China Modernization Report Outlook

(2001~2010)

Chuanqi HE
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Abstract

Modernization is both a profound change of human civilization since 18th century (Figure 1) and the international competition for pursuing, achieving and keeping a world advanced level. The national objective of China's modernization is to achieve the world moderately-developed level around 2050 and the advanced level by the end of the 21st century. *China Modernization Report* (*CMR*) started to be released in 2001, with different topics year by year but always drawing great attentions. This book included the outlines of 10 *CMRs* from 2001 to 2010, the indexes of the world and China's modernization in 2006, the relationship between modernization and human civilization, the Yangtze River Model for the process of human civilization, and so on. This book indicated the world background, major results and basic viewpoints of *CMRs*.

CMRs persist to scientific, innovative, strategic and constructive paths to make systematic exploration of the basic facts and principles of world modernization and have rational analysis over the basic features and reasonable paths to China's modernization. The time span of this study is 400 years (from 1700 to 2100), covering 131 countries in 5 continents and 97% people all over the world; the results of the study concern the degradation of the status of advanced countries and the possibility of the upgrade of the status of developing countries, as well as the strategies and paths for achieving modernization in China and other regions. Today, *CMRs* consist of the trend of modernization, evaluation of modernization, theories of modernization, economic modernization, social modernization, cultural modernization, ecological modernization, regional modernization, international modernization, world modernization and so on.

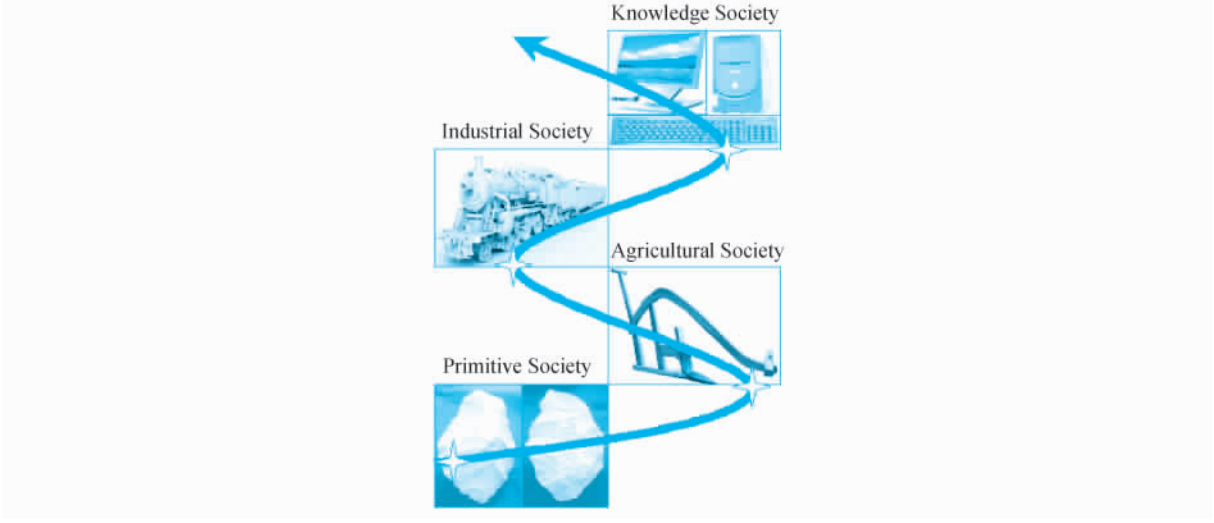


Figure 1 Four forms and twice modernizations of human society

Note: First modernization is the transformation from agricultural to industrial society; second modernization is the transformation from industrial to knowledge society. Pictures are stone tool, plough, steam engine and computer separately.

