

# CHINA

Geography of Economic Change

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# Ten Major Geography Qualities of China

1. China's population represents over **one-fifth of all humanity**
2. China is one of the world's oldest continuous civilizations
3. China's civilization developed over a long period in considerable **isolation**, protected by physiographic barriers and by sheer distance from other source areas

## Ten Major Geography Qualities of China

4. The Chinese state and national culture evolved from a core area that emerged in the north, near the present capital of Beijing (Peking). China's **culture hearth** has remained there ever since
5. **Foreign intervention** had disastrous impacts on Chinese society, from European colonialism to Japanese imperialism. Intensified regionalism and territorial losses are only two of the many resulting afflictions.

## Ten Major Geography Qualities of China

6. China occupies the **eastern flank of Eurasia**. Its sphere of influence was reduced by Russian expansionism in East Asia.
7. China's enormous **population** is strongly **concentrated** in the country's **eastern regions**. Western zones remain comparatively empty and open, and are also more arid and far less productive.

## Ten Major Geography Qualities of China

8. China's communist-designed transformation after 1949 involved unprecedented regimentation and the imposition of effective central authority, with results that are perhaps permanently imprinted on the cultural landscape.
9. China's recent modernizing drive notwithstanding, the country remains a **dominantly rural society** with limited urbanization and industrialization.

## Ten Major Geography Qualities of China

10. Rural China is a land of **enduring traditions**. Neither the Communist Revolution nor the modernization drive has truly changed the villager's way of life. Many old values persist, and the teachings of Kongfuzi (Confucius) are still remembered.

# People's Republic of China

- 1949
  - COUNTRY WAS NOT INDUSTRIAL
  - DEVASTATED BY JAPANESE INVATION AND CIVIL WAR
  - MOST MANUFACURING WAS SMALL SCALE AND GEARED TO LOCAL CONSUMPTION
  - LARGE TEXTILE AND STEEL MILLS ON COAST OWNED BY FOREIGNERS, ESPECIALLY IN NORTHEAST, IN THE JAPANESE COLONY

# People's Republic of China

- 1960s
  - MASSIVE INDUSTRIALIZATION PROGRAM BEGAN WITH THE ASSISTANCE FROM THE USSR
  - UNTIL 1978 ALL PRODUCTION FOCUSED ON LOCAL MARKET
  - STATE AND PARTY HAVE ABSOLUTE CONTROL

# Four Modernizations

1. Rapid modernization and mechanization of agriculture
2. Upgrade military
3. Modernization of industry
4. Development of science, technology, and medicine

