

On the Anti-corruption Consciousness in Zhou Meisen's Novel "In the Name of the People"

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Abstract

Zhou Meisen is one of the most influential writers in the contemporary writer group, and is known as the first person in China's political novels today. Since 1996, Zhou Meisen has successively created novels that express social and contemporary issues such as "The Right Way on Earth", "Absolute Power", "Made in China", "In the Name of the People", etc. His works are close to real life, express the voice of the masses, and have produced great repercussions in society, "The People's Righteousness" is one of the most representative works. In contrast, in various types of corruption cases, the situation of using human relations as a link to seek benefits is the most common, and "In the Name of the People" tells the story of an "interest group" formed by the collusion of corrupt officials and corrupt officials hidden under the appearance of a good political ecology. However, the harm caused by corruption to society is enormous, so cracking down on corruption and punishing corruption is an indispensable and important content in political life.

Keywords

Zhou Meisen; In the Name of the People; Anti Corruption Awareness.

1. Introduction

Writer Zhou Mason is known for writing political novels. After the mid-1990s, Zhou Meisen, who was famous in the literary world for new historical novels such as "Military Song" and "National Martyrdom", turned to the creation of political novels. In 1994, Zhou Mason returned to his hometown, and the various things encountered in the process of raising funds to build roads in his hometown made Zhou Mason have a great impact. He recognized the hardships of reform and was invited by the leadership to be a temporary secretary for a period of time, which led him to write political novels. In 1995, he published the political novel "The Right Way on Earth". In 1997, Zhou Mason created "Fortune under the Heavens", which was later adapted into a TV series of the same name. In 2009, he published the capital novel "Dreams and Madness", which is the first novel in contemporary China to write about capital positively. In February 2017, the novel "In the Name of the People" was published. In March of the same year, the TV series "In the Name of the People", which he wrote, was broadcast. As soon as this TV series was broadcast, it had a huge response in the society, and for more than a decade, Zhou Meisen worked diligently in the creation of political novels, and won the reputation of "the first person in Chinese political novels".

"The Name of the People" is one of the most representative works in Zhou Mason's political novels. In the same year that the novel was published, the TV series "In the Name of the People", which he wrote, was also adapted to the screen. Since its inception, its ratings have risen steadily, eventually breaking through 8%, setting a new record for the ratings of domestic dramas in the past decade; The number of network views exceeded 24.7 billion. [1] Social topics are constantly discussed: 2.32 billion Weibo with "the name of the people" as the main topic;

The media from all sides have been hotly discussed: the mainstream media collectively voiced, and the average daily reading of articles related to The WeChat public account reached 7.64 million; The highest values of the Baidu Search Index and the WeChat Index reached 4198117 and 105211475 respectively[2] Novels have also gained a lot of attention under the influence of TV series. "In the Name of the People" mainly tells the story of the struggle between the Anti-corruption forces represented by Hou Liangping, director of the Investigation Department of the Anti-corruption General Bureau of the Supreme People's Procuratorate, and the corrupt forces represented by Gao Yuliang, Qi Tongwei, and others. Through the changes in the politics of Handong Province, the author has seen the big from the small, and also revealed the twists and turns of the national political arena. The emergence of corruption is an inevitable consequence of society.

2. Corrupt Forces Represented by Gao Yuliang

Every person and every event in The Name of the People is interconnected. Zhao Dehan case, bite out Ding Yizhen - Ding Yizhen escape - Chen Hai car accident, clue interruption - gale factory storm - Cai successfully reported Ouyang Jing, new clues appeared - Hou Liangping transferred, Ouyang Jing returned to the case - interrogation of Ouyang, confirmed as a case - the main line encountered setbacks - Hou Liangping Zhao Dong came to meet the teacher, new clues appeared - Chen Qingquan returned to the case, Qi Tongwei surfaced - Liu Qingwei surfaced - Liu Qingxing's cause of death verification, Shanshui Group surfaced - Liu Xinjian was arrested, Zhao Ruilong surfaced - Hou Liangping fell, Gao Yuliang surfaced - Liu Xinjian explained that corrupt elements have their own ends. These events are linked one by one, one after another, and the search for this line finally allows the truth to surface. The portrayal of each clue character in the novel is also very prominent and distinctive. Here are three typical characters selected for analysis. The first is the corrupt official who is the "introducer" of the main case - Zhao Dehan. The director of the project department of a national ministry was reported for accepting bribes of tens of millions. When Hou Liangping went to his home to inquire, he ate fried sauce noodles in his mouth, said "the people" and "the party and the government", and said that he only gave 300 yuan of living expenses to the old mother in the countryside every month, and even the four walls of the family were all models of honesty and integrity. But in the end, he found more than 200 million yuan in cash in another hidden mansion, and broke several bank money counters. This person's arrest led to Ding Yizhen, led to the piles of H Province, and was an indispensable key figure.

