

Urbanisation of Capital and Dispossession of Rights

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The slogans of the 2010 Shanghai World Expo (Photo: Hyun Bang Shin, 2010)

Urbanisation as an ideological project

The urban as the most desirable status quo

Building the countryside in the image of city

Urbanisation as an economic project

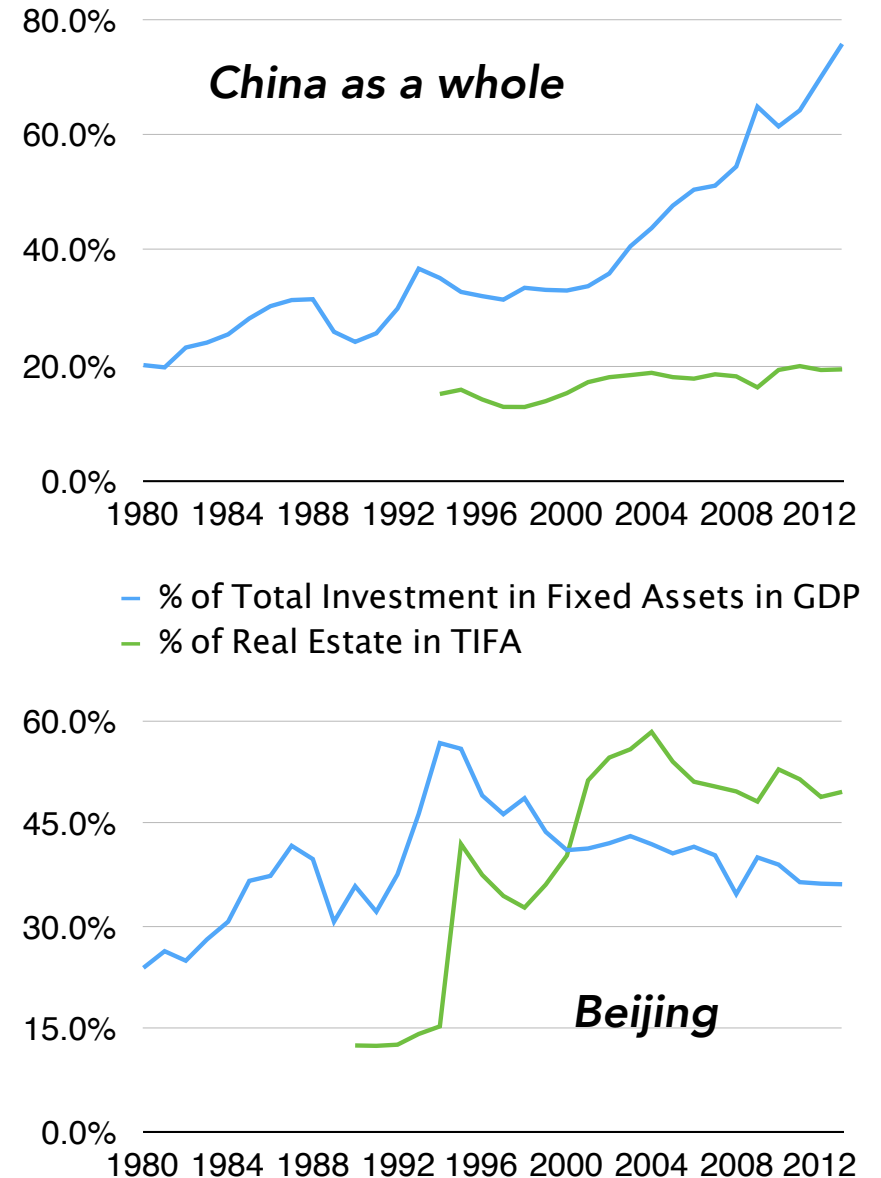
Fixed asset formation through investment in infrastructure and real estate

Land-grabbing for land revenues as extra-budgetary revenues for local governments

Urbanisation as a political project

New Party leadership placing a strong emphasis on sustaining the country's stride to urbanise

