

Best Practices of Integrity Education in Schools and Universities in China

Integrity education programs in schools and universities form an important part of UNCAC obligations. The Chinese Government attaches great importance to integrity education in primary and middle schools, colleges and universities with the philosophy of “putting students’ development and moral education first”. Based on students’ healthy growth and development, China integrates integrity education into various links of school education so as to help students develop integrity philosophy and conduct honest behaviors. Its major approaches include:

I Comprehensive coverage with strong organizational support

Integrity education is listed as a major task in the Implementation Outline of Building the Corruption Punishment and Prevention System adopted in 2005. A Leading Group has been established accordingly by the Ministry of Education to take charge of issues related to the policy-making, organization, coordination and inspection of integrity education and the promotion of a clean culture. Pilot projects have been launched in 10 provinces and municipalities including Beijing, Tianjin, and Shanghai. Opinions on Integrity Education in Schools and Universities, issued by the Ministry of Education in 2007, requires that integrity education be integrated into the national education system with a comprehensive coverage of students, teachers, and school administrators. The Ministry of Education also issued Guidelines on Integrity Education in Primary and Middle Schools, Opinions on Fighting Corruption and Upholding Integrity in Higher Education Institutions, and Syllabus of Integrity Education for College Students. Two national experience-sharing conferences were held in Guangdong Province and Sichuan Province to collect best practices. Inspections are also conducted regularly by the Ministry of Education to provide guidance for local practices.

Integrity education is promoted nationwide within the context of moral education and education for all-round development of the young people. Special modules are developed for integrity lessons and designated people are trained to take charge of integrity education programs. For instance, the City of Ji’nan plans to involve 10,000 administrators of the education system, 100,000 teachers, and 1 million students in integrity education programs within three to five years. Guangdong Province spends RMB 13.08 million providing free integrity textbooks for primary and middle school students. The City of Beijing develops a set of Reading Materials for Integrity Education in Primary and Middle Schools which have been widely used at present. Jiangxi Agricultural University adds a special module of Contemporary College Students and Campus Integrity Education to the University’s required public course of Current Situation and Policies, much welcome by students and teachers.

II Diverse educational forms to ensure effects

Schools and universities around the country are actively engaged in exploring new methods and educational forms to promote targeted and diversified integrity education programs.

(i) Combine integrity education with the sound development of a healthy campus culture

Integrity themes are introduced to various cultural works and events, such as children's folk rhymes, stories, games, writings, drawings, performances, extracurricular readings, and debates, etc. to cultivate self-discipline and sound manner of the young population. For instance, the Ministry of Education organized the National Contests of Artistic Works on Integrity by College and University Students in 2012. About 200,000 participants from more than 1,500 higher education institutions nationwide took part in competitions of performance, painting, calligraphy, and photography, etc. 1180 pieces of works were selected for touring exhibitions around the country. Guangdong Province also organized various artistic contests and public events to promote integrity-related themes, of which the Evening on Clean Campus Culture, held in the City of Guangzhou, was a very successful example. Similar festivals and debates were also organized by Southwest Jiaotong University, China University of Mining and Technology, Liaoning University and other higher education institutions to place in students a profound awareness of integrity, discipline, and honesty.

(ii) Design targeted programs for major turning points in a student's personal development

From entrance to graduation, from examinations to evaluations, from internship to job-hunting, all key turning points in a student's personal development are considered crucial opportunities for integrity education. In 2012, the Ministry of Education compiled a book named Best Practices of Integrity Education in the Education System, based on 60 successful cases nationwide. The book is now used as a model textbook for new students. Tsinghua University sees the development of personality and the internalization of the code of professional ethics as the two major purposes of integrity education for graduates and strives to help students achieve success in both life and career. Every year, Peking University holds the integrity education symposium for graduates and calls on students to sign the letter of commitment on integrity and self-discipline and to promise not to involve in corrupt acts after graduation. Integrity and self-discipline proposals are made to college graduates around the country as a solid measure to strengthen the role of prevention.

