On Research of Xi Jinping’s Thought of Military Economy: Value, Content and Method

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Abstract. Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy is the latest military economic guidance theory in the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the “military economy” of Xi Jinping’s thought of strong military and the latest achievement of the Chineseization of Marxism. As a broad and profound theoretical system, Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy contains profound scientific logic. But at present, the research on it by domestic scholars is still in its infancy. Therefore, it is a pioneering work to research it. Researching Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy is a basic theoretical construction task of the Chinese army and a practical need for national defense and military construction in the new era. The research content of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy mainly includes the research of its theoretical sources, practical sources, content framework and operating law, including the interdisciplinary research method, the historical research method, the literature research method, and so on. It should be noted in the course of the research that this topic taps into the inherent scientific logic of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy, not just its specific content.

1. Introduction

In the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, as the latest military economic guidance theory, the “military economy” of Xi Jinping’s thought of strengthening the army and the latest achievement of the s inicization of Marxism, Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy is reflected in a series of major strategic ideas and major decision-making arrangements of the party and the state on the construction of socialist military economy with Chinese characteristics since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, especially in Xi Jinping’s classic works and authoritative documents, and in his speech on military economic issues. Systematically combing, summing up the theoretical source, historical source, content structure and practice of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy, and excavating, revealing its thinking characteristics, laws and methods can provide action guidance for the practice of socialist military economy with Chinese characteristics in the new era to carry out Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy, realize the dream of strengthening the army and build a world-class army, and then contribute the new Chinese wisdom to the human military and economic thought.

As a broad and profound theoretical system, Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy contains profound scientific logic. But at present, the research on it by domestic scholars is still in its infancy. From different perspectives, their research is limited to explaining Xi Jinping’s speech on the coordinated development of the economic and national defense construction, the deep development of military-civilian integration, the national defense mobilization and so on. The representative views are as follows. (1) On the coordinated development of the economic construction and the national defense construction. Zhang Ming (2013) pointed out in his paper Striving to Promote the Coordinated Development of Economic Construction and National Defense Construction that Xi stressed that the economic construction and the national defense construction are major issues that must be correctly understood and handled in the course of the socialist modernization. It is necessary to take the road of military-civilian integration as an important way, take the unity of the army and the...
government and the unity of the army and the people as the important political guarantees, coordinate economic construction and national defense construction, promote the in-depth development of military-civilian integration, and strive to realize the unity of national affluence and strong army. [1][2] On the deep development of military and civil integration. Zhao Shuzhen (2014) pointed out in his paper *Xi Jinping’s Thought of Deep Development of Military and Civil Integration* that Xi Jinping stressed that the major article on the in-depth development of military and civilian integration must be done well with concerted efforts to achieve the goal of strengthening the army. It requires the combination of state-led and market decisive, and striving to form a situation of deep military-civilian integration development in all-essential-factor, multi-field and high-efficiency. It also requires the army following the law of the national defense economy and the law of the combat effectiveness construction under the condition of informatization to consciously integrate the construction of national defense and army into the economic and social development system, and the local governments paying attention to the implementation of the national defense needs in economic construction and consciously combining the adjustment of the economic layout with the improvement of the national defense layout. [2] Liu Jixian (2017) pointed out in his paper *Full Implementation of Understanding and Practice of Xi Jinping’s Thought of Strong Military* that to emphasize more emphasis on military-civilian integration, we should grasp the “two basic views”: the military-civilian integration will be raised as a national strategy and the deep development of civil-military integration will be promoted. To this end, we should deepen the understanding of the new era strategy to pay attention to the integration of the military and the civilian, strengthen the leadership of integration, consolidate the basis of integration, broaden the field of integration and build a platform for integration, improve the way of integration. [3] Li Sicong (2018) pointed out in his paper *Xi Jinping’s Thoughts on Strong Military in Chinese Dream Land——Understanding of Three Dimensions: Theory, History and Development* that the national strategy of civil-military integration takes the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics as the material foundation, transforms the huge material and intellectual resources gathered by social development into the realistic ideal of national defense army construction, improves the efficiency of national defense modernization, enriches the path of promoting the development of modern national defense capability and breaks through the traditional development model. [4][5] On national defense mobilization. Zhou Li (2017) pointed out in his paper *Start a New Journey of National Defense Mobilization and Construction with Xi Jinping’s Strong Military Thought as the Guide at a New Historical Starting Point* that Xi Jinping’s “perfect national defense mobilization system” strategic deployment in his report to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China has established a clear historical orientation for the development of national defense mobilization. The construction of the national defense mobilization should reshape the leadership management system, innovate the planning system, improve the legal and regulatory system, and continuously develop the theoretical system of national defense mobilization. [5] Wang Zhi (2018) pointed out in his paper *Adhere to Xi Jinping’s Thought of Strong Military Strength as a Guide to Vigorously Promote Innovation and Development of National Defense Mobilization Construction* that as an important part of the strong military industry in the new era, national defense mobilization and construction must adapt to the requirements of the development of the new era, firmly establish the fundamental guiding position of Xi Jinping’s strong military ideology, and put into practice the fundamental principles of the Party's armed management, the task of training and preparing for the center, the strategic thinking of military-civilian integration, and the requirements of intensive and efficient development. [6]

