

The Roles, Mechanism and Realization Path of Incorruption Culture to Avoid Incorruption Risk

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Received 4 February 2015; accepted 5 April 2015
Published online 26 April 2015

Abstract

Incorruption risk refers to a kind of possibility that party and government leading cadres conduct corrupt behavior in the process of realizing their duties or in their political life. Incorruption culture is the product of the combination of incorruption construction and culture construction, which acts as system background in avoiding incorruption risk. Thus, to strengthen the construction of anti-corruption, it is necessary to emphasize the role of the incorruption system, and pay more attention to the incorruption culture, which is the basis of system construction. Bring the construction of incorruption culture into the system of punishing and preventing corruption. Realize the dual function of incorruption culture (“cure” and “prevention”) in avoiding incorruption risk.

Key words: Incorruption culture; Incorruption risk; System background; Roles and mechanism; Realization path

Li, J. B. (2015). The Roles, Mechanism and Realization Path of Incorruption Culture to Avoid Incorruption Risk. *Canadian Social Science*, 11(4), 158-162. Available from: <http://www.cscanada.net/index.php/css/article/view/6840>
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3968/6840>

INTRODUCTION

The 17th CPC National Congress Report clearly puts forward that “strengthen the construction of incorruption culture, form the long-term education mechanism to resist corruption and anti-corruption institutional system, and

form monitoring mechanism for power operation”. The 18th CPC National Congress Report emphasizes again that “to strengthen the anti-corruption education and the construction of incorruption culture”. The CPC central committee attaches great importance to the construction of incorruption culture. This is not only the political promotion to cultural construction, but also the cultural responses to incorruption construction. This represents that the “campaign-style and periodic anti-corruption” gradually turns to “institutional and long-term anti-corruption”. The anti-corruption system relying on culture and education mechanism has formed preliminary. Faced with the profound changes in the world situation, nation circumstances and party surroundings, how to avoid incorruption risk by means of incorruption culture has become the important topic for the construction of the party’s theoretical innovation.

1. THE ROLE AND MECHANISM OF INCORRUPTION CULTURE TO AVOID INCORRUPTION RISK

Incorruption risk refers to a kind of possibility that party and government leading cadres conduct corrupt behavior in the process of realizing their duties or in their political life. Incorruption culture is a form of social culture that combines incorruption construction and culture construction. It is led by incorruption thought and basis of the incorruption theory. Incorruption literature and art are the carriers of incorruption culture. Incorruption culture is the depth blend of political civilization and spiritual civilization, as well as the comprehensive reflection of party, government and social ethos. To strengthen anti-corruption construction and avoid incorruption risk, the construction of incorruption system is the fundamental guarantee. But the deep-seated fundamental role of incorruption culture is irreplaceable.

Since the political system is the “carrier” of culture, what it intends to deliver besides its external form, the political value based on this form is more important. Just like that the cultural meanings of a pile of buildings are not the brick of steel and wood but the architectural style. The cultural meanings of paintings are not the pen, ink, paper and inkstone but the spirit and charm. Without the spirit of ideological form, the political system is just like “water without a source, trees without roots” (Ma, 2002). In the process of avoiding incorruption risk, the incorruption culture plays the guiding, enlightenment, critical and supervisory role.

1.1 The Guiding Role of Incorruption Culture in the Process of Avoiding Incorruption Risk

In essence, culture is transcendental in realistic and concrete social life. Culture guides people to think and experience various aspects of social life in abstract and internalized way. Therefore, culture exerts an influence on people’s thought and behavior. Incorruption culture, as an ideological reflection of political life, owns political attributes. In the meantime, culture possesses social attributes which have a subtle guiding influence on the public. Praise or criticism, advocacy or opposition, affirmation or negation, culture always has an obvious orientation. This will prompt people’s thoughts and behaviors are in accordance with the goal of construction of anti-corruption. Incorruption culture is on the basis of core value system, combining the party’s ideological and theoretical education, discipline education and moral education together. Broadcast the main theme and promote the positive energy through various carriers and modes of transmission. Normal people will be edified by the values, moral laws and conduct codes of incorruption culture. Finally, it would be internalized as people’s spiritual pursuit and externalized as people’s practical actions. Incorruption culture, as an advanced political mainstream culture, can stimulate the party cadres to establish and adhere to the correct value orientation. Incorruption culture can improve the party cadres’ consciousness and ability of avoiding incorruption risk as well. It is also conducive to the form the atmosphere that the whole society praises probity and castigates corruption. Thus, incorruption culture will gain legitimacy identification from social psychology and people emotion.

