

Research on the Impact of the Consciousness of the Chinese National Community on the Ideological and Political Education of Students in Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps Universities

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Abstract: The consciousness of the Chinese national community, as a key force promoting national identity, has a profound impact on the ideological and political education of students in Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC) universities. This paper explores the formation and development of the consciousness of the Chinese national community, examining its theoretical foundations, historical trajectory, and contemporary characteristics. It further analyzes the basic theories of ideological and political education, the current situation, and practical applications within XPCC universities, focusing on how the consciousness of the Chinese national community plays a role in these institutions. The research reveals that this consciousness significantly enhances students' sense of national identity and the shaping of their values, optimizes educational content and resources, and drives innovations in educational methods and strategies. This study provides theoretical support and practical guidance for further improving the quality of ideological and political education in XPCC universities.

Keywords: Consciousness of the Chinese national community; XPCC universities; national identity; educational innovation

Introduction

In the context of globalization, the consciousness of the Chinese national community has become a crucial foundation for national unity and identity, with its influence on ideological and political education increasingly gaining attention. Particularly in XPCC universities, the diversity of the student body and the unique educational environment present distinct challenges and opportunities for ideological and political education. In such a complex setting, the consciousness of the Chinese national community not only strengthens students' understanding and recognition of Chinese history, culture, and values, but also provides theoretical support and practical pathways for promoting unity and integration among students from different ethnic groups. Therefore, an in-depth study of how this consciousness impacts ideological and political education in XPCC universities is of significant theoretical and practical value. This paper aims to systematically analyze the formation and development of the consciousness of the Chinese national community and explore its specific influence on ideological and political education in XPCC universities, with the goal of offering valuable insights for the formulation and implementation of relevant educational policies. Such research not only contributes to enhancing the quality of ideological and political education in XPCC universities and promoting the holistic development of students but also has a far-reaching positive impact on national unity and social stability.

1. Formation and Development Background of the Consciousness of the Chinese National Community

1.1 Theoretical Foundation of the Consciousness of the Chinese National Community

The consciousness of the Chinese national community is a core component of modern national identity. Its essence encompasses a deep sense of recognition towards Chinese history, culture, and language, as well as a broad concern for the shared destiny of the nation and the people. The key

elements of this consciousness include a profound understanding of Chinese culture, shared cultural traditions, and a spirit of unity and collaboration in the face of national and ethnic challenges. From a theoretical perspective, this consciousness is rooted in China's long historical background and rich cultural heritage. Ancient China's feudal system and cultural norms, through long-term political changes and social development, gradually laid the foundation for national identity. For instance, Confucianism's concept of a "Great Harmony" world emphasizes social harmony and collective progress, reflecting a concern for national interests. Meanwhile, Daoism's idea of "harmony in diversity" advocates pluralism and peaceful coexistence, providing philosophical support for national identity. These thoughts not only shaped the ancient Chinese view of nationality but also laid the cultural and philosophical groundwork for the formation of the consciousness of the Chinese national community.^[1]

The national awakening during the late Qing Dynasty, particularly the practice of national unity during the Anti-Japanese War, further deepened the historical context of this consciousness. The national crisis at the end of the Qing Dynasty sparked widespread national consciousness, and the success of the Xinhai Revolution marked the initial establishment of this consciousness within the modern national framework. During the Anti-Japanese War, the close cooperation between different ethnic groups and regions significantly strengthened the consciousness of the Chinese national community in times of national crisis. In the new era, with the rapid modernization of the country and its rising international status, this consciousness has further developed, particularly within the strategic context of the Belt and Road Initiative and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. The consciousness of the Chinese national community has not only gained broad recognition domestically but also exerted a stronger influence internationally. This development reflects the self-reinforcement of this consciousness under new historical conditions and the country's active concern for national destiny in a globalized world. Overall, the formation and development of the consciousness of the Chinese national community encompass both ancient philosophical and cultural traditions as well as modern national awakening and state-building, providing an important theoretical foundation for the ideological and political education of students in XPCC universities .

1.2 The Formation Process of the Consciousness of the Chinese National Community

The formation of the consciousness of the Chinese national community has undergone a long and complex historical process. From the early feudal society, through the political unification of the Qin and Han Dynasties, to modern national movements and state-building, this consciousness gradually matured and solidified. The political unity and cultural norms of ancient China laid the foundation for the development of national identity. The national crisis in the late Qing Dynasty and the success of the Xinhai Revolution marked the establishment of the consciousness of the Chinese national community within the modern state framework.^[2]

In the 21st century, this consciousness has embraced new opportunities for development. The rapid growth of the country and its rising international status have made this consciousness more prominent. Particularly under the context of the Belt and Road Initiative and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, this consciousness has been widely recognized and promoted, reflecting the nation's confidence and concern for national destiny in the face of globalization.

1.3 Contemporary Characteristics of the Consciousness of the Chinese National Community

In the contemporary era, the consciousness of the Chinese national community exhibits distinct characteristics. Firstly, there is a deepening of national identity. With the enhancement of national comprehensive strength and the expansion of international influence, both individual and collective senses of national identity have been significantly strengthened. Secondly, the rise of cultural confidence has provided a solid foundation for the formation of this consciousness. The fusion of traditional and modern culture has boosted cultural confidence, further promoting the deepening of national identity.

