

Research on the Practice of Integrating Yuhua Heroic Spirit into the Cultivation of Student Party Members—Take Nanjing Xiaozhuang University as an Example

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[**Abstract**] Yuhua heroic spirit is the “Jiangsu symbol” of the spiritual pedigree of the Communist Party of China and the red cultural card of Jiangsu, which comes down in one continuous line with the great party-building spirit. The ten martyrs in Xiaozhuang are an important part of the Yuhua heroic group. Under the new era and situation, Nanjing Xiaozhuang University makes full use of the red cultural resources of the living Yuhua heroic spirit, integrates Xiaozhuang’s red gene and Yuhua heroic spirit into the training practice of student party members, and constructs a four-in-one party member development model of “speaking”, “performing”, “painting” and “singing”. In this way, the transformation and innovative inheritance of Yuhua heroic spirit can be realized, and student party members can be cultivated with the characteristics of Xiaozhuang spirit.

[**Key words**] Yuhua heroic spirit; student party members; red gene

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Yuhua heroic spirit is the “Jiangsu symbol” of the spiritual pedigree of the Communist Party of China. During the new democratic revolution, there were thousands of communists and patriots killed by the enemy in Yuhuatai and other places in Nanjing, as well as thousands of revolutionary martyrs who died in other places and were buried in Yuhuatai after the founding of new China. There were 1519 known names, with an average age of less than 30, of which 60% were under 30. The majority of Yuhua heroes are communists, who are representatives of the generation of communists in the early days of party founding.

Nanjing Xiaozhuang University is a university with a deep red gene. Its predecessor is Xiaozhuang Experimental Rural Normal School. Under the guidance of Tao Xingzhi, a batch of outstanding communist party

members and members of the Communist Youth League devoted themselves to the Chinese revolution, seeking a way out for rural education. Xiaozhuang students, represented by Yuan Zitong and others, sowed revolutionary fire and finally shed blood on Yuhuatai, becoming an important part of the Yuhua heroic group. The ten martyrs in Xiaozhuang are a group of young martyrs, including seven communists and two members of the Communist Youth League. The oldest is 23 years old and the youngest is Yuan Jitong, 16 years old.

In the new era and new situation, Nanjing Xiaozhuang University should make full use of the red cultural resources of the living Yuhua heroic spirit, integrate Xiaozhuang's red gene and Yuhua heroic spirit into the training practice of student party members, carry forward the revolutionary spirit, and gather students' youth for the construction of a high-level university with distinctive characteristics of teacher education.

1 Historical context of Xiaozhuang revolution

In the critical period of building a century-old Xiaozhuang, looking back on the history of the revolutionary struggle between teachers and students in Xiaozhuang in the early days of the founding of the university is of great significance to carry forward the spirit of struggle and hard work in the new era and new situation, strengthen the original mission of the party, and inherit the red gene.

In January, 1927, Tao Xingzhi began to prepare for the establishment of Xiaozhuang Experimental Rural Normal School. On March 15, Xiaozhuang Experimental Rural Normal School officially opened, and Xie Wei and 13 aspiring young people have become the first batch of students in Xiaozhuang. On March 24, the Northern Expedition troops of the National Revolutionary Army entered Nanjing. Xiaozhuang teachers and students went to the streets with the Nanjing people to welcome the Northern Expedition troops, and widely publicized the revolution to the masses, accusing the bloody massacres of imperialism and exposing the traitorous behavior of the reactionary warlords.

In July, 1928, the Nanjing Municipal Party Committee of the Communist Party of China established an underground party organization in Xiaozhuang, which was one of the earliest party branches restored in Nanjing after the "party clearing" of the national government in 1927. Liu Jiping is the first secretary of the branch. At the same time, the Communist Youth League in Xiaozhuang was also established, and Xu Mingqing is the first secretary of the league branch. The establishment of Xiaozhuang party and league organizations has provided many conveniences and conditions for the Nanjing Party organization to carry out and lead the people in various hostile struggles.

In order to strengthen security, the "Liancun self-defense group" was established under the sponsorship of Feng Yuxiang in August 1928 to try to establish revolutionary armed forces, which made a positive contribution to the maintenance of social security around the Xiaozhuang area at that time.

In February, 1930, Shanghai underground party organization established "China liberal alliance". Subsequently, the Xiaozhuang Party branch contacted Jinling University, Central University, No. 30 Middle School and other teachers and students, and set up the "Nanjing branch of China liberal alliance". The inaugural meeting was held by Shan Shan, Shi Jun, Ye Gang, Xie Wei, and others made free speeches at the conference. The main content is to oppose dictatorship and strive for freedom of assembly, association, press and speech. After the official establishment of the "Nanjing branch of China liberal alliance", Xiaozhuang University established a peripheral organization of the underground Party of the Communist Party of China, and its various activities were more active.

