

ИСТОРИЯ ЗАРУБЕЖНОГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ И ПЕДАГОГИКИ

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ИССЛЕДОВАНИЕ ПУТИ ПАТРИОТИЧЕСКОГО ВОСПИТАНИЯ В КОЛЛЕДЖАХ И УНИВЕРСИТЕТАХ В КИТАЙСКОМ СТИЛЕ (1978–2022)

Аннотация. С момента проведения реформ и открытости в Китае в 1978 году, сталкиваясь с новыми ситуациями и вызовами в разные периоды, китайское правительство своевременно воспользовалось возможностью сформулировать различные стратегии и соответствующие документы, а также организовать различные образовательные мероприятия, постоянно способствуя углубленному развитию патриотического воспитания в колледжах и университетах, и накопило много ценного опыта. Патриотическое воспитание в колледжах и университетах постоянно совершенствовалось с развитием времени, что обогащает социалистическую теорию и знаменует углубление понимания китайским правительством и Коммунистической партией Китая социализма и модернизации. В этой статье в основном анализируется развитие патриотического воспитания в колледжах и университетах после реформ и открытости Китая, а также обобщается логика эволюции и опыт развития китайского пути, чтобы служить ориентиром и просвещением для других стран по воспитанию патриотически настроенной молодежи в новую эпоху.

Ключевые слова: реформы и открытость в Китае, путь в китайском стиле, патриотическое воспитание в колледжах и университетах.

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RESEARCH ON THE CHINESE-STYLE PATH OF PATRIOTIC EDUCATION IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (1978–2022)

Abstract. Since the reform and opening up in China in 1978, in the face of new situations and challenges in different periods, the Chinese government has seized the opportunity timely to formulate various policies and relevant documents, and organize various educational activities, continuously promoting the in-depth development of patriotism education in colleges and universities, and accumulated a lot of valuable experience. Patriotic education in colleges and universities has been continuously improved with the development of the times which enriches socialist theory and marks

the deepening of the understanding of by the Chinese government and the Communist Party of China on socialism and modernization. This paper mainly analyzes the development of patriotic education in colleges and universities since China's reform and opening ups and summarizes the evolution logic and development experience of the Chinese path, so as to provide reference and enlightenment for other countries to cultivate patriotic young people in the new era.

Keywords: reform and opening up in China, Chinese-style path, patriotic education in colleges and universities.

Introduction. As an important manifestation of the foundation of national emotions, patriotism is an important source of national cohesion and unity. At present, in the context of economic globalization, cultural diversity, and the information age, patriotism can stimulate the internal motivation of individuals and countries to give play to their own advantages and characteristics, to integrate themselves into the development trend of today's world, and to achieve competition and cooperation on a global scale. Therefore, patriotic education is not only conducive to enhancing cultural confidence and pride of the people, but also an important measure to promote the harmonious development of a country and to enhance its international influence.

A nation will prosper only when its young people thrive. The key targets of patriotic education are the young people. And the university stage is an important period for young people to establish their world view, outlook on life and values and university is also an important stage of preparation for entering society. College students not only have greater plasticity, but also have advanced knowledge and thoughts, who are easier to respond to the practice of patriotic education and thus radiate a strong sense of patriotism. Therefore,

vigorously cultivating patriotic students in the new era is an important goal of higher education and a necessary policy for the development of all countries in the world.

Patriotism is the most important spiritual wealth of the Chinese nation, and whose colleges and universities have extensive experience in patriotic education. Since the reform and opening up, the Chinese people have embarked on a road of modernization with Chinese characteristics, making outstanding achievements in the construction of socialist spiritual civilization. Serving China's development tasks in different periods, patriotic education in colleges and universities continues to keep pace with the times, and enrich theory and practice so as to cultivate patriotic youth. It is an important revelation to review the development process of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities over the past 40 years and summarize its logic and experience for patriotic education in other countries. This paper mainly uses documentary research method and inductive method. It firstly divided the Chinese college patriotic education history since reform and opening up into three stages of “the initial stage of reform and opening up” and “socialist modernization and the initial exploration stage of socialism

with Chinese characteristics" and "the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics" according to China's development, taking the important documents promulgated by the Chinese government as clues. Based on the historical review and longitudinal comparison, the article deeply explores the theme, content and carrier of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities at different stages. It also summarizes and extracts three main experience of Chinese-style path: "safeguarding the interests of national development", "loving the country, loving the party and loving socialism" and "basing on actual conditions and advancing with the times", providing references for patriotic education in other countries.