(iii) Integrate integrity education into extracurricular activities

Integrity education is strengthened in young students' extracurricular activities to make honesty and self-discipline a conscious choice. For instance, colleges in Jiangxi Province require students to engage in the promotion of a clean culture in the countryside when bringing culture, science and technology, and hygienic health to the countryside. The City of Baise uses sites of former revolutionary events, such as the Clean Breeze Hall and the Revolutionary Auditorium of Baise Middle School, for theme activities that are aimed to combine the glorious tradition with the present great endeavors and to create a favorable

atmosphere for the young people to consciously abide by integrity requirements.

(iv) Utilize online platforms

In Sichuan Province, Jiangxi Province and other places, integrity education is included as an essential part in the development of distance education networks of rural schools, campus networks of colleges and universities, and teaching and research networks and a number of representative programs have been launched. Henan Province, Jiangsu Province and Hebei Province broadcast online public service advertisements on clean campus culture on a regular basis. Hunan University sets up an Integrity Education Website for Chinese College Students, a very important platform for college students to learn the essence of clean culture, exchange experience and demonstrate the virtues of honesty and self-discipline.

III Targeted course designs to meet varied requirements

Due to the differences between primary school students, middle school students, and college students in terms of physical, mental, and cognitive development, the Ministry of Education has adopted a differentiating approach in integrating integrity education into school curriculums. For instance, the Courses of “Morality and Life” and “Morality and Society” of primary schools stress fairness and justice, while the Course of “Ideology and Morality” of junior middle schools emphasizes honesty and the law-abiding spirit and the Course of “Ideology and Politics” of senior middle schools gives priority to integrity and self-discipline. Integrity education is also included in the course syllabus of moral education of secondary vocational schools. Useful explorations have been made by schools around the country. For instance, based on the different psychological and physical development stages of students, the Guide for Integrity Education in Schools and Universities of the City of Shanghai specifies that integrity education in primary schools should focus on self-esteem, truthfulness, frugality, and discipline, that in junior middle schools on self-discipline, honesty, thrift, and law-awareness, that in senior middle schools on self-reliance, uprightness, diligence, and the law-abiding spirit, and that in universities on self-education, fairness, integrity, and law enforcement. The Implementation Opinion on Comprehensive Coverage of Integrity Education in Schools and Universities of Fujian Province suggests that for senior middle school and university students, rational thinking and reasoning should be stressed through debates and discussions and integrity education should emphasize honesty, self-discipline, and the law-abiding spirit, while for primary and junior middle school students, visual means and interesting forms should be used for the cultivation of discipline-awareness and the education in behavior and manner. So far, China has developed a clearly-structured and well-coordinated integrity education system.

IV Exemplary effect through strengthened moral education for teachers

Teachers’ ethical accomplishment plays a direct role in the actual effect of integrity education in schools and universities. The Opinion on Furthering Moral Education of

Teachers and the Code of Ethics for Primary School and Middle School Teachers, issued by the Ministry of Education, stress the exemplary role of teachers in both learning and behavior. Fully aware of such an exemplary role of teachers, schools around the country integrate the requirements of integrity education and the development of a clean campus culture into the whole process of teachers' moral education. For instance, Tsinghua University and Peking University make ethical accomplishment a key item of assessment for the promotion of teachers and an academic ethics committee has been established, together with a number of awards such as the Special Contribution Award, the Devotion Award, and Cai Yuanpei Award (named after Cai Yuanpei, former president of Peking University and renowned educator). No. 4 Vocational School of the City of Nanning organized debates among teachers and faculty members on how individuals can contribute to a clean teaching environment. Schools of the City of Yulin signed the Commitment Letter with teachers on the clean performance of teaching responsibilities. The City of Taiyuan launched theme programs on teaching in the service of the students and the people and teaching for the satisfaction of the public so as to give full play to the model effect of teachers in integrity education.

Moreover, schools and universities around China have included integrity education of the young people into their entire system of management and service. Integrity education is combined with the anticorruption cause, the improvement of work style, and the education of personnel in schools and universities. An effective system with full participation is basically in place to help foster a favorable atmosphere for the integrity education of the youth and the development of a clean campus culture.

