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978-0-521-63571-4 - Economic Change in China, c. 1800-1950

Philip Richardson

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Economic Change in China, c. 1800–1950

This latest addition to the successful student series *New Studies in Economic and Social History* provides a concise introduction to the economic history of one of the major world powers. China is probably the only major economy for which it is still not certain whether modern economic growth at the aggregate level had taken hold by the middle of the twentieth century. This introductory analysis of the process of economic change in China from the end of the eighteenth century to the middle of the twentieth looks at the nature of the traditional economy, covers the pressure it came under from both internal and external sources during the nineteenth century and assesses the evolution of modern features in the twentieth. With maps, tables and bibliography to guide the student, this concise study will provide an invaluable introduction to crucial aspects of Chinese history.

PHILIP RICHARDSON is Senior Lecturer in Economic History at the University of Bristol. He has travelled widely in China and lectured at the Universities of Fudan (Shanghai) and Yunnan (Kunming).

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Edited for the Economic History Society by

Michael Sanderson

University of East Anglia, Norwich

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Note on references

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Guide to pronunciation

This book uses the pinyin system. It is the official romanisation system adopted in the People's Republic of China and is employed by most international agencies. The former Wade–Giles usage is provided in the text for reference.

Pinyin	Wade–Giles
a	<i>far</i>
b	<i>be</i>
c	<i>its</i>
ch	<i>church</i>
d	<i>day</i>
e	her with silent 'r'
ei	<i>way</i>
f	<i>foot</i>
g	<i>go</i>
h	<i>hay</i>
i	sir with c, ch, r, s, sh, z, zh
i	eat with other consonants
ie	<i>yes</i>
j	<i>jeep</i>
k	<i>kind</i>
l	<i>lay</i>
m	<i>me</i>
n	<i>no</i>
o	<i>saw</i>
ou	<i>know</i>
p	<i>pay</i>
q	<i>cheer</i>
r	<i>rum/leisure</i>
s	<i>sister</i>

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x *Economic change in China, c. 1800–1950*

sh	<i>short</i>
t	<i>top</i>
u (u)	<i>rude (German u)</i>
w	<i>want</i>
x	<i>she or xiesta</i>
y	<i>yet</i>
z	<i>zero or reads</i>
zh	<i>judge</i>

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Dynastic chronology

618–907	Tang (T'ang)
960–1279	Song (Sung)
1279–1368	Yuan
1368–1644	Ming
1644–1911	Qing (Ch'ing)
1912–49	Republic of China
1949–	People's Republic of China

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Weights and measures

1 jin (chin) or (catty)	= 1.1 lbs.
2 jin	= 1 kilogram
100 jin	= 1 picul
1 picul	= 110 or 133 lbs.
1 shi (rice)	= 130 jin
1 mu	= 0.1647 acre (0.1518 pre 1911)
6 mu	= 1 acre
1,000 cash	= 1 tael
1 tael	= 1.5 yuan (1930s)
1 yuan (Ch\$)	= US \$0.26 (1933)
1 Haiguan (Haikwan) Customs tael	= US \$1.27 (1890), US \$0.67 (1914), US \$0.41 (1933)
c.i.f.	customs, insurance and freight
f.o.b.	free on board

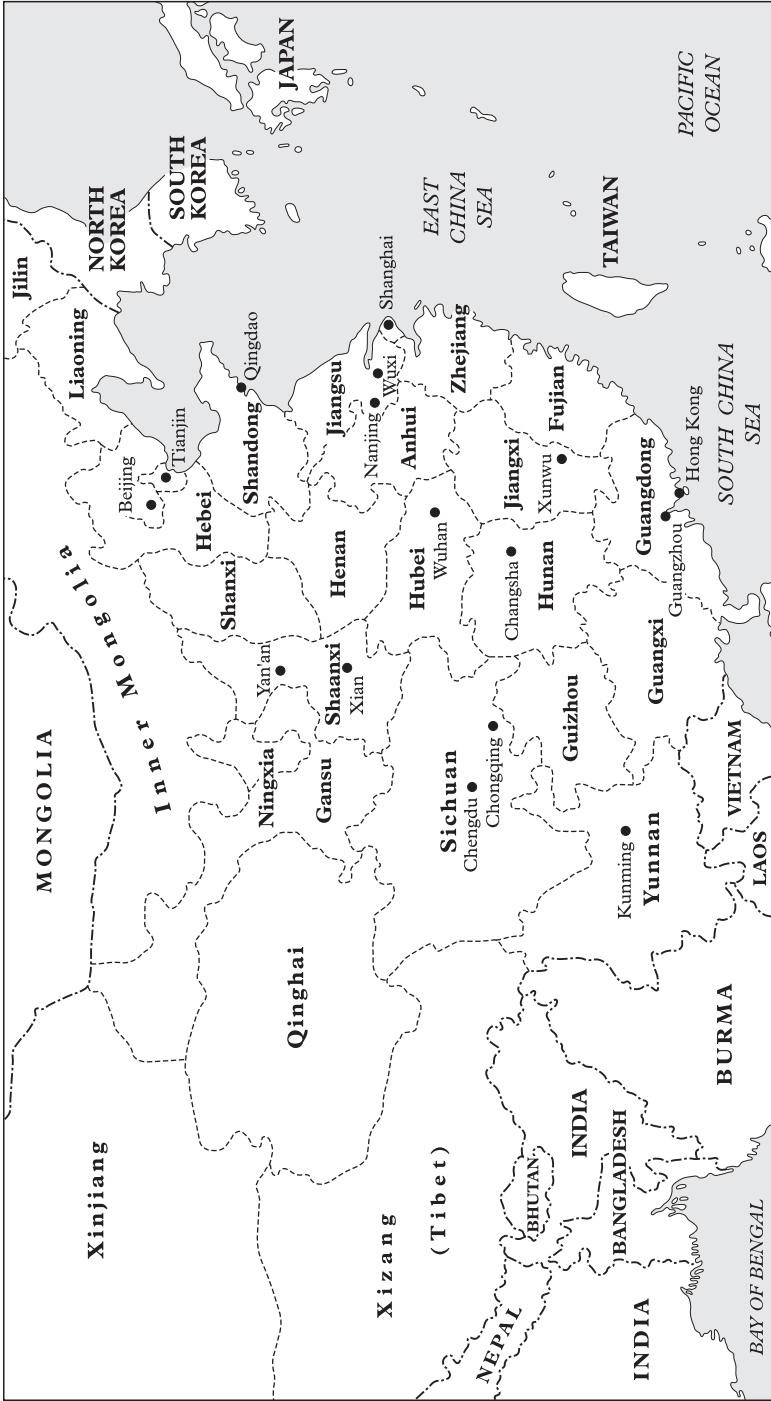
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Map 1. China: provinces and cities.