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Preface

With time going by, the frontier and center of human civilization is moving. There's evidence that humankind came from Africa, invented agricultural civilization in Asia, created industrial civilization in Europe, and nurtured knowledge-based civilization in Northern America. Modernization is one kind of profound change of human civilization since the 18th century, which includes the formation, development, transformation and international interaction of modern civilization, the innovation, selection, diffusion and recession of civilization elements, and the global competition for pursuing, achieving and keeping a world advanced level; it took place in the fields of economy, society, politics, culture, environment and personal behavior, and in the forefront and late-coming countries in the process of human civilization. During the 400 years between the 18th and 21st centuries, the process of world modernization consists of two phases: the first phase saw the transformation from agricultural civilization to industrial civilization, including the turning from agricultural to industrial economy, from agricultural to industrial society, from agricultural to industrial politics, and from agricultural to industrial culture; the second phase witnessed the transformation from industrial civilization to knowledge-based civilization, including the turning from industrial to knowledge-based economy, from industrial to knowledge-based society, from industrial to knowledge-based politics, from industrial to knowledge-based culture, from material to ecological culture and so on[①]. If the first modernization is a classical one featuring industrialization, urbanization, democratization and rationalization, then the second modernization must be a neo-modernization with the characteristics of knowledge, information, globalization and environment protection. The harmonious development of the two phases should be an integrated modernization. The 2nd-phase modernization is not the destination of civilization, and new changes will take place in the 22nd century.

In the long history of human civilization, different nations have borne different performances, and different countries have attained different achievements. The process of civilization in different nations and countries would not be of the same paces, so world modernization shows asynchrony of course and uneven distribution. In 2006 about 29 countries entered the second modernization, about 90 countries were in the first modernization, and about 12 were still the traditional agricultural society. And hundreds of indigenous minorities still lived in primitive tribes. Although different countries and regions have different levels of modernization, most of them were impacted by the second modernization, and increasing knowledge, information and innovations are changing the world.

According to the "Three-step" Development Strategy proposed by Deng Xiaoping, China should

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① There're no uniform definitions as to agricultural politics, industrial politics and knowledge-based politics. But generally, agricultural politics refers to politics in an agricultural society, an autocratic political form centered on the land and force; industrial politics refers to politics in an industrial society, a democratic politics centered on capital and rights; and knowledge-based politics refers to politics in a knowledge-based society, an occupational politics centered on knowledge and services. But knowledge-based society and politics are still developing.

achieve the level of world moderately-developed countries by middle 21st century. *China Modernization Report* (*CMR*) also forecasted that China could probably achieve the world advanced level by the end of the 21st century. It can thus be claimed that modernization is not just the pursuit for generations of the Chinese, but an important objective for the Chinese during the 21st century. It concerns the future of every one of us and requires everyone's effort. China's scientific circle shoulders an inescapable historical obligation in this course, because in a developing country with such a huge population, it's an unprecedented feat to achieve modernization within a century. However, such a great plan may come to nothing without the guidance of theories and studies about modernization. In today's tide of economic globalization, knowledge of features and laws of modernization is an important foundation for establishing national and regional strategies, economic and social strategies, and cultural and scientific and educational strategies.

It's commonly accepted that human beings were born 2.5 million years ago, civilization was originated 5500 years ago, modernization can be dated back to the 18th century, and modernization study started in the last century. However, the starting of thoughts about modernization can be traced back to the 18th century or even earlier. During the last five decades of the 20th century, three tides emerged in the study of world modernization. They were: the classical modernization study in the 1950s and 1960s, the post-modernization study in the 1970s and 1980s, and the neo-modernization study in the 1980s and 1990s, thus giving rise to theoretical innovations and various schools. The six major theories thus arising are: classical modernization theory, post-modernization theory, ecological modernization theory, reflexive modernization theory, multiple modernities theory and the second modernization theory. As early as 1930s, Chinese scholars started to discuss the issue of modernization. And in 1980s, Chinese scholars began to study and introduce classical modernization theory, publishing high-level academic works like *A New Perspective on Modernization* composed by Luo Rongqu. In 1990s, Chuanqi He, a researcher with Chinese Academy of Sciences, advanced the theory of the second modernization and published *Series of the Second Modernization*. And sponsored by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Ministry of Science and Technology and Chinese Academy of Sciences, we launched neo-modernization study and have published annual reports named *CMR* since 2001.

