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Necessity and Model of the Nationalization of Rural Elites

YU Yang*

College of Liberal Arts, Shanghai University, Shanghai 200444, China

Abstract Concept of rural elite in China is introduced. And rural elites are classified into governing elite, economic elite, social elite and cultural elite with phenomenon of overlapping among the four types. Definitions of science nationalization and elite politicalization are introduced. Based on the review of previous research results, meaning of elite nationalization is defined; the state guides elites to join in its operation by means of controlling the elites' occupation, promoting their status, improving their warfare, assimilating their thought and so on, so that elites may serve the political objectives of the state. Predicaments of rural elites are analyzed. Firstly, some rural governing elites and economic elites are high combined, or they use each other to exchange power and money. Secondly, the state pays little attention to the nationalization degree of rural social elite and cultural elite. Thirdly, the rights of economic elites in rural areas are illegally deprived by governing elites when doing business. Based on this, this paper points out that elite nationalization in rural areas is the inevitable choice of promoting rural economic and social development. Concrete models of elite nationalization in rural areas are discussed. Firstly, give certain political status to rural economic elite and strengthen the way of guidance; Secondly, improve the economic income and strengthen the supervision and education on rural governing elite. Thirdly, give certain political status to rural social elite and improve their ability to become rich. Fourthly, improve the economic income and political status of rural cultural elite and offer them opportunities for upward mobility.

Key words Rural elites in China; Nationalization of elites; Necessity; Model

With the rapid development of Chinese economy, gap of social and economic development between rural and urban China is widening. The lag of rural development affects the stability of rural society, hinders the urban economic development and social stability, and finally influences the development and stability of the whole society. When analyzing how to promote the scientific development of rural economy and society, scholars usually start from the aspects of developing rural education and health care and enhancing farmers' income. Although these are the key points to solve the "Three Agricultural Problems", scholars have ignored the concerns of the rural elite. They fail to effectively integrate rural elites into the national action in the rural areas on time, so that the thought and action of rural elites can fit in with national goals, that is, the nationalization of rural elites. Otherwise, it is difficult to truly achieve the scientific development in rural areas. This paper aims to offer references for the effective and timely integration of rural elites by studying on the necessity and model of elite nationalization in rural areas.

1 Concept and classification of rural elite

Definition and classification of rural elite should be established based on the definition of elite and the classification of Chinese elite, especially the Chinese rural elite by sociological circle.

Pareto argues that those who are most capable in any particular grouping are the elite, no matter good or bad^[1]. Wu Zhongmin divides elite group in contemporary China into three categories: economic elite community, governing elite commu-

nity and intellectual elite community^[2]. Wang Hansheng classifies village elite into governing elite, economic elite and social elite. Governing elite refers to village cadres; economic elite is people who has strong economic strength in a village; and social elite is the villager having high prestige^[3]. Concept of rural economic elite is defined as private entrepreneurs by Chen Guangjin^[4]. Classification of rural elite by scholars is based on the analysis of the actuality of rural society, reflecting the actual situation of rural elites to a certain extent.

According to the results of previous studies, I believe that rural elite refers to people who has a certain influence on one or several fields in rural areas, such as economy, politics, society, and cultural knowledge. Rural elite can be classified into governing elite, economic elite, social elite and cultural elite. Among them, governing elite includes the township party and administrative staff, and main cadres in village's party branch and the villager committee. Economic elite is the person in charge of township enterprises and the owner of the private economy. Social elite only refers to the villager having certain prestige. And cultural elite is the teacher of primary or secondary school in rural areas and the farmer receiving certain education. There is a overlapping among these four types of elites, that is, a person can have the characteristics of the two, or even four, elite types at the same time.

