2014 International Seminar on the 40th Anniversary of Malaysia-China Diplomatic Relations  22 - 23 August

会议手册
Conference Handbook

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English Session

Dr. Steven Leong Mun Yoon

Malaysia-China Relations and Implications for ASEAN
Director of Centre for International Studies, UTAR

Prof. Cheng Ming Yu

The Economy of Talentism: Issues and Challenges
Director of Institute of Management and Leadership Development, UTAR

Dr. Yeoh Kok Kheng

Malaysia-China Diplomatic Relations Forty Years On: What We Can Learn from Each Other in Ethno-politics and the Political Economy of Ethnic Relation.
Associate Professor of Institute of China Studies, University of Malaya, UM

Prof. Selina Ching Chan

Religion, Heritage, and Identities: Chaoshou Hungry Ghosts Festival in Hong Kong
Associate Director of Contemporary China Research Centre, Hong Kong Shue Yan University

Mr. Liew Ching Hoong

Tourism Management: Case Study on issues Affecting Chinese Tourist Arrivals to Malaysia
Senior Researcher of Institute of Strategic Analysis and Policy Research, INSAP

Encik Mohd. Syuja bin Saedz

The Challenges of Islamic Secondary Schools in Malaysia and China in gaining educational democratic rights: A preliminary study
Head of Department of General Studies, Faculty of Creative Industries, UTAR
Malaysia-China Diplomatic Relations Forty Years On: What We Can Learn from Each Other in Ethnopolitics and the Political Economy of Ethnic Relations

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Abstract] At the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Malaysia-China diplomatic relations, this paper aims to evaluate and contrast the issues of ethnopolitics and ethnic relations in Malaysia and China, the two societies that both combine subordinate demographic minorities with a dominant demographic majority, and explore lessons that could be learned from each other’s experience of State policies in the context of ethnic relations and ethnopolitics over the last 40 years. Such comparative analysis is to bring about a broadened understanding which could serve to lead to a more balanced analytical framework on the trichotomy of polity, society and economy and in particular the political economy of State and ethnicity. Being taken into consideration here are both the two major dimensions of ethnopolitics – ethnic politics which includes both government responses to challenges from ethnic communities and the efforts of ethnic organizations seeking to influence State policy, and the politics of ethnicity which views ethnicity as a consequence of political action, the latter “inverted paradigm” being exemplified by the waves of reethnicization in the Eastern European countries after the fall of the Communist Party totalitarianism and the phenomenon of ethnogenesis in Spain’s Andalucia, and in our present scope of study the accentuation of ethnic sentiments as well as identity investment and ethnic mobilization among the Malays, Chinese and Indians in Malaysia, and in China the reethnicization among some highly Sinicized ethnic minorities of China such as the Zhuang and the Hui, as well as the emergence of new-found ethnic intensity of the ethnoterritorial groups such as the Uyghurs, Tibetans and Mongolians.

Emile Kok-Kheng Yeoh is an Associate Professor at the Institute of China Studies, University of Malaya, Malaysia. He holds a Ph.D. on ethnopolitics in socioeconomic development from the University of Bradford, West Yorkshire, England (1998), was the Director of the Institute of China Studies from 13th March 2008 to 1st January 2014 and is currently on sabbatical leave. Yeoh’s works have been published in journals and occasional paper series such as the Scopus-indexed GeoJournal (Springer), Journal of Asian Public Policy (Routledge), The Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies (Copenhagen Business School) and Malaysian Journal of Economic Studies (MEA), and the International Journal of Business Anthropology (North American Business Press for Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam and Sun Yat-sen University) and Copenhagen Discussion Paper series (Copenhagen Business School). He is the founder and editor of the International Journal of China Studies (Scopus-indexed since 2010) and a member of the international editorial committee of the México y la Cuenca del Pacífico. His most recent books and book-length journal special issues, as both editor and contributor, include Cultural Diversity and World Development (Xiyuan, Beijing, 2013) and the UCS special issues of State, Governance and Civil Societal Response in Contemporary China (2012), Taiwan: Democracy, Cross-Strait Relations and Regional Security (2014) and June Fourth at 25: The Quarter-Century Legacy of Tiananmen (2014). His recent writings also include “The role of China in Asia-Pacific trade framework in the context of APEC” (World Scientific, 2011), “Political leadership and State-civil society relations in China” (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013), “Poverty reduction, welfare provision and social security challenges in China” (Routledge, 2014), “Literacy and education in contemporary China” (The Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies, 2014, forthcoming), and “Rising China as a regional power and its new assertiveness in the South China Sea” (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014, forthcoming).

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飞跃四十：马来西亚中国建交40周年研讨会
Armada Hotel, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
22-23 August 2014

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