

Abstract

Making use of first-hand historical and archival data, through detailed cross-validation, the thesis aims to re-explore the policy-making and legislation processes of "The Land-to-the-Tiller Act" and "The Equalization of Urban Land Rights Act" which both were promoted by Chiang Kai-Shek and Chen Cheng from the highest level of the Nationalist Government in the early 1950s.

By doing this, first of all, the thesis challenges the stereotypical discourse of the "successful rural land reform and unsuccessful urban land reform" hold by both the governmental officials and mainstream antagonists;

Secondly, it focuses on the complex competition-and-cooperation relationships among various actors (policy-makers, technical bureaucrats, local elites, and land lords) involved in the key policy-making procedures to overturn the general understanding of "strong/authoritative government vs. weak/repressed society" in the 1950s shared by contemporary governmental officials and mainstream antagonists;

And lastly, it proposes a bifocal analytical perspective of a "dual system of urban and rural lands" to re-evaluate the long-term influence of the land reforms in the 1950s to the spatial development and governance crisis of Taiwan in the Postwar period.

Keyword : Spatial Governance Crisis ; Urban Land Reform ; The Equalization of Urban Land Rights Act ; Chiang Kai-shek ; Chen Cheng