Measures to Strengthen Integrity and Prevent Corruption in China's Judiciary Service

China's judiciary service includes the Supreme People's Court, local people's courts and special people's courts such as military courts. As judicial organs of the state set up in accordance with the Constitution of China, the people's courts try all criminal cases, including cases of embezzlement, bribery, and dereliction of duty considered to involve corruption, make timely and fair court decisions on cases of embezzlement, bribery, and dereliction of duty that the prosecution service initiates public prosecution and punish crimes of corruption. China's judiciary service has devoted intensified efforts to strengthening integrity and preventing opportunities for corruption among its members on the principle of fighting corruption in a comprehensive way, addressing both symptoms and root causes, and combining punishment with prevention, with the emphasis on the latter. On the one hand, China's judiciary service adopts a zero tolerance attitude towards judiciary corruption and cracks down on corrupt acts resolutely. On the other hand, preventive measures are equally emphasized to address corruption at the source.

I Complete legal framework to punish offenders in the judiciary service

Corrupt acts, though quite rare in China's judiciary service, bear far-reaching negative impacts. The Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China criminalizes such corrupt acts in the judiciary service as bribery, abuse of official power, and favoritism. Judges Law of the People's Republic of China also stipulates that judges should not embezzle money or accept bribes, bend law for personal gain, extort confessions by torture, conceal or falsify evidence, divulge State secrets or secrets of judicial work, abuse functions and powers, neglect his or her duty, take advantage of the functions and powers to seek personal gain, or meet the party concerned or his or her agent without authorization and attend dinners or accept presents given by the party concerned or his or her agent. Judges and other judiciary officers who violate the above-mentioned regulations will be punished by warning, demerit recording, major demerit recording, demotion, dismissal from post, or discharge from office in accordance with the Punishment Regulations of Judiciary Service. In criminal cases, persons involved should be transferred to procuratorates to have responsibilities investigated. In 2010, Huang Songyou, former Vice President of the Supreme People's Court who committed corruption and took bribes worth RMB 5.1 million (about USD 820,000) was sentenced to life imprisonment. It may be viewed as an example of China's resolution to crack down on corruption in the judiciary service.

II Detailed professional ethics to promote self-discipline among members of the judiciary service

China's judiciary service attaches great importance to the construction of judges' professional ethics and energetically improves their awareness of self-discipline so that

they can consciously resist the lure of profits, the influence of power, and the disturbance of relations. The Supreme People's Court issued the Basic Norms for the Professional Ethics of Judges to make justice, honesty and serving the people the core values of judges. It requires that all judges be loyal to the judiciary cause, practice justice, safeguard integrity, and serve the people whole-heartedly. Judges should keep away the influences of powers and social relations in fulfilling their duties, consciously refuse to seek illegal interests by taking advantage of their duties or their positions, provide convenience for people concerned and other participants in legal proceedings, and guard the image of the judiciary service with their sound professional conducts.

The Supreme People's Court also issued the Code of Conduct for Judges which provides specific guidance for judges in performing their duties, including case filing, court trial, litigation mediation, documentation, implementation and activities after work. Other regulations on the prevention of conflict of interests and the clean performance of judiciary duty include the Regulations on Implementing Integrity Principles and Preventing Conflict of Interests in the Judiciary Service, judiciary interpretations on avoiding conflict of interests in litigations, regulations on the relation between judges and lawyers, and provisions on job restraints for family members of judges, etc. For instance, Article 2 of the Regulations on Implementing Integrity Principles and Preventing Conflict of Interests in the Judiciary Service requires that members of the judiciary service should not accept undue profits, gifts, treatments, trips, and entertainment that may interfere with the fair execution of the official duty. Violation is subject to punishments specified in Article 59 of Punishment Regulations of Judiciary Service. Regulations on Employment Avoidance of Leading Carders, Officials, and Judges in Judgment and Execution Positions of the Judiciary Service whose Spouses and Offspring Work as Lawyers (trial) requires that leading carders, officials, and judges in judgment and execution positions of the judiciary service should be subject to avoidance regulations if their spouses or children are working as lawyers under the same jurisdiction.

