CENTRE FOR
CONTEMPORARY ASIAN
STUDIES
ANNUAL REPORT
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Director

Coordinator The Honourable

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Overseas Chinese Archives

Chairman
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Dr. Nyaw Mee-Kau

(Jan 86-)

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China's Open Policy &
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Coordinator Dr. Wong Kwan-yiu

China's SEZs Data & Research Unit
Coordinator Dr. Wong Pui-yee

Chinese Economic Research Programme
Coordinator Dr. Hsueh Tien-tung

Chinese Population Programme
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Mr. Chan Shue-leung Ms. Fung Siu-lai (Appointed Oct 1985)* Ms. Hung King-ming, Jean Mr. Kwok Chin, Eric

Mr. Wan Luen-pak, Eric (Appointed June 1986) Mr. Yeung Chi-wai

(Appointed Aug 1985)*

Supporting Staffs

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^{**} Dr. Liao served as Acting Director of the Centre from Jan to Aug 1986.

^{*} Project staff supported by private funds.

INTRODUCTION

The Centre for Contemporary Asian Studies is one of the two research centres of the Institute of Social Studies, the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Its objectives are to promote and to coordinate interdisciplinary studies of Asian countries, especially China and East Asian countries. It attempts to serve as a bridge between overseas scholars of Asian studies and the teaching and research staff of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

There are two major kinds of research activities. The first refers to long term and inter-disciplinary research programmes that constitute the backbones of the Centre. The second kind of research activities are individual projects funded by the said Institute and affiliated with the Centre.

RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

During 1985-86, four new research programmes, in addition to the three existing ones, were established under the auspices of CCAS: China's Open Policy & Special Economic Zones Programme, China's SEZs Data & Research Unit, Chinese Economic Research Programme, and Chinese Population Programme.

CHINESE LAW PROGRAMME

Programme Goals

The Chinese Law Programme, an abbreviation for "Programme on Law and State Building in China", is primarily financed by the Wideland Foundation Ltd., Lee Hysan Foundation and Mr. Edward P.H. Woo. It is aimed at facilitating exchange of research findings and ideas between academic and legal practitioners in Hong Kong and China in the fields of constitutional law, contract law, economic law, criminal law, etc.

Programme Activities

1. Conferences

a. The Programme held its Fifth Conference on the Chinese Legal System and National Construction from 29-30 November 1985 at Cho Yiu Conference Hall. There were 15 papers including 9 by scholars from mainland China.

Of the fifteen papers, six were macro-level analyses which dealt with the relationships between economic theory and China's economic system reforms on the one hand, and the nearly one hundred economic laws and regulations promulgated in recent years on the other. The others discussed the characteristics of specific codes of law such as the Law on Chinese-Foreign Ventures, the Patent Law and the External Economic Contract Law, compared them with Common Law, and analyzed the functions of Chinese lawyers in regard to external economic activities.

b. An international Symposium on Chinese and European Concepts of Law was held from 20-25 March 1986 at the Hong Kong Arts Centre. This Symposium was cosponsored by the Programme the Goethe Institute and the Hong Kong Arts Centre. Apart from Mr. Justice T.L. Yang who gave the opening address, thirteen scholars from 7 different countries gave their papers and some 160 subscribers took part in the proceedings. The final banquet, featuring an address by the Attorney General of Hong Kong Mr. Michael Thomas, was attended by over 260 persons.

2. <u>Seminars/Lecture</u>

- a. "The Historical Development of Chinese Legal Thought" (18 June 1985) by Professor Rao Xinxian.
- b. "The Role of Domestic Courts in Developing International Law" (28 September 1985) by Dr. Michael Davis.
- c. "Lawyers and Legal Education in China: A Personal Account of Recent Development" (1 March 1986) by Mr. Edward Epstein.
- d. "Labor Issues and Economic Reform in the PRC" (24 May 1986) by Dr. Hilary Josephs.
- e. "Traditional Chinese Attitudes towards Law and Authority" (9 November 1985) by Professor Chang Weijen.

3. Newspaper Course

Chinese Law - A Course by Newspaper Series was designed and produced by the Programme and administered by the Extramural Department of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The Course consisting of 22 articles was run in South China Morning Post and six Chinese newspapers weekly beginning in February 1986. Over 40 students were enrolled formally in the course. There were many responses to the newspaper articles, including some from overseas.

OVERSEAS CHINESE ARCHIVES

Programme Goals

The Overseas Chinese Archives Programme was established in 1983 initially with a grant from the Lee Foundation as a multidisciplinary enterprise for the promotion of a better understanding towards Chinese communities abroad. The Programme seeks to serve the research needs of scholars whose interests lie in ethnic Chinese of Southeast Asia and other regions of the world.

Programme Activities

1. Staff Changes

Dr. Nyaw Mee Kau, Senior Lecturer of Department of General Business Management & Personnel Management, was appointed as the Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Archives for one year with effect from 27 January 1986.

