

Analysis of the Political Mobilization Experience of the Communist Party of China during the Anti-Japanese War

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Abstract

During the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, the Communist Party of China insisted on the unity of the party's leadership and the consciousness of the masses, and the coordination between mass organizations and political power construction. The strong fighting spirit and the spiritual strength of the whole nation in the war of resistance have laid a solid ideological foundation, mass foundation and leadership foundation for winning the war of resistance. It is an important magic weapon to win the victory of the war of resistance. At the historical moment of national peril, the Communist Party of China resolutely carried the banner of resistance against Japan and led the whole nation to participate in the war to defend the homeland and the country. The high effectiveness of political mobilization is still worthy of in-depth study and summary and promotion to this day.

Keywords

Anti-Japanese War; The Chinese Communist Party; Political Mobilization.

1. Introduction

The so-called political mobilization refers to "the subject of political leadership induces and persuades the object of political leadership with its own values and beliefs, wins the approval and support of the led, and obtains the voluntary obedience and active cooperation of the led, so as to realize the political decision-making regulations, goals and tasks." [1] It can be said that the Anti-Japanese National United Front formed during the Anti-Japanese War was an unprecedented political mobilization movement. During the Anti-Japanese War, the CPC Central Committee attached great importance to the work of political mobilization, and put forward many ideas and theories with distinctive features and rich connotations based on the actual situation in China at that time. The Communist Party of China combines theory with practice, consolidates the mass foundation, exerts the power of the masses, strengthens the determination of the masses to win the war of resistance, and leads the war of resistance to its final victory. Analyzing the ideological connotation and strategies and methods of the Chinese Communist Party's political mobilization movement during the Anti-Japanese War has very important practical significance for carrying out mass line education and practice activities in the new era and realizing the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

2. The Historical Inevitability of Political Mobilization during the Anti-Japanese War

As the greatest Patriotic War in the history of the Chinese nation, the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, the disparity of national power between China and Japan, the complexity of distribution in time and space, and the confrontation between aggression and anti-aggression ideology are all organized by the Communist Party of China with the Anti-Japanese United Front as the core. The national political mobilization movement provides an inevitable historical opportunity.

2.1. The Japanese Imperialist War of Aggression Against China Caused a Serious National Crisis

Since the Lugouqiao Incident on July 7, 1937, Japanese imperialism began a full-scale war of aggression against China. As a country with a very powerful military at that time, Japan far surpassed China in terms of weapon quality, economic foundation, and organizational capabilities. Coupled with its strong aggressive policies, Chinese society fell into an unprecedented crisis. The ethnic conflict between China and Japan far surpassed the domestic class conflict and became the main conflict that needed to be resolved in Chinese society at that time. China is faced with a tragic situation of wars, homelessness, starvation and poverty. Therefore, defending the homeland and expelling the Japanese invaders became the most important tasks of China at that time, and saving the nation and the country became the inevitable theme of the times, and it was also a historical responsibility that all Chinese people must bear. How to win the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and how to unite the people of the whole country to the outside world have become the most important issues facing the country. It is also this social background that has brought historical opportunities to the Communist Party of China, promoted the party's political mobilization, took root among the people, and wrote the epic Anti-Japanese War legend.

2.2. The KMT is Weak and Incompetent to Intensify Domestic Conflicts

General Secretary Xi Jinping once said: "After modern times, an important reason for the failure of the Chinese people's previous anti-aggression wars is the corruption and incompetence of the political ruling group and the weakness and laxity within the nation." [2] It can be seen that under the background of the tyrannical invasion of China by the Japanese army, the passive defense policy pursued by the Kuomintang government of "to resist foreign affairs must first be pacified at home" not only provided opportunities for Japanese imperialism to plunder China's land, but also suppressed the power of the Communist Party in the country. The "Quick Victory Theory" and "National Subjugation Theory" held by the Kuomintang also accelerated the fall of China's territory. Apart from the problems of the Kuomintang's political strategy, its class weakness is also very obvious. As the bourgeoisie, on the one hand, they are accustomed to suppressing the masses, on the other hand, they fear the masses and dare not use the power of the masses. They can only rely on the imperialist forces as their own support. The Communist Party of China, on the other hand, grew up under the fire of the Chinese Communist Party, which regards the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation as its highest mission, and has the firmest determination to defend national independence, safeguard national interests, and resist foreign aggression. Under the call of the party, an anti-Japanese national united front of all parties, strata and forces was established, and a correct military strategy and strategic deployment different from the Kuomintang were formulated, and with tenacious will, the people were finally led to victory.

