

## Study on the Differentiation of Peasants After the Founding of New China

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### Abstract

Along with the development of social economy and the deepening of market reform, the peasants in China are in a fast social differentiation, so it is significant to study the problem of peasants' differentiation. Based on the existing research results in this field, this paper makes a comprehensive study on the differentiation of peasants by the position, viewpoint and method of Marx, and points out the factors of peasants' differentiation, and puts forward the basic ideas and policy suggestions.

**Key words:** Peasants' class differentiation; Ideas and countermeasures; Labourer

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### INTRUDUTION

From the strict sense, the concept of "peasant" includes three meanings: one refers to a kind of profession, the professional workers engaged in agricultural production; Second is class in the sense of peasants, the political significance of the social form of a group, because in the agricultural production is not occupy or occupy as little important production data of the land, and is ruled by the landlord class in society, the status of exploitation and oppression; it is the household registration system in the sense of peasants, which refers to a kind of identity.

Chinese peasants are not primarily a professional concept, but an identity concept. Under the planned

economy, the concept of identity, occupation and residence of peasants are highly coincident. Since the reform and opening up, the social structure of urban and rural areas has become loose and rapidly differentiated. The peasants get a certain degree of career choice and freedom of movement. The concept of peasant covers the identity of peasants, which is characterized by the identity of the concept of identity and professional concept of two.

There is no special definition of the concept of peasants' differentiation in the literature material. At present, the research on the differentiation of peasants is that the differentiation is a major phenomenon in the rural social structure. Referring to the relevant concepts, we believe that the peasants' differentiation refers to the process of a variety of different social status in the social system, which is assumed by the single social status, which is assumed to have a single function. Peasants' differentiation has two important characteristics: functional specificity and position diversification.

## 1. THE HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF THE PEASANTS' DIFFERENTIATION AFTER THE FOUNDING OF THE NEW CHINA

### 1.1 The Peasants' Differentiation of Land Reform Period

In the early period after the founding of new China, accounted for 4% of the population of the landlord class accounted for about 50% of the land, peasants accounted for the population of about 10%, landlords and rich peasants occupy rural land up to 65% the proportion of. The middle peasants accounted for about 20% of the total population, land occupied 20%. Poor peasants accounted for the rural population of about 70%, but the land occupied only 15%. After the land reform movement, the land tenure of our country has been changed completely,

and the stratum structure of our country's rural areas is changing along with the change. Accounting for 91.9% of the rural population of poor and lower middle peasants, 91.3% of all arable land possession; the original accounting for 7.9% of the rural population of landlords and rich peasants, land occupied by 8.6%. According to class composition and the amount of production data possession of view, after the land reform, peasants can be divided into: The rich peasants, middle peasants, the poor peasants and farm labourers, after the land reform, the economic status of peasants and to share more than before; middle peasants is in a stratum between the rich and the poor peasants and farm labourers, the middle peasants generally occupy certain land, labor, tools and other production data. The poor peasants, the poor peasants and farm labourers are peasants in the largest number of part.

### **1.2 Peasants' Differentiation in Planned Economy Period**

Anti differentiation in the period of socialist transformation. After the reform of land conversion and the trend of development and the new peasants' differentiation phenomenon of the rural landlords, rich peasants and middle peasants gradually eliminated, this kind of "anti differentiation". By the end of 1953 the government began to mobilize the majority of peasants into the community, to the first climax in 1955, by the end of 10, the total number of peasants into the community in the country accounted for 32%, to December increased by 63.3%. The socialist transformation of agriculture completely wiped out in rural areas of the original social stratification, rich peasants and middle peasants, poverty, farm labourers, all walks of life are unified to the collective agricultural cooperatives, the rich peasants class as in the countryside last exploiting class, with the rich peasants economy, banned thoroughly eliminated, rural all members of society have become socialist collective peasants.

Peasants' differentiation during the period of people's Commune. The people's commune period the differentiation of peasants, outstanding performance for human peasants of non forced division of agricultural vocational differentiation and political. The people's commune is characterized by "equalitarianism", all the means of production reverted to the public, the abolition of the individual members of the private plots and household sideline production, and vigorous in the commune "two Ping". Applied in the people's commune system, the individual peasants completely submerged in the collective unified management and leadership, no individual rights to speak of. "Steel as the key link" slogan put forward and fronts have to deploy a large number of labor force engaged in the mass movement of steelmaking, artificially caused the labor on a large scale in the flow of the city and the countryside and peasants artificial non-agricultural vocational differentiation

started. The extreme anti - differentiation of the peasants economy, and the people's forced division of the political. 1958 the National People's Congress passed the "People's Republic of China registered permanent residence registration ordinance", in the form of law will restrict the freedom of movement of household registration management. The construction of a system of two identity ranks, giving the members of the society in different political, social and economic status.

