

# Land Reform and Regime Consolidation in Jiangnan and Taiwan, 1950-1953

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## Abstract

This lecture considers land reform on the two sides of the Taiwan Straits in the early 1950s.

For each of these consolidating regimes, land reform was felt to be a necessary and important component of regime legitimacy

as well as indispensable to a larger process of remaking the countryside in the image of the regime. Despite their obvious differences in tactics, the CCP and GMD both drew from a common set of repertoires, mobilized the commitments of state agents in pushing through the campaign, and could credibly claim "success", thus laying the groundwork for the imposition of new rhetorics of state hegemony that have remained more or less unquestioned until now.

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