On Intrinsic Mechanism and Practice Approach for Integrating Red Culture of Ta-pieh Mountains into College Students’ Ideological and Political Education

Shuaiming Chen
School of Marxism, Xinyang Agriculture and Forestry University, Xinyang, Henan, 464000, China

Abstract. The red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains represents a major branch of the spiritual lineage of the Chinese Communists, an important support for the cultural confidence in the new era, a valuable spiritual legacy as well as a visual textbook for ideological and political education. Integrating the red culture of Ta-pieh mountains into college students' ideological and political education can not only provide resources for patriotic education of college students, enhance their political literacy, and ameliorate their excellent ideological quality, but also boost college students' scientific understanding, reinforce the college students' understanding of the true significance of upholding and strengthening the Party's leadership over higher education in that it is also an important means to heighten the ideology and value orientation of college students. The red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains will be deeply integrated into college students' ideological and political education by implementing internal mechanisms, say, operational mechanism, incentive mechanism, and teacher development mechanism, etc., in combination with the specific practices, say, on-campus ideological and political teaching, off-campus practical education and online learning, etc.

Keywords: Red Culture of Ta-pieh Mountains; Integration; Ideological and Political Education; Intrinsic Mechanism; Practice Approach.

1. Introduction

General Secretary Xi Jinping advanced a request at the National Conference on Ideology and Political Action in Higher Education Institutions that the ideological and political work of higher education institutions should be combined with the types of talents cultivated by these institutions, their educational methods and basic issues related to their cultivators. College students are to lay particular emphasis on key issues related to the ideological and political education, strengthen ideological and political guidance, and continuously upgrade their theoretical level and political attainment. Consequently, the research on the intrinsic mechanism and practice approach of integrating the rich revolutionary resources of Ta-pieh Mountains with the ideological and political education of college students conduces to cultivate the Party spirit, steadfastly building up ideals and beliefs by educating college students through the lively red culture education so as to improve the student party members’ capabilities in analyzing and solving problems by applying the Marxist stance, viewpoints and methods, and improve and enhance the students’ ideological and political education connotations, and continuously inherit the red gene and cultivate the builders and successors of the Party and the country.

2. Rich Connotations of Red Culture in Ta-pieh Mountains

The red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains can be highly interpreted as "The Chinese people integrate the spiritual and material carriers created by the new democratic revolution and socialist construction under the leadership of the CPC, which is developed and utilized for meeting the needs of today's general public". [2]

As early as November 7, 2012, the Research Group on "The Spirit of Ta-pieh Mountains" set up by Xinyang Municipal Party Committee issued a communique, stating that "The Spirit of Ta-pieh Mountains" can be summarized as "adhering to beliefs, having a global perspective, unity, and serving as a spearhead", which highly epitomizes the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains. The spirit of Ta-pieh Mountains counts on the communication from mouth to mouth, and also calls for leaving a deep mark
on the spirit. A young college student in the new era represents the expectation and future of the country. Injecting the spirit of Ta-pieh Mountains into the college students' ideological and political education can not only meet the needs of the times, but also serves as a key means to encourage college students for self-improvement and realization of ideals.

