

Research on the Ideological and Political Education of Lao People's Revolutionary Party

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Abstract

The Lao People's Revolutionary Party has carried out ideological and political education for more than 60 years. It has gradually enriched the ideological education of Marxism Leninism in various periods after the national democratic revolution, the establishment of the people's democratic regime, reform and opening up and the disintegration of the Soviet Union. The main contents of Kaysone Phomvihane's ideological education and the party spirit education of Party members and Party cadres have left valuable experience in carrying out ideological and political education, such as: fully understand the importance of Ideological and political education, pay attention to the effectiveness of Ideological and political education means, and accurately grasp the Modernity of Ideological and political education. This has certain positive significance for enriching and developing the theory of Ideological and political education in socialist countries.

Keywords

Lao People's Revolutionary Party; Ideological and Political Education; Experience.

1. Introduction

Laos is a socialist country, in terms of Ideological and political education, Laos has inherited the fine traditions of socialist countries including the Soviet Union, China and Vietnam. The Lao People's Revolutionary Party was established in 1955. After more than 60 years of practice, it has gradually formed and improved the content of Ideological and political education, and made some creative attempts in the means of Ideological and political education in line with the national conditions of Laos. By studying the development process, main contents and experience accumulation of the ideological and political education of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, it is conducive to enrich and improve the theory of Ideological and political education in socialist countries.

2. The Development of the Ideological and Political Education of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party

2.1. National Democratic Revolution Period

From 1975 to 1985, it belongs to the period of Lao national democratic revolution, which is a historical period in which Laos encountered foreign aggression and resisted foreign aggression and achieved great victory. On March 22, 1955, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party was born. From the date of its birth, it has undertaken a great historical mission, that is, under the guidance of Marxism, unite the people against the French colonists and the new colonists of the United States, end the colonial rule and prolonged wars of foreign powers, establish the dictatorship of the proletariat and strive for the complete elimination of the class and the realization of socialism. In order to accomplish this historical mission, the party program and party constitution adopted by the second congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party clarified the party's political tasks and methods of struggle in the period of the national

democratic revolution. In addition, it also emphasizes the need to carry out ideological and political education. The objects of education include leading cadres, people inside and outside the party, soldiers, representatives of social elites and ordinary working people. By carrying out ideological and political education for them at different levels, igniting their patriotic feelings, revolutionary enthusiasm and fighting spirit, and enhancing their political consciousness, revolutionary consciousness and advanced consciousness. In order to do a better job of ideological and political education, the advanced elements in the party also specially established the "Laos Patriotic Front". After receiving ideological and political education, some influential and prestigious minority leaders joined the Patriotic Front and held important leadership positions, playing an important and positive role in the victory of the national democratic revolution. The Lao People's Revolutionary Party was good at using ideological and political education during the national democratic revolution, and finally overthrew the old regime in 1975, abolished the autocratic monarchy, and established the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

2.2. At the Beginning of the Establishment of the People's Democratic Regime

From 1975 to 1985, it belongs to the early stage of the establishment of the Lao People's democratic regime, which is a historical period when Laos drew gourds and gourds from the Soviet Union. Since the establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 1975, Laos has chosen to take the socialist road, and the Soviet Union is the representative country for the successful opening and construction of the socialist road. Therefore, copying the Soviet model has become the inevitable choice for Laos to build a socialist country in the early stage. Laos completely copied the contents, methods and means of Ideological and political education in the Soviet Union into its own country, followed Lenin's guidelines for ideological and political education, implemented ideological and political education in all aspects of politics, ideology and organization of all members of the society, and carried out ideological education on Marxist Theory to the broad masses of the people by means of indoctrination, cramming and other similar ideological and political education. At the national level, Marxism will be raised to the mainstream ideology of the country. However, Laos did not follow the principle of seeking truth from facts, ignored its specific national conditions and blindly followed the Soviet model, it caused dissatisfaction among monks and religious figures, which hindered the development of Ideological and political education. Therefore, Laos has accelerated the pace of exploring and building socialist ideological and political education with Lao characteristics.

