



國立臺灣大學
National Taiwan University

KIM KOO FOUNDATION

Kim Shin Forum

on Global Asia Research Annual Report

Global Asia Research Center, College of Social Sciences,
National Taiwan University

2021.04-2023.04



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Director's Preface

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted our lives over the past three years. Travel has been severely restricted, and classes, seminars, and conferences have been moved to virtual platforms. While the spatiotemporal flexibility of virtual platforms has helped maintain and facilitate academic communication and collaboration both locally and globally, the distinctive chemistry of face-to-face interactions is hard to replace and thus deeply missed.

As the pandemic eases and our lives gradually return to normal, we are pleased to announce that face-to-face events will be officially back at GARC in 2023. The forthcoming events will cover a broad range of topics and feature esteemed scholars in global Asia studies. In addition to the monthly colloquiums, we will resume the tradition of collaborating with Seoul National University Asia Center and co-organize a conference on migration issues to be held in Seoul in April. We are also hosting an international workshop on trans-Asia marriage and family in July, which will involve researchers from Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, the Philippines, and the US. Most excitingly, we have invited Professor Gi-Wook Shin, the director of the Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center at Stanford University, as this year's Kim Koo-NTU Professor. Professor Shin will give a series of lectures on talent acquisition policies among Asian countries in May.



While we celebrate the return of face-to-face events, some of them will be held in a hybrid manner to allow remote participation from audiences outside Taiwan and beyond Asia. We hope that these events will provide opportunities to broaden our understanding and exploration of Asia and enable GARC to continue its mission to enhance academic discussions and debates on Asia in the globalized world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peck Su".

Global Asia Research Center

Global Asia Research Center (GARC), National Taiwan University, was established in 2017 with the generous funding from Kim Koo Foundation, Republic of Korea.

GARC aims to promote research on Asian interactions and comparison, and to stimulate new ways of understanding Asian modernities in a globalized world. The mission of GARC is to form a platform for collaboration across disciplines and nations, and to build a network of research institutions in Asia and around the world.

GARC integrates outstanding scholars from various disciplines and fields, and incorporates both quantitative and qualitative approaches to explore the following studies:

Comparative Asia: to compare similar social, political, and cultural issues faced by Asian countries, such as demographic transition, social inequalities, democratic challenges, social activism, and urban development.

Transnational Asia: to study transnational movements of capital, culture, and people and their social consequences in Asia.

Global Asia: to examine Asian presence and impact outside Asia.



Director

Pei-Chia Lan
Director of Global Asia Research Center
Professor, Department of Sociology,
National Taiwan University

Members

The members of GARC currently include 50 faculty members across different disciplines in social sciences and humanities. There are six research clusters: Family, Gender and Population; Ethnicity and Migration; Global Economy and Local Inequalities; Civil Society and Social Movements; Urban Development and Governance and Global Culture; Religion and Consumption.



Podcast : Let's Go GARC!

In an effort to enhance dialogue between the academic community of social sciences and the general public, GARC launched a podcast program titled “Let’s Go GARC” in 2022. In this program, scholars affiliated with or visiting GARC introduce their research using plain language and interesting anecdotes. All podcast episodes are openly available for everyone to download for free. Our hope is to bridge the communication gap between the scholarly community and the general public and to encourage the latter to explore everyday social phenomena from sociological perspectives, cultivating their interest in social sciences and humanities. Currently, we have five podcast episodes available, with 5 more episodes coming this summer.





**EP1 How Can We Compare Asian Societies?
ft:Professor Pei-Chia Lan**

**EP2 Stuck Offshore—The Middling and Challenges of Skilled
Migration?
ft: Professor Yen-Fen Tseng**

**EP3 Gazing at the Precarity of the Homeless
ft:Professor Ke-hsien Huang and Yi-jing Huang**

**EP4 The Use of Cuteness as a Political Strategy
ft: Professor Hsin-I Sydney Yue**

**EP5 The “geo” Politics of the Chinese Sky: Volume and Vertical
Geography
ft. Professor Shih-Shen Chien**

Events in Honor of Kim Koo and Kim Shin

The Global Asia Research Center was founded under the aegis and generous donation of the Kim Koo Foundation. The Center has in previous years hosted visiting scholars and held conference forums in honor of Kim Koo and Kim Shin. Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, almost all international academic exchanges and collaboration moved online, and visiting scholars postponed or canceled their scheduled visits to Taiwan in 2021. Despite the difficult circumstances, GARC invited two international scholars as our guest scholars and hosted a visiting scholar. In 2021 We organized one international workshop, an international conference, and two intensive courses by guest scholars. We hosted 12 lectures, eight delivered by international scholars. We also collaborated with the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanity and Social Sciences, National Taiwan University, by jointly holding two lectures, delivered by scholars from abroad. Approximately 1,300 people participated in the abovementioned events.

On the 1st of July, Seoul National University and GARC jointly held NTU-SNU Asian Migration workshop. Fourteen scholars based in Japan, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan presented their research conducted in China, Hong Kong, Japan, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, and Vietnam. They focused on marriage migration, migrant workers and impacts of COVID-19 on migration in Asia. This workshop had attracted about 120 people to participate. It was highly admired by participants and drew the attention of scholars based beyond East Asia who work on migration in Southeast Asia. On the 9th of December, GARC held another conference with UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies (TCJS). Four distinguished scholars from GARC and TCJS shared their observations about COVID's influences on families and societies of Taiwan and Japan. More than 80 participants from Hong Kong, Japan, and Taiwan attended this conference. Future collaboration between GARC and TCJS was also discussed in the closed session of the conference.

To facilitate academic exchanges and provide students in the Social Science with internalized learning experiences, GARC invited Professor Ming-Cheng Lo from the University of California, Davis, and Dr. Chih-Yan Sun from Villanova University as guest scholars. They exchanged ideas on research with the members of GARC and taught two courses, entitled “Globalization and Social Movements” and “Inequalities and Transnational Migration” respectively, in English in the Department of Sociology. There were 27 students taking these two intensive courses. The course “Inequalities and Transnational Migration” was taught online during the Level-3 COVID-19 Alert, over which all classes had been moved online. Around 60 people regularly attended this course.

