

CHAPTER 12

EAST ASIAN STUDIES

Doctoral Theses

01. CHODEN (Pema)
The Jataka Tales of the Bodhisattva Reincarnated Animals from India and China: A Comparative Study.
Supervisor: Dr. Shreeparna Roy
Th26623

Abstract

The sixth century BC was the period of imperial state formation both in India and China. It is characterized by three main developments: the rise of empires, the development of urban centres and the rise of organized religion. These characteristics were all interconnected and cannot be seen in isolation. States provided patronage to religion and played an important role in the development of towns and cities. On the other hand, religion provided religious legitimacy to the state. Some cities and towns developed as religious centres while some religious spaces around temples or monasteries transformed into towns and cities. These spaces were maintained through donations given by the urban dwellers like merchants, traders, artisans, and officials. While the sixth century BC marked the rise of Confucianism and Daoism in China, India witnessed the rise of Buddhism and Jainism. The sixth century BC is a churning period in the religious history of India. During this period, Buddhism originated and dominated the religious landscape of India with the spread of the Magadha empire (sixth century BC). The rise of Buddhism was an epoch-making event not only for the religious life of India and the Indian subcontinent but also for the whole South Asian region. Despite having a cordial relationship with Emperor Ajatshatru of the Magadha empire, one of the greatest rulers of ancient India, Lord Buddha could not ensure the full patronage from the ruler. It was King Ashoka who established Buddhism overtly and sometimes covertly as the state religion and promoted Buddhist philosophy in his empire. Ashoka propagated Buddhism not only within the political boundary of India but also outside the state without changing the basic nature of the state. He just incorporated Buddhist philosophy in his general administrative work. During Ashoka's reign, Buddhism crossed the boundary of India and reached present-day Sri Lanka.

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1. Factors necessitating change in Chinese translation of the Jataka
 2. Reincarnation of the Bodhisattva as quadruped animal form
 3. Reincarnation of the Bodhisattva as bird form
 4. Portrayal of female animal and bird characters in Jataka stories.
- Conclusion. Bibliography. Appendix.

02. DUTTA (Amian)
Nationalism and Foreign Policy of Japan: Study of the Tenures of Junichiro Koizumi (2001-06) and Shinzo ABE (2006-07).
 Supervisor: Prof. Ranjana Mukhopadhyaya
Th 26620

Abstract

Japan's advent into the twenty-first century coincided with the rise of neonationalistic sentiments linked to various issues such as the issue of history with regards to Japan's role during World War II, the issue of Prime Ministerial visits to the Yasukuni shrine, the issue of abduction of Japanese nationals by North Korea, etc. These issues were represented by various right-wing organisations which have influenced the foreign policies of both Junichiro Koizumi (2001-06) and Shinzo Abe (2006-07). These organisations and several influential Japanese politicians, mostly belonging to the LDP, criticised post-war Japan's masochistic view of history and called upon the Japanese people to take pride in their history. Domestic politics and factional politics within the LDP influenced both Koizumi and Abe to exploit these neo-nationalistic sentiments in framing their policies towards China and North Korea. This helped them to not only subvert factional politics and consolidate their hold onto power, but also to further their own foreign policy agenda. While Koizumi had adopted a conciliatory policy towards North Korea at the beginning, domestic pressure linked to nationalist sentiments over the abduction issue made him change his approach to a hard stance. On the contrary, Koizumi had followed a confrontational approach towards China as he continued to visit the Yasukuni shrine despite strong Chinese protests. Abe, on the other hand, was under pressure to repair ties with China because of various domestic political and economic reasons. Abe successfully side lined the Yasukuni shrine issue and put emphasis on rebuilding Japan's relations with China. On North Korea, Abe adopted a hardliner stance and continued with Koizumi's policy of pressurizing North Korea for the resolution of the abduction issue. Abe also elevated Japan's ties with India and made India one of the central pillars of his 'Proactive Diplomacy' to create an 'Arc of Freedom and Prosperity'. Both Koizumi and Abe were able to create a bigger role for Japan in both regional and international affairs which can be interpreted as moving away from pacifism as per the expectations of the neo-nationalists. This thesis uses neo-classical realism to explain the interlinkage between nationalism, domestic politics and foreign policy of Japan using unit-level intervening variables which show how domestic factors influence the foreign policy making and implementation.