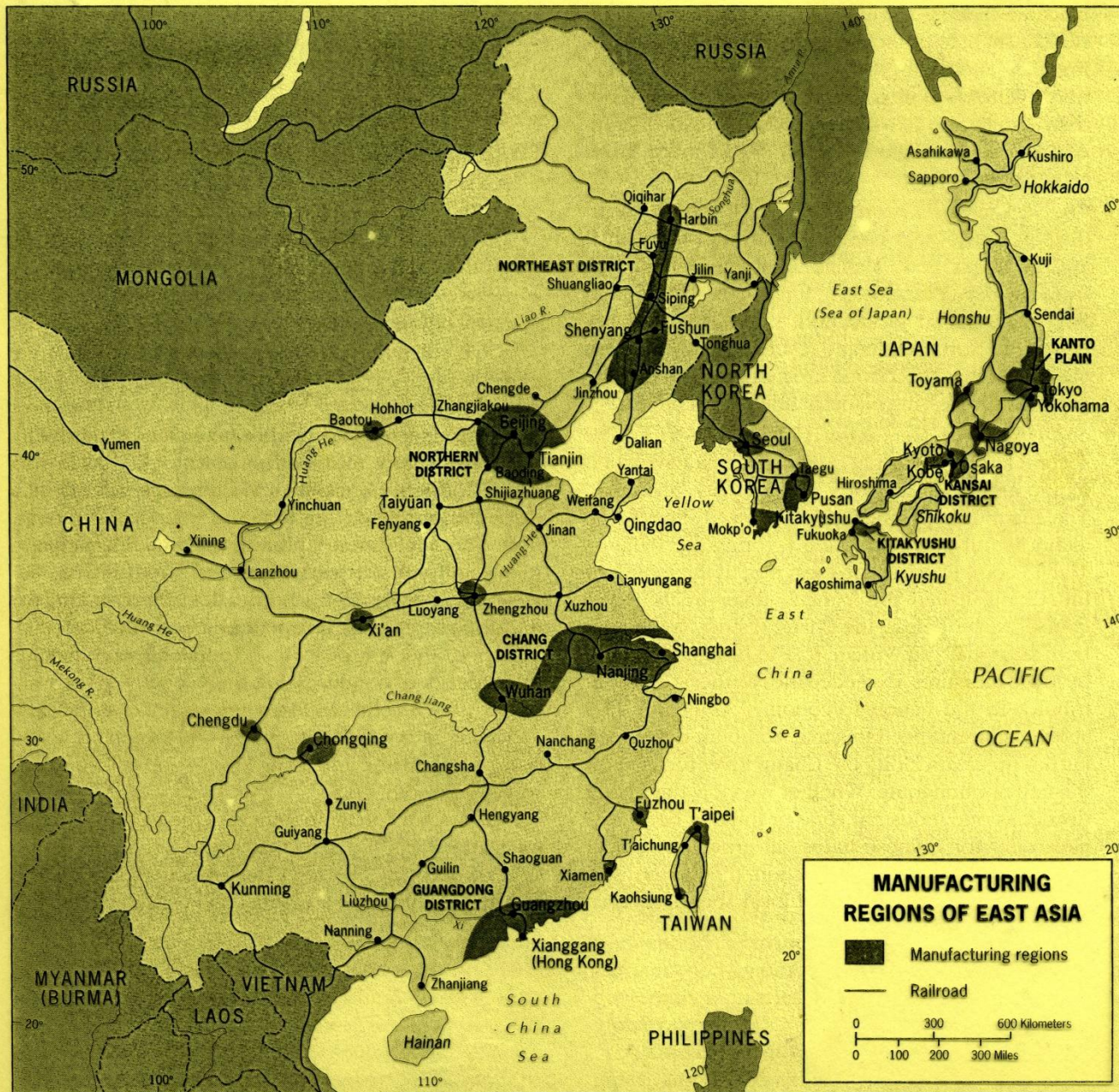
- Term from Mao Zedung
  - Isolation
- Use capitalists

# People's Republic of China

- 1984 INDUSTRIAL REFORM
  - MANAGERS FREE TO SIGN CONTRACTS, HIRE AND FIRE WORKERS
  - PRICE AND WAGE SYSTEM INSTALLED
- PRODUCTION INCREASED 10% PER YEAR DURING MID 1980s
- 5 MILLION ENTERPRISES, COUNTRY SIDE FACTORIES OPERATED BY COLLECTIVES, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ENTREPRENEURS

# Spatial pattern of development

- Special economic and trade zones
- Coastal region of South China
- Pear River Delta area



**Figure 25-5 East Asia's Major Manufacturing Regions.** For decades, the Northeast was China's most rapidly growing industrial area. Now the Chang District is taking the lead.

