
Abstract

A Study of Japanese Small Suppliers' Market Exploration in China: From the Perspective of the Overseas Expansion of Japan's Production System

Ding Ke

This paper discusses the current situation of Japanese small suppliers' market exploration in China from the perspective of the overseas expansion of Japan's production system. Currently, most small suppliers have Japanese manufacturers as their main customers. However, a few firms have begun to sell products to non-Japanese firms. Japan's production system has gradually become integrated with other countries' production systems. The small firms that trade with non-Japanese firms can be categorized into two types: the "international group" and the "status quo group." The international group not only actively promotes localization but also takes advantage of Japanese-style business practices. In this process, various types of technological information have flowed to customers, which has significantly contributed to the latter's growth.

Abstract

An Inquiry into the Succession and Education of the Offspring of Small Business Owners: The Case of an Industrial Cluster in a Suburb of Hanoi

Yuki Higuchi and Tetsushi Sonobe

This paper analyses the factors associated with the educational and career choices of the adult children of small business owners by using primary data collected in an industrial cluster in Vietnam. Based on differently specified logit regressions, we find that educated children are less likely to succeed to the family business. Consistent with the Beckerian model of the family, children's choices are strongly influenced by their parents so that those who have parents with a low education, more patience, or a strong willingness to compete are more likely to succeed to the business. However, because there also exists the option to succeed by starting up a new business in the same industry as their parents, the preference for a male child and sibling rivalry around this question of succession, which are common phenomena in developed countries, are not observed in Vietnam.

Abstract

The Chinese Resource-Driven Development Model by Village Collectives Revisited: Evidence from the Northwest Oasis Farming Region

Nanae Yamada

In rural China, where small-scale farmers form a majority, organizing farmers or enlarging farms' size are major development policy targets. In this study, the author focuses on the administrative and social unit called the village collective, which is formally determined to be the owner of rural resources, including farmland, under China's unique socialist public ownership system. This article is based on a case study of an oasis farming region in Gansu province. It analyzes how each village collective (1) benefits from their business by mobilizing inner resources and participating in outer economic opportunities like contract farming, (2) makes communal decisions on changing inner resource allocation and public participation, and is also a witness to (3) how the economic utility of villagers has changed. It is proved that villages with abundant economic opportunities increased villagers' utility by accumulating collective land plots and participating in contract farming, which led to villagers being better off. On the other hand, those with fewer economic opportunities manage their resources efficiently by balancing inner labor and land resources by accumulating abundant farmland to lend to a handful of large scale farmers by whom the rent paid is distributed to villagers equally as social security; while most of the younger population are engaged in off-farm jobs in distant cities. Finally, the author points out that two factors that have enabled collectives to mobilize inner resources are the higher expected benefit from the organizational management of resources and the villagers' trust in their leader's corporate management skills.

Abstract

Hanoi Inhabitants under French Colonial Rule: The Case of Merchants and the Craftsmen Classes during the 1930s

Tomokazu Okada

This article examines the social structure of Hanoi under French colonial rule during the 1930s by analyzing its streets, districts and population, especially its merchants and craftsmen. The author analyzes (1) urbanism in Hanoi and the city's population and nationalities around the turn of the 19th century in three *quartier*-communities (the French, Native and New), (2) the commercial and industrial policies of the French colonial authority, which aimed to administer both individual and public activities in Hanoi, and (3) the electoral roll during the 1930s and a patient roll of about 5,460 persons from 1936. These documents reveal that merchants and the craftsmen classes played an important role in the Hanoi society of the time. New notables, who replaced the old village chiefs in Hanoi, were incorporated into the French colonial system, but relics of the old commercial and industrial groups, like the *guilds*, can be seen in the social relationships that existed inside the old quarter of Hanoi in 1936. The author ends the article with a hypothetical perspective on the general solidarity of the masses in Hanoi, whether among the middle class or the working class or both, during the big strike movement that was led by the Indochinese Communist Party during the period of the Indochinese Democratic Front (1936-1939).

Abstract

A Study of Coal Transportation from the Fushun Coalmine by the South Manchuria Railway around the 1920s

Masafumi Miki

The purpose of this paper is to clarify the transportation of coal in the 1920s by analyzing the changes in the destinations concerned. Coal was one of the most important materials transported by the South Manchuria Railway during this period. The South Manchuria Railway Company had owned the Fushun Coalmine since 1907. Since there were fears that the coal mined there could catch fire in transit, by the first half of the 1920s, most of it had to be sold in Manchuria (Northeast China). However, the coal was then increasingly exported overseas and to other domestic areas in the latter half of the 1910s. The South Manchuria Railway company had a fee structure that attracted large amount of freight to Dalian. However, there is little competition among other transportations in Manchuria, it only needed to be conscious of the coal market inside Japan. Since the distribution of the company's coal in the southern areas of Manchuria, including North China, was limited to the coast of the Shandong Peninsula, it was very hard to break into North China's coal markets. Coal mined in the Fushun Coalmine was only sent to the Kyōmipho steel plant (in North Korea now) and other destinations in Korea by train while other shipments went by sea from the port of Dalian. Although cargo handling initially depended on coolie laborers in Dalian, mechanization was established in the 1930s with the completion of the Gangjing wharf.