LI LU

Having come back to my village, I conjured up an idea of writing about village girls. Twenty years ago, I was a farmer in village for several years. During that time, almost all the girls around 20 years old worked in cotton-cultivation team. Their daily work was interesting to some extent, covering painstaking planting work such as spraying, weeding and pruning cotton under the burning sun, and leisure activities with vitality of youth like playing, teasing, laughing, singing and going to movies few yards away. However, this kind of cotton-cultivation team abolished with the development of household responsibility system. The girls also threw themselves in their respective lands correspondingly.

However, in this trip to my hometown, I found that village girls nowadays have beard a new life. They all searched for other ways of making money for less time is required for planting. Some girls in my village became hard labor in a brick and tile factory west of the village to pull wooden cart and pile up bricks. Some went to private or collective biscuit plant, and some made molds in foundry with 20 yuan per day.

They rode to work and return together during the day, talking and laughing like a flock of magpies, which caused people to look at them with envy. Their lifestyle was approaching that of city girls vapidly. Once they had enough money, they would buy vogue clothes, leather shoes and cosmetics. Economic conditions permissible they would buy ‘Mulan’ motorcycle in place of the bicycle. And the choosing and buying of dowry has become an important way to present their own values.