2 The meaning of elite nationalization and the necessity of nationalization of rural elite

Definitions of science nationalization and elite politicalization by academic circle are of great significance. Zhang Li argues that after the establishment of the new regime, scientific

institutions and universities are all managed and supported by the state. Scientists as a group have been subordinated to national institutions. As a member of a unit, they are engaged in teaching and research work. Thus, they have contractual obligations to the state and government. On the one hand, according to the political performance of academic ability of scientists, the state grants appropriate academic honor, political treatment and living treatment to them. On the other hand, as state cadres, scientists have to accept the ideological education by the party, to be subjected to the administrative department, and to make research objectives and programs under the framework of national science and technology planning. Gaining the cadre status of scientists is a part of science nationalization, as well as a part of intellectual (elite) nationalization^[5]. In addition, scholars also put forward the concept of elite politicalization. Xie Yue calls the growth model of the social elite in contemporary China' as elite politicalization, and believes that this growth mode is also the main reason for the loss of elite function. Generally speaking, there are two orientations of elite politicalization: elite proximity and political assimilation. However, distortion of elite politicalization occurs in contemporary China. A kind of power relation with mutual interdependence is established, rather than mutual restriction. And the goal of the elite game is how to realize privatization of public power^[6]. Advance of elite politicalization is of great value, figuring out the unique growth pattern of elite in contemporary China. Concept of elite politicalization has a certain similarity with that of elite nationalization. But the former mainly focuses on the cooperation among different types of elites, especially the economic elite and governing elite, in order to realize the privatization of public power. This also includes the phenomenon that after achieving the economic success, economic elite may become a vice section officer or above it. Obviously, elite politicalization means more than this. In other words, it more refers to the mutual cooperation between governing elite and economic elite without considering the objective of state. Besides, elite politicalization might be mistakenly understood as the extensive and thorough participation of elite in politics. In fact, elites do not necessarily agree with the principles and policies of ruling political party, and they may even become opponents of current government. Thus, it can be concluded that the saying of elite politicalization still needs to be improved. Different from "elite politicalization", "elite nationalization" can better reflect the cooperation among the elite, the state and the ruling party after the year 1949 in China.

According to the relevant researches, the definition of elite nationalization should be as follows: the state guides elites in its operation by means of controlling the elites' occupation, promoting their status, improving their warfare, assimilating their thought and so on, so that elites may serve the political objectives of the state.

At present, status of rural elites is worrisome. Firstly, some rural governing elites and economic elites are high combined, or they use each other to exchange power and money. Apparently, there is very close relationship between the gov-

ernment and the rural governing and economic elites. But indeed, their aim is to seek private gain at public expense. Although some of the NPC (National People's Congress) deputies and CPPCC (Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference) members have already been nationalized, their behavior has greatly damaged the interests of farmers and the image of the party and the government. Their words and actions are far from, or even go counter to, the objective of the state. Secondly, the state pays little attention to the nationalization degree of rural social elite and cultural elite. In particular, the devotion of some teachers in primary and secondary schools in rural areas does not get an equal reward. And there are few opportunities for them to stand out by striving. Thirdly, the rights of economic elite in rural areas are illegally deprived by governing elite when doing business, which hinders the development of rural economy, and ruins the social morality in rural areas.

Rural elites have certain impact on economy, politics, society, culture and so on. They are strong enough to promote or hinder the implementation of new socialist countryside construction. If their action is inconsistent with the new countryside construction, it is bound to impede the development and stability in rural China. Elite nationalization in rural areas can integrate the intelligence, financial resources and social impact of rural elites, so that elites are willing to support the implementation of strategy in rural areas, and to play an important role in promoting the rural economic and social development.

3 Analysis on the model of elite nationalization in rural areas

The nationalization model is adopted according to the type of rural elite, so as to achieve satisfactory results.