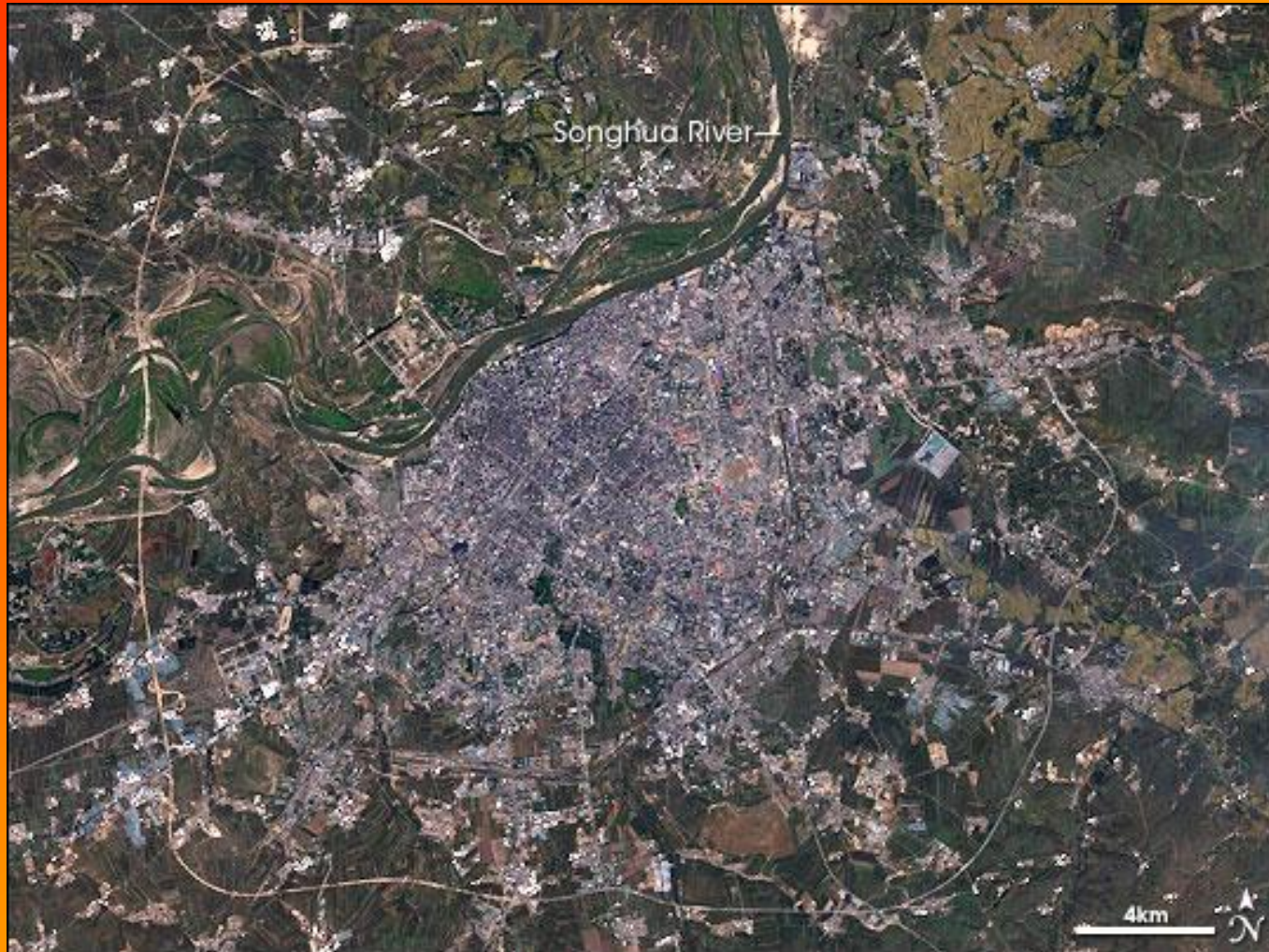
# South China link in Global Trade



# People's Republic of China

- 1989
  - PRODUCTION DECLINE
  - WESTERN INVESTMENT SLOWED
  - HONG KONG AND JAPAN CONTINUE TO INVEST
  - COUNTRY POSSES RICE AND DIVERSIFIED RAW MATERIAL BASE
  - DISCONTINUOUS INDUSTRIAL REGION: HARBIN TO GUANGSHOU

# Harbin



# 1990s era of massive urban restructuring

- Infrastructure rebuilt
- Development of the Yangtze River Delta
- 1992 Deepening of commitment to reform
- 1997 Hong Kong Special Administrative Zone

# 2000s

- Post coastal reform
- Development of west
- Consumer revolution
- Shift from cities as centers of production to centers of consumption
- Open new cities and regions to reform