China's Development and Fixed Assets Investment

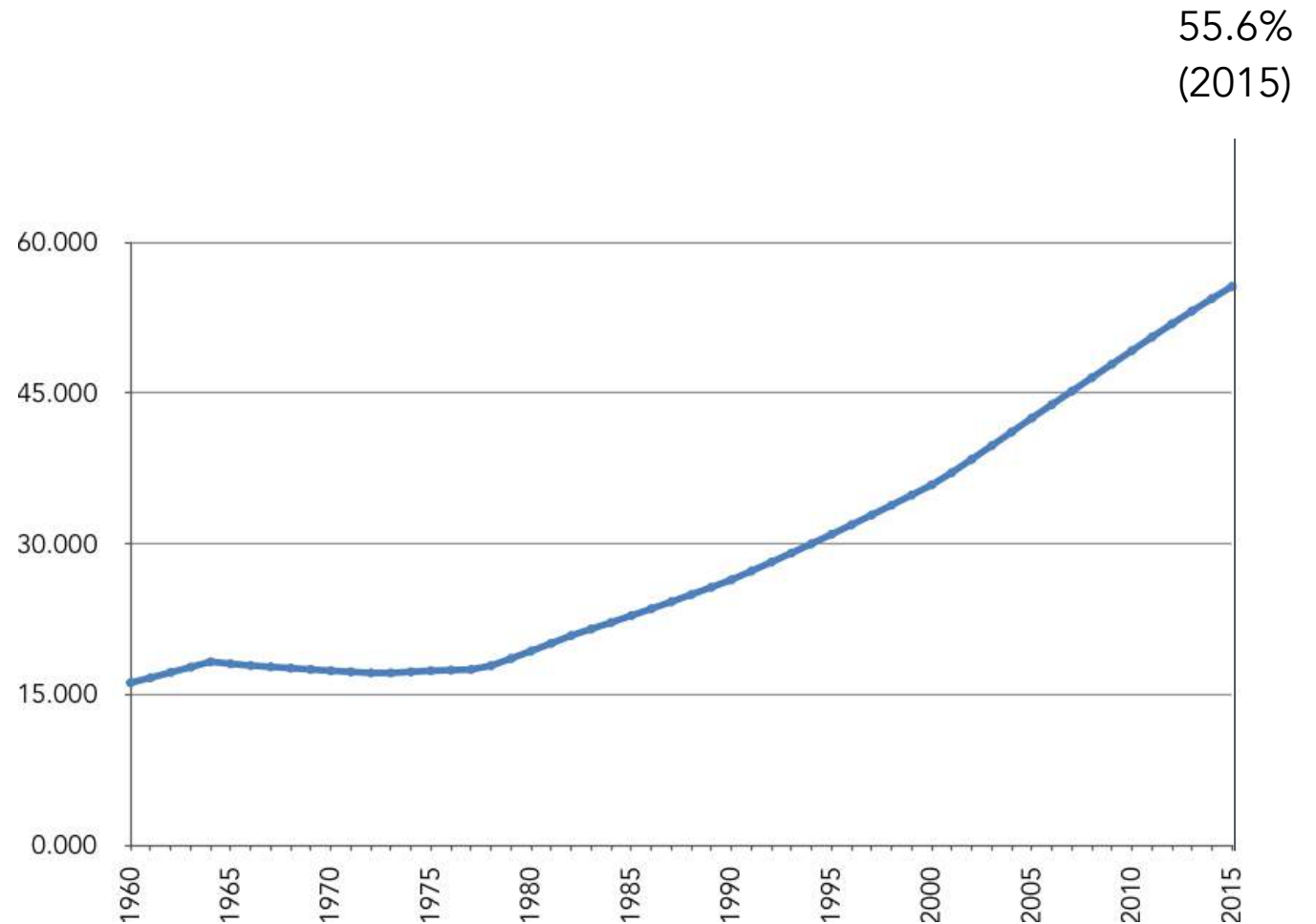


China to achieve a 60% urbanisation rate by the year 2020 and 70% by 2030 as part of realising the China Dream

This was equated with the addition of another 100 million urbanites by 2020, and 300 million by 2030

Implication of this drive for the built environment?

