

# Strengthening the Sense of Community of the Chinese Nation: The Value Connotation and Era Mission of Beijing Inner Mongolia Cooperation in the New Era

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## Abstract

The cooperation between the East and the West is a major measure to promote regional coordinated development and achieve common prosperity in China, and it is also an important choice to strengthen the sense of community of the Chinese nation. The cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia continues to strengthen the sense of community of the Chinese nation in practice: promoting the spatial integration of various ethnic groups in the two places, promoting the cultural integration of various ethnic groups in the two places, strengthening the economic ties between various ethnic groups in the two places, and promoting social exchanges between various ethnic groups in the two places. The cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia has become an important path for the people of all ethnic groups in the two regions to forge a sense of community for the Chinese nation. In the process of carrying out cooperation between the East and the West, it is necessary to focus on the overall situation and endow the cooperation system between the East and the West with richer connotations and implications. By deepening the cooperation system between the East and the West, we will provide strong impetus for forging a sense of community for the Chinese nation and ultimately achieve the goal of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

## Keywords

East-West Cooperation, Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation, Strengthening the sense of community of the Chinese nation, Ethnic exchange, communication, and integration

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## 1. Problem Posing

The East-West collaboration Strategy, as a major strategic measure taken by China to promote regional coordinated development and achieve common prosperity, has achieved significant results since its implementation in 1996. The implementation of this system is of great significance for China to bridge the development gap between the east and the west and promote the common development of the eastern and western regions. The emergence of the cooperation system between the East and the West is mainly due to the uneven development of the eastern and western regions in China after the reform and opening up. After the reform and opening up, the eastern coastal areas achieved rapid development, but the development speed of the vast inland areas was relatively slow, and the gap between the development of the eastern region and the central and western regions gradually widened. In May 1996, the central government officially made the major decision of “East-West collaboration for Poverty Alleviation”. After more than 20 years of continuous efforts,

China achieved a comprehensive victory in the battle against poverty by the end of 2020. Under the new situation of winning the battle against poverty in our country, the development of the East-West collaboration system has also entered a new stage.

After the cooperation system between the East and the West entered a new stage of development, the relevant research in academia quickly became enriched. But with the deepening of the cooperation system between the East and the West, the deep promotion of cooperation between the East and the West will also face new difficulties and challenges. Therefore, it is necessary to combine theory with practice and continue to conduct in-depth research. On the other hand, from the perspective of academic research on cooperation between the East and the West, current research on cooperation mainly focuses on economic dimensions such as consumption cooperation and common prosperity, and few scholars have paid attention to the function and value of cooperation between the East and the West in forging a sense of community for the Chinese nation. The cooperation between the East and the West, as a major strategic initiative implemented in China, initially aimed to drive economic development in the central and western regions and ultimately achieve common prosperity. As a long-term and systematic major strategic project, the cooperation between the East and the West has already included many aspects such as industrial cooperation, talent exchange, cultural education, medical resources, etc. Therefore, the evaluation of cooperation between the East and the West should not only focus on a single economic indicator, but should also take into account its comprehensive benefits in the fields of economy, politics, culture, ecology, and society. The western border areas of our country are the most concentrated regions for the distribution of ethnic minorities. According to relevant data, the population distribution of ethnic minorities in China generally presents a stepped distribution. As the main distribution area of ethnic minority population, the western region has the highest proportion of ethnic minority population in the country. Therefore, in the process of implementing the system of cooperation between the East and the West, ethnic unity should be implemented in all aspects of cooperation, and the sense of community of the Chinese nation among all ethnic groups should be firmly established.

## **2. The Historical Evolution and Era Mission of Beijing Inner Mongolia Cooperation**

Since the implementation of the east-west cooperation system in the 1990s, provinces (cities) in the eastern region such as Beijing, Shanghai, Fujian, and Guangdong have rapidly established aid cooperation relationships with provinces in the western region. In the practical process of cooperation between the East and the West, different regions have developed distinctive cooperation models, forming cooperation models such as Guangdong Guizhou cooperation, Fujian Ningxia cooperation, and Shanghai Yunnan cooperation. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region is located in the northern frontier of China, bordering Russia and Mongolia, and is an important gateway for China's northward opening-up. Inner Mongolia also has abundant natural resources and occupies an important position in the development of China's energy industry. Inner Mongolia is still an important ecological barrier and functional area in northern China. Inner Mongolia has unique characteristics in economic development and is an important production base for agricultural and livestock products in China. General Secretary Xi Jinping proposed five major tasks for Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region during his research in Inner Mongolia in 2023, reflecting the important strategic position of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region in the overall development of the country.

