

Can rural Industrilization contribute to Development

Abdelaziz LAICHE

Département de sociologie

Universite Mentouri

Constantine

ملخص:

يهدف هذا المقال إلى ابراز مفهوم التنمية في بلدان العالم الثالث، على أنه عملية ضرورية لتحويل مظهر البلاد من التخلف إلى الرقي، وذلك باتباع سياسة ما يعرف بالقفزة الكبرى". انتاه الزعيم الصيني MAO TSETUNG إلى أن اقتصاد بلاده يركز على رجل واحدة، الاهتمام بالقطاع الزراعي على حساب القطاع الصناعي فكان التحويل العميق والعمل على الوقوف على الرجلين، فكانت بداية قوة عالمية و الدخول إلى السوق الدولية من الباب الواسع.

يهدف هذا المقال إلى ابراز مفهوم التنمية في بلدان العالم الثالث، على أنه عملية ضرورية لتحويل مظهر البلاد من التخلف إلى التقدم والرقي، وذلك باتباع تطبيق سياسة ما يعرف بالقفزة الكبرى "Great Leap". لقد انتبه الزعيم الصيني ماو تسي تونغ إلى أن اقتصاد بلاده يقف على رجل واحدة Tanding on one Foot أي أنه يعتمد على القطاع الزراعي و أهمال القطاع الزراعي. وللدخول إلى السوق العالمية بقوة، عمل الزعيم الصيني على إرساء القطاع الصناعي وتدعيمه مثل القطاع الزراعي، فكانت بداية التحول العميق للصين، إذ تعد اليوم قوة اقتصادية عالمية، تقف على رجلين كما وضعها زعيمها ماو تسي تونغ.

✓ In my essay, I shall attempt to answer the question of ‘‘ How can rural industrialization contribute to development ‘‘.

✓ I will rely in China’s experience to provide a coherent essay .

Following, ROSTOW’s (1) Analysis of the role of agriculture in development, I shall try to elaborate the approach of agriculture and industrialization. He argues that agriculture must supply more food which is needed to meet the rise in population and to meet also the foreign exchange bill for capital development. In fact industry is not likely to have established a sufficiently large and productive base to earn enough foreign exchange to meet, the increment in the nation’s food bill via increased imports.(2)

✓ However, the rate of increase in output in agriculture may set the limit within which the transition to modernization proceeds.

✓ Until recently, the performance of the agricultural section in less developed countries had been very disappointing, food production per head hardly rise, but since the mid –fifties, however agricultural productivity has picked up and presents less of a worry than formerly. This according to THIRWALL.,(3)

✓ The quickest and cheapest way to raise productivity will depend on the reasons for low productivity. If for example, low productivity is associated with a high ratio of labour to land, productivity could probably to increased substantially by small application of capital in the form of drainage, schemes, fertilizers...If on the other hand, low productivity is associated with the opposite situation of a high ratio of land to labour, the solution to low productivity is likely to involve much larger quantities of capital for labour to work with.

✓ Moreover, most of the present less developed countries have high ratios of labour to cultivate land in contrast to many of today’s most advanced countries at an equivalent stage in their economic history [AMERICA, CANADA, AUSTRALIA].

✓ SCHULDZ has argued that the low productivity in agriculture, is due more to an absence of specific factor inputs, such as research and education than a shortage of reproducible capital as such. He asserts that the most practical and economic approach to achieving sizeable increases in agricultural productivity lies in

enhancing the efficiency of the existing agricultural economy through improvements in the quality of imports, and by the application of advances in knowledge and modern technology on a broad front. Also SCHULDZ argues that it is traditional agriculture which is the cause. Agricultural research, and investment in man to improve human capabilities in agriculture, have been readily neglected. He [SCHULDZ] then points to the rapid rise of agricultural productivity in JAPON and TAIWAN in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries which was due to forms of "technical progress", that are taken for granted in the developed countries; for example, the application of fertilizers and the selection and cultivation of high-yield crops, with the so called green revolution, the scope for yield increases has become widespread in less developed countries, and rates of return on investment in new technologies and varieties of seed are now enormous. Mexican "dwarf" wheat is testimony to the impact that technology can have on the productivity of the agricultural sector.(4)

- ✓ As I have already mentioned, my essay will be illustrated by China model, so the development of agriculture and the balance between food and population in CHINA are fundamental economic problems. Although agriculture accounts for only a quarter of the national product, it is still the main determinant of the standard of living and the principal occupation of at least seventy per cent of the population .
- ✓ Agriculture also determines the progress of industry because industry needs both agricultural raw material and food for its wont force. The failure of agriculture supply these halts and later reversed the industrial progress of the 1950. After 1960 new emphasis was placed on agriculture, and the slogan "Agriculture is the foundation of the economy" has remained a central Chinese economic policy ever since, mainly because in 1958 the Chinese communist leadership launched the so called "great leap" with the aim of increasing production on all economic fronts at an

imprecisely high rate. As a result, the nation plunged into a deep economic crisis. The Great Leap Forward, lasting about two

years was abandoned in 1960 after the country had been affected by a prolonged and serious growth crisis.

