

論文の内容の要旨

論文題目 Publicness of Urban Public Space under Chinese Market
Economy Reform: A Case Study of Yuzhong District,
Chongqing
(中国市場経済改革下における都市公共空間の公共性: 重
慶市渝中区を対象として)

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The political and economic reforms in China have been more than forty years and greatly changed the image of Chinese cities and the content of urban life. As one of the most important components of the city, the urban public space has experienced a profound transition with its very essence, the publicness, being reinterpreted during the reform. This thesis presents the context-setting research to observe the rapid and ongoing transformation of urban public spaces driven by a series of profound political and economic reforms in Chongqing, China. It mainly has two intentions: firstly it is going to trace the local interpretation and the evolution path of an introduced concept, 'publicness', in the Chinese society which has been deeply rooted in the '*gong*' culture; secondly it is going to take historical and local contingencies and path-dependency into consideration by conducting the research in a specific context of culture, economy and politics. To this end, it proposes three sets of interrelated research questions: (1) What are the original connotations of 'publicness' and 'publicness of urban public space' in the Western context, and how did these introduced concepts interrelate with the culture of '*gong*' in a transitional Chinese society? (2) How did the market-economy reforms gradually unfold in urban China, and consequently what kind of major and generic changes were brought to urban forms and urban public spaces? (3) How did the publicness of urban public space change in the ongoing market economy reform in the specific context, what were the major motivations for the transformation, what are the changes and legacies when taking its own historical and local contingencies and path-dependency into considerations?

The thesis consists of ten chapters. Chapters one and two propose the research subject and research methodology. Chapters three to nine constitute the main body of this research and can be divided into two parts. Part One includes chapters three and four, aiming to conceptualise ‘publicness of urban public space’ in the Chinese society and seeking to answer the first and second sets of research questions. Part Two includes chapters five to nine, which addresses the third set of research questions by introducing the specific contexts of Yuzhong District, Chongqing, and analysing the transition of publicness of urban public spaces in detail by three cases. Finally, chapter ten summarises the key findings of this research and puts forward the limitations of this research as well as important topics for further research.

Chapter One introduces the subject of the research. It contextualises the research questions by a review of relevant research and a brief introduction of the market economy reform in China. Then it concludes three sets of research questions and the aims of the research. It also points out the significance of the research to both theory and practice.

Chapter Two goes on to propose a preliminary hypothesis regarding research questions and build a research framework to guide the research. It then introduces why and how specific research methods, including history review, field survey, and case study, are applied in different stages of the research.

Chapter Three aims to establish the theoretical foundation of this research. It first explores major theories on ‘publicness’ and ‘urban public space’ particularly in the Western context and proposes their widely shared core values and essential attributes. Successively it goes on to conceptualise the concept of ‘publicness of urban public space’ by proposing a possible explanation, summarising its three characteristics, as well as its multiple dimensions. Finally, it develops an analytical framework to analyse the publicness of urban public space based on existing research, which includes design and construction dimension, governance and management dimension, and user and use dimension.

Chapter Four is structured in a parallel way with the former chapter to research the interpretations of ‘publicness of urban public space’ in contemporary China, from the culture of ‘*gong*’ to urban public spaces in both planned and market economy eras, and the characteristics of Chinese publicness of urban public space. In order to explain the reasons why urban public spaces experienced such changes in two eras, this chapter also proposes a relatively comprehensive analysis of the market economy reforms which was mainly conducted in three directions: the commodification of urban land, the devolution of political-economic powers, and the development of leisure and consumer culture. In sum, this chapter contextualises the key concept, ‘publicness of urban public space’, and provides an overall view of urban public spaces in Chinese transitional era. The analysis suggests that there are three key attributes of the culture of ‘*gong*’, which are very different from ‘public’ in the Western context. These three attributes are

authority which reflects the deeply rooted top-down administration, morality that assumes ‘*gong*’ (here mainly refers to the collective, or collective interests) is morally superior to ‘*si*’ (here mainly refers to the individual, or individual interests) which is closely related to the altruistic significance, and ambiguity particularly referring to the ambiguous and changeable boundary between ‘*gong*’ (here mainly refers to the public realm) and ‘*si*’ (here mainly refers to the private realm). And all three key attributes of the culture of ‘*gong*’ got moderated to different degrees after the reform and opening-up. Particularly, by absorbing the value of diversity, it formed a more positive attitude to private interests and desires, and a clearer boundary between the public realm and the private realm.