At the beginning of the implementation of the cooperation system between the East and the West, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region was highly valued by the state. At the National Conference on Poverty Alleviation and Development held in 1996, it was decided that Beijing would provide targeted assistance to Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. From then on, Beijing and Inner Mongolia established a paired assistance relationship. The development process of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation can be roughly divided into three stages.

The first stage was the targeted assistance stage (1996-2015), during which the cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia was generally in the exploratory stage. The signing of the "Minutes of the Talks on Poverty Alleviation Cooperation and Economic and Technological Cooperation" in 1997 marked the official beginning of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation. Beijing initially selected 18 poverty-stricken banner counties in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region as the focus of assistance and carried out comprehensive assistance work. The main assistance content of the first stage of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation is still economic aid, mainly Beijing providing poverty alleviation funds for Inner Mongolia. Initially, Beijing provided an annual funding

of 20 million yuan to Inner Mongolia, and by 2008, the assistance funds had increased to 30.6 million yuan. In 2011, the assistance funds were once again increased to 80 million yuan, and an annual 8% growth mechanism for assistance funds was established during the 12th Five Year Plan period. Overall, the cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia during this period was mainly based on “blood transfusion style” economic assistance.

The second stage of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation is the poverty alleviation cooperation stage (2016-2020), which is more systematic than the first stage. In September 2016, the two regions signed the “Beijing Municipal People's Government Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region People's Government on Further Strengthening Beijing Inner Mongolia Matchmaking Assistance”, marking the beginning of a more systematic, close, scientific, and precise cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia. This stage is a crucial period for winning the battle against poverty. The further cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia has contributed significant strength to the victory of the poverty alleviation battle in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

The third stage of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation is the comprehensive cooperation stage (2021 present), which is more mature compared to the first two stages. At this stage, China has successfully completed the task of poverty alleviation, but at the same time, it faces the problem of consolidating the achievements of poverty alleviation and linking them with rural revitalization(Wen, 2023). Therefore, cooperation during this period began to shift towards consolidating and expanding the achievements of poverty alleviation and comprehensively promoting rural revitalization. At this time, the Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation emphasizes a shift from “blood transfusion assistance” to “hematopoietic” cooperation, by introducing high-quality education, medical care, industry and other resources from Beijing, in order to achieve sustainable development in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Inner Mongolia has also begun to continuously rely on its advantages in energy, agriculture, animal husbandry, tourism, and other areas to deepen its exchanges and cooperation with Beijing. The historical evolution of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation reveals the development process of the cooperation from the initial unilateral counterpart assistance to the two-way mutual benefit and win-win situation.

The mission of the era of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation includes promoting coordinated development in the Beijing Inner Mongolia region, deepening cooperation between the two places, and achieving common prosperity. It also includes promoting communication, exchange, and integration among various ethnic groups, and effectively forging a sense of community for the Chinese nation. In November 2022, nine ministries including the National Ethnic Affairs Commission and the Ministry of Education jointly issued the “Opinions on Strengthening the Awareness of the Chinese National Community and Solidly Promoting the Consolidation and Expansion of Poverty Alleviation Achievements in Ethnic Regions and Effective Connection with Rural Revitalization”, proposing to continuously strengthen the awareness of the Chinese national community in promoting the process of rural revitalization in ethnic regions. The cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia in the new era is the process of achieving high-quality development and jointly moving towards socialist modernization through collaborative efforts between the two regions. At the same time, it is also a process of promoting ethnic unity between the two regions, advancing the construction of the Chinese national community, and forging a strong sense of the Chinese national community (Wen, 2024).