III Sound institutions to regulate judiciary power

Nothing can be accomplished without norms or standards. China's judiciary service emphasizes institutional improvement to ensure proper exercise of judiciary power. In order to prevent corruption risks brought by under-table deals and enhance judicial transparency, the Supreme People's Court issued the guidance on promoting publicity of judicial affairs to promote courts of various levels to constantly improve the system of publicizing court trials. In addition, standard procedures are established for the interpretation of judgment basis, online publicity of judgment papers, the hearing of filing of re-tried cases, access to litigation documents and access to execution information to ensure the transparent operation of the judiciary service. In order to regulate the exercise of discretion by judges, the Supreme People's Court formulated the guiding opinions on regulating the use of discretion in trial and execution of court decisions, specifying

conditions and principles for the use of discretion. Discretion is further regulated with the issuance of judicial interpretations, the publication of exemplary cases and the promotion of standard sentence procedures. In order to prevent judges from intentionally trading official power for personal gains, the Supreme People's Court promotes reforms of the work mechanisms of execution and judicial auction in an all-round way and provides guidance for local courts in establishing a new work mode featuring the separation and balance between the judgment function and the implementation function. The third-party trade platform is introduced to implement the new judicial auction mechanisms such as electronic bidding and Internet-based trade, cutting the interest links between judges and intermediary organizations such as auction agents.

IV Effective supervision to prevent abuse of judiciary power

Powers without restraint naturally lead to corruption. China's judiciary service, while protecting the independence of the judiciary power, takes active measures to establish the internal and external supervision mechanism.

In terms of internal supervision, discipline inspection department are set up in people's courts nationwide to take charge of public complaints against the judiciary service and investigate corrupt acts of judges. Designated personnel work as full-time or part-time integrity supervisors in judgment and execution functions to provide daily supervision over the observance of integrity principles and discipline requirements. The top-down patrol and inspection system is widely established. People's courts of a higher level can conduct public or secret inspections on integrity-related issues of courts of a lower level.

In terms of external supervision, there exist plenty of external channels to supervise the judiciary service. According to China's Constitution, China's courts of various levels are subject to the supervision of the people's congresses and their standing committees of the same levels, to which the courts should regularly report their work. China's Procedural Law also stipulates that China's courts are subject to the litigation supervision of the procuratorates and should try the cases filed by procuratorates in challenge of effective judgments. Moreover, China's courts also actively accept supervision from the press and all walks of life through public opinion boxes, complaint and report websites, the public jury system, press conferences and the engagement of the public as special consultants and supervisors.

Measures to Strengthen Integrity and Prevent Corruption in China's Prosecution Service

China's prosecution service is composed of the Supreme People's Procuratorate, local peoples' procuratorates, and special peoples' Procuratorates such as military procuratorates. As state organs for legal supervision, the people's procuratorates pursue liabilities of criminal acts, investigate state functionaries suspected of embezzlement and bribery, dereliction of duty, encroachment of right and other duty-related crimes, prevent duty-related crimes, and submit public prosecutions to people's courts on behalf of the state in accordance with the law. In recent years, China's prosecution service has devoted intensified efforts to building a corruption punishment and prevention system on the principle of fighting corruption in a comprehensive way, addressing both symptoms and root causes, and combining punishment with prevention, with the emphasis on the latter and made considerable progress in strengthening integrity and preventing opportunities for corruption. Efforts to address prominent social issues are increasingly recognized by the public.

I Improve legal framework

China's prosecution service has developed a complete set of laws and regulations for combating corruption and strengthening integrity, forming a legal framework with scientific contents, rigorous procedures, well-matched regulations and effective administration. Besides specific provisions on integrity instructions before appointment, admonition talks, report of relevant personal matters, report of performance and integrity, and the economic accountability auditing system established by the Supreme People's Procuratorate, the legal framework also includes Code of Ethics for P.R.C Procurators (trial), Norms for Prosecution Service on Clean Exertion of Official Duties (trial), Regulations on Prohibiting Treatment and Gift-giving with Public Funds in Internal Official Activities of Prosecution Service, and other rules of conduct. According to Article 2 of Norms for Prosecution Service on Clean Exertion of Official Duties (trial), the prosecution service is strictly prohibited from seeking illegitimate gains by misuse of office or abuse of official power, soliciting, accepting or misappropriating properties of relevant parties or individuals directly involved in cases or other parties or individuals that are related to the prosecution service's exercise of official power. Sanction and punishment for the violation of integrity and discipline are provided for by Regulations on Supervision Work of People's Procuratorates, Regulations on Disciplinary Sanctions of the Prosecution Service (trial), and other regulations related to internal supervision, accountability and inspection. According to Article 70 of Regulations on Disciplinary Sanctions of the Prosecution Service (trial), the acceptance of undue gifts and other advantages and failure to report or hand over to higher authorities are subject to sanctions of explicit warning, recording of demerit, and recording of major demerit for minor

offences, demotion and dismissal from post for major offences, and discharge from office for offences of extremely serious consequences.

