

Size and (Good) Governance

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YSS4274

Is smaller better for good governance?

Are politics different in small versus larger states?

Are politics different in small versus larger states? If so,

Are politics different in small versus larger states? If so, how?

Seminar Objectives

- The Decentralization Debate
- Size and Governance (Part II)

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- The Decentralization Debate (**Dell et al**)
- Size and Governance (Part II) (**Fors, Jugl, Veenendaal and Corbett**)

Outline of Seminar

- 1 Announcements
- 2 The Historical State, Local Collective Action, And Economic Development in Vietnam
- 3 Reading Presentation: Do Island States Have Better Institutions?
- 4 What is good governance?
- 5 Next Seminar: To Dos

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Op-Ed 1 (Feb 23)

- Must discuss small state(s) (however defined) in relation to: development, decentralization, democracy or diversity
- Word count: 800
- Target audience: educated non-academic reader (Straits Times; New York Times)
- Op-Ed 1 + Op-Ed 2 = 25% of final grade
- Prof Monroe will not look at drafts, but can come to office hours to discuss the op-ed

Op-Ed 1 (Feb 23)

- Rubric is on canvas! (In Rubric folder)
- See HKS pdf (Rubric) and Prof. Monroe's [▶ blog posts](#)

Check In: Monday Discussion Continued - Lessons Across Scale



Source: Shutterstock

Check In: Antifragile



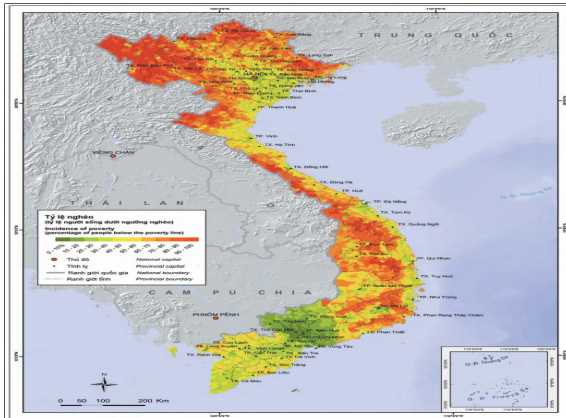
Source: Red Hat Developer

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What do Dell et al argue about the relationship between city size and development?

It's not size. It's about
(inherited) governance.



Source: The NEP-HIS Blog

TABLE I
COMPARING THE DAI VIET AND KHMER KINGDOMS IN PRE-COLONIAL VIETNAM

| Dai Viet | Khmer |
|---|--|
| Colonial outpost of China (111 BCE–939 CE) | Indic patron-client state ^a |
| Maintained bureaucratic Chinese government system since independence ^b | Accelerated decline after invasion by Siam (1430); weak control of periphery ^c |
| Centralized state; impersonal centralized bureaucracy under dynastic court; uniform territorial administration ^d | Decentralized state; personalistic rule through court; semi-independent provincial rule ^e |
| Institutionalized role of village chiefs and village councils (elected since 1461) ^f | Personalistic political appointments and land distribution ^g |
| Bureaucratic control of local taxation, military recruitment ^h | Temple-based public finance system ⁱ |

Two Types of Villages

- Northern (Viet)
 - ▶ Administrative
 - ▶ Encourages Civil Society and Collective Action
- Southern (Khmer)
 - ▶ Patron-Client Relations
 - ▶ Weak Civil Society

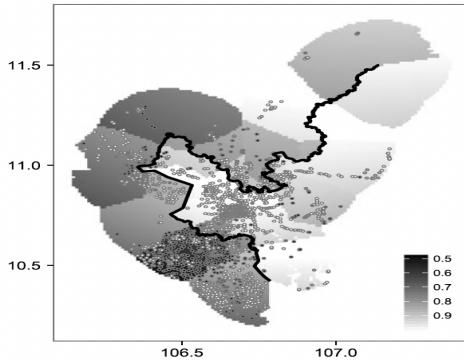
Two Types of Villages

- Northern (Viet)
 - ▶ Administrative
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- Southern (Khmer)
 - ▶ **Patron-Client Relations**
 - ▶ Weak Civil Society