### **3. The Internal Mechanism of Beijing Inner Mongolia Cooperation to Strengthen the Sense of Community of the Chinese Nation**

The cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia is not only an important guarantee for the people of all ethnic groups in Beijing and Inner Mongolia to move towards common prosperity and achieve Chinese path to modernization, but also an important path for the people of all ethnic groups in Beijing and Inner Mongolia to build a strong sense of the community of the Chinese nation. The cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia has promoted the mutual interaction and integration of various ethnic groups in Beijing Mongolia from multiple dimensions such as space, economy, culture, and society, and has strengthened the sense of community of the Chinese nation among all ethnic groups through the integration of these dimensions.

### 3.1 Beijing Inner Mongolia Cooperation Promotes Spatial Integration of Various Ethnic Groups in the Two Regions

Space is the foundation for communication and interaction among people of all ethnic groups. To strengthen the sense of community among the Chinese nation, it is necessary to rely on physical space and social space as media for communication among people of all ethnic groups. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region is the first autonomous region established in China, setting an example for the governance of other ethnic regions in the country. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has a large population of ethnic minorities, with a permanent population of 24.0491 million, of which 5.1136 million are ethnic minorities. The population of ethnic minorities is mainly Inner Mongolian, with a population of 4.2478 million Inner Mongolian and 865800 other ethnic minorities. In the process of long-term interaction, various ethnic groups in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region have formed a distribution pattern of “large mixed residence”, “small settlement”, and “staggered residence”. Under this ethnic distribution pattern, different ethnic minorities have been relatively concentrated together in the autonomous region for a long time, and there has been less communication between different ethnic groups. But with the continuous development of urbanization in recent years, the distribution pattern of ethnic groups is also constantly changing. Especially the development of urbanization has accelerated the mobility of ethnic populations, forming new characteristics of “great mobility” and “great integration”. The emergence of the new characteristics of “great mobility” and “great integration” has provided new opportunities for the communication, exchange, and integration of various ethnic groups in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The current mobile population in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region mainly flows to Hohhot, Baotou, and Ordos, which together account for over 70% of the region's mobile population. But overall, the vitality of population mobility in Inner Mongolia is relatively low and has not yet reached the national average level. Moreover, the current population mobility in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region is mainly within the autonomous region, with 80% of the total floating population flowing within the autonomous region (Duan et al., 2017).

The population mobility of various ethnic groups plays a promoting role in building a social structure and community environment in which they are mutually embedded, and achieving spatial integration among ethnic groups. The internal and external mobility of the population in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region plays an important role in the spatial integration of various ethnic groups. In the overall context of low population mobility outside the region, the unique role played by Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation in promoting the spatial integration of various ethnic groups is particularly important. The cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia in promoting the spatial integration of various ethnic groups is a two-way process. Beijing provides assistance and support to Inner Mongolia through both cadre assistance and talent support. Beijing cadres have been on secondment in Inner Mongolia since 2010. In 2021, Beijing dispatched the sixth batch of 116 temporary cadres from the East-West collaboration in Inner Mongolia. The temporary cadres implemented 3.912 billion yuan of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation funds and 1662 cooperation projects within two years. In the assessment of the cooperation between the eastern and western regions of China in 2021 and 2022, both Beijing and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region received a “good” rating. The two-year secondment work has achieved good results, and has also made the seconded cadres regard Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region as their “second hometown” in their hearts. At the same time, Beijing has selected professional talents in the fields of science and technology, education, healthcare, etc. to the corresponding units in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region through cooperation, in order to consolidate and expand the achievements of poverty alleviation and connect them with rural revitalization through intellectual support.

Inner Mongolia has also made great efforts. On the one hand, Inner Mongolia has also utilized the Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation mechanism to send professional and technical personnel in the fields of education, healthcare, etc. to Beijing for training and learning, in order to enhance the work ability and level of professional and technical personnel in the autonomous region. On the other hand, the labor cooperation platform jointly established by the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Government and the Beijing Municipal Government promotes employment of labor in agricultural and pastoral areas of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Data shows that as of November 2024, Beijing Inner Mongolia labor cooperation has helped 62500 farmers and herdsmen in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region achieve employment (Han & Li, 2024). In the practice of labor cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia, ethnic minority groups from Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region have rooted themselves in Beijing and contributed their own strength to the construction of the capital. In the process of cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia, the

population flow outside Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region continues to develop, and people of all ethnic groups from Beijing and Inner Mongolia are embedded in each other in space, enhancing their identification with each other. On this basis, the people of various ethnic groups continue to interact, exchange and blend, effectively promoting the spatial integration of different ethnic groups.

