

A summary of the main arguments and facts rounds off the book. This study is worth reading for two reasons: firstly, it gives a lot of useful information on and insights into the financial system of the Republic of Korea, especially the Bank of Korea; and secondly, it shows how difficult it is to shape or even formulate a workable concept of monetary policy for LDCs.

Marcel Morschbach

TZONG-BIAU LIN, RANCE P. L. LEE, UDO-ERNST SIMONIS (eds.): *Hong Kong. Economic, Social and Political Studies in Development.*
New York: M. E. Sharpe and Folkstone: Dawson, 1979, 410 pp.

I should like to start by immediately recommending this reader on economic, social and political development in Hong Kong since WW2. It contains contributions by 19 authors, 17 of whom are Chinese scientists resident in Hong Kong.

They employ socio-economic methods to analyse both the unusual development from an entrepot harbour to a centre of export industry and the resulting three decades of social change, as well as to pinpoint the peculiarities of this process.

Chap. II, "Social Dynamics", warrants special attention. The empirical surveys on the industrial workers and their dependents in the new settlement Kwan Tong highlight a group that has played an enormous role in building up and expanding Hong Kong's vital industries, and yet has scarcely been analysed in the numerous studies on Hong Kong.

The inclusion of labour alongside the often mentioned factors capital, law and order, and *laissez faire* is welcome. Labour as used in this collection includes the human being and his changing family structures, his living conditions and his changing social attitudes in the course of socio-economic development.

In a one-question survey conducted among 588 selected schoolchildren the majority - more of whom had probably never been in China - answered the question: "Who am I?" with: "I am Chinese". The phenomenon of "obstinate" cultural consciousness among overseas Chinese is not restricted to South-East Asia. It is equally present in Hong Kong - a colony - in contrast to many Third World countries where cultural identity has been lost in the process of colonization.

No matter how interesting this phenomenon may be there are clear limits to empirical research. The attempt to establish what percentage of Hong Kong Chinese are "happy" is less convincing. One would like to ask the three Chinese authors responsible for this section whether a person's "feelings" really

are quantifiable, or whether a person's "happiness" depends solely upon the prosperity of a society: they have certainly never questioned these points themselves.

Nevertheless, the studies contained in Chap. II do provide a clear picture of social change in Hong Kong, and are in themselves extremely interesting. As such they should encourage further research in this minute corner of the globe where 5 millions people have to live and work hard in a total surface area of 1024 km².

The contributions contained in Chap. III, "Political Development", are also important. They provide us with new and convincing arguments concerning Hong Kong's uncertain future, and in particular insights into changes in the political situation since 1967. This area presents a crucial problem for Hong Kong with respect to long-term investment.

Apart from the comprehensive bibliography containing virtually all available literature on Hong Kong, this anthology also contains a mass of useful data and facts, which make it indispensable for all future research on Hong Kong.

It is also proof in itself of international co-operation: written in English mainly by Chinese scientists, edited by a German professor (Udo-Ernst Simonis, a Visiting Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1976) and two Hong Kong lecturers and published by the Institute of Asian Affairs in Hamburg.

Cheung-Lieh Yu

DIETRICH KÜHNE: *Urbanisation in Malaysia - Analyse eines Prozesses.*
(Schriften des Instituts für Asienkunde, Band 42).
Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1976, 400 pp., DM 132.-

Today rapid urbanization in Third World countries constitutes a major source of problems in their struggle to overcome underdevelopment. Although a vast body of literature on urbanization already exists, the importance of this topic requires a closer look at Kühne's study on "Urbanisation in Malaysia".

The first part of the study, after a brief discussion of some more general features and concepts pertaining to Southeast Asian urbanization, focuses on the historical preconditions and the demographic context of the urbanization process in Malaysia. Urbanization is thus seen as subject to profound economic, cultural and political changes. According to Kühne, urban growth in Malaysia has five phases: