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Modernity in East Asia: Globalization and Japanese Colonialism

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1 Transformation of Financial System

2 Transport System

3 Official Statistical System
Transformation of Financial System

Transformation of Taiwan’s Financial System: The Historical Significance of Goto Shinpei’s Fiscal Reform in the Early Japanese Colonial Period 1898–1905

Wen-Kai LIN
Main arguments

- It was Goto Shinpei, not Liu Ming-chuan (劉銘傳), who modernized Taiwan’s land right and land tax system.
- Goto Shinpei’s reform in tariff, commodity tax and monopoly was better than Liu Ming-chuan because it was able boost industrial development of Taiwan.
- Goto Shinpei’s reform had colonial features, i.e., Taiwanese was not regarded as the central subject, yet it was important to Taiwan’s modernization.
Colonial features

• Taiwan’s government finance system have certain colonial features (p. 29): i.e., some resources in Taiwan were transferred to mainland Japan

• True, yet there were policies that were contradictory to colonial features

• Some policies were aimed to benefit Japanese, yet it was beneficial to Taiwanese as well

• Two examples below
• From 1896 to early 1910s, there was big transfer from Japan to Taiwan
• Difference between current account (經常帳) and net export was Japan’s transfer to Taiwan. Source: 山本有造 (1992)
Japan’s sugar policy

- 矢内原忠雄 (1929) (Yanaihara): Taiwan Sugar Empire (台灣糖業帝國)
- Japan’s import substitution policy for sugar was beneficial to Taiwan’s sugar producers (most of them were Japanese), yet it was beneficial to Taiwan’s cane farmers
- It is difficult to have a complete and balanced assessment since there were transfers to Japan as well as from Japan
Transport System

Effects of Modern Transport System during the Japanese-ruled Period: Focusing on Grain Transport

Chia-Hao CHEN and Lung-Pao TSAI
Main findings

- With the building of push car railway system and sugar mill railway system, together with the North-south railway line, a modern transportation system was established around 1910 in Taiwan.
- Effects: transportation cost reduced, an integrated market emerged, in-land trade and foreign trade (with Japan) increased.
New system

- The paper focuses on tea and rice in the northern and central parts of Taiwan
- What were the effects of the new system?
- The authors show that with the new system, transportation center changed from location A to location B, and freight tonnage increased
Effects

- It might be useful to look into land prices
- and check if tea and rice production increased with the new transportation system
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>1897</th>
<th>1902</th>
<th>1907</th>
<th>1912</th>
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<tr>
<td>大溪</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>桃園</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>南投</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>阿緱</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 大溪 land price down relative to 桃園 price up
- 阿緱 (a sugar production center in Southern Taiwan) land price up is especially impressive
- Unit: 圓/坪; Source: 臺灣總督府財務局 (1916), 附屬表, 2冊之1, pp. 19–27
Sugar mill railway: Pingtung

- 1905–1935 (sugar year): cane production growth rate 8.50%
- Only those areas with railway passing would grow canes for the new-style mills
- Source: 吳聰敏與樊家忠 (2017)
The Establishment of an Official Statistical System in Taiwan under Japanese Colonial Rule

Pei-hsin LIN
Official Statistical System

- This paper studies the establishment of the official statistical system during the Japanese period, focusing on population census.
- But government statistics cover much more, it maybe useful to provide some information about other areas of statistics.
Government statistics

- 《總督府統計書》第9, 明治38年 (1905):
  土地, 氣象, 戶口, 教育, 社寺, 裁判, 警察, 監獄, 農業, 漁業, 鑤業, 工業, 商業及金融, 貿易, 交通, 專賣, 衛生, 財政, 公官吏, 慈惠及救濟, 恩賞

- 21 sections, total 1,091 pages
Population and land

- First population census: 1905
- First land census (cadaster): 1898–1905
- Why GGT (Government-General of Taiwan) wanted to do both at the same time?
- To establish a land right system—who owns which land?
  - Who: population census
  - Land: land census
- As a result, in 1905 Taiwan established a most advanced land right system in the world
Some minor comments

• “Statistics never developed in Taiwan until the arrival of Japanese colonial rule” (p. 1): Dutch Taiwan had a very good statistical system: population of aborigines, land area measurement, tax income, and so on

• “Family income and expenditure survey”, Tables 2 and 3 (pages 18–19): May cite 總督府官房企畫部 (1940), instead of 台灣時報 (1937.9)
Development of statistical system after WWII (p. 20–21): US Aid program (to Taiwan) probably played an important role, eg., the establishment of Taiwan’s National Income Account
山本有造 (1992), 《日本殖民地經濟史研究》, 名古屋: 名古屋大學出版會。

矢内原忠雄 (1929), 《帝國主義下の台灣》, 東京: 岩波。

(Yanaihara, Tadao (1929) Taiwan Under Imperialism, Tokyo: Iwanami Shote.)

吳聰敏與樊家忠 (2017), “纏足與失蹤婦女,” 臺大經濟系。

臺灣總督府財務局 (1916), 《臺灣宅地租調查事業成績報告書》,台北: 臺灣總督府民政部財務局。

(Sütokufu (1918) Reports of the Result of the Investigation of Taiwan’s Residential Properties, Taipei: Bureau of Finance, Sütokufu.)

總督府官房企畫部 (1940), 《家計調查報告》, 台北: 總督府官房企畫部。