**He Chuanqi: Marxist Social Modernization Theory; Classic and Generalized Modernization Theories.**

**First Social Modernization and the Second Social Modernization**

**July 2015**

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**Abstracts:**

**The first social modernization is the transition process from agricultural society to industrial society and from feudal society to civil society (Translators note, bourgeois society) as well as the accompanying profound changes. It includes the transition from rural society to urban society, from family-based society to welfare society, from autocratic society to democratic society, from close society to open society, from natural society to technological society, and from stable society to mobile society. Its characteristics include urbanization, welfarization, mobilization, specialization, secularization, rationalization, mechanization, electrification, automation, technicalization, high efficiency, openness, equality, social differentiation, social integration, popularization of primary compulsory education, and other fields of social life.**

**Socialist modernization differs from Western modernization**

**China’s socialist modernization is fundamentally different from Western modernization; it transcends Western modernization both in theory and practice. It is a socialist modernization under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, which is fundamentally different from Western modernization. It has the common features of modernization as in all countries, but also has Chinese characteristics based on its own national conditions. Western modernization is the modernization of bourgeois-led capitalism, which is the essential difference between Chinese-style modernization and Western modernization. Western modernization is a modernization carried out under the conditions of the capitalist system, and the recent history of the world has shown that the evolution of Western modernization and the development of capitalism have gone hand in hand. The process of Western modernization is also the historical process of capitalism's evolution from liberal capitalism to monopoly capitalism and financial imperialism. Western modernization has the basic features of capitalism, and its essence is capitalist modernization. Chinese-style modernization is people-centered modernization, while Western modernization is capital-centered modernization. Chinese modernization is the modernization that adheres to the people-centered approach and aims to realize the common wealth of all people and the all-sided, comprehensive development of human beings. Western modernization is a capital-centered modernization, which is driven by capital and realized through the role of free market. The cyclical economic crises, serious polarization between the rich and the poor, political polarization, social cleavages, and the spread of populism that have emerged in Western countries today are the direct consequences of the capital-centered modernization in the West. Western modernization takes the maximization of capital interests as the pursuit of value, deviates from the fundamental principle of "human being", Western modernization takes the realization of value-addedness as the mission of capital, and takes the path of capital-centered modernization, pursuing the modernization of the bourgeoisie that maximizes the interests and wealth of the minority, and it is a modernization that is polarizes the society. Western modernization is a one-sided "materialistic" modernization which is alienated by capital. Both material abundance and spiritual-intellectual wealth are the fundamental requirements of socialist modernization. Without the prosperous development of socialist culture, there can be no socialist modernization. Another fundamental drawback of Western modernization is that it follows the logic of capital. The logic of capital determines that the goal of Western modernization is to maximize the proliferation of capital and the accumulation of wealth, equating economic growth with development. Although some adjustments and reforms were made in the middle and late stages of Western modernization, the dominant role of the logic of capital has not been fundamentally changed, and the congenital defect of emphasizing material civilization and neglecting spiritual civilization has not been completely solved. Also, Western modernization is the modernization at the expense of the natural environment of human beings. It is a kind of overly anthropocentric modernization, dominated by the ecological value of "anthropocentrism". In the process of promoting modernization, Western countries regard human beings as special and noble beings, and regard all non-human existences as means or tools for realizing the purposes of human beings and human beings. As a result, they have paid too much attention to economic benefits and neglected ecological values, bringing about serious environmental trauma and even ecological crises while creating abundant material wealth.**

**Social Modernization Theory**

Social modernization is the modernization in the social field. It is one manifestation of the modernization phenomena. The social modernization theory is a theory on social modernization phenomena. It is a field-based theory of the modernization theories. Currently, it roughly covers two sets of theories: the classic social modernization theory and the general social modernization theory. In the literature on classic modernization, social modernization is usually not distinguished from modernization, and sometimes they are considered as being synonyms.

**The Classic Social Modernization Theory**

The classic social modernization theory began to take shape in the 1950s, but the relevant ideas could date back to much earlier times. In fact, the birth of human society means the germination of social ideas, and the change of human society is inevitably accompanied by the evolution of social ideas. Over 2000 years ago, ancient Greek philosopher Plato has put forward the idea of Utopia, and ancient Chinese thinkers have put forward the ideas of "Datong society" (great harmony) and "Taiping society" (peace and tranquility).

In the 20th century, "modern society" has become a goal for many nations and scholars.