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1. Introduction. 2. Understanding Japanese Nationalism: Pre-War, Post-War and Neo-Nationalism in Japan. 3. Koizumi's quest for Normalisation of Japan's Ties with North Korea: Nuclear Issue, Abduction Issue and Nationalism. 4. Koizumi's China Policy: Nationalism, domestic politics and the Yasukuni Shrine issue. 5. Nationalism and ABE's Policies Towards China, North Korea and India in his First Term. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.

03. HUDSON (Peter Joy)
State, Society and Business: Political Economy of the Nuclear Energy Industry in Japan.
 Supervisor: Prof. Nabin Kumar Panda
Th 26621

Abstract

This chapter intends to give an overview of the post Fukushima Japan's basic energy plans released over the past years and takes stock of the current nuclear energy situation in Japan. The latest basic energy plan was released in 2018. Which has put in the nuclear energy back into Japan's energy projections affirmatively after the Fukushima impasse, when the previous strategic energy plan released in 2014 took an ambivalent stand on the continuance of nuclear energy in Japan showing a lack of consensus among the various stakeholders. Since then citing the climate change concerns and the energy supply concerns owing to the war in Ukraine nuclear energy is making a comeback in Japan. The current Kishida administration has decided by August 2022, to go ahead with its plans for restarting another seven more reactors, upon safety clearance from the nuclear regulatory authority (NRA) in addition to the current nine reactors which has restarted since the Fukushima nuclear accident. At present the agency for natural resources and energy (ANRE) is the premier agency responsible for planning Japan's energy policies, which in turn is attached to the ministry of external trade and industry (METI) Japan's fundamental policy on energy demand and supply measures is stipulated by the basic law on energy policy (2002) which gives the legal basis for the government to undertake measures on energy supply and demand (Nakatani 2008,483). According to this law the government shall formulate a basic energy plan looking at the energy demand and supply once every three years.

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1. Introduction 2. Evolution of the electric power industries in Japan 1867-1960
 3. Early stages of the nuclear energy development 1945-1960. 4. The scramble to develop nuclear reactors in the 1950-70s in the west and the Japanese case in perspective. 5. The nuclear fuel cycle quagmire in Japan and an overview of the developments in the rest of the world. 6. Concluding analysis. Bibliography.

04. Pokhriyal (Divya)
The Life and Times of Dowager Empress Cixi (1852-1908): New Perspectives on Gender and Power.
 Supervisor: Dr. Ravni Thakur
Th 26624

Abstract

In the centuries of human civilisations, as it evolved through different forms of government it has witnessed few leaders who have broken those shackles of patriarchy which at one point or time or other has restricted aspirations of women in every part of the world. In each of these societies' norms have been created through customs and traditions which demarcate the extent of woman's public life. In imperial times, more of than not these stipulations did not change

based on class of an individual. For a ruler's wife or partner these stipulations sometimes draw a distinction between palace affairs and state affairs, and relegate the women to take charge of the former. This formed the basic framework for research which attempted to study women in imperial China, who not only broke through a two thousand year old system of enforced patriarchy but provided a precedent to their successors who used the lessons to incrementally push the boundaries that limit the extent of their political aspirations. This study focused on the last such female monarch who was a de facto ruler of China in the last few calamitous years of the monarchy's existence dowager empress cixi (1835-1908). The downfall wasn't caused by her. She inherited a political climate where advance western nations had shattered China's inhibitions of being the centre of the world middle kingdom. To make matters worse the economic burden of multiple war indemnities was draining the exchequer at a time when repeated rebellions in China's hinterland and wars with neighbouring countries were stretching the military thin. The situation got bad enough that qing court had to allow provincial laders to setup their own armies and revenue systems in order to help the empire. This was the genesis of warlords in China who thrived across the country after the collapse of Qing empire in 1911.