### **3.2 Beijing Inner Mongolia Cooperation Promotes Cultural Integration of Various Ethnic Groups in the Two Regions**

Culture is the foundation of the Chinese national community, and the cultures of various ethnic groups together constitute the profound and extensive Chinese culture. The reason why Chinese culture is profound and extensive is precisely because the cultures of various ethnic groups blend and learn from each other. The process of cultural exchange and mutual learning among different ethnic groups is also a process of building a common identity and belonging among people of all ethnic groups (Hao & Qin, 2023). Deepening the integration of various ethnic cultures is the process of leveraging the role of cultural links to enhance the cultural identity of various ethnic groups, and thus providing a solid cultural foundation for forging the sense of community of the Chinese nation among various ethnic groups.

Beijing and Inner Inner Mongolia are thousands of miles apart, and both cultures have distinct characteristics. Beijing, as a historical and cultural city, has a profound cultural heritage and has formed a unique ancient capital culture. This city has not only witnessed the development of Chinese culture, but also condensed the essence of various national cultures. It is an important carrier of excellent Chinese culture, and also an important symbol of national unity and national unity. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, Beijing became the capital of our country and the political and cultural center, achieving important achievements in cultural construction. The culture of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has a profound historical heritage and regional characteristics, and is an important component of Chinese culture. In the long-term development, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has formed a unique culture. It has distinct regional and contemporary characteristics, and adheres to the mainline of strengthening the sense of community of the Chinese nation. The unique culture of Inner Mongolia is a fusion of various cultures such as grassland culture, agricultural culture, and red culture, and it is also a vivid manifestation of the exchange and integration of various ethnic groups in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Against the backdrop of deepening cooperation between Beijing and Inner Inner Mongolia, significant achievements have also been made in cultural integration between the two regions. Beijing and Inner Inner Mongolia continuously promote the deep integration of their cultures through various and wide-ranging cultural exchange activities.

In September 2022, the governments of Beijing and Inner Inner Mongolia led the signing of the “Beijing Inner Inner Mongolia Cultural and Tourism Cooperation Framework Agreement”, marking the normalization of cultural and tourism cooperation between the two regions and further deepening cooperation in the cultural and tourism field. In 2024, the governments of Beijing and Inner Inner Mongolia collaborated to carry out cultural and tourism activities such as the “Beijing Inner Mongolia Cooperation • Beijing Inner Mongolia Smooth Parade” and the “Thousand Vehicles and Ten Thousand People Driving Across Inner Mongolia”. The cultural exchange activities between the two places have become increasingly frequent. In recent years, the two places have organized events such as the “Beijing Inner Mongolia Cultural Exchange Art Exhibition”, “Northern Xinjiang Cultural Exchange and Xing'an Good Things Entering Beijing”, and “Oroqen Culture Entering the West City”. This type of activity combines the cultural essence of Beijing and Inner Mongolia, allowing people of all ethnic groups in both places to feel the charm of culture. In addition, Beijing and Inner Mongolia have also carried out numerous exchange activities in the field of education, such as the “Beijing Inner Mongolia East-West collaboration Hailar Study Tour” organized by the Beijing Municipal Government. More than 300 teachers and students were sent to Hailar to experience the cultural customs of Inner Mongolia, and to practice and strengthen the sense of community of the Chinese nation in the study tour. Beijing has also sent teachers to Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region to carry out teaching support activities, promoting cultural exchange and integration while imparting knowledge. Inner Mongolia organized teachers and students to participate in training in Beijing, to understand the education model in Beijing and experience the unique cultural charm. The cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia in the cultural field allows people of all ethnic groups in both regions to personally experience the exchange and integration of diverse cultures. Narrowing the psychological distance between people of all ethnic groups. In the process of cultural exchange

and integration, the cultural identity of the people in both places continues to strengthen, laying a cultural foundation for forging a sense of community for the Chinese nation.