Through the ages, the ideal society has always been the target that thinkers ponder and pursue. The social ideas have a long and colorful history. However, the social ideas that have direct influence on social modernization are those generated from the Renaissance and the Enlightenment. Sociology was born in the mid-19th century. Although every social theory is somewhat related to social modernization, those theories that expound social changes are more closely related to social modernization, such as the social evolutionism, social transformation theory, and social development theory.

The classic social modernization theory, as an important branch of the classic modernization theory, came into being around the 1950s and 1960s. The classic social modernization theory is marked by the publishing of three books by American sociologists, which are *The Social System* (Parsons, 1951), *The Passing of Traditional Society: Modernizing the Middle East* (Lerner, 1958), and *Modernization & the Structure of Societies* (Levy, 1966). So far, the classic social modernization theory does not have a universally acknowledged, systematic exposition of its general theory. The classic social modernization theory is a collection of academic thoughts on classic social modernization.

*In 2006* we have analyzed the ideas and theories of classic social modernization and summarized the generalized theory of the classic social modernization, including the definition, process, outcomes, dynamics, and models of classic social modernization.

**General theory of classic social modernization**

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| **Aspect** | **Basic contents** |
| Definition | Classic social modernization is an evolutionary social change that has been going on since the 18th century; it is the transition process from a traditional agricultural society to a modern industrial society and the accompanying profound changes, as well as the process in which underdeveloped societies catch up with and reach the advanced level of developed society and the accompanying changes. https://marksizm.org.tr/?p=4309 |
| Process | Classic social modernization is a historical process, which includes social mobility, social differentiation and integration, large-scale application of non-biological energy sources and modern technologies, change of population and family structures, and change of social life, social structure, and social ideas. It has 9 characteristics. |
| Outcomes | The outcome of classic social modernization is the completion of the transition from agricultural society to industrial society. The characteristics of the industrial society are summarized into classic social modernity, including urbanization, welfarization, mobilization, professionalization, rationalization, universalization of primary compulsory education, mass media, etc. |
| Dynamics | Classic social modernization is influenced by many factors such as economic, political, cultural, technological, population, environmental, and social factors. |
| Models | The development paths and models of classic social modernization feature diversity and path dependence, and are influenced by historical, geographical, and objective conditions, as manifested in diversity of urbanization patterns, national education system, public medical service system, and social security system. |

 Source: Research Group for China Modernization Strategies

**2. Generalized Social Modernization Theory**

The generalized social modernization theory is a theoretical interpretation of the social modernization phenomena from the 18th to the 21st century. The generalized social modernization It is the application of the second modernization theory in the social field and was first put forward by Chinese scholar He Chuanqi. The general social modernization theory includes the general theory, sub-theories, and related theories.

Since the 1970s, dramatic changes have taken place at the frontiers of human society, and new ideas have sprung up.

These changes have taken place in every aspect of human society, including social life, social structure, social systems and social concepts, among which the most prominent changes have been in lifestyles, social structure and social concepts.

Changes in lifestyles are manifested in the shift from urbanization to suburbanization and from automation to informationization; changes in social structure are manifested in the shift from an industrial-led society to a knowledge-led society and from a material-producing society to a service-consuming society; and changes in social concepts are manifested in the shift from the pursuit of economic growth to the pursuit of quality of life, and from the prioritization of efficiency to ecological harmony, and so on. These changes have gone beyond the scope of classical social modernization theory.

At the frontier of human society, the industrial social form has undergone a paradigm crisis, a new social form is being formed, and social modernization needs a new theory.

As an extension of the classical theory of social modernization, the theory of generalized social modernization attempts to summarize and expound the basic facts and laws of modernization in the social sphere.

The current knowledge of the second social modernization and integrated social modernization is very limited and the general social modernization theory still has great development space.

**12 Characteristics of social modernization Process**

The historical foundations of the theory of social modernization in the broad sense are derived both from previous research work and from the chronological analysis and cross-sectional examination of the process of modernization of human society over the past 300 years.

**First, social modernization is a relatively predictable process.** Like economic modernization, social modernization is regular (has development laws).In general, social modernization in the 20th century was relatively continuous, orderly, and partially predictable. Examples include the increase in life expectancy, the decline in birth and death rates, urbanization and suburbanization, the spread of education, the increase in social productive forces and quality of life, the lengthening of leisure time, the informatization of lifestyles, and the intellectualization of social structures.