Method. In terms of research methods, this paper comprehensively uses documentary research method and

inductive method to study the patriotic education in Chinese universities since the reform and opening up. By analyzing important policy documents of the Chinese government on patriotic education in colleges and universities since the reform and opening up, this paper sorts out the development process of patriotic education in colleges and universities in China from 1978 to 2022. Based on historical review and longitudinal comparison, this paper deeply explores the evolutionary logic of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities since the reform and opening up, summarizing the development experience of the Chinese path through comparative analysis, and provides important enlightenment for youth patriotism education in other countries in the world.

Important Documents on patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities since the reform and opening up(1978–2022)

year	Issuing unit	File name
1978	Chinese Ministry of Education	<i>Regulations on the Interim Work of National Key Colleges and Universities (Trial Draft)</i>
1980	Chinese Ministry of Education, the Communist Youth League of China	<i>Opinions on Strengthening the Ideological and Political Work of Students in Colleges and Universities</i>
1983	Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, Research Office of the Secretariat of the CPC	<i>Opinions on Strengthening Patriotic Propaganda and Education</i>

	Central Committee	
1986	CPC Central Committee	<i>Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the Guidelines for the Construction of Socialist Spiritual Civilization</i>
1987	CPC Central Committee	<i>Decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Improving and Strengthening Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities</i>
1994	CPC Central Committee, Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee	<i>Outline for the Implementation of Patriotic Education</i>
1994	CPC Central Committee	<i>Several Opinions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Further Strengthening and Improving Moral Education in Schools</i>
1995	State Education Commission of China	<i>Moral Education Outline for Ordinary Colleges and Universities in China</i>
2004	CPC Central Committee, the State Council of China	<i>Opinions of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council on Further Strengthening and Improving the Ideological and Political Education of College Students</i>
2005	Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, Chinese Ministry of Education	<i>Implementation Plan of the Opinions of the Ministry of Education of the Propaganda Department of the CPC Central Committee on Further Strengthening and Improving the Ideological and Political Theory Course in Colleges and Universities</i>
2013	General Office of the CPC Central Committee	<i>Opinions on Cultivating and Practicing Socialist Core Values</i>
2017	Standing Committee of the National People's	<i>Law of the People's Republic of China on the National Anthem</i>

	Congress of China	
2018	Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China	<i>Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Heroes and Martyrs</i>
2019	General Office of the CPC Central Committee	<i>Notice on Doing a Good Job in the Nomination and Selection of National Medals and National Honorary Titles</i>
2019	CPC Central Committee, the State Council of China	<i>Implementation Outline of Patriotic Education in the New Era</i>
2020	Chinese Ministry of Education	<i>Guiding Outline for Ideological and Political Construction in Curriculum of Colleges and Universities</i>

(The table was compiled by authors)

Results and their discussion.

The development of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities. Since the reform and opening up in 1978, the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China made the historical decision of "emancipating the mind, seeking truth from facts, and looking forward in unity" and began to implement reform and opening up. After that, Chinese education was back on track and patriotic education in colleges and universities was rebuilt. At this time, patriotic education mainly faced challenges from three aspects: First, due to the influence of the "Cultural Revolution", some people, including young people, had confusion in their understanding of patriotism, and patriotic values were distorted. Secondly, after the reform and opening up, the corruption caused by the

alternation from the old to the new systems has led some people to rebel against society. Finally, school infrastructures and ideological and political education have not yet been restored which are difficult to compete with the Western trend of thought that has poured into Chinese society at this time [LI Fengjia, 2022, p. 17]. Under such circumstances, patriotic education in colleges and universities shoulders the task of ensuring that cultural-ethical and material development progress together. In order to strengthen patriotic education in colleges and universities, in October 1978, China's Ministry of Education issued *Interim Work Regulations of National Key Colleges and Universities*, emphasizing that college students should "have the spirit of patriotism and internationalism." In April 1980, the Chinese Ministry of Education and the Communist Youth