To promote the development of "modernization science", we compiled this collection of reports. Part 1 of this book expounds the relationship between civilization and modernization, including three papers like "Yangtze River Model for the Course of Human Civilization", and describes the global background for China's modernization, so that readers can better understand the contents of *CMRs*. Part 2 of this book offers the briefs and content compilation of 10 *CMRs*, including major results and viewpoints of these studies. These reports are self-contained yet correlated; the first 3 provide theoretical analyses, while the rest are studies at different fields or layers. This book will be published in both Chinese and English, so that people from home and abroad who are concerned about modernization study and China's modernization can resort to it as reference.

We hereby extend our sincerest thanks to the 8 advisors for the China Modernization Strategy Research Group; to Yongxiang Lu, president of Chinese Academy of Sciences; to Guanhua Xu, former Minister of Science and Technology; to Jiaer Chen, former director of the National Natural Sci-

ence Foundation of China, for prefacing China Modernization Report; to the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Ministry of Science and Technology, and Chinese Academy of Sciences for their assistance; to Peking University Press for their great outlook and hard work, and to all the people who offer us help and support.

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December 6, 2009

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Part One

Civilization and Modernization:

Global Background of China Modernization

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Ⅰ Yangtze River Model of Human Civilization Process

——A Case of Long River of Human History and Social Evolution

To a certain extent, human history is a history of evolution. There are two kinds of the human evolution[1,2], one is the origin and the biological evolution of Homo sapiens[3—5], the other is the socio-cultural evolution of human society[6—8], and the interaction between each other had happened for a long time[9,10]. There are many different thoughts on the evolution of human society, and some scholars believe that human history is a long river[11,12], but no positive typical example has been provided for that up to 2000. There are 261 international rivers[13] and 227 major river basins with a global assessment[14], and the Yangtze River of China is the world's third-longest river[15]. The Yangtze River Valley (YRV) had been chosen as a case for the studies by the author of this paper to check the popular hypothesis of the "long river of human history" and the four stages of the evolution of human society since 2000.

Ⅰ. Social Stages of Human History

Some anthropologists believe that the humankind appeared in Africa around 2.5 million years ago[16]. The human civilization emerged around 5500 years ago[17]. There are different thoughts on the social stages of human history[18—27], such as three, four, five and six stages and so on (Figure Ⅰ-1). The development of different countries and regions was asynchronous (Table Ⅰ-1), and the modes or routes of social evolution are of diversity.

Table Ⅰ-1 The uneven of world developing: The distribution of nations and population in 2001[28—30]

		Primitive society	Agricultural society	Industrial society	Knowledge society
Nations	Number	About 188 tribes	10	90	22
	Ratio(%)	—	8.2	73.8	18
Population	Number(million)	5.2	1090.3	4137.4	900
	Ratio(%)	0.08	17.8	67.5	14.7

Note: The standards or features of the four stages of human society come from table Ⅰ-2. Population of primitive, agricultural, industrial and knowledge society refers to the population living or lived on hunting or gathering, population living on less than $1.08 a day at 1993 international price in PPP exchange rates, world population less the population of agricultural and knowledge society, population living in countries entered knowledge society separately.