Events Promoting Comparative Understanding of South Korea and East Asia

April 9, 2021

Institutionalizing Equality: The Politics of Women's Rights in Taiwan and South Korea

Minhee Go, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Ewha Womans University.

Korea and Taiwan have shown a considerable variation in ensuring women's rights. In Taiwan, electoral competition and judicial activism led to institutional reforms on various progressive issues, allowing for an opportunity to generate a pluralistic political structure within which the gender issue could be mobilized along with other progressive agenda. In contrast, the corporatist political structure prioritized labor issues over other progressive agenda and continued to influence electoral politics in Korea's class-based democratic consolidation. By tracing the divergent paths toward gender equality in the two countries, this research suggests that inclusion and expansion of social rights may not necessarily follow from democratization per se but has to be acquired through mobilizing and coalescing with various social groups in a new democratic system.



EVENTS PROMOTING COMPARATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREA AND EAST ASIA

May 27, 2021

Nationalism in Question: The Cases of South Korea and Other Asian

Alex Taek-Gwang Lee, Professor, Department of British and American Cultural Studies, Kyung Hee University.

In collaboration with the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Science, National Taiwan University, GARC invited professor Lee to share his observation on the problem of nationalism and its operations in global capitalism by focusing on the cases of South Korea and other Asian countries. The disparity between a nation-state and capitalism serves as the ideological perversion of nationalism. Nationalism always already presumes the *Ur-Geschichte* (prehistory) of a nation and bolsters fantasy revolving around the loss of the authentic nation. No doubt, this national narrative would be in trouble with the trans-national and multicultural reality of global capitalism, but the conflict as such functions as an excuse to justify the collective demands of the national authenticity. Commodity-fetishism transforms the ideal of nationalism to an earthly nation-state, i.e., the spatio-temporality of capitalism. The fetishism effect based on commodity structures gives rise to an inversion by which exchange values turn to be use-values. If nationalism is supposed to be exchangeable in the market, it has to castrate its phallus, a nation. Ironically, this exchange value is the use-value of nationalism in a nation-state. Nationalism without a nation, in other words, the castrated nationalism, is nothing less than the condition of multiculturalism. In this sense, the nation-states, the materiality of nationalism, serves as the markets of multiple nationalities in global capitalism.



July 1, 2021

NTU Global Asia Research Center - SNU Asian Center Asian Migration Workshop

Seoul National University Asia Center (SNUAC) is one of GARC's strategic partners. Since 2018 The Colleges of Social Science at NTU and SNU annually organize joint workshops on topics of migration, welfare policy and other social issues in asia. This year we co-hosted the “Asian Migration Workshop” on July 1. Scholars from Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and Singapore shared their latest academic insights on the topic at the event. Due to the pandemic, the workshop was held online, featuring two presentation sessions and a roundtable discussion.

The first presentation session topic was “Marriage Migration.” Prof. Minkyung Koh, Kyungpook National University; Profs. HaeRan Shin and Thi My Hang Bui, Seoul National University; and Profs. Tsung-Yi Michelle Huang and Chieh Hsu, NTU, addressed the experience of marriage migration from the perspectives of policy, development, the tourist gaze, and the labor market. The second presentation session topic was “Migrant Workers.” Profs. Pei-Chia Lan and Yen-Fen Tseng, NTU, and Prof. HyunJoo Jung, SNUAC & GSES Environmental Planning, offered their perspectives and insights on migrant workers.



EVENTS PROMOTING COMPARATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREA AND EAST ASIA

Lastly, in the roundtable discussion, Prof. Jungwon Huh, SNUAC; Prof. Wako Asato, Kyoto University; Prof. Yasmin Ortiga, Singapore Management University; and Prof. Pei-Chia Lan and Research Assistant Yu-Wen Wang, NTU, discussed how migrants fared during the pandemic over the past year with COVID-19 wreaking havoc worldwide.

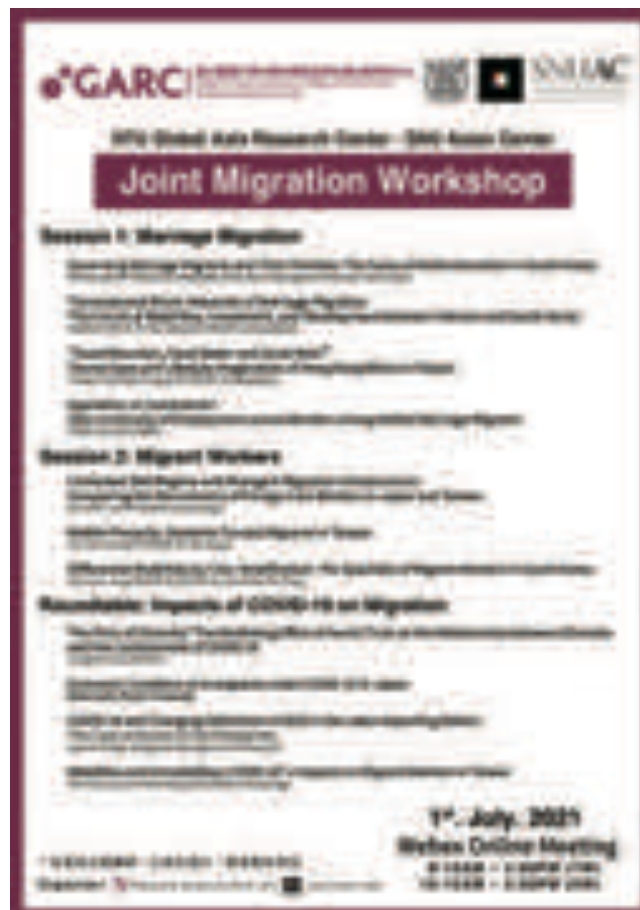
The two presentation sessions focused on migrants who migrated for marriage and work, respectively. In both sessions, the scholars not only discussed the migrants' subjective experiences, life trajectories, and social networks but also critically reviewed the policies and systems of their home and host countries. In the roundtable discussion on the impact of COVID-19 on the migrants, the scholars addressed this additional stressor in the daily lives of the the migrants. Although it was held online, the Asian Migration Workshop was a successful occasion for the participating scholars from several countries to address the latest trends and theories in Asian migration research and have in-depth discussions.