League Central Committee issued *Opinions on Strengthening the Ideological and Political Work of Students in Institutions of Higher Learning*. In response to the fact that some students questioned the Four Cardinal Principles and believed that socialism is inferior to capitalism, the Circular points out that the essential difference between socialist universities and capitalist universities lies in that the students trained by the former love the socialist motherland. In July 1983, the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee and the Research Office of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee issued *Opinions on Strengthening Patriotic Propaganda and Education*, stressing the need for regular patriotic education. In September 1986, the Sixth Plenary Session of the 12th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China adopted *Resolution of the CPC Central Committee on the Guidelines for the Construction of Socialist Spiritual Civilization*. The Resolution states that "our patriotism is closely linked to internationalism" and stresses the need to adopt various measures to enhance national self-esteem, self-confidence and pride. The following year, *Decision of the CPC Central Committee on Improving and Strengthening Ideological and Political Work in Schools of Higher Learning* pointed out that it is necessary to persist in patriotic education for students [CHAI Hong, 2021, p. 42–43].

The content of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities at this stage mainly includes combining patriotic education with the building of socialist spiritual civilization, carrying

forward the spirit of patriotism, and promoting patriotic education in all areas of national education and spiritual civilization building [Harmonious, 2022, p. 17–23]. In terms of form, it includes resuming and reconstructing ideological and political theory courses, extensively organizing college students to participate in social practice, and strengthening the quality of teaching staffs for college students' patriotic education [ZHANG Yiming, 2021, p. 21–23].

With the deepening of reform and opening up, the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered the preliminary exploration stage. Affected by changes in the international and domestic situation, people's ideas and values have undergone great changes. The upsurge of economic globalization has also brought the Western bourgeois liberalization thoughts into Chinese society [LI Fengjia, 2022, p. 21]. These new changes has made the Chinese government more aware of the importance of strengthening patriotic education, especially for college students. After entering the 21st century, China's modernization has achieved fruitful results and its comprehensive national strength has been continuously improved. After a series of major events such as China's accession to the World Trade Organization in 2001, the 2008 Beijing Winter Olympics and the Wenchuan earthquake, the public, including university students, has strengthened their sense of national and ethnic identity. Patriotic education continues to move forward. During this period, the CPC Central Committee and the State

Council successively issued a series of documents to make top-level designs and specific plans for patriotic education in colleges and universities. In 1994, China promulgated the Outline for the Implementation of Patriotic Education, which clarifies the basic principles and main contents of patriotism. In the same year, the CPC Central Committee issued *Several Opinions of the CPC Central Committee on Further Strengthening and Improving Moral Education in Schools*. The "Opinions" stress the need for "in-depth and sustained education in patriotism, collectivism and socialism." In 2004, the CPC Central Committee issued *Opinions on Further Strengthening and Improving the Ideological and Political Education of College Students*, stressing the need to cultivate the great national spirit with patriotism as the core. The following year, *Implementation Plan of the Opinions of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee and the Ministry of Education on Further Strengthening and Improving Ideological and Political Theory Courses in Colleges and Universities* was released, providing guidance for improving ideological and political theory courses in colleges and universities.

During this period, the contents and forms of patriotic education in Chinese colleges became more diverse. The main contents include education on the long history of the Chinese nation, education on Chinese excellent traditional culture, education on the basic line of the Communist Party of China and the achievements of socialist modernization, education on China's

national conditions, education on socialist democracy and the legal system, education on national defense and national security, education on ethnic unity, education on the principle of "peaceful reunification" and "one country, two systems," and so on [Notice of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Printing and Distributing the Implementation Outline of Patriotic Education, 1994, p. 3–4]. The forms of college patriotic education specifically include improving the construction of education bases, making full use of various museums, memorial halls, major construction projects, etc.; carrying out moral education in schools; creating a strong patriotic atmosphere and using modern means of communication to carry out patriotic education; advocating necessary etiquette, enhancing the patriotic feelings of the masses, etc.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress, socialism with Chinese characteristics has crossed the threshold into a new era, and the principal contradiction facing Chinese society has become the contradiction between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing demands for a better life. On November 29th, 2012, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee pointed out that "realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation is the greatest dream of the Chinese nation in modern times" when he visited the exhibition of The Road to Revival. Realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation has become a distinct theme of patriotism and patriotic education in colleges and

