# Study of Market Town in Guizhou in Qing Dynasty

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### **Abstract**

China's market towns have a long history and tradition. There are a lot of research results on rural market towns in China, but there are few studies on rural commercial towns in Guizhou. The visitors who migrated from other places were the population basis for the development of the market town in Guizhou in the Qing Dynasty, which provided a steady stream of living forces for the development of the industry. The market town of Guizhou in the Qing Dynasty developed rapidly at an unprecedented speed. Both the opening time of the market town and the prosperous scenery of the market town showed distinctive regional characteristics.

### **Keywords**

Market Town; Customers; Opening Time; Prosperity.

#### 1. Introduction

Market town refers to the residential areas smaller than cities with mainly non-agricultural population in the countryside. Most are commercial, handicraft industry center. Market towns came into being in the Shang and Zhou dynasties when commodity exchange began to develop. China's "Zhouyi Department Ci" has been "listed in the country, the sun for the city, to the people of the world, gather the world's goods, trade and retreat, each in its proper place" records. In Chinese history, the formation and development of market towns were mostly related to market markets. After the Song Dynasty, market markets developed generally, and market towns also increased. Initially, country markets often relied on places conducive to the distribution of goods, and then gradually established regular commercial service facilities in these places, and gradually grew into market towns. After the formation of market towns, most of the traditional regular markets, continue to become an important factor in the development of market towns. As the economy and the market town develop, the significance of the market to the market town will weaken and disappear.

The study of rural markets in the Ming and Qing Dynasties can be traced back to the 1930s and 1940s, and has achieved fruitful results now.But the previous research results of Guizhou inland remote mountainous areas less attention, the author only see Yuan Yifeng the qing dynasty Guizhou guest and local social change, He Weifu "the qing dynasty Guizhou market" and Li Shibo's "qing dynasty Guizhou regular market", shaw of Guizhou rural market in the qing dynasty. This article wants to state the source, development, time and prosperity of market towns in Guizhou. Studying the evolution of rural market towns can not only reflect the local social structure and local economy, but also see the internal law of inland rural economic development, with both academic value and practical value.

# 2. Population Base of Guizhou Market Town: Guest People Come to Guizhou

Dingfan County, "the Han nationality ordered to move here, leading the soil, with the expropriation department, salty land reclamation, and Sichuan, Hunan, Jiangxi and Jiangnan Han nationality gradually moved to live, business, farming, gathered with the troops. "Lang Dai

Hall also recorded that" the Han people came from his province, in the early Ming Dynasty when the south, the soldiers were the first, later or because of business or eunuch to the day, the most for Jiangxi nationality, followed by two lakes, again for Sichuan nationality, he like the number of Jiangnan nationality is small." A large number of people moved to Huangcaoba and Xincheng" by its reason, its benefit is not in Tian Gong. Yuan new city for the four big rush, merchants convergence, trade whether, with cotton easy to cloth. Foreign men and women have no land to plow, try their best to textile cloth easy sales, profit, the residents of the law, benefit, wandering together."Aibida also sighed:" Yunnan, Guizhou, Chu and Shu goods on the day, so the merchants gathered together."

Due to the development of trade and trade, special industries are also developing, which is the weaving industry. Since the late Qing Dynasty, as a large number of western yarn entered Guizhou, there was no market of local yarn, and many people lost their jobs. However, for Sichuan residents, it is an opportunity, and the weaving industry of Anshun is in the hands of Sichuan residents." In the late years of Guangxu, weaving workers from Sichuan came to Guizhou one after another. A weaving industry was set up in each street, employing Sichuan people as technicians and using foreign yarn as raw materials, and women could also weave happily. The more machine rooms in the city, the wider the business, transportation and sales in Pingyuan, Shuicheng, Ding, the annual income is very big, county people to live the most."

With more people traveling to and from Guizhou, people from other provinces brought the most prominent products of their hometown to all parts of Guizhou, "many people from Jiangxi, Fujian, Yunnan, Shu, Chu and Guangdong, Guangdong, cotton, Wu satin, Yunnan copper, Shu salt and foreign yarn cloth."

While people from other provinces bring the specialties to their hometown, they also get a lot of benefits and enjoy the benefits brought by doing business in Guizhou, so the number of visitors gradually increases. According to the survey of Pingba County Annals of the Republic of China, the counties of central Guizhou after the opening, the land is wide and sparsely populated, farmers and businessmen easy to get profits, cheap and simple, reduce the consumption of one side more income, one side less expenditure, easy to live and can get rich, so Yunnan, Guangxi, Hunan, Shu and other provinces people one after another."

Generally speaking, there are few rich businessmen with strong assets, but more small business owners. Sinan County, "the majority of the business trips to Chu people, the county has no big business, but the dragon neck col has four or five shops".