9:15AM (TW)	Opening Greetings (15 minutes)	
9:30AM – 11:20AM (TW)	Session 1: Marriage Migration	
(110 minutes in total, 20-min presentations, joint 15-min*2 Q&A)		
Presenter(s)	Affiliation	Topic
Minkyung Koh	SNUAC & Geography Education (Kyungpook National University)	Governing Marriage Migrants and Their Families: The Guise of Multiculturalism in South Korea
HaeRan Shin & Thi My Hang Bui	SNUAC & Geography	Transnational Ethnic Networks of Marriage Migration: The Circuit of Mobilities, Investment, and Development between Vietnam and South Korea
Tsung-Yi Michelle Huang	NTUGARC & Geography	“Good Mountain, Good Water and Good Man?” Tourist Gaze and Lifestyle Imagination of Hong Kong Wives in Taiwan
Chieh Hsu	NTUGARC	Aspiration or Constraints? : (Dis)-continuity of Employment across Borders among Skilled Marriage Migrants
11:20AM – 12:30PM (TW)	Lunch Break	
12:30PM – 1:50PM (TW)	Session 2: Migrant Workers	
(80 minutes in total, 20-min presentations, joint 20-min Q&A)		
Presenter	Affiliation	Topic
Pei-Chia Lan	NTUGARC & Sociology	Contested Skill Regime and Divergent Migration Infrastructure: Comparing the Recruitment of Foreign Care Workers in Japan and Taiwan
Yen-Fen Tseng	NTUGARC & Sociology	Mobile Precarity: Students-Turned-Migrants in Taiwan
HyunJoo Jung	SNUAC & GSES Environmental Planning	Differential Mobilities by Civic Stratification: The Spatiality of Migrant Workers in South Korea
1:50AM – 2:00PM (TW)	Break (10 minutes)	

EVENTS PROMOTING COMPARATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREA AND EAST ASIA

2:00PM – 3:40PM (TW/SG)	Roundtable: Impacts of COVID-19 on Migration	
(100 minutes in total, 15-20-minute talks followed by joint discussion)		
Presenter(s)	Affiliation	Topic
Jungwon Huh	SNUAC	The Price of Diversity? The Mediating Effect of Social Trust on the Relationship between Diversity and the Containment of COVID-19
Wako Asato	Kyoto University	Economic Condition of Immigrants under COVID-19 in Japan
Yasmin Ortiga	Singapore Management University	COVID-19 and Changing Definitions of Skill in the Labor-Exporting Nation: The Case of Nurses in the Philippines
Pei-Chia Lan & Yu-Wen Wang	NTUGARC & Sociology	Mobilities and Immobilities: COVID-19's Impacts on Migrant Workers in Taiwan
3:40PM – 4:00M (TW)	Future Collaboration Plan (closed door, 20 minutes)	



December 9, 2021

UTokyo-NTU Joint Conference 2021: Social Impacts of Covid-19 in Japan and Taiwan

UTokyo-NTU Joint Conference 2021 took place on December 8~10, under the theme of “Cooperation towards the Post-Corona Era” . The joint conference features keynote speeches, faculty and student presentations, and 15 parallel sessions in various fields. The two Universities launched their first large-scale joint conference in December 2015. Since then, the conference has been held alternately at the University of Tokyo and National Taiwan University almost every year. Due to the pandemic, the conference was held online this year. The global pandemic has inevitably caused significant impact to our lives and many aspects. It is important for us to strengthen collaboration as we head into the post-pandemic future and continue to work together to foster cross-border and inter-disciplinary discussions. GARC and UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies (TCJS) co-organized a parallel meeting with two sessions about the COVID impact on society and family respectively. In the first session Prof. Lan, Pei-Chia (GARC, National Taiwan University) and Prof. McElwain, Kenneth Mori (Institute of Social Science, the University of Tokyo) shared their observation on the social impact of the political decision between Taiwan and Japan comparatively. While in the second session Prof. Chen, Yu-Wen (Department of Social Work, National Taiwan University) and Prof. Shirahase, Sawako (Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, the University of Tokyo) discussed the domestic influence under COVID regarding gender, family and well-being of children.

EVENTS PROMOTING COMPARATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREA AND EAST ASIA

Topic	Activities	
18.06.14.2017(W) 18.06.15.2017(W)	Spring Festival	
18.06.16.2017(W) 18.06.18.2017(F)	Korea-UK... (Korea Report on Korea) Korea-UK... (Korea Report on Korea) at University of Exeter	
Presenters: UK Exeter, Korean War	Affiliates: School of Social Science, at University of Exeter	Topic: The impact of KIMILG-28 on society from the perspective of political science
18.06.19.2017	Global and Business Forum Department of Learning, National Centre Exeter	Myung-Wook Kim, International Center Korea's Trade Growth by Growth 28
18.06.14.2017(W) 18.06.17.2017(W)	Workshop: Korea - UKILG Report on Korea Workshop by the Korea Department of Learning, National Centre Exeter	
Presenters: UK Ex, UK Exeter	Affiliates: Department of Social Sciences, National Centre Exeter	Topic: The following workshop will discuss the impact of KIMILG-28 on Korea from the perspective of political science
Workshop Korea	Workshop: Korea of Education and Learning at University of Exeter	Topic: The impact of KIMILG-28 on Korea from the perspective of political science