universities in contemporary China. As an important part of ideological and political education in colleges and universities, patriotic education has achieved remarkable results since the 18th National Congress of the CPC. But at the same time, the domestic and external situations and tasks of patriotic education have changed greatly and it faces new challenges. First of all, economic globalization, especially the rapid development of social media, brings about the infiltration of Western culture into college students' patriotic consciousness and emotion. Secondly, in terms of educational concepts, patriotic education is ossified and lagged behind. Some colleges and universities still rely on old concepts and ideas to carry out patriotic education activities. There are also shortcomings in the application of resources and carriers of patriotic education. And forms of education in some colleges are relatively single. Finally, with the increasing complexity of the struggle in the field of ideology, some universities lack the flexibility to cope with the impact of it [NIU Qingxia, CHANG Dongxiu, 2023, p. 1–2]. In order to deal with the shortcomings and challenges in the field of patriotic education in colleges and universities, in 2019, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China issued *Implementation Outline of Patriotic Education in the New Era*, which is of great practical significance for guiding all the people to carry forward the spirit of patriotism and strengthen patriotic education in colleges and universities. At the same time, the legal system of patriotic education has been continuously improved. A series of laws

and regulations, such as *Law of the People's Republic of China on the National Anthem*, *Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Heroes and Martyrs*, and *Notice on the Nomination and Selection of National MEDALS and Honorary Titles*, have been issued successively, providing an important legal institutional guarantee for the effective implementation of patriotic education in universities and colleges in the new era.

The content and carrier of patriotic education in colleges and universities in the new era are more abundant. Clearly stipulated by *Implementation Outline of Patriotic Education in the New Era*, the college patriotic education in the new era should arm the whole Party and People with Xi Jinping's Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and advocate Chinese spirit which embodies patriotism and the courage to reform and to blaze new trails. The contents of college patriotic education include eight aspects: socialism with Chinese characteristics and the Chinese Dream, national conditions and situations, the history of the Communist Party of China, the history of the People's Republic of China, the history of reform and opening up, the excellent traditional culture of China, national security education and national defense education. In terms of forms, the new era mainly focuses on building and using patriotism education bases and a national defense education bases well, paying attention to the use of rituals, organizing major commemorative activities, giving play to the cultivation functions of traditional and modern festivals, and relying on cultural and

natural landscapes and major projects to carry out education [The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council of China, 2020, p. 141].

The characteristics of the development of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities.

Patriotism is both a simple emotion and a natural identity. Since the reform and opening up, the national self-esteem and self-confidence of Chinese youth have been significantly enhanced, which is manifested in loyalty and trust to the country and the protection of national interests, which cannot be separated from the careful cultivation of colleges and universities. Over the past 40 years, the patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities has been characterized by both directionality and inheritance, epochal and advanced nature, and has gradually stepped out of a road with Chinese characteristics. This paper deeply explores the evolutionary logic of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities, and summarizes three main Chinese experience: "safeguarding the interests of national development", "uniting patriotism, loving the Communist Party of China and loving socialism", and "proceeding from reality and advancing with The Times", which can provide references for other countries in the world to unity young people in the new era and carry forward the patriotic spirit.

1. Safeguard national development interests

Although the practice of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities has changed with the historical changes and the needs of The Times, its essence of serving the

national development interests remains unchanged. Back in the late 1970s, China was at a critical historical juncture about where it was going. In response to the general trend of development at home and abroad, China has shifted the focus of development to the socialist modernization and implemented the policy of reform and opening up. In 1982, the 12th National Congress of the Communist Party of China was held. On the basis of the major proposition of "building socialism with Chinese characteristics", it clearly put forward the strategic policy of striving to build a highly socialist spiritual civilization, and promoted the rapid development of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities. Socialist spiritual civilization is an important manifestation of the superiority of the socialist system and an inevitable requirement for socialist modernization. As an important part of the construction of socialist spiritual civilization, patriotic education in China's colleges and universities adheres to the development of The Times, always focuses on safeguarding national unity and ethnic unity, runs through the whole process of national education and spiritual civilization construction, and lays a solid national emotional foundation for Chinese socialist modernization.

