

Seeking the Meaning of “ Jitsugyo ”: Thoughts of Industrialists, in Japan and China

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In this paper, the concept of “ Jitsugyo ” will be reconsidered by comparing the thought of the industrialists of both, Japan and China. For that purpose, the author will focus on SHIBUSAWA Eiichi and ZHANG Jian, the promoters of the economic modernization in Japan and China, to find how they defined the word “ Jitusgyo ” and how they put it in practice. Their thought about “ Jitsugyo ” is closely related to their ideas of “ Righteousness ” and “ Profit ”, as written in Analects of Confucius. In spite of an obvious distinction of the concept of “ Public ”, there is also a common factor in their ideas - for both of them, the definition of “ Jitsugyo ” is not only a simple economic term, that can be easily replaced by “ Business ” or “ Industry ”. It is inseparably related with the moral requirement to the people engaged in “ Jitsugyo ”.

