

# SWOT analysis of Marxist faith education in the new era

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**Abstract.** The new era highlights the particularity of Marxist belief education, and endows it with new educational background, new educational content and new value of the times. In this paper, SWOT analysis method is used to conduct the Strengths and Weaknesses, Environmental Opportunities and Threats analysis of the impact factors of Marxist faith education in the new era. This study is helpful to deeply grasp the situation of Marxist belief education in the new era, is conducive to further unify the thinking, gather strength, and push forward the Marxist faith education from a new starting point.

**Keywords:** New epoch; Marxism; Faith education; SWOT Analysis.

## 1. Introduction

Marxist belief education is a mode of ideological and political education that integrates the ideological, political, scientific, theoretical and practical nature. At present, there are many research results on the related categories of Marxist faith education, but the research on Marxist faith education in the new era is slightly insufficient. Strengthening the study of Marxist belief education in the new era is conducive to providing theoretical and practical guidance for Marxist belief educators and ideological and political education practitioners, and also conducive to making the people establish a correct belief view. Therefore, the study of this topic has very important theoretical and practical significance.

This paper focuses on the situation analysis of the Marxist faith education in the new era from four dimensions, so as to grasp the positive factors, negative factors, favorable conditions and adverse conditions affecting the Marxist faith education in the new era, and provide new thinking and new vision for the researchers of the Marxist faith education

## 2. Strengths analysis

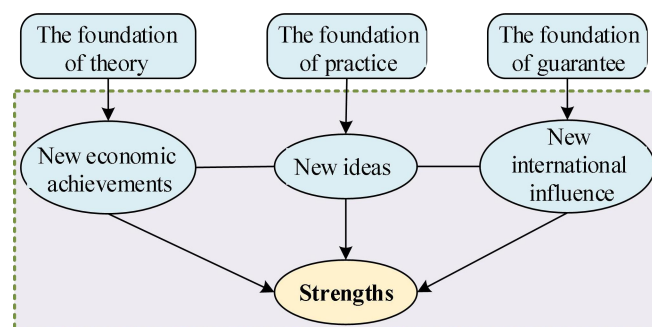


Fig 1. Advantages analysis of the effect of Marxist faith education in the new era

In the new era, to investigate and refine the positive factors and analyze the advantages, which is of great significance to strengthen the Marxist faith education. In the context of the new era, the advantages of Marxist belief education mainly come from the achievements of economic development in the new era, Xi Jinping Thoughts on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and the new international influence, which has laid a solid foundation for the education of Marxist faith. The architecture of advantage analysis is shown in Figure 1.

## **2.1 The achievements of the new economy have laid a practical foundation for Marxist belief education**

Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, China's social productivity has been significantly improved, and gross domestic product, foreign investment, infrastructure construction and total mileage of high-speed rail operation have been among the top in the world. The backward social production in the past has undergone new phased changes, and China's economy has achieved leap-forward development, which has laid a solid practical foundation for Marxist belief education. The Marxist belief belongs to the category of the superstructure and is restricted by the economic foundation. Only after people meet the material needs of "going from scratch to having" can people pay more attention to solving the spiritual needs of "going from having to being excellent". The Marxist belief is in the category of higher-level spiritual needs. Since the 18th National Congress of the CPC, great achievements have been made in economic development, and the people's material life has been further enriched, creating practical conditions and driving force for the education of Marxist belief.

## **2.2 The New ideas have laid the theoretical foundation for Marxist belief education**

Engels noted that "Our theory is developing theories, not a dogma that must be well memorized and mechanically repeated [1]." Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era is a theoretical system based on new historical changes, based on a new historical orientation, focusing on new historical missions, analyzing new historical topics, and planning for a new journey to become a strong country. Marxist belief, as a theoretical system, the connotation of its new era contains the belief in Marxist theory, trust in the Communist Party of China, belief in socialism with Chinese characteristics, confidence in realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and belief in communism. Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, as the latest achievement of adapting Marxism to China, runs through the whole theoretical system of Marxist belief. As the guiding ideology of the Party, it is the guiding ideology and action guide for realizing the "Two Centenary Goals" and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. It provides fundamental theoretical guidelines for Marxist belief education, and is conducive to people to firmly strengthen their belief in education concept and grasp the direction of faith education.

