

ABSTRACTS

Dark Portents. The Concession of Hong Kong Exposed by the Portuguese to the Chinese as a Threat to the Imperial Order

Relations between the former Portuguese colony of Macao and the British colony of Hong Kong were marked throughout history by frequent rivalries caused by the role each one played or intended to play in the political and commercial affairs of the region. It was the Portuguese of Macao who were the first to realise and predict, pessimistically, the repercussions of the original cession of the territory by China to the British. It was also the Portuguese who from the very beginning attempted to warn the Chinese authorities of the pernicious nature of these consequences. This was the reason behind the meeting held on 6 November 1841 in Lianfeng Temple, in Macao; a meeting whose historical significance has not been fully understood in studies on Portuguese-Chinese relations during the period of the 1st Opium War and which this article analyses.
[Author: António Vasconcelos de Saldanha, pp. 6-13]

From Macao to Hong Kong. From Hong Kong to the World

Ten years after the transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China (1997-2007), this is the reflection of the place that Hong Kong occupies today in the Pearl River Delta and the archipelago of the Global Cities. Given the region it is located in, of particular importance are the relations with the cities of Canton and Macao. A historical connection dating from 1841 has influenced the development of them both, as well as the whole region of the delta. Relations between Macao and Hong Kong have been analysed, emphasising what distinguishes and what separates the two places. We have attempted a different analysis, seeking their points of contact, similarities and parallels, recognising that the construction of the great metropolis that is today taking effect, notwithstanding the leadership of Hong Kong, involves the deepening

of the social, economic and cultural networks that link the three cities. Since 1841 the accumulated social capital in the region has been transformed into the main resource in its development. Hong Kong, from the very beginning, has been a city looking outward on the world and Macao, through the routes opened up by the spread of the Macao population, dispersed over all the continents, strengthening its identity.

[Author: Alfredo Gomes Dias, pp. 14-23]

A Pioneer from Macao in the United States of America "Autobiography and Reminiscence of Candido Gutierrez (1824-1903)"

Using material from the Records of the Society of California Pioneers, this article examines the short memoir written by the Macanese Cândido Gutierrez (1824-1903), long after he left China and became a prominent American citizen and a California pioneer. The text reveals the author's determination to restart his life in the Golden City after leaving his family in the South of China, and analysis of it unearths several themes in the personal narrative of an emigrant: the sea voyage, starting over from scratch, local history and economy, economic setbacks, honesty, and trade, among others. In a time when many American families travelled to Canton and Macao seeking fortune through the China Trade, one Macanese man made the same voyage in reverse, in search of the American Dream.

[Author: Rogério Miguel Puga, pp. 24-39]

The John Reeves Memoir, "The Lone Flag". Lifting The Veil on Wartime Macao

The recent discovery in Cape Town South Africa, of the memoir of John Pownall Reeves, British Consul in Macao during the turbulent years of World War II, sheds light on an important historical figure in Macao whose role in ameliorating the condition of thousands of refugees has hitherto largely remained hidden by the mists of time. The memoir, known

as "The Lone Flag" provides a rich and rewarding insight into the leading personalities of Macao in those years as well as revealing the unimaginable difficulties and intrigues that John Reeves overcame in fulfilling his duty to his fellow human beings. What transpires from the memoir too is an individual of immense charm and courage, who with very little support from a besieged Britain, did what was humanly possible to provide succour and solace to the thousands of British subjects from Hong Kong and to other nationalities for whom Macao provided a safe haven from the Japanese. It is thanks to the dedication and sense of history of Mr David Calthorpe in Cape Town, that this memoir has been lovingly preserved.