In the early days of reform and opening up, in the face of various new situations and problems, Deng Xiaoping stressed in his speech many times that we must love the motherland, safeguard the unity of the motherland, oppose separatism, resolutely oppose capitalism corrupting and damaging

China's national pride and self-confidence, build a broad patriotic united front, and adhere to the road of building socialism with Chinese characteristics [Chinese Central Literature Editorial Committee, 2009, p. 28]. In 1994, the Chinese government issued *Outline for the Implementation of Patriotic Education*, emphasizing that patriotic education should be used to promote socialist modernization, safeguard the reputation, dignity, unity and interests of the country and the nation, and promote the cause of national reunification. At the 1995 National Science and Technology Conference of China, Jiang Zemin pointed out that patriotism is a glorious tradition of the vast number of Chinese intellectuals and has inspired generations of scientific and technological workers to strive for China's strength and prosperity and the happiness of the people [JIANG Zemin, 1995, p. 80]. In 2019, the Chinese government issued *the Outline for the Implementation of Patriotic Education in the New Era*, which emphasizes in the overall requirements of patriotic education that national unity and ethnic unity are the fundamental interests of the Chinese nation. Xi Jinping also stressed at the National Ethnic Unity and Progress Commendation Conference that it is necessary to put the strengthening of patriotic education among young people in a more prominent position and forge the maximum increase in the sense of the Chinese national community [Xi Jinping, 2019].

2. *Patriotism, love of the Communist Party of China and love of socialism are unified*

Patriotic education has a distinct social and political tendency, and patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities is unified with love for the Communist Party of China and love for socialism. Marx and Engels pointed out that the thinking of the ruling class is dominant in all times [Marx, Engels, 1995, p. 98]. As a component of the field of political ideology, patriotic education is bound to have obvious political and class characteristics. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the ruling party of China, the Communist Party of China, has always been supported by the Chinese people, and the socialist path has been the consensus of the development of Chinese society. Under the guidance of the Communist Party of China and the Chinese government, patriotic education in colleges and universities has always adhered to the correct direction and inherited scientific thoughts and excellent national culture.

First of all, at the ideological level, patriotic education in Chinese universities is guided by the guiding ideology of the Marxist ruling party and fully integrated into the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics. With the continuous enrichment of theories, patriotic education in colleges and universities has successively taken Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important thinking of "three represents", the Scientific Outlook on Development and Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as important guiding ideology, guiding young people to establish a correct view of history, nationality, country and

culture, and forge the soul of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Since the reform and opening up, despite the impact of Western liberalism, nationalism and other ideological trends, Chinese youth have generally maintained a positive and constructive sense of patriotism, and college students still embrace and support socialist ideology as the mainstream. Under the construction of patriotic education in colleges and universities, Chinese youth identify with the history of the struggle of the Communist Party of China and the people, the history of China's socialist revolution, construction and reform, and the socialist political and economic system with Chinese characteristics. This kind of rational guidance and identity training has been accumulated and subtly over the decades, which cannot be separated from the correct guidance of the guiding ideology of the Chinese ruling party to the patriotic education in colleges and universities.

Secondly, at the political level, patriotic education in China's colleges and universities adheres to the leadership of the Communist Party of China, demonstrating the socialist nature. History and facts have proved that only socialism can save China and only socialism can develop China, and the Communist Party of China is the core leading force for China's development. As the main force of social development, the political view of young college students is related to their own healthy growth and future development, and is more related to the stability of social order, national security and national prosperity. Since the reform and opening up, as an

important part of China's ideological and political construction, patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities has been playing an important role in enhancing college students' confidence in China's development path and enhancing their awareness of national identity and political identity.

In 1980, China's Ministry of Education issued *Opinions on Strengthening the Ideological and Political Work of Students in Colleges and Universities*, pointing out that the essential difference between socialist universities and capitalist universities lies in the love of the socialist motherland among the students trained by the former [Department of Social Sciences, Ministry of Education, China, 2008, p. 79–80]. In the early 1980s, the "Five lectures, four beauties and three Loves" campaign was widely carried out in China, and love for the motherland, love for socialism and love for the Communist Party of China was deeply rooted in the hearts of the people, and a number of models of The Times emerged. In 1994, *Outline for the Implementation of Patriotic Education* pointed out that patriotism, collectivism and socialist thought are organically unified [Notice of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Printing and Distributing the Implementation Outline of Patriotic Education, 1994]. In 2019, Xi Jinping proposed in his speech at the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the May Fourth Movement that the essence of contemporary Chinese patriotism is to adhere to a high degree of unity between patriotism, love for the party and love

for socialism [Xi Jinping, 2019]. In the same year, the Chinese government issued documents such as *Implementation Outline for the Construction of Civic Morality in the New Era* and *Implementation Outline for Patriotic Education in the New Era*, emphasizing that patriotic education should be combined with the historical process of the Chinese nation and strengthen confidence in the CPC, Marxism and the socialist road.