Chronology	B.C. E.				A.D.							
	2.5 million	8000	3500	500	0	500	1500	1750	1945	1970	2000	2100
Three stages	Traditional Society							Modern Society			Postmodern Society	
	Pre-industrial Society							Industrial Society			Postindustrial Society	
Four stages	Primitive Society		Agricultural Society					Industrial Society			Knowledge Society	
	Primitive Society		Agricultural Society					Industrial Society			Information Society	
	Primitive Society		Agricultural Society					Industrial Society			Network Society	
Five stages	Gathering & Hunting	Horticultural Society	Agrarian Society	Agricultural Society				Industrial Society				
	Gathering & Hunting	Horticultural Society	Pastoral Society	Agricultural Society				Industrial Society				
	Gathering & Hunting	Pastoral Society	Agrarian Society	Traditional Civilization Society				Industrial Society				
	Primitive Society		Slavery Society	Feudalism Society		Capitalism Society		Socialism Society (Communism Society)				
Six stages	Gathering & Hunting	Horticultural Society	Pastoral Society	Agricultural Society			Capitalism Society				Postcapitalism Society	
	Gathering & Hunting	Horticultural Society	Pastoral Society	Agricultural Society				Industrial Society			Postindustrial Society	

Figure Ⅰ-1 The social stages of human history[18—27]

Note: The stage divisions of human history were based on the track of the forerunner of the civilization, and the time of the division was relative. The development of different countries and regions was asynchronous. This figure presents some thoughts on the stages of the evolution of human society, but not all.

Based on the differences of the rate and employment structure of the social productivity, there is one kind of the stage division of the historical process of the evolution of human society, which is the four stages of the primitive, agricultural, industrial and knowledge society (Table Ⅰ-2). This paper suppose that the mode of the four stages presented a basic model of the evolution of human society, and the Yangtze River Valley (YRV) has been chosen as a case to check this hypothesis.

Table Ⅰ-2 The features or standards of the classification of four stages of human society

	Primitive Society	Agricultural Society	Industrial Society	Knowledge Society
Characteristics	Most labors engaged in the gathering or hunting (*Matrilineal society*, *Slash-and-burn farming*)	Most labors engaged in the agriculture production	Most labors engaged in the non-agriculture production (engaged in the industry and service)	Most labors engaged in the service sectors (engaged in the knowledge intensive sectors)
Criterions of the key indicators	Proportion of gathering or hunting labor >95% Primitive tribal life	Proportion of agriculture employment >30% Urbanization rate< 50%	Proportion of agriculture employment <30% Urbanization rate> 50%	Proportion of service employment>60% Gross enrollment ratio of tertiary education >60%

Note: There are some transformation phases between any two main societies and the sub-stages in each main social stage. The matrilineal society or slash-and-burn farming had appeared in middle or last phases of primitive society separately.

Ⅱ. Basic Facts of the Yangtze River Valley

The Yangtze River, which is about 6300-kilometer-long, rises in the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau in the west and reaches Shanghai in the east on the coast of the Pacific Ocean. It flows through a total of 12 regions of China, its valley covers about 1.8 million square kilometers and with 517.2 million people in 2006. Specifically, its upper reaches include the six regions of Qinghai, Tibet, Yunnan, Sichuan, Chongqing and Guizhou, its middle reaches comprise the four regions of Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi and Anhui (partial), while its lower reaches include the two regions of Jiangsu and Shanghai. The most parts of Anhui belong to the lower reaches. Shanghai lies near the estuary of the river.

1. Phenomenal Analysis of the Yangtze River Valley

The following phenomena (Figure Ⅰ-2) could be identified successively in the YRV by the direct observation since 2000[31].

The most parts of the upper reaches of the YRV are agricultural regions and some still have the traces and features of a primitive society[31]. For example, the Mosuo ethnic group which has about 40,000 people and inhabits at the area where Yunnan and Sichuan Provinces meet, still preserves the habits and customs of a matrilineal society till now. This tradition was the basic lifestyle of human society in the late Paleolithic Age in about 10,000 years ago. In the mountainous areas of Yunnan Province, some of the ethnic groups, such as Jino, Lahu, Blang and Hani ethnic group, still partly live on slash-and-burn farming in 2006. This is one of the basic mode of the production of human society in the Neolithic Age in about 6,000 years ago.