**Second, social modernization is a global process.** Over the past 300 years, social modernization first took place in Europe and then spread to the vast majority of countries and regions of the world. In the next 100 years, social modernization will likewise spread globally. Therefore, social modernization is a global trend and movement.

**Thirdly, social modernization is a long-term process.** The process of social modernization is an evolution, not a revolution. Although social modernization is a revolutionary social change, it is not a revolution. On the whole, social modernization is a long-term process that cannot be completed in the short term, much less can be completed overnight. In fact, social modernization has been going on for 300 years and will continue for the next 100 years.

**Fourthly, social modernization is a process developing with stages.** Like economic modernization, social modernization has stages. In the 400 years between the 18th and 21st centuries, the process of social modernization can be roughly divided into two major stages, urbanization and intellectualization, which includes six waves. Characteristics of the first stage include urbanization, welfarization, specialization, and mobility. Characteristics of the second stage include informatization, intellectualization, greening, internationalization, "counter-urbanization" (suburbanization), and dynamic urban-rural balance.

**Fifth, social modernization is a progressive process.** The process of social modernization over the past 300 years has been a process of increasing social productive forces and per capita income, increasing life expectancy and education levels, increasing nutritional health and leisure time, and increasing social welfare and social equity. Therefore, social modernization is progressive, despite all the problems, even catastrophic ones, that may occur in the process of progress.

**Sixth, social modernization is also a process of positive adaptation.** Social modernization includes not only social progress, but also positive social adaptation and improvement of adaptive capacity. Positive social adaptation includes positive adaptation to scientific and technological progress, innovation and diffusion, changes in the social and natural environments, and social changes in other areas.

**Seventh, social modernization is a process of transformation (transformative).** In the last 300 years, two revolutionary social transformations have occurred in human societies, which are the transformation from agrarian to industrial societies, and the transformation from industrial to knowledge societies. Of these, the transition from agrarian to industrial societies is also known as the transition from traditional to modern societies, or from pre-industrial to industrial societies.

**Eighth, social modernization is a systematic process.** Social modernization is a systematic social change that includes not only changes in lifestyles and improvements in the quality of life, but also changes in social efficiency, the social environment, social structure, social systems and social concepts, and all changes interact with each other. Social modernization is an inherent process of systematic change, a process of innovation and self-adaptation, in which social changes in one area will induce corresponding changes in another area.

**Ninth, social modernization is an uneven/unbalanced development process.** Over the past 300 years, social modernization has been asynchronous, manifesting itself in the asynchrony of national-level and regional-level social modernization processes, the asynchrony of changes in the various subfields of the social sphere (demographic and health, learning and work, and leisure and welfare changes), the asynchrony of changes in the various aspects of the social sphere (social life, structure, institutions, and perceptions), the asynchrony of the transformation of social forms, and the asynchrony of spatial distribution of the achievements of social modernization. (c) The uneven distribution of the achievements of social modernization in space.

**Tenth, social modernization is a complex process.** The process of social modernization is characterized by the widening of the international gap in social productive forces, local-level convergence in the quality of life, social structures, institutions and perceptions, and diversity in lifestyles, social systems and perceptions. For example, per capita GDP in 1990 international dollars widened from 15 to 73 times the relative gap and from $1,700 to more than $26,700 in absolute terms between 1700 and 2001. World convergence in urbanization, labor force structure and occupational structure, and others. Diversity of public health systems, national education systems, social security systems, etc. Social modernization is risky, and it is not free, and there are costs and prices to be paid. In the process of social modernization, new social problems, such as relative poverty, social inequality and the negative effects of science and technology, are constantly arising.

**Eleventh, social modernization is a process of international competition.** If economic modernization is an international competition, social modernization can be said to be an international race. The international competition of economic modernization is direct competition, and the international race of social modernization is indirect competition. International competition takes place on the world stage, while the international race takes place within the country itself. The speed of the process of social modernization within a country determines the country's international social status. A country that makes rapid progress in social modernization has a higher international social status; a country that makes slower progress in social modernization will have a lower international social status. The losers and winners of the international race are not static, but have a certain probability of shifting, and the performance of different social indicators varies.

**Twelfth, social modernization is an irreversible world trend.** On the whole, the process of human social modernization is relatively continuous and irreversible. However, the process of social modernization in a given country and region has a variety of manifestations, which can be continuous or discontinuous; there can be interruptions or temporary regressions, or even longer-term regressions.

**Definition of social modernization.**

The social modernization is a manifestation of modernization in the social field.

