

**RESEARCH ON ORDOS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO FORGING A STRONG
SENSE OF COMMUNITY FOR THE CHINESE NATION AND THE
CONSTRUCTION OF AN EXEMPLARY AUTONOMOUS REGION¹**

鄂尔多斯在铸牢中华民族共同体意识与模范自治区建设中的贡献研究

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Abstract: Ordos City has been actively engaged in the process of forging a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation and the construction of an exemplary autonomous region. Through a series of multi-faceted and far-reaching measures, it has made remarkable and unique contributions. In the economic realm, its booming energy and emerging industries have not only spurred local economic prosperity but also provided a solid material bedrock for ethnic harmony. For instance, the Yili Group's industrial park in Ordos has recruited a large number of employees from different ethnic backgrounds, where they collaborate and communicate, enhancing mutual understanding. Culturally, Ordos has been committed to inheriting and innovating ethnic cultures. The annual Ordos International Nadam Festival has attracted numerous domestic and foreign tourists, presenting a splendid stage for the exchange and integration of traditional Mongolian culture and modern cultural elements. In education, the city has continuously optimized its ethnic education system. Schools like Ordos Mongolian School have incorporated both ethnic minority language and cultural courses and national common language and history education, nurturing students with a strong sense of ethnic unity. Socially, innovative community ethnic work and extensive ethnic unity demonstration activities have been carried out. In some communities, special ethnic cultural activity centers have been established, regularly organizing handicraft exhibitions and cultural salons, promoting harmonious coexistence among ethnic groups. In ecological protection, all ethnic groups have joined hands. The successful transformation of the Kubuqi Desert, where local herdsman and volunteers from different ethnic groups participated in afforestation and sand control work, is a vivid example. Ordos' efforts have effectively promoted the unity and progress of all ethnic groups, serving as a model and providing valuable experience for the construction of an exemplary autonomous region and national ethnic work.

Keywords: Ordos; Strong sense of community for the Chinese nation; Exemplary autonomous region; Ethnic unity; Cultural inheritance

I. Introduction

Ordos, a land rich in resources and cultural diversity, plays a crucial role in the

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journey of forging a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation and building an exemplary autonomous region. It has actively explored and implemented a variety of measures to enhance ethnic relations and promote common development.

II. Economic Development Promoting Ethnic Unity

1. The Rise of Characteristic Industries

The energy industries in Ordos, such as coal and natural gas, have been the mainstay of its economic growth. These industries have created a large number of employment opportunities, attracting workers from different ethnic groups. For example, the Ordos Energy Group has a workforce composed of Han, Mongolian, and other ethnic minorities. They work together in various departments, from exploration and extraction to management and marketing. The company also provides professional training and career development opportunities for employees of all ethnic groups, promoting their personal growth and mutual cooperation. In addition to the traditional energy industry, Ordos has also been actively developing emerging industries such as modern agriculture and high-tech. The Ordos Modern Agricultural Demonstration Zone has introduced advanced agricultural technologies and management models, and has attracted many ethnic minority farmers to participate. They learn new skills and knowledge, and jointly promote the development of local agriculture.

2. Industrial Poverty Alleviation and Cooperation

Ordos has carried out a series of industrial poverty alleviation projects in ethnic minority areas. For instance, in some pastoral areas, the government has supported the development of characteristic livestock breeding and processing industries. The local Mongolian herdsmen have increased their income by raising high-quality livestock and processing dairy products and meat products. At the same time, Ordos has strengthened industrial cooperation with other regions. It has established cooperation relationships with economically developed areas in the east, introducing capital, technology, and talent. For example, through cooperation with a certain city in the east, a new industrial park has been established in Ordos, which has promoted the transformation and upgrading of the local industrial structure and provided more employment opportunities for ethnic minorities.

III. Cultural Inheritance and Integration

1. Excavation and Protection of Traditional Cultures

Ordos has made great efforts in protecting traditional ethnic cultures. The Ordos Museum has a rich collection of cultural relics related to the Mongolian and other ethnic minorities, including traditional costumes, handicrafts, and historical documents. The museum regularly organizes exhibitions and cultural activities to promote the inheritance and protection of these cultures. In addition, the local government has also supported the research and recording of intangible cultural heritages such as Mongolian long-tune singing and horse-head fiddle playing. Special research institutions and cultural heritage protection centers have been established to ensure the survival and development of these precious cultural heritages.

2. Cultural Innovation and Exchange Activities

The Ordos International Nadam Festival is a major event for cultural exchange.

