A Study on Group Events in Frontier Ethnic Areas Based on System Theory and Structure Model

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Abstract. This paper aims to be based on system theory to establish structure model, and closely integrated with the actual situation in the frontier ethnic areas. Through the analysis of the characteristics of structure model, predisposing factors and existing problems of group events in the frontier ethnic areas, then some targeted measures will be proposed. This not only has important theoretical significance but also has certain practical value to maintain the harmony and stability of the frontier ethnic areas.

1. Introduction
Group events are widespread in various social forms. Due to different social conditions, the structural characteristics and internal motivations of group events are also different. Therefore, domestic and foreign scholars have explained from different angles.

American sociologist Parker, in his book "Introduction to Sociology" published in 1921, defines the "collective behavior". He believes that "collective behavior" is "an individual that occurs under the collective promotion and influence of the collective." Behavior is an emotional impulse."[1] David Popno also pointed out that cluster behavior refers to "those that occur in a relatively spontaneous, unorganized, and unstable situation because of some general influence and encouragement."[2]

From the perspective of the development of the expression of group events, domestic scholars' understanding of group events is divided into five stages (as shown in Table 1).

| Time                        | Definition                  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1950s—1970s                 | Gathering People            |
| Early eighties to mid-eighties | Security Incident           |
| Late eighties to early nineties | Sudden Security Incident |
| From the late nineties to the early twenty-first century | Mass Policing             |
| Since 2004—                 | Group Events                |

To sum up, group incidents in the frontier ethnic areas refer to spontaneous or organized gatherings in order to achieve group behavior when their own interests or social affiliation are difficult to satisfy.
2. The structure model of motivation for group events in the frontier ethnic areas

![Figure A. The Structure Model of Motivation](image)

2.1. Political Factors
On the one hand, corruption is a serious problem, then government authority and image are damaged. At present, China's political system reform lags behind economic system reform, and the centralized management model has not been fundamentally changed. Therefore, the government still monopolizes and controls most public resources. The state cannot implement effective supervision over the operation of powers at all levels of government, making it difficult for government rent-seeking behavior to exercise effective restraint. On the other hand, the allocation of power is unreasonable and the ability to control society is weakened. In the process of government reform, the government’s functions in social management have changed. In frequent and extensive social activities, it is difficult to rely solely on the government's monitoring ability to discover and resolve social contradictions, leading to the focus of social contradictions and becoming the fuse of mass incidents.

2.2. Economic Factors
The process of reform and opening up is also a process of re-adjusting the pattern of interests. With the changes in the structure of social ownership and the way income is distributed, the gap between rich and the poor is gradually being separated between individuals, between industries, and between regions. At present, this gap has already increased the resistance to social development and lack of motivation, which has seriously affected the sound operation of the social economy. At the same time, certain specific interest disputes during the transition period (such as land issues, labor issues, demolition issues). These problems have intensified the contradictions among members of society and have evolved into group events.

2.3. Cultural Factors
In the period of social transformation in our country, the disharmony between organizational culture and political system has become increasingly prominent. On the one hand, the belief crisis is the underlying cause of inducing group events. During the period of social transformation, the traditional “collective consciousness” has been weakened and new professional ethics has not yet been established. This kind of crisis is manifested in the lack of objective scales in people's moral judgments, especially public officials who have a large amount of social resources, who abandon their beliefs and even harm the public interest in pursuit of personal interests. On the other hand, the crisis of trust is the direct cause of mass incidents. As the Western philosopher Shrimp Bock pointed out: "Trust is something we must protect, because it is like air and water. Once damaged, the society we live in will fall apart."[3] From the perspective of trust structure, based on the principal-agent relationship, the government's agency activities are supervised by the people, and social trust is based on the government's trust. The public distrust of the government will lead to serious political consequences.
2.4. Religious Factors
The taboos and habits in religious beliefs are the norms that the religious believers abide by. Once they appear disrespectful behaviors and words and deeds, or even inadvertent negligence, this will trigger a strong reaction of this part of the masses, then leading to mass incidents. There are also contradictions within the religion. The internal unity of religious groups in some places is not united, leading to the distrust of the believers to the leadership of the group, thus causing contradictions. In the understanding and implementation of the national religious policy, some grassroots departments have deviations, which make some policies not in place, infringe on the interests of religious people, and cause contradictions, which is also a factor that leads to mass incidents.

3. The prevention and control measures of group events in the frontier ethnic areas

3.1. Improving intelligence system
The establishment of an information warning center is based on a specialized intelligence organization, and strengthen communication between full-time organizations and grassroots units at the grassroots level. At the same time, it is necessary to develop intelligence personnel in different fields of society, who can be good at identifying original group events, and build a exchange network of comprehensive and closely-connected warning to ensure that the group events can be mastered at the first time.[4]

3.2. Constructing solution mechanism
When the government departments resolve contradictions and disputes, they should change their working ideas and change from passive to active. They need to be based on prevention, focus on the investigation of contradictions and disputes, actively find conflicts and actively resolve conflicts. In addition, we should make good use of the mass working environment, and we can rely on the influence and authority of those who are highly respected in the jurisdiction. In turn, the social management pattern of “point-and-face, face-to-face” is formed.

3.3. Enhancing emergency capabilities
First of all, early prevention. Government departments should give full play to the role of the intelligence early warning system, strengthen social control, and timely grasp and resolve the unstable factors that may induce group events. Secondly, emergency response. According to the instructions of the higher authorities, the public security department will arrive at the scene to maintain the order on the spot, and then do a good job in management and control. Finally, post processing. Government departments should do regular return visits and monitoring of incidents, conduct follow-up investigations, and prevent recurrence of incidents.[5]

3.4. Strengthening opinion control
For one thing, the government must strengthen communication with the media. By actively cooperating with the mainstream media, the government uses the media as a bridge to connect the public, and then builds a benign interaction chain between the government department and the media, and between the media and the public. For another thing, it is necessary to integrate official and folk public opinion fields. By opening special websites, Weibo, forums and Wechat public account, we will disclose event information in a timely manner, effectively avoiding public opinion risks and creating a benign social public opinion environment.

4. Conclusions
This paper analyzes the connotation and predisposing factors of group events in frontier ethnic areas, and systematically analyzes the status and problems of group events. Aiming at the problem, it puts forward suggestions from the aspect of intelligence system, solution mechanism, emergency capabilities, opinion control. These can play a certain role in the prevention and control of groups events.
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