

The Significant Role of the Third Historical Resolution of the Communist Party of China

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ABSTRACT

"Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party over the Past Century" adheres to the materialist and correct views on Party history, accurately grasps the main theme and mainstream essence of the Party's centenary struggle, and effectively criticizes the erroneous ideological trend of historical nihilism; it comprehensively sorts out the great historical achievements of the Party's centenary struggle, and has greatly enhanced the confidence and strength of the Party in leading the people to achieve new victories; it also systematically summarizes the valuable historical experience of the Party's centenary struggle that has greatly promoted the growth of wisdom throughout the Party, and clearly proposes "two establishments", further fundamentally consolidating the unity of the Party. The resolution has unified the thoughts, will, and actions of the entire party at a major historical juncture, and will undoubtedly greatly promote the historical process of socialist modernization and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Keywords: Communist Party of China (CPC), Historical resolutions, Centenary struggle.

1. INTRODUCTION

At an important historical moment and critical moment in the centenary of the founding of the Communist Party of China and the sounding of the horn for advancing towards the second centenary goal, the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China passed the "Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party over the Past Century" (hereinafter referred to as "the third historical decision"). This is a great Marxist programmatic document that will undoubtedly play a significant and far-reaching positive role in multiple aspects.

2. ACCURATELY GRASPING THE MAIN THEME AND MAINSTREAM ESSENCE OF THE PARTY'S CENTENARY STRUGGLE, AND EFFECTIVELY REFUTING HISTORICAL NIHILISM

The CPC attaches great importance to the struggle in the ideological field, and clearly resists and opposes various wrong tendencies and social trends, including historical nihilism.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, there was a tendency in China to completely negate Mao Zedong and Mao Zedong Thought, and subsequently negate the history of the Party and the Republic, due to reflection on the mistakes of the Cultural Revolution. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China firmly spoke out and clarified its stance on this matter. In 1981, the Sixth Plenary Session of the Eleventh Central Committee of the Communist Party of China passed the "Resolution on Several Historical Issues of the Communist Party of China Since the Founding of

the People's Republic of China" (hereinafter referred to as "the second historical resolution"), which objectively reviewed the history of the Party, made fair conclusions that were in line with historical truth and could withstand historical tests on some major events and important figures, especially objectively evaluated Comrade Mao Zedong and Mao Zedong Thought, affirmed Comrade Mao Zedong's historical achievements and the guiding position of Mao Zedong Thought. This is the first time since the reform and opening up that the Party Central Committee has resolutely countered historical nihilism.

Due to various factors, historical nihilism has not disappeared in China, especially in recent years when sediment has emerged, causing significant social harm. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core has attached great importance to the criticism of historical nihilism and the rectification of some major issues. 2021 is the centennial of the CPC. How do people view the Resolution on Certain Historical Issues (hereinafter referred to as "the first historical resolution") and the second historical resolution adopted at the seventh plenary session of the sixth central committee of the Communist Party of China in 1945, and whether their basic conclusions are outdated? How to evaluate the work of the Party and the state since the reform and opening up, especially in the new era? How to grasp the main theme and mainstream essence of the Party's centenary struggle? Under the premise of adhering to the materialist view of history and the correct view of party history, the third historical resolution answers the above questions and strongly refutes historical nihilism:

Firstly, regarding the first two historical resolutions, it believes that their exposition and summary on major historical events and important experiences and lessons of the Party are pragmatic, and their basic statements and conclusions are still applicable to this day.[1]^{b5} That is to say, in the future, when it comes to how to view the major issues of right and wrong in the history of the Party from the establishment of the Party to the beginning of reform and opening up, these two historical resolutions should still be the fundamental evaluation criteria.

Secondly, regarding the history since the reform and opening up, it believes that although there have been some problems in the work, overall the development has been smooth, the direction is

correct, and the achievements have been tremendous. Especially since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, under the leadership of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core, the cause of the Party and the people has made breakthrough progress and remarkable achievements.

