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### Articles

*Petra Kost'álová*

- Aux confins de l'Empire ottoman au XVI<sup>e</sup>-XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle :  
Les Arméniens et les autres communautés religieuses  
en Anatolie orientale ..... 1–25

The main goal of this article is to illustrate the situation of various religious communities living on the periphery of the Ottoman Empire during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries; the emphasis is placed on the Armenian community with *dhimmi* (non-Muslim) status. The paper is focused on the analysis of primary sources (Armenian chronicles and colophons, generally from the region of Lake Van). Despite the fact that this period of regional Ottoman history has been often neglected by scholars, we are able to describe, through reference to researched historical sources, the conditions of everyday life and the specific "character of periphery," typical of Eastern Anatolia and the Southern Caucasus. The article deals particularly with important historical events of that time and their influence on the local population. After providing a description of the ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity of the Eastern Anatolia region, the paper reveals the situation of the Ottoman *reaya* (both Christian and Muslim subjected populations) in the border area between two regional powers – the Safavid dynasty, then ruling in Persia, and the Ottoman sultans. The long period of continuous warfare (1514–1639) and the even longer period of chronic instability in the region caused by conflicts and the revolts of the so-called *djelalis* (released mercenaries and bandits) led to the mass migration of the rural population to cities and to the gradual decline of the whole region.

**Keywords:** Armenian history – Ottoman history – *Dhimmi* mentality – Eastern Anatolia

*Stephanie Rudwick*

- Zulu Varietäten als Ausdruck unterschiedlicher Kulturansprüche  
und Geschlechterverhältnisse im heutigen Südafrika ..... 27–45

While there are several comprehensive studies on "language and ethnicity" (Gudykunst 1988, Dow 1991, Fishman 2001, Joseph 2004) there is only one recent comprehensive study (Fought 2006) which focuses on how variation within a language is significant in the expression of ethnic identity. This study aims to contribute towards this research field by examining two South African linguistic varieties of isiZulu, *isiHlonipho* and *isiTsotsi*, in respect of their speakers' culture and gender constructions in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN). In this province, shared culture and gender interpretations infrequently occur between urban, educated isiZulu-speakers on the one side and rural, traditional Zulu people on the other side. On the basis of a methodologically triangulated approach, using an extensive literature review, written questionnaires with lexical stimulus material, qualitative individual interviews and an element of ethnography, the study shows some of the heterogenic facets

Hana Trisková

**The Structure of the Mandarin Syllable:  
Why, When and How to Teach it** ..... 99–134

Students of Mandarin mostly have to rely on blindly imitating their teachers while learning the basic syllabary. We believe that a timely explanation of Mandarin syllable structure and its functional components in the early stage of teaching pronunciation could make teaching Mandarin syllabary considerably more efficient. The article is concerned with an isolated segmental syllable of Mandarin, leaving aside the suprasegmental component of tone. Two basic models of the Chinese syllable are introduced: the traditional *Initial-Final model*, adopted as the basis of the *pinyin* spelling system, and the modern *Onset-Rime model*. The advantages of the first model for language teaching are identified. The four traditional components at the level of segment – an initial, a medial, a main vowel and a terminal (C, G, V, X) are introduced. A review of their articulatory properties follows. This knowledge can be directly used in training the correct pronunciation of Mandarin syllables. The suggested approach, drawing on the traditions of Chinese phonology, is viewed as more beneficial than the “Western” phonological approach of working with the concept of vowels and consonants – at least for pedagogical purposes.

**Keywords:** Chinese language – Phonetics – Language teaching

### Book Reviews and Notes

**Pirjo Lapinkivi**, *The Neo-Assyrian Myth of Istar's Descent and Resurrection. Introduction, Cuneiform Text, and Transliteration with a Translation, Glossary, and Extensive Commentary.*  
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of contemporary *Zuluness*. Although there is little doubt that speaking *isiHlonipho* gives greater recognition to traditional Zulu ethnicity, one cannot dismiss the fact that KZN township varieties, such as *isiTsotsi*, retain elements of ethnic identity expression, which, as will be shown in this study, are communicated in a variety of different ways.