In September 1960, Central proposed adjustment, consolidation, enriches and improves the eight character principle, began to re adjust the relationship between urban and rural areas and the relationship between the workers and peasants. Downsizing the workforce and the urban population, greatly enhancing the agricultural production of the first line of labor, reduce the country's wage costs and the supply of goods, the resumption of agricultural production has played a very important role. The interests of the state, the collective and the individual in the country, the state of state of the control over the society, and gradually restore the original state of the peasant.

The social disorder during the period of "Great Cultural Revolution". "Cultural Revolution" in addition to binary the status hierarchy system continue to affect peasants status, social and political life in rural areas further highly politicized and pan class, economic egalitarianism and politics on level disparities exist, education flow mechanism is completely block, twisted. Uninterrupted political movement of rural society has the full impact, because of political reasons and the vicissitudes of life is particularly prominent, social differentiation in confusion disorderly state. Rural social differentiation on the one hand is completely erased differences in economic benefits, will political opposition raised to a prominent position, normal social stratum differentiation stagnation. Society has been re divided in another way, a considerable part of the different strata of the exchange of the status of the struggle and struggle to achieve the status of the.

### **1.3 The Differentiation of Peasants Since the Reform and Opening Up**

Peasants' differentiation in the early stage of reform and opening up. In 1978 to the household contract responsibility system as the starting point and the central axis of the rural economic system reform become peasants' differentiation again opportunity, and rural individual and private economy, especially the growth of township enterprises has become a strong driving force to promote the differentiation of peasants and economic development. In the early 1980s, with the reform, the development of advance and production, our country rural hidden a large amount of surplus labor began to appear, with the great development of township enterprises, rural surplus labor force non agriculturalization vocational differentiation is becoming more and more, not only led

to the agricultural population transfer to industry and become a more traditional closed type agricultural society to modern open type transformation of industrial society. The rise and development of rural township enterprises have greatly promoted the differentiation of peasants, and gradually differentiated out of a group of workers in the township enterprises, which are now called “edge class” or “migrant workers”.

The peasants’ differentiation in the process of marketization. With the establishment of socialist market economic system, the administrative power gradually release the control of social resources, the government began to gradually withdraw from the micro economy, the social members of the social strata of the power dependence greatly weakened, independent and independent., the inner layer of the peasant group begins to be deeper, and a new rural social structure will be formed gradually. Lu (2002) based on standards of professional division of peasants will be divided into eight social strata: agricultural workers, migrant workers, hired labourers, peasants, intellectuals, individual workers and individual industrial and commercial households, the owners of private enterprises, management of township enterprises, rural management who, and consists of the eight sectors of society new social stratum structure. The peasants can be divided into five classes: From the land of the peasant class, peasant workers, in the countryside and peasant class, ordinary farm managers and rural poor and weak stratum (He Xuefeng, 2011). Chen Baifeng (2009), by of the peasants’ economic situation and employment situation analysis, peasants can be divided into five classes: Go out of business class, half farming classes, part-time peasant class, family workers stratum and poor villager stratum.

The comprehensive promotion of the market economy reforms, our country peasants’ differentiation into active period. The change of the social stratum structure of our country is mainly reflected in: First, the number of peasants engaged in agricultural labor was significantly reduced. Two are the peasant occupation differentiation is obvious. The peasant is separated from the agricultural production, and is divided into several classes by a single agricultural laborer, and the new period of the diversification of the peasants’ stratum structure is formed. Three is the structure of the peasant class “stratification” and “fragmentation”. Some of the peasants in the division are often treated as the same class as the same or similar occupations.

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## **2. RATIONAL THINKING ON THE DIFFERENTIATION OF PEASANTS**

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### **2.1 The Economic Base**

#### **2.1.1 The Great Development of Social Productivity**

The great development of the productive forces has improved the living standard of the peasants, and the

differentiation of the peasants is the best choice for the interests of the peasants. On the one hand, the continuous development of social productive forces to promote the peasants’ own differentiation, on the other hand, the continuous differentiation of peasants and in turn drives the progress of socialist productive forces.

