

There was broad enthusiasm for continuing the PEARL workshop process. Delegates from France, China and Sweden expressed some interest in hosting a future planning meeting, while the ESF representative also indicated his willingness to play a role in the organization of the meeting.

### *Implementation*

The three Alliance partners (IIAS, NIAS, Institut für Asienkunde) have been asked to appoint a consultant to draft a programme for PEARL. This proposal will be further developed in the context of the ESF programme in Asian Studies and will consist of three main parts:

- A proposal for an organisational framework;
- An elaboration of one or two of the suggestions made by the meeting in Seoul regarding long-term collaborative research programmes;
- A plan for academic facilitating, such as the exchange of researchers, academic meetings etc.

Robert Cribb

## **Konferenzankündigungen**

### **International Conference on "Crisis Management – Chinese Entrepreneurs and Business Networks in Southeast Asia"**

Bonn, May 28-30, 1999

The objective of the conference is to shed light on the complex and little understood interconnections between Chinese business in Southeast Asia, globalization and the Asian financial and economic crisis. We believe that a new research initiative is justified since the issue of Chinese business is (i) often misrepresented both in the media as well as in the academic literature, (ii) vital for an understanding of the Asian crisis, some of its causes as well as its socio-economic impact and (iii) inextricably linked with the logic of global capitalism rather than 'Chinese capitalism'.

While ethnic Chinese have been the key drivers of the region's rapid economic growth over the past three decades, both the continuing economic crisis and global market forces are posing new challenges. Asia's economic malaise illustrates the fundamental socio-economic and political changes and threats to which Chinese business is exposed on local, regional and global markets. The dark side of *guanxi*, overexposure to non-productive sectors, paternalistic management methods, resistance to change, the IMF, increased competition, lack of credit, bankruptcies, dependence on western technology, high import bills for components, insufficient branding, legal-political insecurity, eroding strategic alliances with ruling power elites and ethnic conflicts represent some of the critical issues.

The latest developments in the region provide a timely occasion to reexamine taken-for-granted assumptions about the 'strength' and 'uniqueness' of what has been termed 'Chinese capitalism', networks and business culture in the age of globaliza-

tion and global market expansion. Another central objective is to find out how ethnic Chinese entrepreneurs, their family businesses, conglomerates and networks - who have played a significant role in the regional economic integration of East and Southeast Asia (and increasingly in the context of global market expansion) – adjust to the economic crisis.

Concepts, terms and images such as globalization, market expansion, regionalization, localization, network, ethnic Chinese entrepreneurs as global community, diaspora, identity, nation state, nationalism, imagined communities, ethnic conflicts etc. represent interesting theoretical angles and empirical footholds.

The international conference, which is funded by the German Research Council (DFG), will bring together some of the leading scholars on Chinese business from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia, the USA and Europe to explore the following themes:

- Corporate Governance, Sustainability and Crisis Management of Chinese Firms and Transnational Business Networks;
- Chinese Network Capitalism and Connections between Myth and Reality – Towards a Non-Essentialist and Comparative Perspective;
- Global and Regional Market Expansion, Chinese Business and Ethnic Conflicts;
- Chineseness between McWorld and Ethnic Essentialism – The Impact of Globalization and the Economic Crisis on Life Styles, Values and Identity Management as well as Fragmentations;
- Case Studies of Transnational Ethnic Chinese Enterprises, Networks etc.

Participants are expected to contribute theoretically guided papers based on empirical work and to discuss the implications of the Asian crisis with regard to the research subjects outlined above.

For further information contact the convenors (Prof. Dr. Solvay Gerke, Department of Southeast Asian Studies, University of Bonn; Dr Thomas Menkhoff, Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore; Prof. Dr. Hans-Dieter Evers, Sociology of Development Research Centre, University of Bielefeld) or write to [solvay.gerke@t-online.de](mailto:solvay.gerke@t-online.de).