China's Urbanisation Rate 1960-2015

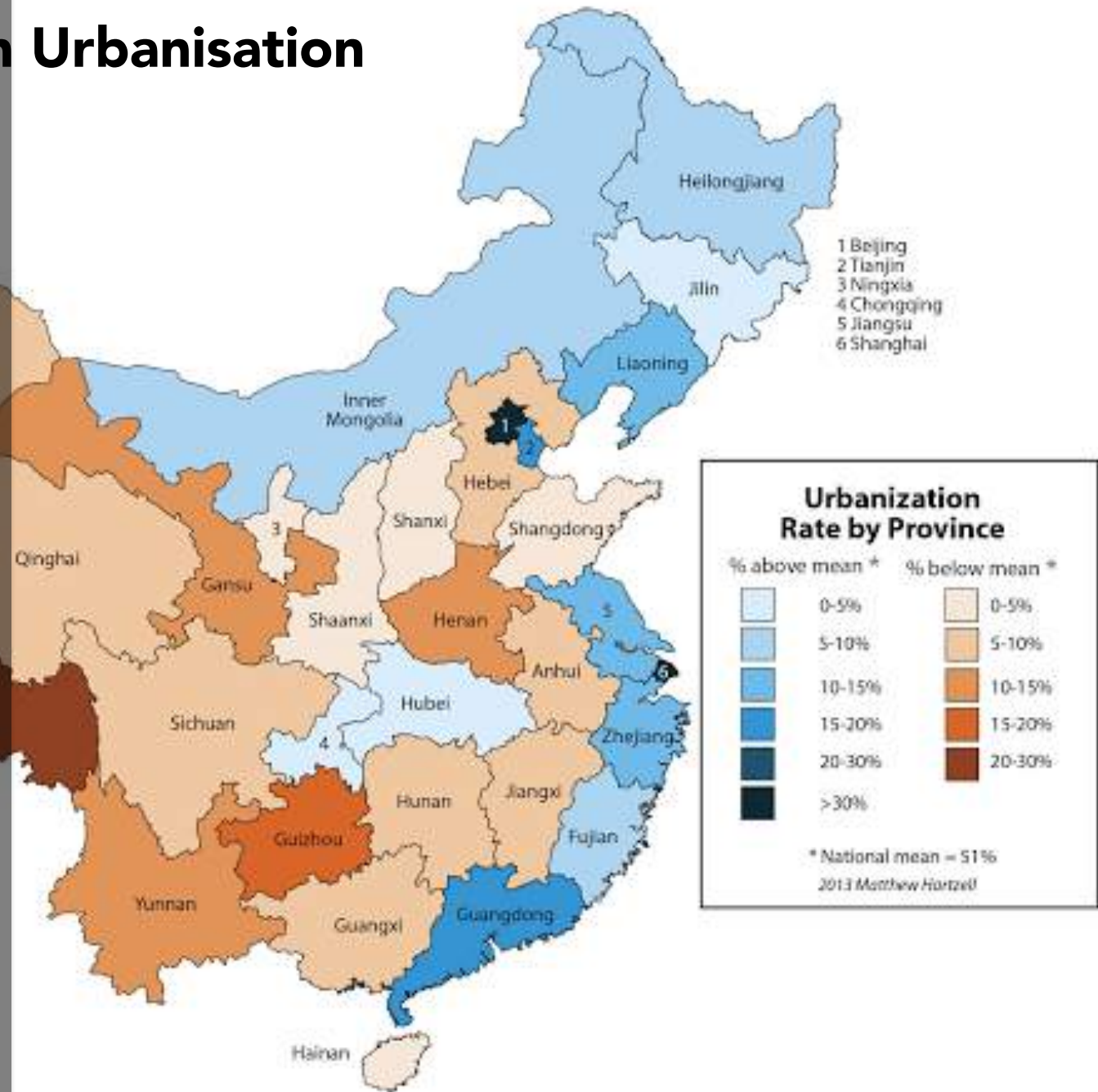


Data Source: <http://databank.worldbank.org>

Uneven Urbanisation

Higher barriers of entry to established rich cities

Small and medium cities and counties, to be rebuilt in the imagination of rich cities





1.5 mil. people in Beijing
(2001-08) and 1.5 mil. in
Shanghai (2004-10) subject
to eviction

Depopulation as state
'eugenics' strategy in select
cities: e.g. Beijing
Dongcheng District (2011)
from 919,000 (2011) to
820,000 (2016) and to
650,000 (2030)



Dispossession, loss of rights,
through land-taking and forced
urbanisation

“66 million Chinese farmers
have lost their land in the past
10 years” (BBC, 2005)

LANDES survey in 2011: 43% of
surveyed rural households
having experienced land-taking.
Av. compensation (18,739 yuan),
2.4% of average sales price
earned by authorities

Villager protests in Wukan, Guangdong, 2011 (Source: bbc.co.uk)



Shanghai (c) Hyun Shin 2010

In China,
development is
synonymous with
displacement and
dispossession

Thank you very much.

For any queries, please contact:

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