

Book Review

The Collective Sharing Civilization : New Form of Coordinated Development

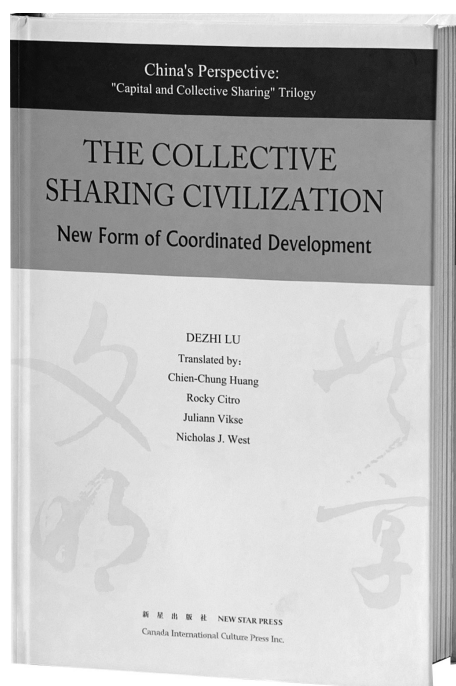
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There are six chapters in the book. Chapter 1 is about the rise of the collective sharing civilization. In Chapter 2, the author describes the relationship between the collective sharing and human civilizations. Then, in chapter 3, the concept of the essence of the collective sharing civilization is introduced. In Chapter 4, the author links the concept of transcendence as a community of common destiny. Then, Lu (2018) discusses the future directions of the collective sharing civilization in Chapter 5. Finally, in chapter 6, he proposes a program for the direction of the collective sharing civilization mentioned in

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the previous chapter. Apart from the inspiring content of the six chapters, readers learn about the new era of the new global civilization, where Chinese is a major player, in the introduction of the book. Likewise, in the conclusion of the book, the author compared the Chinese way of the collective sharing as the Renaissance of the 21st century. Then, in the appendix, the author discussed the role of China in the global community in promoting the concept of the collective sharing civilization.

This book helps readers to better understand the Chinese vision by learning from the past, present and the future of Chinese sharing civilization. Lu (2018) introduces many critical incidents which transformed China into the digital globalization in the 21st century. The highlights of the books are Chinese idioms and the philosophical quotes that enable readers to better understand the Chinese way of thinking. More importantly, the author compares and contrasts the vision of Western and Chinese leaders in cultivating the new form of coordinated development.

To illustrate, the foreword, written by Teng Wensheng, provides readers with an overview of Chinese collective sharing beliefs. Teng notes that:

“Development sometimes takes twists and turns, just as waves have peaks and troughs. China has also experienced a transition over the two-thousand-year-civilization. ...One of the Chinese classic Book of the rites: “Great Unity (*datong*) emphasizes that “the world belonged to all individuals” but “the world is for the public.”

While China has adopted Western technology and civilization, Chinese people adapted the foreign culture to fit the Chinese context. Modern China is shaped by President Xi Jinping’s theory of shared development through people centeredness along with the support of the government in order to achieve mutual benefits. The Chinese sharing civilization philosophy promotes mutual benefits among stakeholders. For instance, the “One Belt One Road Initiative” connects the economic development of the East and the West through the Chinese global collaboration via the road and maritime networks.

Since the late 1970s, Chinese economic reforms have established the socialist market economy in which the government regulates, allocates and balances resources through the market under centralized governmental planning. With the open-door policy, the Chinese government welcomes foreign investment in industry, trade and commerce with a view to reform Chinese market. Consequently, in 2011, China became the second

–largest world economy after the USA. Lu (2018) points out the dilemma of trade protectionism as a harmful strategy which discriminates between foreign investors and overlooks the importance of a free-trade economy.

Conversely, Lu (2018) promotes the flow of capital to all stakeholders with a Chinese concept on socialism,

“People do not all need to wear the same type of shoes; they should find what best suits their feet. Likewise, each government should figure out what system benefits its people. There is no universally applicable mode of development. Only development that can continuously benefit the majority will survive and last.” (Lu, 2018, p.18).

He notes that under the president Xi Jinping’s the “One Belt One Road” which was initiated in 2013 and connects 60 countries across four continents, Chinese capital flows to foreign countries in promoting mutual economic benefit.

Similar to the Western sharing economy concept, “People who live a life of sharing will realize their values through sharing. [...] Only when the sharing lifestyle becomes a social norm, a true collective sharing civilization is established.” (Lu, 2018, p.26).

Overall, this is a must-read book for entrepreneurs, government officers, researchers and students who are interested in collaborating with Chinese individuals and public enterprises.

References

Lu, D. (2018). **The Collective Sharing Civilization : New Form of Coordinated Development.** Beijing : New Star Press.