

# Development and Significance of the Local Administration Reform and Local Autonomy in China

ZHANG Zhongren

This paper analyses development and significance of the local administration reform and local autonomy in China, and examines the research themes.

This study started from a project by special sciences education fund of the University of Shimane in 2004 and 2005, and got cooperation of Beijing City Shijingshang area municipal administration executive committee chief XU Weigong and particularly twice investigated about the “Big Community” for Bajiaobeilu community, and Beili community, and Haite community of Beijing City Shijingshang area, in August and November 2005. And, by research foundation of Organized by Foundation for North East Asian Relations, five research project members newly investigate for Beijing City Shijingshang area Lugu community, and about villagers’ committee in Yizhou city and Yangshuo county in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and gets many valuable documents, in August 2006.

This paper emphasizes the following many points mainly.

Development and of direct election for community and villagers’ committee of China are important in the global community that was able to include northeast Asian countries as well as society development of Chinese oneself.

Some interplays are seen in farm village part and urban region, as neighborhood office changes to “Big Community”, and government of town and township changes to representative office. villagers’ committee started than community early ten years after 1978. If we can say committee reform gets influence of villagers’ committee, then it means the local autonomy reform to village region, town and township changes to “Big Community”.

We examine about villagers’ committee of Yangshuo county Baisa town Guban village in an example. A demand of self-government appears after having accomplished economic development of a village, and villagers’ committee which we made by a direct election has an economic coalition organization. We can recognize it as a new model of villagers’ committee in this way. And, if we think theoretically, then we want to submit research themes of correlation with local affluence and local autonomy, pattern of local autonomy by local economic power.

# Villager Self-government and Village Politics: The Case of Hezhai Village, Pingnan Town, Yizhou City, Guangxi Zhuangzu Autonomous Region

TANG Yanxia

The village profit structure changed greatly after enforcement of a new “family-contract responsibility system”, which rapidly turned into a type of villager self-government. After 1990’s, a political reform and development of the village which assumed a direct election and self-government of villager central contents in China attracted attention in the academic community. This paper considers what kind of reforms influence the political power structure of the farm village from the viewpoints of society and the state in the region of Hezhai village, Pingnan town, Yizhou city, Guangxi Zhuangzu autonomous region.

The political power structure of Chinese village society has transformed by development of villager self-government since 1980’s. In other words it turned from unitary rule structure of the conventional power of the state into a dual power structure. The villager self-government performed well under the positive promotion from all levels of the government, and a tendency to sometimes strengthen the leadership of the party organization can be seen. However, villager self-government is the outcome of a demand for change for an ideal method of power placement in the village at the time. The people’s commune dismantled after carrying out the family-contract responsibility system in the village, and the farmer came to have economic freedom. Farmers must manage public office work in the farm village by oneself. Therefore, it was a self-government organization such as a villager committee was born. The direct election by the villager that changed the placement method of power resources of the village, and the executive officer of the village came to be chosen not by appointment of upper organization but by secret ballot of the villager. In addition, a voice of the villager for serious matter was given by representative villager meetings, and decision making of a public works project of the village came to be performed by agreement of the villager. As for these series of changes, the village heads in the direction that social space gradually expands by the retreat of the power of the state. Under the policy of “small government, large society”, a new state and social administration mechanism will be born in the future.

# A Study of Self-government by Residents in Chinese Cities

LI Xiaodong

In this paper, I consider the present state of self-government in a “community” (社区), by examining the case of the “big community” (大社区) establishment in Lugu, Shijingshan District, Beijing, and analyzing its problems and possibilities.

In the 1990s, as the “work-unit system”, which supported cities for many years, started to collapse in association with the reforms including the ones of state-owned enterprises in cities, work-unit people who had been relying on “units” were tossed out into the “society”. Nevertheless, such reforms also increased residents’ awareness of their rights.

Establishment of self-government relates to the following two questions: Firstly, how far can the state loosen its control of society? Secondly, how much interest can establishment of a community arouse among residents in order to allow them to identify themselves with the community? In other words, will establishment of self-government in “communities” become a step towards true self-government, or will it only play a role in tightening control by the state?

In the Lugu community, self-government was established on the level of “jiedao (block)”. The most significant result is the community representative assembly (社区代表会议). As most members of community representative assembly are composed of residents, its three main functions are as follows: 1) to drive residents to actively participate in building communities, 2) to ensure legal interests of residents, and 3) to monitor the government so that its administration will observe the law.

To be sure, since the Chinese Communist Party leads community representative assembly, self-government in “communities” is still in the beginning stages. However, this Party has at least institutionally endorsed a certain degree of self-government. No less important is the fact that the “community representative assembly” system and the residents’ growing awareness of rights will possibly generate multiplier effects. Residents’ active participation in self-government of their community can paradoxically further consolidate the institution.

## Some Corrections and Addendums to a Collection of Home Letters of Guo Moruo in his Days of Studying Abroad

GUO Pingying  
(LIU Jianyun transf.)

Guo Moruo (1892~1978) born in Sichuan Leshan, China, is a famous Chinese author, poet, historian, archaeologist, and government official. He left China to go to Japan to study in 1913, and graduated from Kyushu Imperial University in 1923. After foundation of People's Republic of China, he became the first President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and remained until his death in 1978.