[Author: Wilhelm Snyman, pp. 40-55]

Macao Through the "New Poetry" of Leung Ping-kwan

Leung Ping-kwan, born in 1949 in Xinhui, Guangdong province, popularly known by his pen-name Yesi is a writer, poet, translator, essayist, film and culture critic. The multifaceted Leung is lauded as Hong Kong's leading man of letters. Among his prolific literary creations and diversified interests, he has composed volumes of modern Chinese poems, also called "new poetry" about different places and people, but as far as 1973, Macao became his "muse" and he began writing modern poetry on Macao. These poems are descriptive of landscapes and historic landmarks, and at the same time interwoven with his discerning sentiments. After two decades, his interest in Macao was rekindled. He continued composing poems on various subjects, such as the cultural encounters between the East and West, historical figures, and Portuguese/Macanese cuisine. Some poems also readily speak for his ambivalent feelings towards the change of power in Macao at the end of the 20th century. His oeuvres relating to Macao are discussed in chronological and thematic order in this article.

[Author: Christina Miu Bing Cheng, pp. 76-84]

RESUMOS

Hokkien Merchants in Maritime Asia prior to 1683. Bridging the East Ocean and the West Ocean

The people of coastal south Fujian or “Hokkiens” have a long seafaring tradition and the history of their maritime activities and emigration can be dated back to the early Christian era. This article examines the Hokkien merchant group and their activities in maritime Asia from the perspective of a regional maritime system, the entrepôts of East Asia in particular. The article is structured in the following way. First, a brief account of the early Hokkien maritime activities in Southeast Asia will be given, which will be followed by a survey of a number of major ports within the East Asian maritime system.

Three representative entrepôts are chosen for examination, i.e. Korea, Kyushu and Taiwan. In addition, Manila is picked up and added to the picture as a typical Hokkien maritime hub. The author argues that at least six trade hubs with different sizes emerged in the region during different periods, including Korea, Kyushu, Ryukyu, Southeast China coast, Taiwan, Macao and Manila. The centre of maritime trade shifted gradually southward with the coming of the Europeans. When the Silla fell, Chinese merchants came to dominate the regional navigation and trade activities. Of them, the Hokkien merchants from the Quanzhou region were the most active and enterprising. Unlike other segments of the Chinese population, the Hokkiens were mainly active at entrepôts overseas. In order to survive and expand in a foreign environment which was usually dangerous if not hostile, the sojourning Hokkiens who had never been supported and protected by the Chinese government developed a set of unique networks to protect themselves. As the most daring entrepreneurial group in early modern maritime Asia, Hokkien merchants not only performed well in the East Asian waters but also played a bridge role in connecting the Southeast Asian maritime system with the one in East Asia.

[Author: James K. Chin, pp. 89-116]

Macao and Manila in the Iberian *Arbitrismo*

The political and economic movement commonly called *arbitrismo* occurred in Spain throughout the second half of the 16th century and most of the 17th century, spreading to Portugal where it acquired particular emphasis during the period of the Dynastic Union (1580/81-1640) and the Restoration Wars (1640-1668). The economic difficulties of the Iberian kingdoms and their respective empires in this period led to the widespread idea of “decadence”, leading some authors to apply themselves to writing different kinds of texts – the *arbitrios* – that would find their way to the authorities. These texts, as well as analysing the state of affairs of the countries, would put forward ideas and projects to solve the problems diagnosed in order to supply the means able to face up to and rid Portugal and Spain of their political and economic weaknesses. In general, these *arbitristas* argued that to overcome the problems one needed to implement singular and universal remedies, able in their design to cure all the ills of these kingdoms. Although many of the *arbitristas’* ideas were exchanged when they were devised, which contributed to the bad name associated with the term *arbitrismo* in the society of the time, today we are aware that the study of *arbitrismo* is increasingly important, not only to learn about the evolution of the political and economic ideas of the Iberian countries in the 16th to 18th century, but also to understand some of the measures implemented by the respective governments both in the mother countries and in the colonial territories. It is along these lines that this article is drawn up, outlining the thinking behind a significant group of *arbitristas* concerning the relevance, to the two Iberian empires, of their far-away territories: Macao and the Philippines.

[Author: Eduardo Frutuoso, pp. 117-144]