Defintion: Clientelism

A contingent exchange of particularistic benefits for political support (Hicken 2011)

(f) *Public Health Care Provision LCA Index*



Balance

TABLE II
BALANCE CHECKS^a

| | Dependent variable is: | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | Elev. (1) | Slope (2) | Temp. (3) | Precip. (4) | Rice Suit. (5) | Coco. Suit. (6) | Sugar Suit. (7) | Flow Accum. (8) | Km Rivers (9) |
| Dai Viet | -1.562 (10.027) | 0.356 (0.596) | 0.052 (0.053) | 2.084 (1.206) | 0.371 (0.611) | 0.648 (0.823) | 1.064 (0.657) | -1.758 (1.483) | -1.195 (2.666) |
| Obs | 120 | 120 | 120 | 120 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 120 | 120 |
| Clusters | 120 | 120 | 120 | 120 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 120 | 120 |
| Mean | 51.39 | 2.59 | 26.65 | 168.34 | 27.28 | 25.77 | 22.12 | 0.66 | 17.01 |

^aThe unit of analysis is the grid cell. All regressions include a linear RD polynomial in latitude and longitude, a control for distance to Ho Chi Minh City, and boundary segment FE. Robust standard errors are reported in parentheses.

Do you agree?

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Do island states have better institutions? by Heather Congdon Fors

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What is “good” governance?

What is “good” governance?
How would know it when you see it?

Unpacking Good Governance

- Rule of Law
- State Capacity

Unpacking Good Governance

- **Rule of Law**
- State Capacity

Rule of Law

- Impartiality
- Transparency
- Remedy if Necessary

Is “smallness” a bane or boon for rule of law?

Check In

Is “smallness” a bane or boon for rule of law? Take two minutes to write your thoughts. Use the readings and make sure you define size!

Unpacking Good Governance

- Rule of Law
- State Capacity

Unpacking Good Governance

- Rule of Law
- **State Capacity**

State Capacity

- State Building (Mazzuca)
- Government Effectiveness
- Tax Collection
- Law and Order
- Public Service Provision

Check In (Part II)

Is “smallness” a bane or boon for state capacity?

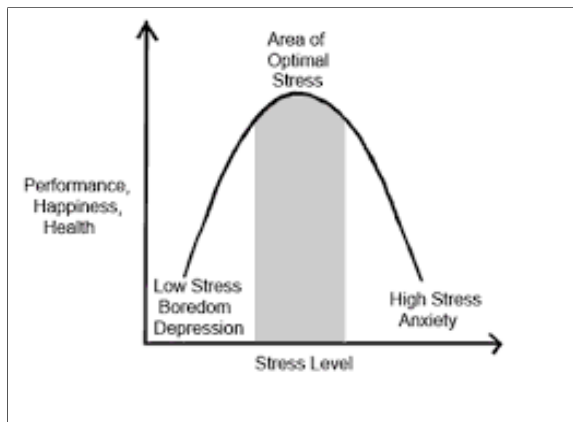
Check In (Part II)

Is “smallness” a bane or boon for state capacity? Take two minutes to write your thoughts. Use the readings and make sure you define size!

Check In (Part II)

What is Jugl's argument about the relationship about population size and government effectiveness?

The Inverse U



Source: Quantum Coaching

Check In (Part III)

How do you reconcile the Fors and Veenendaal and Corbett readings?

Your Turn

What is the relationship between size and governance?

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Next Seminar (Feb. 5th)

- Size and Democracy
 - ▶ What is democracy?
 - ▶ To Think About: Differences vs. Similarities between Size and Democracy vs. Size and Governance Debate

Have a great weekend!