

International Exchange and Cooperation of Public Libraries Under the Background of “Belt and Road”

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Abstract

Relying on public cultural resources, combined with the “Belt and Road” initiative, in-depth study of international exchanges and cooperation in public library, we must trace the historical conditions of the “Belt and Road” and the international exchange and cooperation of public library, and reveal the historical traditions and cultural origins of “Belt and Road”, which are used to systematically construct the theoretical basis of the international exchange and cooperation of public library under the background of “Belt and Road”, and provide theoretical support for making top-level design and a series of development plans from the macro level.

Key words: “Belt and Road”; Public library; International exchange and cooperation

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INTRODUCTION

As an important position of cultural inheritance and innovation, public libraries are the product of the

development of human civilization and have the natural advantages and great potential of cultural communication and development. As early as the end of the 19th century, there were collection organizations in China with the nature of a public library. As public libraries have the dual role of serving the public and serving scientific research, with the continuous development of social culture, the number, scale, volume of books and readers of public libraries in China have been greatly improved. The autonomous community libraries have provided functions such as collection of books, catalogues, interlibrary loan, academic research and communication, and gradually built a modern public library network.

At present, with the smooth implementation and continuous promotion of the “Belt and Road” initiative, deepening the international exchange and cooperation of public libraries will help to highlight the characteristics of the public library’s wide service, comprehensiveness and multi-objective level. Which will help to create a public library service system with Chinese traditional cultural identity, promote regional cultural exchanges, regional political mutual trust, regional civilization and mutual understanding with countries along the “Belt and Road”, and realize the great development and prosperity of the socialist cultural cause with Chinese characteristics including the public library.

Through a comprehensive review of the “Belt and Road” and the research status of public libraries, this paper explores the theoretical logic and practical path of the innovation and development of public libraries in the context of the “Belt and Road”, aiming at objectively explaining the high cultural confidence and cultural conscious of the “Belt and Road” initiative, deeply exploring the historical conditions, theoretical basis, and significance of international exchanges and cooperation in public libraries under the background of the “Belt and Road”. At the same time, this paper will provide a realistic model for promoting exchanges and cooperation between

libraries in various countries along the route, and provide a feasible solution for the harmonious coexistence of diverse cultures of different countries and nations.

1. THE RESEARCH STATUS QUO OF “BELT AND ROAD” AND PUBLIC LIBRARY

The public library is rooted in the outstanding cultural traditions of the Chinese nation and is an advanced cultural enterprise that is constantly improving in the practice of public library construction and development in China.

The implementation of international exchange and cooperation research of public libraries under the background of “Belt and Road” is an important part of the work research of public libraries in the new era. In recent years, academic circles at home and abroad have made special studies on the relationship between public libraries and the “Belt and Road” from the perspectives of the purpose, strategy and approach of cultural exchange and cooperation.

According to the article “New Thoughts on the Development of Public Libraries in the Background of ‘Belt and Road’”, the “Belt and Road” brings important opportunities for the development of public libraries, and should make full use of new media technologies to improve the quality of cultural services. Taking this opportunity to create an international cultural exchange platform across time and across regions, and promote cultural exchanges and cooperation between China and countries along the route. (Liu, 2018, p.464).

“Introduction to the Innovation of Public Libraries in the Context of the ‘Belt and Road’ and the Reading of the Whole People” believes that the work of public libraries is centered on economic construction and serves the overall situation of social development, providing intellectual support for the “Belt and Road”. At the same time, the “Belt and Road” provides important support for promoting the international dissemination of public library service concepts, promoting the cultural construction of public libraries, and enhancing the quality and level of public library services. (Tu, 2018, p.62).

Different from the above viewpoints, the article “Innovation and Service of Public Libraries in the Background of ‘Belt and Road’ for All People Reading” expounded from the social significance of public library services in the context of “Belt and Road” for the whole people, and scientifically answered how to achieve the innovation of discourse in public libraries, which expounded the significance of injecting new impetus to the promotion of the level and taste of public library services, as well as providing theoretical support for promoting the international exchange and cooperation of public libraries. (Zhou, 2017, p.23).

