



Some Problems on Modernization of Japan after Meiji Reformation -Especially Concerning her Relations with Asian Countries

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Abstract

In the old days, Takeuchi Yoshimi, a famous researcher of Chinese literature, had ever pointed out that the modernization of Japan after Meiji Reformation was the one from the above, supported by the bottom of people, while the modernization of China was the one from the above, not supported by the bottom of people. Certainly, it seems that the modernization from the above was so pragmatic, so reasonable, so speedy that they could arrive so easily at the modern society like the one of Europe. But according to Takeuchi, such an easy modernization didn't contribute to anything no more than to produce the contempt to Asia as a reaction to the blind praise to Europe. After all, it means that modernization could not be possible without a painstaking resistance. Looking back to the lost 30 years after the collapse of Bubble economy arisen at the end of eighties, we can understand that his prophet is by no means wrong. Recently someone says the economy trapped in a minus growth Japanization(for example William Pesek). Surely, we don't want to admit such a assertion, but we must receive it for the forthcoming improvement, as long as such an expression gives us a good suggestion to run away from the lost thirty years. However, what is suitable for Japan, might be applied for the other Asian Countries. I would like to refer to this problem of modernization not only economically and politically, but also ideologically and culturally.

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