## 3. Opening Time of the Market Town

In the Qing Dynasty, there were two main types of rural markets in Guizhou: first, the market period was calculated according to ten days, which was the most common opening two times per ten days. The market combination was mostly matched in 16,27,38,48,49 and 50. For example, Suiyang County, Daoguang a total of 31 cities, are every ten days 2 times, including 16 days 8,27 days 6,38 days 7,49 days 4,50 days 6;

Two according to the twelve dry branch or its genus image calculation field period, with the 12 days 2 sets accounted for the largest proportion, the set period combination mostly to meridian, ugly not, Yin Shen Mao you, Chen xu, si hai phase collocation. Such as Dushan state, Qianlong 35 cities, 12 days 2 sets of 27, to ziwu period 1, to ugly not period 4, to Yin Shen period 2, to MAO you period 4, to si hai period 2, the other 14 more to Yin you, MAO xu, ugly wu and other two dry branches random collocation;

As for the opening frequency of county markets, it is often more than rural markets, and some have develop into "100 days". For example, Yuqing county, "the old ugly not set, Kangxi 27th years of magistrate Zhang Dian changed to 369 sets, Xiguan, 9 set Dongguan; Bijie County,"

attached city three are 369 days, the rest of the township or three games a month, six games a month ".

Some ethnic minority settlements, and some festive gatherings or temple fairs, they often gather in a certain festival to exchange materials. For example, during the reign of Emperor Qianlong, "for the crown of the cities, each field of more than ten thousand people, three days is already, food estimates like a cloud", "nearby Miao people and other provinces with livestock, rice, salt, cloth in it";

As for the opening time of the market town, the investigation team of Zhang Qiyun of Zhejiang University of the Republic of China has made a detailed investigation on the township farms in Zunyi:

The common feature of the 49 townships in this district is that there are regular commercial transactions, or five days or three in ten days, every period, township hawkers, four gathered, list all things, easy to sell, Japan into the city, has been scattered, closed all days, is cold and depressed. Catch a slightly three categories: most of the nearby farmers, with their farmers (rice grains, vegetables) forest (tung seed, five times) livestock (pig eggs, etc.) production for sale, in exchange for the cloth, and the second shift vendors, such as Zunyi, Guiyang, or handicrafts, iron, pottery, paper, around the shoulder, etc. Every one, the land set up stalls, list its goods, sell the villagers. This kind of vendors, mostly from Sichuan and Hunan provinces, returned home at the beginning of the year, for regular movement, once again for the fixed residents on the field, catering restaurant travel industry, to meet the needs of the field and passers-by, or set up grain line as a summary of local trade. The scale of the field, commercial rise and decline is huge, small fields such as Sangiu Tian (Leshan Dam north), bottom water (southwest of Yaxi), residents less than 10 households, only a small amount of salt oil tea trade, commonly known as oil and salt field, every period, the field is only dozens of people. Big field such as duck Creek, residents 1,400 households, the street extended one-kilometer, foreign goods, suburban soil production, set production here. In case of the field day, the driver to more than 4,000 people, all kinds of grain grocery stores, are set up, closed for each day, still more fixed shops, supply department stores. In addition to commerce, weaving and making wine and other handicraft industry, also quite prosperous, gradually have urban weather. Although the material is about the situation of Zunyi in the Republic of China, it can also quite reflect the time of Guizhou market town in the Qing Dynasty.

# 4. The Development of the Market Town in Guizhou Province in the Qing Dynasty

Due to the prosperity of industry and commerce, the market town of Guizhou province showed considerable development. According to Li's research, the urban population of Guiyang may have reached 100,000 by 1800.In 1850, Anshun exceeded 75,000 towns, such as Bijie and Qianxi, and developed into major mining and metallurgy centers. Other cities have developed into major commercial cities.

With the development of commodity economy, the number of rural markets in Guizhou has increased greatly compared with that in the Ming Dynasty. For example, there were only 12 cities in the Ming Dynasty, 281 in the Daoguang period, 35 in the late Qing Dynasty, 35 markets in Yongning in the 42 years of Qianlong, and 26 in the end of Daoguang. Rural markets have also increased in some remote mountainous areas and ethnic minority gathering areas. For example, southwest border luo hall, kangxi only 1 market, daoguang add 25, yinjiang county, "rugged, travel, water shoals, boats", qianlong only 6 market, daoguang due to wujiang river regulation, increased to 20; and southeast "miao ban", qianlong, the government in maha, eight village hall, Danjiang hall, all river hall, "pay, vegetables, beans, millet, the date, make military service (and miao people) trade, appoint the pressure". Another scholar, who had statistics on the Guizhou

market in the Wanli period, Zunyi County had 4 markets, 1 Tongzi County, 4 Suiyang County and 3 Renhuai County. During the Daoguang period, the total number of markets was 246. There were only 5 gathering farms in Zhenning Prefecture in the Ming Dynasty, which increased to 40 in the late Qing Dynasty. That is to say, the number of Zunyi Prefecture increased from 12 during the Wanli period to 246 during the Daoguang period, an increase of 20 times, and the number of Zhenning Prefecture increased from 5 to 40, an increase of 8 times. The development of the market and the change of the number of visitors in the reign of Jiaqing Daoguang are basically proportional to the success. It can be seen from the migration and distribution of visitors that in the early days, the residents mainly lived in traffic arteries, towns, townships, mines and other places. For example, "Xingyi Prefecture is the main place of the whole province, while Xingyi County is especially the main place, so many people converge." It can be seen that the guest people have a huge role and influence on the development of the towns everywhere.

