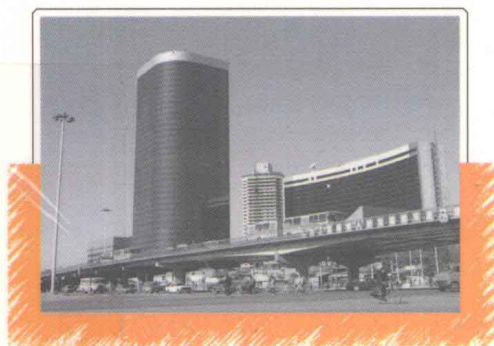
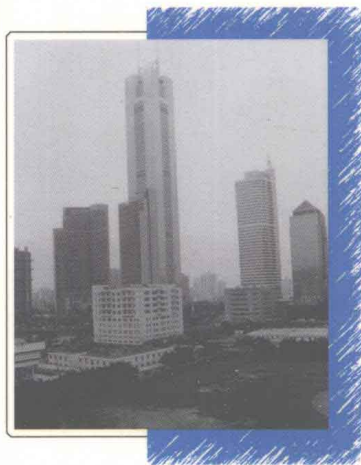


# Urban Development and Urbanization in China

(Selected Works of Professor Xu Xueqiang)

## 中国城市发展与城市化

(许学强教授英文论文选集)





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(许学强教授英文论文选集)

● 许学强 著

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## **Preface**

Collected herein are my 20 English academic theses published abroad (one was published in China). Most of them were published in the top international academic journals with fairly high authority in the academic domain, and the rest in books such as *The China Quarterly*, *The Annals of Regional Science*, *Third World Planning Review*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Urban Geography*, etc. Six of the theses were anthologized in SSCI.

Though the time span during which the theses were published covers almost 20 years (1984 – 2002), their publication time was focused in 1984 (4 theses), 1985 (2 theses), 1990 (5 theses) and 1995 (3 theses). Obviously the distribution of their publishing time has closely related with my academic status in those periods. Generally speaking, each thesis was published two or three years after the research achievements had been made. Between 1982 – 1983 I was invited to do cooperative research for a whole year in Urban and Regional Research Centre, Hong Kong University, which rendered me a good opportunity for research work. The theses published in 1984 and 1985 respectively were the main research achievements I made in that period. Due to the rather busy administrative work back in my university and a certain period of time for my scientific research work to get accumulated, not until 1990 did I intensively publish another 5 English theses. Afterwards I undertook the administrative role in the university and then took office in the Guangdong Provincial Bureau of Higher Education, and was unable to squeeze any time for scientific research work.

As to the contents of the theses, I think they mainly involve 3 aspects:

1) Research on single city. The research in the 3 English theses collected herein is focused on Guangzhou covering its locational conditions, history of development, functional, land use, evolution of urban planning and the social space, etc. ;

2) Research on the regional development and urbanization of the Pearl River Delta. The research in the 9 theses collected herein is focused on Pearl River Delta covering its

regional variation, regional governing, Cross-border transport network, especially the intensive research on the development characteristics of the towns development issues of the towns, motive mechanism of urbanization, industrialization and urbanization in the conditions of opening to the outside world, etc. ;

3) Research on China's urban system, including the scale structure and space distribution, new cities and urban primacy of urban system, and covers the urban population growth urbanization and differences among provinces, also involving the rural to urban migration.

How to assess the significance of these theses published abroad? I think all I can say is the reaction is quite good. Taking into consideration of the quantity, 6 theses published in one go during 1984 and 1985, and then another 5 theses in 1990, some professionals of my occupation at that time called me the human geographer who had published the most theses abroad. Of course I have never checked that, only thanking them for their concerns on my theses. As to the content, I think the following points are worthy of being mentioned:

1) "The Social Space of Guangzhou City China" published in *Urban Geography* presented abroad for the first time an introduction to the status of social space in cities of socialist China. This thesis has been anthologized in SSCI. The publication of this thesis, together with another thesis (in Chinese) concerning the social space in Shanghai, has terminated the vacancy of research on social space in Chinese cities.

2) The Pearl River Delta located at the forefront of opening and reform has drawn intensive interest from people of the world for its tremendous changes. The 2 theses published in *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* and *Chinese Sociology and Anthropology* revealed to my colleagues abroad of this occupation for the first time the motive force for urbanization of rural areas in the regions of opening and reform, the evolution of town systems as well as the laws of space interaction and restructuring of space economy. These 2 theses have been anthologized in SSCI.