### **Jahrestagung des Arbeitskreises Südostasien in Lauenburg vom 25.-27.6.1999 zum Thema "Sozialer und kultureller Wandel in Südostasien"**

In der Zeit vom 25.-27.6.1999 findet in Lauenburg die dritte Jahrestagung des Arbeitskreises Südostasien statt. Der Schwerpunkt soll auf den aktuellen Problemen des sozialen und kulturellen Wandels in den Staaten Südostasiens liegen. Daneben ist ein größerer Teil der Tagung der Vorstellung von Arbeiten junger Kollegen vorbehalten, die hierzu über ihre abgeschlossenen oder laufenden Diplomarbeiten-/Examens-, Dissertations- oder Habilitationsarbeiten - und dies unabhängig vom inhaltlichen Schwerpunkt des Rahmenthemas - berichten sollen.

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**Tagungstermine**

- 30.04.-01.05.1999 *Second Europe-Asia Forum*  
ASEF (Asia-Europe Foundation), München (Kontakt: P. Kek, Tel.: +65-838-4700, Fax.: +65-838-4719)
- 17.-18.05.1999 *5th ASEF (Asia-Europe Foundation) Board of Governors Meeting*  
ASEF, Beijing, VR China (Kontakt: P. Kek, Tel.: +65-838-4700, Fax.: +65-838-4719)
- 19.-21.05.1999 *ASEF (Asia-Europe Foundation) Cultural Industries and Cultural Development Conference*  
Beijing, VR China (Kontakt: P. Kek, Tel.: +65-838-4700, Fax.: +65-838-4719)
- 28.-30.05.1999 *Politische Herrschaft und ökonomische Krise im pazifischen Asien und Lateinamerika: Parlamentarische Demokratie und soziale Marktwirtschaft als Modell?*  
Institut für Politikwissenschaft, Universität Mainz (Kontakt: Dr. J. Dosch, Tel.: +49-6131-395957, e-mail: jdosch@mail.uni-mainz.de)
- Juni 1999 *Political Economy of Rapid Modernization in Contemporary East and Southeast Asia*  
Seoul, Korea (Kontakt: Dr. Lindblad, Fax.: +31-71-5272652, e-mail: lindblad@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)
- 04.-06.06.1999 *1999 Association of Japanese Business Studies Annual Conference*  
Weber State University, USA (Kontakt: Shane Schvaneveldt, e-mail: schvaneveldt@weber.edu, URL: <http://www.ajbs.org>)
- 05.-06.06.1999 *IIAS Workshop 'Rationality in Asia'*  
Leiden, Holland (Kontakt: Marianne Langehenkel, Tel.: +31-71-5272227, Fax.: +31-71-5274162)
- 07.-10.06.1999 *A Changing Japan?*  
Wilton Park Conference, Wiston House, GB (Kontakt: Tel.: +44-1903-817755, Fax.: +44-1903-815931, e-mail: admin@wiltonpark.org.uk)
- 11.-12.06.1999 *Japan and the National Identity of its Asian Neighbours during and after the Imperial Era*  
Department of Asian Studies, University of Copenhagen, Dänemark (Kontakt: Christian Morimoto Hermansen, Tel.: +45-35328840, Fax.: +45-35328835)
- 15.-18.06.1999 *The 600th Anniversary of Kabir's Birth*  
Dept. of Modern Indian Studies, South Asia Institute, Universität Heidelberg (Kontakt: Prof. Boehm-Tettelbach, Tel.: +49-6221-548926, Fax.: +49-6221-545998, e-mail: m91@ix.urz.uni-heidelberg.de)
- 16.-18.06.1999 *The Fourth ASEAN Inter-University Seminar on Social Development*  
ASEAN ISSD4 Secretariat, Prince of Songkla University, Thailand (Kontakt: Tel.: +66-73-312238, Fax.: +66-73-313485, e-mail: issd4@bunga.pn.psu.ac.th)

