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## **Analysis of the System Leapfrogging Modernization Model from the Perspective of Marxism**

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### **Abstract**

Introducing a systemic perspective into the study of Marxist leapfrog modernization development, social leapfrog modernization should be a systematic leap that includes various elements such as social economy, politics, modernization, and the individual, driven by the contradictory movements of productive forces and production relations, economic foundation, and superstructure. Human beings are the most active factor in the entire leapfrog modernization system. The victims are determined to be human beings, and development relies on human beings. Under specific historical conditions, people gradually eliminate the tension between the internal elements of the social system in leapfrog modernization by coordinating and adjusting the structure and function of various elements of the social leapfrog system based on practice, so that the system can reach a harmonious state at a higher level and achieve successful leapfrog development. The modernization development of human beings is an indispensable and important content and internal requirement of modernization. The Marxist systematic leapfrogging theory provides ideological enlightenment for the successful leapfrogging of Chinese path to

modernization.

**Key words:** marxism; system theory; leapfrog development; pattern analysis

## **1. Introduction**

Building a modern power is the development goal that generations of Chinese have dreamed of since 1840. The report of the 20th National Congress pointed out that the central task of the CPC in the new era and new journey is to comprehensively promote the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation with Chinese path to modernization, and proposed that China should be built into a prosperous, strong, democratic, civilized, harmonious and beautiful socialist modern power in two steps by the middle of this century. " But China's modernization is not the result of its own natural historical evolution, but rather the Western powers who achieved industrialization and used foreign guns and cannons to knock on China's door. Afterwards, China passively embarked on the path of modernization. Since then, the efforts of various political forces before the Communist Party of China to save the country from extinction have ultimately ended in failure. Only after the establishment of the Communist Party of China did China find the scientific guiding ideology, leadership class, and main force to achieve modernization, and China's modernization embarked on the right path. As General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out in his speech on July 1st, "Over the past century, the Communist Party of China has united and led the Chinese people in all their struggles, sacrifices, and creations, which can be summarized as one theme: realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation

After the victory of the new democratic revolution, the Chinese people won the war against imperialism in full sense for the first time since modern times, overthrew the three mountains and established an independent national state, which provided the fundamental social premise for China's modernization; After the founding of the People's Republic, after more than 70 years of struggle, the Chinese people have made great achievements in building the world's second largest economy and created a new path of Chinese path to modernization. However, first of all, the modernization on a global scale did not originate

in China. China was forcibly dragged into the modernization process by Western powers, which destined that China's modernization would follow the footsteps of Western capitalist countries from the beginning. If China's modernization wants to move from following, running, and leading, it will take a leapfrog development path. Secondly, China has not yet fully completed modernization and achieved the goal of leading the way. Therefore, the task of modernization in China is still ongoing, and there are various uncertainties on the road to complete modernization in China. Only by controlling various risks on the road to modernization can we ultimately achieve the goal of building a socialist modernized strong country and truly accomplish the task of modernization in a country like China.

China's modernization path is a kind of leapfrog development modernization. How to understand leapfrog development and how to achieve successful modernization through leapfrog development has been the dream and pursuit of Chinese people since modern times, and is also a major practical proposition in front of Chinese people in the new era. The systematic concept and leapfrog thought of Marxism provide ideological enlightenment for examining China's leapfrog modernization.

## **2. The leapfrog modernization of Marxism is a leap forward in the social system**

### **2.1 The leapfrog development of Marxism from a systemic perspective**

The term 'system' originated from ancient Greek, and Aristotle had long proposed that 'the whole is greater than the sum of its parts'. The main founder of systems theory, L.V. Bertalanffy, defined the essence of general systems theory as "an interdisciplinary theory that elaborates in detail the various principles and models that should be present in general systems theory." He sought to clarify that "the world is like a giant organism." He believed that social phenomena "must also be seen as systems." Therefore, the perspective of systems also applies to the analysis of social phenomena.