2.3. The Accumulated Experience of the Party Lays the Foundation for Victory

During the first cooperation between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party, the Chinese Communists realized: "Revolutionary war is a war of the masses. Only by mobilizing the masses can war be waged, and only by relying on the masses can war be waged." [3] From the founding of the Communist Party to the eve of the Anti-Japanese War, the Chinese Communists Having gone through countless ups and downs and tribulations, I have summed up valuable experience. These experiences have made the Communist Party soberly realize in the face of Japanese imperialist aggression that if a poor and weak China wants to defeat the mighty Japanese imperialism, it must conduct a general mobilization of the people across the country, Widely and deeply mobilize the masses, organize the masses, and arm the masses. Because of this, Mao Zedong considered political mobilization "too important" in "On Protracted War" [4], and called

political mobilization "a great thing"[4]. Due to the Japanese army's inexorable plundering of China and the "three-light" policy of burning, killing and looting, the Communist Party of China attached great importance to the work of political mobilization in the War of Resistance. It mobilized the enthusiasm and initiative of the people of all ethnic groups in the country to participate in the war of resistance, and laid a solid mass foundation, ideological foundation and leadership foundation for the final victory of the war.

3. Experiences and Practices of the Political Mobilization of the Communist Party of China during the Anti-Japanese War

During the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, the Communist Party of China, on the basis of inheriting the party's excellent traditional experience in political mobilization, closely combined the complex changes in the war situation, the scope and characteristics of mobilization targets, and the comprehensive expansion of the party's tasks, actively innovated the methods and methods of political mobilization, and comprehensively improved The effective results of political mobilization laid a solid foundation for winning the war.

3.1. Adhere to the Unity of the Leadership of the Party and the Consciousness of the Masses

The leadership of the Communist Party of China was an important factor in the success of political mobilization during the Anti-Japanese War. The party's leadership and its political mobilization must be truly accepted, recognized, and consciously practiced by the masses, and it must also depend on the masses' self-consciousness. The formation of this kind of conscious awareness is due to the severe situation faced by the all-out war of resistance, which inspired the patriotic enthusiasm of all the people to save their country and protect the country, and then make all forces in the country soberly realize that only the whole people can be mobilized to carry out the national war of resistance. to defeat Japanese imperialism. It can be said that the war of resistance against Japanese aggression has promoted the consciousness and unity of the Chinese people to a degree unmatched by all the great struggles of the Chinese people in the past hundred years. This process is the "historical process of the awakening of the Chinese nation" and the "historical process of the spiritual sublimation of the Chinese nation" that reached a new height during the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression proposed by Xi Jinping. Facts of historical development have fully proved that under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, by stimulating the active participation, effective recognition and conscious practice of the masses, the whole nation has been inspired to fight to the end and the anti-Japanese war to the end; Gathering together the majestic force of united will to fight against foreign aggression, compose a chapter of patriotism that shakes the world and weeps ghosts and gods.

3.2. Adhere to the Integration of National Revolution and Democratic Revolution

During the Anti-Japanese War, China faced multiple oppressions by imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism, and ethnic and class contradictions were extremely prominent. The duality of social contradictions determines that political mobilization must organically combine national revolution and democratic revolution. On the one hand, the Communist Party of China should implement the political mobilization of various revolutionary classes of the whole nation in order to realize the "expulsion of Japanese imperialism out of China", and then through the propaganda and education of nationalist policies, awaken the nationalist spirit of the Chinese people and realize the effective national power. integration, and strive for the great victory of the national revolution. On the other hand, the Communist Party of China should carry out effective political mobilization for the realization of "the establishment of a free,

democratic and equal New China", and then through the propaganda and education of the Party's new democratic revolutionary program, attract more advanced elements to join the revolutionary cause and contribute to the democratic revolution. Gather strength. Carrying out political mobilization that integrates the national revolution and the democratic revolution has enabled the Communist Party of China to always stand at the forefront of the development of the times, and educate and mobilize the masses with the most advanced revolutionary ideals, which has laid a solid foundation for the victory of the Anti-Japanese War.