### **3.3 Beijing Inner Mongolia Cooperation Strengthens Economic Ties Between Various Ethnic Groups in the Two Regions**

Economic integration is also an important component of the integration of various ethnic groups in China. Whether it is historical ethnic exchanges or current ethnic exchanges, economic activities have always played a key role in promoting ethnic exchanges and integration. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has been a place of close and frequent economic exchanges among various ethnic groups in history. Located in the transitional zone between agriculture and animal husbandry, Inner Mongolia has formed an economic type of complementary agriculture and animal husbandry. The interweaving of agricultural civilization and nomadic civilization has provided superior conditions for economic exchanges between different ethnic groups. During the Sui and Tang dynasties, ethnic minorities such as the Khitans and Turks migrated to Inner Mongolia, and the Han people in the Central Plains began to engage in economic exchanges. In the Ming Dynasty, Inner Mongolia began to engage in economic exchanges with the Central Plains dynasties through tribute trade and border trade, further developing its agricultural and pastoral economy. After the establishment of the Qing Dynasty, the Qing government began to implement the “immigration to the border” policy, and a large number of Han people migrated to Inner Mongolia, leading to more frequent economic exchanges and interactions between different ethnic groups. The economic interdependence of various ethnic groups in history is not limited to enhancing economic ties between different ethnic groups. Various ethnic groups use economic ties as a link to continuously strengthen their mutual recognition and firmly establish a sense of community for the Chinese nation.

After the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the economic ties between various ethnic groups were further deepened. However, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region is located in a border area, and its economic development lags behind that of the eastern region. The Party and the state attach great importance to the economic development of border areas. The Chinese Constitution clearly stipulates that “the state shall assist various ethnic minority areas in accelerating their economic and cultural development based on their characteristics and needs (The National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, 2018). In response, the state has made significant arrangements for Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation and established Beijing's assistance relationship with Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. After 28 years of development, Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation has evolved into a comprehensive cooperation covering multiple fields such as education, industry, and technology. But driving the economic and social development of Inner Mongolia has always been the fundamental task of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation. To achieve economic integration and mutual embedding between the two regions, Beijing and Inner Mongolia have taken a series of measures. Beijing adopts a consumption approach to assist Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and help open up the market for its characteristic agricultural and animal husbandry products. Xing'an League rice, Xilingol lamb, Chifeng miscellaneous grains and other grassland agricultural and animal husbandry specialties are gradually being served on the dining tables of Beijing residents. In the first five months of 2024, the total sales of Inner Mongolia's agricultural and livestock products in Beijing reached 14.187 billion yuan, 2.24 times that of the same period last year (Inner Mongolia Practice Magazine, 2024). In addition, Beijing has leveraged its technological advantages to introduce advanced technology and concepts into Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, promoting the modernization of Inner Mongolia's agricultural and animal husbandry industry. In order to consolidate the connection between poverty alleviation and rural revitalization, Beijing has invested a large amount of funds to assist the rural revitalization work in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. In 2023, Beijing invested a total of 390 million yuan in rural revitalization funds for Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, creating 107 demonstration villages for Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation.

For the comprehensive support of Beijing, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has also made every effort to contribute to the capital. Inner Mongolia has abundant energy reserves and abundant resources such as coal, wind energy, and rare earths. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region utilizes its energy advantages to actively ensure the energy demand of Beijing. At present, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has become the most important power supply base in Beijing, with over 40% of Beijing's electricity demand guaranteed by Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region also relies on its own energy advantages to actively promote the construction of the “East Calculation and West Calculation” project. Promote the

construction of green computing power centers to provide computing power support for the development of Beijing. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region continues to supply high-quality agricultural and livestock products to Beijing, providing Beijing with unique agricultural and livestock products. The economic cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia has established a strong network of economic ties between the two regions. The strengthening of economic ties between the two regions will help to solidify the economic foundation for forging a sense of community among the Chinese nation and achieve the common goal of socialist modernization for all ethnic groups.

