

## "STRATEGIES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF CHINESE EDUCATION" THAT AFFECTS STUDENT STANDARDS IN THAILAND

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### **Abstract**

This study aims to explore the strategies for improving Chinese education, the challenges it faces, and proposes innovative solutions and policy recommendations. By analyzing the historical background of Chinese education, the current main issues, and future development directions, the study reveals important factors affecting educational quality and student well-being, such as the unequal distribution of educational resources between urban and rural areas, excessive pressure from exam-oriented education, and teacher burnout. To address these challenges, the study proposes solutions such as integrating technology into classrooms, providing professional development opportunities for teachers, and promoting student-centered learning methods, with the goal of creating a more equitable and innovative education system. Specifically, policymakers should increase funding for rural schools, improve teacher benefits, promote educational informatization, and pay attention to student mental health to drive educational reform. It is expected that the implementation of these strategies will significantly enhance educational quality, reduce the urban-rural education gap, and improve students' overall well-being and engagement. Additionally, the study discusses the importance of international cooperation and experience sharing in Chinese educational reform and suggests that future research should further evaluate the implementation effects and long-term impacts of these strategies. Ultimately, these measures will provide theoretical support and practical guidelines for the sustainable development of the Chinese education system.

**Keywords:** Chinese Education, student standards

### **Historical Overview of Chinese Education**

Since the reform and opening up, China's education system has undergone profound changes. Zhao Yong (2018) in his book *Pursuing Excellence: Personalized Education for All Children* pointed out that China's educational reform not only focuses on the transmission of knowledge but also emphasizes the cultivation of students' innovation ability, critical thinking, and social responsibility. This shift reflects the global trend in education development, which is a transition from a single knowledge - imparting model to a diversified ability - cultivation model. Li Jie (2022) in the article *Chinese Education Innovation: Challenges and Opportunities* pointed out that this high - pressure environment not only affects students' mental health but also leads to the widespread existence of teacher burnout.

Evolution of the Chinese Education System The Chinese education system has evolved over thousands of years, from the ancient imperial examination system to modern educational reforms, reflecting changes in social needs and cultural values. In recent years, scholars have conducted in - depth research on the history of Chinese education, providing new perspectives and insights. This paper will explore the key developmental stages of Chinese education history based on academic research in the past five years and analyze it in combination with the latest expert comments. Sun Jie (2019) in his research divided the development of the history of education in New China into five stages: transformation, initial establishment, reconstruction, exploration, and formation. He pointed out that in the early days of the founding of New China,

the history of education in China was greatly influenced by the Soviet Union and gradually established the Marxist materialist view of history as the main research method (Sun, 2019). After entering the 1980s, with the discussion on the criterion of truth in the field of education, the discipline of the history of education gradually restored its academic status and began to form a more independent discipline system. Since the 21st century, the discipline of the history of education has gradually broken free from the constraints of the textbook tradition and developed in a more systematic and open direction (Sun, 2019).

**Development of an Autonomous Knowledge System in Chinese Pedagogy** In recent years, research on the autonomous knowledge system of Chinese pedagogy has attracted widespread attention. The Chinese National Academy of Educational Sciences (2021) pointed out that the maturity of the educational discipline, academic prosperity, and the consciousness of the discourse system are important signs of the development of China's educational discipline. Over the past century, Chinese pedagogy has experienced the impact and integration brought by the "Western learning spreading to the East" and gradually formed a Chinese - characteristic educational discipline system (China National Academy of Educational Sciences [CNAES], 2021). The study further pointed out that the autonomous knowledge system of Chinese pedagogy consists of the discipline system, academic system, discourse system, textbook system, and governance system. Specifically, the formation of the core knowledge system depends on academic originality, and the development of the discipline needs to find its own positioning in the global knowledge system (CNAES, 2021).

**Research on Chinese Education History Textbooks** In the research on Chinese education history textbooks, scholars focus on the selection and presentation of ancient educational figures. It has been found that there are significant differences in the selection of ancient educational figures in textbooks of different periods. For example, in the works of the history of education in the 1950s - 1960s, a core group of figures in the history of ancient Chinese education (about 10 people) was initially formed; after 1979, the core group gradually expanded to form a more complete educational figure system (about 30 people) (Zhang, 2020). The development of textbooks not only reflects the changes in the discipline of the history of education but also reflects the adjustment of educational policies and ideologies (Zhang, 2020).

