RISING CHINA, RESILIENT JAPAN, RESOURCEFUL ASEAN

SELECTED WRITINGS OF LEE POH PING ON EAST ASIAN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

EDITED BY NGEOW CHOW-BING AND KUIK CHENG-CHWEI
The late Professor Lee Poh Ping had an active and distinguished scholarly career in Malaysia spanning at least five decades, in both University of Malaya (UM) and National University of Malaysia (UKM). His academic interests included studies of the ethnic Chinese communities in Malaya/Malaysia and Singapore, their historical and contemporary relations with China, Japan-Southeast Asia relations, Malaysia's politics and foreign policy, and international relations in the Asia-Pacific. In all these areas he made important contributions, in terms of research, teaching, mentoring, academic networking, and engagement with the general public. Due to his scholarly achievement in the field of Japanese Studies, Professor Lee was conferred the Order of the Rising Sun by the Emperor of Japan in 2010.

China has emerged as a major great power today, not just in East Asia but perhaps also in the world. China's rise has many ramifications, not only to the major established great powers such as Japan and the United States, but also to middle powers such as ASEAN countries. Indeed, East Asian international relations are perhaps entering the most volatile period in many decades. This book, *Rising China, Resilient Japan, and Resourceful ASEAN*, is a collection of some of Lee's popular commentary writings and some of the more serious, but still accessible to the reading public, academic articles, on these issues. In addition, two young colleagues of Professor Lee, Dr. Ngeow Chow-Bing of UM and Dr. Kuik Cheng-Chwee of UKM, jointly contribute an introductory chapter that highlights the intellectual biography of Professor Lee Poh Ping.
Rising China, Resilient Japan, Resourceful ASEAN

Selected Writings of Lee Poh Ping on East Asian International Relations

Edited by

Ngeow Chow-Bing and Kuik Cheng-Chwee
Contents

Preface vii

Part 1: Introduction

Chapter 1 Lee Poh Ping and the Study of East Asian
International Relations in Malaysia: Recurring
Themes and Enduring Insights (by Kuik
Cheng-Chwee and Ngeow Chow-Bing) 3

Part 2: Lee Poh Ping’s Commentaries

Chapter 2 Seeking to Work Together Based on Common
Values 27
Chapter 3 Why Japan Stepped in to Alleviate Asia’s Economic
Situation 31
Chapter 4 Uncertainty Looms over Taiwanese Independence
Issue 34
Chapter 5 New Asian Grouping Proposal Unrealistic 38
Chapter 6 Japanese Model Re-examined 42
Chapter 7 China Forced to Step up Rhetoric against Taiwan 45
Chapter 8 Sino-US Ties Still Quite Fluid 48
Chapter 9 New Phase in Japan-ASEAN Ties 51
Chapter 10 Bush Backing Away from Tough Rhetoric 54
Chapter 11 Controversy of Japanese Deployment 57
Chapter 12 Past Lessons for US and China 60
Chapter 13 Opening up Wounds of the Past 63
Chapter 14 MH370 and Sino-Malaysian Relations 67
Chapter 15 Sea of Change in Pacifist Policy 71
Chapter 16 Checklist for a Sino-Japanese Thaw 75
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 17</th>
<th>Passing of a Bridge between China and Japan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 18</td>
<td>That one ‘APEC’ Moment When Xi Meets Abe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 19</td>
<td>Buying Assets in the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 20</td>
<td>Shifting Centre of Gravity to Asia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Part 3: Selected Academic Articles of Lee Poh Ping**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 21</th>
<th>The Asian Financial Crisis: Understanding Japanese Assistance to Southeast Asia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 22</td>
<td>Southeast Asian Political Relations with Japan from San Francisco Peace Treaty to the Fukuda Doctrine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 23</td>
<td>Facing the Dragon: ASEAN, Japan, and the Rise of China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 24</td>
<td>AFTA, the New Regionalism, Globalization, and the ASEAN Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 25</td>
<td>Who Rules the World and for How Long?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 26</td>
<td>Comparing the Applicability of the Japanese and Chinese Models to Malaysia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preface

The late Professor Lee Poh Ping was one of the most accomplished Malaysian scholars in the fields of International Relations and East Asian Studies. He passed away in November 2016 due to an unfortunate accident. Right before the accident he was then still actively engaged in academic work, discussing with his colleagues at the Institute of China Studies at the University of Malaya about a then upcoming international conference. His passing was a great loss to the Malaysian academia.

In around 2014-2015 an idea was mooted about collecting his writings into a book. Professor Lee gave it a serious thought but did not pursue it because of other engagements. The editors of this book are both his younger colleagues at different stage of his professional career, and we thought that we should bring this book to fruition to dedicate to his memory. We decided that apart from his commentaries and newspaper writings, some academic articles should be included as well. This short book does not encompass everything he wrote about international relations. However, it represents a substantial part of it, which illuminates his rigorous observations and detailed analysis. The introductory chapter of this volume provides a biographical sketch of Lee as a scholar, before discussing the main themes and contributions of his work to the study of East Asian international relations in Malaysia and beyond.

The editors would like to thank the permissions to reprint the articles given by the original publishers, acknowledged in each chapter. Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur provided a small grant of RM5000, and Mr. Lee Hock Chye, a former student of Professor Lee Poh Ping, also donated RM2000, to help publish this book. We are extremely grateful to their kind contribution and assistance. Finally, we are also thankful to the family of Professor Lee, who has been supportive, and also provided his picture for the cover of this book.

Ngeow Chow-Bing
Kuik Cheng-Chwee
Chapter 1

Lee Poh Ping and the Study of East Asian International Relations in Malaysia: Recurring Themes and Enduring Insights

Kuik Cheng-Chwee and Ngeow Chow-Bing

Introduction

The late Professor Lee Poh Ping had an active and distinguished scholarly career in Malaysia, beginning in 1974, when he was appointed as a Lecturer in the Division of Public Administration (later renamed as Department of Administrative Studies and Politics) at Universiti Malaya (UM), and was promoted as a Professor in 1992. He was still associated with UM when he passed away in November 2016, holding the position of Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of China Studies (ICS), UM. Professor Lee’s academic interests included studies of the ethnic Chinese communities in Malaya/Malaysia and Singapore, their historical and contemporary relations with China, Japan-Southeast Asia relations, Malaysia’s politics and foreign policy, and international relations in the Asia-Pacific. In all these areas he made important contributions, in terms of research, teaching, mentoring, academic networking, and engagement with the general public. Thus far, two publications have appeared to honor Professor Lee Poh Ping. Journal of Contemporary Asia, one of the most renowned academic journals in the world, in December 2017.