- ✓ This lesson made the Chinese communist leaders think twice; this agriculture can be developed technologically. Japan stands as a remarkable example of a traditional rural economy transformed by modern technological inputs, fertilizer, electrification, small-scale farm machinery, and so on. MAO-TSE-TUNG and his colleagues believed that they had discovered a substitute for technique. The power of organization and liberated energies of spiritual transformation, coupled with the industry could take over and help agriculture even greater heights. However, the communes as concerned in 1958 failed, but then remain in a modified form after Mao knows that the transformation of the peasant is a slow process, that it cannot be done by organization and spiritual transformation alone. Education and capital investment are necessary.
- ✓ This, in contrast to STALINE, who regarded the peasantry mainly as a source of surplus for industrialization. Mao believes that the spiritual transformation of the peasantry and the material transformation of agriculture are vital to China's survival and growth. I shall not develop the idea of the land reform its result, but it seems to me that it is important to introduce the theme of collectivization and communes. The communes were not only a new administrative unit or a method of decentralizing the location of industry. They were primarily exercises in agrarian socialism, in collective Paban, a collective way of life, a method of bringing new activities to the village. They were also a means of improving the division of labor in the agricultural sector. The advantages of large-scale cooperation for irrigation and canal building and for water conservation works were reorganized; and in 1957, saw the merger of cooperative into embryonic communes in some areas, by September 1958, after official approval for this kind of development, the 150000 agricultural cooperatives had become

organized into 23.384 communes embracing 90 percent of peasant households. Their size varied from 5000 to 100.000 people.

✓ However E.L WHEELWRITH argues that there are no differences between communes and cooperatives. For Chinese communist leader the strategy in agriculture was to extend collectivization gradually, by stages, and the movement toward cooperative advanced slowly until the intervention of Mao Tse Tung, who feared a reversion to capitalist agriculture for Mao : “ The spontaneous forces of capitalism have been steadily growing in the country side in recent years, [He meant 1955 – 1956] with new rich peasants springing up everywhere, and many well to do middle peasants striving to become rich peasants. On the other hand, many poor peasants are still living in poverty for lack of sufficient means of production ... It is argued that the question of agricultural co-operation was an ideological document aimed to encourage the mutual aid teams to develop into cooperatives and to reduce the role of the private peasant. He also pointed out: “ If we cannot solve the problem of agricultural co-operation in a period of roughly three five year plans, that is to say, if agriculture cannot make a leap from small – scale farming with animal drawn farm implements to large-scale mechanized farming, including extensive state organized land reclamation, by settlers using machinery, then we shall fail to resolve the contradiction between the ever increasing need for staple grain and industry raw material, and the present generally low yield of staple crops, we shall run into formidable difficulties in socialist industrialization and shall be unable to complete it”.

- ✓ The cooperatives which became the basic economic unit in the country side had several economic advantages:
- They could mobilize the simple power available in the stock seasons, especially on small – scale irrigation works at the village level the building of ditches, ponds, canals, small dams and reservoirs.
 - The cooperatives can marshal the savings of its members. The risk of failure also is shared.

- The cooperative can effect more rational management of agriculture, by the pooling of small fragmented plats into fields of a more economic size.
- The cooperative can develop a better social security system.

✓ But the central problem of cooperatives every where has been to provide efficient management, especially where the population is largely illiterate. As a result of these cooperatives, the official statistics indicated that over the period of the five year plan, the gross output value of agriculture increased 24.7 percent. The output of food grains increased by 19.8 percent. As the population increased by about 11 percent, this would represent about 9 percent, increase in per capita food grain production or an annual rate of about 1.5 percent, per year. Some western economist, while broadly accepting these statistics argue that the real increase in crop, and live stock production occurred between 1952 – 1956, but agriculture stagnation had already commenced in 1953. Moreover it is argued that. “ The Chinese communists did not try to begin the large scale mechanization of agriculture in the first five year plan period and this was sound economic policy.”.

