

The Experience and Revelation of Rural Living Environment Construction in Japan and South Korea

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Abstract: The rural areas in Japan and South Korea are very similar to the rural areas in China, especially in the central and eastern regions, in cultural background, natural conditions and rural social conditions. By dividing the historical stages of rural residential environment construction in Japan and South Korea, this paper summarizes the practices and experiences of rural residential environment construction in Japan and South Korea, and puts forward some revelations such as taking measures according to local conditions and promoting according to different categories, giving priority to government leading and actual needs, combining diversified financing with eliminating waste, scientific management with supervision and inspection simultaneously.

1. The Construction Stage of Rural Living Environment in Japan and South Korea

1.1. The Historical Stage of the Construction of Rural Living Environment in Japan

Japan's agricultural and rural development is similar to China's, with problems such as the outflow of rural labor force and the widening income gap between urban and rural areas. Based on this background, Japan's first rural construction started as early as the mid-1950s and lasted for about six years. During this period, the main measures were to organize farmers' joint operation, establish rural revitalization agreement, formulate relevant development plans, set up special agricultural loans, increase agricultural subsidies and support for rural development, and improve rural infrastructure and living conditions to a certain extent. This stage of the rural construction in Japan, in different parts of the construction progress and the effect is not the same, is located in big cities such as Tokyo suburb rural infrastructure and public facilities construction attention all the time, sewer, garbage and waste treatment facilities, rural roads and other basic is built, some education hall and the library was built in the rural society. At this time, under the influence of geographical conditions, the infrastructure construction of villages in the state of over-thinning in the outer suburbs lags behind relatively.

Japan's second rural construction was from 1967 to 1979. It accelerated the process of rural modernization through a series of policy measures, including narrowing the gap between urban and rural areas, controlling environmental pollution, and fully implementing comprehensive agricultural policies. In 1975, the high school enrollment rate reached 92%, and the education level of agricultural practitioners was generally improved. During this period, rural construction increased the income level of farmers, and the number of people pouring into cities decreased significantly [1]. At this stage, the social public facilities in the outer villages were further improved, while the roads and water supply systems in some outer villages were greatly improved. For example, in 1973, according to the "Mountain Village Revitalization Act", the Tokyo Metropolitan Government designated part of the outer suburbs as "Mountain village revitalization". Before that, it formulated four stages of village revitalization plan. However, the existing problem is that some mountain villages of the upper water pipe is a simple water pipe, low construction standards; At the same time, sewer penetration in some villages is less than 30 percent, but sewer construction has not stopped,

gradually completing the connection between household sewage pipes and village sewer networks. With the improvement of the penetration rate of water pipes, the living environment in Japanese rural areas has gradually become beautiful [2].

The third rural construction in Japan began in the late 1970s. It was called the village building movement to accelerate rural economic development by revitalizing rural industries. Among the "village-building movement" in Japan, "One village, one Product" movement, which was advocated since 1979, has the most popularity and influence. Through the third rural construction, Japan's rural living environment has been greatly improved, and great changes have taken place in the countryside. The gap between urban and rural areas has been basically eliminated. A large number of non-agricultural industries have entered the countryside, and farmers' income has been greatly increased, thus truly realizing a peaceful and happy life.

1.2. The Historical Stage of the Construction of Rural Living Environment in South Korea

South Korea, China's neighbor, was always a backward agricultural country before its economy took off in the 1960s, when the income gap between urban and rural areas was wide and the living standard of farmers was low. In the early 1970s, under the direct promotion of South Korean President Park Chung-hee, South Korea began the road of agricultural modernization with Korean characteristics -- the implementation of the New Village Movement.

In the first stage, the government designed and planned a variety of projects to improve rural infrastructure and rural living conditions. Such as building rural roads, Bridges, new rural clubhouses and other public service facilities. The government has improved roads, housing, electrification and domestic water supply in rural South Korea, which has greatly improved the infrastructure construction level in rural South Korea. During the renovation process, the government first determines a number of alternative construction projects, including roof renovation, road hardening, laying water pipes, etc., and the villagers discuss and choose the projects that need to be given priority. After the project is approved by the county-level government, the government will directly distribute reinforcing bars, cement and other building materials to farmers, and provide financial support and guidance on infrastructure construction [3]. From 1971 to 1982 a total of 5,258 trillion won was invested in the New Village movement, according to a report published by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which manages the movement. Fifty-one percent of these funds are provided by the government, while local residents contribute 49 percent in the form of labor, land and other assets. The development and changes of South Korean rural areas in the past ten years are almost hard to recognize [4].