Additionally, the reinforcement of collectivism is particularly evident in social governance and public affairs, where the unity of individual and collective interests becomes a dominant value. In the context of globalization, the consciousness of the Chinese national community extends beyond domestic boundaries to overseas Chinese and the international community, reflecting broader influence. This expansion of a global perspective enriches the connotation of this consciousness, making it more globally recognized and culturally influential in the international context.^[3]

These characteristics not only reveal the main manifestations of the consciousness of the Chinese national community in contemporary times but also lay a solid theoretical foundation for exploring its role in the ideological and political education of students in XPCC universities .

2. Theories of Ideological and Political Education and Their Application in XPCC Universities

2.1 Basic Theories of Ideological and Political Education

Ideological and political education is a core component of the educational system, with its theoretical foundation encompassing multiple aspects such as educational goals, core content, and implementation methods. The primary objective is to cultivate students' correct values, outlook on life, and worldview, aiming to enhance their moral qualities and sense of social responsibility, thereby enabling them to play an active role in society. Specifically, the goals of ideological and political education include helping students establish firm ideals and beliefs, develop good moral character, and enhance their legal awareness and civic consciousness, thus laying a solid foundation for their overall development. The core content includes political theory education, moral education, legal knowledge education, and civic consciousness education. These components are delivered through a systematic combination of curriculum arrangements and practical activities, enabling students to comprehensively understand and master ideological and political theories, thereby forming stable values and a sense of social responsibility.

In terms of educational methods and strategies, ideological and political education emphasizes diverse teaching methods and interactive teaching models to suit the cognitive levels and psychological characteristics of students at different stages. A combination of traditional classroom teaching and modern multimedia technologies forms a rich teaching model. For example, multimedia presentations and video materials vividly and intuitively present theoretical content. Interactive teaching methods such as case analysis, role-playing, and social practice not only enhance students' engagement but also improve their practical skills. Case analysis links theory with real-world situations, role-playing fosters an understanding of social roles, and social practice enables students to apply learned knowledge in real environments. Teaching strategies focus on personalization and precision, designing educational plans that cater to students' needs by analyzing their cognitive and psychological characteristics, thereby effectively achieving educational goals. This flexible and targeted teaching approach not only improves the effectiveness of education but also promotes students' autonomous learning and deep thinking.^[4]

2.2 Current Situation of Ideological and Political Education in XPCC Universities

Ideological and political education in XPCC (Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps) universities exhibits unique characteristics due to China's specific social and historical background. First, the student body in these universities primarily consists of students from different regions, including ethnic minorities and students from economically underdeveloped areas, which necessitates highly targeted and adaptable educational approaches. Second, given the special social functions and historical missions of XPCC universities, ideological and political education in these institutions must balance the needs of national strategies and the realities of border regions.

Currently, the ideological and political education in XPCC universities is characterized by a well-established curriculum system, rich educational resources, and diverse teaching methods. However, some issues remain, such as a mismatch between the educational content and students' actual needs, a lack of diversity in teaching methods and techniques, inadequate implementation of practical aspects of teaching, and low participation in practical activities. These issues affect the effectiveness of ideological and political education to some extent, necessitating systematic analysis and targeted improvements to enhance educational quality.

2.3 Practical Application of Ideological and Political Education in XPCC Universities

In XPCC universities, the practical application of ideological and political education demonstrates its innovation and relevance in real-world scenarios. Practical application encompasses course development, teaching implementation, and effectiveness evaluation. In terms of course development, XPCC universities design diversified ideological and political education courses that integrate local characteristics and students' actual needs. For example, they develop course modules like A Brief History of Xinjiang, which align with themes such as ethnic unity, social development, and national

security, thereby increasing the relevance and practicality of the teaching content.^[5]

In teaching implementation, XPCC universities emphasize the combination of theory and practice by organizing social practice, volunteer services, and cultural activities. By integrating in-class learning with extracurricular activities, they further enhance students' understanding and application of ideological and political theories. Particularly in areas such as ethnic unity education and social responsibility education, specific practical activities help students experience and practice the core values of ideological and political education in real-life situations.

In terms of effectiveness evaluation, XPCC universities regularly conduct educational assessments and gather student feedback to monitor the effectiveness of their teaching and identify existing issues. By using a variety of evaluation methods such as questionnaires, interviews, and academic performance assessments, they conduct comprehensive evaluations of the implementation of ideological and political education and make corresponding adjustments and improvements based on the results.

These practices have yielded some success in the implementation of ideological and political education in XPCC universities. However, continuous exploration and optimization are needed to better meet the growth needs of students and the educational goals of the country.