✓ Mao himself said: “ to complete, fundamentally the technological revolution in agriculture on a material scale, I reckon that form a five year plans will be necessary, a twenty to twenty five years. ‘F. SCHURMANN’” argues that this meat that little capital could be diverted to agriculture during that period of intensive industrialization. Organized hand Pabom alone would have to be used to achieve greater agricultural output. However the great leaps which first was issued in the politics of “standing on one leg “ that is to Sony industry was to changed after the cries of 1960 to the policy of “ Walking on two legs [industry and agriculture] and I believe that is a good reason why Chinese leadership divided to rely on agriculture and to industrialize this sector by introducing the so called mural industry and the linkages between agriculture and industry.

✓ JON SIGMDSON pointed out that the Chinese approach to linking rural industry with agriculture requires : Technology from

the modern industrial sector and skilled man power which are important aspects to the development of China. Two objectives are expected from rural industrialization.

First,

1. It has to produce [iron, farm machines, fertilizer, building material...].

Second,

2. Rural industry has to provide spare parts to repair these machines and tools. Following SIGURDSON analyses, a third objective consisting in making use of scrap and waste from big factories. This rural industry exercises, a primary influence on agriculture if not the means, and provides a basis for future mechanization. It has been stated [information given by a cadre in the Shanghai municipality forming bureau in 1971] that China should be able to achieve basic mechanization of her agriculture by 1980.
- ✓ There are also two reasons for the mechanization of Chinese agriculture.

First

3. economic reason as : - the timing of many agricultural tasks requires machinery in order to achieve optimal results.
4. The large – scale introduction of land – saving innovations such as multiple cropping and close planting regime more man power, so that certain tasks must be machines.
5. It is economically rational to replace human and animal power by machine power.
6. Labor saving innovations such as the use of herbicides for weeding can be profitable.

Second

1. Iron economic reasons for agricultural mechanization as:
2. It creates the basis for more advanced forms of social organization in the Chinese countryside.

3. The necessity of local formation of industrial skills and industrial capability, which takes places alongside the mechanization of agriculture.

✓ However for a belts understanding, I have thought to introduce a brief discussion concerning linkages between rural industry and agriculture; Sugurdson who gave a good interpretation of linkage sees it in there stages.

First stage:

1. Rural industry is introduced as a transmission belt for knowledge between modern industry and agriculture. Even though

the linkage with modern industry is mainly a more way relationship; but the linkage between agriculture and rural industry is characterized by a mutual relationship.

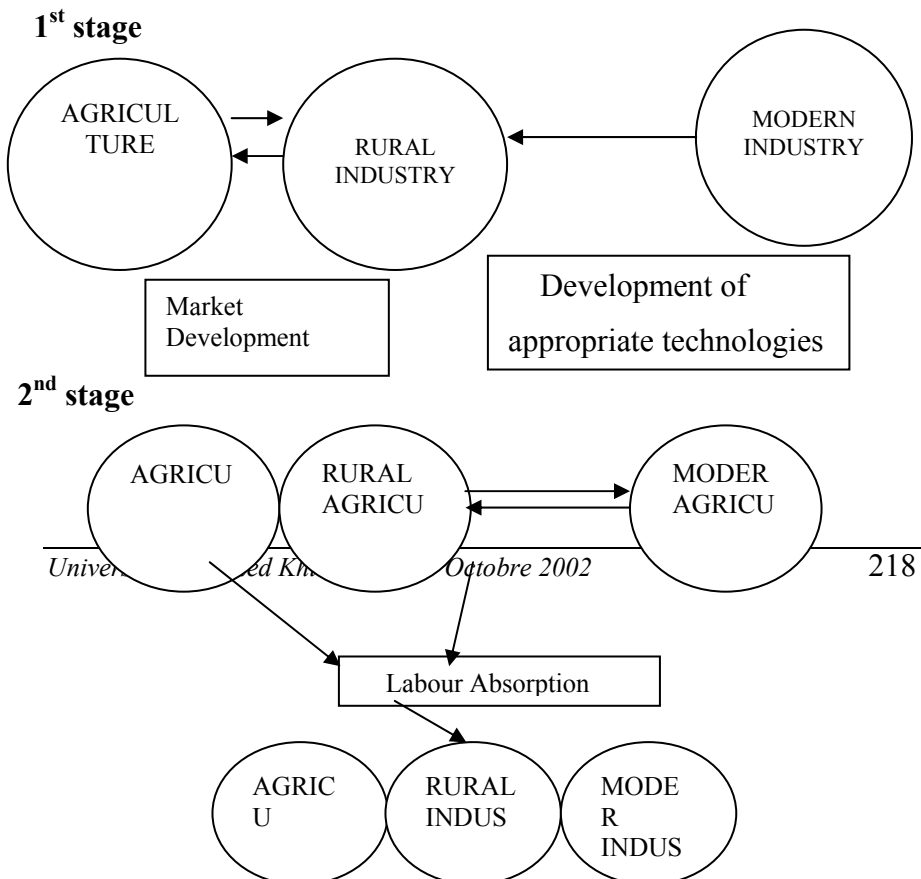
Second stage:

