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A Literature Rview on the Critical Path of Marxist Political Economics

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Abstract

Criticism is Marx's approach to social reality, and according to the Chinese and foreign literature review,we find that philosopher-political-economic criticism is the signpost of Marx's approach to social reality. From philosophical criticism to political criticism, from political criticism to economic criticism, is the development path of Marx's critical theory, thanks to criticism, Marxism can be formed, developed and improved. Marx left many manuscripts and works to the academic community to provide a rich theoretical legacy, in this sense Marx is no regrets. In the changing and developing environment, Marx's thought and career have been inherited, improved and developed, which is supported by the vast academic research at home and abroad.

Keywords

Karl Marx; Critical Path; Political Economics.

1. Introduction

From philosophical criticism to political criticism, from political criticism to economic criticism, is the development path of Marx's critical theory, thanks to criticism, Marxism can be formed, developed and improved. What is "criticism"? Marx said in the struggle against this system, criticism is not the passion of reason, but the reason of passion. It's not a scalpel, it's a weapon. Why focus on Marx's critique of political economy? Through the critique of political economy, Marx shows us a complete picture closely related to the capitalist mode of production. In the process of criticizing the theory and reality of political economy, the true face of the relations of production and exchange corresponding to the capitalist mode of production is confirmed, various social relations concealed under the materialistic relations are demonstrated, and the fundamental contradiction that constitutes the disintegration of capitalism and the revolutionary factors that promote the emergence of scientific socialism are found from the inside of the capitalist system. This constitutes a decisive critique of capitalism. Economy is not the first field that Marx paid attention to. Marx tried to enter the field of political economy from the principle of ontological reform of philosophical foundation, established historical materialism as the philosophical foundation of political economy theory research, took "real man" as the starting point of theory, broke through the limitation of ideology, and based on social relations, communication activities and other human survival roots. It has been more than 160 years since the academic circle read, translated and studied Marx's criticism of political economy in the mature period, and then inherited and developed Marxist economic theory.

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2. Literature Review

2.1. Foreign Literature Review

Due to the different positions and methods held by various researchers, as well as the gap between the original meaning of Marx's text and the understanding of researchers, scholars from various countries have different opinions on the criticism of Marx's political economy, forming their own distinctive theoretical achievements.

2.2. The Methods Used in Marx's Critique of Political Economy

Interpreting the methods used in Marx's critique of political economy. First, "Critical Method of daily Analysis". Scholars represented by Terrell Carver (2009) believe that Marxism should be regarded as a basic proposition with practical connotations, and Marx's writing texts must be regarded as important historical events and connected with other historical events. In the method of daily analysis, Marx's critique of political economy focuses on the daily use of language in capitalism and commodity producing society. Marx's critique of political economy is devoted to explaining the phenomenon of language, and finally to revealing and exploring the realm of logical and speculative conceptual relations. Second, Critical Method of Political Economy. Scholars represented by Iring Fetscher (2009) believed that the purpose of Marx's study of economics was always the criticism of political economy, and the object of Marx's criticism of political economy was the capitalist mode of production. In the analysis of the interpretation of the critique of political economy, Marx's critique of political economy shows the dimension of ontological criticism; The theory of Marx's critique of political economy points to absolute freedom. Third, Critical Method of Internal Relationship Philosophy. Scholars represented by Bertell Ollman (2003) believed that Marx's texts and thoughts contained the philosophy of internal relations, that is, Marx regarded things as relations, and understood the relevant concepts of political economy as abstract and unilateral relations of concrete, vivid and established wholes. In the analysis of the interpretation of the philosophical critique of internal relations, the basic method of "abstract process" is needed to deconstruct Marx's critique of political economy. The fundamental theme of deconstructing Marx's critique of political economy is "man in relation". Fourth, "Concrete Dialectical Critique". Scholars represented by Karel Kosik (1976) believe that "totality" is still the center of Marxism, and Marx's criticism of political economy can show vitality because of "concrete totality". In the analysis of the interpretation of concrete dialectical criticism, the key clue to deconstruct Marx's critique of political economy lies in "the relationship between science and philosophy"; It criticizes four ways of interpreting the critique of political economy and deconstructs Marx's critique of political economy with three principles. It is believed that "concrete totality" is the fundamental method to interpret the critique of political economy. Fifth, "The Method of historical Exposition". Scholars represented by Karl Korsch.

(1989) believed that Marxist philosophy had an important position and function in Marxist theory, and tried to explain that Marx's political economy research in the middle and late period was a more comprehensive and profound critique of philosophy by restoring the revolutionary significance of Marx's political economy. This critique realizes the change of the subject of economic theory research on the basis of the inheritance and development of classical political economy, completely negates the bourgeois mode of production, and reflects the revolutionary position of the proletariat. In the analysis of the interpretation of historical exposition method, it is answered that the real difficulty in understanding Marx's political economy is not whether it has a certain scientific form, nor whether it embodies a certain value position, but the relationship between the two, that is, what is the relationship between Marx's economic research with obvious positive color and philosophy in the middle and late period.