The second is Qi Tongwei, director of the Public Security Department of H Province. His entire political career was built by corruption. From the initial marriage to the current wife who has no feelings for his own future, to the abuse of power to arrange relatives into the public security system, after the matter was revealed, he disregarded the friendship of the same door, mutilated his brothers and committed intentional homicide, took a stake in the Shanshui Group and used it to illegally raise funds, which is an illegal business operation crime, repeatedly tried to bribe Chen Yan in order to promote, and Gao Xiaoqin of the Shanshui Group privately accepted it, and constantly encouraged his own teacher to recommend him. As the head of the Public Security Department, he knows the law and breaks the law, and is one of the biggest villains in the novel. Everything he did may be because he experienced the misfortune of his youth and wanted to have a better life, but he also touched the bottom line of the law. What we see in him is the truest humanity. Abandoning conscience and original intentions, planning for the career for many years, step by step, and finally paying the price of life. The author's portrayal of him is still a poor man in nature, from a humble but ambitious background, and his excessive thirst for power and wealth is the most fundamental reason for his tragic end.

The third is Gao Yuliang. Gao Yuliang in the novel, who is in a high position, is still on the road of corruption and crime. When the new provincial party secretary was in place, in order to co-opt and consolidate his own power, he colluded with his protégés; Seeing that his position was not secure, he instructed others to frame Hou Liangping for accepting bribes; When he was the secretary of the Luzhou Municipal Party Committee, he used his authority to illegally give Zhao Ruilong, the son of Zhao Lichun, secretary of the provincial party committee, to build the Crescent Lake Food City project... This pile and piece by piece is Gao Yuliang's serious violation of the party's political, organizational, honest, and life discipline, a provocation to the state and the law, and an irresponsibility to the people. This character is derived from real life and is an artistic reproduction of the political life experienced by the author in his early years. Through the portrayal of Secretary Gao, he showed the phenomenon of high-ranking officials in the political arena at that time who relied on their own power to do whatever they wanted, ignored the constraints of the law, and left morality behind. The unbridled pursuit of power and wealth is the fundamental reason why Gao Yuliang embarked on the road of no return, and it is also the most fundamental reason for the emergence of many corrupt phenomena.

3. The Anti-corruption Force Represented by Hou Liangping

In stark opposition to Gao Yuliang is the protagonist of the novel, Hou Liangping. Hou Liangping was a student of Gao Yuliang, a disciple of Qi Tongwei, and a representative of the Supreme Anti-corruption Bureau. Hou Liangping had already set his sights on H Province, where his beloved teacher Gao Yuliang was located, after the Zhao Dehan case. He knew from the beginning that H Province was not simple, but he also knew that continuing to develop it would cause serious damage to the interests of the people. Therefore, he is determined to devote himself to the Anti-corruption work in H Province. With the emergence of one clue after another, he calmly analyzed with the cooperation and help of his colleagues, fought with the corrupt forces, and finally succeeded in uprooting the corrupt forces in H Province. Resolutely fighting corruption is his faith and his commitment to the party, the country and the people. From Hou Liangping's body, we can see the determination of the country to fight corruption and the hatred of corruption in society, he is the epitome of the Anti-corruption force in the current situation, and the embodiment of Zhou Meisen's determination to fight corruption.

The other was Chen Hai, who fought alongside Hou Liangping. In the beginning, he was the director of the Anti-corruption Bureau of H Province, and he had a very keen sense of observation and perception. After receiving Hou Liangping's call, he quickly took action and cooperated with Hou Liangping in cracking down on corrupt elements, and in the process was assassinated and unconscious. Although he is not directly involved in the fight against corruption throughout the story, he is also an indispensable backbone, and Chen Hai is the epitome of ordinary people who fight against dark and corrupt forces in real life. War is cruel and bloody, and the "bloody storm" of the officialdom is not simple, or even darker. If Hou Liangping is the representative of the Anti-corruption elite, then Chen Hai is a more universal representative.

4. The Author's Anti-corruption Concept

After "In the Name of the People" caused a violent response, China Economic Weekly conducted an exclusive interview with Zhou Mason. In this interview, he explains some of the most important issues in the novel. The first is the setting of the corrupt group in the novel, which he says is a depiction of a political ecology that really exists in real life. When some cadres opposed his presentation of China's officialdom, he immediately found General Secretary Xi Jinping's speech at the plenary session of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, saying, "The party will never allow gangs, gangs, or gangs, and gangs. "Those who oppose it are silent. The

reason why he wrote this is to expose it and advocate that the official arena should stress politics and rules, and should not form parties for personal gain, gangs and factions, and create a miasma of black smoke.