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1. Introduction. 2. Mandate of heaven in qing administration and cixi's rise to power 3. Queenship in imperial China: son of heaven and the political and philosophical centrifugal forces affecting the reigns of female monarchs in China. 4. Re-reading dowager empress cixi: distilling historical narratives through empirical assessments. 5. Conclusion. Bibliography.

05. VINAY KUMAR

Study of the Role of Civil Protest in the Consolidation of Democracy in South Korea: 1960 to 1993.

Supervisors: Prof. Ranjana Mukhopadhyaya

Th 26622

Abstract

When the law does not work to counter the government and when people have no other choices left, then as the last option, people come to civil protest. During the process many other issues emerge. It is not different from the concept of the social movement. We can see it as part of a social movement however it contains almost all the processes to start and organize a social movement. A civil protest consists of many steps including demands. If it disapproves a civil protest could occur which depends upon necessity and the nature of the demand. It was not against the whole system but it was only to create a place of democratic rights and institutions for many classes to participate in the protest for one common goal the consolidation of democracy. All the participants realized after discussion and through experience with the help of different organizations and intellectual classes that all their issues were directly or indirectly related to the democratic consolidation. In civil protest the lower and middle class labourers workers students professors ordinary people women and religious organizations participated. Protests mainly occurred against the government but sometimes they were also against the private authorities. Most of the civil protests were mainly nonviolent but became violent after the police and army's brutality during the protest in South Korea. Many leaders emerged from these protests such as kim dae jung and kim Young sam. Autocratic regimes heavily targeted kim dae jung. In the case of the student protesters they mainly focused on civil protests,

they mainly focused on civil protest. After the first civil protest they wanted to play the role of the nations guardian and participate in politics. However this did not go well and many student leaders were blamed for being corrupt.

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Introduction.1. Analysis of the theoretical framework. 2.Civil protest and political development in South Korea 3. Participation of various classes in the Korean civil protest 4. The constitutional change in South Korea. Conclusion. Bibliography.

06. YADAV (Sangeeta)

Higher Education Reforms and Economic Development in South Korea: 1962-2010.

Supervisors: Prof. Unita Sachidanand

Th 26619

Abstract

The thesis reviews that higher educational reforms were one of the prominent reasons for the miraculous growth of the South Korean economy. Though states known as Asian Tigers have adopted similar growth models of export orientation the republic of Korea (ROK) managed to stand out with its rapid achievement from a war trodden country to a world economy within a few decades. The research focuses on the year 1962 to 2010 as it marks the initiation and the journey of significant reforms. It also marks the era of paradigm shift in educational structure in tandem with the phases of industrialization that witnessed shift from a labour intensive economy to knowledge based global economy. The year 1962 marks the syne of the education sector with the economic reforms of the country as education was given the utmost priority in the first five-year plan. This period of forty eight years starting from 1962 to 2010 has created a foundation for the country's education and economic sector that is still helping the nation to thrive more and more subsequent to the slow growth of the whole world especially after the COVID ea. The thesis discusses how the economic development of South Korea is closely related to the education system of the country while primarily focusing on the higher education reforms to the education system of the country while primarily focusing on the higher education reforms and the changes it brought in tandem to that. It analyses South Korea's efforts in raising a knowledge based economy and its contribution towards the rapid economic development of the country while being mindful of human resource supply to the industry in various phases of development. It studies the roleplay of internationalization globalization and privatisation along with introduction and inclusion of new educational reforms neo-liberal policies and government's intervention to support the economic development process.

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1. Introduction 2. Theoretical framework 3. Higher education reforms since 1960 in tandem with economic growth 4. Impact of globalization and role of government funded bodies 5. A case study of the ICT sector in South Korea 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.