The vast areas of the middle reaches of the YRV are the rural areas featuring small-scale self-subsistence peasant economy and agricultural society. In 2006, for example, 61% of the population in Hunan Province still lived in the rural areas, and 54% of the labor force engaged with agricultural production.

In the lower reaches of the YRV, the Jiangsu Province displayed the strong characteristics of an industrial society. For example, the proportion of agriculture employment in Jiangsu dropped to 28%, while the urbanization rate rose to 52 %, and the southern part of Jiangsu was dotted with cities in 2006.

At the estuary of the YRV, Shanghai is developing a new economy or knowledge economy, and moving rapidly towards a knowledge society. Its proportion of industry employment has gone down significantly since the 1990s, while its proportion of service employment has increased rapidly and reached 54% in 2006. Some transformation from modernization to post-modernization took place, such as what had happened in some advanced countries since 1970s[20,23].

The YRV has also been noted for its cultural and civilization diversity. The 35 ethnic groups of the P. R. China mainly live in the 12 regions of the YRV. Each ethnic group has its own culture, contributing to the valley's cultural diversity. Development is also uneven among the different sections of the YRV. In the middle reaches, for example, there are both vast rural areas and large and middle-sized cities, and the agricultural and industrial civilizations co-exist, featuring the civilization diversity.

In the summary, the typical features of the four stages of the evolution of human society, from primitive, agricultural, industrial to knowledge society, could be found successively in the upper, middle, lower reaches and estuary of the YRV in 2006, as if the river of human history had flowed from the upper reaches, to the middle reaches, the lower reaches and the estuary of the Yangtze River[31]. This phenomenon should be regarded as a case or one kind of the epitome of the evolution of human society and the "long river of human history", and named as the Yangtze River Model of the human civilization process (Figure Ⅰ-2).