Wei Hongsen and Zeng Guoping pointed out that "the concept and thought of systems have obtained philosophical expression from the founders of Marxism." Marxism believes that all things in the world, including nature, human society, and the field of thinking, are in a

universally interconnected system. Engels pointed out that "the understanding that all processes in nature are in a system drives science to prove this systematic connection from individual parts and the whole." "The systematic analysis method of Marxism believes that society is also an organic system composed of internal elements, structures, and relationships that are active and developing. Marxism holds that the evolution of social form is a natural historical process. From the vertical axis of time, the development of productive forces triggers the movement of fundamental contradictions in society. The economic base and superstructure under specific historical conditions constitute the cross-section of social historical development, and their contradictory movements constitute the basic form of social form evolution. In the concrete social life of reality, the cross-section of social and historical development is manifested in the social and economic structure, political structure, and cultural structure. With the development of society, especially in the specific process of modernizing socialism with Chinese characteristics, social construction and ecological civilization construction have gradually emerged, forming a "five in one" overall construction pattern. The social structure ultimately refers to the institutional form of social interaction between people, manifested in economic, political, and cultural relationships, based on specific historical social conditions. Therefore, the development and evolution of social forms cannot be separated from human beings. Human beings are a fundamental aspect of social existence, and their practical activities under specific historical conditions are a part of society and its development, including social forms and their evolution. Ultimately, social forms and their evolution are manifested by the different qualities and developmental explorations of human social practical activities. As society progresses, humans are the main body of social form movement and change. At the same time, Marxism believes that the movement and change of social forms is a process that unfolds in accordance with social purposes. People actively promote the progress and development of relationships between humans and nature, humans and humans, humans and society, and humans and themselves under the guidance of consciousness, in order to achieve a more free and developed state of existence. Therefore, the actual state of human existence and development under specific historical circumstances is also an important criterion for measuring the degree of social development. The leapfrog

development of individual social forms can be attributed to the movement of human centered social contradictions caused by the development of productive forces, which drives the leapfrog development of social forms. This development is a systematic leap, in the context of specific historical realities. At the social level, it is manifested as comprehensive progress and development in economy, politics, culture, society, and ecological civilization. All of this progress, development, and leap forward are inseparable from the progress, civilization, and development of human beings themselves, as well as the greater freedom and liberation of human living conditions. This is also the ultimate goal of all social development.

## **2.2 Shortcomings in the Theory of Socialist Leapfrog Development and Its Related Research**

After the collapse of the Soviet Union and the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe, the academic community has reflected and explored many issues related to Marx's theory of leapfrogging and the path of socialist revolution and construction. However, many studies have focused on why social forms need to undergo leapfrogging development and how to achieve it. In fact, the entire society is an organic whole, and the first starting point for the development and evolution of social forms is still the concrete social and historical activities of people in reality. In the practical activities of real social history, people deal with the relationships between humans and natural persons, and between humans and their own consciousness, forming the mode of social production, and thus triggering changes and developments in the economic, political, cultural, and social forms of real social life.

In the actual process of social and historical development, social development is manifested as the evolution of an organic whole of society as a system. Therefore, when examining the leapfrog development of social forms, a systematic perspective should also be taken to examine the relationships between various elements within the social organism in leapfrog development. In the social leapfrog development ultimately caused by the development of productive forces, not only should we see the contradictory movements between productive forces and production relations, economic base and superstructure, and the economic, political, cultural and other levels manifested in the real society driven by them, but we should also see the people in the leapfrog development. People always pursue a more free

and better state of existence, and it is in pursuit of their subjective interests and needs that objectively drive the development of human social history. Moreover, this pursuit of development is to be as fast, as high, and as free and beautiful as possible. Whenever possible, people always pursue a leapfrog approach to the most advanced and highest level of development in the world under the conditions allowed by history.

Therefore, humans are the subject of leapfrog development, the key to its success, and also the internal goal that leapfrog development should pursue. The leapfrog development of society should not only include the leap of productivity and production relations, economic foundation and superstructure,

The transition between humans and nature also includes the stage of human survival and development. After the victory of the political revolution, in the early stage of exploring the path of socialist development, the reality socialist countries did not consciously and effectively realize the cross reality of human survival and development stages, and did not regard the rich and comprehensive free development of real people as the most realistic and urgent pursuit goal of development. This is a lesson for the reality socialist countries in exploring the path of leapfrog development.