3. Proceed from reality and advance with The Times

Patriotic education is historical and specific, influenced by socio-economic, political, cultural and other factors, and has been differentiated and adjusted in various periods. Since the reform and opening up, patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities has persisted in proceeding from reality, taking social contradictions and development tasks at various stages as the basis for adjustment, and has made breakthroughs in keeping with The Times. Exploring the theme, the connotation and practice of patriotism education in Chinese universities in different stages of development is an important way to demonstrate the experience of "proceeding from reality" and "advancing with The Times" for other countries in the world.

In the early stage of reform and opening up and Chinese socialist modernization, the patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities faced the legacy of rectifying chaos and shouldered the task of coordinating material civilization and spiritual civilization. At that time, Chinese colleges and universities restored and

rebuilt ideological and political theory courses, actively explored mass media, social practice and faculty construction, and strengthened college students' national self-esteem and faith spirit through national conditions education. In 1980, China's Ministry of Education promulgated *Opinions on Strengthening Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities*, emphasizing that colleges and universities should carry out systematic education in Marxism-Leninism, the basic principles of Mao Zedong Thought, revolutionary ideals and communist morality for students, and made preliminary provisions on the content of patriotism education for college students. In 1981, *Initiative on Civilized and Courteous Activities* was launched to guide young people to resolutely resist acts that are degrading to the country. At that time, the "Five lectures, four beauties and three loves" activities carried out among college students in China also stimulated the patriotic enthusiasm of college students to "unite and revitalize China" to a certain extent. In 1986, *Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the Guidelines for the Construction of Socialist Spiritual Civilization* made it clear that patriotism is an important content of the construction of socialist spiritual civilization, and guided colleges and universities to more actively, extensively and deeply carry out various forms of patriotic education activities. In 1987, *Opinions on the Construction of Ideological Education Courses in Colleges and Universities* promoted colleges to explore and set up courses on college students' patriotic education.

In the initial exploration stage of socialism with Chinese characteristics, with the continuous development of economic globalization, modernization drive and science and technology, patriotic education has become more prominent with the characteristics of The Times, and the ideas of patriotism, collectivism and socialism have been organically unified in the practice of socialist construction with Chinese characteristics. The combination of patriotism education in China's colleges and universities with education on the reunification of the motherland, moral construction and mainstream values has gradually shown the characteristics of The Times such as standardization, diversity and inclusiveness, but the relevant theoretical research is still relatively simple. In 1994, the Chinese government promulgated *Outline for the Implementation of Patriotic Education*, which systematically stipulates the specific contents of patriotic education: first, historical education, involving the history of the Chinese nation and the inheritance of fine traditional culture; second, realistic education, covering national conditions, National security, the line, principles and policies of the Communist Party of China, democracy and the rule of law, national unity, national unity, etc [Notice of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Printing and Distributing the Implementation Outline of Patriotic Education, 1994, p. 3–4]. Subsequently, *Several Opinions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Further Strengthening and Improving Moral Education in Schools, Outline of Moral*

Education in Colleges and Universities of China and other policy documents were issued, and the first batch of patriotic education bases, various patriotic movies and books were published, pushing the patriotic education in colleges and universities to a new stage of development. In the 21st century, China's modernization construction and the development of the Internet have provided more content and carriers for patriotic education in colleges and universities, and the patriotic practice of young people has become more active. In 2001, Chinese government issued *Outline for the Implementation of the Construction of Civic Morality*, which promotes the combination of patriotic education and civic morality in colleges and universities, and guides college students to uphold the principle of "being proud of loving the country for the people, and being ashamed of being selfless at the expense of the country". In 2006, Hu Jintao It was proposed to educate young people about the socialist concept of honor and disgrace. The Sixth Plenary Session of the 16th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China proposed for the first time "building a socialist core value system". Since then, Chinese colleges and universities have paid more attention to cultivating students' correct value identification and patriotic understanding of the motherland. At the same time, Liu Xiang, the Chinese Women's volleyball team and other Olympic champions have aroused the patriotic enthusiasm of Chinese college students, and patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities has shown new vitality.