In the second stage, the government implements the guideline of classification. The government first classifies villages. For villages with relatively weak infrastructure, it focuses on cultivating people's spirit of "self-reliance" and continues to support villages to improve the construction level of infrastructure. For villages with great agricultural development potential, the awareness of "self-help" should be advocated, with the focus on dredging river channels, improving soil, improving the level of basic equipment for agricultural production, and at the same time, rational distribution of villages to promote diversified management and development. For villages with good development bases, the focus is on assisting their industrial development, such as the development of agriculture and sideline, planting and animal husbandry. The government encourages and supports farmers to adopt advanced production technologies such as mechanization, organize collective farming, and build more perfect living and welfare facilities. The goal of the government rural Development program during this period was to improve living standards in rural areas through the reconstruction of rural infrastructure and to increase farmers' incomes through off-farm and off-farm activities. For example, in the late 1980s, every village in South Korea got electricity. By 2000, 29 percent of rural houses had been completely renovated, 25 percent of rural households had modernized their kitchens and bathrooms, most villages were connected by roads, and cars reached almost every village. In 1984, rural industrial parks first appeared in rural areas of South Korea. By 2000, they had increased to 295, providing 86,000 rural jobs and greatly increasing the non-agricultural income of rural families [5].

In the third stage, it has entered the 21st century from the perspective of time. From the initial government-led and "government-run" rural movement, South Korea's New Village Movement has developed into a civil society movement completely participated by the public. Ordinary people will take the initiative to participate in public welfare labor such as river cleaning and garbage collection and transportation during holidays. During this period, the proportion of agricultural industries in the national economy declined, and the rural population declined and kept aging. The goals of agricultural policies have shifted to consumer safety, improving product quality, and expanding environmentally friendly agricultural products and their marketing. In 2004, the "Special Law on Improving the Quality of Rural living and Promoting Rural Regional Development" was enacted. Rural living environment has been improving day by day, and rural areas have gradually become golden residential areas and leisure and retirement destinations. In recent years, South Korea has attached great importance to the development of forest leisure tourism to treat and relieve the physical and mental diseases caused by long-term work pressure of urban residents, which is favored by consumers.

2. Practice and Experience of Rural Living Environment Construction in Japan and South Korea

2.1. Top-down Government-led and Continuous Promotion in Accordance with Local Conditions

The improvement of rural living environment in Japan and South Korea is carried out by the top-down government. The government takes the initiative to completely change the "dirty, chaotic and poor" situation in the countryside. We will continue to improve the living environment in accordance with local conditions and in accordance with different categories. For example, Japan first renovated the badly needed sewage pipes, garbage and feces treatment facilities in suburban villages such as Tokyo, and the construction progress of infrastructure in suburban villages was relatively slow. South Korea in the process of the rural residential environment regulation according to the wishes of farmers, small bridge across a river, village road into the village road, sewer system, such as dangerous house renovation project priorities, at the same time the construction process of artificial shall be borne by the village peasants, only provide the necessary building materials, with low government funds to complete the task of rural infrastructure construction. Both Japan and South Korea pay attention to the supervision of project quality. They prefer to ensure the quality of construction rather than slow progress, so as to reduce repeated construction due to problems of project quality. In the end of 2019, when the author conducted a survey in rural areas of South Korea, he could see that roads, canals and other projects were suspended due to the allocation of funds in batches, which is a strong proof of the continuous progress of classification.

2.2. Material Civilization Construction Drives the Improvement of Spiritual Civilization

The implementation of specific villager-level projects in Japan and South Korea not only improved the rural living environment materially, but also enhanced the living ethics of farmers in the spiritual level. For example, with the promotion of the New Village movement in South Korea and the change of poor and backward villages, great changes have taken place in peasants' ideology and ethics, from "I can't do it" formed by colonial oppression to "I can do it". The spirit of "diligence, independence and cooperation" set up by the New Village Movement has been transformed into the good life ethics of farmers, which has helped the Korean people establish a good spiritual and moral outlook of self-confidence and cooperation. Japan takes the excavation and protection and utilization of cultural landscape resources as the core of rural construction, and stimulates the construction enthusiasm of rural residents through the community construction mode with villagers as the main body, thus enhancing the integrated development of rural industry, landscape and culture and other diversified values [1].