The connotations of social modernization are as follows: Social modernization refers to a type of frontier change and international competition in the social field since the industrial revolution in the 18th century, covering the formation, development, transformation and international interaction of modern societies, the innovation, selection, propagation and withdrawal of social elements, as well as the international competition, differentiation, and stratification in which countries endeavor to catch up with, reach, and keep up with the world's advanced level in the social field.

The denotations of social modernization are as follows: social modernization includes the social modernization of the world, nations, and regions; it includes the modernization of social behaviors, social structures, social systems and ideas, the modernization of population and health, learning and work, leisure and welfare, and social environment, the modernization of social sectors such as education, and the change of temporal and spatial distribution of social modernization.

Generally speaking, social modernization refers to the global frontiers of social changes as well as the actions and process of reaching and keeping up with the global frontiers. It includes the two transitions from agricultural society to industrial society and from industrial society to knowledge society, the enhancement of social efficiency and life quality, the changes of lifestyle and mindset, the improvement of people's education attainment and health, the changes of social welfare, social equality, international social status, and others. Country is the basic unit in social modernization research and practice, and regional social modernization is a component of national-level social modernization.

Social modernization is the changes in the social field, but obviously, not all social changes represent social modernization.

Generally speaking, social modernization only covers those social changes that are conducive to the enhancement of productive forces, social progress, and human development.

Generally, social development encompasses social progress and social adaptation, and social modernization is the intersection of social development, social transformation, international social competition, and the change of social position in the international arena. The change of international social may have four scenarios: maintaining the world advanced level in the social field, closing, maintaining, or expanding the gap with the world advanced level in the social field.

**Sources of Social modernization**

Social modernization comes from three sources.

First, the inheritance and development of some factors of the traditional society; second, the negation and transition (deconstruction and change of direction) of some factors of the traditional society; third, knowledge innovation, technological innovation, institutional innovation, and innovation diffusion. Here "traditional society" is a relative and dynamic concept.

The "traditional society" during the first social modernization wave refers to agricultural society, and that during the second social modernization refers to industrial society.

**Process of social modernization**

Social modernization is a complicated, multi-level and multi-path process. The track of social modernization from the 18th to the 21st century can be divided into two parts: the first social modernization and the second social modernization.

The first social modernization includes three waves and the second will also see three waves. These two categories of social modernization have different connotations and features as given below.

**Two general social modernizations**

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| **Item** | **First social modernization** | **Second social modernization** |
| Time | About 1763 to 1970 | About 1970 to 2100 |
| Population and health | Urbanization, mobilization, mechanization, electrification, automation, reduction of family size, legalization of marriage, differentiation, stratification, and integration, public health, etc. | Knowledgization, suburbanization, balance between urban and rural areas, informatization, intellectualization, greenization, internationalization, family diversification, population aging, social longevity, rights of women and children, etc. |
| Learning and working | Specialization, technicalization, rationalization, universalization of primary compulsory education, etc. | Individualization, innovation, diversification, ecologicalization, universalization of higher education, lifelong learning, etc. |
| Leisure and welfare | Welfarization, equality, public transportation, etc. | Naturalization, informatization, leisurization, and new features to come |
| Modernity | The first social modernity, including industrial society, urban society, welfare society, rational society, technological society, open society, democratic society, living standards, etc. | The second social modernity, including knowledge society, information society, ecological society, learning society, global society, innovative society, leisure society, pluralistic society, life quality, etc. |
| Side effects | Polarization between the rich and the poor, side effects of machinery and organization, etc. | Information gap, side effects of network, etc. |

Source: Research Group for China Modernization Strategies

The first social modernization is the transition process from agricultural society to industrial society and from feudal society to civil society (Translators’ note, bourgeois society) as well as the accompanying profound changes.

The first social modernization includes the transition from rural society to urban society, from family-based society to welfare society, from autocratic society to democratic society, from close society to open society, from natural society to technological society, and from stable society to mobile society.

The characteristics of first social modernization include urbanization, welfarization, mobilization, specialization, secularization, rationalization, mechanization, electrification, automation, technicalization, high efficiency, openness, equality, social differentiation, social integration, popularization of primary compulsory education, and other fields.

**The second social modernization**

The second social modernization is the transition process from industrial society to knowledge society and from material society to ecological society, as well as the accompanying profound changes.

The second social modernization includes the transition from urban society to urban-rural balanced society, from physical society to network society, from educational society to learning society, from tension society to leisure society, from mechanical society to humanistic society, and from ethnic-national society to global society.