UTokyo Joint Conference NTU

Social Impacts of Covid-19 in Japan and Taiwan

Topic		Speakers
Introduction	Chairman	Shinya Arimura
12:00-13:00	Round Table - COVID-19 Impact in Japan	Shinya Arimura (UTokyo), Yung-Hsiang Wu (NTU), Shinya Arimura (UTokyo)
13:00-14:00	Keynote	Yung-Hsiang Wu (NTU)
14:00-15:00	Keynote	Shinya Arimura (UTokyo)
15:00-16:00	Panel Discussion - COVID-19 Impact in Japan and Taiwan	Shinya Arimura (UTokyo), Yung-Hsiang Wu (NTU), Shinya Arimura (UTokyo)
16:00-17:00	Keynote	Yung-Hsiang Wu (NTU)
17:00-18:00	Keynote	Shinya Arimura (UTokyo)
18:00-19:00	Panel Discussion - COVID-19 Impact in Japan and Taiwan	Shinya Arimura (UTokyo), Yung-Hsiang Wu (NTU), Shinya Arimura (UTokyo)
19:00-20:00	Keynote	Yung-Hsiang Wu (NTU)
20:00-21:00	Keynote	Shinya Arimura (UTokyo)
21:00-22:00	Panel Discussion - COVID-19 Impact in Japan and Taiwan	Shinya Arimura (UTokyo), Yung-Hsiang Wu (NTU), Shinya Arimura (UTokyo)
22:00-23:00	Keynote	Yung-Hsiang Wu (NTU)
23:00-24:00	Keynote	Shinya Arimura (UTokyo)

December 08, 2021
Online Meeting

EVENTS PROMOTING COMPARATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREA AND EAST ASIA



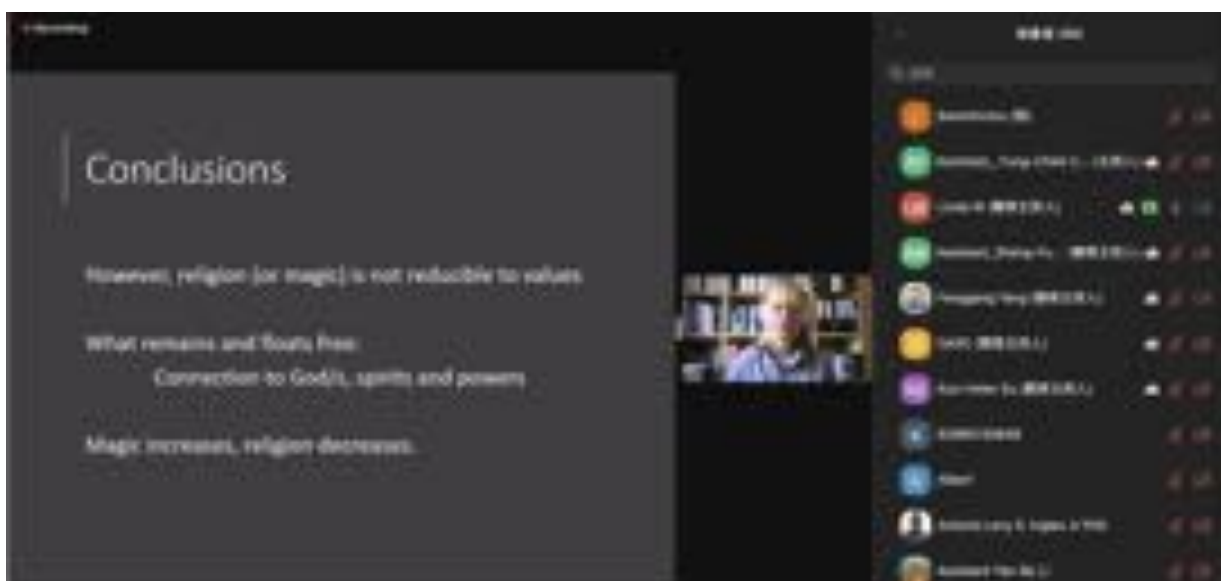
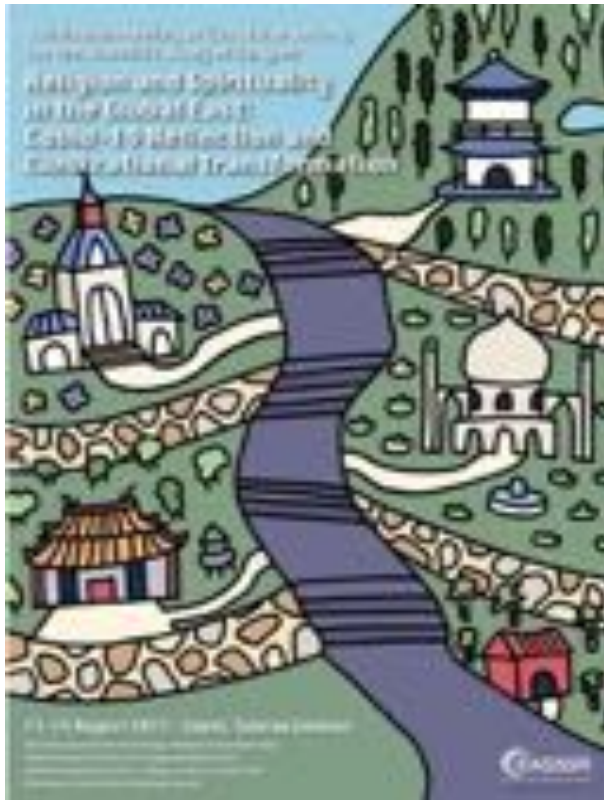
August 13-14, 2022

The 4th Annual Meeting of the East Asian Society of Scientific Study of Religion
Religion and Spirituality in the Global East: Covid-19 Reflection and Civilizational Transformation

Religion and spirituality are two concepts that are highly related, entangled and elusively defined. Compared to their Western counterparts, scholars in the East, where religion is much less institutionalized, less authoritative, and more improvised in a bottom-up approach, have different experiences and opinions on the relationship between religion and spirituality. The continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic situation has made the practical implications of the so-called “spiritual turn” even more prominent. The bans on indoor or outdoor gatherings further sabotage traditional religious rituals, facilitating private or online individual pursuits of faith as well as innovative development of spirituality. Now, religious encounters at home or online rather than in churches, mosques, and temples become more common. The meditation on faith occurs individually without the presence of traditional religious authorities. Congregations are dwindling to separate tribes, where members connect to each other more loosely and sporadically than before. One may wonder if this widespread and continuous pandemic situation would change how and what faith is practiced in an irreversible way. Does the Covid-19 pandemic reshape the relationship between religious elites and laity and transform the ways of relating believers to faith? Do such changes occur in the same way in the East as in the West?