With regard to the development of public libraries in ethnic areas in the context of the “Belt and Road”, the article “The ‘Belt and Road’ Initiative and the Development of Public Libraries in Ethnic Areas” proposes that “Belt and Road” provides important for the development and prosperity of public libraries in ethnic areas. opportunity. Taking advantage of the geographical location and uniqueness of cultural resources in ethnic areas, and promoting the international exchange and cooperation of public libraries under the background of “Belt and Road”, it will further strengthen the construction of public libraries, promote Chinese culture to the world, and enhance cultural confidence, and achieve the goal of building a culturally strong country. (Nie, 2018, p.4).

How to realize the innovation and development of the public library industry in the context of “Belt and Road” is another important topic of academic concern. The article “Talking about the development of libraries under the ‘Belt and Road’ strategy” said that the “Belt and Road” construction is a prominent manifestation and concentrated projection of the national cultural integration strategy along the route. Libraries along the route including public libraries should strengthen unified planning, promote cooperation and exchanges among libraries along the route, and strive to create a knowledgeable and social library service platform. (Tian, 2017, p.3).

The article “The significance and countermeasures of public library participation in the ‘Belt and Road’ construction” believes that “Belt and Road” is conducive to improving the service level of public libraries and improving the construction of its own service system. By promoting the “Belt and Road” literature, implementing the “Belt and Road” construction project, and establishing domestic and international public library alliances, we can further explore new ideas and methods for the development of public libraries. (Liu, 2018, p.5).

Looking at the existing research results, on the one hand, from the perspective of social services, resource construction and comprehensive development of public libraries, explore the main image, communication methods and development trends of public libraries under the background of “Belt and Road”; On the other hand, from the aspects of communication platform, cooperation content, and service targets, some issues concerning the construction of public libraries are discussed. However, based on public cultural resources, combined with the “Belt and Road” initiative, research on the necessary conditions and feasible ways for the innovation and development of public libraries is rare. The research on the “Belt and Road” and the international exchange and cooperation of local public libraries is still weak, and it is necessary to conduct special research and in-depth discussion from both theoretical and practical levels.

2. THE POSSIBILITY OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES UNDER THE BACKGROUND OF “BELT AND ROAD”

With the smooth implementation of the “Belt and Road” initiative, libraries have become increasingly prominent in their foreign cultural exchanges and cooperation, and their status has become increasingly important. Since the “Belt and Road” involves dozens of countries and billions of people, these countries have created different forms of civilization and different styles of civilization in history, and they are an important part of the treasure house of human civilization.

At present, we must rely on the public cultural resources, take the “Belt and Road” Initiative as a carrier, promote the construction of public libraries, further promote cultural exchanges and cooperation with countries along the route, and realize the international spread of Chinese culture.

Therefore, carrying out research on international exchanges and cooperation of public libraries under the background of “Belt and Road”, which will help to explore the profound cultural heritage of countries along the route, and inherit and carry forward the “Silk Road”, a cultural symbol with broad affinity and profound appeal, and actively play the role of cultural exchanges and cooperation. This will enable all countries along the route to absorb and integrate the reasonable content of foreign culture, promote the common development of different civilizations, build an international united front, and provide a good international environment for the smooth implementation of the “Belt and Road” initiative. (Zeng, 2018).

In November 2016, the “Belt and Road” public library regional alliance was announced in Shenzhen, which effectively strengthened the foundation of international exchange and cooperation of public libraries in the context of “Belt and Road”. At present, we need to stand on the reality of the development of China’s public libraries and the height of the times. Based on the realistic needs of the Chinese nation’s great rejuvenation of the Chinese dream, we must understand and grasp the high-mindedness and important value of the “Belt and Road” initiative. This will help to understand and interpret the high cultural confidence of the “Belt and Road” initiative, and will also help to study and explore the historical conditions, theoretical basis and significance of international exchange and cooperation in public libraries.

2.1 Studying the Necessary Conditions of International Exchange and Cooperation of Public Libraries under the Background of “Belt and Road” From the Perspective of History

The “Belt and Road” is not only a road to history, but also a peaceful development path for the integration and exchange of Chinese culture and world culture.