The characteristics of second social modernization include knowledgization, informatization, intelligentization, suburbanization, urban-rural balance, greenization, ecologicalization, naturalization, innovation, internationalization, diversification, individualization, leisurization, rights of women and children, universalization of higher education, lifelong learning, etc.

If we can say that the first social modernization is the transition from traditional society to primary modern society or the primary social modernization, then the second social modernization is the transition from primary modern society to advanced modern society, or advanced social modernization; the coordinated development of the two social modernizations is integrated social modernization; in the 22nd century, most possibly there should be new changes in social modernization.

**The 10 basic principles of Genaralized Social Modernization**

**The first principle: the principle of process asynchrony**

　The principle of asynchronous process of broad social modernization has multiple implications. First, there is spatial asynchrony: the starting point, speed and completion time of social modernization in different countries and regions are different. Secondly, the fields are not synchronized: the modernization of various fields of society is not synchronized. Third, the elements are not synchronized: the modernization of various elements in the social field is not synchronized.

**The second principle: the principle of uneven distribution**

**The third principle: structural stability**

**The fourth principle: the principle of status changeability**

**The fifth principle: path selectability**

Assuming that the goal of social modernization is clear, there are multiple paths to the goal, and each path has different characteristics. Whether a country can achieve the goal within a limited time is related to the path taken, then the meaning of the principle of path selectability can be explained. As the saying goes, all roads lead to Rome, and everyone can take his own path; however, not every country can reach Rome within the prescribed time. In fact, some countries will never reach Rome within the foreseeable time. The stability of the international status of developed and developing countries may or will be closely related to path dependence and path lock-in.

**The sixth principle: the principle of predictable behavior**

**The seventh principle: the principle of progressive needs/demands**

The process of general social modernization follows the principle of progressive needs. According to the US psychologist Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, human behavior is dominated by five needs, namely physiological needs, safety needs, social needs (needs for belonging and love), respect needs and self-realization needs; and the five needs are progressive from low to high. In the process of generalized social modernization, social needs are progressive. The satisfaction of one need does not mean the end of social progress, but the emergence of new needs. The cyclical progression of demand-satisfaction-demand is an important mechanism of social modernization.

**The eighth principle: the principle of diminishing returns**

**The ninth principle: the principle of non-repetitive states**

The cyclical progression of social state - change - social state is an important mechanism of social modernization. The principle of non-repetition of states implies that changes in social status are eternal and it is impossible for social status to remain unchanged.

**The tenth principle: the principle of central axis transformation**

Only when the central axis transformation is completed can social modernization be completed. This is the principle of central axis transformation. There are two central axis transformations in the process of generalized social modernization. The first is the central axis transformation from agricultural society to industrial society, and the second is the central axis transformation from industrial society to knowledge society.

**Outcomes of social modernization**

Since the 1950s, the outcomes and objectives of social modernization have been interrelated and the interrelationship is gradually formed and reinforced.

The outcomes of social modernization include the formation of social modernity, uniqueness, diversity, and side effects; the outcomes of social modernization in different countries share common features as well as certain differences; and the outcomes of the two social modernizations are also different.

The outcomes of social modernization include changes in six aspects: first, the completion of the two social transformations; second, the increase of social efficiency and life quality; third,  the positive changes of lifestyle and mindset; fourth, the improvement of human education attainment and health; fifth, the substantial betterment of social welfare and equality; sixth, the expansion of the international gap in life quality and the narrowing of international difference in social structures.

During the social modernization process, some countries are able to reach and keep up with the world advanced level in the social field and become socially developed countries, and other countries are socially developing countries. We can say that countries may shift between these two categories.

Generally speaking, about 20% of all countries can reach and keep up with the world advanced level as socially developed countries; about 80% of all countries cannot reach the world advanced level and remain socially developing countries.

In 50 years, the probability for a socially developed country to downgrade to a socially developing country is about 10%, and the probability for a socially developing country to upgrade to a developed country is about 5%. The two categories are in a dynamic balance.

The objectives of national social modernization are to complete the first social modernization and realize the transition from agricultural society to industrial society, to complete the second social modernization and realize the transition from industrial society to knowledge society; to catch up with, reach and keep up with the world advanced level in the social field and become a socially developed country (socially modernized country), or to narrow the international social gap.