Chapter Five introduces the specific contexts of Chongqing and the major research area, Yuzhong District, including its history, geography and traditional urban form, culture and economy. By investigating the development and distribution of public spaces in Yuzhong District, it finds out (quasi-) squares and (quasi-) parks are major categories of city-wide urban public spaces in the planned era, and the (pedestrian) commercial district is the major new category of urban public space thriving since the late 1990s. Furthermore, it scrutinises key modern urban planning and design schemes of Yuzhong District to research different perceptions of urban public spaces in different periods, particularly regarding the category, function, and significance. This chapter concludes that urban public spaces in Yuzhong District after 1949 experienced two major stages. The development of urban public spaces in the planned economy era was mainly undertaken in the 1950s and particularly represented by parks with various functions, which put special emphasis on the greening rate. This character was in accordance with the Ten-Year Plan proposed by the Guomindang government, and also rooted in the high-density reality of Yuzhong District. Due to the limited land resources, Yuzhong District did not build city squares in the planned era; instead, it temporarily used the Jie Fangbei intersection as a square for gatherings like the situation before 1949. In the market economy era, the development of urban public spaces was guided by both master plans and urban designs to cover more categories of functions and forms. Especially, the market economy invited private capital to participate in the urban construction, and in the representative type of new public spaces, the commercial district which includes retail stores, offices and hotels, privately owned public spaces appeared.

Chapters Six, Seven and Eight each examine one case study including Eling Park, Chongqing People’s Square Area, and Jie Fangbei Commercial Pedestrian District. These cases are selected by two principals: firstly they should cover major and typical categories of urban public spaces in Yuzhong District, and secondly, they should experience both planned and market economy eras. Each chapter starts with a brief introduction of the early history of the case before 1949 (except the square area case which was built after 1949), and then presents the situation in the planned economy era, and finally elaborates on the development of PUPS in the market economy era according to the framework proposed in chapter three.

Chapter Nine draws comparisons of three cases and forms a comprehensive analysis to address the third set of research questions, including the transitions of publicness of urban public spaces within the specific historical and local contingencies and path-dependency, and the major motivations leading to these transitions. Successively, it further analyses the changes and legacies of publicness of urban public space from the planned era to the market era. The comparison and analysis suggest that changes in PUPS were complicated and influenced by a wide range of reasons. It also reflects how the role of urban space was reconsidered to meet the changing needs to accommodate rapid economic growth, to create a more harmonious society and improve the social cohesion, to build the ‘world city’ with ‘world-class’ urban life. The transformation of these public spaces was fundamentally engaged with four different and common motivations in the market economy era: the economic motivation for steady growth in the economy, the environmental motivation for pollution control and sustainable development, the social motivation for social cohesion by redressing the rising inequity, and the cultural motivation for identity construction by introducing international culture as well as developing traditional culture. All motivations influenced these public spaces to different degrees due to their distinct functions, management systems, and roles in the city development. Also, direct contradictions between these motivations happened in all cases, and they made different choices, reflecting the attitudes of the government and society.

Specifically, the park was mainly motivated by environmental and social motivations and had little concern in the economic profits, the square area stroke a balance among economic, social, and cultural motivations, and the commercial pedestrian district was mainly propelled by economic motivation with a growing concern of social cohesion, but it failed to protect and improve its cultural connotations and lost its unique spirit of place. In addition, the political forces, referring to the designation of the municipality in 1997, acted as a critical catalyst for all the transformation. Moreover, compared to the situation of the planned era, the gradual and ongoing market economy reform has not obviously compromised the publicness of urban public spaces in Chongqing so far; indeed, it has brought a more vibrant public realm than before. Moreover, the commodification of urban space and the development of consumer culture did not necessarily result in the loss of publicness due to the effective guidance and control of the local government and public institutions.

Chapter Ten highlights the key findings of this research to answer the research questions and revise the hypotheses, and propose five specific recommendations for future design and management, including (1) establish comprehensive goals to guide future development; (2) improving the environment to encourage stationary activities; (3) conserving the historical resources to strengthen the spirit of the place; (4) inviting more public participation to protect the diversity; (5) sustaining the tolerant management to ensure social cohesion; and (6) using the virtual space to boost the publicness. Finally, it ends with a critical reflection on the limitations of this study and makes recommendations for future research.