History has proven that building socialism in Eastern countries with relatively backward economic development should naturally be more contradictory, pay more attention to people, respect people, and put people at the center. The human dimension itself is an important dimension of the historical reality that socialist society is superior to capitalist society. Without the relative superiority of human factors, it is only a leap forward from the perspective of production relations and social systems, and all progress is still incomplete. People are not only the driving force and subject of the leapfrog development of social forms, but also the purpose of the leap. Human beings occupy a prominent position in the process of liberation and social leapfrog development: the development of productive forces, which signifies the transformation and utilization of natural abilities by humans, is the ultimate driving force for social leapfrog development; leapfrog relies on humans, and the human element is the most active and dynamic element in the productive system, as well as the main force for transforming and achieving social form leapfrog; leapfrog is for humans, and humans not only promote the natural evolution of human society on the basis

of regularity and purposefulness, but also aim to liberate humans to a greater extent and promote their free and comprehensive development.

Before the socialist revolution, Eastern countries such as the road were in a stage of lagging behind the world's developed capitalism. In order to achieve a leapfrog development from the stage of lagging behind and the advanced level of the world at that time to the "qualified" socialist stage, it is even more important to fully value the first play of human role and the subjective initiative of human beings, in order to achieve leapfrog development, catch up with or even surpass the overall level of world advanced development.

### **2.3 Socialist countries face a dual task of human development in the process of social leapfrog development**

On the one hand, due to historical reasons, the dependence relationship between people existed widely and deeply before the establishment of socialist countries in Eastern countries, which was lagging behind the development stage of human dependence on things in developed capitalist countries at that time. Therefore,

In order to achieve leapfrog development after the establishment of socialist countries, it is necessary to actively possess and fully utilize the "universal social material transformation, comprehensive relationships, multi-faceted needs, and comprehensive capabilities system" formed under the stage of human dependence on things. This itself contains a leapfrog pattern, that is, jumping from the current inevitability of national development to the other end of world historical inevitability. At the same time, compared to the developed Western capitalist countries in the historical context of the world at that time, socialist countries in reality, after establishing more advanced production relations, also faced the stage of development from human dependence on things to comprehensive and free development of human beings. This development is partly due to the possibilities provided by the leap of advanced production relations, and at the same time, it also puts forward the requirements for such development; At the same time, the limitations and negativity of human dependence on things also require that after the establishment of new production relations, it is necessary to utilize the possibilities provided by superior production relations to achieve leapfrog development, so as to avoid the alienation and tragic fate of laborers in the stage of capitalist production relations development as much as possible after achieving the leap of social

system. If only the gradual development of human dependence on things cannot reflect the superiority of the socialist system and the essence and purpose of the leapfrog development of socialist countries. Only by properly handling the position and role of good people in the leapfrog development of socialist society, can we

Being able to achieve the maximum degree of human freedom and liberation on the basis of actively possessing the fruits of capitalist development is not only in line with the purpose and purpose of Marxist social leapfrog development laws, but also better able to achieve successful social justice and leapfrog development in real practice. Therefore, the leapfrog development of Marxism cannot be a single breakthrough of a certain social element, but must be a coordinated leapfrog development of various elements that make up the social organism. Among them, the human element is an indispensable organic component in the leapfrog development of society. The realization of a leap in human survival and development stages, and the avoidance of the alienation of the proletariat's survival under capitalist production relations, are the foundation and starting point of the entire Marxist theory of leapfrog development, and also the purpose of the theory of leapfrog development. Only by properly handling the relationship between human leapfrog development and the development of various elements of the entire social organism can we better reflect the essence of socialism and ultimately achieve successful leapfrog development.