**Current Trends in Chinese Education** At present, Chinese education is moving towards intelligence and digitalization. Emerging models such as online education and artificial intelligence - based education are rapidly rising. Meanwhile, the government continues to introduce policies to support the development of education in rural and remote areas in order to narrow the urban - rural education gap (Liu & Wang, 2022). In addition, vocational education and the concept of lifelong learning are gradually gaining attention, cultivating more technical talents for society to meet the needs of modern industrial development (Liu & Wang, 2022).

The research on the history of Chinese education has expanded in both depth and breadth. Through the review of the development process of the history of education in New China, the construction of an autonomous knowledge system in pedagogy, and the analysis of education history textbooks, the academic community has deepened its understanding of the changes in Chinese education and provided theoretical support for future educational reforms.

### **Challenges in the Current Context**

Despite the significant progress made in recent years, China's education system still faces a series of complex challenges, such as the unequal distribution of educational resources between urban and rural areas, the impact of the high - pressure examination system, and teacher burnout. These factors hinder further improvements in educational quality and also affect students' overall well - being.

**Unequal Distribution of Educational Resources between Urban and Rural Areas** Research indicates that rural schools still cannot compare with urban schools in terms of infrastructure, teaching staff, and educational funding (Li, 2021). Particularly in remote western regions, the shortage of educational resources is especially severe, restricting rural students' academic performance and future career development (Wang & Chen, 2022). In recent years, the state has increased investment in rural education through the "Rural Revitalization Strategy." For example, the *Rural Teacher Support Plan (2020 - 2025)* encourages outstanding teachers to teach in rural areas and provides financial subsidies. However, challenges remain in the implementation of policies, such as high teacher turnover and insufficient investment by rural families in their children's education (Zhang & Liu, 2023). In addition, although the application of information technology has narrowed the urban - rural gap to some extent, the digital divide still exists. Rural students may be unable to fully utilize these resources due to the lack of a stable Internet environment or electronic devices (Sun et al., 2021).

**Impact of the High - Pressure Examination System on Educational Quality** It has been found that excessive examination pressure not only affects students' mental health but also leads to exam - oriented education replacing quality education, restricting students' all - round development (Chen & Zhou, 2022). The college entrance examination pressure is particularly prominent in the "involution" phenomenon. Due to fierce competition, students and parents have to invest more time and resources in exam preparation to gain a relative advantage (Liu, 2023). In recent years, the state has implemented the "Double Reduction" policy (reducing the burden of homework and off - campus tutoring) to relieve this pressure. However, in the short term, the high social focus on examination results still makes it difficult to completely change exam - oriented education (Yang & Xu, 2022). In addition, some studies point out that although the college entrance examination reform has made some adjustments in the selection mechanism (such as comprehensive evaluation enrollment and independent enrollment), it has not yet completely solved the dilemma of students being "fixated on scores" (Wu & Li, 2023).

**Relationship between Teacher Burnout and Educational Quality** It has been found that long - term high - intensity teaching tasks and high social expectations for teachers' roles have reduced teachers' job satisfaction and increased their sense of burnout (Zhou et al., 2021). To address this issue, the government has proposed measures to improve teachers' benefits and optimize the teacher training system. However, in reality, the teacher assessment mechanism still focuses on students' scores, making it difficult to relieve teachers' psychological pressure. Researchers suggest that a stronger psychological support system should be established, and teachers' career development space should be expanded to enhance their professional identity and well - being (Wang et al., 2023).

China's education has made significant progress in the process of modernization, but the urban - rural education gap, exam - oriented education pressure, and teacher burnout still restrict further improvements in educational quality. In the future, the government and society need to comprehensively use policy regulation, technical means, and cultural changes to promote a more balanced, healthy, and sustainable development of the education system.

### **Proposed Solutions or Strategies**

**Technology - Empowered Education: Applications of Online Education and Artificial Intelligence.**

In recent years, the rapid development of online education and artificial intelligence (AI) technology has brought new opportunities for educational equity. Research shows that the popularization of information technology can effectively narrow the gap in educational resources between urban and rural areas. For example, the *Action Plan for AI Innovation in*

*Higher Education* issued by the Ministry of Education aims to expand the coverage of educational resources through AI technology to support rural revitalization. Online education platforms such as "Yu Classroom" and "Xueersi Online School" have already played a positive role in promoting the balance of educational resources. In addition, AI technology can be used for intelligent learning content recommendations, providing personalized learning paths based on students' learning progress and interests. For example, AI learning assistants (such as "Xueba Jun" and "Zuoye Bang") have been used to enhance students' self-learning abilities. Meanwhile, with the help of 5G networks and VR/AR technologies, teachers can conduct remote classes and provide immersive interactive learning experiences.