**Keywords:** Zulu language – Ethnic identity – Gender – South Africa – KwaZulu-Natal

*Linda Benson*

The Question of Women: Discovering Uyghur Women's  
History in Northwestern China ..... 47–70

China's Xinjiang region has been the subject of much recent research outside the PRC, largely because of the area's volatile political history. This article draws attention to the need for expanding the breadth of academic interest in Xinjiang to include Uyghur women and gender issues. It does so by raising questions drawn from a broad range of sources from government documents to travelers' accounts. As sites of further research, it discusses briefly the place of women in the on-going struggle over historical figures through the example of Uyghur heroine Iparhan; the assertion in selected early 20<sup>th</sup> century sources that a number of Uyghur women became financially independent and exercised considerable power within the family prior to the 1949 revolution; and the continuation of women's spirit of self-determination as reflected in the life and achievements of the most famous Uyghur woman today, former multimillionaire Rebiya Kadeer, a nominee for the Nobel Prize who was released from a Chinese prison in 2005 and currently serves as president of the World Uyghur Congress.

**Keywords:** Xinjiang – Uyghur women – Iparhan – Rebiya Kadeer – China

*Quan Manh Ha*

Tran Van Dinh's *Blue Dragon, White Tiger* and Postcolonial  
Discourse on the Vietnam War ..... 71–97

This article argues that Tran Van Dinh's *Blue Dragon, White Tiger*, the first Vietnamese American novel written in English and published in the United States, helps to explain the victory of the Vietnamese communists over the Americans and their South Vietnamese allies. Some structures and theories developed in postcolonial criticism are used to elucidate the characters and the plot of this very important contribution to Vietnamese American literature, which captures the essentially poetic and humanistic soul of the Vietnamese people. Emphasis will be laid upon a discussion of the ironies of the U.S. intervention in Vietnamese politics, the destereotyping of the U.S. prejudicial portrayal of the communists, and a questioning of the "just cause" concept associated with the Vietnam War. The novel suggests reasons why Western political and economic agendas failed to win over the social and cultural hearts and minds of the Vietnamese people through a postcolonial discourse on the interactive socio-political aspects of the war.

**Keywords:** Vietnam War – Postcolonial discourse – Vietnamese American literature

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Trust, Risk and the Role of Institutions in Early Modern Japan: Mere Anachronism or Useful Historical Experience? .....	147-159
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This paper concentrates on the crucial problem of how one specific non-market economic institution, namely the merchant associations which were based on mutual trust and utilized both in Europe at the dawn of the Commercial Revolution (11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries) and in early modern Japan (the Tokugawa Period, 1603-1868), were able to diminish risks and facilitate complex trade transactions which were characterized by implicit contractual relations, limited legal contract enforceability rights and a specific information-transmission mechanism. An analysis of such non-market economic agents employed during different historical periods may shed some light on the evolution of economic institutions and is likely to lead to a better understanding of the role of non-economic factors (namely the notion of trust) in the formation of modern economic societies, both in the European and Asian contexts.

**Keywords:** Trust – Non-market institution – Merchant associations – Tokugawa Japan

*Andrea Revelant*

Learning How to Appeal to the Masses: Election Campaigns in Interwar Japan .....	161-187
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With the enactment of universal male suffrage in 1925, Japanese political parties had to face a quadrupling of the electorate and this brought into question the effectiveness of long established methods of gathering votes. Moving beyond a reliance upon personal networks of selected constituents, candidates started to appeal systematically to the general public through the mass media. Campaigns soon became an elaborate combination of rally speeches, printed propaganda and audio-visual performances. These innovations were in tune with the more general and growing interest of the political elites in mass communication as an instrument for preempting social conflict and rousing popular support for government policies. This paper focuses on the five general elections held under universal suffrage before the dissolution of all parties in 1940, tracing the development of campaigns in terms of both technical progress and rhetorical style. It compares the communicative approach of the two main parties with that of the emerging socialists, pointing out how divergent choices among the combatants reflected differences in their social targets and political orientation. Research provides evidence against the widespread opinion that the enlargement of the franchise did not determine any significant change in the way politicians related to voters. On the other

hand, however, campaign regulations suggest that the established parties put limits on the use of those media which did not offer them a competitive advantage over their "proletarian" rivals. Moreover, the concentration of modern propaganda in the urban centers suggests that social conditions in rural Japan were not yet ripe for a full transition to mass politics.

