

SUMMARIES

Reimund Grewe: "Nature conservation movement and environmental protests - chances for a paradigm change in Taiwan",*ASIEN*, (October 1992) 45, pp.5-16

With respect to the apparent environmental problematique in Taiwan, the rise of an environmental awareness during the 1980s can be concluded. However, it shall be researched to what extent this awareness will result into an effective environmental behaviour. Which are the decisive social values that inevitably lead to the implementation of action against the environmental threat?

This article especially describes two fractions of a general social movement that is presently taking place in Taiwan: the nature conservation movement, with its deliberate initiatives to rise public consciousness, and the environmental protests, which live by the spontaneous anger of those who are first affected by the environmental crisis.

Of particular interest is a lobby among the environment protectors, who - besides their modern ecological approaches - do not hesitate to also incorporate ancient Chinese philosophic concepts in order to determine a new understanding of the relationship between modern man and nature in today's Taiwan.

This essay concludes that only a new perception of oneself as both part of society and part of nature can lead to the necessary paradigm change which again may serve as the foundation for a healthy and stable social order in Taiwan's future.

Verena Kollin-Hüssen: "Problems of Chinese agriculture",*ASIEN*, (October 1992) 45, pp.17-28

An agrarian reform was started in 1978 in the People's Republic of China, which caught a world-wide attention. In the following years the Chinese agriculture witnessed a rapid development. Nevertheless, the transition of collective farming to small holdings run on a family basis with collective landownership caused several problems.

This article gives a synopsis of the actual agrarian structure in China and the agricultural development between 1978 and 1990. On this basis the main problems in the Chinese agriculture today are pointed out. The deterioration of the natural production basis, insufficient agricultural extension, decreasing agricultural investments, and unsolved problems in the price structure are analyzed in detail.

In China several approaches to reform are discussed. All these approaches might be able to settle one part of the problems. But they do not fit to solve the essential problem of the Chinese economy as a whole: the inefficiency of the state-run industrial enterprises. The determination to reform is much in evidence in China. But the problems are too grave and too complex to find a quick and pat solution.

Yves Guinand: "Possibilities and Limits of Self-help promotion in Indonesia",*ASIEN*, (October 1992) 45, pp.29-44

It has now become commonplace to say that national economic growth alone cannot prevent the growth of mass poverty. Since the poor have become too numerous to be helped from "outside", "self-help" has emerged as a new paradigm for combating poverty. In the self-help approach and its concepts it is suggested that self-help promotion could be done more effectively and efficiently by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) then by state owned development institutions, because they have the necessary ideological background as well as the institutional capacity to address the needs of the poorest and to integrate them into their projects.

In Indonesia *Bina Swadaya* is regarded as the biggest and oldest independent working development organization the beginnings of which go back to the end of the 1950's. *Lembaga Swadaya Pembangunan* (LSP) is a typical example of a NGO founded and promoted by Indonesian middle class intellectuals in the 1970's, bringing in experiences from the private industry and government institutions. Both see themselves as self-help promotion institutions (SHPI). The political, socio-eco-

nomical and cultural background as well as internal institutional and instrumental problems of NGOs influence to a good deal the self-help promotion as a development approach and its practical implementation.

The self-help approaches final aim of initiating socio-political change within the Indonesian society is not yet possible since government control is present at all levels of society. Both organizations are fully aware of that fact and their close cooperation with government development institutions should not be seen as a constraint but rather as a way and possibility to infiltrate self-help ideology into state structures. Politically NGOs begin to have some influence but it still isn't very clear yet, which direction this development will take. In a long term view, chances for a more adequate implementation of the self-help approach may occur if the national policy will head towards more democratical structures, but in the short term the socio-political framework will remain unchanged so will do the development possibilities for self-help promotion in Indonesia.

Gundula Süllwold: "The Philippine Health System: Entrepreneurship, Staff Export, and the Misery of Medical Service"

ASIEN, (October 1992) 45, pp.45-61

As a product of American colonial modernization politics, the Philippine health system is structurally determined by a threefold phenomenon: medical entrepreneurship on the basis of profit maximization; consequently, inequality in the access to medical treatment; and the worldwide export of Philippine nurses. After a brief description of the historical emergence of the general structures a detailed case study of the delivery of medical services in a provincial city is presented. Eventually, the role of NGOs as an alternative for reorganization and development of the Philippine health system is discussed. Yet no reform measures will reach the most important cause for illnesses and diseases: dire and widespread poverty.

Haymo Mitschian: "Asian Students Passivity - a Cultural or an Intercultural Problem? Analysis Based on Observations in the PR China"

ASIEN, (October 1992) 45, pp.62-82

A characteristic of Asian people is seen in a strong kind of passivity, often confirmed by teachers of German as a foreign language working with students from this region. An analysis of this statements proves a serious lack of cohesion. Neither cultural nor family socialisation in many Asian societies is explored well enough to supply with straight explanations. Instead there is some evidence that descriptions of Asian people based on overall characteristics have to be questioned due to unclear methods of comparison and chronological inconsistency.

An analysis mainly based on observations in German language classes in the PR China leads to different conclusions. A dominating certificate orientation on one hand and communication problems originating from differences in both students and teachers learning and language experience on the other turns out to be responsible for student passivity in classrooms. Especially a serious lack of interest in active language skills causes inactivity as long as passing examinations is the main motivation for foreign language learning. Moreover, disregarding obvious restrictions in basic learning conditions in favour of so called cultural factors seems to be one instrument to cover insufficiencies in teaching abilities.