The research above indicated that there are very few monographs on Xi Jinping’s military and economic thought in the academic world at present, and they are all aimed at a certain point of Xi’s discourse on national defense and military construction and reform. The results of the research are scattered in some periodical sins, such as the study and experience of Xi Jinping’s speech on military economic issues on various occasions. They do not systematically summarize, analyze, refine or summarize Xi’s military economic thought, do not reveal the characteristics, laws and methods of Xi’s military economic thinking, or do not logically demonstrate how to implement Xi’s military economic thought in the new era of socialist military economic practice with Chinese characteristics.
Or no relevant research results have been seen abroad. Thus, it is a pioneering work to study this topic.

2. Research value of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy

2.1 Academic value

It is a basic theoretical construction task of the PLA to make an in-depth study of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy. At the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the country is facing a variety of security threats, the army has taken on diversified military tasks and its construction has ushered in a period of great development. These objective factors bring a series of new situations and problems to the national defense and military construction. To comb and summarize the theoretical system of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy in a timely manner can reveal the deep-seated military economic law, enrich and develop Xi Jinping’s strong military thought and enrich and develop the Marxist military economic theory.

2.2 Application value

Systematic study of Xi Jinping’s thought of military and economy is the practical need of the national defense and military construction in the new era. At present, the PLA is in an important historical leap in the construction of military economic strength and potential. During this period, the army construction is facing the strategic transformation from the mechanization to the informationization which accompanied by the renewal of weapons and equipment, the use of high-tech combat platform and the increase of equipment construction projects. These need to be supported by corresponding financial resources. The country’s financial resources are limited. So only by accurately grasping the environmental needs of the national defense and the military construction, the resource utilization, the contradiction coordination, the trade-offs and the sustainable development, and exploring the law and studying practice, can we gradually open up the situation and solve the difficult problems. This requires scientific military and economic theory as a guide. Sorting and summarizing Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy and excavating its objective laws can provide scientific and powerful theoretical support and practical guidance for the system planning and top-level design of strengthening the modernization of the armed forces in the new era.

3. Research content of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy

3.1 Source of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy

3.1.1 Theoretical source of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy

This part focuses on the inheritance and innovation of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy to Marxist military economic thought, Mao Zedong’s military economic thought and the socialist military economic thought with Chinese characteristics. Thus, it is proved that Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy is the theory of military economic guidance of the Chinese Communist Party in the new era, the development and extension of the basic theoretical line of the Party in the field of military economy, the “Part of Military Economy” of the Guiding Theory of the Party and one of the latest achievements of the Chineseization of Marxism in the new era.

3.1.2 Source of practice of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy

This Part will profoundly expound the experience and lessons of China's military economic practice in various periods since modern times especially since the founding of the People's Republic of China to response to the historical foundation of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy rooted in the Chinese Dream of the Great Revival of the Chinese Nation.
3.2 Content framework of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy

3.2.1 Thought of adhering to unifying rich country with powerful army
In modern times, the Chinese have had a long-sought dream of the rich country with the powerful army which can only be realized with the founding of New China and the establishment of a strong socialist economy. The dream of strengthening the army in the new era is rooted in the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. To realize the dream of strengthening the army, the unification of the rich country with the powerful army must be continuously adhered to and the Chinese dream will have a solid and reliable guarantee. This is the basis of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy.

3.2.2 Thought of military economic work adhering to standard of combat effectiveness and focusing on being competent to fight and fighting to win
Xi Jinping said in his report to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China that the army must be prepared to go to war, all army work must adhere to the standard of combat effectiveness and focus on being competent to fight and fighting to win. The work of military economy must also adhere to the standard of combat effectiveness and focus on being competent to fight and fighting to win. This is the fundamental following principle of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy.