3. The Role of the Consciousness of the Chinese National Community in Ideological and Political Education in XPCC Universities

3.1 Influence on Students' Ideological Perspectives

The consciousness of the Chinese national community plays a crucial role in ideological and political education in XPCC (Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps) universities, profoundly influencing students' ideological perspectives and value systems. First, this consciousness significantly enhances students' sense of national identity. XPCC universities attract students from various ethnic groups and regions, and through systematic education on national community consciousness, students gain a deeper understanding of the history, culture, and values of the Chinese nation. This increased sense of identity not only deepens students' sense of belonging to the nation but also promotes mutual understanding and respect among different ethnic groups, contributing to a harmonious campus environment. In this context, students recognize their role and responsibilities as members of the Chinese nation and actively participate in the practice of ethnic unity and collective development, thereby strengthening national cohesion.

Secondly, the consciousness of the Chinese national community has a profound impact on shaping and transforming students' values. Throughout the process of ideological and political education, students internalize core concepts such as ethnic unity and collective development, gradually forming values based on collectivism. These values emphasize the relationship between the individual and the collective or nation, encouraging students to focus on social responsibility and collective interests while pursuing personal success. This shift in ideological perspectives and value optimization is facilitated by this educational model, which not only enhances students' moral qualities and social responsibility but also fosters a deep affection for the collective and the nation. This prepares them to integrate more actively into society in their future academic and professional endeavors. Overall, the consciousness of the Chinese national community in XPCC universities' ideological and political education demonstrates the transformative power of education on students' ideological perspectives, leading to comprehensive value development.^[6]

3.2 Optimization of Educational Content

The integration of the consciousness of the Chinese national community has profoundly impacted the optimization of educational content in XPCC universities' ideological and political education, driving systematic integration and innovative applications of educational materials. First, in terms of course and textbook integration, the introduction of national community consciousness has led to a comprehensive optimization of course and textbook content. By incorporating key themes such as national community building, cultural heritage, and national identity into ideological and political courses, the curriculum better addresses students' needs and contemporary developments. This optimization enriches the content of textbooks, enhances the systematic and hierarchical nature of the curriculum, and improves its relevance and effectiveness. It enables students to better understand and

internalize the core values of the national community consciousness, thus improving the quality and outcomes of education.

Additionally, in the innovative use of educational resources, the incorporation of national community consciousness has led to the diversification and innovation of teaching resources. For example, XPCC universities actively apply advanced tools such as multimedia technology, virtual reality, and big data to develop interactive teaching platforms with national community characteristics. These innovations not only increase the interactivity and engagement of teaching but also allow students to better understand and experience the values and significance of the national community consciousness in a more direct and vivid way. By combining theory with practical experience, students not only master the knowledge but also recognize the real-world implications and applications of national community consciousness, enhancing the effectiveness of learning and their engagement. This resource innovation enriches teaching methods, modernizes the content, and provides strong support for the deepening and improvement of ideological and political education.

3.3 Innovation in Educational Methods and Strategies

The influence of the consciousness of the Chinese national community is also reflected in the innovation of educational methods and strategies. First, in terms of teaching methods, XPCC universities have introduced case-based learning, project-driven learning, and seminar-based teaching to enhance the practicality and engagement of ideological and political education. These methods allow students to analyze and solve problems within specific contexts, leading to a deeper understanding of the practical application of national community consciousness, thereby improving the effectiveness of education and student participation.

Second, in terms of educational strategies, XPCC universities have implemented targeted and systematic strategies to deliver ideological and political education. For example, they have established specialized plans for ethnic unity education, setting up related educational projects and activities, thus forming a multi-level, multi-channel educational network. These strategies not only create a positive and progressive educational atmosphere on campus but also extend the reach of education through off-campus activities and social practice, enhancing the effectiveness of the education.

In summary, the introduction of the consciousness of the Chinese national community in ideological and political education at XPCC universities has facilitated the transformation of students' ideological perspectives, optimized educational content and teaching resources, and promoted innovation in teaching methods and strategies. Together, these impacts have driven the modernization and systematization of ideological and political education, enhancing the quality and effectiveness of education.

Conclusion

The study demonstrates that the consciousness of the Chinese national community has played a significant and positive role in ideological and political education at XPCC universities. First, it has notably enhanced students' sense of national identity and value systems, fostering a deeper understanding and recognition of the shared history and culture of the Chinese nation in a multicultural environment. Second, the integration of this consciousness has not only optimized the educational content and promoted the systematic integration of curricula and textbooks but also encouraged the innovative use of teaching resources, thereby improving the modernization and adaptability of education. Additionally, the consciousness of the Chinese national community has driven innovation in educational methods and strategies, making ideological and political education more aligned with students' actual needs and the development of the times.

However, current research also identifies certain challenges in the implementation of ideological and political education, such as the need for better alignment between educational content and students' needs, as well as the diversified application of teaching methods. Future research could explore the following directions: (1) investigating the specific impact of the consciousness of the Chinese national community on different types of students to further refine educational strategies; (2) assessing the effectiveness of innovative teaching resources and methods in practice to optimize teaching practices; and (3) continuously updating and refining ideological and political education content by considering emerging social issues and international contexts to maintain educational foresight and effectiveness. By continuously exploring and optimizing these areas, the aim is to provide more effective ideological

and political education solutions for XPCC universities and other educational institutions, thereby promoting the comprehensive development of students and fostering social harmony and stability.

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