1.2 The Enlightenment Role of Incorruption Culture in the Process of Avoiding Incorruption Risk

Enlightenment function is one of the basic functions of culture, namely utilize culture to affect and educate people. Incorruption culture is a kind of special and advanced culture which is rooted in the anti-corruption campaigns. It stems from social life, and meanwhile leads the social life. Incorruption culture has a strong penetration, attraction and appeal power. The whole

social members are likely to be enlightened by it due to its special function. The enlightenment function of incorruption culture is reflected in certain values and knowledge systems, which exert a key influence on people’s ideology and behavior pattern. Then it is able to regulate and guide the social life style. The party cadres, combined with the general public, are the enlightenment objectives of incorruption culture. For the party cadres, especially the leading cadres, they should firm their ideal faith and keep the purpose and mission in mind, combined with boycott the erosion. They are supposed to treat and utilize the public power properly. And they should stick to the moral codes and behavior guidelines. What they have to bear in mind is that the authority is transferred from the citizens. They should care about the citizens and pay much attention to the interests of the public. For social public, they should be educated, edified and motivated in the process of accepting incorruption culture. Thus, they are able to resist the corruption culture and corruption practices from the cognitive and affective perspective. In the meantime, they will view anti-corruption as their own social responsibilities and take part in the construction of anti-corruption actively. As a result, the joint efforts to resist corruption would be formed in the whole society.

1.3 The Critical Role of Incorruption Culture in the Process of Avoiding Incorruption Risk

The critical role of incorruption culture reflects in its direct confrontation with the culture of corruption. It criticizes corruption and bribe and advocates for justice and integrity. Incorruption culture is naturally contrary to corruption culture, and they are in a state of mutual confrontation and they tend to alter or replace each other. Huntington (1988) thinks change in fundamental social values is one of the causes of corruption. Some people attempt to take advantage of loopholes in the conflict between traditional norms and modern norms. The prevalence of corruption culture makes the public sector and private sector, even the whole society forms a kind of value recognition towards corruption phenomenon in emotion and psychology. As a consequence, they tend to take acquiescence, tolerance and participation attitude towards corruption practices. If corruption phenomena gradually evolve into corruption culture and gain a value identity in culture, the social mainstream political culture would be distorted and dispelled severely. Then the corruption phenomenon would emerge a more generalization, popularity and socialization tendency. Once the corruption is spread to the social sphere, the negative impact caused by it would last long. And the impact would be obvious and broad. Some other severe issues just come up. The corruption would vacillate the ruling foundation, disrupt the economic order, affect political stability, depress cultural spirit, and destroy the social atmosphere. In these cases, the normal measures,

such as investigate the corruption cases or punish corruption individuals in terms of the relevant systems, the anti-corruption would take temporary solution rather than seek permanent methods. Incorruption culture is the very culture that criticizes and destroys corruption culture at root. If compare corruption culture as a cancer, incorruption culture aims at preventing this “political cancer” giving rise to “cancer effect”. Incorruption culture can also prevent the “extensive corruption” and “folkloric corruption” phenomenon.

1.4 The Supervisory Role of Incorruption Culture in the Process of Avoiding Incorruption Risk

To strengthen the construction of anti-corruption, only relying on self-discipline namely internal supervision is not enough. Combing internal supervision and external supervision will achieve desirable effect. The supervision role of incorruption culture mainly reflects the external supervision for civil servants. Firstly, guide the public to monitor administrative subjects. Along with the popularization and internalization of incorruption culture, the general public own more and abundant knowledge and ideas about incorruption culture. The awareness that require the ruling subjects to conduct incorruption behaviors is stronger and stronger. The general public actively participate in the supervision is much normal than before. They put much social and psychological pressure on the ruling subjects. As a result, the civil servants dare not easily sacrifice themselves to break the laws. Secondly, involve more social media in the supervision process. Through newspapers, books, television, radio, the Internet and other media carrier, propagates the theoretical system of incorruption culture as well as its practical status. On the one hand, encourage the public to master the knowledge system and relevant policies and regulations of incorruption construction. Then gradually build a public opinion that advocates incorruption in the whole society. Improve the public consciousness and the ability of democratic supervision. On the other hand, notify the progress of the anti-corruption construction to the general public in time. Involve them actively support and participate in anti-corruption construction and effectively supervise the political behavior of the government and civil servants. Thirdly, monitor the ruling subjects with the help of art works. Incorruption culture draws support from all forms of art work to criticize the corruption culture and expose corruption phenomenon. Warn and educate all members of society, especially the party leading cadres, and deter those who already began to corrupt or attempt to corrupt to resolve on amendment and pull back before it is too late in front of strong social forces against corruption. Then the goal of self-purification and self-correcting will be achieved.