3.3. Adhere to the Combination of Thought Leadership and Interest Integration

Marx once said: "Everything that people strive for is related to their interests." [5] "Without common interests, there will be no unified purpose, let alone unified action." [6] To organize and carry out political mobilization, the first and foremost is to integrate interests and form the common pursuit of interests of members of society, so that they "must at least temporarily interact with each other in terms of their own interests, their own living conditions, and their own living conditions." closely together" [7]. During the Anti-Japanese War, the Communist Party of China attached great importance to the positive effect of interest integration on political mobilization, and used mobilizing economic and political policies as an intermediary, such as rent reduction and interest reduction, and the "Three-Three System", etc. The interest distribution relationship has maximized the attraction, centripetal force and cohesion within the nation. At the same time, the Communist Party of China attaches great importance to ideological guidance through propaganda, agitation and national education, and constantly improves the political cognition, judgment and practical ability of all the people, and stimulates the political emotion and patriotic awareness of participating in the war of resistance. Practice has fully proved that adhering to ideological guidance, correcting the direction of interest integration, and insisting on solidifying ideology and guiding results through interest integration is an important way for the Communist Party of China to carry out political mobilization.

3.4. Adhere to Method Innovation and Focus on Practical Results

The political mobilization carried out by the Communist Party of China is an important magic weapon to win the victory of the Anti-Japanese War. Regarding how to conduct political mobilization, Mao Zedong emphasized in "On Protracted War": "Rely on word of mouth, rely on leaflets, rely on newspapers and books, rely on dramas and movies, rely on schools, rely on people's organizations, and rely on cadres." To be able to be in-depth, solid and effective, flexible and diverse methods must be adopted. To this end, our party has focused on adopting various means such as interest-driven, propaganda and agitation, national education, and integration of forces to flexibly carry out political mobilization, which has achieved good results. After long-term practice and exploration, our party has carried out highly targeted political mobilization in close combination with reality. The first is to link the actual situation of the war, educate the military and civilians to prepare for a protracted war, and establish the correct ideological understanding of the military and civilians; The tasks of our party, our army and the people of the whole country in different periods put forward specific political mobilization goals, tasks and strategies; the third is to distinguish the characteristics and ideological realities of members of different strata, carry out targeted political mobilization, and effectively mobilize the masses of all strata in the war of resistance. Enthusiasm, unite all forces that can be united. The method innovation on the basis of focusing on practical results has effectively ensured the actual results of the political mobilization of the Communist Party of China.

3.5. Adhere to the Coordination between Mass Organizations and Political Power Construction

During the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, the development of political mobilization by the Chinese Communist Party not only paid attention to the mobilization power of mass organizations, but also paid attention to providing a strong political guarantee for mobilization through political power construction. On the one hand, the characteristics of mass organizations such as extensiveness, closeness to the people, and infiltration make their mobilization propositions easier for the masses to understand, accept and recognize, and thus become an important force on which the Chinese Communist Party relies on political mobilization. Mao Zedong pointed out in the article "How the Township Soviet Union Works": "The Township Soviet is the basic organization of the Soviet, the level closest to the masses, and the organ that directly leads the masses to carry out various revolutionary tasks of the Soviet. ... The direction of work should be towards the speed that can be closest to the masses, can give full play to the enthusiasm and creativity of the masses, can mobilize the masses to perform Soviet services, and can best achieve the speed of task completion." [8] The main form is that mass organizations, as auxiliary forces for political mobilization, worked closely together to provide a strong organizational guarantee for the Chinese Communist Party to carry out political mobilization during the Anti-Japanese War.

4. The Outstanding Achievements of the Chinese Communist Party's Political Mobilization during the Anti-Japanese War

As early as 1938, Mao Zedong pointed out profoundly: "This issue of political mobilization of the military and the people is too important. The reason why we repeat this point over and over again is that without this point there will be no victory. There are not many others. Necessary things are of course no victory, but this is the most basic condition for victory." In this sense, the political mobilization led and carried out by the Communist Party of China made an indelible contribution to the final victory of the Anti-Japanese War.