There are a lot autobiographies, but it is almost a blank about a career among 1913–1918 years (equivalent to his high school days) in detail.

In August, 1981, Tang Mingzhong and Gao Wenbin edited 66 letters which Guo sent to his families during 1913–1923 to a collection of letters “Yinghua Shujian”, and it was published by Sichuan people publishing company.

Through these letters people know his dream, learning results, life taste, and family circumstances in the time of studying abroad times. It can offer valuable historical dates, and can fill up some blanks between Part 1 “boyhood” and Part 2 “school days” of his autobiography.

But, most of the manuscripts of 66 letters do not specify the year, and some of them do not clarify the dates. Therefore a historical investigation and an estimate of time become important, but it is not an easy thing. In this case an envelope and a postmark in a postcard become important evidence to judge time. However, for some letters, an envelope is not left, and there is not even a postmark to assume evidence. In this case, we must find any clue from contents of a letter. “Yinghua Shujian” makes a big effort with an aspect of a historical investigation in time, and arranged a total connection, but what we should reconsider is left.

In September 1992, a facsimile edition of “Yinghua Shujian” was published by Sanhuan publishing company. It offers convenience to confirmation of time and identification of the handwriting for the letters.

In this paper, based on handwriting of Guo at this facsimile edition, with reference of “Yinghua Shujian”, we make correction of time, introduce a letter which had been left out in the previous two editions.

# Public Sector Accounting and Governance for Regions

MATSUOKA Koichi

Developed and developing (aging) prefectures should first share a sense of fiscal crises, and then start with what can be done about fiscal reform. The main fiscal issue is that local economic circumstances are poor for those developing (aging) prefectures suffering from low income and decreasing populations.

Nowadays, despite the government's announcement that the nation's economy is in good recovery, local economies continue to founder, and there are no strong signs of an end to the deflation.

The central and local fiscal institutions have been plagued with the weight of bad loans and latent losses in their stock holdings, such as stock and land prices. This is the so-called Balance Sheet Deflation.

There is no more room left for the central and local governments to sit on their hands.

What should we do to stop the falling stockholding prices, break the vicious circle and help the whole nation realize sustainable growth?

We cannot help but feel gloomy in the face of the phenomenon of Balance Sheet deflation. The warning signs of falling asset prices seen on Balance Sheets should no longer be left unheeded, and time is running out.

The local governments need a new vision for the local (and central) state to serve as a guiding principle at a time of major change.

Central and local governments have accumulated long-term debts estimated at about 1,000 trillion yen as of the end of this fiscal year, about 2 times Japan's gross domestic product. We cannot pass on these huge debts to future generations. It may be too late. It seems to be a day after the fair.

That translates into 8 million yen of debt for every Japanese citizen, including newborns, and therefore fiscal rehabilitation is another issue that requires immediate attention.

Fiscal rehabilitation will be difficult to accomplish only with cuts in spending, largely because the constant growth of the local economy cannot be relied on.

The fiscal problem will only become worse because of economic injustices, such as the rich prefecture getting richer and the poor prefecture becoming poorer.

We must maintain a balance between benefits and burdens if we are to sustain our local societies. What our developing (aging) prefectures need is a growth strategy based on wiser choices and more effective policies than developed prefectures.

# The Difference between Commemoration Services and the Narratives of Former Settlers; Focusing on the Memories Related with the Evacuation

SAKABE Shoko

The goal of this thesis is to show the difference between collective memories and individual memories related with colonies and wars, in post war Japan. For this purpose, I would like to pick up the memories and narratives done by the former settlers of Manchuria (the north east region of People's Republic of China). According to the researches done in the past, there were 3 main themes. First, for it was a national authorized project, the political process of sending settlers to Manchuria was well examined. Second, there were also historical researches which are related to land plunders. Third, sociological researches done by using interviews were also important. But I must strongly insist that these sociological researches had a serious problem. These interviews were trying to collect the facts of the settlers. As a result, they couldn't pick up the meaning of the colonial experience which meant to them. And also, I have to mention that the difference of the collective memories and individual memories were not examined enough.

In this thesis, I will argue about the point I have mentioned above, by the following procedures. First, I will make a general survey on the historical details of Manchuria settlers, from settlement to evacuation, by using the case of Nagano. Second, for the purpose of examining the characteristics of colonial commemoration services in post war Japan, I have researched the epitaph, and understood it as a nationalism symbol. Third, by focusing on the narratives done by the former settlers, I have used letters, which were written by former settlers, published on the journal of Yasuoka Village(Nagano Prefecture), and also done interviews to people who are concerned in Manchuria as well. By this method, I have picked up narratives related with Manchuria which was not mentioned in post war Japan.

The Manchuria settlement was nothing but a historical tragedy. One third of the Japanese settlers had died in Manchuria. But I must insist that these historical experiences were not analyzed enough in the discourse circle of post war Japan. Of course, when we try to examine this problem, we must realize that there was a historical turning point in the macroscopic view, such as the collapse of the colonial order. But at the same time, we must also consider the historical cognitions of the individual settlers. By surveying there

narratives about their past, we can recognize that they are changing their cognitions, especially in the self-referential narratives.