

RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA

AS.310.204
Fall 2013
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 – 10:50
Shaffer 304

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Office hours: Wednesday 12:00-1:00 and Friday 12:00-1:00

DESCRIPTION

We will examine the transformation of the Asian countryside from the beginning of the twentieth century up until the present by looking at agrarian class structure, economic and social development, collectivization and decollectivization, rural industrialization, agribusiness, sustainable agriculture, and rural unrest. The course materials combine theoretical readings with empirical case studies. While theoretical readings examine global processes involving Asia and elsewhere, case studies cover several Asian countries, with an emphasis on China and India.

REQUIREMENTS

Class participation: Class participation involves regular class attendance as well as active participation to classroom discussions. Discussing your ideas on course readings with other classmates is the best way to learn the course materials well.

Thought pieces: Each student is required to write five pieces (2 to 3 pages, double spaced). Thought pieces will be graded on a scale of 1 and 4. You may choose any five of the twelve weeks to write a thought piece. Thought pieces must be based on that week's readings and are intended to help you reflect more deeply on the readings and prepare for the seminar discussions. These papers should not be summaries, but rather commentaries on the readings that develop and/or critique arguments, make comparisons between different authors and/or point to larger implications. Each thought piece must engage at least 2 readings of that week. You will receive feedback on all thought pieces. All thought pieces must be uploaded to the Blackboard web page before Sunday 8 pm for each week. Late thought pieces will not be accepted.

Mid Term Paper: Students are required to write one mid-term paper. It will be 5-6 double-spaced pages in length. Mid-term paper will address a question or series of questions that will be given to you by the instructor. You must draw on the readings of this class to write your mid-term paper. You are not required to seek additional sources beyond those covered in class. You will receive your mid-term paper question(s) in class on October 4. I will also put the question(s) on Blackboard. Mid-term papers are due on October 11 (You will upload your papers on Blackboard).

Final Paper: Students are required to write a final term paper on a theme related to the content of this course. They need to submit a single-page outline of their papers before October 18 and meet with the instructor to discuss their outlines before October 30. Each student is required to make a short presentation (no longer than 10 minutes) about her/his final paper on the last two weeks of the class. Final papers should be well organized and carefully proofread. The length of the papers should be 20 (double-spaced) pages minimum and 30 (double-spaced) pages maximum (including References). Any system of citation (AAA, APA, Chicago, etc.) is fine, as long as it is used consistently. Papers must be submitted as Word (not pdf) documents via Blackboard web site. Final papers are due on December 12. Late papers will not be accepted.

GRADING

Class participation: 20%

Thought papers: 20%

Mid-term paper: 20%

Final paper: 40%

ETHICS

The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include cheating, plagiarism, reuse of essays, improper use of the internet and electronic services, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded essays, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. For more information, visit the Ethics Board website at <http://ethics.jhu.edu>

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

If you are a student with a disability who needs accommodations in this class, please obtain an accommodation letter from the Student Disability Services Office (385 Garland, 410-516-4720, studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu, <http://web.jhu.edu/disabilities>) and meet with us as early in the term as possible to make arrangements for your approved accommodations specified in the letter.

READING LIST AND SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Sept. 4, 6): Introduction: The “Agrarian Question”

Byres, Terence J. 2012. “The Agrarian Question and the Peasantry,” in Ben Fine and Alfredo Saad-Filho (eds.), *The Elgar Companion to Marxist Economics*, Cheltenham and Northampton: Edward Elgar, pp. 9-15.

Kautsky, Karl. 1988. *The Agrarian Question, Volume 1*, London: Zwan Publishers, pp. 168-197.

Lenin, V.I. 1977. *The Development of Capitalism in Russia, Collected Works, Volume 3*. Moscow: Progress Publishers, pp. 41-43, 70-85, 172-187, 310-318.

