

The Contemporary Development of the Marxist World History Theory based on the Concept of Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

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Abstract

As globalization continues to deepen and human society evolves amid multiple uncertainties, the holistic and interconnected thinking inherent in Marxist world history theory remains crucially significant. The concept of a community with a shared future for mankind, rooted in contemporary global realities, inherits the core essence of Marxist world history theory while innovatively addressing issues like division, opposition, and conflicts in global development. This article examines the theoretical challenges faced by Marxist world history in today's globalized context, explores how the concept of a community with a shared future expands Marxist theory across theoretical, practical, and value dimensions, and interprets its innovative approaches to promoting collective human development. By reshaping global development frameworks, this concept establishes a paradigm of collaborative practice that highlights shared human values, achieving groundbreaking advancements in Marxist world history theory. These insights provide critical intellectual support for addressing contemporary human development challenges.

Keywords

Marxist Theory of World History; Community with a Shared Future for Mankind; Contemporary Development; Globalization; Cultural Exchange.

1. Introduction

Marxist world history theory reveals the developmental law of human society evolving from fragmented isolation to holistic interconnection, providing a scientific theoretical perspective for understanding the course of human social evolution. In the contemporary globalization process, the trend of extensive interconnection and mutual dependence has become increasingly prominent, while simultaneously giving rise to numerous global challenges. Traditional development paradigms and cognitive frameworks struggle to adapt to the complex and ever-changing world order. The concept of a community with a shared future for mankind, grounded in profound insights into contemporary global trends, deeply integrates Marxist world history theory with current realities. It outlines a systematic blueprint for humanity's future development, clarifies the core tenets of Marxist world history theory, and elucidates the inheritance and innovation relationship between the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind and this theoretical framework. By exploring its contemporary expansion of Marxist world history theory, we can not only deepen our understanding of the contemporary value of Marxist theory but also provide theoretical foundations and practical pathways for advancing the common progress of human society.

2. The Core Connotation of Marxist World History Theory

2.1. The Formation Logic and Essential Determination of World History

Marxist world history theory demonstrates that global historical development is not an organic formation but an inevitable outcome of productive forces reaching specific developmental stages. This process is deeply intertwined with the expansion of capitalist production systems. As productive forces advance, they drive increasingly refined division of labor, enabling commodity exchange to transcend geographical constraints. This gradually establishes economic linkages across nations and ethnic groups, ultimately shaping the world market. The core of world history lies in the holistic and interconnected nature of human societal development. In this process, the progress of nations and ethnic groups is no longer isolated individual practices but an organic unity of mutual influence and interdependence. This holistic development is not merely a spatial aggregation but an indivisible developmental community forged through exchanges in material production, spiritual culture, and other dimensions. Its essence lies in the global circulation of productive forces and the extensive interconnection of human practical activities [1].

2.2. The Driving Mechanism of World Historical Development

Marxist world history theory identifies the dynamic interplay between productive forces and production relations as the fundamental driving force of historical development. The evolution of division of labor and the expansion of commodity exchange serve as direct catalysts for the formation and progression of world history. As division of labor deepens, it drives continuous refinement in production specialization, enabling nations and regions to establish complementary production systems based on their unique endowments, thereby facilitating the global circulation of goods and factors. The pursuit of profit by capitalist production methods propels capital to break geographical constraints, seeking new fields of accumulation on a global scale. This process not only expands the boundaries of world markets but also integrates all nations and ethnic groups into a unified historical trajectory. The continuous extension and deepening of human practical activities inject enduring momentum into world history, propelling its gradual advancement from lower to higher stages [2].

2.3. Value Orientation of World History Theory

The core value orientation of Marxist world history theory lies in achieving the ultimate goal of human liberation and comprehensive freedom. Within the trajectory of world historical evolution, the continuous refinement of division of labor and the gradual formation of universal connections have broken through the narrow shackles of regions and ethnicities, laying a solid foundation for humanity to escape isolation and advance toward all-round development. The progression of world history not only facilitates the global expansion of productive forces but also drives profound exchanges and mutual learning among different civilizations. This enables humanity to absorb diverse developmental experiences within a broader perspective, while offering practical possibilities for resolving class oppression and dissolving ethnic barriers. It guides human society toward a more equitable and just dimension. The pursuit of Marxist world history theory is to fully manifest the essential power of humanity through the evolution of world history, ultimately reaching the sublime realm of human liberation [3].