After that, more than 200 teachers and students of Xiaozhuang Central Primary School held a parade in Qixia Mountain to create conditions for children's inspection and parade. Tao Xingzhi wrote a letter to the Ministry of Railways and suggested it to draw up regulations on free parade for primary school students. This led Chiang Kai

Shek to add “pupils take the train” when seizing Xiaozhuang “Not Buying” tickets and disrupting traffic between Beijing and Shanghai.

After the “April 3” massacre, Ye Gang, Shi Jun and other students rushed to the scene to express their condolences to the injured workers and the families of the victims, and asked the workers’ representatives to come to the school to tell the story of the workers’ strike. Liu Jiping contacted teachers and students in various schools in Nanjing, set up the “April 3” Massacre Support Committee, and decided to hold a support meeting for workers’ anti-imperialist activities on April 5. In the demonstration, under the leadership of the underground party branch of the Communist Party of China, teachers and students of Xiaozhuang participated in the anti-imperialist patriotic demonstration of students in Nanjing, and supported the strike of the Hutchison factory in Xiaguan. On April 8, the Nanjing national government ordered the closure of Xiaozhuang school on the grounds of “violating the three people’s principles, distributing reactionary leaflets, luring and launching warlords, and attempting to disrupt the traffic between Beijing and Shanghai”. Xiaozhuang teachers and students organized a school nursing meeting and protested. On April 12, the KMT government forcibly closed Xiaozhuang school on the charge of “hoping to expand the reactionary trend, disrupt the traffic between Beijing and Shanghai, and disrupt social order”. After Xiaozhuang was shut down, Xiaozhuang teachers and students carried out life education activities all over the country.

From June 1930 to October 1930, more than 30 students in Xiaozhuang were arrested, including Ma Mingju, Ye Gang, Tang Zao, Shen Yunlou, Yao Ailan, Yuan Zitong, Shi Jun, Hu Shangzhi, Guo Fengshao, Xie Wei. Ten Xiaozhuang students were killed and sacrificed in Yuhutai, including Yuan Jitong, the 16-year-old was killed by the Kuomintang authorities after changing his age because he was under the age of 18. When Xiaozhuang teachers and students participated in the revolutionary activities, it was a time when the whole country was shrouded in white terror. As students in school, they had every reason to avoid this cruel struggle, and even more reason to avoid the choice of joining the Communist Party and the Communist Youth League, which was full of political risks and life costs. However, they were determined to be active in the front line of the enemy’s struggle. Whether they were Communist Party members, Communist Youth League members or advanced youth, they were at a critical juncture, just as Yao Ailan shouted before his death, “the Communist Party is not afraid of death. If it is afraid of death, it is not the Communist Party”. The first generation of communists in Xiaozhuang is worth remembering forever.

Under the new situation of the new era, Nanjing Xiaozhuang University should make full use of the red cultural resources of living Yuhua heroic spirit, integrate Xiaozhuang’s red gene and Yuhua heroic spirit into the training practice of student party members in the new era, carry forward the revolutionary spirit and struggle spirit, and pool students’ strength for the construction of a high-level university with distinctive characteristics of teacher education.

2 Time value of Yuhua heroic spirit into the party construction in colleges and universities

Yuhua heroic spirit can set up a spiritual banner for the party building in the new era, provide spiritual guidance for the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and refine the spiritual motivation for the youth to undertake the mission. To cultivate student party members in the new era, we should skillfully find the intersection of illuminating the future with the light of history, the collision point between history and reality, and the entry point for students’ spiritual growth.

2.1 Hold high the banner of faith and encourage students to strengthen their ideals and beliefs

The power of faith is infinite. China’s revolutionary road is long and tortuous. Many of Yuhua heroes are

intellectuals. With their education level at that time, they could have lived a carefree life, but those communists who were intellectuals resolutely embarked on a difficult revolutionary road for their ideals. For example, martyr Huang Li was admitted to Wuchang China University in 1924 to receive the education of new ideas. In 1925, he joined the Communist Party of China and went to Zhongshan University in Moscow to study the same year. In 1932, he was appointed director of the Organization Department of the CPC Jiangsu Provincial Committee. After being arrested in Shanghai for traitors' betrayal, he carried out revolutionary struggle in prison, and plotted against the KMT guards to send information about traitors in prison for the party organization, thus avoiding greater losses to the party's cause. On July 5th, 1933, on the way to Yuhuatai to die, he said to the escort gendarmerie, "you have killed many communists and revolutionaries. Can you finish it? The more revolutionaries you kill, the more revolutionaries you kill. . ." and then he died calmly. The ten martyrs in Xiaozhuang, represented by Ye Gang, are the typical representatives of the teachers and students in Xiaozhuang who pursue truth and save the country and the people. They are the glorious embodiment and loyalty of the party's original mission. In the stormy days, China firmly chose Marxism and set up the lofty ideal of communism.