## **2.3 The new international influence lays a guarantee foundation for Marxist belief education**

During the COVID-19 epidemic, people of all ethnic groups in China worked together to win the battle against the epidemic. During this period, China adhered to the thought of a community with a shared future for mankind and supported other countries in fighting the epidemic for free, which reflects China's responsibility as a major country, demonstrates its great influence, appeal and demonstration power, and has received widespread attention and appreciation from people of all over the world.

Socialism with Chinese characteristics into a new era means that the road of socialism with Chinese characteristics, theory, system, culture, expand the way of developing countries to modernization, to the world who want to speed up development and hope to maintain their independence of countries and nation provides a new choice, contributed to solve the human problem the Chinese wisdom and Chinese solutions. The rapid development of socialism in the new era and its great achievements show the world its superiority at the institutional level. As China is getting closer to the center of the world stage, its international influence and voice are gradually improved, which to some extent weakens the hostility and rejection of the socialist system, which creates a good international environment for Marxist faith education, and thus guarantees the effective implementation of Marxist faith education.

### 3. Weaknesses analysis

Under the conditions of the new era, it is of great significance to investigate and refine the negative factors and analyze the disadvantages are also of great significance to strengthening the Marxist belief education. Under the background of the new era, the disadvantage of Marxist belief education is mainly reflected in the imbalance of economic and cultural development, and the relativity of the time-space view in the new era, which greatly weakens the effect of Marxist faith education to a large extent.

#### 3.1 Imbalanced economic and cultural development restricts people's belief and pursuit

At present, compared with the rapid development and good situation of the economic field, cultural construction lags behind, especially Marxist Thought which is the mainstream ideology, its spread and belief education among the people is lagging behind. China Bureau of Statistics in 2019, all kinds of book publishing data, as shown in Table 1, economic book publishing and circulation ranked first, Marxism-Leninism, MAO Zedong thought at the last, which indirectly shows that marxist propaganda and people learning enthusiasm is still insufficient, marxist faith education needs to be strengthened. On the one hand, the research found that a considerable number of people still have no clear understanding of "what is Marxism", "how to learn Marxism", "what does Marxism has the value of The Times"; on the other hand, the negative concepts of money worship, hedonism and extreme individualism have some negative impact on Marxist faith education.

Table 1. Book publishing in 2019

Book category	Number of	Number of books
Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong	758	15,670,000
Philosophy	9506	91,070,000
General Theory of Social Sciences	5378	34,070,000
Politics, law	17939	343,800,000
Military affairs	1218	9,570,000
Economy	34239	156,160,000

#### 3.2 The relativity of the time-space view in the new era influences the effect of Marxist belief education

Engels once said: "The theoretical thinking of every era, including that of our era, is a product of history, which has completely different forms in different eras, and also has completely different content [2]."From the historical context, a firm belief in socialism with Chinese characteristics is a phased manifestation of a firm Marxist belief. The Marxist belief theory system is not a rigid, closed dogma, but a constantly perfect scientific faith with the development of The Times. However, from the perspective of the current academic achievements, a consensus has not been reached on the connotation of Marxist faith, and the content system of Marxist faith has not been improved. The value of Marxist faith in the new era needs to be fully discussed, which has affected the effectiveness of Marxist faith education to a large extent. From the spatial dimension of analysis, for Marxist belief education to be widely spread and in-depth in China, it needs to integrate into the 5000-year excellent traditional Chinese culture, the revolutionary culture of the great struggle of the Party and the people, the advanced socialist culture, and educate people with culture. However, there is still insufficient and lack in the integration of Marxist faith education and various Chinese cultures in the new era, which affects the effectiveness of Marxist faith education to a certain extent.

### 4. Opportunities analysis

Under the conditions of the new era, the favorable factors influencing Marxist faith education are investigated and refined and opportunities analyzed, which is conducive to grasping the

opportunities of The Times and promote the in-depth development of Marxist faith education. Under the background of the new era, the opportunities of Marxist belief education are mainly reflected in that China is in a period of development opportunities. The state has issued relevant policies to ensure the construction of teachers to Marxist belief education, which enhances the confidence of education to Marxist faith to a large extent. The opportunity analysis architecture is shown in Fig2.