3) Detailed and comprehensive analyses were made for the first time to my colleagues abroad of this occupation on the evolution of urban systems in China, including the evolution since 1949 in city-size distribution and regional distribution of Chinese cities. The 2 theses published in *Urban Geography* and *Third World Planning Review* have been anthologized in SSCI.

4) The population in cities of China have been a "mystery" to the research abroad

on the urban population and urbanization in China. My thesis published in *The China Quarterly* presented in the earliest time the detailed explanation on the concept of urban population in cities of China, rendering a detailed analysis on the population growth and urbanization since 1949 in China. This thesis has drawn extensive attention from my colleagues of this occupation and has been cited by 46 man/times( citations in books excluded) and anthologized in SSCI.

One thing most worths mention is the publication in English of these theses is mostly the outcome of my collaboration with the scholars abroad who are better aware of the trends of research in the world and well acquainted with the writing regulations of theses up to the standards for publication in the top international academic journals. Among the collaborators in this occupation from Hong Kong University, Hong Kong Chinese University, Hong Kong Baptist University, Washington University and Hawaii University in USA, Sydney University in Australia, etc. I will never forget their assistance leading me to the world.

With heart-felt thanks and sincere intention to expectation for suggestion and criticism, I hereby present this collection of theses as a report to my leaders, colleagues and friends who have offered me sincere assistance, supports and concerns on me.

## 序

这里搜集的是我以英文在境外发表的 20 篇学术论文(1 篇在国内发表),其中大部分发表在国际学术刊物上,少部分发表在英文书籍中。这些期刊大多数是国际顶尖的学术刊物,在学科领域中具有较高的权威性。如 *The China Quarterly*, *The Annals of Regional science*, *Third World Planning Review*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Urban Geography* 等。有 6 篇论文被 SSCI 收录。

论文发表的时间,虽然纵跨近 20 年(1984—2002 年),但主要集中在 1984 年(4 篇)、1985 年(2 篇)、1990 年(5 篇)、1995 年(3 篇)。显然论文发表的时间分布与我当时的学术状况有关。一般而言,当年发表的是前两三年研究的成果。1982—1983 年我应邀到香港大学城市与区域研究中心合作研究一年,是我开展研究工作的好机会。1984、1985 年发表的论文便主要是这段时期的研究成果。返校后因行政工作较多,科研工作也要一定时间积累,直到 1990 年才又集中发表了 5 篇英文论文。随后我担任学校行政管理工作,直到 1992 年到广东省高教厅任职,更是无遐从事科研工作。

就论文的内容来说,主要涉及三方面:①单个城市研究。搜集的 3 篇英文论文研究了广州的区位条件、发展历史、功能定位、土地利用与城市规划演变及广州社会空间等。②珠江三角洲区域发展与城市化研究。搜集的 9 篇论文,研究了珠江三角洲区域经济发展差异、区域管治、跨境运输网络,特别是集中研究了对外开放条件下城镇发展特征、城镇发展问题、城市化动力机制、工业化与城市化等。③中国城市体系与城市化研究。搜集的 8 篇论文,研究了中国城市体系,包括规模结构和空间分布、新城市及城市体系的首位度;研究了中国城市人口增长、城市化及其省际差异;此外还涉及到城乡人口迁移。

如何评价这些论文在境外发表的意义?我想,只能说反应不错。从数量上看,由于 1984 年、1985 年发表了 6 篇,1990 年又发表 5 篇,所以当时一些境外同行们称我是在国外发表论文最多的中国内地的人文地理学者。当然我没有去查对,只是感谢他们对我论文的关注。从内容上看,有几点可值得提出的:① *Urban Geography* 上发表的“*The social space of Guangzhou city China*”第一次在国外介绍社会主义