3.1 Model for economic elite in rural areas Economic elite in rural areas is the key force to revitalize the rural economy. However, they might be oppressed by some governing elites, impeding the contribution of economic elite to rural economic development in rural areas. Therefore, certain political status should be given to the rural economic elites so that they may have more opportunities and strengths to negotiate with rural governing elite. To solve the exchange of money and power between rural economic elite and governing elite, the inspecting discipline, supervision and judicature departments should intervene into the illegal collusion. Thus, dialogue platform for rural economic elite and the state will be protected. Besides, rural economic elites are mainly the main entrepreneurs of an industry. Thus, they can be elected to be leaders of various trade associations. With the help of local party committee and government, party organization of the trade association may be set up in order to strengthen the management of rural economic elites, and to guide their behavior in line with the strategic objectives of state.

3.2 Model for governing elite in rural areas Governing elite in rural areas bears an important responsibility for the social and economic development. However, the phenomena of administrative omission, arbitrary conduct and exchange of

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农村精英国家化的必要性与方式

余洋 (上海大学文学院, 上海 200444)

摘要 介绍了中国农村精英的概念,提出了农村精英的具体分类,即可分为党政精英、经济精英、社会精英和文化精英,4种类型的精英中存在着重叠交叉的现象。概述了科学国家化和精英政治化的定义,并在综述了前人研究成果的基础上,界定了精英国家化的含义:国家通过对精英职业的掌控、身份和地位的提升、待遇的改善、思想的同化等方式,把精英纳入国家运行的轨道中,使其为国家的政治目标服务。分析了农村精英面临的3点窘境。一是某些农村党政精英和经济精英高度重合或相互利用,存在大量的权钱交易现象;二是国家对农村社会精英和文化精英的重视程度不够;三是农村经济精英在经商过程中,往往受到一些党政精英的非法盘剥。基于此,笔者提出,农村精英国家化是促进农村经济和社会发展的必然选择。探讨了农村精英国家化的具体方式。①对农村经济精英应采取给予一定政治地位和加强引导的方式;②对农村党政精英应采取提高经济待遇与加强教育监督的方式;③对农村社会精英应采取给予其政治地位和提高其致富能力的方式;④对农村文化精英应采取提高经济收入、政治地位和给予其提升机会等多种方式。

关键词 农村精英;精英国家化;必要性;方式

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现代蚕桑产业发展成败的判定分析

王代钢 (安康学院陕西省蚕桑重点实验室, 陕西安康 725000)

摘要 首先,介绍了判定中国现代蚕桑产业发展成败的基准核心。茧丝是判定蚕桑产业发展成败的原始物准;单位面积桑产茧量是判定蚕桑产业综合生产效率和产业发展成败的核心指标;判定指标的特征与生产技术是否一致,是判定蚕桑产业发展成败的主要方式。其次,分析了现代蚕桑产业发展变化的新特征。现代蚕桑产业生产的原始意识和基本目标出现了多样化,判定的原始物准不再是单一的;生产体系趋向多元化,这是现代蚕桑产业发展的新方向;农村劳动力因素的作用力上升,养蚕劳动力问题成为制约现代蚕桑产业可持续发展的主要因素。再次,探讨了蚕桑产业发展成败判定指标体系的新特征:①主要指标体系的变构特征。农村单位劳动力生产效率是判定蚕桑产业发展成败的主要依据。②生产技术体系的指标特征。生产技术体系与新技术研发方向随生产体系的变革而发生相应变化;实施简易式养蚕技术体系;蚕桑生产由分散发展型向集约发展型转变。③质量管理体系的指标特征。蚕种生产质量指标存在局限性;生产优质蚕茧是现代蚕桑产业发展的根本目的;在生产过程中实施质量调控、引导;建立公平的蚕茧交易方式。④产业运行调控体系的指标特征。量能发种是运行调控最基本的要求;推广使用优良蚕具是运行调控的重要环节。⑤市场利益体系的指标特征。建立具有稳定收益的主导市场、发展特色产品生产,从而获取较高的市场收益。

