Hong Kong, Shanghai and Singapore:

A Battle for Regional Dominance-Mega-Project

and State-Led Visions

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"Asia's major cities, in the last few years more and more outstanding in the global economy is the rise of several other Asian cities, Tokyo, as well as the 'globalization' of the world economy is referred to as 'new' is a development." <Shin and Timberlake, 2000>

In this chapter, we the same problem in other major cities in the check. <Timberlake> <Shin> And presented by the city as a major regional centers to establish their competitive approach to support strategic planning and global city paradigm is used. We deal with the city "Hong Kong, Singapore and Shanghai 'is. China's future in the region is very important for the future of the whole. And national policy in terms of both the Hong Kong and Shanghai, is important because we must first extensive globalization and urban politics will explore approaches.

Globalization, the state and Chinese cities

China's economic trends and the development of major cities will affect the entire region. China's economic growth in recent years, the economic position relative to other countries in the region can move the huge population of foreign investment and provide incentives to major potential market is good. National economy as a result of these changes affected the role of the city. In 1996 24.6% 1978 12.9% of the population of the city was experiencing very rapid growth. Also, in homes and offices open city 'unproductive' sectors with a huge increase in the pattern of urban development has been rapid changes. China and Hong Kong, the city's global relationships and a variety of changes result was a new connection. Since 1978, economic reforms, the system controls the function of the market in a specific way and in space, inserting former socialist countries to maintain the framework of the socialist market system 'made. New economic system of the Central Committee of the Communist Party gradually introduced by the central government through the carefully monitor every step of the way is. At the same time coordinating the gradual economic reforms the country has embarked on a decentralization policy. The new position of the local government area of ​​the center of economic growth in developing countries, the creation of a short-term agenda, but was Generally, tender or auction the land through the market price on the secondary one and the outside investors and the other means, including land and negotiate to pass through the hands of the land market is two. Changes in the balance between the state and the economy of the city has implications for policy. Since the economic reforms, political and social complexity, the more difficult the ability of the state to maintain the rule created a new regulatory system reform plan is one of the vehicles. Generally in line with decentralization, the local state has acquired a new plan to power. They act too much discretion the manager used to support special interests, and the interests of the public to help determine that there is insufficient involvement of the public thinks. Thus, two of the city in the direction of China, China's open a connection to the global market and government reform is happening is exposed to changes in critical situations.

Hong Kong: the gateway to China

1997 Hong Kong returned to China in the UK already have international connections, the city was linked to the new global economy, China's main gateway to the city responsible for the development of the global advantages. Hong Kong has a large concentration of capital and social networks is another big advantages. As a result of the actual behavior of the network in Taiwan, Hong Kong and around the Chinese province of Guangdong, a significant flow of economic activity between the fields of political relations between the often are implicated. According to <sun>, about 25,000 Hong Kong manufacturing enterprises to exploit lower labor and rental costs of the Chinese Pearl River Delta area was moved to the location of the. Most of all economic activity in a specific area of ​​broad economic flow is more important than the position to create a distributed pattern of economic zones and territories through a small settlement was established. Meanwhile, in 1988 to encourage investment in China and Taiwan has released a series of special privileges. Chinese companies in Hong Kong which puts it over the hook and the modern capital of the world economy and the flow of knowledge-based global link connected to the China-based companies seeking to could work in the opposite direction. Large Chinese network broadly in China public, semi-public and private organizations to learn the language and use the relationship around, small and mid-sized companies to establish a connection consists of Hong Kong company has been very successful in their own cities on the mainland, even if they own a substantial interest in a project that could not be extracted by local companies has surpassed. Planning and development of Hong Kong itself reflects the changing role of the global economy is. Planning needs of the new global elite, as well as more vocal to respond to the growing needs of the middle class was necessary. In the early stages of urban development, political stability and the distribution policy, economic development and public housing programs for very large dependence on the aspirations of the citizens was managed by. Approach to taking a physical approach and appropriately to resolve social problems, an update to the criticism of the government for the first time in 2000, but the improvement of housing and urban environments provide resources were created. Thus, Hong Kong is a public-private partnership in accordance with the city has a long history of entrepreneurship.

Shanghai: a state-led world city

Shanghai in 1990, in an attempt to become a world-class city has experienced a great experience in the development. On the cover of Time magazine in 1999 Shanghai 21st Century 'center of the world' was posted under the title of New York's rival Shanghai respectively. Shanghai took a sudden change of direction over the past 10 years, great speed and determination was an important process. Shanghai at the end of the 19th century, enjoying a golden age in 1927 has a history as an international city. However, the country's main industrial workshops, the role of the past in China and the central government until 1990, was reluctant to interfere with the situation. Shanghai local government in the 1980s was a new approach to economic development. The city's south-western Caohejing Hi-Tech Park in the 1998 micro-electronics, computers, telecommunications, biotechnology, aerospace and precision equipment was with. Growth of the city in 1990, a new era began. It is an excellent leader Deng Xiaoping, the country's largest special economic zone in China, the Pudong Development issued a decision in that year was. Range of policy measures the scope of the project, foreign companies, and more in development, but more than that is submitted to the central government for the maintenance of financial income to invest, such as tax incentives have been applied to the Pudong area. And previously existing special area near the airport, it was concentrated in the west of Shanghai, was for the development of an important new direction. More than half the cities in the flow of foreign investment is expected to come. Pudong for the international market restructuring efforts focused on the city. Exceeded the 30-story Hyatt hotel, and fiber optic cable 50 floors of office space and a new 88-story Jin Mao Tower countries created an impressive architectural statement in the area provide. Chinese economy continues to grow at the current rate, the appropriate policy has been adopted in the city center, the best view of the world and East Asian cities are likely to be.

Singapore: city state and archetypal world city

Singapore city-state between the national and city-level governments in the complexity of the relationship between nation-states have in the direction of city policy does not matter the amount of influence. This city-state in the world with an unlimited interest to focus on its role can be Singapore is currently in New York, London and Tokyo since the second order value reaches a global city. Post-colonial government's strong role to steer the economy almost continuously high economic growth and with the participation of international capital is key. A limit on the size of the workforce in the 1980s and limitations in the area of ​​labor-intensive industries the government is to realize that there was more and more competitive. Thus, after independence, Singapore's economic role in the future of the world economy is very conscious of the change haewatgo trying to keep one step was planned by the state. National economic strategy is determined close to the land use and development plans are linked. Restrictions on land the state government directly connected to the company through the use of Real Estate Investment is involved in the development. Site plan of the program is the concept of sales in the city have been guided by a strategic plan. New concept and business plan completed in 1991, the charm was clearly and publicly oriented. This plan states the city "world-class quality of life" and "world-class city with all business functions" means that there is. In addition, the role of the city in Singapore and a coordinated approach to take positive specific function. Democratic decision-making in this way did not play a big part in the opposition was reduced. Singapore is characterized by the development of the state was a strong authoritarian state. But one of the problems the country is facing an increasingly open, go to the information age, and a lot of innovation and creativity in one economic sector, the impact of social and political dimension is whether.