Especially the majority of student party members, the success of China's revolution, construction and reform has not come easily. In the face of the great changes that have not been seen in a century and the overall strategic situation of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, we should be prepared to face greater risks and challenges, integrate our personal ideals into the cause of the development of the party and the country, and show the true qualities of party members in overcoming difficulties.

2.2 Strengthen cultural confidence and urge students to cultivate moral sentiment

Since ancient times, China has had people with lofty ideals who are full of the feelings of "worry about the world first and enjoy the world later". Nurtured by the excellent traditional Chinese culture, a generation of Chinese Home Country Feelings is engraved into the bones. On October 6, 1928, Sun Jinchuan, then Secretary of the CPC Nanjing Municipal Committee, died heroically in Yuhuatai. After the April 12 counter revolution, the CPC Nanjing Party organization was severely damaged. With the revolutionary creed of "sacrifice everything for the party at any time", Sun Jinchuan was appointed to rebuild the party organization in Nanjing for the third time. It took less than six months from March 1928, when he became the third secretary of the CPC Nanjing Municipal Committee, to July of the same year, when he was arrested. Nanjing Xiaozhuang party organization was established when Secretary Sun Jinchuan was in office. Until Nanjing Xiaozhuang was sealed up by the Kuomintang authorities, 10 students died in Yuhuatai, making outstanding contributions to the revolutionary work in Nanjing. In prison, the Kuomintang forced Sun Jinchuan to hand over the secrets of the Nanjing Party organization and the list of party members by means of high officials and high salaries and extorting confessions by torture, but he was fearless and only 33 years old when he died. The communist party members represented by Sun Jinchuan fought in the "darkest place" in prison. They are loyal practitioners and inheritors of Chinese excellent traditional culture, and leaders and successors of Chinese advanced culture, practicing with strong will and loyalty, they issued the strongest voice of revolution with heroic sacrifice.

Serving the people wholeheartedly is the party's purpose. Since the founding of the Communist Party of China, it has taken seeking happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation as its value pursuit, code of conduct and original mission. The fundamental position of Yuhua heroes is the people's position. They turned their care and sympathy for the people into thinking about the country and society, and devoted themselves to the great revolutionary practice of saving the people from fire and water. In the journey of realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, there are still many tests ahead. Only when the communists carry out the

revolution and struggle to the end, and stick to the noble moral sentiment in their hearts, can the Chinese people move from suffering to glory.

2.3 Practice core values, encouraging students to make unremitting efforts

The Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation cannot be realized easily. Looking back at the period of the new democratic revolution, from March 1927 to the first half of 1928 alone, as many as 310000 communists and revolutionaries were killed. The revolutionaries' blood flowed into a river, but tens of thousands of communists continued to devote themselves to the great revolutionary practice. As Zhao Shiyan, acting secretary of the Jiangsu Provincial Party Committee, once said, "the Communist Party is a fighting party. If the party exists for one day, it must fight for one day. If it is unwilling to participate in the battle, it is still a communist!". The Communist Party of China (CPC) was born in the midst of internal and external troubles, and developed and grew in overcoming difficulties. Along the way, the CPC members have sought survival, development and victory in the struggle. Developing socialism with Chinese characteristics is a long-term and arduous historical task, and we must prepare for a great struggle with many new historical characteristics.

Yuhua heroic spirit is a member of the Communist Party of China. The true portrayal of the party's original mission on the land of Jiangsu is also the spiritual force for the new era to strive to promote the new practice of Chinese style modernization in Jiangsu and write a new chapter in the modernization of Jiangsu. Jiangsu is a big and powerful province in China's higher education, with a large number of colleges and universities and students. We should carry out extensive red revolution education, inherit the red gene, and guide students, especially student party members to practice the socialist core values, carry forward the spirit of struggle, have the courage to overcome difficulties, give full play to their talents in learning and entrepreneurship, volunteer service and social practice, and write the youth chapter of life.

3 Practical path of integrating Yuhua heroic spirit into the cultivation of student party members

With the help of rich red resources, Nanjing Xiaozhuang University explores the practical path of integrating the spirit of Yuhua heroes into ideological and political education, constructs a red culture education mode integrating the spirit of Yuhua heroes, and fully transforms the reservoir of school-based culture, educating people for ideological and political education. In the process of developing and cultivating party members, we pay attention to the nourishment of the spirit of Xiaozhuang Ten Heroes and Yuhua heroes to student party members and students, and also adopt a variety of ways to learn and inherit the spirit of Yuhua heroes. After practical exploration, we have built a four-in-one party member development model of "speaking", "acting", "painting" and "singing", achieved the realistic path of integrating the spirit of Yuhua heroes into the cultivation of student party members, highlighted the organic integration of the inheritance and innovation of the spirit of Yuhua heroes in the new situation and the cultivation of student party members, and achieved remarkable results.