### **3. The Implementation Mechanism of Marxist System Crossing Modernization**

#### **3.1 What is the connotation of crossing**

The Modern Chinese Dictionary defines "crossing" as "crossing the boundaries of a region or time." Although it only points out the crossing in space and time, it still points out that crossing should go beyond certain boundaries and achieve changes in quantity or quality of things. Regarding the leapfrog development of society, Wang Juqin once pointed out that there are three standards with philosophical implications: the realistic goal of crossing is a social development state that is one or several stages ahead of oneself in a foreign country; the ultimate goal of crossing development is to achieve synchronization with the world; the



guiding ideology of crossing is generally a theory representing the direction of development of the times outside the country. Therefore, leapfrog development is not simply the result of internal contradictions in a country or region's own society. The initial driving force behind the occurrence of the leap came from external factors outside the country or region. However, in order for external factors to truly take effect, it is also necessary to rely on internal factors and internal contradictions within the country or region. Among them, the role of people in crossing countries or regions is particularly important. People's choices and subjective efforts are particularly important in the process of leapfrog development, which fully reflects the subject selectivity and subjective initiative of people in social and historical development.

The leapfrog development of China's pursuit of modernization since modern times began with passive modernization under external oppression. Since 1840, generations of advanced Chinese have begun to explore the path of saving the nation from extinction. After "the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom Movement, the Reform Movement of 1898, the Boxer Rebellion Movement, and the Revolution of 1911 came into being one after another, and various plans to save the country were introduced in turn, but all ended in failure" [2] 1. Only after the founding of the CPC, China really embarked on the right path of modernization. Among them, the continuous exploration and active choice of advanced Chinese since modern times is the key to finally find the right road to modernization.

## **3.2 What is the connotation of crossing**

### **3.2.1 The essence of crossing**

The structure, function, coordination, and adjustment of internal elements across the system should measure the high and low, advanced and backward development status of a society, including both the level of productivity development and the corresponding social form, as well as the development status of people within a certain social form. The overall social state is the result of the systematic coordination of productive forces and production relations, economic base and superstructure, and human development status under certain time and space conditions. It is manifested as the harmonious coordination between various parts of the social organism such as economy, politics, culture, society, and ecology, and makes the entire society in a relatively harmonious and stable state.

Leapfrog development refers to an unconventional and special state of development achieved by a country or region under the guidance or oppression of internal and external factors in the context of world history. The particularity of leapfrog development is determined by the characteristics of leapfrog development. In the process of leapfrog development, due to the induction or oppression of external social development factors, the balance between the original social system elements is broken, which promotes a breakthrough in the development of a certain element in the social system and approaches a more advanced social development state. In this state, due to the sudden advancement of unilateral elements within the system, the various elements within the system are in a tense state. This state itself is an disharmonious social state, a state of revolutionary outbreak. The tension formed within the system between the elements that have already been crossed and those that have not yet been successfully crossed requires the synchronous and coordinated leapfrog development of other elements while bringing about a qualitative leap in certain aspects of leapfrog development; At the same time, the leap in quantity or advancement of a certain aspect creates conditions for the follow-up and leap of other elements. The new harmonious state will reach a higher level of harmonious balance with philosophical significance after the overall leap of the system is realized. Therefore, in the process of crossing, the disharmony and tension within the crossing elements have temporary development, and the goal is to achieve a new and higher stage of harmony.

### **3.2.2 Crossing the social elements and their interrelationships within the system**

Marx pointed out: "Humans always only propose tasks that they can solve themselves... only when the material conditions for solving them have been met

So it can only be generated when it exists or at least during the process of generation  
Marxism believes that in each era, people may surpass their own country and put forward development needs and driving forces beyond the productive forces of their own era. The evolution of social development and social forms is a natural historical process driven by the movement of internal contradictions in society. It reflects that people, however, in the specific evolution of social development, due to abnormal factors such as world communication, war, immigration, etc., lead to abnormal and non normal states of social development. Of course, this abnormal development can be positive and progressive, while

others may start with regression, setbacks, or even failure. Among them, leapfrog development is an ideal state for backward countries to catch up with and develop, but it requires high conditions for leapfrog development, including This includes both subjective and objective conditions.

In the current context where socialism mainly occurs in relatively underdeveloped countries, how to achieve the task of socialist countries catching up with and ultimately defeating capitalism, and thus explore a historical path towards communism worldwide; And how socialist countries can achieve leapfrog development, ultimately surpassing capitalism in various aspects of society such as social systems, specific institutional mechanisms, and human development status, is still an unfinished practical issue.