- 17.-18.06.1999 *Economic Crisis and Transformation in Southeast Asia: Strategic Responses by Japanese and European Firms*  
German Institute for Japanese Studies, Tokyo, Japan (Kontakt: Jochen Legewie/Hendrik Meyer Ohle, Tel.: +81-3-3222-5077, Fax.: +81-3-3222-5420)
- 17.-20.06.1999 *1999 AAS ASPAC Conference: Asia in the Twenty First Century*  
San Diego CA, USA (Kontakt: M.C. Madhavan, Tel.: +1-619-5945492, Fax.: +1-619-5945062, e-mail: madhavan@mail.sdsu.edu)
- 18.-19.06.1999 *The Post-test Scenario in South Asia: Issues, Problems and Alternative Strategies*  
LFG Internationale Beziehungen in Asien & Afrika, Humboldt-Universität Berlin (Kontakt: Dr. Eva-Maria Hexamer, Tel.: +49-30-20936680, Fax.: +49-30-20936666, e-mail: EMHEXAMER@aol.com)
- 25.-27.06.1999 *4<sup>th</sup> ESfO Conference: Asia in the Pacific*  
ESfO Organizing Committee, Leiden, Holland (Kontakt: Dr. J. Miedema, Fax.: +31-71-5272632, e-mail: isiresfo@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)
- 26.06.1999 *The Third Asian Studies Conference Japan*  
Institute of Asian Cultural Studies, International Christian University, Japan (Kontakt: e-mail: asian@icu.ac.jp)
- 28.06.-01.07.1999 *Conference on Trade Issues*  
ASEF (Asia-Europe Foundation), GB (Kontakt: P. Kek, Tel.: +65-838-4700, Fax.: +65-838-4719)
- 29.06.1999 *11<sup>th</sup> ECIMS: The Indonesian and Malay World: Milestones of the Second Millennium*  
Institute of Asian and African Studies, Nusantara Society, Moskau, GUS (Kontakt: Tel./Fax.: +7-095-954-7622, e-mail: kukush@iaas.msu.su)
- Ende Juni 1999 *Workshops on 'China/Japan/Literature/Theory'*  
IIAS/SOAS, London, GB (Kontakt: Dr. I. Smits, Tel.: +31-71-5272845, e-mail: ibsmits@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)
- Juni/Juli 1999 *Workshop on Sustainable Forest Management & Experts Exchange*  
ASEF (Asia-Europe Foundation), Joensuu, Finnland (Kontakt: P. Kek, Tel.: +65-838-4700, Fax.: +65-838-4719)
- Juli 1999 *Ghosts and Modernity in East Asia*  
IIAS, Leiden, Holland (Kontakt: Dr. Knight, Fax.: +31-71-5274162, e-mail: jknight@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)
- 04.-08.07.1999 *7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Thai Studies*  
Amsterdam, Holland (Kontakt: e-mail: "thaistud@pscw.uva.nl", URL: <http://www.pscw.uva.nl/icts7/themes.html>)
- 05.-07.07.1999 *Atlas-Asia Inauguration Conference: Entrepreneurship and Education in Tourism*  
Dept. of Leisure Studies, Tilburg University, Holland (Kontakt: Karin Bras, Tel.: +31-13-4662191, Fax.: +31-13-

4662370, e-mail: c.h.bras@kub.nl, URL: <http://www.atlas-euro.org>)