## 5. Prosperity Scenery of Guizhou Market Town in the Qing Dynasty

Under the background of great development, the market town of Guizhou in the Qing Dynasty showed an unprecedented prosperity. Qianlong years of Nanlongfu rat farm, "every day, goods Yuntun", "merchants and Minmiao on schedule, trade and scattered". In Daoguang, Sinan House belongs to the river department, both banks of more than 100 households, "every market, along the collection of one or twenty li villagers shoulder trade". Songtao State Mengxi di, "department stores convergence, merchants gathered". Daming County horse farm, "old Daqing ging old Lin Daoguang has been" residents around more than 100, than the house into the market ".Shuicheng Hall rice naked field and a female field, as the only place for Sichuan salt and Guizhou lead transportation, the annual salt tax levy 57.772 silver, miscellaneous tax silver 36.188 silver, trade is also quite prosperous. Tongzhi's Bijie County Annals recorded the development course of Bijie city: the people of Bijie moved to Zhongzhou, and all the great families commanded thousands of families in the former Ming Dynasty. After the marriage, wind, farming for the industry, scholars have father and son several green jin, farmers and field, the old dead into the city, MMu simple, simple and abnormal, since the opening of the bureau, the department store set, five miscellaneous, vulgar gradually decadent, not like the past." Guiyang government," the city five square miscellaneous, jiangyou Chu south people, family rate famous festival, scholars xi bin ya, people and households, after a long time, gradually learn prosperous, the house is the Han Miao wrong village 170 strange, Miao village 11 ten strange." Liping Fu " the four drum tower street in the city, the place of merchants, no leisure." More than one third of the guest people of Duyun Prefecture live near the government governance, that is, the government belongs to the" close jurisdiction ", the guest people gather, making the economy of Duyun City gradually developed, and finally formed a not small town. Luo Wen said: Duyun is also a metropolis. All the sources of the Qingjiang River all start in the county, and the source of the Qingjiang River is from far from the boat to the county.

Even some prosperous areas, every day for the market. During the reign of Emperor Qianlong, Li Qichang, governor of Nancage Prefecture, wrote a poem to the Puping Market in Xingyi:

**Pass Puping City** 

Round the mountain wind quiet puping open, four wild Miao people take advantage of the city. Customs is not separate men and women accumulation, goods different rice salt. A penny is worth a big glass. Father long forget war, listen to drunk song back. During the reign of Daoguang, Gu Shanhe, the governor of Xingyi Prefecture who recovered from the war, wrote a poem by his predecessor:

PuPing road Flag pavilion

small rest xing partial credit, the village wine cannot ask the restaurant. Good is five more residual dream to wake up, the guest window bright moon reflects the plum blossom. Both poems are the expression of the bustle of the market town.

Yongzheng years as Guizhou, pointed out the great changes in the town in Guizhou: the capital and Chong Wei county, smoke evacuation, shop, and all reward, rate is plain, remote country, from no wine, since yongzheng five or six years, new from Sichuan Zunyi, Hunan, qingxi counties, Guangxi yongfeng, libo states in Xinjiang, ancient states, add military army, in town, wide, silver, copper, black and white lead factory, more than ten places, each factory about thousands of people, the nomadic day. Nowadays, in the provincial capital and counties, dense shops, goods accumulation, merchants, and all weddings, weddings, customs, and Xinjiang villages, secluded villages, wine days, are all the people of Sichuan, Guangdong, River and Chu provinces, Guizhou, not indigenous people.

We can also feel the development of towns in Guizhou through some bamboo words. Zhang Guohua, deputy supervisor of Daoguang, wrote in Guizhou Bamboo Branch Ci, which describes the social life picture of many towns in Guizhou in the middle and late Qing Dynasty. Now there are some excerpts:

New city bamboo branch word

Every child spinning cotton yarn, people gather Sichuan Lake customs, the machine room singing full, book lamp teahouse career. March spring deep look at the meeting place, god welcome east yue actually pick up sweet, paper shackles wood case dispute wish, fool if crazy. Back to the dragon factory set wandering people, every day forget to pick mercury, surprised to see the negative famine first out of the wall, no pants naked poor people. The wild vegetable flavor is strong, late summer and early autumn bacteria easy to meet, the sunset mountain rain, wild people into the market to sell chicken fir. The new city of the Qing Dynasty was located in the center of the Beipan River basin. It was the only place to go west to Yunnan and south to Guangxi. Since the middle and late Qing Dynasty, a large number of visitors moved to the new city. Zhang Guo Huawei we describe the prosperity of Xincheng County and the hard life of the visiting people in the five years of Daoguang.

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