#### **2.1.2 The Establishment and Perfection of Socialist Market Economic System**

Peasants’ differentiation is the inevitable result of the establishment and perfection of the socialist market economic system. It is an objective reflection of the great changes in the system environment of economic development. Industrial revolution and industrial structure adjustment is the “original power of social stratum differentiation”. The change of ownership structure has a profound impact on the structure of the peasants. The diversification of economic components, which lead to the diversification of economic interests, organizational forms, employment patterns and life styles, so that the original identity of the same class. Distribution form of change is an important factor in the differentiation of the peasants, in the capital, technology and other factors of production to participate in the distribution of income, according to work and distribution according to production factors, the distribution of organic combination of income distribution pattern, a part of the “social” and interest groups took the lead in the rich, social class structure system in the high income class. Rural industrial structure adjustment, rural industrialization and the rise of township enterprises, development of rural commodity production, encourage the development of the non-public sector of the economy. Activation of the flow of land, labor, capital and technology resources, for peasants to invest and set up factories and to create the conditions, reform the system of unified purchasing agricultural products, for the commercialization of agricultural products business to create the conditions, these are the differentiation of peasants laid the economic foundation.

#### **2.2 Political Foundation**

The change of the relevant system of the state is the historical basis and institutional conditions for the differentiation of the peasants. The establishment of the new China, the end of the old China semi colonial and semi feudal society, the nature of the peasant class is not in the social status of being enslaved by oppression. The establishment of public ownership of the three major transformation and production of the socialist system, the establishment of the two thousand years of China’s feudal exploitation system, peasants not only in the law but also in fact become the master of the country. The most important is that the peasants get the production data, which are the most important material premise and guarantee for the peasants’ differentiation. The implementation of the household contract responsibility

system promotes the rapid differentiation of peasants. The implementation of the contract responsibility system makes the peasants get the right to operate the two resources: one is the autonomy of the land management; the two are the peasants have the right to control their own labor. Peasants have the relative production and management autonomy, the agriculture industrial structure adjustment, change the single grain production and occupational structure, peasants get rid of the bondage of land, in addition to the planting of diversified agriculture field and non agriculturalization of seeking employment and entrepreneurship, started to be engaged in commodity production, part of the occupational mobility in and between urban and rural areas, engaged in established the foundation of the emergence of the differentiation of peasants in other occupations.

### **2.3 Cultural Psychological Factors**

The generation of the modern social psychology is the social and cultural factors of the peasants' differentiation. Modern social psychology refers to the relationship between the market economy and the social psychology, which are adapted to the development of the modern society. The peasants gradually come out of the traditional peasant consciousness, and begin to form the modern social psychology with the characteristics of modern society. On the whole, the social psychology of the peasants has the characteristics of the modern society. Performance in: competitive psychology, seeking the rich psychological, open minded and self-subjective awareness enhancement. "Opening" is another key word for the peasants' social psychological changes. In the face of the increasingly open market, peasants take the market as the guide to choose the production and operation of the project, peasants gradually get rid of the traditional society to the collective, the family's dependence on psychology, began to pay attention to the economic benefits of rational, economic cost accounting, etc.. The growth of the modern social psychological support the peasants to abandon the traditional methods of production and life, in order to open up the psychological and competitive to face the challenges of the market, it can be said that the social psychology of the modern social psychology support the continuous changes of peasants, so that they continue to move from the countryside to the city, from poverty to affluence.

### **2.4 Peasants' Own Factors**

#### **2.4.1 Individual Factors of Peasants**

Age, 20-30 year old peasant's differentiation as the most active group. From the age of 30, with the gradual increase of age, the proportion of peasants' differentiation has a certain downward trend. There is a positive correlation between the degree of education and the proportion of the peasants' professional differentiation. Because of the different culture, there are different results in the search for the nonfarm employment opportunity

and the realization of the vocational differentiation. The lower the quality of the peasants, the more obstacles that result in the course of the differentiation to the non-agricultural industries, the smaller the choice of the employment space, the lower the success rate of the differentiation. Marital status is an important feature of the peasants themselves, the marital status determines the role of peasants in the family and the responsibility of the. The degree of professional differentiation of unmarried peasants is far more than the married peasants.

#### **2.4.2 Family Factors**

Family cultivated land area has a significant negative correlation with the opportunity and the proportion of the peasants' professional differentiation. The more arable land is, the more the labor is, the less likely to engage in non-agricultural occupations. The number of family labor has a positive correlation with the differentiation of the peasants, the more the more peasants in the family, the more differentiation, and vice versa. Living factors, with the increase in the county seat, the proportion of peasants to achieve professional differentiation, which to a certain extent, explain the distance from the county, the opportunity to reduce the chance of differentiation. The number of enterprises, the number of the number of enterprises in the village to a certain extent reflects the development of the village economy. Village enterprises can provide more for the village peasants' non-agricultural jobs, number of village enterprises, peasants' professional differentiation ratio of higher and higher.