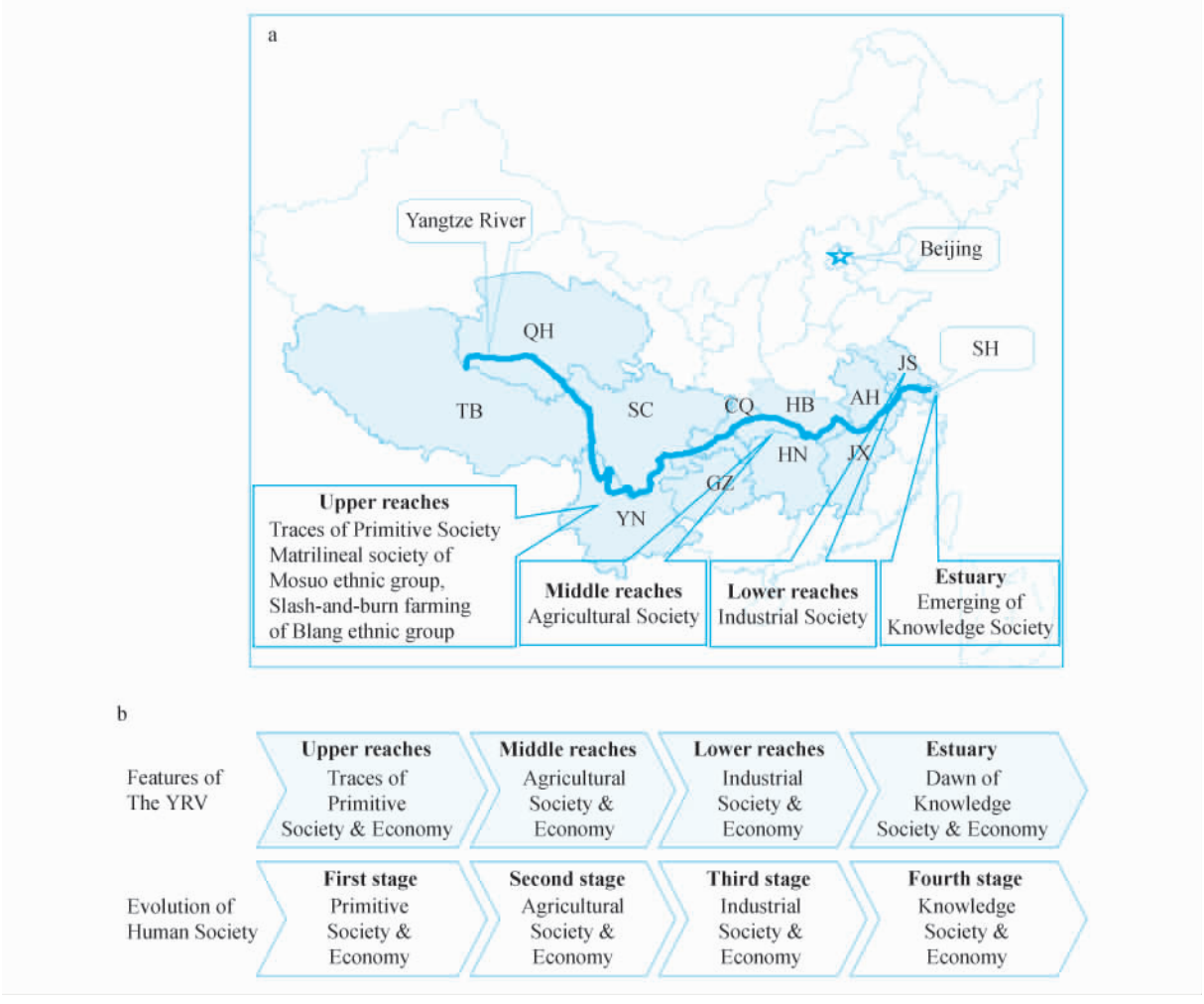


Figure Ⅰ-2 The features of the four sections of Yangtze River Valley and the four stages of the evolution of human society

a. The regional features of the Yangtze River Valley in 2006

b. The Yangtze River Model of the human civilization process

Note: The upper reaches of YRV include the six regions of Qinghai (QH), Tibet (TB), Yunnan (YN), Sichuan (SC), Chongqing (CQ) and Guizhou (GZ), its middle reaches comprise the four regions of Hubei (HB), Hunan (HN), Jiangxi (JX) and Anhui (AH) (partial), while its lower reaches include the two regions of Jiangsu (JS) and Shanghai (SH). The most parts of Anhui belong to the lower reaches. Shanghai lies near the estuary of the river.

2. Statistical Analysis of the Yangtze River Valley

The above findings showed us some features of the YRV coming from the direct observation, and what will the statistical data of the YRV tell us?

(1) The economic indicators of the YRV presented a top-down unevenness and orderliness (Table Ⅰ-3) in 2006. From the upper to the lower reaches, the social productivity (GDP per capita) increases, the proportion of agriculture employment declines, and both the proportion of industry and the service employment rise. The level of economic development in the lower reaches is visibly higher than that in the middle and upper reaches.

Table Ⅰ-3 The economic development of the Yangtze River Valley in 2006

Region	Social productivity (U. S. Dollar)	Output structure(%)			Employment structure(%)			Annotation
	GDP per capita	Agriculture	Industry	Service	Agriculture	Industry	Service	
Qinghai	1469	11	52	38	49	17	33	Industrialization (Upper reaches)
Tibet	1299	18	28	55	61	9	29	
Yunnan	1121	19	43	39	69	10	21	
Sichuan	1327	19	44	38	51	18	31	
Guizhou	762	17	43	40	57	10	32	
Chongqing	1560	12	43	45	45	22	33	
Hubei	1671	15	44	41	42	19	38	Industrialization (Middle reaches)
Hunan	1497	18	42	41	54	17	29	
Jiangxi	1351	17	50	34	46	22	32	
Anhui	1263	17	43	40	51	22	27	
Jiangsu	3597	7	57	36	28	39	34	Industry economy (Lower reaches)
Shanghai	7166	1	49	51	7	39	54	
Upper reaches	1256	16	42	42	56	14	30	Agricultural economy
Middle reaches	1445	16	45	39	48	20	32	Agricultural economy
Lower reaches	5382	4	53	43	17	39	44	Industrial economy
The estuary	7166	1	49	51	7	39	54	Knowledge economy

