

GLOBAL SHIFT, MAPPING THE CHANGING CONTOURS OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, 6th Edition, by Peter Dicken. London: Sage, 2011.

I am among the privileged to read and use Dicken's *Global Shift* as a reference text for my writings and as an elective text in my Urban Geography courses since its 1986 first edition. I see eye to eye with Kris Olds (2004) that Dicken's "*Global Shift* has become a clear 'classic' in human Geography", and with Jonathan V. Beaverstock (2008) that "*Global Shift* has stood the test of time and been instrumental in the development of many key strands of economic geography since its initial publication". The essence of *Global Shift* six editions has been their dynamic development, allowing continual tracing and command of the perceived progress of 'globalization' from *industrial* [the transformation of manufacturing industries] *change in a turbulent world* (1st edition, 1986); through the internationalization and globalization of economic activities (2nd edition 1988); via the mapping of the changing contours of a restructured global economy (5th edition, 2007).

Every edition added a new dimension to *Global Shift*. The second edition sharpened the analysis of industrial change to include its impact on the internationalization and globalization of economic activities; the third edition (2004) emphasized the processes that have altered the global economy, employing a combination of conceptual notions from sociology, economics, politics and others in addition to economic geography; the fifth edition (2007) set up the emerging contours of the global map following the expansion of the EU, the formation of NAFTA and the collapse of the Soviet Block. The fifth edition also brought into light the complex multimedia forms dealing with globalization, and the rising conceptual debate on the meanings and about its diversified effects.

The sixth edition (2011) 25 years after the pioneering (1986) *Global Shift*, is a testimony of the accelerating phenomenon called 'globalization'. Each of the previous editions has added a new step to the ladder of the empirical change of the global economy, and to the conceptual meaning of the ascending complex pattern of the world economy. Beside extensive updates and revisions of the supporting empirical data and illustrations, and like earlier editions its broad multidisciplinary approach and its extensive reference to diversified sources, the sixth edition illustrates, inter alia, the fast multi facets accelerating growth rate of the Chinese economy and of its increasing attendance in the global arena. Yet, a highlight of the sixth edition is its two fresh challenging themes enfolded in chapters 8 of part Three, "The Picture in Different Economic Sectors", and in chapter 15 at part Four "Winning and Losing in the Global Economy". The former, the Extractive Industries - 'Making Holes in the Ground' reveals the global shift and its impacts on the extractive industries, using cooper to represent the metallic minerals and oil for energy minerals. Both disclose roughly similar attributes, inter alia their global shift of the known nonrenewable deposits, the separation between, in most cases, the geological locations

of the minerals' deposits, the site of the initial and more advanced processing, and mostly their place of consumption. Both also disclose volatile demand and supply situations. A major concern from a global point of view is the fact that mineral resources are non-renewable, and their extensive deployment also results in environmental and ecological impacts both at the place of origin and place of use. As for the renewable issue, views are highly polarized ranging from a 'Malthusian' views to 'techno-economic' solutions.

Chapter 15, next to an appraisal of the impact of global production networks, effecting differently social and economic actors of a place [chapter 14], reveals the 'Destroying Value' of Globalization' in terms of 'the environmental impacts of global production networks'. In this chapter Dicken stresses that from a global point of view "the environmental problems are inherent in all aspects of production, distribution and consumption, raising serious questions about the future sustainability of the economy and society as we know them." Major attention is given to the negative environmental impact of production, movement and of consumption- - atmospheric damage and waste. At issue is the impact of both negative elements on the global sphere. Dicken provides a few examples, of note is ocean pollution generated by large cargo ships resulting, inter alia, in uprising ocean waters severely affecting primarily the less advantaged low land countries. Waste, whose quantities are unknown yet, rapidly moves to recycling. But a more important recent development is the relocation of waste on a global scale, or as Dicken refers to 'a global shift in waste'. This shift reflects wide geographical differentials. The least advantaged sites evolve into '*a pollution/waste havens*'.

Of special value is the new vision on global shift phenomenon is chapter 16 entitled "*Winning and Losing: Where You Live Really Matters*". Chapter 16 covers topics such as poverty, inequality employment and migration.

Global Shift's sixth edition is a vital text comprehensively reviewing how global economy functions and how enjoyable or unpleasant are its impacts on people and places. In the sixth edition Dicken offers an updated critical analysis of globalization followed by the continuing theoretical, in some respect political, on the debate on its nature, impact and durability.

The sixth edition aroused many scholars to offer their comment. A sample of readings was assembled from the internet sites. They include Alan Rugmean from the University of Reading, who implies that "the sixth edition is an essential companion for anyone concerned to understand the rapid geographical shifts occurring in the world's economic power relation in these stressful and troubled times"; Davis Held from London School of Economics who suggests that Dicken "continues to deconstruct globalization to show that distance still matters"; and David Harvey from City University of New York who commented that the sixth edition [like those preceding it] "introduces, analyzes and synthesizes current thinking on globalization from sociology, political sciences' economics, geography, and business studies. It combines readability, depth and breadth into approachable *tour the force*".

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