Thorner, Daniel. 1966. “Chayanov’s Concept of Peasant Economy,” in Daniel Thorner, Basile Kerblay, and R.E.F. Smith (eds.), A.V. Chayanov, *The Theory of Peasant Economy*, Homewood, Illinois: The American Economic Association, pp. xi-xxiii.

Optional: Bernstein, Henry. 2009. “V.I. Lenin and A.V. Chayanov: Looking Back, Looking Forward,” *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, Vol. 36, No. 1, pp. 55-81.

Week 2 (Sept. 9, 11, 13): The Politics of the Agrarian Question

Moore Jr., Barrington. 1966. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy-Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*, Boston: Beacon Press, pp. 160-227, 314-410.

Optional: Moore Jr., Barrington. 1966. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy-Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*, Boston: Beacon Press, pp. 228-313.

Week 3 (Sept. 16, 18, 20): Agrarian Change and Economic Development in Asia I

Karshenas, Massoud. 2004. "'Urban Bias', Intersectoral Resource Flows and the Macroeconomic Implications of Agrarian Relations: The Historical Experience of Japan and Taiwan," *Journal of Agrarian Change*, Vol. 4, No. 1-2, pp. 170-189.

Kay, Cristóbal. 2002. "Why East Asia Overtook Latin America: Agrarian Reform, Industrialisation and Development," *Third World Quarterly* Vol. 23, No. 6, pp. 1073-1102.

Patnaik, Utsa. 1986. "The Agrarian Question and the Development of Capitalism in India," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 21, No. 18, pp. 781-793.

Patnaik, Utsa. 1988. "Some Aspects of Development in the Agrarian Sector in India," *Social Scientist*, Vol. 16, No. 2, pp. 17-40.

Week 4 (Sept. 23, 25, 27): Agrarian Change and Economic Development in Asia II

Arrighi, Giovanni, Nichole Aschoff, and Ben Scully. 2010. "Accumulation by Dispossession and Its Limits," *Studies in Comparative International Development*, Vol. 45, No. 4, pp. 410-438.

Gürel, Burak. 2011. "Agrarian Change and Labour Supply in Turkey, 1950-1980," *Journal of Agrarian Change*, Vol. 11, No. 2, pp. 195-219.

Lee, Ching Kwan. 2007. *Against the Law: Labor Protests in China's Rustbelt and Sunbelt*, Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 204-231.

Week 5 (Sept.30, Oct. 2, 4): Collectivization and Decollectivization of Agriculture

Bramall, Chris. 2008. *Chinese Economic Development*, London and New York: Routledge, pp. 213-260.

Lin, Justin Yifu. 1992. "Rural Reforms and Agricultural Growth in China," *American Economic Review*, Vol. 82, No. 1, pp. 34-51.

Muldavin, Joshua. 1996. "The Political Ecology of Agrarian Reform in China: The Case of Heilongjiang Province" in Richard Peet and Michael Watts (eds.), *Liberation Ecologies: Environment, Development, Social Movements*, London and New York: Routledge, pp. 227-259.

Xu, Zhun. 2012. "The Chinese Agriculture Miracle Revisited," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 47, No. 14, pp. 51-58.

Optional:

Lin, Justin Yifu. 1988. "The Household Responsibility System in China's Agricultural Growth: A Theoretical and Empirical Study." *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol. 36, No. 3, pp. 199-224.

Muldavin, Joshua. 1998. "The Limits of Market Triumphalism in Rural China," *Geoforum*, Vol. 28, No. 3-4, pp. 289-312.

Patterson, Carroll T. 2009. *The Paradox of Agricultural Market Reform: Foreign Aid and the Rise of Subsistence Production in Moldova, 1991-2008*, PhD Dissertation, Baltimore: Department of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University, Department of Sociology, pp. 185-276.

Xu, Zhun. 2013. "The Political Economy of Decollectivization in China." *Monthly Review*, Volume: 65, No. 1, pp. 17-36.