In addition to traditional Nadam activities such as horse racing, wrestling, and archery, the festival also includes modern cultural performances, art exhibitions, and cultural seminars. Artists and performers from different ethnic groups and regions gather here to exchange and cooperate. For example, in a certain year's festival, a modern dance troupe combined Mongolian dance elements with modern dance techniques to create a unique dance performance, which was well received by the audience. In addition, Ordos also promotes cultural exchange through various cultural platforms. The Ordos Cultural and Art Center regularly hosts ethnic cultural exchange activities, inviting ethnic minority artists to perform and exhibit their works, and promoting the integration of different cultures.

IV. Education Helping to Improve Ethnic Awareness

1. Improvement of the Ethnic Education System

Ordos has continuously improved its ethnic education system. In addition to the existing ethnic primary and secondary schools, the city has also increased investment in vocational education and higher education for ethnic minorities. For example, the Ordos Vocational College for Ethnic Minorities has set up a series of professional courses related to ethnic cultures and modern industries, such as ethnic handicraft design, ethnic catering management, and modern information technology. These courses not only inherit and carry forward ethnic cultures but also meet the needs of modern social development. In higher education, some universities in Ordos have established ethnic research institutes and cultural inheritance centers, which carry out research and teaching activities on ethnic cultures and ethnic relations.

2. Expansion of Educational Exchanges and Training

Ordos actively promotes educational exchanges and training activities. The city regularly organizes teachers and students to participate in ethnic cultural exchange activities and competitions. For example, the Ordos Ethnic Minority Student Cultural Exchange Camp has invited students from different ethnic groups in the country to participate in cultural exploration and experience activities. Through field visits, cultural performances, and group discussions, students have a deeper understanding and respect for different ethnic cultures. In addition, Ordos also sends teachers and students to other regions and countries for exchanges and studies. Teachers go to advanced education institutions to learn advanced teaching concepts and methods, and students participate in international cultural exchange programs to broaden their international horizons.

V. Construction of Social Harmony and Stability

1. Innovation in Community Ethnic Work

Ordos has carried out innovative community ethnic work. In some communities, ethnic cultural activity centers have been established, which provide a place for ethnic minority residents to carry out cultural activities and exchanges. The centers regularly organize handicraft making classes, ethnic dance training, and cultural salons. For example, in a community in Ordos, the ethnic cultural activity center invites local ethnic minority elders to teach young people traditional handicraft making skills, such as Mongolian leather carving and felt making. At the same time, the community also organizes volunteer activities to help ethnic minority residents solve practical

difficulties in life, such as providing language translation services, legal consultation, and medical care guidance.

2. Activities for Creating Demonstration Units of Ethnic Unity

The city has widely carried out activities for creating demonstration units of ethnic unity. Through the selection and recognition of demonstration units, it has promoted the formation of a good atmosphere of ethnic unity. For example, some schools, enterprises, and communities have been rated as ethnic unity demonstration units. These units actively promote ethnic unity education and cultural exchanges, and set an example for other units. In addition, Ordos also uses various media platforms to promote ethnic unity. The local TV station and newspaper regularly report on the deeds of ethnic unity and the achievements of ethnic work, and publicize the concept of ethnic unity and harmony.

VI. Ecological Protection Gathering Ethnic Strengths

1. Coordinated Actions for Ecological Governance

In the face of ecological problems such as grassland degradation and desertification, all ethnic groups in Ordos have actively participated in ecological governance. The local Mongolian herdsman have played an important role in grassland protection. They have changed their traditional grazing methods and adopted scientific and sustainable grazing models. For example, some herdsman have joined the grassland ecological cooperatives, which jointly manage and protect the grassland. At the same time, volunteers from different ethnic groups have also actively participated in desert control work. The "Green Guards" volunteer team composed of Han, Mongolian, and other ethnic groups has carried out afforestation and sand fixation activities in the Kubuqi Desert for many years, making great contributions to the transformation of the desert.

2. Promotion and Dissemination of Ecological Culture

Ordos combines ecological culture with ethnic culture to promote ecological protection. The local government has established a number of ecological and cultural tourist attractions, such as the Engebei Ecological Tourism Area. These attractions not only show the achievements of ecological governance but also integrate ethnic cultural elements. For example, in the tourism area, tourists can visit the desert forest and wetland ecosystems, and at the same time watch Mongolian ethnic cultural performances and experience traditional nomadic life. Through these activities, tourists can have a deeper understanding and respect for nature and ethnic cultures, and promote the spread of ecological and cultural concepts.

VII. Conclusion

Ordos has made outstanding and comprehensive contributions to forging a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation and the construction of an exemplary autonomous region. Through economic, cultural, educational, social, and ecological measures, it has effectively promoted ethnic unity and common development. In the future, Ordos should continue to explore and innovate, continuously improve various work, and make greater contributions to the great unity and rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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