The “Belt and Road” initiative emphasizes inclusive development, open cooperation, interconnection, mutual understanding, and peaceful friendship. The purpose of the public library is to serve the public and enhance the cultural exchanges and civilizations of the people along the route, so that people of all countries can meet each other and trust each other, and share a harmonious, peaceful and prosperous life. The two are mutually integrated in the concept and purpose, and in line with the needs of the construction of a community of human destiny in the new era, which is conducive to the good wishes of human society for common development. (Hao, 2015, p.11).

Take the forefront of China’s reform and opening up as an example. As a city with important geographical location and development potential, Shenzhen is not only the first place in modern China to open up foreign trade ports, but also the status of a traditional maritime silk road. It is also a frontier of China’s reform and opening up, with unique geographical advantages, personal advantage and cultural soft power. The Shenzhen Public Library has obvious advantages in resources, has a variety of public cultural carriers, and extends a broad public cultural network. This provides the necessary conditions for the formulation and implementation of public exchange and cooperation programs for public libraries.

2.2 From the Theoretical Perspective to Construct an Important Foundation for the International Exchange and Cooperation of Public Libraries Under the Background of the “Belt and Road”

The “Belt and Road” initiative is a correct conclusion drawn from scientific observations and analysis of current international cultural development trends. It has a profound theoretical foundation and cultural accumulation.

The construction of “Belt and Road” needs to give full play to its characteristics of wide cultural service, comprehensiveness and multi-objective level, highlighting the important role of public libraries in foreign cultural exchanges and cooperation, and strive to build a platform for deep exchanges and cooperation between all people in the countries and regions along the “Belt and Road”.

At present, we must combine the practical needs of the development of public libraries and focus on building an important foundation for the international exchange and cooperation of public libraries in the context of the “Belt and Road”. At the same time, we must base ourselves on the theory of socialist opening up with Chinese characteristics and adhere to the guiding ideology of deepening the opening up to establish the theoretical basis for international exchange and cooperation in public libraries.

2.3 Exploring the Importance of International Exchange and Cooperation of Public Libraries Under the Background of “Belt and Road” From the Perspective of Innovation

Since the convening of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, President Xi Jinping

has proposed new requirements for adhering to the path of socialist cultural development with Chinese characteristics, inspiring the cultural innovation and creativity of the entire nation, and building a strong socialist culture. On January 1, 2018, the Law of the People’s Republic of China on Public Libraries was officially promulgated and implemented. This is China’s first library special law, aimed at strengthening the management of public libraries, promoting the development of the library business, and highlighting the significance of public libraries in the great development and prosperity of socialist culture with Chinese characteristics. (Li, 2017, p.15).

Cultural development is expensive. We must aim at realizing the innovation and development of public libraries, and put the international exchanges and cooperation of public libraries at the height of the cultural ties of humanity’s common destiny in the 21st century and the interconnectedness, coexistence and common prosperity of human civilization. This can clarify the internal logic between the “public library story” and the “Chinese culture story”, and reveal the far-reaching cultural value and significant practical significance of the “Belt and Road” initiative.

3. THE WAYS OF REALIZING INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES UNDER THE BACKGROUND OF “BELT AND ROAD”

The “Belt and Road” initiative is rooted in China’s profound cultural heritage and is a long-term and systematic cultural project aimed at realizing the harmonious coexistence and common development of diverse cultures of different countries and nations. At present, compared with the active construction of the “Belt and Road” special library in domestic libraries, there are few activities related to public library exchanges and cooperation, and the related theoretical discussions need to be deepened.

On the one hand, we must make top-level design and a series of strategic planning from the macro-theoretical level, in order to explore the realization of international exchanges and cooperation of public libraries in the context of the “Belt and Road” and vigorously promote exchanges and cooperation between public libraries along the route. On the other hand, we must strengthen library talent exchange, resource sharing, platform construction, and in-depth exploration of the public exchange and cooperation of public libraries, so that public libraries serve the full implementation of the “Belt and Road” initiative.