Week 6 (Oct. 7, 9, 11): Social Development in the Asian Countryside

Drèze, Jean and Mrinalini Saran. 1995. "Primary Education and Economic Development in China and India: Overview and Two Case Studies," in K. Basu, P. Pattanaik, and K. Suzumura (eds.), *Choice, Welfare, Development*, Oxford: Clarendon, pp. 182-241.

Matson, Jim and Mark Selden. 1992. "Poverty and Inequality in China and India," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 27, No. 14, pp. 701-715.

Sen, Amartya. 2012. "Quality of Life: India vs. China," *The New York Review of Books*, May 12. <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2011/may/12/quality-life-india-vs-china/?pagination=false>

Optional: Huang, Yanzhong. 2011. "The Sick Man of Asia," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 90, No. 6, pp. 119-136.

Week 7 (Oct. 15, 16, 18): Social Development without Economic Development? The Case of Kerala, India

Ramachandran, V.K. 2000. "Kerala's Developmental Achievements and Their Replicability," in Govindan Prayil (ed.), *Kerala-The Development Experience: Reflections on Sustainability and Replicability*, London and New York: Zed Books, pp. 88-115.

Krishnaji, N. 2007. "Kerala Milestones: On the Parliamentary Road to Socialism," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 42, No. 23, pp. 2169-2176.

Mathew, George. 2001. "Amartya Sen and the Kerala 'Model'," *The Hindu*, January 9, <http://www.hindu.com/2001/01/09/stories/05092523.htm>

Tharamangalam, Joseph. 1998. "The Perils of Social Development without Economic Growth: The Development Debacle of Kerala, India," *Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars*, Vol. 30, No. 1, pp. 23-34.

Thomas, Jayan Jose. 2003. "Labour and Industrialisation in Kerala," *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, Vol. 46, No. 4, pp. 575-592.

Week 8 (Oct. 21, 23, 25): Rural Industrialization in Asia

Bramall, Chris. 2007. *The Industrialization of Rural China*, Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 141-167, 322-336.

Saith, Ashwani. 2012. "Guaranteeing Rural Employment-Tales from Two Countries: Right to Employment in Neoliberal India and Labour Accumulation in Collectivist China," in Amiya Kumar Bagchi and Anthony P. D'Costa (eds.), *The Political Economy of Transition in India and China*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 39-69.

Optional:

Mukherjee, Anit and Xiaobo Zhang. 2007. "Rural Industrialization in China and India: Role of Policies and Institutions," *World Development*, Vol. 35, No. 10, pp. 1621-1634.

Saith, Ashwani. 1987. "Contrasting Experiences in Rural Industrialisation: Are the East Asian Successes Transferable?" in Rizwanul Islam (ed.), *Rural Industrialisation and Employment in Asia*, New Delhi: International Labour Organisation Asian Employment Programme, pp. 239-303.

Week 9 (Oct. 28, 30, Nov. 1): New Frontiers of Agribusiness? Agrarian Change in Contemporary China and India

Zhang, Qian Forrest and John A. Donaldson. 2008. "The Rise of Agrarian Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics: Agricultural Modernization, Agribusiness and Collective Land Rights," *China Journal*, No. 60, pp. 25-47.

Zhang, Qian Forrest. 2012. "The Political Economy of Contract Farming in China's Agrarian Transition," *Journal of Agrarian Change*, Vol. 12, No. 4, pp. 460-483.

Singh, Sukhpal. 2002. "Multi-national Corporations and Agricultural Development: A Study of Contract Farming in the Indian Punjab," *Journal of International Development*, Vol. 14, No.2, pp. 181-194.

Week 10 (Nov. 4, 6, 8): Asia and the Global Food Crisis

Movie: *The Future of Food* (2012)

Patel, Raj, Philip McMichael. 2009. "The Political Economy of the Food Riot," *Review*, Vol. 32, No. 1, pp. 9-35.