II Strengthen control over prosecution powers

Special provisions have been developed to strengthen internal supervision, not only on the prosecution service as a whole but also on its specific investigation and law enforcement functions. Procuratorates at lower levels are also subject to the supervision of those at higher levels, through integrity talks of officials at higher levels with those at lower levels, participation of officials of higher levels in democratic meetings of those at lower meetings, and the report of performance and integrity by procurators of provincial people's procuratorates to the Supreme People's Procuratorate. Through these measures, the control over procurators' official power is also strengthened. Inspection tours are conducted regularly and the leadership system, working mechanism, and actual effects of inspection are considerably improved. Assessment is also launched on the application of inspection findings of 25 provincial people's procuratorates. The supervision over law-enforcement and investigation activities is also strengthened through process supervision, online supervision, return visits of major cases, and investigation of accountabilities. The Supreme People's Procuratorate also examines the performance of over 271 local procuratorates and 53 dispatched prosecution units of 29 provinces. So far, local procuratorates have themselves conducted a total of 137, 000 rounds of examinations of the performance of their subordinate bodies.

III Curb corruption through institutional reform

In view of the major fields and key links likely to breed corruption, vigorous efforts have been made to promote institutional reform and innovation and strive to prevent and control corruption at the very source. The correct exercise of the investigative power in duty-related crime cases is enhanced through the improved supervision and control mechanism, the synchronizing audio and video recording mechanism of the interrogation process, and the decision-making mechanism which requires the procuratorates of a higher level to assess and approve the request of arrests made by procuratorates of a lower level in duty-related crime cases below the provincial level. The department in charge of protested cases in the prosecution service is not allowed to involve in the investigation of duty-related crime cases, thus separating the power of prosecution supervision from that of investigation of duty-related crimes. Rules of Conduct have been developed and vigorously implemented for law enforcement activities by the prosecution service to provide standards and regulate the use of discretion. The management mechanism of law enforcement and investigation activities has been established, featuring a uniform channel of case acceptance, whole process management, dynamic supervision, and comprehensive assessment. Transparency is ensured through open days of procuratorates, the complaint mechanism against law- and discipline-breaching activities of the prosecution service, the

mechanism to regulate legal practices, public assessment of non-prosecuted cases, and hearing of repeated appeals. All these measures have combined to promote the clean and fair enforcement of law by China's prosecution service.

IV Investigate cases of corruption in the prosecution service in accordance with law and discipline

It is a most direct and effective means to combat corruption by investigating cases of corruption and punishing offenders in accordance with law and discipline. China's prosecution service has made it one of its priorities to investigate law- and discipline-breaching cases involving its personnel, especially those in leading positions. From 2008 to 2012, the supervision and discipline inspection departments within the prosecution service nationwide filed for investigation 883 cases involving 1101 people. Special inspections are conducted over the seizure, freezing, and treatment of the proceeds of cases directly field for investigation by the prosecution service and the long-term mechanism with standard procedures is continually improved. Typical cases are studied for preventive and educational purposes. Special inspections are also launched to protect peoples' legal rights, address prominent issues of wide public concern, and regulate law enforcement and investigation activities.

V Raise awareness through education and publicity

Education plays a fundamental role in fighting corruption and promoting clean governance. Over the years, China's prosecution service is devoted to developing a clean culture through awareness raising campaigns and educational activities. The Supreme People's Procuratorate has issued Implementation Guidelines on Integrity Education of Prosecution Service and organized touring exhibitions with a total attendance of 201,000 people, covering 87% of the country's prosecution service. Special educational initiatives are promoted to address underlying issues such as the special privilege mentality and the arbitrary work style. Painting and calligraphy competitions are held to promote integrity-related themes. The prosecution service nationwide and their families have submitted 14,876 pieces of works, of which 545 highly-rated pieces are exhibited. Other awareness-raising activities include running education bases, launching online education platforms, soliciting mottos and epigrams, and organizing speech contests and theatrical festivals to promote a culture that honors integrity and disgraces corruption.