At present, relying on public cultural resources, combined with the “Belt and Road” initiative to study the

necessary conditions, important foundations and ways to achieve international exchange and cooperation in public libraries in the new era, we can find the following three noteworthy aspects:

3.1 Implementing the Development Strategy of Export-Oriented Public Libraries and Promoting the Service and Management of Public Libraries

In the process of building a new era of China’s socialist public libraries, we must implement the development strategy of export-oriented public libraries. We must use overseas ties, friendships, and interests as the basis, and based on blood, geography, and business ties, to conduct overseas networking. To continuously broaden the development of public libraries, we must focus on the innovation of Chinese public library services and management to expand its influence and win a broader space in the world. Promote public libraries to go out and strengthen exchanges and cooperation with national public libraries along the “Belt and Road”. We must follow the principle of being me-oriented and government-oriented, and adapt to the national political and diplomatic policy.

3.2 Give Full Play to the Resource Advantages of Public Libraries and Create a New Situation for the Development of Public Libraries

On January 1, 2018, the “Public Library Law of the People’s Republic of China” promulgated and implemented by China clearly states: Public libraries are an important part of the socialist public cultural service system. It is important to promote, guide and serve the reading of the whole people. Public libraries should adhere to the direction of the advanced socialist culture, adhere to the people as the center, adhere to the socialist core values as the guide, inherit and develop the Chinese excellent traditional culture, inherit the revolutionary culture, and develop the advanced socialist culture.

It can be said that the public library is an important base for cultivating and practicing the core values of socialism, spreading the advanced culture of socialism, enhancing the cultural self-confidence of the Chinese nation, and realizing the great prosperity and development of the Chinese nation.

In the new historical period, public libraries will rely on the “Belt and Road” initiative, and take advantage of the important opportunities for countries along the route to strengthen exchanges and mutual trust, further develop their resource advantages, actively innovate service means, broaden service channels, and enhance management capabilities and levels. On this basis, we will create a new situation in the development of public libraries with practical actions.

3.3 Strengthen the Infrastructure Construction of Public Libraries and Build a Public Library Service System With Chinese Cultural Identity

In the construction of public libraries, infrastructure construction has the role of a source of cultural

development and requires comprehensive and multi-angle planning. In the specific implementation process, based on the construction of the “Belt and Road” literature library, the exchange and cooperation of national libraries along the route will be organized regularly to promote the richness of the special library and library of the “Belt and Road”. At the same time, we must focus on building a “Belt and Road” network service platform and accelerate the establishment of exchanges and cooperation with national digital libraries along the route.

The construction of the public library service system must start with the promotion of the socialist core value system as the main content of cultural identity, cultural communication, cultural exchanges and so on. We must play an important role in the construction of public libraries in the construction of social enterprise linkages, and integrate school, social and enterprise resources in public services, find their own development direction in the service of cultural industries, and make public libraries work in integration. Win the advantage in resources. In the end, we will realize the innovation and development in strengthening coordination, and then form a public library service system with Chinese cultural identity that is internal and external linkage and interactive.

CONCLUSION

Cultural self-confidence is the full affirmation and active practice of a nation, a country and a political party for its own cultural values. Cultural self-confidence is also a more basic, broader and deeper self-confidence.

At present, we have in-depth discussion on the international exchange and cooperation of public libraries in the context of the “Belt and Road” initiative, which will help promote the international cooperation and achieve policy communication, facility connectivity, trade smoothness, capital finance, and people’s hearts. At the same time, it is conducive to building a new platform for international cultural cooperation and adding new impetus to cultural development. The above tasks and objectives are not only the objective need to improve the quality and level of public library services, but also the meaning of

promoting the cultural exchanges between China and the countries along the route.

In short, the public library is a cultural heritage center shared by the countries along the “Belt and Road”, a shared cultural exchange platform, and a shared cultural cooperation foundation. At present, the construction of public libraries in the new era naturally faces a new situation, shoulders new tasks and assumes a new mission. Therefore, we carry out research on international exchanges and cooperation of public libraries under the background of “Belt and Road”, not only to systematically interpret and elaborate on the “Belt and Road” initiative from the theoretical level, but also to promote the public libraries of from the practical level.

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