

Review of Traditional Economic History Research Methods

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Abstract. For decades, this young discipline Economic History has experienced the difficult founding phase, and gradually has its flourished prospect. Although the political history of Ancient China is still slightly inferior compared with ideological or cultural history, China society seems to have encountered a "political history heat" or recently emerged "cultural history heat". Step by step, it advances, develops, and constructs characteristics of the self-Eden. There was also noisy view that some academic knowledge in this discipline was not essential, but actually the academic society should not forget any of the achievements made in this area. These important achievements have indeed gratified and satisfied assiduous scholars for these years. This paper reviews the traditional economic research method and presents key points to keep innovation in this field.

Introduction

Economic theory and economic history not only answer how to run the real economy, but also explain the long-term trends and structural changes in the economy. Economist North believes that the basic task of economic history is to explain the economic structure and performance throughout the period. Mr. Wu Chengming also pointed out that economic history is the study of the economy in each historical period is how to run, and the mechanisms and effects of its operation. study economic history is a historical process of human economic activity, on the one hand it requires us to human economic activities course objective detailed description, it also requires us to make the timing of the economic development, "Interpretation of the regularity of Marx," Schumpeter "Kuznets" Schultz and other scholars have traditionally considered historical theory a source of inspiration. Economic History is part of economics, but economics and economic history is not contained or integrated with each other, but to provide each other methodology. Marx and Engels pointed out when it comes to research the history of economics and economic history, great emphasis to pay attention to the logical approach, emphasis on abstract and theoretical overview of economic relations, while Hicks also believes that the historical theory of economics and economic development should be uniform in such a unified performance: under the guidance of economic theory historical research on economic development in the history of economic development of the economic theory for verification.

First, the economic history of economics is the source of empirical evidence of empirical method is one of the main methods of economics, the nature of its approach simply is to speak with the experience and the fact that, while the direct use of the experience and the facts speak, it is economic history fundamental characteristics and advantages: on the one hand, economic history can provide more reliable empirical evidence of economic assumptions and propositions; on the other hand, can provide a more empirical fact is assumed to be the fact that economic theory and economic history of a lot of experience to offer. , greatly expanding the range of empirical economics, to provide more factual basis for the empirical verification of economic theory and these through economic historians refining and abstract empirical facts derived regularity than economists perceived reality the world economy is much more reliable. economists can use the experience of the world economic history provided by economics assumptions and propositions experimental testing and theoretical economic model modification, and improvement of theoretical abstraction from history and reality.

Secondly, economic history is the starting point of economic theory study hypothesis. Hypothesis is an important step in the establishment of economic theory. An economic study of the

theory, instead of relying on the theory of consistent empirical facts, but rather rely on their own logic rigor. However, any hypothesis or theory, along with the economic realities of change and development, which was established upon which the validity will lose its original truth, if you do not modify it, it will cause the entire economic edifice shaking as neoclassical economics with a preference for deductive reasoning can not be changed, too much emphasis to the development of fully formulated theoretical system, leading to a series of assumptions and propositions fallacy that faces many challenges and embarrassment, such as a black box. North traced lies in the lack of a sense of history. Schumpeter also pointed out that if a person does not grasp the historical facts, do not have the proper sense of history or the so-called historical experience, he can not expect to understand any age (including the current) economic phenomena. Furthermore, economic history economics were regular guidance on the economic history of economics is abstract before, the role of economic theory for the study of economic history is that it determines what economic point of view study history, what means understanding and interpretation of economic history. that is, before the economic interpretation of history, the need for a conceptual basis, and this basis is provided by the concept of economics. Economics guidance on economic history, mainly in two aspects, economics, economic history offers a variety of theoretical models available, such as Schumpeter's innovation model, North and system analysis model Rostow takeoff model. There are various analytical economics tools can be used in the analysis of economic historians, such as econometric methods, marginal analysis, etc. Therefore, the introduction and use of new economic theory and a variety of social science theory in economic history, can not only be historical re-induction "combinations and order, but also of great historical issues summed up a rule. Therefore, combining economic theory and history, from an economic point of view, economics is to take the initiative to resort to test and revise its economic history hypothesis is the task of economic reform important aspect of economic history, not only to provide more material was confirmed by economic theory, but also to provide more newer and better economic theory is assumed. as pointed out by North : the purpose of economic history only to explain the economy in the past, but also to contribute to economic theory, to provide an analytical framework helps us to understand economic change from the perspective of economic history, economic history in chronological explanation of the economic structure. its performance is to be construed from the time evolution of the economic structure and performance, with the economic methods to understand and explain the historical research. to take advantage of the economic history of the concept of economics "viewpoint and method, and theoretical models to analyze and interpret history to achieve it combines economic history and economics, while the West since the 1950s, the economic historian at the theoretical and methodological breakthroughs in history, is a manifestation of this.