On September 18, 2019, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out during his inspection in Henan, "The base areas of Henan, Anhui, and Hubei are major party building bases, the spirit of Ta-pieh Mountains, the Red Flag Canal, and the spirit of Jiao Yulu, etc., are all valuable spiritual assets of our party." Ta-pieh Mountains is characterized by wide distribution, abundant quantity, complete types, high popularity, and strong influence of the red cultural resources. The field and textual investigations show that the red resources of Ta-pieh Mountains are widely distributed in three provinces, six cities, and more than 30 counties. "National Red Tourism Classic Scenic Spots List" issued by our country indicates that the red cultural resources in the regions of Ta-pieh Mountains include the Tongbai Hero Memorial Hall in Yejia Dazhuang, Nanyang City, the Anhui Southwest Red Tourism Series Scenic Area, Ta-pieh Mountains Red Tourism Area in Huanggang City, Hubei Province, the Zhugou Revolution Memorial Hall in Zhugou Town, Queshan County, Zhumadian City, Henan Province, and the Xinyang Red Tourism Series Scenic Area, some of which have been listed as major cultural relics protection units at the local or national level, and have become national patriotic education bases. These red resources are not only rich and colorful, but also have profound historical significance. We are proud to say that Xinyang in Henan Province, is known as "birthplace of the Red Army" and "hometown of generals" due to its numerous revolutionary strongholds and a long-standing red culture. Xinyang functions as a key to constitute the anti-Japanese bases and liberated areas in Hubei, Henan, Anhui and Hubei in Ta-pieh Mountains, so this region became the core area of the Ta-pieh Mountains revolutionary base area with numerous revolutionary relics distributed during the New Democracy Revolution, such as Pingqiao District Jianshan Henan-Hubei Border Provincial Committee Guerrilla Birthplace, Former Site of the Fifth Division Headquarters of the New Fourth Army in Siwangshan, Shihe District, Site of Huaibin CCP Zhangzhuang Branch, Site of Liu and Deng's Army Crossing the Huai River in Xixian County, Memorial Hall of the Former Capital of the Hubei Henan Anhui Soviet Area in Xinxian County, Former Site of the Huangchuan Special Branch, Battle Site of the Huaigushi Red Army's Conquest of Sanhejian, Starting Place of the 25th Red Army's Long March in Tiepu Township, Luoshan, Former Site of the Guangshan Wang Dawan Conference, and Cave Group of the Red Army in Jingangtai, Shangcheng, etc. Apart from Xinyang region, the red cultural resources in Ta-pieh Mountain’s areas are numerous, rich in form, and have a profound educational significance, all of which are material and spiritual resources to provide college students with lively teaching materials for ideological and political education.

3. Ideological and Political Education Value of the Red Culture of Ta-pieh Mountains

General Secretary Xi Jinping requires us that we must prioritize moral education and people's development as a central link, and administer ideological and political actions through the entire education and learning process to facilitate the entire process and comprehensive education. The red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains epitomizes a combination of moral education and people's development, thus demonstrating a significance for ideological and political education.

Firstly, while giving full play to the crucial role of ideological and political course teachers in ideological and political education for university students, we should strengthen the construction of ideological and political courses, integrating red genes and revolutionary characteristics into ideological and political courses so that we can enhance the red cultural heritage and genes of ideological and political course teachers. The ideological and political education and the relevant curriculum teachers are a major force that is supposed to play a exemplary and leading role in upgrading the research of the spirit of the Red Revolution. Furthermore, it is imperative to fully utilize the role of other actors in political and knowledge education, political and knowledge cooperation,
and make joint efforts to inject the red spirit into the mind and soul and enhance the position and influence of ideological and political teachers in ideological and political education for college students. Here's a typical example, college counselors are the educators and managers of university students, and serve as key factors in the ideological and political activities of higher education institutions. From the perspective of enriching ideological and political teaching content and improving the effectiveness of ideological and political education, counselors can fill the gap in classroom ideological and political education. Outside the classroom, red culture can be brought into daily life from the classroom in practical activities and daily communication guided by theoretical knowledge in practical activities, cultivating students' interests, and improving the effectiveness of ideological and political education.

Secondly, the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains stands for a shining pearl among the cultural treasures of our country's red revolution, with extremely broad and profound cultural connotations. The ideological and political education of college students lays stress on the guidance and consolidation of the students' ideological direction and value orientation. In the meanwhile, college students who are contemporary youth, whose thoughts shine with the radiance of the times. Therefore, that the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains enriches and strengthens the ideological and political education of contemporary college students calls for us to uphold the foundation of education and inherit the red culture based on the principle of moral education, but it's also crucial to continuously innovate the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains, make it a symbol of the times, and stimulate the enthusiasm of young people through red ideology and political education.

Thirdly, the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains stemmed from the turbulent era, with its initial connotation and essential attribute tinged with the strong historical and contemporary characteristics, so it's also an excellent cultural crystallization in a special era. With the development of our society and the progress of social trends, we can easily find that the environment we are involved with is poles apart from what it used to be, and it is hard for the modern young students to strike a chord with the spirit of the Red Revolution. Currently, the red culture education for students in various universities mainly focuses on ideological and political courses, taught in large classes mainly by following textbooks. In this case, students are mostly subject to the passive inculcation, and are also set far apart from the Red Age, so it follows that the effective red education still awaits further enhancement. [3] Hence, the key to incorporating the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains into the ideological and political education of college students lies in improving the effectiveness of ideological and political education and improving direct education. On the one hand, it increases practical opportunities to experience the revolutionary spirit on the spot, so that students can develop a sense of immersion in the process of learning the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains. Practical learning differs from the students' passive acceptance of the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains in classrooms as it can better resonate with the revolutionary spirit of students, thus enhancing the effectiveness of ideological and political education, inspiring students to learn and improve innovative ways of knowledge transfer efficiency. Apart from the classroom teaching, it is also necessary to promote the construction of the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains on campus, and innovate in the dissemination of the red culture, ideology, and political education of Ta-pieh Mountains to improve the ideological and political structure and moral character construction of contemporary college students.