中国城市社会空间的状况,该文被 SSCI 收录。这篇论文的发表与一篇关于上海社会空间的论文(中文)一起填补了中国城市社会空间研究的空白。②珠江三角洲地处改革开放前沿,珠江三角洲的巨变受到世人关注。在 *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 和 *Chinese Sociology and Anthropology* 发表的两篇论文,首次向境外同行揭示了在对外开放地区乡村城市化的动力、城镇体系的演变以及空间互动、空间经济重构的规律。该两篇论文都被 SSCI 收录。③首次详尽而深入地向境外同行分析了中国城市体系的演变,包括自 1949 年以来中国城市规模结构和空间格局的演变。在 *Urban Geography* 和 *Third world planning Review* 发表的两篇文章都被收入 SSCI。④中国城市人口数一直是境外研究中国城市人口、城市化的一个“谜”。在 *The China Quarterly* 发表的论文最早就中国城市人口概念作了详细解析,对 1949 年以来中国城市人口增长和城市化作作了具体分析,受到同行广泛关注,被 46 人次引用(不含书引用),并收录 SSCI。

不能忘记的一点是,这些论文得以英文发表,大多数都是与境外学者合作的结果。他们更了解国际研究动态,懂得论文写作规范,能使论文达到国际顶尖学术刊物的出版水平。合作者包括香港大学、香港中文大学、香港浸会大学及美国华盛顿大学、夏威夷大学、澳大利亚悉尼大学等的同行们。我不会忘记是他们帮我走向世界。

现在将这些论文汇集成册,别无他意。仅以此向帮助、支持和关爱我的领导、同事们、朋友们汇报,向他们表示感谢。盼望能得到批评和指正。



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# **Part I**

***The Development Evolution and  
Social Space of Guangzhou City***

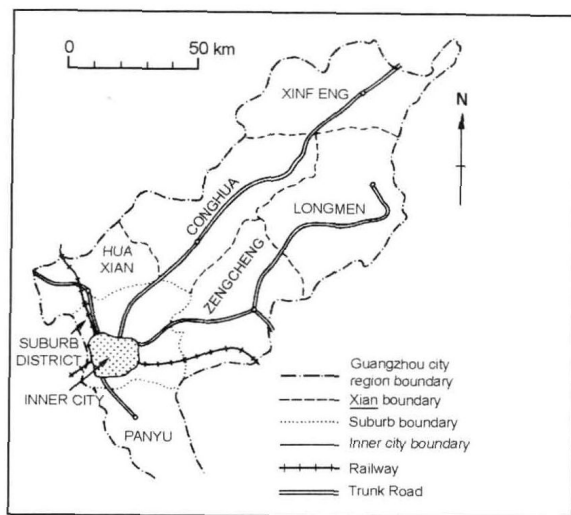
**（广州市发展演变与社会空间研究）**

# 1 Guangzhou: China's Southern Gateway\*

(广州——中国的南大门)

## 1.1 Introduction

The capital of Guangdong Province and the economic hub of southern China, Guangzhou has long been a port of international stature, hence its name, “China's Southern Gateway”. The city is composed of the following administrative regions: six xian (counties), Conghua, HuaXian, Zengcheng, Longmen, Xinfeng and Panyu; two suburbs, Huangpu and Jiaoqu; and four city districts, Liwan, Yuexiu, Dongshan and “Henan” (Figure 1.1).



**Figure 1.1 Administrative Divisions of Guangzhou City Region**

Source: *Guangzhou Economic Yearbook 1985* (Guangzhou, Guangzhou Economic Yearbook Editorial Committee, 1984), p. 17.

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\* Published in Victor F. S. Sit, Editor, Chinese cities—The growth of the metropolis since 1949. 1985. Oxford university press, Hong Kong

The total area of the city region is about 12,000sq. km. , and the population in 1982 was 3.6 million (Table 1.1). The municipality, which includes the four city districts and the two suburbs, has a total built-up area of 230 sq. km. and an urban population of 2.38 million. Guangzhou is therefore a large city with a population of over one million, but, like most of the large cities in China, its suburbs and xian (县) are still largely rural.

**Table 1.1 Area and Population of Guangzhou City Region, 1982**

	Area (sq. km)	Population (millions)	Density (persons per sq. km.)
4 city districts	54.5	1.89	34 743
2 suburbs <sup>1</sup>	399.6	1.23	879
6 rural xian	10411.8	2.50	245
Total	11 756.8	5.62	478

Source: *Almanac of China's Economy* 1983, p. V; 126 (see Note 10).

## 1.2 Geographical Setting

### 1.2.1 Transport and Trade

Guangzhou lies at the confluence of the Dong and Bei Rivers, two of the navigable rivers of the ZhuJiang (Pearl River) system, the third largest in China. It is situated in the upper part of a drowned valley that extends south to Humen (Figure 1.2), and it is about midway along the coastline of Guangdong, marking the northern limit of the ZhuJiang Delta. As the delta is a patchwork of river channels, including the province's major outlets into the sea, such as Humen, Yamen, Hengmen and Modaomen, Guangzhou enjoys favourable conditions as a port, and has long been nicknamed the "Silk Road on Water".

