

經濟史專題導讀

“從經濟管制到出口擴張：台灣 1946-1960”

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1 What is the question (of the paper)?

This paper discussed why the economic regulations implemented in postwar Taiwan had been created and how their influences were. With the textile Industry in 1950s as an example, the author discussed the reasons behind the success of the export expansion policy.

2 Why should we care about it?

Most of the researches on Taiwan's post-war highly economic growth focus on the policies changed in the late 1950s but seldom discuss the process of economic regulation from implementation to deregulation.

3 What is your (or the author's) answer?

The success of the fast economic growth in Taiwan was the result of several factors listed as following,

1. The United States foreign aids that reduced the financial deficit in Taiwan.
2. The institutions of private property, contracts enforceable by third parties and markets with responsive prices all of which could incent the firms to increase the long term investment.
3. The undervalued Taiwanese dollar which exploited the comparative advantage on relatively cheap labor productivity.
4. The export tax rebate implemented which reduced the cost of exports.

4 How did you (or the author) get there?

The author first introduced the economic in the early postwar Taiwan, where hyperinflation occurred due to the huge losses of government-owned businesses, the situation was gradually relieved by the USAID. Then used the textile Industry as an example to analyze how it achieved an accelerated growth in the late 1950s. Finally concluded several factors which contributed to the fast growing included the US foreign aids and economic institutions.