3. The Challenges Faced by the Marxist Theory of World History in the Context of Contemporary Globalization

3.1. The Fragmentation and Isolation Dilemma of Global Development

In the context of contemporary globalization, while inter-country connectivity continues to deepen, the fragmentation and disintegration of global development have become increasingly

pronounced. Certain entities, in pursuit of their vested interests, pursue exclusive development paths, establish closed regional alliances, and deliberately erect trade and technological barriers to impede the free flow of global resources. Such fragmented development models disrupt the holistic framework that gradually emerged throughout world history, plunging the global production system into disarray. The development gap between nations and regions continues to widen, while regionalism and tribalism spread, exacerbating divisions and antagonism among different groups. This not only erodes the cohesive force for coordinated global development but also directly challenges the holistic development philosophy advocated by Marxist world history theory [4].

3.2. Conflict and Barriers in Civilized Communication

Marxist world history theory reveals that the evolution of world history fundamentally involves the intrinsic dynamics of civilizational exchange, mutual learning, and integrated development. In contemporary contexts, however, the conflicts and divisions among civilizations have become increasingly pronounced. Some civilizations absolutize and homogenize their value orientations, disregarding the unique endowments and legitimacy of other civilizations while promoting civilizational superiority, thereby fostering opposition and conflict. These civilizational clashes manifest not only in the ideological and cultural spheres but also permeate economic, social, and other domains, hindering equal dialogue and profound mutual learning. The obstruction of civilizational exchanges and escalation of conflicts deviate from the inherent logic of world historical evolution, subjecting the Marxist theory's advocacy of civilizational integration to severe challenges [5].

3.3. The Prominence of the Problem of Common Development of Mankind

In the contemporary context, human society confronts global challenges that transcend national and ethnic boundaries, including environmental degradation, public health crises, and the widening wealth gap. These issues have become critical obstacles to shared human development. Their prominence reflects the intensifying conflicts between special interests and collective interests, as well as short-term and long-term interests, in the evolution of modern world history. Some entities, in their pursuit of development, disregard common human interests and blindly maximize their own special interests, leading to the continuous accumulation of global problems. The Marxist theory of world history, which emphasizes the supremacy of collective human interests, now faces challenges from special and partial interests. Coordinating the interests of different entities and resolving the dilemma of shared human development have become pressing contemporary challenges for this theory.

4. The Contemporary Development of the Marxist World History Theory based on the Concept of Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

4.1. Theoretical Dimension: Reconstructing the Holistic Perception of Global Development

The concept of a community with a shared future for mankind builds upon the holistic framework of Marxist world history theory, integrating contemporary globalization realities to redefine our understanding of global development. It establishes that the modern world constitutes an interconnected organic unity, where no nation's progress can be divorced from the overarching global trajectory. The trajectory of global development is deeply intertwined with the destinies of all participants. Distinct from traditional theories that interpret holism through the lens of productive forces and production relations, this concept expands the core meaning of wholeness. It emphasizes not only universal economic linkages but also coordinated evolution across political, cultural, and ecological domains. By abandoning single-dimensional development perspectives, it highlights the diversity and unity inherent in global progress. The

theory advocates that diverse development paths and models among nations can coexist harmoniously, leveraging synergistic collaboration to propel global advancement. This approach deepens the contemporary interpretation of Marxist world history theory's holistic understanding.

4.2. Practice Dimension: Constructing a Multi-dimensional and Collaborative Global Practice Paradigm

Marxist world history theory provides macro-level practical guidance for human societal evolution. In the increasingly complex context of contemporary globalization, concrete practical paradigms are urgently needed to provide support. The concept of a community with a shared future for mankind anchors contemporary practical demands, establishing a multi-stakeholder collaborative global practice paradigm that offers actionable pathways for world historical progress. Upholding the core principle of equal consultation, it respects the developmental aspirations and interests of all nations and ethnic groups. Through dialogue and communication, it resolves differences and consolidates collaborative development forces. At the practical level, it promotes the establishment of a global governance system involving multiple stakeholders, breaking through the traditional paradigm of single-entity dominance in global development. This enables all nations, ethnic groups, and social organizations to demonstrate their value in the global development process. Guided by the cooperative orientation of mutual benefit and win-win outcomes, it fosters a development pattern characterized by interdependence and shared benefits. By translating the practical demands of Marxist world history theory into concrete actions, it achieves innovative expansion of the theoretical's practical dimensions.