#### Teacher Professional Development: Policy Support and Career Growth Pathways

Teachers are at the core of improving educational quality, so improving the professional environment for teachers and enhancing their teaching abilities is crucial. Research indicates that increasing the salaries and benefits of rural teachers can enhance their job stability. The government can provide financial subsidies and housing support to improve the living standards of rural teachers. In addition, ongoing professional training is essential. For example, the "National Training Program" has provided professional development opportunities for teachers in many parts of the country. Moreover, schools should establish teacher counseling rooms to provide regular psychological counseling to alleviate teacher burnout.

#### Student - Centered Teaching Models

The traditional exam-oriented education model, which overemphasizes memorization and exam scores, restricts students' creativity and critical thinking abilities. Promoting student-centered teaching methods, such as Project-Based Learning (PBL) and Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL), can effectively increase students' interest in learning and their innovation capabilities. For example, Peking University and Tsinghua University have introduced PBL in some courses, enabling students to solve complex problems through interdisciplinary research. In addition, reforming the evaluation system is also crucial, and a diversified evaluation system (such as subject competitions, research projects, and social practice) should be introduced to make students' learning achievements more diverse.

### Expected Outcomes

**Educational Quality and Equity:** Through the popularization of online education, AI technology, and remote live-streaming classrooms, the gap in educational resources between urban and rural areas will be narrowed. Student-centered teaching models will enhance students' self-learning abilities, critical thinking, and creativity.

**Social Equity:** The balanced allocation of educational resources will promote social mobility and reduce social inequality caused by insufficient educational resources. Government-led teacher training programs, financial subsidies, and improved treatment for rural teachers will attract more outstanding teachers to remote areas.

**Student Well-Being and Learning Engagement:** Reducing the impact of high-pressure exam-oriented education is crucial. Flexible and diversified learning methods, such as blended learning and inquiry-based learning, have been proven to reduce students' learning anxiety and increase their interest in learning. A diversified education evaluation system will reduce the pressure brought by "one-exam-determines-all-life" and make students' academic achievements more diverse.

**Economic Sustainability:** A high-quality education system will cultivate more talents with practical abilities and innovative spirits, providing important support for China's technological and industrial upgrading.

## Policy Recommendations

**Strengthening Investment in Rural Educational Resources:** Policymakers should prioritize increasing investment in rural educational resources, improving the quality of teacher training, and promoting the deep integration of education and technology. The government can set up special funds to improve the infrastructure of rural schools and provide better teaching materials and equipment.

**Promoting the Digitalization of Education:** Policymakers should promote cooperation between schools and technology companies to advance the digitalization of education. For example, encourage educational technology companies to collaborate with schools to develop online learning platforms and intelligent education tools. Meanwhile, the promotion of mental health education courses and the establishment of school - based psychological counseling systems are essential.

## Conclusion

This study systematically examines the historical evolution, current challenges, and future directions of China's education system, proposing innovative solutions and policy recommendations to address issues like educational equity, teaching quality, and student mental health. By emphasizing the collaborative roles of the government, schools, social enterprises, and the technology sector, it highlights the importance of optimizing resource allocation, improving teacher training, promoting intelligent education technologies, and strengthening mental health support, aiming to modernize the system toward greater fairness, innovation, and high quality (Liu & Zhang, 2023). Future research should further investigate the implementation effects of these strategies across different regions and educational levels, particularly focusing on balancing resource allocation to ensure the feasibility and long-term impact of reforms (Wang et al., 2023). Additionally, by integrating international educational reform experiences with local cultural and socio-economic needs, China can build a modern education system with Chinese characteristics (Chen & Xu, 2022). Recognizing the broader impact of educational reform on social equity, talent cultivation, and economic development, future research should explore how education shapes innovative talents, promotes industrial upgrading, and influences social mobility and equity (Zhou et al., 2022). Through continuous policy optimization and collaborative efforts among stakeholders, China's education system is expected to achieve a leading position in global competition and provide strong support for socio-economic sustainable development (Sun et al., 2023). In summary, this study not only provides a theoretical foundation for China's educational reform but also offers practical guidance for policy-making, contributing valuable case studies and experiences to global educational innovation.

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