In the face of such global turmoil and restrictions on the practice of faith, we invite participants of the convention to reexamine the theme together: Religion and Spirituality in the Global East—Covid-19 Reflection and Civilizational Transformation. This year's convention was organized by the Department of Sociology at National Taiwan University and GARC would be hosting the keynote lectures for the convention.

EVENTS PROMOTING COMPARATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREA AND EAST ASIA



August 18-19, 2022

The 14th East Asian Junior Workshop

Every summer, Department of Sociology, NTU, Kyoto University, and Seoul National University jointly organize the East Asian Junior Workshop. The 14th workshop was hosted by Department of Sociology at National Taiwan University and GARC. This event featured 14 student papers covering various topics such as laboring in arts, multifaceted families, micro-cultured space, gender and equality, and civic action. The conference will feature a keynote speech by Professor Emiko Ochiai from Kyoto University, who is a driving force behind this East Asian Junior Workshop and has been actively involved in the in-depth exchange among the Departments of Sociology at the three universities. Her keynote speech is titled "Educating Citizens for East Asian Democracies Together: The Achievement of Our International Collaboration and Challenges for the Future".



EVENTS PROMOTING COMPARATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREA AND EAST ASIA

Workshop Program

Day 1 August 16, 2016 (Monday)	
08:30-09:00	Opening and introduction
09:00-09:30	Keynote presentation: South Korea's Economic Growth (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
09:30-10:00	Keynote presentation: South Korea's Economic Growth (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
10:00-10:30	Workshop Opening: "Economic Growth in East Asia: Economic Growth and the Challenges of the Future"
10:30-11:00	1. Speaker: South Korea (Korea)
11:00-11:30	2. Discussion: Korea (Korea) (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
Session 1: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)	
11:30-12:00	1. Panel: "Education in East Asia: Economic Growth and the Challenges of the Future" (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
12:00-12:30	2. Discussion: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
12:30-13:00	Lunch break
13:00-13:30	Session 2: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
13:30-14:00	1. Panel: "Education in East Asia: Economic Growth and the Challenges of the Future" (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
14:00-14:30	2. Discussion: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
14:30-15:00	Session 3: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
15:00-15:30	1. Panel: "Education in East Asia: Economic Growth and the Challenges of the Future" (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
15:30-16:00	2. Discussion: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
16:00-16:30	Session 4: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
16:30-17:00	1. Panel: "Education in East Asia: Economic Growth and the Challenges of the Future" (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
17:00-17:30	2. Discussion: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)

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14:00-14:30	2. Discussion: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
14:30-15:00	Session 4: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
15:00-15:30	1. Panel: "Education in East Asia: Economic Growth and the Challenges of the Future" (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
15:30-16:00	2. Discussion: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
16:00-16:30	Session 5: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
16:30-17:00	1. Panel: "Education in East Asia: Economic Growth and the Challenges of the Future" (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)
17:00-17:30	2. Discussion: Education in East Asia (Chair: Prof. Park, Seoul National University)

October 18-19, 2022

2022 Taiwan Feminist Association Annual Conference : Gender, Space and (Im)mobility

The global spread of COVID-19 has caused obstacles such as lockdowns, quarantine, and travel restrictions. The outbreak of the Russo-Ukrainian War in 2022 forced a large number of Ukrainian people to flee, prompting us to rethink how space and mobility highlight social power and inequality as transnational and local processes. Individual use of space, mobility or immobility is never a personal behavior that is separate from gender relations. On the contrary, they reflect the intersection of gender relations and division of labor with other social identities, and also reinforce or challenge gender power and inequality.

The theme of the 2022 annual conference of the Women's Studies Association is "Gender, Space and (Im)Mobility," exploring the relationship between gender and space and mobility. Space includes physical space, virtual online space, as well as the deployment and segregation of public/private spheres. We explore how gender affects individual or group mobility, including various types of transnational migration, tourism, transportation, and social mobility such as job transfers or promotions and class mobility. We analyze the gendered spatial phenomena and mobility in daily life during peaceful times, and also consider voluntary or involuntary (im)mobility as gendered phenomena during epidemics, crises, and turbulent wars, such as forced quarantine, lockdowns, and displacement. This year we had a total of 26 invited or self-organized forums and 86 presentations on various topics related to space, gender, migration, parenting, disability politics. The Director of GARC, Professor Lan also gave a keynote speech titled "The Politics of Sanitization: Pandemic Crisis, Migration and Gender" Over 200 people participated in this conference.



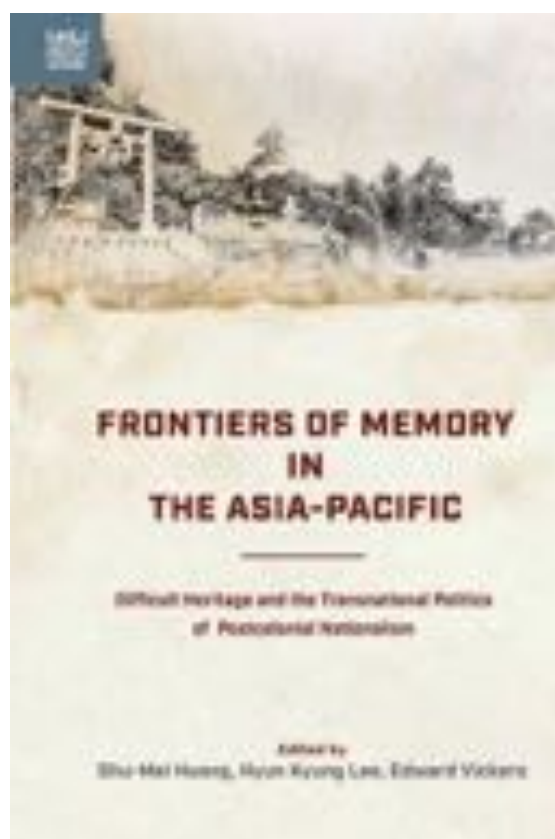
EVENTS PROMOTING COMPARATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOUTH KOREA AND EAST ASIA