**Keywords:** Mass media – Party politics – Propaganda – Universal suffrage – Interwar Japan

*Thomas Heberer and Gunter Schubert*

Research Note: Political Trust and the Case of China ..... 189–202

The relationship between trust and order is usually discussed with reference to the normative foundations of democratic systems. However, trust is also generated in authoritarian systems, as the case of China has clearly indicated in many relevant surveys. By drawing on qualitative interview data conducted from 2003–05 in different Chinese provinces, the authors present findings concerning the existence and production of political trust at the micropolitical level, i.e. in urban resident committees and rural villages. In urban China, urgent daily issues such as social welfare provision, re-employment measures, public security and administrative transparency are critical for generating trust in the resident committees and, arguably, in the central state. Resident committees have also gained momentum as a result of more trustworthy local cadres. However, it is still too early to tell if they can bring about genuine trust, as positive experiences of their governance capacity in the recent past must be confirmed by continuous performance. Direct village elections, introduced as early as 1987 and nationally institutionalized in 1998, have horizontalized peasant-cadre relations in at least some parts of the countryside and thus significantly contributed to the production of political trust on the part of villagers in their local cadres. Election-driven empowerment, resulting in new trust, has thus helped the party-state to reclaim legitimacy.

**Keywords:** Legitimacy – Support – Participation – Urban communities – Village elections

*Lin Yue*

Trusts and Institutions:

Industrial Clusters in Zhejiang Province ..... 203–216

Interactions between the individuals within an industrial cluster, i.e. a hybrid of market and hierarchical forces, are constrained by the level of trust that exists, the generation of which can be explained through reference to preexistent institutions. The industrial cluster in Zhejiang province is a special network production institution, characterized by the balance of negotiating power that is experienced by the actors involved. This institution enhances the existing levels of trust. Nevertheless, like any institution that is continually in the process of reconstruction, the original trust will be weakened when the institutional conditions are changed. Thus, trust as a product of the institution, while contributing to the formation of the industrial cluster, is reshaped by the evolution of the latter and forced to evolve correspondingly.

**Keywords:** Trust – Institution – Industrial cluster – Zhejiang

Jorge Tavares da Silva

**Building Trust in East Asia through Informal  
and Non-governmental Interactions:**

**The Effects of the *Taishang* on China-Taiwan Relations ..... 217–229**

East Asia is one of the regions in the world with the highest propensity for informal or non-governmental interactions. The methodology and principles usually used by this kind of diplomacy have revealed efficient results compared to those used by governments. The Taiwan conflict represents a good example of the importance of this type of interaction. Unable to participate in most regional organizations, the small island is confined to some informal diplomacy and civil society networks, especially through the role of the Taiwanese businessman. Our objective is to assess the role of this private community in building an atmosphere of trust that has the capacity for encouraging both sides to move towards a more peaceful solution.

**Keywords:** China – Taiwan – Trust – Taishang – Interactions – Non-governmental sector

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### Articles

*Salvatore Gaspa*

- The Tax for the Regular Offerings in the Middle Assyrian State:  
An Overview on Quantification, Transportation,  
and Processing of the Agricultural Products in the Light  
of the Middle Assyrian Texts from Assur ..... 233–259

This paper presents an overview on the management of the tax for the regular offerings in the Middle Assyrian period (12<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> centuries BCE). The investigation of the quantitative data from tabular lists and legal documents shows that in certain cases the provincial quotas were determined on the basis of specific quantitative relationships between the delivered commodities. These goods were then transferred to Assur through the network of overland routes and navigable waterways which has been created and maintained by the Middle Assyrian state. From the limited data available we may form an idea as to the proportions of the barley shipments which were delivered to the capital. The final stages of this movement of goods from the provinces to Assur concern the processing of these raw products into culinary preparations by various temple-linked specialists and the presentation of the finished products in the form of offerings to the Assyrian gods.