Thirdly, regarding the centenary struggle of the Party, it believes that it is a century-long commitment to not forgetting the nature of a political party and always practicing the purpose of serving the people wholeheartedly; It is a century of keeping in mind the highest and lowest program of the Party, always adhering to the communist ideals, and firmly believing in socialism; It is a century long commitment to the original aspiration and mission, always pursuing happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation; It is a century of emphasizing theoretical innovation, continuously promoting the integration of the basic principles of Marxism with China's specific realities and excellent traditional Chinese culture, and thus promoting the development of Marxism; It is a century of good cohesion, constantly leading the Chinese people from victory to victory, and making contributions to the country and the nation; It is a century of self-revolution, constant correction of mistakes, self-improvement, progressiveness and vitality; It is a century of embracing the world and continuously making outstanding contributions to the world and humanity. In short, the Party has gone through a magnificent century and played a significant role in promoting the development process of China and the world. History has fully proved with irrefutable facts that the CPC is a great, glorious and correct Marxist party.

It can be seen that the third historical resolution has comprehensively clarified the main theme and mainstream essence of the Party's centenary struggle, further clarified people's vague understanding and one-sided understanding of certain major issues, and played a good role in ideological guidance and theoretical analysis. Therefore, it is a Marxist document with a clear banner against historical nihilism, and will undoubtedly become a theoretical tool to refute historical nihilism in the future.

3. COMPREHENSIVELY SORTING OUT THE SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PARTY'S CENTENARY STRUGGLE, GREATLY ENHANCING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PARTY IN LEADING THE PEOPLE TO CREATE BRILLIANCE AGAIN

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China, the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China made a comprehensive review of the significant achievements made in the Party's centenary struggle one of the two main focus contents of the resolution. The resolution comprehensively and systematically summarizes the great historical achievements of the Party's centenary struggle from four aspects: the New Democratic Revolution, socialist revolution and construction, reform and opening up, socialist modernization construction, and socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. In particular, it emphasizes the significant historical achievements and changes that have occurred since the 18th National Congress of the Party from thirteen aspects. Looking back at history, it can be seen that over the past century, under the leadership of the Party, the country and the nation have undergone earth shattering changes, creating one magnificent miracle after another. Success brings confidence, and these great victories and great achievements greatly enhance the confidence of the Party in leading the people to continue advancing and creating new brilliance.

Confidence comes from the fact that the CPC has led the Chinese people to find the right path to development. Whether the development path is correct or not is related to the future of the country, the fate of the nation, and the well-being of the people. Over the past century, through continuous exploration, we have successively found the correct path of the New Democratic Revolution and the socialist revolution. After 1978, based on the preliminary exploration of the first generation of central leadership, Chinese people have also found a path of socialism with Chinese characteristics that is suitable for our national conditions. The series of significant historical achievements achieved over the past hundred years are precisely due to finding the right path of development. The path of socialism with Chinese characteristics is not easy to come by. As long as Chinese people firmly follow

this correct path, they will definitely achieve greater development.

Confidence comes from the fact that the CPC has led the Chinese people to grasp the objective laws of things. The objective laws are the fundamental rules for people to understand and transform the world. Therefore, the CPC strives to find their development laws in the long-term practice of revolution and construction. Through arduous and tortuous exploration, people have mastered the basic laws of the New Democratic Revolution; After the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the transitional law has been found from a new democratic society to a socialist society; After experiencing major mistakes, suffering serious setbacks, and paying a great price, Chinese people gradually mastered the laws of socialist construction after 1978. Over the past 40 years of reform and opening up, China has achieved remarkable development achievements in various aspects, greatly elevated its international status, and greatly improved people's lives. The face of the Party, the country, the people, and the Chinese nation has undergone unprecedented and astonishing changes. This fully demonstrates that through long-term efforts and exploration, the Party has better grasp of the laws of the Communist Party's governance, socialist construction, and human social development than before. Mastering the objective laws of things means mastering strategic initiative and laying a solid foundation for future career development.

Confidence comes from the ability of the CPC to lead the Chinese people to achieve national modernization and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Since modern times, in order to achieve national modernization and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, various explorations and attempts have been made by other class forces besides the proletariat, but all have failed without exception. The birth of the CPC in 1921 lit up China's path to modernization and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. The Party has led the people through unremitting struggle to create the "fundamental social conditions"[1]^{p3} for the realization of the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, laying the "fundamental political conditions and the institutional foundations" [1]^{p9}, providing "a new dynamic institutional guarantees as well as the material conditions for rapid development" [1]^{p15}, and providing "stronger institutions, firmer material foundations, and a more proactive mindset" [1]^{p61}. The Party leads the people to continuously advance the historical process of the

rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, enabling this great dream to show a bright prospect that has never been seen since 1840. At the same time, the Party has led the people to successfully explore the Chinese path to modernization, and made a scientific and rigorous strategic deployment on how to achieve national modernization, and completed one stage goal after another step by step. On this basis, the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China has clearly defined the strategic timetable and roadmap for China's comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized country, which is to basically achieve socialist modernization by 2035 and build a great modern socialist country by the 100th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. [2]^{p28-29}History and reality have fully proved that without the leadership of the CPC, national modernization and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation cannot be achieved.