2.3. Laws and Regulations of the Special System and Professional Operation of Industry Institutions

On the one hand, formulate special laws and regulations; effectively solve the problem of rural sewage and household garbage. In 1991, Japan established the "Dodo Prefectural agency system" to promote the construction of sewers in cities and towns in depopulated areas. To promote waste recycling, the Japanese government formulated the "advancing poor social basic law, including the clean waste management and public act, the act of promoting the effective utilization of resources, the containers and packages recycle act, the home appliances recycling law," food recycling recycling method "and so on seven specific laws, professional system of laws and regulations for garbage classification processing provides a powerful guarantee. The middle 1980 s, the South Korean government has issued a "rural and village development plan", "rural special tax law", "special" agriculture and rural development, etc., in 2004 formulated the "improve rural living quality and promote the development of rural area special law", to provide legal basis for the rural residential environment construction. Second, set up specialized industrial institutions to jointly promote garbage recycling and sewage treatment. Rural sewage treatment in Japan is mainly completed by the joint participation of administrative organs, users and industrial organizations. The industry structure includes equipment manufacturing companies, construction and installation companies, operation and maintenance companies and sludge cleaning companies, etc. These third-party institutions play an important role in sewage treatment [5].

3. Enlightenment of Rural Living Environment Construction in Japan and South Korea to China

3.1. Take Measures in Line with Local Conditions and Promote Classification

The governance of rural living environment involves living conditions, sewage facilities, public health facilities, traffic conditions and other aspects, and due to historical arrears, it has caused many governance threads and diversified contents. Every region or even a single village should formulate detailed and feasible planning schemes according to the actual conditions, geographical location and regional planning, and adhere to the classified measures. For example, different construction standards and construction strategies should be formulated due to different climatic and geographical conditions in the south, south and north. In some northern regions, it is inappropriate to force farmers to upgrade and renovate their toilets in accordance with unified standards, which is divorced from the reality of rural areas. Due to the similar natural environment, especially the areas with similar latitude, such as some mountain villages, fishing villages and small plain villages in the eastern part of China, we can learn from the development experience of Japan, South Korea and Taiwan Province, including some technical regulation methods. For example, the treatment of sewage in Zhejiang province is to learn from Japan's decentralized treatment method.

3.2. Give Priority to Government Leadership and Actual Demand

Rural human settlements environment governance is mostly according to the central government put forward the target, policy, funds support, local governments, and organize the villagers to participate in such steps as, is the important power to promote the government initiatives, but local governments cooperate with implementation of the project to adhere to the wishes of farmers and the urgent need to set out, especially from the actual situation of village know demand priority sequence in the development of farmers in rural areas. Although some village road systems can still be used, all of them are dismantled for renovation and re-laid, but the sewage system that farmers desperately need has been delayed to be built, resulting in the pollution of the village environment with sewage.

3.3. Adhere to Diversified Financing and Eliminate Waste Simultaneously

The governance of rural living environment involves a wide range of issues and requires more funds, creating conditions and raising funds in various ways to ease the financial pressure. To learn from the practice of The South Korean New Village Movement, part of the labor input can be undertaken by the people in the village, which can not only solve the employment of farmers in the

village, but also increase the income and improve the efficiency of the use of funds. We will formulate effective measures to supervise the use of funds, and at the same time prevent grassroots governments from charging farmers in different names, thus increasing the burden on farmers. In addition, limited funds should be used for projects in urgent need to prevent waste of funds. For example, in some rural areas, large party and mass service centers have been built, with adequate internal toilets, but public toilets are still built next to the party and mass service centers. The construction of such toilets, especially in villages with a small population, has a low frequency of use and is not in urgent need, and there is a phenomenon of repetitive and wasteful construction.

3.4. Adhere to the Synchronization of Scientific Management, Supervision and Inspection

Adhere to the scientific management throughout the course rural living environment governance, put an end to "centralized" stitching ", strengthen the rationality of the decision and the enforceability, promote grass-roots staff management ability and level, guides them to deepen our understanding of rural actual demand, strengthen rural living environment of intelligence research, forming a scientific and rational management system. We will strengthen the accountability system based on targets, strengthen supervision and inspection of the work of improving the rural living environment, and correct problems when they are discovered, so as to ensure that the work is on a sound track.

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