



# The Political Economy of Asian Transition from Communism

Sujian Guo, San Francisco State University, USA  
Transition and Development



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A comparative study of the political economy of the transition from communism in East and Southeast Asian countries (China, North Korea, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia), addressing the key theoretical questions generated from the debate between shock-therapists and gradualists. While accurately defining the pre-reform model, this book explores the causal variables that have contributed to reform efforts within Asia, examining the significance of the sequencing of political and economic transition and the interplay between politics and the economy in determining variations in transition outcomes.

Comparing the 'real world' experiences of transition nations in communist Asia with Eastern Europe, prominent questions are brought to the fore; will market capitalism or market socialism prevail after the grand failure of communism? This book makes an important contribution to the political economy theory of comparative communist and post-communist studies and provides detailed analytical insights that will prove influential in future theoretical work.

## Contents

Introduction: patterns and explanations; Historical background and pre-transition models; Explaining Asian transition from communism; Strategic choices and sequencing of reform; The nature of Asian transition from communism; Redesigning market socialism: a future for socialism; Selected bibliography; Index.

## About the Author

Dr Sujian Guo is an Associate Professor in Political Science at San Francisco State University, USA, and the Editor of a refereed academic journal - Journal of Chinese Political Science. His research interests have focused on communist and post-communist studies, democratic transition, Chinese politics, and political economy of East and Southeast Asia. He has published more than 24 articles both in English and Chinese journals.

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