2. THE REALIZATION PATH FOR INCORRUPTION CULTURE AVOIDS INCORRUPTION RISK

Generally, whether the administrative subjects abide by incorruption system is not up to its rigor. It relies more on that whether the implied cultural values of incorruption system are generally recognized. Therefore, to strengthen the construction of anti-corruption, it is necessary to pay more attention to the incorruption culture, which is the basis of system construction. Bring the construction of incorruption culture into the system of punishing and preventing corruption. Realize the dual function of incorruption culture (“cure” and “prevention”) in avoiding incorruption risk. By strengthening the incorruption culture, the culture will penetrate into all aspects of incorruption construction. Focus on the party cadres and the general’s pursuit of advanced culture, and make full use of all types of media and wide social participation to educate the public servants to maintain integrity and guide the public advocate probity. Create the cultural atmosphere for incorruption construction and form the “honest cadres, integrity government and clean politics” political surroundings, so as to effectively control and avoid of the incorruption risk.

2.1 Introducing the Value and Concept of Incorruption Culture

Introducing the value and concept of incorruption culture is conducive to cultivate the incorruption consciousness of the party and government cadres. Firstly, the party and government cadres should establish incorruption and incorruption values. In the light of the basic requirement of establishing the party for the public and ruling for the people, they should treat firm ideal and faith as the core and treat serving the people as purpose. Guide party cadres and members to set up correct world outlook, the outlook on life and values, especially the correct power, status, and interests notion. Thus, they can respond to the trials from ruling, reform and opening-up, market economy and the external environment effectively and resist the danger of corruption and passivity purposefully. Secondly, the party and government cadres should enhance the moral cultivation of incorruption. Political morality is the important factor that regulates the orderly operation of the political society. The party and government cadres must promote their political morality and accept moral restriction and norm strictly, as well as improve their Ideological level and moral sentiment. Build a strong “doesn’t want to corrupt”, “unwilling to corrupt” moral defense and, shape noble, honest, pure charisma. Thirdly, promote the popularization of ideological education on incorruption. Just as Mao Zedong points out: “Grasping the ideological education is the central link of uniting the whole party for political struggle. If this task is not solved,

all the party's political task is not complete" (*Selected works of MAO TSE-TUNG [Volume III]*, 1991, p.1094). The anti-corruption struggle is a political task regards to the survival of political party and nation. We have to pay much attention to the important role of ideological education in the anti-corruption campaign. Party members and cadres should effectively improve their ideological and political quality and constantly enhance their ability to resist corruption.

2.2 Promote the Popularization of Incorruption Culture

Promoting the popularization of incorruption culture is beneficial to build strong social integrity atmosphere. Political and social attributes are united in incorruption culture, which determines that the construction of incorruption culture should not only involve the cadre ranks, but also the general public. First of all, party cadres in all party and government organs should treat and utilize the public power in a proper way. They should establish righteous and clean governing ethics and political norms and put them in practice. Secondly, all members of society play an important role in the popularization of incorruption culture. They should realize that the construction of incorruption culture is related to the common interests of the party, state, society and citizens. The public authority is granted from people. Make sure that the public authority is "run under sunshine" and consciously monitored by people. Only in this way, can public authority better serve people. Individuals should be excluded from the bribery and corruption activities. And the public should put an end to use bribery and other improper means to take advantage of government officials for their personal gains. Thus, a sound social atmosphere that the whole society resists corruption consciously is formed. The party and government are responsible for the construction of anti-corruption. So is the society. Hence, the municipal committee, propaganda, culture ministry and discipline inspection apartments should make joint efforts to take measures. They are supposed to apply a variety of social media to expand the coverage and influence of incorruption culture, making it permeated into every social class and field. Meanwhile, social cells, such as schools, enterprise, villages and family, can cooperate with each other and exert their enthusiasm, initiative and creativity to promote the construction of incorruption culture. Thus, form a joint effort that different levels of the whole society cooperate mutually and create a good social atmosphere for the construction of anti-corruption.