4. Internal Mechanism of Integrating the Red Culture of Ta-pieh Mountains into the Ideological and Political Education of College Students

The red resources of Ta-pieh Mountains have greatly upgraded the contents of the ideological and political education of higher education institutions. To fully integrate the red culture of Ta-pieh Mountains into the ideological and political education of college students, it is necessary to develop and apply them in the current ideological and political education system. It urgently requires the construction of an operational mechanism, incentive mechanism, and teacher development
mechanism for integrating the red resources of Ta-pieh Mountains into college students' ideological and political education from aspects, such as incentive policies, operation methods, and guarantee measures, etc.

To begin with, we aim to establish an operational mechanism for integrating the Red Resources of Ta-pieh Mountains into college students' ideological and political education by utilizing interactive and online training methods, as well as flexible and diverse assessment methods, etc. In addition to ideological and political education in the classroom, the current forms to complement ideological and political education in universities and colleges mainly focus on lecture reports and conference presentations. This type of report and presentation is extremely lacking in communication and exchange between teachers and students, and does not help stimulate students' initiative and learning enthusiasm. In terms of assessment methods, most college students who complete ideological and political education training mainly write reports on ideological analysis, which is simple and feasible, but relatively single for the standards, thus lacking its flexibility and diversity. Therefore, the party spirit education and training for college student party members in southern Henan universities is strongly promoted to strengthen the close connection between the speaker and the college student party members, increase interactive discussion processes, and prolong the time for answering questions; Students are encouraged to communicate with each other by using the internet technology, and enrich and improve the online learning and training content of college student party members. Universities in southern Henan are able to organize college student party members for conducting social practice, serving the society, and testing and examining their perseverance in the party spirit learning; New media technology can be utilized to classify and set up required courses, elective courses, etc., so that students can complete the assessment by taking enough class hours. Investment in teachers, funds, science and technology, and other aspects should be increased to ensure the red resources of Ta-pieh Mountains by establishing a mechanism and integrate them into efficient student party member education.

In the second place, the incentive mechanism is a proper pattern for integrating the red resources of Ta-pieh Mountains into ideological and political education for college students. In recent years, most universities have attached great importance to the investment of human and material resources in ideological and political education for college students. Some universities not only invite renowned scholars in the field of ideological and political education to give lectures, but also organize students to collectively visit and inspect patriotic education demonstration bases. They have also formulated a series of incentive measures, such as encouraging them to write investigation reports on modern revolutionary heroes, and producing short videos promoting red cultural resources, etc., and meanwhile, to enrich the content and improve the quality of ideological and political education, it's quite necessary to provide students with material and spiritual rewards. Our school is also one of the higher education institutions, which can draw on these effective practices, further improve the input of material and spiritual rewards, and fully utilize the political and cultural value of the red resources in Ta-pieh Mountains, thus greatly improving the red ideology and political education achievements of college students.

Thirdly, the red resources of Ta-pieh Mountains are integrated into the teacher development mechanism of ideological and political education for college students. The construction of ideological and political education teams is an important part of ideological and political work in universities, which should establish a team of ideological and political teachers with rich professional knowledge reserves and excellent teaching skills. In this connection, the selection of teaching staff in universities should set higher admission threshold, highly featuring professional experts, such as Marxist schools and history schools to create a backbone team of ideological and political education for college students; Furthermore, it's necessary to select a few part-time teachers as supplements and rear forces to polish up the ideological and political education. Plus, it is a must to take on experts and researchers with deep theoretical knowledge of ideological and political education and profound social practice experience, as well as party and government leaders, who will be specially invited experts nationwide; It's equally important to make full use of the high-quality resources of local society and delicately
select some local revolutionary veterans, old models, etc. as part-time explainers. Higher education institutions should ensure sufficient funding for ideological and political education, and continuously increase funding in this area. Universities should strictly carry out policies, such as "incorporating ideological and political education funds in fiscal budgets" and "incorporating ideological and political education funds in administering fees", and also raise work funds through multiple channels. Meanwhile, it's necessary to undertake a full investigation and set up a database to ensure the quantity of red resources in Ta-pieh Mountains. The material and intangible culture contained in the red resources of Ta-pieh Mountains should also be presented in digital form through digital collection, restoration and replication, virtual production, display, and dissemination, which will provide significant resources for the intellectual and political education and development of college students.