**Keywords:** Taxation – Regular offerings – Provinces – Assur temple

*Jan Zahorík*

- Territoriality and Identity:  
Opposing Views on Oromo Nationalism ..... 261–280

This study focuses on the Oromo struggle for identity in Ethiopia, a topic which has become more and more a subject of debate within academic circles as an example of an attempt at secession. For a long time, the political conflicts in Ethiopia were analyzed from three main perspectives: nation-building, national oppression and colonialism. The Oromo people have usually been viewed as historically marginalized and oppressed or as victims of so-called “Ethiopian colonialism.” Especially in the last two decades, a lot of publications have been released in order to legitimize the Oromo right to independence, or at least to a broader degree of autonomy. In the era of globalization, the internet has become a space for the promulgation of secessionist opinions and political ambitions, not only in Ethiopia. The basic argument of this study is that while the Oromo diaspora is closely linked to the idea

of a homeland for Oromia as a mythical territory, the Oromos in Ethiopia do not share this view of territorial identity. I argue that there exists a sharp contrast between the long-distance nationalism that is strongly related to territoriality on the one hand and the micro-level daily life where Oromo identity can be expressed through a variety of elements and where territoriality does not play such an important role.

**Keywords:** Oromo – Ethiopia – Territoriality – Ethnicity – Education – Marginalization

*Mariola Offredi*

The Mountains in Contemporary Hindi Literature ..... 281–312

The paper intends to analyse the changing image of mountains in contemporary Hindi literature. A selection of works has been made, from both poetry and fiction, covering a time span of over eight decades, from 1920 to 2004. The image they provide is wide-ranging. In the field of poetry, in the neoromantic movement of the 1920s and 1930s mountains appear either as a living and ever-changing entity or as immovable and timeless as eternity. In the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, whilst on the one hand the images are also charged with symbolic values, on the other hand a shift may be noticed from lyricism to reality. In the field of fiction, the image varies from that of mountains rebelling to the arrogant challenge of man, to that of their indifference to man's sorrow, and, finally, at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, in the last work taken into consideration it gives way to the strong denunciation of the degradation of mountain culture as a result of corruption and illegal activities.

**Keywords:** Mountains – Indian literature – Hindi

*Ales Skrivan, Jr.*

Czechoslovak Economic Relations with the People's Republic  
of China during the Ideological Schism from 1960 to 1979:

A Study from the Czechoslovak Point of View ..... 313–329

Compared with the present situation, the conditions of the economic relations between communist Czechoslovakia and the PRC were particularly anomalous in the era of communist regimes in both countries. Before the fall of the communist regime in Czechoslovakia in 1989 (particularly before 1979), international politics and political ideology influenced the mutual economic relations of the two countries to a much larger extent than today, both positively and negatively. The boom period of the 1950s was terminated by the Sino-Soviet split and economic co-operation between Czechoslovakia and the PRC quickly deteriorated during the ensuing decade. The later revitalization in mutual trade was rather slow and did not meet the expectations of the Czechoslovak government. On the other hand, some specific instruments continued to make mutual economic relations more advantageous (for both countries) – in particular, the clearing mechanism, combined with a barter system, played an important role in the mutual trade.

**Keywords:** Czechoslovakia – People's Republic of China – Sino-Soviet Split



Dean Brink

Japanese Imperialism and Poetic Matrices: Conventional Projections of Nature and Labor in Early Colonial Taiwan .....	331–355
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Within the framework of postcolonial studies, this essay explores how the highly codified poetic matrices deriving from premodern Japanese literary cultures are extended by poets writing in colonial Taiwan so as to redraw nature and idealize human relations in modern usage. Poetry provides an appearance of ethical and affective justification for the Japanese colonization of Taiwan and, as such, helps to facilitate exploitative practices inherent in colonial enterprises. The associations imparted through the Japanese poetic matrices, as developed over centuries in Japan, could not readily be overlaid on the newly occupied territory of subtropical Taiwan without controversy, which is discussed in light of an essay by an early colonist and poet, Uno Akitaka. Nevertheless, some Japanese colonists are shown to have used poetry as a discourse, in effect excusing colonization and the exploitation of nature and Taiwanese labor, not to mention obviating if not subordinating any recognition of Taiwanese cultures and interests. Through the imposition of this cultural prosthesis, the poetic apparatus served a utilitarian function in providing a discourse supportive of colonialism. Specific traditional images with imperial connotations, such as “pines on boulders” and “wild chrysanthemums,” as well as representations of labor in poems solicited on poetic topics such as “evening in the fishing village,” are examined for their latent ideological claims.