### **3.4 Beijing Inner Mongolia Cooperation Promotes Social Exchanges Between Various Ethnic Groups in the Two Regions**

Promoting social interaction is also an inevitable choice to achieve unity among all ethnic groups and social stability and solidarity. In the governance process of multi-ethnic areas, attention should be paid to the integration of various ethnic groups in the social structure. Especially in the current stage of large-scale mobility and integration of various ethnic groups in China, it is necessary to avoid systematic and institutionalized segregation among them (Ma, 2010). In order to promote the comprehensive integration of various ethnic groups into the social structure, it is necessary to promote social interaction and mutual embedding among them, and achieve the goal of a social structure and community environment in which various ethnic groups are mutually embedded.

The implementation of Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation also plays an important role in promoting social interaction among various ethnic groups. Promote social interaction among various ethnic groups, with a focus on improving regional industrial structure, enhancing social undertakings in ethnic areas, and improving the management of ethnic minority floating population. Striving to break down regional barriers of communication, exchange, and integration among different ethnic groups, and creating favorable conditions for building a social structure in which various ethnic groups are embedded with each other. Beijing has actively taken measures to promote social interaction and integration between various ethnic groups in Beijing and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. In order to enhance the driving force of industrial development in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Beijing has invested in Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation funds targeting the advantageous leading industries in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. In 2023, Beijing will invest a total of 1.34 billion yuan in 90 industrial projects. In 2024, Beijing will once again deepen cooperation and assistance, investing 1.05 billion yuan and 53 industrial projects in the first half of the year alone. 72 Beijing Inner Mongolia co built industrial parks and 71 clean energy bases have been established, achieving comprehensive coverage of key banner counties (CNR News, 2024). For agricultural and pastoral laborers who go to Beijing for employment, Beijing focuses on improving the service and management level for ethnic minority migrant populations. By establishing a collaborative mechanism among multiple departments, we provide specialized services covering medical treatment, rental housing, and children's education for ethnic minority migrant populations working and living in Beijing, ensuring their comprehensive integration.

For improving social undertakings in ethnic regions, Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation focuses on key areas related to people's livelihood and well-being, such as education and healthcare. In the field of education, Beijing has contributed to the progress of education in Inner Mongolia by sharing high-quality course resources, selecting outstanding teachers to support teaching, and conducting remote teaching, providing inexhaustible impetus for the development of education in Inner Mongolia. In terms of healthcare, cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia is also constantly deepening. Beijing and Inner Mongolia adopt a "pairing" approach between hospitals, promoting close connections between hospitals. By organizing activities such as regular visits by experts to paired hospitals for consultations, remote consultations by medical experts, and training of medical personnel in Beijing, Inner Mongolian patients can enjoy high-quality medical resources in Beijing without the need to travel there. This is of great significance in solving the problem of difficult access to medical care for the public. On the other hand, training medical personnel in Beijing can help improve their medical skills, thereby enhancing the overall level of medical care in Inner Mongolia and providing a solid talent foundation for fundamentally addressing the shortcomings of the medical industry. As a systematic project, the cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia also focuses on promoting the construction of a mutually embedded social structure among various ethnic groups. In the implementation process of the Beijing Inner Mongolia cooperation system, the goal of improving social undertakings in Inner Mongolia and enhancing the management of ethnic minority floating population has been achieved. A series

of collaborative practices between Beijing and Inner Mongolia have promoted communication, exchange, and integration among various ethnic groups in Beijing and Inner Mongolia, establishing an inseparable social relationship network, and achieving deep integration among ethnic groups at the social level.

#### **4. Conclusion and Discussion**

After 28 years of development, the cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia has played an important role in cultivating the sense of community of the Chinese nation among the people of all ethnic groups in Beijing and Inner Mongolia. In the new era of cooperation between Beijing and Inner Mongolia, a series of practices have been carried out to promote the spatial integration of various ethnic groups in the two places, promote the cultural integration of various ethnic groups in the two places, strengthen the economic ties between various ethnic groups in the two places, and promote social exchanges between various ethnic groups in the two places, reflecting the promotion of the East-West collaboration system to strengthen the sense of community of the Chinese nation. Xi Jinping emphasized the need to strengthen the sense of community of the Chinese nation as the main line of the Party's ethnic work and various work in ethnic regions. Therefore, in the process of carrying out cooperation between the East and the West, it is necessary to focus on the overall situation and endow the cooperation system between the East and the West with richer meanings and connotations. In the development process of cooperation between the East and the West, the work involving ethnic regions must firmly grasp the main line of forging a sense of community for the Chinese nation.

