

RECORD OF ACTIVITY

The CSEAS-Netherlands Institute for War Documentation Joint International Workshop on “Chinese Identities and Inter-Ethnic Coexistence and Cooperation in Southeast Asia” was successfully held on July 4-5, 2008, at the CSEAS, Kyoto University.

This workshop aims to historicize the lived experience of "being Chinese" in Southeast Asia by looking at how economic, political, cultural, and ideational processes have contributed to defining, producing, and reworking "Chineseness" in various colonial and national arenas in Southeast Asia over time. "Chinese" everyday life, ascription, and self-identification in Southeast Asia have been shaped by transnational migration, by colonial and national states and their projects of modernity, by global capitalism, and by discourses of "Chineseness." The historically problematic status of the Chinese--variously defined as economically dominant, political subversive, and culturally different--has been a source of ethnic tensions, principally expressed through economic nationalism, political disenfranchisement, assimilation-integration debates and campaigns, and (as in the case of Indonesia) riots and outright violence. Yet "Chinese" identities have been far more complex, multiple, and protean than is presupposed by either scholarship or public policy or popular imagination. With the rise of China and East Asian (both Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia) regional growth and integration, "Chineseness" has been reconfigured in line with changes in state policy, the popularity and impact of "overseas Chinese" studies, and the vicissitudes of globalization. Our aim is to highlight, through a focus on Indonesian Chinese in comparative regional perspective, the ongoing reworkings and negotiations of "Chineseness" and the challenges they pose for inter-ethnic coexistence and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Prof. Mizuno Kosuke gave the opening remarks. All ten of the participants delivered their papers (see program) and engaged in intensive discussion. It was agreed that after the workshop, the papers will be revised and resubmitted for publication as proceedings (for which we plan to apply for funding from CSEAS) and, within a year's time, the preparation of a book manuscript.

DETAILS OF THE WORKSHOP:

1. Symposium title: **“Chinese Identities and Inter-Ethnic Coexistence and Cooperation in Southeast Asia”**
2. Venue: **CSEAS East building room 207**
3. Date: **July 4-5, 2008**
4. Co-organizer: **Netherlands Institute for War Documentation, with Dr. Nobuhiro Aizawa of the Institute of Developing Economies as chief liaison**
5. Number of participants: **11 (including Prof. Kosuke Mizuno who gave the opening remarks, chaired Panel 1, and actively participated in the discussions)**

FINAL PROGRAM

DAY 1: Friday, July 4

13:00—13:15: Opening Remarks

Professor Kosuke Mizuno, Director, CSEAS

13:30-15:30

Session I: Networks and Localities

Chair: Prof. Kosuke Mizuno

Peter Post, (Netherlands Institute for War Documentation) Peranakan Elite Family
Networks and Southeast Asia's Indigenous Royalty: Status, Modernity, and Identity
Tatsuki Kataoka (ASAFAS), The Baba Culture in Thailand

15:45-17:45

Session II: Claiming Citizenship

Chair: Dr. Nobuhiro Aizawa

Elizabeth Chandra (Keio), The New Indigenes: Chinese-Indonesians and the 2006
Citizenship Law

Caroline Hau (CSEAS), Blood, Land, and Conversion: The Politics of Belonging in
Jose Angliongto's *The Sultanate*

DAY 2: Saturday, July 5

10:00-12:00

Session III: State and Chinese

Chair: Dr. Peter Post

Ay Mey Lie (NIOD), Ethnic Chinese in the Indonesian Armed Forces: Identification and
Participation in Historical Perspective

Nobuhiro Aizawa (IDE-JETRO), Delivering Citizenship: *DEPDAGRI* and the Chinese
in the 1980s

13:00-15:00

Session IV: Limits of Representation

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Caroline S. Hau

Nobuto Yamamoto (Keio), (In)Visible Chinese: State and Spectatorship in 1930s Indies

Junko Koizumi (CSEAS), Beyond the Assimilation-Sinicization Framework: Studies of the Chinese Society in Thailand Reconsidered from Historical and Local Perspectives

15:15- 17:15

Session V: Interrogating Identities

Chair: Prof. Nobuto Yamamoto

Yumi Kitamura (CSEAS), The Question of Identity and Religion in the Post-Suharto Era

Thung Ju Lan (Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia, CSEAS Visiting Research Fellow), The Search for Chinese Identity and Culture among Chinese Indonesians during the Post –Suharto Era