The realization of this task inherently requires socialist countries to take a path of leapfrog development. If they follow the developed capitalist countries in the West step by step, they will neither surpass nor reflect the institutional superiority of socialist society.

#### **4. The theoretical significance and practical value of the Marxist system crossing the modernization mode**

##### **4.1 Crossing the modernization model is a system, and successful leapfrog development is the result of coordinating and crossing the internal elements of the social system**

Eastern socialist countries failed to timely handle the coordinated and harmonious development of social elements within the system after the victory of the revolution. Reflecting on the theory and practice of the Soviet Union's leapfrog development, the biggest lesson is that after the victory of the October Revolution and the realization of the leapfrog in the production system and social system, there was insufficient understanding of the systematic leapfrog in the practice of socialist construction and development, and the failure to timely follow up with other social elements after the breakthrough in the production relationship. Especially regarding the response to the human element in the development process, the pursuit of a better life by ordinary people has not kept pace with the country's economic growth, and has not been correspondingly satisfied for a long time, resulting in the entire society being in a state of tension and disharmony for a long time.

The theory of system leapfrog modernization holds that the realization of leapfrog development requires attention to the harmony of internal elements. Only by achieving a social system that has gone through disharmony from the old harmony to a higher level of harmony can it truly achieve a successful leapfrog. Temporary tension and disharmony between social elements in the process of crossing is inevitable, but it is necessary to handle this tension properly and eliminate it through development to move towards harmony.

#### **4.2 Based on the reflection on the selection of social development models after the Eastern Revolution, the Marxist theory of systematic leapfrogging modernization has reference significance for the choice of the development path of socialist society in reality**

How to understand the reality and development trend of the coexistence of socialism and capitalism in the world today? How to understand Marx's ideas on the revolutionary path of Eastern society and the leapfrog development of society? And how to create a successful leap forward development path of socialist modernization in line with China's national conditions on the basis of summing up and reflecting on the exploration of the modernization development path of realistic socialist countries, especially in the context of the modernization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, is a major era proposition facing the development choice of Chinese path to modernization at present, and has a profound impact on the realization of the grand goal of building a socialist modernization power with Chinese characteristics in the new era and the historical destiny of socialism and Marxism in the 21st century. It cannot be denied that the leapfrog road of socialist modernization construction cannot ignore the harmony and coordinated development among various elements within the entire social system, nor can it ignore the survival and development status of people and the play of subject initiative under the conditions of social leapfrog development.

#### **4.3 Chinese path to modernization is an overall social modernization led by human modernization, and we should attach great importance to the modern development of human knowledge, ability, literacy, psychology and other aspects**

In the exploration and practice of the leapfrog modernization path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the understanding of leapfrog development has gone through a development process from production relations to productive forces to people, and then to the theory of

systemic leapfrog. The modernization task faced by the impoverished and weak modern Chinese society is first and foremost to achieve national independence. The leapfrog development of modernization of socialism with Chinese characteristics was first achieved through the advancement of production relations and social systems. In the exploration of the path of socialist development in reality, the history of China's leapfrog development has followed the Mao Zedong era, achieving a leap forward in production relations and social systems. During the Deng Xiaoping era, there was a greater focus on economic development and productivity, and in the new century, the concept of "people-oriented", emphasis on sociology, and sustainable development was proposed. Until the new era put forward the five development concepts, paid more attention to the development value orientation of "putting the people at the center", and the overall leapfrog modernization development of society.

The positive and negative experiences of exploring the modernization path of socialism with Chinese characteristics tell us that only by adhering to the central position of human beings in modernization development, cultivating a group of new people with modern knowledge, abilities, literacy, psychology and other requirements that can lead and achieve modernization development, and achieving coordination and consistency between the modernization development status of human beings and the modernization development of various elements within the social organism, can we ultimately achieve harmonious development of society at a higher level and realize the overall modernization of society. Only in this way can we maximize the cohesion of social consensus, unite all forces that can be united to achieve successful leapfrog modernization development, and ultimately realize the Chinese Dream of building a socialist modernized country and national rejuvenation.

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