2. Seminars

- a. "Banking Crisis in Hong Kong" (13 July 1985) by Mr. C.K. Sng, Manager of The Ka Wah Bank.
- b. "The Problems of Overseas Chinese Investment in Contemporary China" (18 November 1985) and "Current Researches on History of Overseas Chinese in Mainland China: Retrospect and Prospect" (19 November 1985) both by Professor Lin Jinzhi, Associate Professor of Nanyang Research Institute, Xiamen University.

Professor of Nanyang Research Institute, Xiamen University.

c. "A Perspective on Research on the Southeast Asia and Overseas Chinese History in China in the Twentieth Century" (24 March 1986) by Professor Yao Nan, Department of History, Fudan University.

3. Data Collection and Research Projects

- a. The Archives' collection, including books, journals, private papers, annual reports of Chinese banks and newspaper clippings, had exceeded 6,000 items.
- b. Four projects are now in progress: both projects on (i) Plantation and (ii) Shipping in Southeast Asia focus on data collection; (iii) The project on Financial Activities of Overseas Chinese; and (iv) The project on Chiu Chow People in Hong Kong and Southeast Asia. The Archives Programme plans to hold an exhibition in 1988 on this topic based on data collected through published materials and interviews.

4. The Singapore-Malaysia Painting and Calligraphy Exhibition

The Singapore-Malaysia Painting and Calligraphy Exhibition was held at City Hall during 1-3 December 1985 to raise funds for the Archives and to promote cultural exchanges among Chinese artists in Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong. More than 130 pieces of art from 73 famous Chinese artists in Singapore and Malaysia were presented. Dr. Ma Lin, Vice-Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and Mr. Stephen Sim, Commissioner of the Singapore Commission in Hong Kong were invited to officiate at the opening ceremony of the exhibition.

5. Planned Activities

a. Forthcoming Conferences

(i) "Chinese Banking and Nation Building in Southeast Asia" to be held on 10 & 11 October 1986 at The Chinese University of

Hong Kong.

(ii) "Overseas Chinese between two World Wars (1918-1943)" will be held in March 1987 at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. This Conference is to be co-organized by the South Seas Society of Singapore and the Archives.

b. Joint Project

The project on "Dr. Sun Yat Sen's Activities in Hong Kong, Macau and Overseas: A Collection of Photographs" which was jointly organized with the History Departments of the Zhongshan University and the Chinese University is in good progress. The end product will be published in book form in November 1986.

CHINESE SOCIETY PROGRAMME

Programme Goals

The Chinese Society Programme, or "Sociology and the Study of Contemporary Chinese Society", is a programme of teaching-cum-research supported by the Lingnan University Board of Trustees. A major goal of the Programme is to promote the development of sociology as a discipline in universities in China and to promote attendant research on Chinese society. Towards this end, a series of trips to China and research with institutions in China have been sponsored by the Programme.

Programme Activities

1. Teaching Activities at Zhongshan University

As part of the exchange program between the Department of Sociology at CUHK and Zhongshan University, the following colleagues have given short courses to sociology graduate students at Zhongshan University in 1985-86:

- a. Dr. Pedro Ng, Social Research Methods, 15-21 Dec. 1985
- b. Dr. Peter Man, Urban Sociology, 15-21 Dec.
- c. Prof. Rance Lee, Social Statistics, 16-21 May 1986
- d. Dr. Y.K. Chan, Sampling Methods, 16-21 May 1986

2. Other Exchange Activities/Field Trips

- a. Along with a group of social science (mainly Geography) colleagues, Dr. F.M. Wong visited Xiamen University from 29 March to 1 April, 1986.
- b. Dr. C.C. Lau paid visit to the Department of Sociology, Shanghai University, during 12-18 May 1986. This was an outgrowth of the exchange relationship developed since 1985.

3. Research

Plans are in progress for a survey to be undertaken in Shenzhen, with the collaboration of the authorities of the People's Hospital of Shenzhen, on a variety of topics, including health care, work and recreation of the residents of Shenzhen.

4. Glossary

The revision of the English-Chinese Glossary of Sociological Terms has been making steady progress. A number of work groups are in the process of scrutinizing and translating newly added entries. The revised edition is expected to contain at least 8,000 entries, as compared with about 4,000 in the first edition published in 1980.

5. <u>Visit of Trustees of Lingnan University</u>

The Trustees of Lingnan University have been supporting the Chinese Society Program since 1976. Twelve members of the Trustees visited The Chinese University of Hong Kong on 2 June 1986. They met with members of the Department of Sociology and of the Programme to hear about the recent progress of the Programme.

