

has attempted to understand the development of the Taiwan problem in terms of people thinking and acting to resolve a variety of problems in a changing historical situation." The foundation of a new national identity of *renmin* (people) is, to follow the argumentation of A.D. Smith – a teacher of Hughes –, mainly attributed to the education of the people by the modern state ("civic education"). What the public discourse on identities has been expressing since democratisation, which was primarily intended for the election campaigns and thus made it all the more effective, is reflected in the KMT's cultural and educational policy which search for the Taiwanese past. These steps of the island population towards evolving a Taiwanese national identity are not taken into consideration by Hughes, a fact that can be regarded as positive in so far as the transformation from the genealogical and historicized version of the Chinese nation into the "civic and territorial" identity is made possible, as conceived by A.D. Smith in his "Types of Nationalism". This dynamic parameter, which is not taken up by Hughes in his analysis, will, in my opinion, determine the way things turn out in the long run.

Su-Juan Li

DAVID SHAMBAUGH (ed.), *Greater China: The Next Superpower?* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995. IX, 310 pages, £ 14.99. ISBN 0-19-828934-0

One of the important new developments at the end of the twentieth century is the emergence of "Greater China". The term "Greater China" refers to mainland China's links with Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macao, and with Chinese overseas. Can these "Chinese links" set forces in motion that will gradually create a new superpower? This question is the central topic of this book edited by David Shambaugh, Senior Lecturer in Chinese Politics at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Indeed it is the first book to deal with this topic systematically and makes the world aware of the fact that China can reach a superpower status if the political obstacles can be overcome and China reunified under a single sovereign authority.

But not all the contributors to this book agree with the assumption that it is likely that a Chinese superpower status will become a reality. In fact, the fifteen authors may be divided into three groups: the optimists, the pessimists, and the neutralists.

Michael Yahuda, Luo Qi, Christopher Howe, Robert Ash, Chong-Pin Lin, Y.Y. Kueh, and Richard Louis Edmonds adopt a quite optimistic standpoint. For example, Yahuda observes a duality of state and non-state interactions among mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao. People, ideas, investments and goods are transcending political and territorial boundaries largely irrespective of the governments under which they live. From Yahuda's viewpoint it is these interactions that characterize Greater China and make the emergence of a Chinese superpower likely. As Chong-Pin Lin demonstrates, these interactions have largely narrowed the gap between the different Chinese societies in recent years. This is also an observation which Edmonds confirms by elucidating Macao's growing economic integration with Zhuhai and Guangdong.

Other authors such as Harry Harding, Brian Hook and Wang Gungwu are more pessimistic about a superpower future for China. Wang particularly posits considerable reservation about the concept and the term "Greater China". As an authority on

the research of the Chinese overseas (*huaqiao*), Wang points out that conceptualizing the phenomenon of Greater China is a difficult task. He finds it is no easy matter to include the diaspora of Southeast Asia, the ethnic Chinese communities in Europe and North America, or even the state of Singapore as members of Greater China. Harding explores the concept of "Greater China" by examining it historically. His introductory essay is focused on the origins, usages, variations, difficulties and realities of this concept. Harding points out that Greater China is largely an informal phenomenon, lacking institutionalization. He argues that in addition to the generally recognized integrative aspects of the Greater China phenomenon, there also exist disintegrative factors that inhibit convergence. He also notes the many reservations felt – largely within Chinese and Asian communities – about both the term and concept of Greater China. Harding's opinion is in accord with the research findings of Brian Hook who pays more attention to the political changes in Hong Kong. He believes that the shock of the 1989 killings in Beijing will still remain a reminder for the people in Hong Kong, having a negative impact on the integration between mainland China and Hong Kong.

Several contributors try to avoid answering the question about the future of Greater China directly. They focus their studies on some special aspects of the developments in mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. In their contribution Shao-chuan Leng and Cheng-yi Lin describe and document a dramatic liberalization of domestic politics on Taiwan. They offer a careful examination of the process of political pluralization and maturation on the island. Also Hugh D.R. Backer examines the changing lifestyles of the Hong Kong citizenry without going into the question about the superpower status of Greater China directly.

This is a book full of new ideas and stimulus. Both those with a fear of a "Greater China" and those wanting to create a Chinese superpower in the future should read it. This volume will also be useful reading for all concerned with the impact of the world's next potential superpower.

*Xuewu Gu*

THOMAS SCHARPING, SUN HUAIYANG (eds.), *Migration in China's Guangdong Province. Major Results of a 1993 Sample Survey on Migrants and Floating Population in Shenzhen and Foshan*. (Mitteilungen des Instituts für Asienkunde, 273). Hamburg: Institut für Asienkunde, 1997. 163 pages, DM 28,-. ISBN 3-88910-179-8

THOMAS SCHARPING (ed.), *Floating Population and Migration in China. The Impact of Economic Reforms*. (Mitteilungen des Instituts für Asienkunde, 284). Hamburg: Institut für Asienkunde, 1997. 376 pages, DM 48,-. ISBN 3-88910-190-9

The phenomenon of internal migration in China, first appearing in the early eighties, led to population movements to an extent never seen before in the world's most populous nation. As a result of the widespread effects of economic reforms, a flow of surplus rural labourers has started from the hinterland towards the prosperous coastal areas. An estimated number of 100 million people, the so-called floating population (*liudong renkou*), is on the move, most of them in search of a job and better income. The younger age groups predominate and generally there are more