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

DAY 1: Friday, July 4

13:00– 13:15: Opening Remarks

Professor Kosuke Mizuno, Director, CSEAS

13:30-15:30

Session I: Networks and Localities

Peter Post, (Netherlands Institute for War Documentation), Peranakan Elite Family Networks and Southeast Asia's Indigenous Royalty: Status, Modernity, and Identity

Tatsuki Kataoka (ASAFAS), The Baba Culture in Thailand

15:45-17:45

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Elizabeth Chandra (Keio), The New Indigenes: Chinese-Indonesians and the 2006 Citizenship Law

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Session III: State and Chinese

Ay Mey Lie (NIOD), Ethnic Chinese in the Indonesian Armed Forces: Identification and Participation in Historical Perspective

Nobuhiro Aizawa (IDE-JETRO), Delivering Citizenship: DEPDAGRI and the Chinese in the 1980s

13:00-15:00

Session IV: Limits of Representation

Nobuto Yamamoto (Keio), Clandestine Words: Persbreidelordinnantie in the 1930s Indies

Junko Koizumi (CSEAS), Beyond the Assimilation-Sinicization Framework: Studies of the Chinese Society in Thailand Reconsidered from Historical and Local Perspective

15:15- 17:15

Session V: Interrogating Identities

Yumi Kitamura (CSEAS), Reconstructing Indonesian-Chinese Cultural Identity in Post-Suharto Indonesia

Thung Ju Lan (Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia, CSEAS Visiting Research Fellow), The Search for Chinese Identity and Culture among Chinese Indonesians during the Post –Suharto Era

BIO-DATA OF PARTICIPANTS:

AIZAWA Nobuhiro is Researcher at the Institute of Developing Economies of Japan External Trade Organization (since 2007). His research is in the field of Southeast Asian area studies, with focus on issues concerning the Overseas Chinese, Indonesian politics, and Thai politics. His current research interests are the “Chinese problem” in Indonesia and citizenship and migration issues in Indonesia and Thailand. Recent journal articles include “Depoliticizing the Chinese Issue: A Reconsideration of the Suharto Era Assimilation Policy” (2007) and “From Fifth Column to Entrepreneur: ‘Masalah Cina’ (Chinese/China Question) and Indonesia- China Relations, 1966-1990”(2006).

Elizabeth CHANDRA is Lecturer at the International Center, Keio University. She received her PhD in Southeast Asian Studies from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2006. Her research interests include Chinese-Malay literature, comparative colonial histories, the politics of memory, and human trafficking in Asia

Caroline S. HAU is Associate Professor at CSEAS, Kyoto University. Her books include *Necessary Fictions: Philippine Literature and the Nation 1946-1980*, *On the Subject of the Nation: Filipino Writings from the Margins*, *Intsik: An Anthology of Chinese Filipino Writing* (editor), and *Voices/Mga Tinig: The Best of Tulay* (co-editor). She is currently working on two book projects: one is a collection (co-edited with Kasian Tejapira) of Southeast Asian political biographies, and the other is a book on the cultural politics of “Chineseness” in post-independence Philippines.

Tatsuki KATAOKA is Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University. He graduated from Tsukuba University (Bachelor of Social Sciences) before obtaining his master’s degree from Tsukuba and Kyushu University, and doctoral degree from Kyushu University. He has conducted his fieldwork among the Hill Tribes and the Chinese immigrants of Thailand for the study of culture and religion. Currently he is interested in the re-consideration of Southeast Asian nation-states from the viewpoint of the state’s periphery.

Yumi KITAMURA is Assistant Professor at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University, and a Ph.D. candidate at Hitotsubashi University. Her dissertation focuses on the culture and religion of Chinese Indonesians in the post- Suharto era.

Junko KOIZUMI is Associate Professor at CSEAS, Kyoto University. A historian interested in the early Bangkok period of Siam and the issue of modern historiography regarding the period, she has published a few articles in English, including “From a Water Buffalo to a Human Being: Women and the Family in Siamese History,” in *Other Pasts: Women, Gender and History in Early Modern Southeast Asia* (2000), edited by Barbara Watson Andaya. For the last few years, she has been conducting archival research on “diplomatic” relations between Siam and China focusing on the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century, the period without tribute and treaty. Part of the research results will be published in English in a forthcoming volume titled *Old Brother: China’s Place in Asia*, edited by Anthony Reid and Zheng Yangwen.