5. Practice Approach for Integrating the Red Culture of Ta-pieh Mountains into the Ideological and Political Education of College Students

Ta-pieh Mountains are rich in red resources highly featuring the profound educational significance and unique characteristics. Therefore, the development and application of red resources of Ta-pieh Mountains in teaching ideological and political courses on campus, extracurricular practical education, and extracurricular online learning should be deeply explored for providing college students with ideological and political education.

Firstly, it is imperative to strengthen the teaching research of the organic combination of Ta-pieh Mountains' red resources and education, and develop a series of red courses. The construction of teaching materials lays the foundation for ideological and political education, and professional academic research talents are cultivated to actively compile ideological and political education textbooks, such as "Blood-dyed Ta-pieh Mountains", "Biography of Wu Huanxian", and "Red Cultural Resources of Xinyang"; Great efforts should be made to continuously increase the number of red resource courses in Ta-pieh Mountains, enhance the strength to create high-quality red courses, and develop and construct theoretical elective courses, such as "Xinyang Red Ballads", "Founding General Xu Shiyou", "Liu-Deng's Great Army Leaps Thousands of Miles into Ta-pieh Mountains", "Research on the Spirit of Ta-pieh Mountains", and "Women's Platoon on the Diamond Platform", etc.; The dance is set in Xinyang during the War of Resistance Against Japan, depicting the heroic dance of Red Army soldiers called "Rhododendron". The role of ideological and political education, which is the major mode of ideological and political education for college students, has been fully exploited.

Secondly, young students are nourished by red resources through vivid and infectious red education practice activities in the field of off campus practical education. During themed party day activities, revolutionary commemorative days, organization of extracurricular activities, and summer college students' social practice, students engage in practical activities on various themes, such as "Telling stories about values and realizing the dreams of young people", "Adhering to the red spirit, promoting red traditions", "Not forgetting original intention, keeping the mission in mind", "Recalling revolutionary heroes, and promoting red genes". To bring students under the influence of red culture and revolutionary spirit, we must make adequate arrangements for red education practice courses. Let us say, we instruct college students to inherit the excellent revolutionary spirit, carry forward the excellent revolutionary spirit, look back on revolutionaries, listen attentively to the heroic acts of revolutionary party members, eat the food of the Red Army, place ourselves in hard times of the new democratic revolution led by the Chinese People's Communist Party, promote the excellent revolutionary spirit to forge ahead with a mission. Students are organized to visit places, such as the Revolutionary History Memorial Hall on the Theme Days of the Party and Revolution Memorial Days to carry out activities, such as "Brushing up the Swearing for Joining the Party" and "Reciting the rights and obligations of party members" so that they can review the education of revolutionary beliefs and red cultural resources. When conducting the summer social practice for college students, we take initiatives to guide students to voluntarily participate in lectures and work as tourist guides.
at revolutionary memorials, revolutionary base areas, and other red education bases so that promoting revolutionary stories and revolutionary spirit will truly implement ideological and political education, making ideological and political education more effective.

Last but not the least, we should make full use of online platforms to encourage students to actively learn online and spread the red cultural resources of Ta-pieh Mountains in terms of extracurricular online learning. Students are encouraged to use microblog, WeChat official account, microblog and other new media to display to the world the red stories, red movies, red TV dramas, red songs of Dabie Mountain, as well as their own creations, performances, Videos, songs and others. [4] Students are positively directed to carry out online competitions, such as reciting the red stories of Ta-pieh Mountains, singing red songs, and offering sacrifices to the revolutionary heroes of Ta-pieh Mountains so that they can subtly inherit the red genes and cultivate their ideological character.

6. Conclusion

We must explore the rich connotations of the red resources in Ta-pieh Mountains and combine them with ideological and political education for college students, which not only has significant value in ideological and political education, but also enriches and improves the theoretical research system for utilizing the red resources in Ta-pieh Mountains. College students, as inheritors and successors of the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, are supposed to continuously carry forward the spirit of the Red Culture of Ta-pieh Mountains, thus cultivating values and ideals, and also enhancing their cultural confidence and spiritual motivation.

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