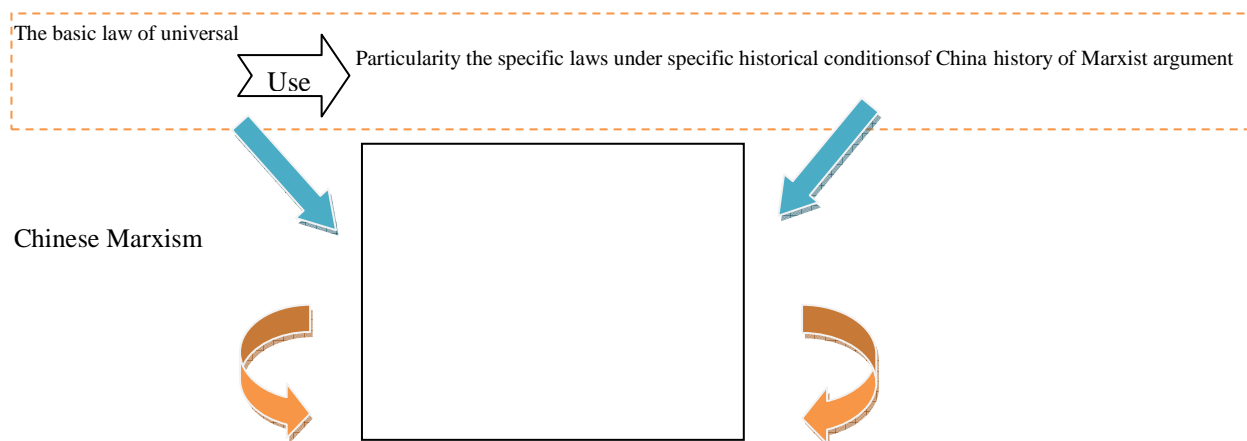
### 4 THE INFLUENCE OF MARXISM IN MARKET ECONOMIC ISSUES

#### 4.1 The separation of philosophy and economics is not good for the academic development

One disadvantage of researches about Marxist philosophy is the inability to combine it with social practice, thus making it lack the base of some economics concepts. So the result is that these researches are only confined to the field of philosophy and they lack theories of scientific socialism and social practice. Some researchers only study Marxist philosophy itself without any practical meaning. So this caused the loss of Marxist philosophy's essence, i.e., critical character and revolutionary character.

Modern Marxist philosophy depends on the basic theories of economics. One function of Marxist theory is to analyze real life. If we analyze economics without knowing the essence of social phenomena, then we can not describe the economic status quo of China. Without the combination with economics, Marxist philosophy would only be a hollow theory and it can't exist in China or go deep into all social aspects.

Table 3 Implementation mechanism of Marxist Philosophy and Economics



Action Guide: Provide information for the development of appropriate (not necessarily correct) measures

### CONCLUSION

The current status of Marxist philosophy is static, so we should conduct more communication, not only intra-Marxist philosophy communication but also communication with real life, especially economics. Economics should be guided by Marxist theory so as to solve economic problems from the perspective of Marxist philosophy.

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