Guangzhou has maintained close contact with central and northern China since the Qin dynasty.<sup>[1]</sup> At present it is the junction of the Jing-Guang (Beijing-Guangzhou), Guang-Shen (Guangzhou-Shenzhen) and Guang-San (Guangzhou-Sanshui) railways, and is an important air terminal in southern China. Guangzhou's convenient transport links with the rest of China have aided its development as China's major foreign trade port.



**Figure 1.2 Zhu Jiang Delta (Pearl River Delta)**

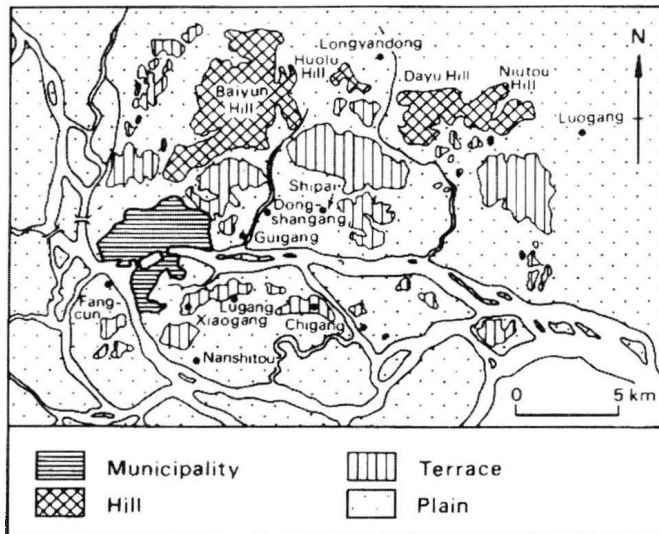
*Source; Modified from Map of Guangdong Province (Beijing, Xinhua Bookstore, 1980, in Chinese).*

### **1.2.2 The Site**

The land on which Guangzhou lies slopes gently towards the south-west and south-east, with higher ground to the north-east (Figure 1.3).<sup>[2]</sup> In the north-eastern suburb are a number of hills rising to 400 m. above sea level. These include Baiyun Hill, Huolu Hill, Batan Hill, Dayu Hill and Niutou Hill, which are interspersed with rolling hills and valleys.

On the southern edge of the hills, towards the centre of the city, are a number of terraces on a low lying plain (Figure 1.3). Most of these terraces are uniform in height and flat. The first terraces are 40 ~ 50 m. above sea level, and although most are composed of granite cut into the rolling hills by river action, a few have red soil beds. The latter have been weathered intensively and suffer from erosion. At the second level the terraces are 20 ~ 30 m. high, and are composed mainly of red sandstone, shale and conglomerates. They are much more widely distributed than the higher terraces and are found to the north and south of the Zhu Jiang, in areas such as Dongshangang, Guigang, Chigang, Xiaogang, Lugang and Nanshitou. The second level terraces provide firm sites for urban and industrial development.





**Figure 1.3 Suburban Area of Guangzhou**

Source: Compiled by the author from various sources.

Between some of the terraces is flat fertile lowland which, because it can be drained easily for agricultural development, is Guangzhou's main source of vegetables and other farm products. The Chepo Plain, lying to the north of the Guang-Shen Railway and to the east of Shipai, rises to a level of 15 ~ 20m., and is slightly wider in the south-east. South of the Zhu Jiang lies a flood plain, 10 m. below sea level, which is easily flooded by tidal water; it is now strongly protected by dykes.

The main source of water for the city is the Liuxi River which originates in the northern hills near Conghua. It flows along the western side of the city and is joined by Lubao-Shui and the Guanyao channel to the east of Jiangcun (Figure 1.2). Thence, it flows south to Shimen where it divides into two. One branch flows past the Renmin and Haizhu Bridges and then down to Huangpu Harbour. The other flows eastwards to Nanshitou, where it rejoins the first tributary. The reunited river then joins the Dong River, and finally enters the sea via Humen. The river is navigable as well as being a source of water supply. The Zhu Jiang is also navigable and flows through the city centred.<sup>[3]</sup>