Patnaik, Utsa. 2009. "Origins of the Food Crisis in India and Developing Countries," *Monthly Review*, Vol. 61, No. 3. <http://monthlyreview.org/2009/07/01/origins-of-the-food-crisis-in-india-and-developing-countries>

Chandrasekhar, C.P. and Jayati Gosh. 2012. "Another Looming Food Crisis," July 23. <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/columns/c-p-chandrasekhar/another-looming-food-crisis/article3675090.ece>

Wolf, Martin. 2008. "Food Crisis is a Chance to Reform Global Agriculture," *Financial Times*, April 29.

<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/2e5b2f36-1608-11dd-880a-0000779fd2ac.html#axzz2dCXhKSVK>

The Economist. 2008. "The Silent Tsunami," *The Economist*, April 17.

<http://www.economist.com/node/11050146>

The Economist. 2011. "Crisis Prevention," *The Economist*, February 24.

<http://www.economist.com/node/18229412>

Week 11 (Nov. 11, 13, 15): Different Perspectives on Sustainable Agriculture in Asia

Herring, Ronald J. and N. Chandrasekhara Rao. 2012. "On the 'Failure of Bt Cotton' Analysing a Decade of Experience," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 47, No. 18, pp. 45-53.

Weis, Tony. 2010. "The Accelerating Biophysical Contradictions of Industrial Capitalist Agriculture," *Journal of Agrarian Change*, Vol. 10, No. 3, pp. 315-341.

Wen, Tiejun, Lau Kinchi, Cheng Cunwang, He Huili, and Qiu Jiansheng. 2012. "Ecological Civilization, Indigenous Culture, and Rural Reconstruction in China," *Monthly Review*, Vol. 63, No. 9. <http://monthlyreview.org/2012/02/01/ecological-civilization-indigenous-culture-and-rural-reconstruction-in-china>

Shiva, Vandana. 2009. "From Seeds of Suicide to Seeds of Hope: Why are Indian Farmers Committing Suicide and How Can We Stop This Tragedy?," April 28.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/vandana-shiva/from-seeds-of-suicide-to_b_192419.html

Shiva, Vandana. 2012. "Designing Food Systems to Protect Nature and Get Rid of Hunger," September 9.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2012/09/201295614181450.html>

Week 12 (Nov. 18, 20, 22): Rural Unrest in Asia in the Twenty-first Century

Movie: Video scripts of news and documentary reports on rural unrest in China and India will be shown.

Levien, Michael. 2013. "The Politics of Dispossession: Understanding India's 'Land Wars'," *Politics & Society*, Vol. 41, No. 3, pp. 351-394.

Yu, Jianrong. 2007. "Social Conflict in Rural China," *China Security*, Vol. 3, No. 2, pp. 2-17.

Muldavin, Joshua. 2011. "China's Shaky Economic Foundation," *The New York Times*, December 30.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/31/opinion/chinas-shaky-economic-foundation.html>

Pattanaik, Smruti S. 2002. "Maoist Insurgency in Nepal: Examining Socio-economic Grievances and Political Implications," *Strategic Analysis*, vol. 26, No. 1, pp. 118-130.

Tully, Mark. 2009. "Rural Poverty and India's Maoist Revolt," November 12.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/from_our_own_correspondent/8355156.stm

BBC. 2012. "India Battles Maoist Influence with Jobs Scheme," July 26.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-south-asia-10609424>

Perlez, Jane and Pir Zubair Shah. 2009. "Taliban Exploits Class Rifts in Pakistan," *The New York Times*, April 16.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/17/world/asia/17pstan.html?pagewanted=all>

Perlez, Jane and Pir Zubair Shah. 2009. "Landowners Still in Exile from Unstable Pakistan Area," *The New York Times*, July 27. <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/28/world/asia/28swat.html>

Week 13 (Nov. 25): Presentation and discussion of your final papers

Nov. 27-Dec. 1: Thanksgiving vacation

Week 14 (Dec. 2, 4, 6): Presentation and discussion of your final papers & Review of the course

Final papers are due on December 12.