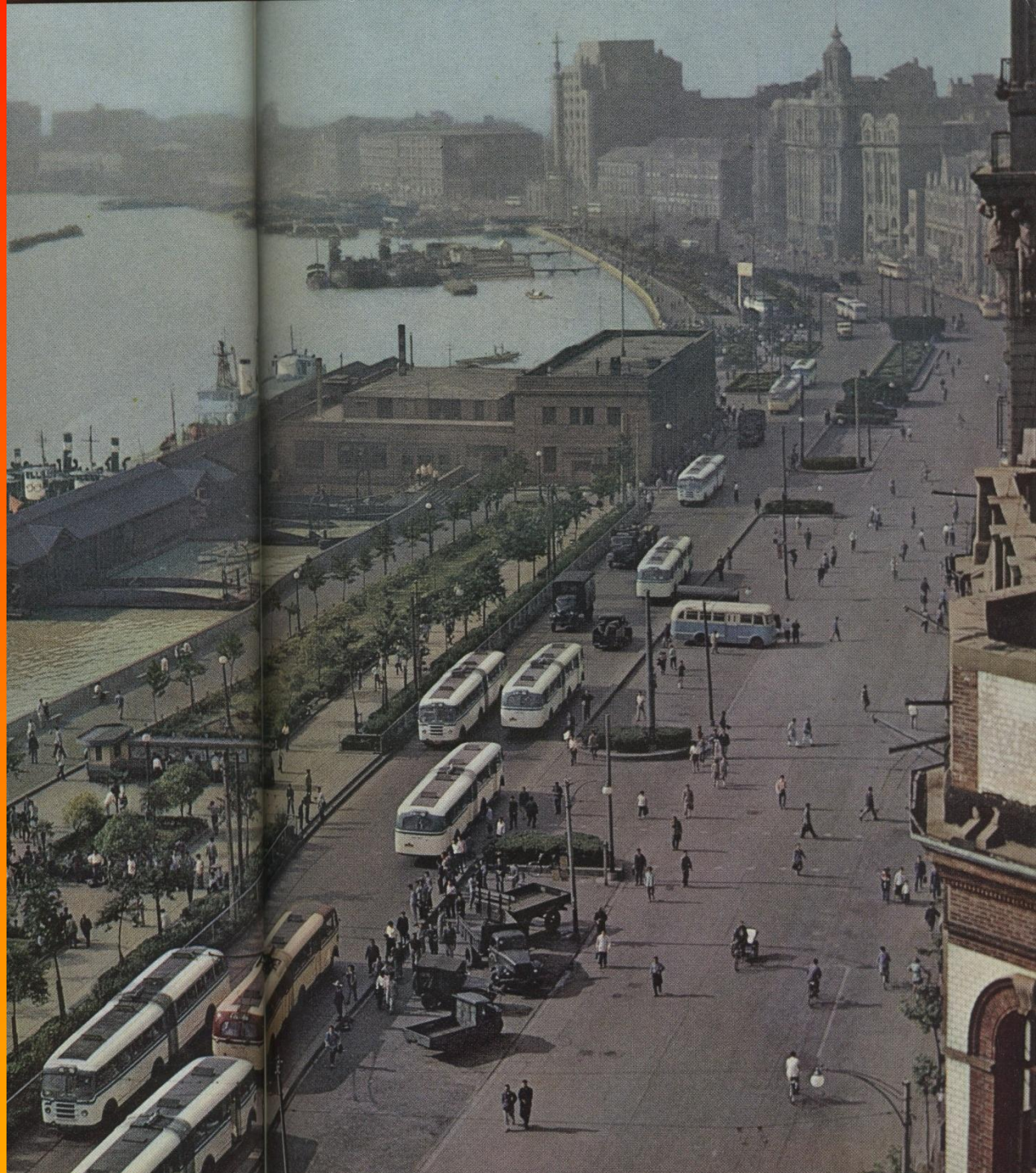
# People's Republic of China

- DONGBEI:
  - CORE REGION DEVELOPED BY JAPANESE, SIMILAR TO RUHR AND DONETS BASIN
    - 10% OF POPULATION
    - 15% OF VALUE OF FACTORY OUTPUT
    - 20% OF HEAVY INDUSTRY

# People's Republic of China

- NORTH CHINA:
  - BEIJING TO TIANJIN: 20% OF PRODUCTION
- EAST DISTRICT: QINGDAO TO SHANGHAI: 30% OF OUTPUT
- CENTRAL SOUTH: GUANZHOU





















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# Urban east coast

- Articulate, educated knowledgeable consumers
- Designer brand name market
- Conspicuous consumption
- Maximization
  - Young adults
  - New rich
- Consumer debt financing
- New Confucianism

# Yu Dan Creates a revival of Confusianism



Yu Dan is a professor with Beijing Normal University. After her unique way of analyzing the ancient Chinese classic of The Analects before a TV audience, she shot to fame almost overnight. Sales of her book surpassed 1.5 million within 40 days of publication

Confucius is indeed enjoying a huge revival — and is even endorsed by the Communist Party that once tried to erase his influence.

- The Communist Party's legitimacy is at stake as it tries to contain the dark side of the economic miracle that has led to a dangerous income divide, rampant corruption and rising social unrest. Rehabilitating Confucianism allows the government to show it cares about resolving these social conflicts in a benevolent way without ceding too much ground in terms of political freedom and institutional reforms.

“We cannot go back to a single culture theory anymore. Chinese culture and Western culture must complement each other.”



- "Yu Dan's Reflections on The Analects," sold 4.2 million legal copies in China and an estimated 6 million pirated ones