In short, the great victories and brilliant achievements achieved in the centenary struggle have greatly increased the confidence of the entire Party and the people of the whole country to forge ahead, inspired the fighting spirit of the entire Party and the people of the whole country to work hard and start businesses, stimulated the strength of the entire Party and the people of the whole country to strive for progress, and prompted people to walk more firmly along the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and achieve greater victories in socialism with Chinese characteristics.

4. SYSTEMATICALLY SUMMARIZING THE VALUABLE HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE OF THE PARTY'S CENTENARY STRUGGLE, AND GREATLY PROMOTING THE GROWTH OF WISDOM THROUGHOUT THE PARTY

A comprehensive and systematic summary of the historical experience of the Party's centenary struggle is also one of the two main focuses of the third historical resolution. The Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee is not the first time that the CPC has summarized historical experience. In fact, the Party has always attached great importance to summarizing historical experience, drawing wisdom and inspiration from it, and is good at applying historical experience to guide new social practices.

Before the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the Party conducted a total of seven important historical experience summaries. The first time was in 1945, when the first historical resolution systematically summarized the experience and lessons learned from the period from the establishment of the Party, especially from the Fourth Plenary Session of the Sixth Central Committee to the Zunyi Conference (i.e. from January 1931 to January 1935, during the period of Wang Ming's "leftist" adventurist rule over the entire Party). The second time was in 1981, and the second historical resolution carefully summarized the experience and lessons of socialist revolution and construction in the 32 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China. The third time was in 1998, during a speech commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Comrade Jiang Zemin summarized the historical experience of 20 years of reform and opening up. The fourth time was in 2002, Comrade Jiang Zemin summarized the basic experience from 1989 to 2002 in the report of the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. The fifth time was in 2008, the Comrade Hu Jintao's speeches at the 17th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2007 and the 30th anniversary of the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, which summarized the historical experience of reform and opening up over the past 30 years with the "Ten Combinations"[3]^{p156}. The sixth time was in 2018, during a speech at the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the reform and opening up, Comrade Xi Jinping summarized the historical experience of the reform and opening up over the past 40 years.[4]^{p222} The seventh time is in July 2021. In his speech at the conference to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the CPC, Comrade Xi Jinping initially elaborated on the historical experience of the Party's centenary struggle. In addition to these seven important historical experience summaries, other party congresses, central plenary sessions, and others have also timely summarized their experiences, but they are not as comprehensive and systematic as these seven times. By continuously summarizing historical experience, the Party's abilities have greatly improved. The Party has gradually grown from small to large, from weak to strong, and has made fewer mistakes and taken fewer detours.

It has been a full 40 years to 2021 since the adoption of the second historical resolution, coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the Party. It is of great significance to systematically summarize the historical experience accumulated by the Party over the past 100 years, especially the fresh experience since the 18th National Congress of the Party, through the high standard method of passing the Party's third historical resolution at the Central Plenary Session. On the basis of existing conclusions, the third historical resolution passed at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China systematically summarizes ten historical experiences, namely "adhering to the leadership of the Party, adhering to putting the people first, adhering to theoretical innovation, adhering to independence and autonomy, adhering to the Chinese path, adhering to holding a broad mind, adhering to pioneering and innovative ideas, adhering to daring to struggle, adhering to the united front, and adhering to self-revolution". [1]^{p89} These ten summaries are concise in language and have a great significance. They come down in one continuous line with the historical experience summarized before and keep pace with the times. They profoundly reveal the fundamental reasons for the continuous success of the cause of the Party and the people, the invincible position of the Party, the Party's grasp of the historical initiative, and the progressiveness and purity of the Party. Therefore, they are extremely valuable spiritual wealth and have fundamental and far-reaching guiding significance. The Party and the people must cherish them even more and continuously enrich and develop them in the practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era.