4.3. Value Dimension: Pursuit of Common Human Values

The concept of a community with a shared future for mankind builds upon the Marxist theory of world history by inheriting its core value of human liberation. It more vividly highlights universal human values, providing value guidance for contemporary global historical evolution. The advocated values—peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy, and freedom—resonate with Marxism's lofty vision of human emancipation while aligning with the practical needs of modern society. Unlike traditional world history theories that focus on class liberation, this concept transcends class and regional constraints. It defines value objectives from a holistic human perspective, emphasizing the common interests and universal well-being of all humanity. By emphasizing shared human values, it establishes a solid value foundation for resolving conflicts of interest and bridging civilizational divides, guiding global development toward greater fairness, justice, and inclusiveness. This approach completes the contemporary extension of the value dimension in Marxist world history theory.

5. Contemporary Path of Practicing the Concept of Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

5.1. Promoting Civilizational Exchanges and Mutual Learning to Strengthen Spiritual Bonds

Civilizational exchange and mutual learning serve as both the spiritual foundation for building a community with a shared future for mankind and the core pathway to implement the Marxist theory of world history regarding the integrated development of civilizations. By breaking free from the shackles of cultural superiority and conflict theories, we should respect the unique endowments and diverse characteristics of different civilizations. This involves promoting equal dialogue and in-depth communication among civilizations, establishing exchange platforms, and creating diverse platforms such as transnational cultural festivals, academic symposiums, and youth exchange camps. These initiatives foster profound interactions in

language, art, philosophy, and other fields, helping different cultures and values achieve mutual understanding and acceptance while bridging gaps and oppositions between civilizations. In the process of exchange and mutual learning, it is essential to absorb the outstanding achievements of other civilizations while preserving the core essence of our own civilization. This collaborative evolution and enhancement of civilizations through cultural exchange will strengthen the spiritual bonds of a global community with a shared future, injecting lasting spiritual momentum into worldwide coordinated development.

5.2. Establishing a Win-Win Cooperation Framework to Strengthen Material Foundations

The establishment of a win-win cooperation framework serves as both the core pathway to implement the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind and the material foundation for advancing world history. By breaking away from closed and exclusive development paradigms, we can foster an open, inclusive, balanced, and mutually beneficial economic globalization. Focusing on emerging fields like the digital economy and green transition, we can build collaborative platforms through practical measures such as technology transfer and industrial capacity cooperation to empower developing countries. Strengthening economic and trade collaboration, technological connectivity, and resource sharing will facilitate the free flow and optimal allocation of global resources, driving coordinated evolution of the global production system. Throughout this process, it is essential to respect the developmental stages and interests of all nations, balance the legitimate rights of developed and developing economies, narrow development gaps, and advance toward common prosperity. The creation of this win-win cooperation framework solidifies the material foundation for building a community with a shared future for mankind, propelling world history toward higher levels of progress.

5.3. Advancing the Reform of the Global Governance System and Strengthening Institutional Safeguards

The advancement of global governance reform serves as both a critical institutional foundation for realizing the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind and an inherent response to contemporary global development challenges. The traditional global governance system, dominated by a few entities, struggles to adapt to the rise of emerging economies and evolving global patterns, leading to issues like limited governance effectiveness and fairness. Breaking free from unilateralism and hegemony has become increasingly urgent. Establishing a global governance framework that encourages multi-stakeholder participation and democratic consultation aligns with modern world development needs. This requires systematic thinking to refine global governance rules, enhance developing countries' representation and voice in international decision-making processes, and ensure all nations at different developmental stages receive adequate responses. To tackle pressing global issues, we must strengthen international coordination, build cross-regional and cross-sectoral cooperation platforms, and improve mechanisms for policy alignment, technical collaboration, and resource sharing. Establishing sustainable governance models for environmental degradation, public health crises, and transnational security challenges will help overcome development bottlenecks. The ongoing reform of global governance must balance rule stability with innovation while ensuring practical operability, thereby solidifying institutional support for building a community with a shared future for mankind and advancing the world's historical progress.

6. Languages

Marxist world history theory provides scientific theoretical support for understanding the laws of human social development. The concept of a community with a shared future for mankind anchors the contemporary globalization landscape, completing its modern expansion. This concept reconstructs the holistic understanding of global development at the theoretical level, establishes a multi-dimensional collaborative global practice paradigm at the practical level, and highlights common human value orientations at the value level, offering new ideas and practical pathways to address contemporary global development challenges. In the evolution of the modern world, implementing the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind requires promoting civilizational exchanges and mutual learning, building mutually beneficial cooperation frameworks, and advancing reforms in global governance systems. Through diversified collaborative practical measures, it guides human society toward more equitable, just, and inclusive dimensions. The concept of a community with a shared future for mankind not only enriches and expands Marxist world history theory but also injects lasting momentum into the common progress of human society, demonstrating the vibrant vitality of Marxist theory in contemporary times.

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