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2.3. The New Dimensions of Marx's Criticism of Political Economy

Research on the new dimensions of Marx's criticism of political economy. First, New research on Marx's labor theory of value. Scholars have tried to use mathematical and physical models in the study of Marx's labor theory of value to make its logical deduction more accurate. On the one hand, scholars use the Sraffa theoretical system (Piero Sraffa, 1963) to promote the study of labor theory of value while always adhering to the position and method of Marx. On the other hand, some scholars tend to challenge or even deny Marx's labor theory of value, and try to re-reveal or abandon the labor value and surplus value theory to study the exploitation problem. Some scholars advocate to combine Marx's value theory with the general economic equilibrium model of German economist John von Neumann to establish the so-called "Marxist-Neumann" system, which is regarded as a development of Marx's economics (Naoki Yoshihara, 2016). Some scholars also use the econometric model of modern economics to discuss the relationship between the Marxist-Sraffa model and fixed capital and Cambridge equation, and use the empirical analysis of Chinese data as the practical application of the theoretical model (Yoriaki Fujimori and Bangxi Li, 2014). Second, A new interpretation of Marxist labor theory of value. Some scholars have tried to explain the labor theory of value with neoclassical economics, arguing that living labor creates new value, but there is a causal relationship between living labor and net product after deducting intermediate material consumption. By analyzing the quantitative relationship between paid labor and unpaid labor, between total wages and total profits, and by emphasizing the relationship between money and labor practice can reconstruct and reconstruct Marx's labor theory of value (Duncan Free , et al.,2008) . There are also scholars who oppose the Sraffa System School's view and criticism of Marx's labor theory of value, and believe that the concept of time is crucial in the analysis of labor value. It plays an important role in The study of transformation (Simon Mohun , et al.,2014). Third, New research on the critical ecological issues of political economy. Marx pointed out in Capital that labor is a process between man and nature, which is a process of adjusting and controlling the material transformation between man and nature through the intermediary of man's own activities. From the dimension of ecology and sustainable development, scholars use the position and method of Marx's political economy criticism to analyze the ecological environment problems and dilemmas faced by current capitalist countries: He believes that the accumulation and growth of capital are extremely anti-ecological and have the nature of continuous expansion, while Marx examines the dual environmental crisis generated by capitalism, the crisis of human development and the crisis of capital accumulation (Paul Brukett, 2014) ; It is believed that contemporary capitalism is already a system integrating economy, politics, justice and society to accumulate wealth, which is no longer the development situation of early capitalism. This circular mechanism must be broken to promote the sustainable development of ecological environment; It believes that mass production, consumption and abandoned treadmill production are rooted in monopoly capitalist production with high energy consumption. By constantly replacing labor and producing more economic surplus, producers' wealth is further accumulated, but more serious problems of insufficient effective demand are generated and more contradictions are accumulated(John Bellamy Foster, 2012).

2.4. New Dimensional Critique Based on Political Economy Critique

New dimensional critique based on political economy critique. ① Research and criticism of contemporary capitalism. Some scholars take the contemporary capitalist economic crisis as the breakthrough point: they define the capitalist system as financial monopoly capitalism, and believe that the financialization of capitalism is a major feature of the system of Western countries, which is reflected in the fact that the profits created by social capital are more occupied by financial capital, thus promoting the strength of capitalist financial monopoly power ; Although the contemporary capitalist crisis is manifested as a crisis in the financial

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sector, the main reason is that the basic contradiction of the capitalist system itself cannot overcome the opposition between the socialization of production and private ownership. More scholars understand the characteristics of globalization, diversification and instability through the analysis of contemporary financial capitalism. Through the analysis of transnational production, class and state, they analyze the transnational practice of class and economic organization, and reveal and criticize the operation mechanism of contemporary capitalism and the new manifestation of global hegemony; Using a large number of empirical data to explain the Inevitable widening gap between the rich and the Poor caused by the capitalist system; The key factor of today's capitalism is not free market, but monopoly, and we need to be vigilant against the technological, digital and virtual means of capitalist financial expansion ; Today's capitalism is transformed into a kind of casino capitalism, with highly speculative, risky and uncertain nature becoming one of the main characteristics of capitalism .② Research and criticism on the future of capitalism. Some scholars insist that the capitalist system still has the potential to self-repair and adjust, but more scholars believe that socialism will become an alternative plan for the future of capitalism. Many scholars have affirmed China's economic system and development model, believing that it is an effective program that can be learned by the world. The superiority of China's economic system since the reform and opening up provides countermeasure support and spiritual inspiration for the adjustment, improvement and transformation of today's capitalist economic system. There are also scholars who believe that the risks brought by the characteristics of capitalist globalization should be solved by building a global governance system, and the disadvantages of contemporary capitalism should be effectively avoided by mutual recognition of the globalization program. ③Research and criticism on the technical dominant form of contemporary capitalism. Scholars believe that the expansion of financial capitalism achieves the purpose of capital seeking profit through various external technical manifestations: Some scholars analyze capitalism by constructing pricing pragmatism, and use the three value forms of standard form, capital form and collection form to correspond to the three economic industries of industry, finance and luxury respectively, emphasizing the uniqueness and importance of luxury economy, so as to strengthen the criticism of contemporary capitalism ; Some have described the new development of contemporary capitalism by using the concept of "general intelligence" in the Economic Manuscripts of 1857-1858, which argues that this additional derivative of immaterial labor is a dominant power over the individual .④A critique of the study of spatial production in the nontechnical expansion of contemporary capitalism. Spatial production is a general summary of the specific operation mode of contemporary financial capitalism for global expansion and accelerated accumulation. The theory of spatial production explains the meta-philosophical paradigm of capitalist urban problems from the spatial dimension, and opens up a unique way to criticize capitalist urban spatial production. With the development of spatial production theory, spatial political economy has gradually become a prominent science: Some scholars expanded the traditional legal concept of Marx's historical materialism, pioneering the new paradigm of "history-geographical materialism", and recognized the same process of the spatial expansion of contemporary capital and the generalization of capitalist logic. In addition, it is found that there is an inherent paradox between expansion saturation and expansion desire in the expansion of capital space itself.