**Dynamics of social modernization.**

The dynamics of social modernization include dynamic factors and dynamic mechanism. The dynamic factors are innovation, exchange, competition, adaptation, national interests and social needs; they also include social thrust (such as thrust from economic growth, scientific and technological progress, and educational development), social pull (such as the pull of political development, cultural change, and globalization), and social pressure (such as the pressure from demographic change and environmental change). The dynamic models include innovation drive, triple-innovation drive, joint effect, four-step hyper cycle, composite interaction of society, innovation diffusion, innovation spillovers, and competition drive. The dynamics of social modernization vary across different countries and stages.

The dynamics of social modernization vary across different levels, countries, and stages.

The dynamic models of the general theory of modernization can apply to social modernization.

**Models of social modernization**

There are three basic paths of social modernization in the 21st century. The first social modernization path corresponds to the urbanization and welfarization models; the second social modernization path corresponds to the knowledgization and greenization models; the integrated social modernization path corresponds to the new urbanization mode, including the coordinated development of urbanization, suburbanization, welfarization, knowledgization, informatization, and greenization.

Generally speaking, the process, outcomes, dynamics and models of social modernization can all be analyzed at the global, national, and regional levels, each presenting different content and features.

*China Modernization Report 2006* put forward the timeline, schedule, period, coordinate system, and roadmap of general social modernization, and the concept model, quantity model, objective model, and dynamic model of social modernization; it has discussed the stage-specific theory of general social modernization theory, including the second social modernization and integrated social modernization, and also discussed the approaches to social modernization.

**The second social modernization**

The second social modernization is a manifestation of generalized social modernization. It is the frontier changes in the social field since the 1970s, covering the transition from industrial society to knowledge society and from material society to ecological society, the increase of social benefits and life quality, the betterment of social welfare and equality, the international social differentiation, and the change of international social system.

The second social modernization is a complex historical process, which includes social development, social transformation, international social competition, change of national social status, and changes in social life, social behaviors, social structures, social systems and ideas, etc. Compared with industrial society, knowledge society is a new social form with a variety of new features.

**Features of knowledge society**

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| **Item** | **Main characteristics** |
| Social knowledgization | Knowledge becomes the basis and backbone of the society. Knowledgization of social structures, in which the number of knowledge workers exceeds the sum of all other workers; knowledgization of consumption structures, with popularization of higher education and lifelong learning; knowledge innovation becomes an important source of social wealth and power |
| Informatization and networking | Cyberspace becomes the second space. Popularization of Internet, formation of cyberspace; people switching between cyberspace and physical space, digitalization and internationalization of lifestyles |
| Socialization of innovation | Innovation becomes a national behavior. Popularization of technological innovation, knowledge innovation as the focus of international competition, institutional innovation as the key to social progress, national innovation system as the policy tool to promote innovation |
| Social intelligentization | Popularization of artificial intelligence, gradual intellectualization of work and living environment |
| Management humanization | Knowledge capital as the core, information network as the basis, and the shift from mechanical management to humanistic management |
| Suburbanization and communitization | People flowing between urban, suburban, and rural areas, and gradually achieving dynamic balance between urban and rural areas |
| Greenization and ecologicalization | Green and ecologically friendly lifestyles and mindset gradually taking the dominant position, harmony between man and nature |
| Diversification and pluralization | Diversification and pluralization of social life and mindsets, equal status for women, children and minority groups |

Source: He Chuanqi, *The Second Modernization*, 1999.

**Integrated social modernization**

The integrated social modernization is a basic path of general social modernization in the 21st century; it includes the joint effect of two social transformations (from agricultural society to industrial society, and from industrial society to knowledge society) as well as the continuous transition to knowledge society; it also includes the coordinated development of the urbanization, suburbanization, welfarization, knowledgization development, informatization, and greenization, as well as the continuous transition to knowledgization and greenization; and it also includes the increase of social efficiency and life quality, betterment of social welfare and fairness, international social competition, and the change of international social status.

The integrated social modernization is a historical process of the coordinated development of the two social modernizations and the continuous transition to the second social modernization; it includes the change of social behaviors, social structures, social systems and ideas, as well as the international competition in which countries endeavor to catch up with, and reach the world's advanced level in the social field. The integrated social modernization includes three stages that respectively prioritize new urbanization and informatization, suburbanization and knowledgization, and knowledgization and greenization. Its objective is to catch up with the world's advanced level in social modernization.

The hallmark indicating the realization of integrated social modernization is the state that the social efficiency, life quality, social welfare, and social system have reached the then existing world's advanced level.