

pioneers - Western farmers and missionaries. He even suggests that clean and tidy Malay or Christian settlements, or indeed christianised Dayak, change their physiognomy to reflect enlightened and open personalities. Not the rich and lazy Sultan of Kutai, but his humble and cultured Dutch curator gets the highest awards from the author.

To read through the complete diaries demands much time and patience. They are not intended as a geographical overview of the former Dutch part of Borneo, largely because the information is mostly limited to the narrow area of the crossing track. For the interested regional geographer, however, particularly one looking for details about a certain area, it is a jewel-box. The systematic arrangement of the diary, together with its very useful index which is divided into personal names and geographic terms, all help to locate information about the route of the journey.

Furthermore, the supplement includes climatological data from five check-points, macroscopic data on rock samples and a list of the plants mentioned in the text according to their indigenous and botanical names. Finally, there are a number of pictures at the end of each section and within the text the author has included some of his own illustrations. A map containing the route and details of the duration of stop-overs is attached to the backcover of part I.

Kurt Tauchmann

JÜRGEN RÜLAND: Politik und Verwaltung in Metro Manila - Aspekte der Herrschaftsstabilisierung in einem autoritären politischen System. (Materialien zu Entwicklung und Politik, Bd. 21). Köln: Weltforum Verlag, 1982. 347 pages, DM 49.-

In the magical year 2000 urbanisation in developing countries will have surpassed the urbanisation in present industrial countries: Mexico City is expected to grow into the most gigantic megalopolis of the world. The tendencies have become reversed for at least two decades: The population figures of cities in industrial countries are continuously decreasing, whereas the growth rates of the metropolises in the third world are accelerating. A decisive consequence of this growth is the so-called hydrocephalus-effect which is measured by comparing the biggest city of a country to the second biggest. This is known then as the "primacy-rate" and makes the degree of urban centralisation clear, including as well all the other negative secondary phenomena.

The primacy-rates of the three Southeast Asian states (ASEAN-States) with the highest population figures are: Thailand - 46:1; Philippines - 10:1; Indonesia - 3:1. This means that Manila takes a medium position in this deplorable table. However, this is of merely statistical value and is, in effect, only one parameter for the definition of the real situation in the metropolises of Southeast

Asia. For example, one of the problems is that the number of squatters of the total population of Metro Manila is extremely high and from this the question naturally arises as to how to deal with such a socio-economic unit. Jürgen Rüländ shows his view of the matter with great frankness and scientific accuracy in his book.

In the first chapter the author defines the methodological premises and theoretical foundations of his work and gives a short introduction to the bibliography. In chapter two he analyses the politico-administrative and demographic situation of Metro Manila. The consequences of the Martial Law of 1972-1980 play an important role but potential changes after its formal abolition at the beginning of 1981 could not, unfortunately, be considered in this book as it was already completed in 1980. In general, the author substantiates his insider-knowledge gained by extensive studies in situ, and this is of course an enormous advantage.

Jürgen Rüländ starts the third and main chapter with hypotheses. They become his parameters for evaluating more accurately the organisation structure and function of metropolitan administration - a remarkable step with regard to methodology. The author explains in detail the different hierarchical levels of administration and discusses alternative proposals from different sources with a view to their practicability. The Barangays, small neighbourhood units, are of special importance in this context, especially their function as a forum for the inhabitants and also because of their position in the socio-political system. Jürgen Rüländ characterises the Barangays as alibi-organisations of what might be viewed by some as grass roots democracy, but which, in fact, only serve to stabilise the rule of the central government. He even calls them para-administrative institutions whose function is controlled by the government and carried out by the Barangay functionaries.

Chapter four evaluates both the administrative performance and the efficiency of the new metropolitan government. The author analyses a number of planning projects of the different administrative departments with regard to their effectiveness. However, when discussing city planning projects, some inaccuracies creep in where figures and graphic material are concerned. In this context he makes some untenable assertions, e.g. when comparing the situation of Western cities during the industrialisation period with the cities of the Third World at the present time, he claims that there are no comparisons. This assertion could be disproved. Still, the author is right in refusing to transfer unreflected Western city-planning models to a situation such as that in Metro Manila.

In the fifth and last chapter the author summarises the results of his study, referring to the hypotheses which introduce chapter three. Unfortunately, these summarising statements remain descriptive. In the conclusion (which is also in English) the reader would have expected some comparative and classified statements to show the problems of the study as they relate to each other.

On the whole, therefore, the last chapter is mainly a repetition of former statements.

To sum up: Jürgen Rüländ fails in his study to derive his findings from their historical, ethnical and cultural background. He makes no comparison between the situation of Manila and other metropolises, e.g. in neighbouring Southeast Asian countries. Therefore, this book is less highly recommended to readers only generally interested in the problems of developing countries or Southeast Asia. On the other hand, the strong point of this study is its very detailed and politically engaged analysis. It can thus be recommended to experts who have to deal with specific administrative problems in Metro Manila. Jürgen Rüländ's failure to examine possible alternatives which would help combat the defects analysed in his study remains, nevertheless, regrettable.

Rüdiger Kulke

THEODOR DAMS and KUNIHIRO JOJIMA (eds.): Aktuelle Probleme der Sozialpolitik in Japan und in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. (Schriften zu Regional- und Verkehrsproblemen in Industrie- und Entwicklungsländern, Bd. 33). Berlin: Duncker and Humblot, 1982. X, 296 pages, DM 58.-

It is often believed that one of the reasons for Japan's competitiveness is that its social security expenditures are much lower than in the West. While poor working conditions and low wages have led some critics in the past to talk of 'social dumping', attention has for some time now focused on the inadequateness of Japan's social security system. Surprisingly enough, one finds little scholarly literature on the subject in western languages and must therefore welcome the presentation of the papers of a joint seminar on current social policy problems in Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) held in 1980 by economists from both Nagoya University (Japan) and Freiburg University (FRG).

The thirteen essays in this book are grouped under five headings. The first part deals with the socio-political consequences of the changing family structures in Japan and the FRG. In the face of the decline of the German population since the early 1970s Gerold Blümle and Betty Rauchwerger give a critical assessment of the effects and effectiveness of family policy in the FRG. They believe that in view of rising unemployment and deteriorating state finances, cheap housing and education loans will have more positive effects on generative behavior and secure greater equality of opportunities for large families. Since the mid 1950s Japanese society has experienced a continuous trend toward the nuclear family and - in the largest cities - an increase of one-person-households. Although the number of aged people is bound to increase in a