January 5, 20223

Book launching webinar: *Frontiers of Memory in the Asia-Pacific*

Frontiers of Memory in the Asia-Pacific explores the making and consumption of conflict-related heritage throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Contributing to a growing literature on the notion of heritage, this collection advances our understanding of how places of pain, shame, oppression, and trauma have been appropriated and refashioned as “heritage” in a number of societies. The authors analyze how the repackaging of difficult pasts as heritage can serve either to reinforce borders, transcend them, or even achieve both simultaneously, depending on their political agenda. The volume shows how efforts to preserve various sites of difficult heritage can involve the construction of new borders between what is commemorated and what is often deliberately obscured or forgotten. The studies presented here suggest new directions for comparative research into “difficult heritage” across Asia and beyond, applying an interdisciplinary and critical perspective that spans history, heritage studies, memory studies, urban studies, architecture, and international relations.



COLLOQUIUMS AT GLOBAL ASIA RESEARCH CENTER



Colloquiums at Global Asia Research Center

April 26, 2021

What Did COVID-19 Teach Us about Us? Understanding Taiwanese Civil Society through its Pandemic Preparedness

Ming-Cheng M. Lo, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of California, Davis

While Taiwan's success at containing COVID-19 is now a familiar story, the pandemic also provides an empirical window for gaining new perspectives on Taiwan's civil society. This talk will identify the civil society mechanisms in Taiwan that served to demand institutional reforms for enhancing pandemic preparedness and to facilitate discourses of civic inter-dependence among its citizenry. Furthermore, it will discuss the challenges confronting Taiwan's democracy, such as populism and disinformation, and how these challenges were partially contained during the pandemic. Finally, it explores how Taiwan's democratic mechanisms for pandemic intervention were compromised by geopolitical power struggles. Taiwan's COVID experiences highlight new directions for future conversations about the legitimization crisis of democracy.

May 18, 2021

Trapped in the Middle: Causes and Consequences of Middling Skilled Migration

Yen-Feng Tseng, Professor, Department of Sociology, National Taiwan University

Many countries have recently broadened the definition of skill in recruiting high skilled migrants. As a result, more and more college-educated, albeit inexperienced, workers could opt for overseas careers via skilled worker visa, a development referred to as "middling" skilled migration by migration researchers. This talk discusses the causes and consequences of the significant increase of young college-educated migrants working in East Asia. It will unfold various layers of precarity experienced by this group of middling skilled migrants. Furthermore, it highlights how they have to constantly navigate routes that connect employers' recognition of skills and immigration regulations. As a result, many are involuntarily holding temporary visas for a long time, with unfulfilled social rights in a structure of civic stratification created by ever-differential skilled migration regimes. This talk concludes that such precarity is mainly the result of prevalent contradictions of skilled migration policies, particularly in East Asian exclusive migration regimes.

June 8, 2021

BOOK Talk: Diasporic Public Spheres in Colonial Asia: Chinese Bourgeois Associations in the Hong Kong-Singapore Corridor and Their Taiwan Ties, 1914-1941

Huei-Ying Kuo, Associate Research Professor, Department of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University

July 8, 2021

BOOK Talk: Divested: Inequality in the Age of Finance

Ken-Hou, Lin, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Texas Austin

July 9, 2021

Micro-politics of Recognition and Care: Transnational Siblings in China

Ken Chih-Yan Sun, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Villanova University

In this talk, I draw upon the concept of “economies of recognition” to analyze the moral frames that siblings caring for left-behind parents in China use to negotiate intimate connections to their emigrant brothers and sisters. I argue that the impact of family dislocation on sibling relations is shaped by family members’ co-constructed relational infrastructure. Our findings identify four types of relational infrastructure—collaboration, intrusion/ interference, voluntary takeover, and feeling left behind—that mediate the impact of geographic proximity on parental caregiving. I suggest that the interplay between physical distance and elder care is emotionally experienced, interactionally evaluated, and symbolically understood. Understanding solidarity, conflicts, and ambivalence in the contexts of family crisis requires a close examination of how members of a care network attribute each other’ s roles and contributions to power symmetry or asymmetry. This explains why the advice, information, money, people, and emotions that are circulated are thought of as helpful resources in some cases but perceived as constraints in others.



October 12, 2021

Book Talk: Mad by the Millions: Mental Disorders and the Early Years of the World Health Organization

Harry Yi-Jui Wu, Associate Professor, National Cheng Kung University

October 19, 2021

Taiwanese Identity as a Global Identity: The Networks of Skilled Labour Migrants in the UK and Canada

Fiona Moor, Professor of Business Anthropology, Royal Holloway University of London

Many people have pointed to recent nationalisation movements and the worldwide lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic as heralding the end of globalisation. However, these same events have also shown us that globalisation can be resilient and adaptive: and, furthermore, that the migration of ideas and people continues despite pressures to the contrary.

Through a study of Taiwanese skilled labour migrants and their families in the UK and in Canada, and of Taiwan itself as their society of origin, I examine the role identity plays in the network-building and career strategies of Taiwanese people overseas, and how their seemingly local identities as “Taiwanese” allow them to construct world-spanning networks. This process gives us insight into how, and why, globalisation processes continue to flourish despite pressures to localise, as well as into the ways in which Taiwan is developing as a player on the world business stage.

December 15, 2021

The Culture of “Playing Cute” in Taiwan: The Implications of Sajiao on Digital Activism and Political Communication

Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Northeastern State University

What is sajiao? How is it related to playing cute? Why has sajiao become a culture? Why is it a noteworthy cultural phenomenon? In the past, sajiao was often studied as a woman’s speech. Researchers marked many gender-based features to define this particular communication style. In this talk, Professor Hsin-I Sydney Yueh challenges this gender framework and proposes to view sajiao as a set of feminine speech acts performed by Taiwan Mandarin speakers. Based on ethnography and through the lens of cultural studies, Yueh will show the audience the formation of sajiao culture in Taiwan, and the implications of using this particular style in digital activism and political communication. In addition to attending to the cute elements in Taiwan’s elections, she will also analyze some recent examples, such as Milk Tea Alliance and Cat Warrior Diplomacy.