Thoughts on the Systems Approach

Any one discipline, it's ripe or not, it depends primarily and it has no form their own theoretical system. Economic history, in addition to the acceptance of principles guiding philosophy of thinking outside it for granted to get the boot Economic Theory and Method. Deep, inclusive, and its insight penetration economic theory has, for anatomy ancient Chinese economic phenomenon is undoubtedly crucial for the armor. However, quality and accumulation in this area do not entirely satisfactory. Many people are turning from the History of Chinese economic history, cast have received rigorous training in economics, the first tender enough. But that is not all the original storm. Let us look at some of the existing Chinese History books tend to be the relations of production and productivity separated to describe and analyze, the former almost all focused on the ownership relations, the latter emphasis on the production of a list of tools and technology to stay on the description of the minutiae, seem trivial, the lack of a coherent analysis of the overall summary, the reader is difficult to thereby form a general impression, do not excite strong interest. Economic part of classroom teaching also has similar shortcomings, and is often compressed, squeezed, not deserved position. This indirectly reflects the history of ancient China Economic Research in theoretical thinking of having some kind of weak and one-sidedness. Of course, the blame fell completely head of research of ancient Chinese economic history, it is unfair. Ultimately, this is

precisely a microcosm of our country in terms of economic theory encountered situation. Recognizing this, it need not be investigated in the past. Importantly, we must closely track the current economic theory and methods are undergoing tremendous progress and breakthroughs, to improve our theoretical thinking, and then penetrate into the creative disciplines to go. It is anticipated that, due to its promotion, economic history of ancient Chinese study will look, by leaps and bounds.

Innovative thinking, the first thing to say is that the economy must be seen as a big complex dynamic system. To grasp the economic characteristics of a country or a whole era, from the point of view of system theory, we must pay attention to its internal structure analysis (complex mode of action of contact within the system at all levels, factors) to its internal environment and the external environment constraints intricate relationship (economic system play a role in the natural environment, politics, ideology and culture, and so on other social subsystems mode of action) between for detailed study, determining its overall effect and performance. Modern economic theory and method has a number of significant breakthroughs in this regard, we should be ready to shut its dynamic, timely absorb the introduction of its beneficial results for our use.

From Natural Ecology to various objective conditions of social and political subjects, ideology and culture is a certain time, the external environment within the space of economic phenomena. Isolation on economy is difficult to reveal the economic development and changes in motion complex causal network. For example, a closed feudal society is a concept of economic self-sufficiency is very inconsistent, very early in ancient Chinese economy showing commodity economy, market economy and even super-national market trade area some people call it the path "of the national economy system active in some kind of abnormal features. It is a historical fact, but people bewildered.

Enlightenment on Western Comparative Method

Comparative history methods are emerging. Western Comparative angle of thinking indeed can help us to overcome the barrier of space, broaden their horizons, ranging from the world of Ancient Chinese Economic History comparison to identify, acquire new knowledge. Ancient China Ancient China on terms, when there is "cross as many different angles," like confused, indeed difficult to glimpse the truth. On the West is now on the economic history is constantly being translated and introduced in, Western Comparative conditions are better than ever, we should seize the favorable opportunity to solicit Expo to advance our reflection on the ancient economy.

Plans on Multidisciplinary

Ancient Chinese Economic History scope involved is quite extensive, it can be used with cosmology, geology, meteorology, biology, soil science and various other categories of natural science intersect, and also demography, economy science, archeology, sociology, folklore, etc. phase penetration. Therefore, to fully absorb and contain cross-disciplinary research, in order to open up or to root out all relevant fields of ancient Chinese economic history. Get rid of the past, which requires the presence of the academic portal guarded seclusion, meticulous division of tumor disease, to promote open, convection and integration. For example, on socio-economic spatial distribution, actually reflects a significant scale level of productivity and economic efficiency, productivity can be incorporated into the structure. This requires economic geography and historical geography support help. After Fu built Mr. Kazuo Following, in his editor's multi-volume "Chinese feudal social and economic history," Distribution and Historical Evolution of the Ancient economic zones were introduced in detail, reflecting the research in this area has made new progress or breakthrough.

Conclusion

Since the treatment may be due to the history of the object, different conditions and approaches, it

can be said that history is not fixed, Wu Chengming made a good summary of this: on the methodology, there are new, the old school of the points, but it is difficult to say compete, pros and cons of the other, there is a new method feature, as well as opening up new areas of research; but in historical research, this paper does not think there is any way too old, you must give up, this paper think should not be in the methodology have the tendency, but may be based on the needs and information on the problems and other conditions to make a choice. This is the correct attitude we should take to the study of economic history.

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