3.1 Volunteer service to tell the story of Yuhua Heroes

Yuhua heroic spirit is the red cultural card of Jiangsu Province, which is in line with the great spirit of party building. It is the precious spiritual wealth generated by the combination of the basic principles of Marxism with the specific reality of China and with the excellent traditional culture of China. It encourages the Chinese Communists to forge ahead. It is an effective way to promote students' sense of mission of "listening to the party and following the party" to carry out Yuhua heroic spirit propaganda for students and organize students to participate in Yuhua heroic spirit propaganda. The school and organizations at all levels actively connect with Nanjing Yuhuatai and other patriotism education bases, call on and recruit excellent students to form Yuhuatai volunteer service

interpretation team and School History Museum Volunteer Service Interpretation team. Let student party members and party activists “tell” the stories of Yuhua heroes, inherit and carry forward the spirit of Yuhua heroes, receive patriotism education in voluntary propaganda, inherit red genes, and remember the glorious deeds of Yuhua heroes. Yuhuatai volunteer service Interpretation team of the student party members and activists for joining the party made use of their spare time to carry out voluntary propaganda. While serving the scenic spot and the majority of tourists, they stimulated young people’s faith with Shi Mingzhi, Shi Chongde and history, and passed on the baton of history with their own practical actions.

3.2 Stage drama shows the heroic style of Yuhua

Red cultural resources are formed in the arduous course of the revolutionary struggle led by the Communist Party of China. They have a natural function of ideological and political education. As a part of modern China, they are an important source for students to learn from history. Liu Jing et al. (2022) believed that the Yuhua heroic spirit could be integrated into the education of student party members in colleges and universities from three aspects: comparison between the past and the present, integration into the scene, and learning and application. The Youth League Committee of Nanjing Xiaozhuang University and the school of Journalism and communication took the lead in rehearsing literary and artistic works such as the original drama Tao Xingzhi and the Ten Heroes of Xiaozhuang, bringing the practice and exploration of Yuhua heroes’ devotion to the Chinese revolution and rural education onto the stage and “performing” in the form of art stream Yuhua’s heroic demeanor turns the stage into a platform, turns the script into a textbook, and improves it in an immersive way. The effect makes the activity scene more three-dimensional, the characters in Xiaozhuang more vivid, and the revolutionary story more moving. In the drama, stage play and other original works of literature and art with student party members and party activists as the main actors, the students are allowed to walk into history, experience the spiritual beliefs of the martyrs in the collision between history and reality, and influence the students’ actors to strengthen their ideals and beliefs in learning practice. We draw strength from enlightenment.

3.3 Original picture book of Yuhua heroic heart

The kindergarten teachers’ college combines professional characteristics, create picture books in combination with talent training, through the excavation of the glorious deeds of the Ten Heroes of Xiaozhuang, we developed and created the picture book of the Ten Heroes of Xiaozhuang, so that student party members can “draw” flowers in their creation, feel Xiaozhuang’s spiritual core through the atmosphere of the land; at the same time, in the social practice of winter and summer vacation, the creation of picture book among children from all over the country, carry out publicity and interpretation, spread the story of Xiaozhuang heroes and the Yuhua heroic spirit in a way that children like to see and hear, and achieve ideological and political education. The Union will advance together, and Yuhua heroic red resources provide the power of faith for the construction of the modern civilization of the Chinese nation.

3.4 Red songs praise Yuhua heroic spirit

As the artistic carrier of the spirit of Yuhua heroes, Yuhua heroes’ songs rely on the awakening of identity, the stimulation of national feelings and the promotion of social values. Through the exploration of Yuhua heroes’ related music songs, they are recorded, accompanied and sung, so that students can “sing” Yuhua heroes’ loyalties and use music to convey spiritual power. In recent years, many songs about Yuhua heroes, such as “snowflake floating”, “alliance” and “if I sacrifice for the truth”, have been sung by students from the Conservatory of music, Xingzhi Choir and so on. The spirit of Yuhua heroes has been inherited and carried forward in the form of professional artistic practice activities, and has achieved good social repercussions. In the process of

participating in professional art practice, student party members not only expanded the reputation of the school, but also improved their professional quality. While singing red songs, they were also influenced by red culture and strengthened their political beliefs.

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