Second, "In the Name of the People" has been called "the largest Anti-corruption drama in history". However, many people have misconceptions about the term "largest scale". It is more common to say that the corrupt officials involved in the novel have reached the vice-national level, which is a "height" that has never been seen in previous Anti-corruption novels and Anti-corruption dramas. But Zhou Meisen's own explanation is different from the blow; He believes that he wrote the vice-state level only because he was the old secretary of H Province, running this territory, and when he was a feudal governor for 20 years, he ruined the political ecology of H Province. He believes that the real big scale lies in the fact that in the past, the bureaucratic ecology of gangs and gangs and gangs and the collapse of corruption were not allowed to be written, and now the policy allows you to write [3].

Zhou Meisen's Anti-corruption novels contain ideological heights when expressing "human nature", and an important manifestation is that the writer expresses the true and magnificent social reality in the central structure of "human nature - power", and thus unfolds the examination of the survival, pursuit and evolution of people in industrial civilization. [4] In his novels, we can see the truest side of human nature in the face of power and wealth, and many of the characters in "The Name of the People" have prototypes, such as Zhao Dehan, a corrupt official who was arrested at the beginning, and his prototype is Wei Pengyuan, the "director of the 100 million yuan", who is the former deputy director of the coal department of the National Energy Administration. Since the National Energy Administration is at the level of deputy director, this "deputy director" is actually a department-level official. Although Wei Pengyuan, who is nearly sixty years old, is not of high rank, he has successfully become one of the "well-known fallen officials" because he has been plastered with labels such as "petty officials and huge greed", "low-key hidden Audi cars, high-profile riding worn-out bicycles to work", "family collection of hundreds of millions of yuan in bribes, burning the money counter on the spot" and so on. This is also a major feature of his novels: close to reality. Such creations can arouse the empathy of readers and reflect real problems to a certain extent.

5. Realistic Meaning

Zhou Meisen's Anti-corruption novel is not a pure fiction novel, it is a description of the reality after his personal experience, and the Anti-corruption consciousness and concept expressed in his novel have important significance to reality. In his works, we can see not only a cold political case, but also the warmth of human nature and the power of justice. All literary works can do is to illustrate the problem and attract the attention of society, but the real solution to the problem is to proceed from reality, take action, and let the tough and effective Anti-corruption action not only stay on the pages of books and television screens. To solve the problem of corruption, we must first face corruption head-on, and only when the phenomenon of corruption is exposed can it be better solved. Secondly, we must have a resolute Anti-corruption attitude; Anti-corruption is one of the main themes that cannot be ignored in any era, and only firm Anti-corruption determination and strong Anti-corruption forces can achieve the ultimate goal of Anti-corruption. The ups and downs of the plot of the novel also hint that the road to Anti-corruption must be tortuous, and we have a long way to go; However, every successful Anti-corruption campaign also shows the author's great confidence in the cause of Anti-corruption, no matter how many twists and turns there will be, we always believe that the "sword" of Anti-corruption can directly hit the "life gate" of corruption, and finally return us a comfortable and peaceful political ecological environment.

"Articles are written for the times, songs and poems are written for the sake of things." Literary works originate from the present, resonate with the same frequency of the times, and in recent years, with the increasing attention of the Party Central Committee, Anti-corruption works have appeared more and more in the public's field of vision. It can be found that the reason why the masses of the people like to hear and hear is not only because of its literary and artistic value, but also because they are more concerned about the most real corruption situation of society reflected in these works. Corruption is born from people, and ultimately harms others and harms themselves, bringing great disasters to society, so the people hate corruption, these Anti-corruption works speak the voice of the people, gain their wide support, and produce immeasurable social significance, and everyone is inextricably linked to Anti-corruption. Writer Zhou Meisen analyzes social problems from the perspective of the people, and he not only shows the achievements of Anti-corruption, but also excavates the weaknesses of human nature through one jaw-dropping corruption case after another, revealing the changes in people in material society. The practical value of the work is not only in disclosure, but also in the hint and wake-up call to the vast number of political officials, "serving the people" is not just a slogan, but a belief and alarm bell that should always be in the heart. Only when there is the people in the eyes, the faith in the heart, and the clarity in the hands can a socialist harmonious society be truly established, which is the ultimate meaning and value of Anti-corruption works.

Acknowledgments

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