



PROJECT MUSE®

Fairness, Globalization, and Public Institutions

Dator, Jim

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

Dator, Jim.

Fairness, Globalization, and Public Institutions: East Asia and Beyond.

University of Hawai'i Press, 2006.

Project MUSE.muse.jhu.edu/book/64094.



➔ For additional information about this book

<https://muse.jhu.edu/book/64094>

❧ PART 4 ❧

Responding to Globalization in East Asia

This is a very ambitious section. It is the heart and soul of our book. Written for the most part by people living in East and Southeast Asia, it tells how countries in the region have responded to globalization both historically and in the present. Chapter 16, by two young scholars, one from South Korea and the other from Japan, makes it absolutely clear that globalization is nothing new, that it has been a feature of East and Southeast Asia for many thousands of years. Yongseok Seo and Shunichi Takekawa briefly review the history of China, Korea, Japan, Cambodia, and Vietnam, focusing entirely on how each country has been impacted by, responded to, and contributed to globalization from the earliest times to the present.

This is followed by five brief chapters illustrating how China, Korea, Japan, Cambodia, and Vietnam are each currently responding to globalization. Each of these chapters is written by a citizen and resident of the country under discussion. However, each of these authors approaches the task in quite different ways.

In chapter 17, Jingping Ding presents a comparatively detailed overview of how Chinese leaders are committed to economic development through strategic integration into the emerging global economy. This strong commitment has replaced political ideology, even though the Communist Party retains overall control. Issues of fairness are paramount for the country's and the Communist Party's future.

Of all the authors, Yong-duck Jung, in chapter 18, adheres most closely to the direct topic of the book, showing how the government, and primarily the bureaucracy, of South Korea has changed in response to varying external and internal pressures for reform in recent years. Ryo Oshiba, on the other hand, takes a case-

study approach in chapter 19 and discusses how even so apparently exclusively “national” a matter such as writing and choosing history textbooks for use in Japanese schools has become a matter of certainly regional and perhaps global concern and interference.

Chanto Sisowath, in chapter 20, considers especially how the younger generation, both formally educated abroad and greatly influenced by transnational media flows at home, is urging substantial change in Cambodia, while Le Van Ahn, in chapter 21, presents a more formal analysis of the many ways Vietnam is seeking to create a viable civil society and to quickly become economically competitive on the world stage.

In between these chapters there are Further Thoughts on civil society in East Asia and on globalization and Japan by Jim Dator and on Cambodia and Vietnam by Yongseok Seo.

Chapter 22, the final one in part 4, by Yongseok Seo, presents the response of East Asian countries to the globalization of culture by examining the changes in East Asian perceptions of culture. He especially focuses on the cultural policy of national governments as a manifestation of East Asian responses to the globalization of culture. This is followed by Further Thoughts by Sohail Inayatullah on globalization and “Asian values” and on generational challenges to Confucian norms.

This section contains rich and varied fare.