Fig 2. Analysis of the opportunity of the impact on Marxist faith education in the new era

#### 4.1 The state provides policy support for Marxist belief education

As the core of ideological and political education, the CPC Central Committee attaches great importance to its position in higher education in the new era. In January 2020, the Ministry of Education issued the Regulations on the Construction of Ideological and Political Theory Teachers of Higher Learning in the New Era (hereinafter referred to as the Regulations). According to the regulation, colleges and universities should build full-time teachers according to the number of full-time students and a strict ratio of no less than 1:350. The measure is conducive to solving the problem of insufficient total number and unbalanced allocation of ideological and political class teachers. The key to running the Marxist belief education lies in teachers. In the September 2018 National Education Conference, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that we should enhance the quality of full-time ideological and political course teachers in six aspects, including ideals and beliefs, patriotism, moral cultivation, knowledge, struggle spirit and comprehensive quality, which has pointed out the direction for the training of ideological and political course teachers in the new era.

#### 4.2 The achievements made in the new era provide confidence support for Marxist belief education

As socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, we have made a great leap from "catching up with The Times" to "leading The Times". Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, China has made great achievements in economic, political, cultural, social and ecological development. This series of achievements has further enriched the great practice of building socialism with Chinese characteristics, demonstrated the success of the road of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the scientific theory of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the superiority of the socialist system with Chinese characteristics, and the advanced nature of the socialist culture with Chinese characteristics. This series of achievements are

conducive to enhancing people's belief in Marxism, socialism with Chinese characteristics and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, which provides confidence support for the education of Marxist belief.

#### **4.3 China's development is in a period of opportunity which provide a platform support for Marxist belief education**

At the Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, General Secretary Xi Jinping clearly pointed out that "at present and for a period to come, China's development is still in an important period of strategic opportunities". In the 《2020 Business Environment Report》 released by the World Bank, China ranked 31st, rising by 47 places in two years, making it the major economy with the most significantly improved business environment. Under the global spread of COVID-19 in 2020, the actual foreign investment in China still reached 9,999.98 billion yuan, up 6.2% year on year. The remarkable achievements reflect that China still maintains the stability of development in a complex environment. A peaceful and stable development environment will not cause greater economic, political, or ideological and cultural fluctuations. Economic prosperity is the material basis for firm Marxist belief; political democracy is the political basis for firm Marxist belief; and cultural prosperity is the ideological basis for firm Marxist belief. The good development of economic, political and cultural development in the new era provides favorable platform support for Marxist belief education.

### **5. Threats analysis**

Under the conditions of the new era, the adverse factors affecting Marxist faith education and threat analysis is conducive to dealing with challenges and grasping opportunities and improving the ways and methods of Marxist faith education.

According to the report to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the principal contradiction in Chinese society has been turned into a contradiction between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life. The most obvious change is the contradiction between "need" and "production", into the contradiction of "need" and "development", this change reflects the Chinese social productivity improved significantly, rich material wealth, but gave birth to the material desire, people's excessive pursuit of material to make social life secular, while people's perceptual pursuit is also full of rationality and reality. In a "objectifying era", spiritual life is objectified, perceptual stimulation and the satisfaction of intuitive desire become the present purpose of spiritual life, "all physical and spiritual feelings are replaced by all these feelings of simple alienation is the sense of possession [3]." In today's China, it is a secularization and dwarfing of the Marxist belief. Marx pointed out: "People create the environment, and the same environment creates people [4]." Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era. Although we have ushered in a beautiful era of development, the contradictions and problems in development are still the main root causes restricting people's belief and choice.

Table 2. SWOT analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
New economic achievements; New ideas; New international influence	Imbalanced economic and cultural; development ; The relativity of the time-space view in the new era
Opportunities	Threats
The state provides policy support; The achievements made in the new era; China's development is in a period of opportunity	Spiritual life is materialized; The influence of the new contradiction

## 6. Summary

Through the analysis of SWOT situation, as shown in Table 2, it is found that Marxist belief education in the new era has a deep foundation, a good educational background, and has national policy support, which is largely conducive to Marxist belief to occupy the ideological highland of the people and bring a great period of opportunity to Marxist belief education. However, the imbalance between economic and cultural development and the impact of various social trends of thought have also put forward higher challenges to the dissemination and education of Marxist beliefs. Under the new historical conditions, strengthening the study of Marxist belief education, which is not only a practical problem of political significance, but also a necessary academic exploration topic.

## References

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