2.3 Innovate the Cultural Carrier for Incorruption Culture

The innovation of the incorruption cultural carrier is conducive to open up multiple channels of anti-corruption. Firstly, establish education bases on incorruption culture. On the basis of existing patriotism education bases at

different levels, some education bases on incorruption culture should be set up. These education bases should be quite impressive and attractive. A series of cultural landscape education base, such as reading rooms, corridors and squares should be established. A batch of warning education base should be promoted, including prisons, courts and so on. Thus, party and government cadres would receive demonstration education and warning education after visiting these education bases. Secondly, exploit some cultural products on incorruption. Create excellent movies, TV shows, drama, fiction and poetry cultural products. These products need to be tasteful, healthy and positive and cater to people's expectation, as well as reflect the theme of anti-corruption. Propagandize and present them by various mass media. Thus, the party and government cadres would be edified and educated in the process of appreciation and enjoy these cultural products. Thirdly, set up a network communication platform for incorruption culture. Put the modern network media technology into full use, and continually enrich and innovate the content and form of websites concerning incorruption culture. The latest progress and advantageous achievement of the construction of incorruption culture should be delivered and spread in time. Fourthly, carry out relevant activities on improving incorruption culture. For instance, make some public service advertising on incorruption, make incorruption melody sung by the public, and carry out literary tour on incorruption and so on. Organize the party cadres attend lectures, watch documentary, write articles and make commitments and other activities. This content must be tightly related to incorruption culture. By combining education and activities, achieve tangible results of the construction of incorruption culture.

2.4 Build Long-Term Mechanism for Incorruption Culture

Establishing a long-term mechanism of incorruption culture is beneficial to realize the sustained effect of incorruption culture. Firstly, improve the leadership system and working mechanism of the construction of incorruption culture. "Although political party is leading in the system of punishing and preventing corruption, the relevant work should rely on state power and the whole society" (Lin, 2009). Thus, the leadership system and working mechanism that "party committee-led, government-dominant, social-participated" should be built. Secondly, improve the regulations and systems on incorruption cultural construction. Make the master plan of incorruption cultural construction from the overall perspective. Clarify the guiding ideology, general objectives, main tasks and work requirements. In the meantime, establish the anti-corruption system which is adapted to incorruption culture. What's more important, improve the enforcement of regulations and systems and create a sound execution environment for

promoting incorruption culture. Thirdly, set up research and development mechanism for incorruption culture. Marx points out that “As long as theory is persuasive, people will follow the theory; and as long as the theory is thorough, people will be convinced” (*Marx Engels Selected Works [Volume I]*, 1995, p.5). Thus, in order to strengthen the persuasion of theory, more attention should be paid to the basic theory research. At the same time, putting effort into practical application research is of much importance. The efficiency of the transformation from theory to application has to be improved. Fourthly, establish an assessment mechanism for the construction of incorruption culture. The improvement of incorruption culture is on the basis of performance evaluation. Then incorruption culture will become a thinking habit and behavior pattern. As a result, the effect that incorruption culture is helpful to evade corruption risk will be truly achieved.

CONCLUSION

Incorruption risk refers to a kind of possibility that party and government leading cadres conduct corrupt behavior in the process of realizing their duties or in their political life. Incorruption culture is the product of the combination of incorruption construction and culture construction, which acts as system background in avoiding incorruption risk. Thus, to strengthen the construction of anti-

corruption and avoid incorruption risk, it is necessary to emphasize the role of the incorruption system, and pay more attention to the incorruption culture, which is the basis of system construction. In the process of avoiding incorruption risk, the incorruption culture plays the guiding, enlightenment, critical and supervisory roles. By introducing the value and concept of incorruption culture, promoting the popularization of incorruption culture, innovating the cultural carrier for incorruption culture and building long-term mechanism for incorruption culture, the dual function of incorruption culture (“cure” and “prevention”) in avoiding incorruption risk will be realized.

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