**Keywords:** Japanese poetry – Colonial Taiwan – Japanese Empire – Postcolonialism

Tāna Dluhošová

<i>Taiwan funü</i> in the Early Post-war Period (1945–49) Literary Field .....	357–377
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Early post-war period literature is often perceived through the lens of literary debates on the character of Taiwanese literature, less so through means of a review of the literary writings, published mainly in the pages of the *Qiáo* (橋) literary supplement of the official newspaper *Taiwān xīnshēng bào* (臺灣新生報). The academic interest regarding this period and the examination of the activities and debates, which developed in the late 1990s and the early 2000s, views these endeavours through reference to the dual dichotomy of: Chinese vs. Taiwanese actors/agents, or the leftist and rightist inclinations of these actors/agents. Therefore, they are interpreted as an endeavour on the part of the opposition to counter the strong authoritative cultural policy of the KMT institutions, which the paper refers to as the *official line*. The paper does not challenge such an interpretation, but rather draws attention to the less studied material of that period, which may reveal a more diverse picture of the literature of the early post-war period. The supplement *Taiwān funü* (臺灣婦女), from the above mentioned newspaper *Taiwān xīnshēng bào*, may serve as an example. Although the supplement differs totally from the supplement *Qiáo* or the *official line* in terms of its content and target group, there are a number of intersections. In addition to articles

focusing on the enlightenment of Taiwanese women, we also find a number of poems and short-stories, which in terms of literary style differ from those published in the supplement *Qiao*. The paper thus introduces two dominant agents from the early post-war period literary field, both of which substantially contributed to the co-temporary definitions of Taiwanese literature: the supplement *Qiao* and the *official line*. The paper also presents their literary styles, which are compared with the literary writings published in the *Taiwan funü*.

**Keywords:** Early post-war Taiwanese literature – Taiwan funü – Literary field

### Tenn Nga-i

Dialectics between Hakka Femininity, Hakkaness,  
and Taiwanness in the Film *1895* ..... 379–400

*1895*, released in November 2008, emerged as the first Taiwanese movie rendered in the Hakka vernacular and centered on Hakka ethnicity in its reconstruction of Taiwan's history. Adapted from Li Kheu's 李喬 Hakka-language script *Love Back to the Earth* (情歸大地), the film re-tells the Japanese takeover in 1895 and the ensuing Taiwanese civilian resistance. Unlike mainstream Chinese-centered historical accounts, the film adopts a more Taiwan-based perspective, highlighting ordinary people in Taiwan's anti-colonial struggle. Since its debut, the film has been acclaimed as a cinematic creation that has revitalized the concepts of both Hakkaness and Taiwanness. With numerous Hakka female roles, the film opened up a window through which observations could be made in relation to the interactions between Hakka femininity, Hakka ethnicity, and Taiwan identity. This article analyzes the representation of Hakka women in *1895*, examining the intersecting relationships between Hakka femininity, Hakkaness and Taiwanness in the film. At its conclusion, the article turns to the strategies Hakka women may apply when seeking to avoid multi-marginalization. Along the way, it explores the opportunities for Hakka women to be actively engaged in re-shaping their ethnic and national identities. The research does not aim at offering any form of panacea for tackling the situations experienced by Hakka women. Instead, it hopes to induce a new dialogic space whereby Hakka women can interact with other groups and acquire multiple access opportunities in support of the process of rearticulating and empowering themselves.

**Keywords:** Hakkaness – Taiwanness – Hakka femininities – Representation – Dialectics

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