After successfully finishing a Drs. degree in both Modern Asian History and Contemporary History from the University of Amsterdam, Ay Mey LIE joined the ranks of the Dutch diplomatic service. For more than 6 years she fulfilled various positions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, most recently as an official of the Dutch Embassy in Jakarta. Having decided upon an academic career, she left the foreign service in 2007 and started working with the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation in Amsterdam. She is currently doing research on Indonesia’s initial phase of independence and the development of the state. As of September 2008 Ay Mey Lie will start her PhD research on “Ethnic Chinese in the Indonesian Armed Forces: Identification and Participation in Historical Perspective” with the University of Amsterdam / Amsterdam School for Social Science Research.

Dr. Kosuke MIZUNO, born in 1953, has been a Professor of development studies at CSEAS, Kyoto University, since 2003. He has been a visiting fellow at many institutions, including the Center for Development Studies (PSP), Bogor Agricultural University (1984-1986), and a visiting lecturer in the Graduate Program in Development Studies, Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia, (1994; 1999-2001). His publications include *Rural Industrialization in Indonesia, A Case Study on the Community Based Weaving Industry in West Java* (Institute of Developing Economies, 1996). Its Japanese version published in 1999 (Kyoto University Press) got the award of best development studies from the Institute for Developing Economies in 2000. He has studied organizations, institutions, and economic development in Indonesia based on extensive field studies. He is an organizer of the Core University Program between Thammasat University and CSEAS on the research theme of “Making Region in East

Asia” since 2005. He is currently the Director of CSEAS, Kyoto University.

Peter POST is Senior Researcher at the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation, Amsterdam, and director of the Historical Research Program Japan and the Netherlands. He has been a Research Fellow of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (1992-1997), a recipient of the 6th Pacific Research Grant of the Masayoshi Ohira Memorial Foundation, and is currently a JSPS Fellow at Waseda University, Tokyo. His main research interest is in the modern history of Japanese-Chinese business interactions in Southeast Asia, 1870s-1960s and he has published widely on this subject. At the moment he is engaged as general-editor of *The Encyclopedia of Indonesia in the Pacific War* (Leiden/Amsterdam: Brill Publishers and NIOD, forthcoming) and as a program-developer of the international research program “Regime Change and the Dynamics of Culture: Family, networks and representation New perspectives on Indonesian Chinese life in Southeast Asia and beyond, 1920s-1970s.”

THUNG Ju Lan is Senior Researcher at the Research Center for Society and Culture – The Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI). She acquired her Ph.D degree from La Trobe University, Melbourne - Australia in 1998 with a thesis titled “Identities in Flux: Young Chinese in Jakarta”. Her published articles include “Chinese in Jakarta After 1965” in Christopher Houston, Fuyuki Kurasawa and Amanda Watson (eds) *Imagined Places: The Politics of Making Space*, La Trobe University, 1998; “Rethinking the ‘Chinese’ Problem” in Michael Godley & Grayson J. Llyod (eds.) *Perspectives on the Chinese Indonesians*, Adelaide: Crawford House Publishing, 2001; “Ethnicity and Civil Rights Movement in Indonesia” in Lee Hock Guan (ed.) *Civil Society in Southeast Asia*, Singapore: ISEAS, 2004. In January 2007 she joined the Asia Research Institute as a three-month Visiting Fellow to start an on-going research project on “POLITICAL” CHINESE & “CULTURAL” CHINESE: A Conceptual Debate on the Issue of Chinese Identity and Chinese Indonesians’ Political Representative-ness. From July 2008 to December 2008 she will join CSEAS-Kyoto University as a 6-month Visiting Fellow to continue the above research project with focus on “The Search for Chinese Identity and Culture among Chinese Indonesians during the Post –Suharto Era”.

YAMAMOTO Nobuto is Professor of Southeast Asian Studies at the Department of Political Science and currently Research Director of Global Security Research Institute, Keio University, Japan. His current research interests include the politics of surveillance in colonial Indonesia, the transformation of violence in Indonesia, and the role of international norm and domestic (re)actions in East Asia.

PLANS FOR PUBLICATION:

1. We intend to apply for funding to publish the proceedings of the workshop, with target date by the end of December.
2. The papers will also be revised for the preparation of a book manuscript, which we hope to submit to Kyoto University Press and Singapore University Press by June 2009.