3.2.3 Thought of coordinated, balanced and compatible development of economic construction and national defense construction
Xi Jinping’s thought of coordinated, balanced and compatible development of the economic construction and the national defense construction is the insistence and development of the thought of the coordinated development of the economic construction and the national defense construction and the fundamental goal of the integration and development of the economic construction and the national defense construction in the new era. This is the essential requirements of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy.

3.2.4 Thought of promoting deep development of civil-military integration
It is an important breakthrough in the good and rapid development of national defense and military to vigorously promote the deep development of military-civilian integration, scientifically and rationally plan, allocate and use the limited national resources, lead the market resources to focus on the battlefield demand and build an integrated national strategic system and capability. This is a remarkable sign of the maturity of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy and an excellent creation of Marxist military economic thought.

3.2.5 Thought of improving national defense mobilization system
The national defense mobilization is a deterrent and security barrier to the national security. The 13th Five-Year Plan clearly sets out the requirements of “deepening reform in the field of national defense mobilization and perfecting the institutional mechanism for national defense mobilization”. In the report of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Xi Jinping once again stressed the need to “improve the national defense mobilization system”. This is the specific development of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy in the field of the national defense mobilization.

3.2.6 Thought of deepening reform of national defense science and technology industry
Xi Jinping attaches great importance to the development of the national defense science and technology industry, and has repeatedly stressed the need to firmly grasp the strategic base of the independent innovation in the national defense science and technology, vigorously promote the scientific and technological progress and innovation, and strive to occupy a place in forward-looking and strategic areas. This is the concrete development of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy in the field of the national defense science and technology industry.

3.2.7 Thought of promoting comprehensive construction of equipment and modern logistics
Xi Jinping attaches great importance to the construction of equipment and modern logistics. He stressed to co-ordinate the promotion of modern logistics “three major construction tasks” which fully reflects Xi Jinping’s strategic operations for the military equipment and modern logistics.
construction. This is the concrete development of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy in the field of equipment and modern logistics.

3.3 Development of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy in practice

3.3.1 Operating mechanism of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy
Independence is the foothold of the operating mechanism of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy. Being the basic guiding ideology that the military economic construction must adhere to for a long time in the new era, Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy develops with the development.

3.3.2 Practice Path of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy in practice
The military economic work of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era adhering to the guidance of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy requires the military economic work must adhere to and rely on the leadership of the Party, start everything in view of reality and insist on the unity of practice, development and innovation.

4. Way of thinking and methods of research of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy

4.1 Way of thinking of research of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy
This topic is discussed according to the general idea of “one perspective”, “one main line” and “three major plates”. “One perspective” is Marxist philosophy. “One main line” is Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy. And “three major plates” is the three key issues with intrinsic connections of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy which are “where comes from”, “What are the constituent elements” and “how to operate”.

4.2 Methods of research of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy
The following research methods are intended to apply. (1) Interdisciplinary research method. The topic makes a comprehensive research of the scientific logic of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy by using multidisciplinary theories and methods such as Marxist philosophy, military science, political science and history. (2) Historical research method. The topic analyzes the historical formation and historical evolution of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy from the historical perspective, explores its historical origin and determines its historical orientation. (3) Method of literature research. The topic will carefully comb and summarize a series of documents of the Party and the State on the construction of socialist military economy with Chinese characteristics since the 18th National Congress, especially Xi Jinping's important discourses and speeches on military and economic issues, and grasp the scientific composition and basic contents of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy in a comprehensive and correct way.

5. Summary
At present, the academic circles have not systematically summarized and demonstrated Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy. Therefore, the topic is a pioneering issue. As a new subject, this research taps into the inherent scientific logic of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy, not just the specific content of it. Only by identifying the research object and making scientific argumentation can this topic be established. From the conceptual, Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy includes not only Xi Jinping’s personal military economic thought, but also contains a series of major strategic thoughts, major theoretical views and major decision-making and deployment of the Party and the state on the military economic construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics since the 18th National Congress and a summary of the experience of the practice of socialist military economic construction with Chinese characteristics since the 18th National Congress. It is a theoretical system with rich connotations. Therefore, only by accurately defining the concept of Xi Jinping’s thought of military economy can the research be avoided bias. In addition, Xi Jinping’s speeches and important statements on national defense and military construction on various occasions have been enriched over time and the military and economic
practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics is also developing in the new era. It is therefore
difficult to grasp systematically all the elements involved in military economic thinking in general.
And this topic can only summarize, analyze and demonstrate the basic viewpoint, discourse and
practical experience in a certain period of time.

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