2. In this stage, rural industry and agriculture become portly integrated, agriculture supply industry with ram materials, and rural industry processing much of the rural form produce.

Third stage:

3. Rural industry and modern industry become integrated because some production is shifted from the modern sector to the rural industry sector .

See this figure:



3rd stage

- ✓ Moreover, the objectives of rural industry will of course be more or less comprehensive according to local conditions. The availability of raw material is particularly controlled because so far as the production of the chemical fertilizer and iron for making farm tools and machines is concerned, this is in most countries, usually subsidized through the profits made on light industrial products. This in China's case, the communes which are well off can afford to spend more money on consumer goods which meant to give more profits, so that the well-to-do communes are indirectly supporting the poorer which benefit equally from the fertilizer and iron produced.
- ✓ In January 1972, for instance, the Chinese press reported that 66 % of chemical fertilizer production comes from small and medium enterprises. HERE SIGURDSON argues that it is difficult to find out how much development there has been in the rural industry, and how far the repair and manufacturing networks has been expanded, but there can be no doubt that rural industrialization has reached a considerable level of development, even if there are marked geographical differences.
- ✓ Again as for as China is concerned this rural industrialization which led the countryside and agriculture to development can be called a new great leap in modern China. However, the development of rural industry in China can be evaluated according to some writers by a number of different criteria such as
 4. Capital accumulation .
 5. The creation of employment.

6. The creation of new relation between cities and countryside.
- ✓ The encouragement of small – scale industries in rural areas in China is today an essential element of regional development. Even though some argues that the China rural industry is not a HOMOGENEOUS concept and there is an increasing regional differences which tend to be difficult to trundle especially when the rate of economic growth in agriculture is slow as a conclusion to my essay, I will refer to this quotation: “ We have done better than the soviet union and a member of east European countries, the prolonged failure of the soviet union to reach the highest pre-October revolution lever in grain output, the grave problems

anscing from the glaring disequilibrian between the development of heavy industry and that of light industry in some East European countries, such problems do not exist in our country . their top-sided stress on heavy industry to the neglect of agriculture and light industry. We have all long attended to and develop agriculture and have to considerable degree ensued the supply of grain and ram materials necessary for the development of industry.

NOTES:

- W.W. ROSTW “ The stage of economic growth “ 1971 PP 17 – 35
1. I bid P 23
 2. A. P. THIRWALL “ growth a development “ 1972 PP 72 – 74
 3. I bid P74 – 75
 4. SCHURMANN SCHELL “ communist China “ 1967 PP 167 – 169
 5. WHEELWRIGHT “ The Chinese road to socialism “ 1970 PP 36 – 35
 6. MAO TSE TUNG “ The question of agricultural cooperation “ test in E.L WHEELWRIGHT
 7. I bid PP 37 – 38
 8. WHEELWRIGHT “ Opert “ PP 39 – 40

9. J. SEGURDSON " Rural industry and the internal transfer of technology " test in S.R. SCRAM "Authority participation and cultural change in China" PP 199-232
10. I bid PP 201
11. I bid PP 204
12. I bid PP 208
13. I bid PP 209-209
14. MAO TSE TUNG " Selected works " vol 5 PP 285

REFERENCES:

1. F. SCHURMANN et O. SCHELL [EDITED] " Communist China" 1967
2. S. R. SCHRAM [EDITED] " Authority participation and cultural change in China" 1973
3. N. MAXWEL [EDITED] " China's road to development" 1979
4. A. P. THIRWALL " Growth et development "
5. E. L. WHEELWRIGHT " The Chinese road to socialism" 1970
6. W. W. ROSTOW " The stage of economic growth " 1971
7. MAO TSE TUNG " Selected works " vol 05 1977