COLLOQUIUMS AT GLOBAL ASIA RESEARCH CENTER

January 6, 2022

Book Talk: Precarious Living: Homeless People and the Helping Networks in Taiwan

Ke-Hsien, Huang, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, National Taiwan University

February 17, 2022

Book Talk: The Great Exodus from China: Trauma, Memory, and Identity in Modern Taiwan

Dominic Meng-Hsuan, Yang, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Missouri-Columbia



March 16, 2022

The Public or Masculine Sector? Gender in Taiwan's Public-Sector Labour Market

Shan-Jan Sarah Liu, Lecturer, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Edinburgh

Wei-Yun Chung, Researcher, Global Asia Research Center, National Taiwan University
Chiung-Ling Chang, Professor, Taiwan Police College

Our visiting scholar Dr. Sarah Liu and researcher Dr. Wei-Yun Chung co-organized a public forum “The Public or Masculine Sector? Gender in Taiwan's Public-Sector Labour Market.” This public forum was sponsored by GARC and the Women’s and Gender Research Program and included experts whose research focus on women who serve as public servants in the government (Dr. Wei-Yun Chung), women police in the police department of Taiwan (Dr. Chiung-Ling Chang), as well as the gendered experiences of soldiers in Taiwanese military (Dr. Sarah Liu). The public forum attracted about 60-70 members from across the University of Taiwan, as well as members of society from other parts of the country (e.g., high school students from outside of Taipei).



April 14, 2022

Mediating Individuals and Social Imagination: Media Technology and Online War Memory

Wei-Ping Lin, Professor, Department of Anthropology, National Taiwan University

Social Imaginary is the way in which the members of a community imagine their existence. It forms the common understanding of how to carry out the collective practices that constitute social life. However, in contemporary society, not just one but multiple social imaginations coexist. How can people forge and negotiate collective imaginaries to face an uncertain future? In this talk, Wei-Ping Lin will introduce her new book, *Island Fantasia: Imagining Subjects on the Military Frontline between China and Taiwan*. She takes Chapter 6, *Online War Memory*, as an example to discuss the process of transformation from individual imagination to social imaginary, and to discuss how it is imbued with hope, affect, and a fantasy of the future. The Matsu islands, for long an isolated outpost off southeast China, were suddenly transformed into a military frontline in 1949 by the Cold War and the Communist–Nationalist conflict. The Nationalist army occupied the islands, commencing more than 40 long years of military rule. With the lifting of martial law in 1992, the people of Matsu were confronted with the question of how to move forward. Lin analyzes how the Matsu islanders use new media to cope with the lasting trauma of harsh military rule. She discusses the formation of new social imaginaries through the appearance of “imagining subjects,” interrogating their subjectification processes and varied uses of mediating technologies as they seek to answer existential questions.

June 15, 2022

Online workshop: Poverty and Housing Inequality: Comparing Taiwan and Singapore

Teo You Yenn, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Nanyang Technological University

Ke-Hsien, Huang, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, National Taiwan University

Li-Ling Huang, Associate Professor, Department of Graduate Institute of Building and Planning, National Taiwan University

What do inequalities look like in Singapore and Taiwan? In this workshop, Teo You Yenn, Liling Huang, and Ke-hsien Huang discuss and compare how systematic inequalities are perceived and addressed in these two Asian advanced economies. Teo is the author of *This Is What Inequality Looks Like* and the Provost’s Chair in Sociology at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Liling Huang, from the Graduate Institute of Building & Planning of National Taiwan University, specialises in youth poverty and housing. Ke-hsien Huang, from the Department of Sociology of National Taiwan University, recently published the book *Precarious Living on homeless people in Taiwan*.

October 19, 2022

The Transformation of Language and Society in Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, c. 1870-1950.

Jeffrey Weng, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, National Taiwan University

Amid Western imperialism and the rise of nationalism in East Asia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a massive shift in language practices took place between about 1870 and 1950, as regional hegemony shifted from China to Japan. Bound for two millennia by their common use of Classical Chinese, elite literati in China, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam all moved away from that abstruse lingua franca and turned to the creation of new national vernaculars. Outside of China, the creation of new national vernaculars was a repudiation of China itself. Classical Chinese was no longer a universal language of truth, but rather the cultural heritage of an foreign power. In the past, scholars have generally taken a “diffusionist” view of the rise of national standard languages—the state pushes for the wider adoption of such languages, and other forces (principally economic modernization) facilitate its diffusion. But such a view is too mechanistic and Eurocentric, and an examination of other, less-familiar cases lends itself to a revised interpretation. I argue for a more “integrationist” perspective: language nationalization was a state-led and top-down process directed at remaking society.

June 15, 2022

Archive, Love and Pants. Decolonizing LGBT Movement and Queer History in Taiwan and Korea

Eno Pei Jean Chen, Assistant Professor, Department of Taiwanese Literature, National Chengchi University in Taipei

Eno Pei-Jean Chen is an assistant professor of Taiwanese Literature at National Chengchi University in Taipei. Her research projects focus on the colonial genealogy of modern love and the Cold War ideology of gender normalization and affect in Taiwan and South Korea. In this informative lecture, professor Chen explored the history of queer culture in Taiwan and Korea from the Japanese colonial period to the present day by examining the search, construction, and interpretation of queer history archives. She highlighted the importance of comparative research between Taiwan and Korea, as well as the inspiration that queer archives can provide for historical research. Starting with a Korean lesbian magazine preserved in an American university archive, she described how marginalized queer communities (especially lesbians) in Taiwan and Korea used objects such as magazines and personal items as archival materials to evoke memories and construct a dispersed community that transcends national boundaries and fosters mutual imagination.