The first is to anchor the basic point of economic cooperation and accelerate the development of the western region through economic assistance cooperation. Realizing common prosperity is the initial goal of the cooperation system between the East and the West. In the context of winning the battle against poverty and deepening cooperation between the East and the West, the cooperation between the East and the West should continue to anchor the basic point of economic cooperation. While the eastern region is rapidly developing, it is continuously assisting the western region in areas such as funding, industry, and talent, injecting more vitality into the development of the western region. The western region should leverage its advantages in resources, labor, and characteristic industries, and continuously deepen cooperation with the eastern region. Continuously improving one's own level of economic development. Through the dual efforts of the eastern and western regions, we strive to narrow the development gap between them and provide a solid economic foundation for forging a sense of community for the Chinese nation.

The second is to enrich the connotation dimensions of cooperation between the East and the West, and continuously explore the institutional design and innovation of cooperation between the East and the West. In the process of cooperation between the East and the West, constantly explore development strategies and improve the cooperation system between the East and the West. On the other hand, we are constantly expanding the areas of cooperation between the East and the West, such as cultural and tourism cooperation, education cooperation, medical cooperation, digital economy cooperation, etc., to build a new development pattern of cooperation between the East and the West. By expanding the connotation of cooperation between the East and the West, enhancing the development vitality of the cooperation system between the East and the West, and making greater contributions to the development of the East and the West regions. At the same time, it can also promote the people of all ethnic groups in the eastern and western regions to continuously strengthen their connections in a wider range of fields, deepen exchanges and integration, and enhance the sense of community of the Chinese nation among all ethnic groups.

The third is to deepen the promotion and education of ethnic unity, and implement the cause of ethnic unity in the cooperation between the East and the West. The cooperation between the East and the West is a process in which the Eastern region helps support underdeveloped areas in the West, and the Western region then gives back to the Eastern region with its corresponding advantages. Essentially, it is a complementary advantage and mutual cooperation to achieve mutual benefit and win-win results. Therefore, the development model of cooperation between the East and the West itself contains the meaning of unity, mutual assistance, and mutual respect between the eastern and western regions. In the development process of cooperation between the East and the West, many cadres and masses have devoted themselves to the practice of cooperation between the East and the West, making tremendous contributions and producing a large number of moving and advanced deeds. The relevant departments should dig deep into these stories of ethnic unity and progress, use them to



do a good job in promoting ethnic unity, and promote the development of the cause of ethnic unity and progress.

The fourth is to enhance the level of marketization and social participation, actively supporting social forces to participate in the cooperation between the East and the West. As a major strategic decision in China, the cooperation between the East and the West not only includes mutual cooperation between governments, but also involves the participation of society and the market. By enhancing the level of marketization and social participation, the institutional vitality of cooperation between the East and the West can be strengthened, promoting the formation of a diversified collaborative development pattern led by the government, driven by the market, and coordinated by society. On the other hand, enhancing social participation is also an inherent requirement for promoting extensive exchanges, communication, and integration among various ethnic groups. Through the extensive participation of social forces in the cooperation between the East and the West, various ethnic groups are encouraged to engage in the practice of communication, exchange, and integration, forming an inexhaustible force to strengthen the sense of community of the Chinese nation.

The cooperation system between the East and the West is not only an important choice to promote regional balanced development and achieve common prosperity, but also an important path to promote unity among all ethnic groups and strengthen the sense of community of the Chinese nation. By deepening cooperation between the East and the West, we can promote extensive exchanges, communication, and integration among various ethnic groups. Deeply implement the concept of forging a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation into the cooperation between the East and the West, so that the hearts of people of all ethnic groups are closely connected, and work tirelessly together to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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