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## **3. BASIC IDEAS AND POLICY SUGGESTIONS FOR GUIDING PEASANTS' DIFFERENTIATION**

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### **3.1 Deepening the Reform of Related Systems**

Continue to deepen the reform of the household registration system and land system. Peasants to promote sustainable non agriculturalization differentiation must depend on system innovation to promote a fundamental change in the differentiation of the peasants, so as to effectively accelerate the traditional peasants to modern peasants, peasants to citizens of the two transitions, the peasants so as to achieve the complete differentiation of the objective. The existence of the household registration system in rural and urban areas is the fundamental reason for the transformation of the peasants' identity, so the unreasonable function of the household registration system is the real goal of reform. Land system is also an aspect that affects peasants' non-agricultural occupation choice, and how to make the peasants leave the land safely and successfully in the field of nonfarm work, should become the focus of urban and rural development. Urban and rural areas in the city, in addition to strictly control the population of very few large cities, can be the

majority of large and medium cities gradually open to the rural population, and gradually make China's urban and rural economic development to a healthy development track. In addition, the relevant security system, the labor market system should also be synchronized to improve.

To speed up the transformation of government functions. The government organization to overcome the offside, dislocation of function and some functions are not in place. The intervention of government organization for rural economic and social development should be "there is a retreat". Abolish government own vested interests, especially in the current local government finance generally difficult, local government of its own operation crisis and government interests is the direct government agency problem. Want to get rid of the interests of the government, the local government must truly become peasants can effectively control the government organization. Take advantage of the opportunities of new rural construction and the reform of taxes and fees, reform of county and township fiscal, administrative system, effectively reduce the burden on peasants, promote rural development, formulate a reasonable price policy, increasing peasants' income is a top priority for the government; moderate policies to prevent the expansion of the income gap, through tax policy, secondary distribution and transfer payments, measures, properly adjust the income gap, and in some extent solve peasant income gap expanding.

### 3.2 Improve the Labor Market

The integration of urban and rural labor market information network. The current labor supply and demand information between urban and rural areas and between different regions is still the problem of insufficient communication, peasants' employment problems lack of information and information timeliness, so peasants to seek employment opportunities more are in a state of spontaneous and disorderly. , therefore, should improve the integration of urban and rural labor market information network, will the government and the labour supply and demand both sides and all other related organizations and individuals in the system, norm and convenient network, covering urban and rural areas.

Take the road of new industrialization development, in the transformation of economic growth mode at the same time, in the township enterprises in the development of labor-intensive industries, play its function to absorb the huge rural labor. To accelerate the development of agricultural products processing industry, the township enterprises should develop agricultural product processing industry as a breakthrough point, and continuously extend the industrial chain of agriculture, and will pay more attention to the work of agriculture and labor in the process of postpartum. China's current industrial city has been basically completed, to the stage of industry nurturing agriculture. According to the survey, in all rural labor, the proportion of employment in the 50% industry

is more than third, but in all industries, the highest proportion of industrial employment. Therefore, we should re arrange the spatial and economic distribution of the service industry, focusing on the rapid growth of the third industry, to provide more non-agricultural employment opportunities for peasants.

### 3.3 Improve the Quality of Peasants

Establish educational training system. To establish a long-term and stable education system, the science and technology and education as an important supporting force for the development of rural economy, to provide the peasants with the environment and conditions for the training and lifelong learning. Optimize the integration of educational resources, improve the enthusiasm of the institutions involved in the training of peasants, and further encourage secondary vocational schools, colleges and universities and colleges and universities to play the advantages of teachers and school conditions, and actively participate in the education and training of peasants. Encouraging all kinds of education and training main body to carry out training of new professional peasants, including system, wide coverage, close to the grassroots level, rich experience in education and training of peasants of Agricultural Broadcasting and television school, technology, teaching staff, conditions of agricultural colleges and universities, scientific research institutions and agricultural extension agencies and training base of agricultural enterprises and peasants professional cooperatives.

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## CONCLUSION

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The establishment of peasant training system and enterprise for the vocational training of migrant workers. To really improve the quality of peasants, on a training is not enough, need to gradually implement lifelong training, lifelong education. To combine the labor contract law and the relevant provisions of the service period, to mobilize the enthusiasm of enterprises for the training of migrant workers.

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