In summary, the ten historical experiences summarized in the third historical resolution are important treasures accumulated by the Party in the process of century long struggle. They not only help Chinese people understand why they were able to succeed in the past, but also help them understand how they can continue to succeed in the future, thus greatly promoting the growth of wisdom throughout the Party.

5. CLEARLY PROPOSING THE "TWO ESTABLISHMENTS", AND FURTHER FUNDAMENTALLY MAINTAINING THE UNITY AND SOLIDARITY OF THE PARTY

Having a strong leadership core and scientific theoretical guidance is an indispensable basic condition for the CPC to maintain and consolidate unity and promote cause development.

Emphasizing the core and leading role of leaders is an important viewpoint of Marxist party building theory and a fundamental characteristic of a mature proletarian political party. The CPC paid great attention to this problem from the very beginning, and established Comrade Mao Zedong's core position in the Party Central Committee and the whole Party during the period of the New Democratic Revolution. Later, in the practice of reform and opening up, the Party further realized that without a core leadership collective, the Party Central Committee would lack authority, and the entire Party would be scattered and unable to accomplish anything.[5]^{p310} Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, General Secretary Xi Jinping has led the whole party to create a new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics with strong mission responsibility, outstanding political wisdom, and enormous political courage. He is the leader, helmsman, and overall commander of the entire party and the people of the whole country. Therefore, he deserves to be the core of the Party Central Committee and the entire party. Based on this, the 6th Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in 2016 proposed the "Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core"[6]^{p419}, officially establishing the core position of General Secretary Xi Jinping as the Party Central Committee and the entire Party.

Adhering to arming the entire party with scientific theories and guiding practice is a major political advantage of Marxist political parties. During a period of time after the founding of the Communist Party of China, the party took Marxism Leninism as its guide for action, and subsequently established Mao Zedong Thought and Deng Xiaoping Theory, forming the important thought of the Three Represents and the Scientific Outlook on Development, which were also established as the guiding ideology of the party. With the guidance of scientific theories, China's revolution, construction, and reform have greatly advanced. Since the 18th

National Congress of the Communist Party of China, General Secretary Xi Jinping has responded to the questions of the times and the people with a high degree of historical consciousness. He has put forward a series of original new concepts, new ideas, and new strategies around major historical issues, and established Xi Jinping's Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. In 2017, the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China established it as the guiding ideology of the Party.

Currently, Chinese people have entered a new stage of development and embarked on the new Long March to achieve the second centenary struggle goal. In the new journey, Chinese people are facing greater risks and tests, and we need the unity of the Party even more. The whole Party needs the guidance of its backbone and scientific theories even more. Therefore, the third historical resolution passed at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China for the first time stated that "establishing the core position of Comrade Xi Jinping in the Party Central Committee and the core position of the whole Party" and "establishing the guiding position of Xi Jinping's Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era" [1]^{p26} were put together, and pointed out that "Two Establishments" have "decisive" significance for the development of the cause in the new era and the promotion of the historical process of the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. The proposal of "Two Establishments" highlights the Party's deeper understanding of the importance of a strong leadership core and scientific theoretical guidance. The proposal of the "Two Establishments" helps the whole party to better enhance the "Four Consciousnesses", strengthen the "Four-sphere Confidence", and achieve the "Two Upholds", ensuring that the whole party and the people of the whole country are closely united around the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core, and fully implement Xi Jinping's Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

Throughout the centenary struggle of the Party, it can be found that when the leadership core supported by the whole Party is established and scientific theories are adhered to as guidance, the Party will maintain unity, and the cause of the Party and the country will continue to achieve victory. On the contrary, when the leadership core supported by the whole party were not established and scientific theories were not adhered to as guidance, the Party

within would act independently, and the cause of the Party and the country would suffer setbacks. Therefore, it is necessary to consistently adhere to and defend the "Two Establishments", ensure the unity and unity of the entire party, and work tirelessly to promote the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era and achieve the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

6. CONCLUSION

The first historical resolution effectively promoted the development of the revolutionary cause, while the second historical resolution greatly promoted the development of reform, opening up, and modernization construction. The third historical resolution passed at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has made sufficient ideological and theoretical preparations for the new era and new journey, further unifying the thoughts, wills, and actions of the entire party, and will undoubtedly have a positive and far-reaching significant impact on the cause of socialist modernization and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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