6. Seminars

- a. "Forecasting China's Working Population in Year 2000" (23 January 1986) by Professor Liu Zhiguang, Associate Director, Population Research Institute, Zhongshan University.
- b. "Mortality Decline, Population Aging, and Policy Response: The Case of Guangdong Province" (30 January 1986) by Mr. Lin Dao-shan, Director of Population Statistical Office, Population Research Institute, Zhongshan University.
- c. "Change in Values and Life Style of Youths in China Today" (21 February 1986) by Professor Yuan Hua-yin, Chairman of Department of Sociology, Shanghai University.

d. "Chinese Economic Reform and Psychological Problems among the Younger Generation" (28 April 1986) by Mr. Ye Xiao-wen, Vice-Chairman and Secretary General of the Guizhou Provincial Sociology Association.

CHINA'S OPEN POLICY & SPEICAL ECONOMIC ZONES PROGRAMME

The Programme on China's Open Policy & Special Economic Zones was established in July 1985. Financial support comes from the Cable & Wireless Public Ltd. Co. and the Chinese University. It is intended to coordinate a multidisciplinary study of China's Open policy and special economic zones. About 20 staff members from the Faculty of Social Science and the Faculty of Business Administration have joined the programme. It is organized along three themes: geographical perspective; policy & management; and urbanization.

Programme Activities

1. Project Plans and Progress

a. Geography Group

Topics of investigation for the Geography Group include: (i) comparative analysis of strengths and weaknesses in the development potential of individual special zones; (ii) linkages among economic centers in the South China region; and (iii) implications for regional development policy and regional planning in South China. Basic data on the geographical

characteristics and development pattern of special economic zones have largely been already acquired, although constant updating is necessary.

The Group visited Zhuhai SEZ during 4-5 Jan. 1986 and Xiamen SEZ during 29 March to 1 April 1986.

b. Urbanization Group

Members of the Urbanization Group visited a group of officials from various departments in Shenzhen on 14 Sept 85. They met two important persons and gathered a fair amount of basic information concerning their specific research interest.

Dr. Cheung Yuet Wah made a trip to Shenzhen on 19 Dec. 1985 and a package of printed materials was received. Valuable information on the health care delivery situation of Shenzhen has also been collected.

Dr. Lau Chong Chor collected important data through making four trips since 1 July 85 to Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Shanghai.

Dr. Ma Hing Keung and Mr. Eric Kwok visited Yu Cai School on 26 Dec. 1985 to arrange a questionnaire survey on social development. After some delay, the survey was conducted on 21 June 86.

c. Policy and Management Group

Members of the Policy and Management Group are still gathering materials and doing analysis in their own areas of specialty. The Group members have met officials of ACL Consultants Ltd. and the China Merchants Group in Sept. and Dec. 85. They also visited Shenzhen and Shekou

and some have conducted public and class lectures on their specialties.

2. Publications

- a. Three CCAS Working Papers Nos. 2, 4 & 8 were published. See list on page 25-26.
- b. D.K.Y. Chu, "The Special Economic Zones and the Problems of Territorial Containment", in Y.C. Jao and C.K. Leung (Eds.), China's Special Economic Zones, Oxford University Press, Hong Kong, 1986, pp. 21-38.
- c. K.C. Lam, "Environmental Protection in the Shenzhen SEZ: Achievements, Problems and Implications", in Y.C. Jao and C.K. Leung (Eds.), China's Special Economic Zones, Oxford University Press, Hong Kong, 1986, pp. 65-83.
- d. K.Y. Wong, "Special Economic Zones of China", Chinese University Bulletin, No. 5, 1985, pp. 33-36.

3. Seminars/Lectures

- a. "Recent Trends of Economic and Management Reforms in China" (8 August 1985) by Professor Yang Dao-nan, Beijing Economic Institute.
- b. "China's Open Policy and the Development of Towns and Cities in Guangzhou" (11 November 1985) by Professor Zeng Huai Zheng, Zhongshan University.
- c. "China's Economic Reforms and Xiamen SEZ" (25 March 1986) by Professor Wang Luo-lin, Xiamen University.
- d. "Trends and Prospects of Urban Development in China (25 March 1986) by Professor Hu Zhao-liang, Beijing University.

- e. "Dimensions of China's Urban Development in China" (25 March 1986) by Professor Zhou Yi-xiang, Beijing University.
- f. "Atmospheric Pollution in China" (25 March 1986) by Professor Chen Jing-sheng, Beijing University.

CHINA'S SEZs DATA & RESEARCH UNIT

Programme Establishment and Goals

The China's SEZs Data & Research Unit was under preparation since September 1985 and was formally established in December 1985 as a new programme of the Centre. With a focus on the SEZs, the Unit serves to (i) systematically glean and store information for scholars of this university and other institutions for social research, (ii) organize open lectures and seminars to enhance academic exchange between scholars in Hong Kong and in the SEZs, (iii) organize and sponsor cooperative research by institutions with similar interests, (iv) conduct conferences, and (v) publish research findings. The Unit is financially supported by the Beijing-Hong Kong Academic Exchange Centre, which is affiliated with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Programme Activities

1. Reference Room

Since March 1986, the Reference Room of the Unit is open to interested individuals. The