Note: The data of the upper, middle and lower reaches were the average of the regions in the upper, middle and lower reaches separately, and the data of the estuary were that of Shanghai. In the mountainous areas of the upper reaches of YRV, there are some traces of the primitive economy such as the slash-and-burn farming (the production mode of the Jino, Lahu, Blang and Hani ethnic group) till now.

The different sections of the YRV had the different economic characteristics in 2006. For example, the upper and middle reaches of the YRV are largely agricultural economy, Jiangsu in the lower reaches possesses the characteristics of industrial economy, and Shanghai at the estuary has the features of the "de-industrialization", and its knowledge economy has begun to take shape. The proportion of industry employment in Shanghai was declining steadily from 1990 to 2006 (Table Ⅰ-4).

Table Ⅰ-4 Changes of Shanghai's employment and output structures since 1970

Indicators and units	1970	1978	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2006
Proportion of agriculture employment (%)	37	35	29	16	11	9	13	7
Proportion of industry employment (%)	42	44	49	58	59	51	43	39
Proportion of service employment (%)	21	21	22	26	30	40	44	54
Proportion of agriculture value added (%)	5	4	3	4	4	3	2	1
Proportion of industry value added (%)	77	77	76	70	64	57	48	48
Proportion of service value added (%)	18	19	21	26	32	40	50	51

(2) The social indicators of the YRV also presented a top-down unevenness and orderliness (Table Ⅰ-5) in 2006. From the upper to the lower reaches, the urbanization rate, life expectancy at birth, gross enrollment ratio of tertiary education and Internet popularization rate were progressively increasing. The level of social development in the lower reaches was visibly higher than that in the middle and upper reaches.

Table Ⅰ-5 The social development of the Yangtze River Valley in 2006

Region	Urbanization rate (%)	Life expectancy at birth (Year)	Infant mortality rate (‰)	Adult literacy rate (%)	Gross enrollment ratio of tertiary education (%)	Television popularization rate (Users/100 households)	Internet popularization rate (Users/100 people)	Annotation
Qinghai	39	67	23.5	81	10	92	7	Urbanization (Upper reaches)
Tibet	28	65	22.6	54	10	69	6	
Yunnan	31	66	35.9	84	9	84	6	
Sichuan	34	72	12.0	87	15	91	8	
Guizhou	27	67	34.2	81	8	81	4	
Chongqing	47	72	12.6	90	20	91	8	
Hubei	44	72	10.2	90	22	96	9	Urbanization (Middle reaches)
Hunan	39	71	14.0	93	16	88	6	
Jiangxi	39	70	25.4	91	23	94	7	
Anhui	37	72	16.5	84	14	95	6	
Jiangsu	52	75	7.2	91	26	100	14	Industry society (Lower reaches)
Shanghai	89	80	2.6	95	57	100	28	
Upper reaches	34	68	23	80	12	85	6	Agricultural society
Middle reaches	40	71	17	90	19	93	7	Agricultural society
Lower reaches	70	78	5	93	41	100	21	Industrial society
The estuary	89	80	2.6	95	57	100	28	Knowledge society

Note: The data of the upper, middle and lower reaches were the average of the regions in the upper, middle and lower reaches separately, and the data of the estuary was that of Shanghai. In the mountainous areas of the upper reaches of YRV, there are some traces of the primitive society such as the habits and customs of a matrilineal society (the life style of the Mosuo ethnic group) till now.

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