关键词 蚕桑产业;发展决策;指标体系;价值观

money and power are common in rural areas, greatly restricting the development of rural society and affecting the image of the party and the government. Its causation is the contradiction between work pressure and low income of rural governing elite. What's more, most of the governing elites in rural areas have low political quality and cultural quality; and the control measures by the state are inadequate, which lead to the increasingly serious situation for rural governing elites. Therefore, the state should appropriately increase the economic income of governing elites in rural areas based on the financial resources of local government, so as to rectify the psychological imbalance of governing elites when associating with economic elites. At the same time, according to the low quality of governing elite, government should strengthen the education on professional knowledge and skills, especially on the problems in the political and ideological quality of rural governing elite. Be sure to effectively strengthen the education of revolutionary traditions and theoretical quality, so that their professional ability and political quality can be improved. Besides, strengthening the supervision of township and village cadres is also very important. Relevant system should be established to prevent the exchange of money and power. Through these approaches, the thought and behavior and rural governing elites might maintain a high degree of consensus with the state, so that they can play the due role on social development in rural areas.

3.3 Model for social elite in rural areas Social elite in rural areas refers to the people served as village cadre and above it, member with high prestige in family, and villager good at coordinating the relationship. Rural social elites may have neither high economic income, nor certain political status. They are not necessarily understand and support the rural policies, and may even oppose the governing elite and economic elite. However, social elite is powerful enough to promote or undermine the implementation of rural policy in rural areas. Therefore, the state must pay attention to the function of social elite, and take measures to absorb them into the construction of rural areas.

Because political status of rural social elite is low, representatives can be nominated as the candidates of township deputies to the NPC, so that they can get a platform to negotiate with governing elite, to express the actual needs of farmers, to propagandize the national policies and principles to farmers based on understanding the "Three Agricultural Problems", and to assist the township party committee and neighborhood committee in the construction of new socialist countryside. Considering the low economic income of social elites, they can be absorbed into corresponding trade associations in order to have more opportunities to contact with, or to obtain support from, economic elite. Skills and ways of getting rich can be grasped through the training of agricultural enrichment technology by government organizations, which can better support the strategy implementation in rural areas.

3.4 Model for cultural elite in rural areas Cultural elite is mainly the teacher of primary or secondary school in rural areas, bearing the important task of imparting knowledge and culture to the youth and playing the role of explaining national poli-

cies^[7]. But rural governing elite has not recognized the importance of teachers. In fact, value orientation and behavior preference of teachers, who are the intellectuals in the middle class of rural social structure, not only affect the development of rural society, but also influence the stability of rural society. However, economic income of rural cultural elites is relatively low at present, and their political status is also relatively low compared with governing elite with few opportunities for upward mobility. Therefore, cultural elite lacks the subjective intention to explain the state's rural strategy to the children of farmers. And they even show their dissatisfaction with the state at or after class. Thus, the negative role of cultural elite should be paid attention to.

Nationalization of rural cultural elite aims to improve their economic income, to offer them more opportunities to communicate with rural governing elite, and to give them the chance to become township NPC deputies and CPPCC members. When making local development plans, rural governing elite should fully consult to the rural cultural elite. This helps township government to draw on the wisdom of the masses when making plans and systems. Meanwhile, cultural elite feels respected, and may support the implementation of rural strategy, so that the real nationalization of rural cultural elite can be realized.

4 Conclusion

Rural elite is more than rural economic elite. Only when the rural elites are classified accurately, can we fully understand their situation. According to the characteristics of rural governing elite, economic elite, social elite and cultural elite, the current needs and problems of each elite community are analyzed; and then different nationalization models are adopted. Generally speaking, all the four elite types need financial support. At the same time, the state should set up a platform for dialogue and mutual support, and prevent the exchange of power of money and other improper deals among different elite types by supervision and ideological education. Based on the scientific classification of rural elite, different nationalization strategies are adopted, and the function of rural elite can be fully exerted so as to promote the development and stability in rural society.

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