In the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the main contradiction of Chinese society has changed, and the theme of patriotic education in colleges and universities is to realize China's dream of national rejuvenation. Under the attention and guidance of the Chinese government, Chinese colleges and universities have deepened innovation, based on the nation and facing the world, combined patriotic education with the community of human destiny and the excellent traditional Chinese culture, and enhanced the educational effect by enriching the educational content and innovating the educational carriers. Xi Jinping emphasized in 2015 that we should make full use of China's great achievements in the reform and development and commemoration of major historical events, and use art forms and new media to vividly spread the spirit of patriotism and sing the main theme of patriotism [Xi Jinping, 2015]. Subsequently, documents such as *Opinions on Strengthening and Improving Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities under the New Situation* and *Opinions on Comprehensively Deepening the Reform of the Construction of Teachers in the New Era* vigorously promoted the improvement of ideological and political courses and teachers in Chinese colleges and universities, providing strong support for patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities. In 2019, the Chinese government issued *Implementation Outline of Patriotism Education in the New Era*, which clarified that Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era is the content of patriotic

education and emphasized the strengthening of the cultivation of the socialist core value system [The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and The State Council of China, 2019, p. 1]. In addition to the basic contents of national concept education, national conditions education, national security concept education, national culture and national history education, the document also systematically deployed multiple practical carriers such as education bases, rituals, special commemorative activities, and special functions of new and old festivals, so that China's patriotic education in colleges and universities has a more perfect implementation system in the new era. Knowing history, loving the Party, knowing history and loving the country, Chinese youth in the new era are obviously more consciously and actively participating in patriotic practice, and interpreting their responsibilities and responsibilities in voluntary services such as supporting the border areas.

Over the past 40 years of reform and opening up, China has made great achievements in socialist modernization, and the construction of socialist spiritual civilization, including patriotic education, has also made great progress. Under the guidance of the Communist Party of China and the Chinese government, patriotic education in Chinese universities has adhered to the correct direction, served the interests of national development, unified patriotism, love of the Communist Party of China and love of socialism, adjusted specific themes and priorities in line with the development of The Times, and solved numerous

challenges. By combining with the education of national reunification and ethnic unity, moral construction and socialist core values, Chinese colleges and universities have continuously enriched theoretical research, educational content and practical methods, and cultivated groups of patriotic young people with firm ideals and convictions, providing important spiritual support for the realization of the Chinese Dream. Sticking to the original intention and mission, patriotic education Chinese colleges and universities will follow the brand of The Times to walk out a bright road.

Conclusion. If the youth prosper, the country will prosper, and the youth will make the country strong. Young people have always been the most active force driving society forward. Under the new situation of profound changes unseen in a century, the international and domestic situations faced by young people in various countries are complex and changeable. Under such circumstances, strengthening the patriotic education in colleges and universities has become an important issue faced by the governments of all countries. Since the reform and opening up, the Chinese government and the Communist Party of China have always attached great importance to youth work and accumulated rich experience in the development of patriotic education in colleges and universities.

Starting from history, this paper comprehensively uses documentary research method and inductive method to review the three stages of patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities since the reform and opening up, and summarizes the

evolutionary logic of China's college education from 1978 to 2022. First of all, this paper analyzes the policy documents on patriotic education in colleges and universities issued by the Chinese government in three stages respectively, and summarizes the content and forms of patriotic education in colleges and universities in different stages through the analysis of the policy documents. Secondly, the paper reviews the course of patriotic education in colleges and universities since China's reform and opening up, and believes that the patriotic education in Chinese colleges and universities has always served the interests of national development, and is a patriotic education under the leadership of the Communist Party of China and follows the direction of socialism. In different historical stages, the Chinese government has timely adjusted the theme and focus of patriotic education in colleges and universities, innovated the old, kept pace with The Times, and continuously enriched the content and methods of education, which has provided useful reference for the patriotic education in colleges and universities in other countries.

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