December 9, 2022

Migration, entrepreneurship and digital connectivity: 'Connected' Chinese women across the Taiwan Strait

Beatrice Zani, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, McGill University

Looking at Chinese women's rural-to-urban migration in China and cross-border marriage migration to Taiwan, in this talk, I explore the link between migration, entrepreneurship, digital worlds, and emotion. Based on ethnographic research in China and in Taiwan -participant observation and 140 interviews-, I discuss how migrants' mobility, affection, and economic action growingly take place across digital and transnational scales. Specifically, I consider the situations of economic marginalization to investigate how women develop online social and emotional networks and entrepreneurship. On hidden circuits, these 'connected' migrant entrepreneurs contest markets and transgress borders, drawing novel digital, commercial, and emotional geographies of globalization between China and Taiwan.

December 19, 2022

Buddhism, Migration, and the Quest for Social Equality: Ambedkarite Indians in East Asia

Jon Keune, Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Michigan State University

The Dalit ("Untouchable") leader Bhimrao Ambedkar converted with some 400,000 followers to Buddhism in 1956 as way of protesting untouchability and the caste system. Ambedkar's rationalist vision of Buddhism focused on social transformation and promoting equality, and his eight million followers today carry on that legacy. Through transnational collaborations and migration in the past thirty years, Ambedkarites have interacted increasingly with Buddhists in Japan and Taiwan. Dr. Keune will share observations from his ongoing research on these developments and discuss how these diverse groups manage their many vast differences as they work together and pursue their own distinct goals.



December 28, 2022

Statistics and the Language of Global Health: Institutions and Experts in China, Taiwan, and the World, 1917-1960

Yi-Tang Lin, Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Zurich

Professor Lin's newly published "Statistics and the Language of Global Health: Institutions and Experts in China, Taiwan, and the World, 1917-1960" uses historical archives from East Asia, Western Europe, and North America to trace the historical process of numbers becoming the language of global health communication. This book features China and Taiwan between 1917 and 1960 as a case study to present the interaction between numbers, experts, and decision-making. It reconstructs how the academic public health community, private foundations, and international health organizations jointly established an international expert network through various actions, and explores how these experts adopted different strategies to use and interpret statistical data based on different socio-economic and political contexts to achieve a balance between global standards and local realities.

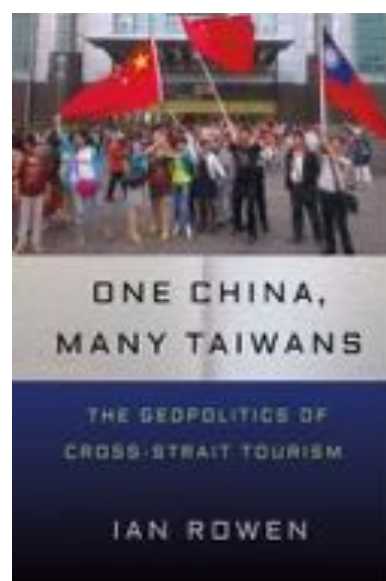
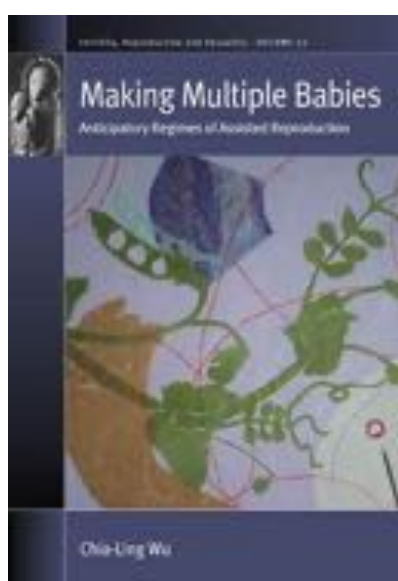
March 2, 2023

MAKING MULTIPLE BABIES

Anticipatory Regimes of Assisted Reproduction

Chia-Ling Wu, Professor, Department of Sociology, National Taiwan University

Human beings have been producing more twins, triplets, and quadruplets than ever before, due to the expansion of medically assisted conception. Professor Wu's new book analyzes the anticipatory regimes of making multiple babies. With archival documents, participant observation, in-depth interviews, and registry data, this book traces the global and local governance of the assisted reproductive technologies (ARTs) used to tackle multiple pregnancy since the 1970s, highlighting the early promotion of single embryo transfer in Belgium and Japan and the making of the world's most lenient guidelines in Taiwan.



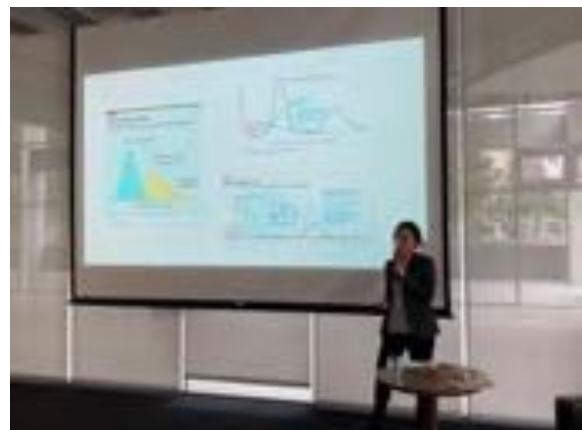
March 14, 2023

ONE CHINA, MANY TAIWANS

The Geopolitics of Cross-Strait Tourism

Ian Rowen, Associate Professor, Department of Taiwan Culture, Languages, and Literature, National Taiwan Normal University

In 2008, as the People's Republic of China pointed over a thousand missiles across the Taiwan Strait, it sent millions of tourists in the same direction with the encouragement of Taiwan's politicians and businesspeople. Contrary to the PRC's efforts to use tourism to incorporate Taiwan into an imaginary "One China," tourism aggravated tensions between the two polities, polarized Taiwanese society, and pushed Taiwanese popular sentiment farther toward support for national self-determination. The book's ethnographic treatment of tourism as a political technology provides a new lens for social scientists and area specialists to examine the geopolitics of tourism, which has transformed the globe.





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