

Die Konferenz zeigte deutlich, dass es wichtig ist, auch die kleinen jüdischen Gemeinschaften in Asien zu erforschen, da sich hier sowohl Gelegenheiten zur Entwicklung neuer Methoden und Konzepte, als auch zu neuen thematischen Vergleichen bieten. Die Ergebnisse dieses Symposiums werden voraussichtlich im Sommer 2013 als Sammelband erscheinen.

Lauren Drover

9th Annual Conference of the European Association of Taiwan Studies

co-organized by the University of Southern Denmark, and the European Association for Taiwan Studies (EATS), Sønderborg, 18.-21. Juni 2012

For the second time since 2007 (Stockholm), the annual meeting of the EATS has taken place in Scandinavia for the extensive network of scholars who have an interest in Asia. The ninth conference brought together researchers not only from Europe, but from all over the world, whose areas of research focus on comparative regional and global aspects of more recent developments in Taiwanese society, politics, culture and economy.

There were three keynote speeches: Klaus Carsten Pedersen (The Danish Foreign Policy Society) provided a comparison of the historical and present relationship between Denmark and Germany and the cross-Strait relationship. Shih-shan Henry Tsai (National Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu) then gave a comprehensive overview of the re-writing of Taiwan in a more island-based historiography, and finally, Michael Hsin-huang Hsiao (Academia Sinica, Taipei) discussed recent developments connected with the First World Congress of Taiwan Studies in Taipei and the future direction of the study field.

The special roundtable sponsored by the bi-partisan Taiwan Foundation of Democracy (TFD) discussed recent developments in Taiwan's democratic transformation. The participants were George W. Tsai (TFD, Taipei), Gary D. Rawnsley (University of Leeds), Szu-Yin Ho (National Chengchi University), Dennis Hickey (Missouri State University) and Jean-Pierre Cabestan (Hong Kong Baptist University).

Panel 1, "Popular Culture", focused on film and mass culture in today's Taiwan. Carsten Storm (Universität Erlangen) examined the transnational topics of "violence and youth" in the Work of Edward Yang", while Corrado Neri (Lyon University) presented a broad overview of Japanese colonization in Taiwan cinema. Kai Sheng (National United University, Taiwan) discussed the changing role of Nezha, a traditional protection deity in Taiwanese folk religion, from the god of gamblers to his re-invention as the hero of rebellious youths in films and literature. Pierre Magistry (Université Paris Diderot) examined the ongoing role of PTT in Taiwan's Internet usage and the inherent difficulties in using it as a text corpus for research.

Panel 2, "Cross-Strait and International Relations", was opened by Mumin Chen (National Chung Hsing University, Taichung) who explored Taiwan's troubled relationship with Southeast Asia and India and showed the limits of the newly postulated pragmatic diplomacy. Wen-cheng Lin (National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung) offered a critical analysis of the areas of cooperation between the USA and the People's Republic of China on the Taiwan issue. Ming-chin Monique Chu (SOAS, London) used the case of Taiwan's entry to APEC (Asian Pacific Economic cooperation) 1991 to provide the audience with a nuanced analysis of an important milestone in the contested state's struggle in the inter-state system.

In Panel 3 "NGO, Activism, Internationalization and Ecological Issues", two papers were presented that dealt with Taiwan's environmental problems from a theoretical perspective: Simona Grano (University of Zürich) referred to the case of the Guoguang Petrochemical

Project vs. Taipei Dome to illustrate the successes and failures of the environmental movement. Ting-jieh Wang (National Taiwan University) reconsidered Taiwan's environmental politics in the post-war period in the context of ecological communication in Taiwanese society.

Panel 4, "Elections", Dafydd Fell (SOAS, London) employed a comparative perspective to broaden our understanding of how and why party-switching occurs in new democracies, supporting his explanation with evidence gathered from the first term of Ma Ying-jeou's presidency. Nien-hsia Lu (Hsuan Chuang University, Hsinchu) offered a critical view of pre-election media polls. Ningkan Heidi Wang (London School of Economics) located negative claims within the overall election context and analyzed the ways in which parties use negativity to set the agenda. And, finally, Malte Philipp Kaeding (University of Surrey) discussed the evolution of a national identity in presidential election campaigns between 1996 and 2012.

Panel 5 "History and Modernization" was opened by Niki Alsford with a paper on the structuring of the British treaty port community and the modernization of Tamsui (Danshui) from 1860 to 1895. Guan-chun Lin presented a comprehensive overview of various disciplines in the modern Chinese body concept and the way this has changed in Taiwan. Ann Heylen (National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei) discussed the public interest in the historical re-visitation of the Dutch period based on the notion that heritage studies are not a recent or late 20th century given, but denote a much broader trajectory.

Panel 6 "Taiwan's Media" offered two innovative papers: Jens Sjerup (University of Copenhagen) discussed the mass media representation of Japanese colonial oppression in more recent times in mainstream Taiwanese newspapers, while Pei Tsai (Shih Hsin University) and Ming-jay Chang (National Taipei University of Education) offered an analysis of public journalism based on material taken from two newspapers that were directed at the indigenous population.