Scholars around the world focus on the social reality, learn from the basic theory of Marx, return to the works and manuscripts of Marx's criticism of political economy, and thus launch a powerful critique of the social reality. To a certain extent, these studies have expanded the vision of Marx's criticism of political economy and enriched and developed the theoretical system of Marxist political economy. The perspective and method of deconstructing the critique of political economy by scholars from various countries are enlightening, but there are also many problems exposed, which we should take seriously.

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2.5. Domestic Literature Review

With the introduction of relevant works and manuscripts of Marx's criticism of political economy into China, the translation and research of Marx's criticism of political economy have been increasingly mature, and the achievements of relevant literature have shown the characteristics of large research team, many achievements, wide scope and deep theory.

2.6. The Basic Points of View

Sorting out the basis and basic points of view. The theoretical investigation of capital, commodity, money and labor in the critique of political economy in the mature period: As for capital, Wang Dingding's research confirms that the essence of capital in the context of Marx is "objectified labor that exists for itself", and the generation of "value for itself" is the product of labor becoming the objective existence of capital. Hao Shuqin believes that Marx's critical thought of capital goes beyond the old materialism to explain the world, not to simply transform the world apart from theoretical interpretation, but to contain the dialectical unity of explaining the world and transforming the world; As for commodities, Yang Haifeng discussed commodities from the perspective of philosophy, responded to why commodities became the object of Marx's philosophy, and analyzed the transformation of commodities from quality to quantity. Guan Baichun believes that labor is the living factor of production and the commodity in the market of living factors, which leads to the labor commodity theory, which is a major theoretical breakthrough and innovation in the research focus of socialist economic theory ; As for money, Yang Xingye and Zou Guangwen read Marx's essence of money based on the Economic Manuscript of 1857-1858, and clarified its core problem-the separation, separation, opposition and contradiction between the special nature of commodities and the general sociality of commodities.Yuan Jinqiu investigated money in the perspective of ideological history, and divided the evolution of Marx's money thought into three stages: "The essence of money alienation", "the essence of money social relations" and "scientific overview".

Research on methodology, epistemology and ontology. The research on the methodology of political economy criticism has always been an important work in the academic circle. Some scholars point out that materialist dialectics is the fundamental method of Marx's political economy criticism ; It holds that Marx's critique of political economy reveals the relationship between human beings from the relationship between things, and its method is ontology ; The research methods of Marx's political economy criticism are divided into the analysis of production mode, the affirmation-negative method, and the abstraction-concrete method.

2.7. Research on Internal Logic

Scholars believe that it is necessary to study the internal logic of the critique of political economy with the help of complete and accurate classical text materials. With the deepening of the research on Capital, a theoretical field was formed in China. On the other hand, it is the study on the logical evolution of Marx's criticism of political economy. Tian Pengying and Jiang Yaodong believed that as a complete theoretical system, the internal logic of Marx's critique of political economy is composed of labor logic and capital logic, which are coherent and inseparable, and lay a solid theoretical foundation for Marx's lofty mission of seeking liberation for human beings ; Zhang Xiong sorted out the ideological history of Marx's critical political economy and tried to start from six stages and six core ideological propositions, including the interpretation of propositions such as civil society determining the state, the opposition between labor and capital, and the opposition between idealism and practicality.

In general, Chinese scholars' critical research on Marx's political economy shows the following characteristics: gradually from academic research to applied research, the strength of popularization research is gradually strengthened, the research vision closely follows the

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development trend of international Marx scholars, and the depth, breadth and social influence of research are strengthened.

3. Enlightenment

Through literature review, we intend to clarify the background for future research on the logical system of Marx's critique of political economy in the mature period. Text analysis method. It is necessary to rely on the classical texts of Marx to sort out the logic system of political economy criticism constructed by Marx in the mature period. Textual analysis can "reveal the grammatical, rhetorical, and narrative structures that create value and add meaning." The interpretation of classical texts is the starting point for inheriting and developing Marx's thought. "Understanding the horse by horse" is still the only way to "approach" and "return" to Marx. Only on the basis of fully understanding the core of Marx's thought, we can grasp the ideological essence behind the basic terms and principles of Marx's theory.

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