A Comparative Study of Japanese and Chinese CEO Attitudes

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to compare Japanese CEO attitudes with those of Chinese CEOs. There are two economic systems in the world: planned and market-oriented. The Japanese economy is based on a market-orientation while the Chinese economy has been based on a planned one. However, China changed her direction from a planned economy to a market economy in 1978 by Deng Xiao Ping. In the past thirty years, the Chinese economy has developed greatly. The average GNP in this time span is 9.8% while that of the Japanese is 2.4% and the American is 2.9%. Accordingly, Chinese CEO’s attitudes have changed greatly, too. They now prefer a market economy to a planned one and they think that under a market economy, everything goes more smoothly than under a planned one. Before China changed her direction, the government owned and controlled every company, but after she changed her direction, many private companies were established and started their business without government control and many of them have been operating successfully. The income of Chinese workers has increased greatly and their quality of life has improved, too. Therefore, Chinese CEO’s prefer a market economy without government control even if they suffer from severe competition that they never have experienced in the past planned economy.

But in the real world, Chinese CEOs still think that many things such as broadcasting and television, hospitals, universities, employment agencies, public security, and judicial systems should be controlled by government.

Key Words: Japanese and Chinese, CEO attitudes, planned or market economy