Panel 7, "Law", was opened by Astrid Lipinsky (University of Vienna), who examined Taiwan's claim to have established an international human rights nation. Georg Gesk (Hsuan Chuang University, Hsinchu) offered the results of his study on the Second Wave of Judicial Reform in Taiwan and its significance with respect to the way that judges are selected.

Panel 8, "Taiwan's Ethnic Groups in Times of Multiculturalism", provided two examples of research on new female migrants to Taiwan, the first by Isabelle Cheng (SOAS), who looked at Vietnamese marriage migrants, and the other by Lara Momessa (SOAS London), who compared the narratives of Mainland Chinese spouses in Taiwan. Michael Rudolph (University of Southern Denmark) used the case of the Sakizaya to demonstrate the multifaceted forces that have led to ethnic re-classification in contemporary Taiwan. Rosa Enn (University of Vienna) talked about the influence of environmental changes on Taiwan's indigenous population.

Panel 9, "Literature: Contemporary Aspects", was opened by Christopher N. Payne (Sungkyunkwan University, Republic of Korea) on the topic of queer issues in Taiwanese literature, with reference to a novel by Wuhe. Nga-I Tenn (National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei) discussed Siraya writing in modern Tai-gi (Taiwanese language) works. Federica Passi (Ca' Foscari University Venice) explored "time, memory and the authenticity of language in a novel by Zhu Tianxin" while Pei-Yin Lin (University of Hong Kong) discussed cross-Strait relations, in the context of the topic of gender in new novels by Li Ang and Ping Lu.

Panel 10, "Economy", offered two papers by Tsu-Yi Hung (National Taipei University of Technology) and Ya-Ling Weng (National Taipei University of Technology) on the knowl-

edge spillover effect, and a third by Zsuzsanna Mangu (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) on corporate reputation and national image-building in Taiwanese advertisements.

Panel 11, "Research on Taiwan's Indigenous Peoples", was opened by Kerim Friedman (National Dong Hwa University, Hualian), who examined the standardization of regional Amis language varieties. Wen-li Ke (Leiden University) then discussed indigenous heritage and culture as well as related creative industries in Taiwan.

Panel 12, "Taiwan's Changing Geopolitical Situation", dealt with more recent cross-Strait developments. Sebastian Biba (National Chengchi University, Taipei) asked whether the triangular relationships between the US, China, and Taiwan are still appropriate to explain cross-Strait relations from an international perspective. Alex Calvo (European University of Barcelona) compared the island issues of Senkaku to those of the Falkland Islands. Jens Damm (Chang Jung Christian University, Tainan) compared the perception of new migrants from Taiwan with the perceptions of Taiwanese migrants to China using media text from the two sides of the Taiwan Strait, and concluded that there are many similarities in the negative stereotyping of the migrant other. Lutgard Lams (HU Brussels, Catholic University of Louvain) asked whether inter-ethnic relations and issues of identity in a general sense are still deemed relevant to Taiwanese politics after the re-election of the KMT in 2008.

The MA panel was opened by Huichun Song (SOAS) discussing Taiwan's youth subcultures and identities in films. Wan-Zi Lu (NTU & SOAS) discussed the quality of the indigenous support for the KMT since 1997, concluding that the ethnic identification process has not featured as strongly in the voting behavior of the Aborigines as it has in other ethnic groups. Darema Eleni (SOAS) analyzed the causes and the international repercussions of the 1995-1996 cross-Strait crises.

Jens Sjerup, Isabelle Cheng and Simona Grano all received a Young Scholar Award for their outstanding papers.

The next annual conference will take place in 2013 in Lyon.

Jens Damm, Ann Heylen

The Asia-Pacific Maritime World: Connected Histories in the Age of Empire

Projekt C12 The Asian Sea, Universität Heidelberg, 06.-08. Juli 2012

The aim of this conference was to question the ways in which scholars tend to divide the maritime world into spatial blocs like the 'Atlantic World', the concept of 'Mediterranean' blocs, etc. Instead, we wanted to focus on the nature of maritime connections between the 'Pacific' world and a space that is often characterized by scholars of the pre-modern period as the 'East Asian Mediterranean'.

By placing East Asia in a wider Pacific context, one that reflects the reality of steamships beginning to cross greater distances with relative ease, we hoped to broaden our understanding of the ways in which maritime space was both imagined and lived during the long nineteenth century. Thus, instead of focusing on land-based issues such as extraterritoriality, we wanted to examine the relationship between ports and new maritime networks, so as to develop a more fluid, comparative sense of shifting East Asian-Pacific sovereignties in this period. Drawing on the new maritime history of the British Empire, of 'home' on the water and of the naval 'theatre' we wanted to consider the relationship between ships, the sea and the East Asian/Western imperial imagination. To complement our focus on sovereignty and