4.1. Laid a Solid Mass Foundation for the Victory of the Anti-Japanese War

After the full-scale outbreak of the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, ethnic contradictions rose to become the main contradictions in Chinese society. Whether the enthusiasm of the general public to participate in the war of resistance can be mobilized to the greatest extent has become a key factor in determining the outcome of the war. In November 1938, Nie Rongzhen pointed out when talking about the people's situation in North China: "Politically speaking, this region, in the long historical development process, was more special than other places due to the dual oppression of the old backward forces and imperialism. It seems backward. The people's political life is backward, they have no experience of struggle, and their culture is blocked, which has resulted in a considerable conservativeness and backwardness in politics. The general public, with regard to social reform, shows isolation and indifference, and is full of conservative concepts unique to an agricultural society." [9] The nature of the Kuomintang ruling group determined that it could not lead the Chinese people in an effective war of resistance, could not effectively mobilize the power of the people, and lacked sufficient willingness and ability to mobilize the masses, which objectively created a rather unfavorable external environment for political mobilization. Faced with the reality of the rise and fall of the nation and the survival of the country, the Chinese Communists put political mobilization as the central political task at that time, and advocated in-depth political mobilization of the people. Practice has proved that the political mobilization led by our party has achieved great success and laid a solid mass foundation for the victory of the Anti-Japanese War.

4.2. Laying a Solid Ideological Foundation for the Victory of the Anti-Japanese War

During the Anti-Japanese War, political mobilization played an important role in arousing people's consciousness and liberating people's minds. Constrained by traditional Chinese political culture and the characteristics of agricultural society, the Chinese people's political and national consciousness is very weak. Mao Zedong clearly recognized in "On Protracted War" that "people in remote areas who cannot hear the sound of cannons still live quietly there." There will be no victory in the War of Resistance, and there will be no national awakening without extensive political mobilization. In Mao Zedong's view, "Before the Anti-Japanese War, there was no political mobilization for the Anti-Japanese War. This is a major flaw in China, and the enemy has already lost. After the Anti-Japanese War, political mobilization is also very uncommon, let alone in-depth." Therefore, our party The primary task of political mobilization is to "tell the army and the people the political purpose of the war. The political purpose of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression is to 'drive out Japanese imperialism and establish a new China of freedom and equality'. This purpose must be communicated to all the military and civilians. Created an upsurge of resistance against Japan, and made tens of millions of people unite to contribute everything to the war." History has fully proved that through targeted political mobilization, the Chinese Communist Party made the people realize the purpose of the War of Resistance, liberated the people's minds, and laid a solid ideological foundation for the victory of the War of Resistance.

4.3. Provided a Solid Leadership Force for the Victory of the Anti-Japanese War

During the Anti-Japanese War, the greatest achievement of political mobilization was that our party made itself the core of the support and support of the broad masses of the people through this method, so that our party gained the widest range of public recognition since the founding of the party. Through timely and effective political mobilization, the masses of workers and peasants participated in political life for the first time as political subjects, and united these masses closely around themselves, becoming firm supporters and supporters of the party's cause. As some scholars have pointed out: "With the active participation of the broadest members of society, the Communist Party of China, which has gained the subjectivity of the political development process, has consolidated its dominance in the political development process of China, and will be the winner of its career success. In the anti-Japanese base areas, except for the vast majority of workers, all patriotic organizations and groups exist legally and are protected. When the general gentry, celebrities and anti-Japanese ladies are unwilling to join the National Salvation Association or other mass organizations, they can join the Anti-Japanese Support Association and fulfill their sacred duty of resisting Japan." [11] The broadness and openness of this political participation class, which laid the social foundation for the struggle against the enemy and the development of democratic politics in the anti-Japanese base areas. In this process, the Communist Party of China has taken the initiative in political life, enabling the general public to have a comprehensive and profound understanding of the party's political program and political tasks, winning the support of the people for the development and growth of our party, and laying the foundation for the victory of the Anti-Japanese War. a solid leadership foundation.

5. Epilogue

Xi Jinping pointed out: "Standing at a new historical starting point, when we commemorate the great victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, we must remember the history, warn the future, and mobilize the whole party, the whole army, and the people of all ethnic groups in the country to be more energetic and promising. To strive for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation." To realize

the "two centenary goals" and realize the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, we must fully draw on the experience and practices of the Communist Party of China's political mobilization during the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, and give full play to the The positive role of political mobilization, adhere to the leadership of the party to ensure the correct direction, guide the value orientation with great goals, demonstrate the care of the times with reform and innovation, and enhance the effectiveness of the masses consciously, and constantly condense the will and strength of the people of all ethnic groups in the country into Chinese characteristics in the great process of socialism.

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