

# Polar civilization and Golden Mean

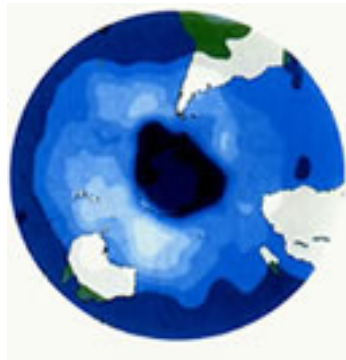
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Scene one: The ice field is melting gradually. Drifting with the current on the ice floes, a colony of seals lies dispirited, moaning.



Scene two: With a radius up to tens of kilometers wide, the ozone hole in the polar sky stuns every human being. Blazing ultraviolet rays penetrating through the hole are burning our ice world.



Scene Three: Around the polar circle, the sea level rises unceasingly as

a result of global warming. In such circumstances, the sea tide rises rapidly, making those coastal countries suffer from flood and people there complaining....

All that mentioned above are several kinds of phenomena that indicate that the Earth's Poles have been destructed. As global temperatures rising, the two-pole issue has gradually become the focal point for the mankind. Then, what on earth is the significance of Earth's Poles to human beings? How would the mankind embrace our future if we destructed polar environment?

The research findings of many countries have shown the great importance of Earth's Poles to the mankind. From environmental, scientific or strategic point of view, the role of the Earth's Poles cannot be replaced by any region whatsoever. Today, with a rapid economic development, the Earth's Poles show their greater significance in the field of economy than any other aspect.

It has been manifested through years of study that the Arctic oil reserves have amounted to 100 billion – 200 billion barrels. Both the first and second largest oil fields of the United States are within the North Pole. Russia's oil output in Arctic region accounts for 60% of its total oil production. Besides, with 600 million tons of Antarctic krill, 72% of world's available fresh water and abundant mineral and biological resources which are hardly known, the Polar Regions are considered the

last treasury for human beings. Besides these tangible resources, researches into the Earth's Poles exert a great influence upon development of new routes. The Arctic, surrounded by Asia, Europe and North America, is located on top of northern hemisphere. Thanks to its geographical advantage, the three Continents are linked by the shortest routes: It is only 6750 kilometers to travel from Washington to Moscow which is at least 1000 kilometers shorter than the European Route. Some American senior economists have predicted that the one who seizes the initiative in the new route issue will surely enjoy the utmost priority in today's world.

However, it is the desire for this utmost priority that makes the mankind caught in a dilemma. On one hand, people want to develop science and technology through the rapid economic growth so as to discover and resolve the mystery of the Earth' Poles which in turn could help the mankind uncover the veiled Polar Civilization and work out a solution to global shortage of resources. On the other hand, man's excessively fast economic development has led to serious environmental problems: Massive emissions of greenhouse gases make the global temperature rises sharply which results in melting of polar ice and even a sharp drop in number of certain species. All these phenomena indicate that the polar regions are facing a huge crisis. And because of this, a new issue arises: For mankind, what shall we do?

In my opinion, in order to resolve the contradiction between polar

civilization and economic development, the humanity must clearly recognize the relations between the two. Also, we must form new conceptions as well as mutually beneficial approaches.

**Dissipation cannot change; the civilization cannot lose.**

Some developed countries such as the United States take it for granted that since dissipation of the polar regions is inevitable, what the man should do is to use up the polar resources as soon as possible. Indeed, resources of any part of the world will be used and finally exhausted in the process of human development. Nevertheless, it is extremely undesirable to regard the Earth's Poles as warehouses for which it is desecration of human civilization.

Therefore, it is absolutely imperative for the mankind to solve the mystery of polar regions in advance and take measures to preserve these wonderful lands. As far as I am concerned, developed countries should show their power in both supplementing funds for polar scientific project and accelerating research progress so that a breakthrough could be achieved as soon as possible.

On the other hand, developing countries should participate in the polar research as well. As the saying goes "Many hands make light work", we have reason to believe that with tremendous efforts of all the countries in this world, the invaluable treasures of polar civilization could be completely preserved.

**To go extreme does not help; golden mean is not compromise.**

Not long ago, the United States has refused to sign the "Kyoto Protocol", continuing producing harmful gases. It clearly shows that America and other developed countries are still reluctant to give up self-interest which is to the opposite extreme of China's point of environmental protection. Under this circumstance, in order to solve the polar issues, we must figure out a solution which will be a compromise between the two points.

In the ancient time, Mencius who was one of the masters of Confucianism in China had proposed the viewpoint of "Golden Mean" which advocated that people use a mutually beneficial way to solve the problems. However, Golden Mean is not simply to combine the conceptions together, but a mutually beneficial way of thinking

Personally, I suggest that two parties work together and constantly share and exchange ideas. Besides the influence and power mentioned above, the two sides could also make cooperation in other industries in addition to the high polluting industries for it could not only make up for economic losses, but also ease the greenhouse effect and what's more it will imperceptibly help people get used to the "Green Economy". An old Chinese saying goes like this, "kill two birds with one stone"; however, by mutual cooperation we will kill three birds with one stone.

Education ranks the first among all business; teenagers are the

momentum for the development of science and technology.

Research and exploration of polar civilization is a tough and time-consuming systematic project which needs tremendous efforts of several generations or even more. Therefore, it is very important to vigorously develop education, to strengthen scientific and technological innovations and to train a generation of scientific research talents.

The scientific and technological strength of a country is closely linked with its national innovative ability. Therefore, we must add trainings of practical ability especially innovative ability education to the current quality-oriented education system. We should start training children for innovative ability and practicing awareness in their early age, cultivating them with scientific knowledge and encouraging them to resolve to devote themselves to the scientific research, thus converting population burdens into advantages and vigorously accelerating polar research process.

It is certainly not enough just to train the teenager's innovative ability and awareness. Thus, what we should do is to give them more opportunities for practice as well as high remuneration so as to fully arouse their enthusiasm which in turn help them realize full potential.

Many Chinese scientists who are now in charge of "Prydz Bay, Amery Ice Shelf and Dome A Observatories" (PANDA) are young and energetic among whom some are the young elite of the research institute

and some has won the government awards for many times. This undoubtedly shows that China has attached great importance to young researchers and our determination to solve the mystery of the polar regions.

To sum it up, I think that facing the serious polar issues, mankind has a long way to go. We should give up self-interests and sincerely cooperate with each other to explore the whole polar civilization. The deputy director of China's State Oceanic Administration, Chen Lianzeng has ever said: "Man should not damage the Earth's Poles only for the sake of our own interests. Every one of us should make contribution to the exploration of polar regions". This is the cry of mine, of China and of the world, the last cry for the polar civilization.