2.3. Early Stage of Reform and Opening up

From 1986 to 1991, it was the initial stage of Laos' reform and opening up, and it was a new period in which Laos underwent drastic reforms internally and actively opened up to the outside world. In 1986, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party held its fourth congress, at which the general secretary Kaysone Phomvihane formally put forward the strategic policy of reform and opening up for the first time. It not only made specific arrangements and plans in terms of economic policies, but also redefined the main task of ideological and political education. Its main task is to let the broad masses of the people attach importance to reform and opening up, give them confidence and support, and reduce their rejection of reform and opening up. At the same time, it also puts forward that we must pay attention to carrying out ideological and theoretical education for teenagers, firmly grasp the main position of school education, and actively publicize the major principles and policies of Marxism Leninism and the People's Revolutionary Party. Through a series of Ideological and political education activities, the traditional and backward ideological traditions of the broad masses of the people have gradually disappeared in the long river of history, and advanced and innovative ideas have taken their place, which promoted the smooth implementation of the reform and opening-up

policy, the social outlook of Laos has taken on a new look, and since then, Laos has opened a new situation of comprehensive and high-speed development.

2.4. After the Disintegration of the Soviet Union

From 1991 to the present, it belongs to a new development period of Laos after the disintegration of the Soviet Union. It is a period of continuous Laos and localization development without the Soviet model. The disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991, the collapse of the bipolar pattern of the US-Soviet hegemony, socialism suffered a major setback, Laos had doubts and lost confidence in communism and socialism. The strength of the socialist camp led by the Soviet Union has been weakened, while the strength of capitalism led by the United States has been strengthened. Inevitably, some people have turned to support the development model of western capitalism and began to advocate Western democratic thought, resulting in great differences in Lao social thought. The people are distracted and the society is turbulent. In order to reverse this chaotic situation, stabilize people's minds and unify the thoughts of the whole Laos and the whole party, the Fifth National Congress of the Communist Party of China was held in March of the same year, which deeply reflected on the causes of the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the drastic changes in Eastern Europe, the reason is that the Party Central Committee slackened the development of political and ideological work, leaving the scourge of Ideological and political chaos. Therefore, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party draws lessons from it, pays special attention to the ideological and political education for the broad masses of the people, unifies the thoughts of the whole society and the whole people, constantly smashes the enemy's aggressive conspiracy and evil tricks, and builds the party's grass-roots organizations into strong battle fortresses. At the same time, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party organized the masses of the people to participate in various classes, and through this activity, publicized the superiority of the Lao people's democratic system and a series of achievements since the founding of the country to the people, and enhanced their confidence in socialism. The publicity and education activities have achieved remarkable results.

3. The Main Contents of the Ideological and Political Education of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party

3.1. Marxist Leninist Ideological Education

The lessons of the collapse of the Soviet Union and the great changes in Eastern Europe are still vivid, and Laos still remembers the bad effects of the great changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Therefore, the banner of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party clearly opposes dogmatism and various social thoughts that distort, slander and deny Marxism Leninism. [1] Simultaneously, the new Party Constitution adopted at the Tenth National Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party stipulates that the Lao People's Revolutionary Party is a party that protects the interests of all ethnic groups and people at all levels, and must take Marxism Leninism and Kaysone Phomvihane thought as the party's ideological and theoretical basis and action guide. [2] The Tenth National Congress of the Lao People's revolutionary party clearly established the leading core position of Marxist Leninist thought in the whole party in the form of Party Constitution, and raised Marxist Leninist thought to a particularly important new height. In order to strengthen the ideological education of Marxism Leninism, unify the thoughts of the whole Party and the people of the whole country, to strengthen the confidence of the broad masses of the people in socialism, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party adheres to the implementation of the method of five combinations to strengthen the education of Marxism Leninism.

