# How Asia Works Joe Studwell

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until the catastrophic economic crisis of the late 1990s east asia was perceived as a monolithic success story but heady economic growth rates masked the most divided continent in the world one half the most extraordinary developmental success story ever seen the other half a paper tiger joe studwell explores how policies ridiculed by economists created titans in japan korea and taiwan and are now behind the rise of china while the best advice the west could offer sold its allies in south east asia down the economic river the first book to offer an asia wide deconstruction of success and failure in economic development studwell s latest work is provocative and iconoclastic and sobering reading for most of the world s developing countries how asia works is a must read book that packs powerful insights about the world s most misunderstood continent

this book a bestseller in china with over a million copies sold depicts the role played by the chinese government in china s economic development it explains how the chinese government has gradually established and improved market mechanisms while promoting economic growth the book particularly points out that the chinese government not only governs the economy through policy guidance but also directly participates in the process of urbanization and industrialization as part of the market it also introduces the specific mechanisms of government involvement in economic activities which forms a bridge between economic theory and the reality of china this book a winner of the wenjin book award by the national library of china will be an invaluable reference for scholars seeking to understand china s economic policy and government system reform in the years to come

this is an indispensable career guide for everyone wanting to work in or already working in the international development and humanitarian emergencies sector it provides a general introduction and insight into the sector for those exploring it as a potential career and offers students up to date advice when choosing a course whether it s at undergraduate or postgraduate level should they study international development or will public health environmental studies or media get them closer to where they want to get this book offers graduates or career changers who are new to the sector an understanding of what skills and

experience will make them stand out above the competition and get that job it enables those already working in the sector to gain a long term view of where they want to go and how they might structure their professional development to gain the skills and competencies necessary to get their career on to an upward trajectory this book draws heavily on insiders advice case studies and top tips to provide the reader with various perspectives and insights how do you become a country director for an international ngo how can one become a gender mainstreaming expert what can you do to get in to consultancy career trajectories career clinics q a boxes and the personal planner in the appendix will help you get to where you want to go it also gives a detailed account of the myriad of careers and specialism available within the sector and methodologically describes the pros and cons of each option so if you are not sure where you want to go with your career you will be after you have read this book whether it s programme management becoming an environmental advisor or an acadmic this book will give you an insight into what the job entails and how you can get in to it it will be an invaluable guide to all readers irrespective of their country of origin who are interested in the sector

in 1960 the gdp per capita of southeast asian countries was nearly half of that of africa by 1986 the gap had closed and today the trend is reversed with more than half of the world s poorest now living in sub saharan africa why has asia developed while africa lagged the asian aspiration chronicles the stories of explosive growth and changing fortunes the leaders events and policy choices that lifted a billion people out of abject poverty within a single generation the largest such shift in human history the relevance of asia s example comes as africa is facing a population boom which can either lead to crisis or prosperity and as asia is again transforming this time out of low cost manufacturing into hi tech leaving a void that is africa s for the taking far from the optimistic determinism of africa rising this book calls for unprecedented pragmatism in the pursuit of african success

china s war of resistance against japan as wwii is known in china was never about the defeat of japan alone china was also at war with itself between 1937 and 1949 a vicious revolutionary war between nationalists and communists divided by radically different views about china s future ravaged the country killing millions and laying waste to cities and the countryside the outcomes of these wars have shaped the country and the world since china at war focuses on this period examining the complex truth behind the propaganda of both east and west cambridge professor hans van de ven shows how the results of the fighting ended european imperialism in east asia restored china to its traditional position of regional centrality and gave the usa a decisive role in east asian politics in the process he argues it also triggered profound changes in warfare as important as the development of atomic weapons and gave the countryside a new social political and military significance through fascinating personal accounts and extensive scholarship china at war casts new light on this crucial period of history and harnesses contemporary art culture and ideology to illuminate world changing events

please note this is a companion version not the original book sample book insights 1 in a country in the early stages of development typically 75 percent of the population is employed in agriculture the problem with agriculture in pre industrial states with rising populations is that when market forces are left to themselves agricultural yields tend to stagnate or even fall 2 the question of efficiency depends on what outcome you are looking for big capitalist farms may produce the highest return on cash invested but that is not the agricultural efficiency that is appropriate to a developing state 3 the world of the home fruit and vegetable gardener is very familiar to the post war east asian peasant family with its mini farm the labor intensive gardening approach to cultivation gets more out of a given plot of land than anything else 4 the problem is that the gardening level of output needs so much labor if mr doiron gardened full time he might be able to maintain his yields for 1 000 square meters of land but that would still require ten mr doirons to earn 135 000 across one hectare before costs

this book argues that that the rise of great firms those with sustainable high return on invested capital roic will lay the foundation for china's successful economic transformation drawn from the author's research on corporate finance and the chinese economy the author maintains that being big could be easy but means little for corporate china especially in the context of china's transition from an investment led economy to an efficiency driven one the work discusses both internal and external impediments that lead to lack of great companies in china and suggests institutional conditions which foster the rise of great companies in china including reversing the government's obsession with gdp reforming the financial system and promoting entrepreneurship policy makers investors corporate executives and mba students and scholars will appreciate case studies of huawei alibaba xiaomi and lenovo among others that illustrate the endeavors made by chinese entrepreneurs at the grassroots level and highlight what makes successful companies in china

the author of how asia works follows the money alarming enlightening joe studwell should be named chief myth buster for asian business financial times hong kong and southeast asia are home to five hundred million people yet their economies are dominated by only fifty families whose interests range from banking to real estate shipping to sugar gambling to lumber at their peak eight of the world s two dozen richest men were southeast asian but their names would not be familiar to most regular readers of the wall street journal a complex mythology surrounds these billionaires but in asian godfathers joe studwell finds that the facts are even more remarkable than the myths studwell has spent fifteen years as a reporter in the region and he marshals his unprecedented sources to paint intimate and revealing portraits of the men who control southeast asia studwell also provides us with a rich and deep understanding of the broader historic economic and political influences that have shaped southeast asia over the past 150 years asian godfathers is a riveting and illuminating book that lifts the curtain on a world of staggering secrecy and hypocrisy and reveals for the first time who the leaders of one of the planet's most important and tumultuous markets really are why they got to the top and how they keep themselves there the romp around the region s pleasure domes is a blast the wall street journal asia

the social and political realities of the chinese occupation of tibet are more complex than commonly acknowledged and change frequently over time john heath s overview lends perspective to this conflict through examination of the situation as it stands as well as reviewing how it has arrived at the present state of affairs

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wolfgang h thomas provides a concise yet detailed assessment of current trade and investment activities in africa with a view to highlighting the importance and mutually beneficial engagement of recipient and investing countries between south africa and developed nations as well as inter african partnerships thomas also identifies the risks and impediments currently hindering south africa s fdi flows in order to further realise the new african fdi paradigm

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