- 05.-07.07.1999 *Eighth Annual Meeting of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics*  
IACL-8 Organizing Committee, Institute of Asian Languages and Societies, University Melbourne, Australien (Kontakt: Fax.: +61-3-93494870, e-mail: [iacl-8@asian.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:iacl-8@asian.unimelb.edu.au))
- 05.-09.07.1999 *15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on South Asian Archaeology*  
The European Association of South Asian Archaeology, Leiden, Holland (Kontakt: Prof. K. van Kooij, Fax.: +31-71-5274162, e-mail: [IIAS@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:IIAS@rullet.leidenuniv.nl) ("please mention SAA 99"))
- 09.-11.07.1999 *Sala 2000: Priorities and Directions*  
20<sup>th</sup> Conference of South Asian Languages Analysis Roundtable SALA Committee, Dept. of Linguistics, University of Illinois, Urbana, USA (Kontakt: Tel.: +1-217-333-3562, Fax.: +1-217-333-3466)
- 12.-16.07.1999 *Women Organizing in China*  
Centre for Cross-Cultural Research on Women, University of Oxford, GB (Kontakt: Joanna Chils, Tel.: +44-1865-273644, Fax.: +44-1865273607, e-mail: [cccrw@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:cccrw@qeh.ox.ac.uk))
- 14.-16.07.1999 *Mongolian and Tibetan Historical Sources: Computer Approaches*  
Moskau, GUS (Kontakt: Dimitry D. Vasilyev, Tel.: +7-95-9285764, e-mail: [dmivas@glas.apc.org](mailto:dmivas@glas.apc.org), URL: <http://www.orient.ru>)
- August 1999 *Second ASEF (Asia-Europe Foundation) Summer School*  
Beijing, VR China (Kontakt: P. Kek, Tel.: +65-838-4700, Fax.: +65-838-4719)
- 08.-12.08.1999 *6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language: "Chinese Language Teaching in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"*  
Hannover (Kontakt: Zhang Dexin, Tel.: +86-10-62329585, Fax.: +86-10-62311093, URL: <http://www.fask.uni-mainz.de/inst/chinesisch>)
- 26.-27.08.1999 *Chinese Transnational Enterprises and Entrepreneurship in Prosperity and Adversity: South China and Southeast Asia during the Twentieth Century*  
International Institute for Asian Studies, The Netherland Center of Asian Studies, University of Hongkong, VR China
- 15.-19.9.1999 *EUROVIET IV (zu Vietnam)*  
Universität Passau (Kontakt: e-mail: "[seastudies@uni-passau.de](mailto:seastudies@uni-passau.de)")
- 16.-18.09.1999 *Fourth Conference on East Asia-EU Business*  
The Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham, UK (Kontakt: Mrs. A. King, Tel.: +44-121-4146694)
- 29.-31.10.1999 *Chinawissenschaften und Öffentlichkeit - Globale Paradigmenwechsel in Medien, Politik und Forschung*  
Berlin, Deutsche Vereinigung für Chinastudien (Kontakt: [helmut.martin@ruhr-uni-bochum.de](mailto:helmut.martin@ruhr-uni-bochum.de))

- 20.-21.11.1999 *The Anglo-Dutch Conference 1999: "Defining the Profession: Oriental Medicines at the dawn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Meeting the Challenges of the Future"*  
Anglo-Dutch Institute for Oriental Medicine, Amsterdam, Holland (Kontakt: Tel.: +31-255-536909, Fax.: +31-255-536908)
- 14.-15.01.2000 *Entrepreneurship and Institutions in a Comparative Perspective: Europe and Asia, 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Centuries*  
IIAS Branch Office, Amsterdam, Holland (Kontakt: Tel.: +31-20-5253657, Fax.: +31-20-5253658)
- 27.08.-01.09.2000 XXXVI. International Congress of Asian and North African Studies: "Oriental and Asian Studies in the Era of Globalization: Heritage and Modernity - Opportunities and Challenges"  
Montreal, Canada; Secretariat d'Icanas 2000 (T: +1-514-343-6492, F: 343-6544, E: [congres@bcoc.umontreal.ca](mailto:congres@bcoc.umontreal.ca), <http://www.bcoc.umontreal.ca>)

### Seminare des Ost-West-Kollegs

Willy-Brandt-Str. 1, 50321 Brühl, T: 02232-92982-40/50, F: 9299020,  
E: [owk@fhbund.de](mailto:owk@fhbund.de)

- 03.-06.05.1999 Asienkrise, Demokratie, Nationalismus. Neue Wechselwirkungen zwischen Politik und Ökonomie in Ostasien
- 10.-12.05.1999 Japan und Ostasien: Hintergründe und Perspektiven der Finanz- und Wirtschaftskrise
- 30.05.-02.06.1999 Zehn Jahre nach "Tian'anmen": Bilanz und Perspektiven der Umbrüche in China
- 12.-16.07.1999 Ende des asiatischen Wunders? Politische Perspektiven und wirtschaftliche Interessen asiatischer Großmächte
- 30.08.-03.09.1999 China und Ostasien: Wirtschaftskrise, Demokratie, internationale Beziehungen
- 06.-08.09.1999 Wirtschaftliche und sicherheitspolitische Entwicklungen im asiatischen Raum
- 18.-22.10.1999 Fünfzig Jahre Volksrepublik China: Chinas schwieriger Weg in die Moderne
- 11.-12.11.1999 Deutschland und China: Aspekte der medialen Wahrnehmung
- 12.-17.12.1999 Politik, Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft in den kaukasischen und mittelasiatischen Staaten Ende der neunziger Jahre
- 13.-17.12.1999 Ende des asiatischen Wunders? Hintergründe und Perspektiven der Finanz- und Wirtschaftskrise in Ostasien