Lao General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane pointed out that there are still certain limitations in the level of class struggle, consciousness progressiveness and all aspects of the level of our party members, especially the management level. There are also the awareness of small producers and the ideological style restricted by the level of productivity. [3] The Lao People's Revolutionary Party actively carries out Marxist Leninist ideological education, starting with all Party members and Party cadres, adheres to the working method of analyzing specific issues, and educates the ideological levels of different party members and the responsibilities of different party members and cadres; Adhere to the one-to-one working method, and let senior leaders lead low-level leaders to learn; Continuously enhance the cultivation of party spirit by using excellent organizations such as party schools to carry out Marxist Leninist ideological education for Party members and leading cadres.

In addition, large, medium and primary schools have been set up as the main positions for the development of Marxist-Leninist ideological education, and national policies and capital investment are tilted towards the school's Marxist-Leninist ideological education work. At the same time, set up teaching materials scientifically and rationally according to the national political needs, and implement the Marxist-Leninist thought into the education on the history of the development of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the history of the Lao national development; connect the knowledge-based teaching of professional courses with legal education and life safety education, and highlight the political and directional nature of teaching content. Generally, adhere to the student-oriented principle, guide students to master the standpoint, viewpoint and method of Marxism, guide students to understand and agree with the great thought of Marxism-Leninism, love the motherland, support the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, and have full confidence in the socialist road.

Finally, the broad masses of the people are the masters of the country and the indispensable educational object for Laos to implement Marxism Leninism. The Lao People's Revolutionary Party is well aware that although the cultural level of the broad masses of the people is not high, it attaches particular importance to traditional festivals and religious rituals. Therefore, Marxist Leninist education for the broad masses of the people must not be indoctrinated like students, but should be close to their life, their reality and their needs. Appropriate use should be made of some festivals with extraordinary commemorative significance and major festival activities to carry out Marxist Leninist ideological education. For example, the great achievements made by the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the great achievements made by the country in recent years are vividly presented on the commemorative days such as National Day and Kaysone Phomvihane's birthday, the happy and beautiful life of the people is vividly depicted through festivals such as the Tha Luang Festival, Loy Krathong Festival, and Dragon Boat Races.

3.2. Kaysone Phomvihane's Ideological Education

Kaysone Phomvihane is a great historical figure in Laos. He not only founded the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, but also led the people to create the cause of reform and opening up. The drastic changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have dampened the enthusiasm of the socialist cause in Laos. The development path of Laos has seen a fork in the road. The ideological differences within the party are becoming larger and larger. The hostile forces at home and abroad are ready to move like poisonous snakes. There are many crises around the Lao People's revolutionary party. In the face of the ever-changing domestic and international situation, Kaysone Phomvihane pointed out that if we do not carry out ideological and political education in time and effectively, it will produce negative thoughts, hesitation or misunderstanding, and even doubt the party's correct line, which will eventually lead to the failure to complete the above line. [4]

Kaysone Phomvihane stressed that the main objectives and tasks of Ideological and political education and theoretical construction are: to make the whole Party and the people of the

whole country understand the line of continuing to build and develop the people's democratic system, understand the starting point and actual situation of the country and its own place or grass-roots level, so as to implement the above line; to make the whole Party and the people of the whole country aware of the enemy's conspiracy and dirty acts, so as to improve their personal awareness of prevention and jointly to defend the motherland; to make the whole party and the people of the whole country deeply understand fine traditions of the party, such as the tradition of heroic struggle for the legitimate interests of the country and the people of all ethnic groups, the tradition of unity, the tradition of sharing weal and woe with the people, the tradition of combining Marxism Leninism with the reality of the country, and so on; to make party members, cadres and the people aware of their tasks, duties and obligations, abide by discipline and law, enjoy rights and interests, fulfill their obligations, unite and live in harmony, and consciously protect and carry forward the fine cultural traditions of the country and all ethnic groups. [5]

