

The Technological Development in Prewar Japan : Issues and Prospects

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to review the existing studies of technological development in prewar-Japan. Generally speaking, industrial development in developing countries experience the pattern of shifting from commodity import to production (i. e. import substitution), and finally to export. Actually, the same pattern can also be observed in the process of technological development ; it shifts from technology import to technological diffusion and technological innovation, and finally to technology transfer. There were many excellent studies in this field. Not only did they explain the economic development in Japan, but they also provide some useful clues for the developing countries from the experience of Japan.