

In the 20th century, the Europeans tightened their hold and at the same time Chinese national capitalism emerged in the shipbuilding and textile sectors.

The early decades of the 20th century were turbulent. The workers became better organized and the Chinese Communist Party was founded at Shanghai on July 1, 1921; its Central Committee was headquartered there for some time. In 1926 the Shanghai workers took part in armed uprisings which were savagely quashed by Chiang Kai Shek in 1927.

Since 1949 the Europeans have gone and business enterprises have been nationalized. Ten industrial satellite towns have been founded and heavy industry has greatly expanded (to include iron and steel, refining of non-ferrous metals, machine-building).

Shanghai's industrial expansion and its development as a major port and population centre have combined to promote impressive agricultural development (cereals, vegetables, cotton).