Meanwhile, Kaysone Phomvihane talked about the ways and methods of carrying out ideological and political work. Kaysone Phomvihane believed that: ideological work is a work of dealing with people and a work to win the hearts of the people. Therefore, ideological and political work should be true, objective and credible; should grasp key points, summarize and exchange experience; should be sharp and adaptable; should enhance the appeal, combat effectiveness and popularity of Ideological and political work. The forms of publicity should be lively and diverse, meet the needs of the objectives of each period, and change the old model of false publicity that boasted, reported good news without reporting bad news, and lacked face-to-face communication. [6] It can be seen that Kaysone Phomvihane attaches great importance to the art of working methods of Ideological and political education, supplemented by the art of methods, so as to achieve twice the result with half the effort and make the effect of Ideological and political education immediately.

3.3. Party Spirit Education for Party Members and Cadres

The Lao People's Revolutionary Party's Ideological and political education for Party members and cadres is to make party members and cadres strengthen their belief in communism and socialism, carry forward the spirit of struggle to realize the cause of communism and socialism, enhance their sense of dedication to serving the people, and enhance their party spirit cultivation and improve their political ability. The Seventh National Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party further emphasized the necessity and importance of Ideological and political education and deployed the objectives and tasks of Ideological and political work. The document "resolution on the basic principles and measures of political and ideological work under the new situation" details the key contents, objectives, tasks and main measures of carrying out ideological and political work for Party members and Party cadres, and provides a direction and policy for the implementation of their ideological and political education. It instructs to focus on the ideological realm of party members and party members and cadres, the cultivation of party spirit and the ability to serve the people, so as to raise their ideological level to an unprecedented new height. At the same time, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party also actively plays the role of media such as party newspapers, party journals and the Internet, to promote the spirit of patriotism and socialism to correctly guide the thinking of party members and party members and cadres.

4. The Important Experience of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party in Ideological and Political Education

4.1. Fully Understand the Importance of Ideological and Political Education

In the process of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party leading the Lao people to carry out national democratic revolution, socialist construction, reform and opening up, we should put ideological and political education in an important position and make ideological and political education play a prerequisite role. This is a great wisdom of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. The ruling ability of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party has been continuously strengthened and the cause of leadership has been continuously strengthened, thanks to the great spiritual support role played by ideological and political education. The reason why the Lao People's Revolutionary Party was able to overcome one difficulty after another in each period is not only because the Lao People's Revolutionary Party chose a correct path, but also closely related to the ideological and political education.

4.2. Pay Attention to the Effectiveness of Ideological and Political Education Means

Ideological and political education is a work in the field of ideology. To carry out ideological and political education well, it must be supplemented by practical and effective methods. In the historical process of carrying out ideological and political education, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party has gradually realized the strength of the broad masses of the people and carried out targeted and planned ideological and political education around the vital interests of the broad masses of the people, which makes the broad masses of the people happy to accept the political thought of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and turn it into a powerful force to complete the tasks of revolution, construction, reform and opening up.

4.3. Accurately Grasp the Times of Ideological and Political Education

Ideological and political education must be carried out according to the changes of the times and its characteristics if it is to be widely accepted by people. This is an important experience of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party in the process of leading revolution, construction, reform and opening up. The more than 60 years since the establishment of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party has been a period of great changes in Laos, and it has successfully achieved the most profound and greatest social changes in the history of Laos. For more than 60 years, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party has gone through different periods and completed different tasks. Therefore, it also puts forward different requirements for ideological and political education in different periods. Adapting to this requirement and constantly adjusting the contents and methods of Ideological and political education has played a very important role in completing the objectives and tasks of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party in different periods.

5. Conclusion

In the context of globalization and information networking, although the Lao People's Revolutionary Party has gradually improved and mastered the contents and methods of ideological and political education, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party's ideological and political education must maintain its original socialist aspiration, based on its own national conditions, and closely follow the development trend of the world to continuously stimulate new vitality..

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