

MARRIAGE MIGRANTS IN ASIA

ISSUE 4

NEWSLETTER

December 2018

SPOTLIGHT

International Workshop on Marriage Migrants in Asia: Mobility & Agency



Center for Gender and Women Studies at National Cheng Kung University successfully held an international workshop on Marriage Migrants in Asia, a project of Worldwide Universities Network. With interdisciplinary perspectives, scholars from Australia, Japan and Hong Kong discussed the mobility and agency of marriage migrants in Asia.



Further information is available at:

<http://www.wun-mma.org/international-workshop.html>

Dear project partners and friends,

This is the last issue of the project newsletter with the project having ended in December 2018. A small, but targeted project with clearly defined objectives, the Marriage Migrants in Asia project is able to achieve its ambitious goals. However, this is not an achievement of the project alone, but rather an accomplishment of the Asian community: the close cooperative work of NCKU, CUHK, U of Western Australia, Rikkyo U, interest groups, and network organizations together.



In the last few months, an international workshop took place at NCKU, an international symposium was organized at U of Western Australia, and a project meeting was held at Rikkyo University. As a PI and coordinator, I look back with most pride on the result of a book publication in such a short period of time. We have also done a lot of work to ensure results from the project will be followed-up. Our team has decided to continue our collaboration on extended topics such as marriage migrants and care. And new partnerships are sought in other Asian countries.

As my final words in this newsletter, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all the people who have participated in the project. It has been a great pleasure to work with you all!

Sincerely,

Su-lin

National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

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Current Status

International Symposium at the University of Western Australia: 11/23 Emotions and Intimacy in Asian Migration, Past and Present

Hosted by Susan Broomhall

An emotions approach to contemporary and historical societies in East Asia, and specifically in their migration experiences, is a largely under-researched area. This symposium focused on emotions a wide range of feelings shared within, and about, intimate relationships in the Asian region, as people move and moved across the region in migration, and considered how emotional experiences and ideas circulate through varied media, material and cultural exchanges. The symposium allowed for fruitful exchange among scholars from a wide range of fields to share their knowledge and to identify important points of contact between our research specialisms.



Sociology of emotion

- Way in which emotion is socially patterned
- 'how emotions, particularly through their management and their expression, serve to reproduce the society in which individuals are embedded.' (Lively, 2016)
- Emotional energy is the main motivating force in social life (Randall Collins)
- Shott (1979) emotions result from physiological arousal and labelling of that affect. Guilt, Shame, Embarrassment, Pride, Vanity, Empathy
- Cultural differences in understanding and expressing emotions – a factor in relationships (studies show females discouraged from anger; males from fear; different cultural orientations to happiness, sadness, jealousy, excitedness, disgust etc)

In addition, Dr Yin Wang (National Cheng Kung University) and Professor Lynne Nakano (The Chinese University of Hong Kong) joined with Professor Broomhall to present an afternoon masterclass for advanced students working on topics related to emotions, migration and multiculturalism in Asia. Students shared their research findings and received feedback from the group, as they explored questions, theories and ideas around these complex topics.

Visit at Rikkyo University: 11/30 Project Meeting with Professor Sari's Team

During the three days of visit in Tokyo, we met Sari and her team and discussed the next research project proposal. We proposed the details about an international symposium and future collaborative methods.



Upcoming Project Proposal

Marriage Migrants and Care

Call for research proposals on Marriage Migrants and Care. If anyone is interested in this topic, please submit an abstract with 250 words to Su-lin Yu.

Su-lin Yu: sulinyu@mail.ncku.edu.tw

Related Publication

Marriage Migrants in Asia: Mobility and Agency

Editors: Su-lin Yu (游素玲) & Lekun Tan (陳麗君)

During the past decades, the intra-Asia flows of cross-border marriage migration have increased rapidly, particularly between Southeast Asia and East Asia. Interdisciplinary and comparative approaches concerning cross-border marriages in Asian region are much needed. This book explores why and how marriage migration may offer routes to empower women. Because of the unequal gender relations in the commodification of transnational marriage, marriage migrants are often confined in the private sphere. However, with expanding communal relations and diverse responsibilities, they gradually move from private to public spaces including community, labor market, and social groups.



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When they enter multiple public spaces, marriage migrants cross back and forth between private and public spheres by making good use of economic, cultural and social capitals. They are no longer limited by their identity as marriage migrants, but under limited conditions, they have become family supporters, strategists, or social agents that make agency and mobility possible. With interdisciplinary perspectives, the contributors will address the following questions: how do marriage migrant women make good use of economic, cultural and social capitals to make their agency and mobility possible? How are their identities re-shaped when they enter multiple private and public spaces in the host societies? How do they represent themselves to challenge public misconceptions about themselves? The collection of essays focuses on marriage migrant women's agency, mobility, survival strategies, mechanisms of identity construction, and integration into the receiving society.

Contact us

wunmma.ncku@gmail.com

We would be happy to welcome your comments and feedback! We also welcome input to our newsletter from project members so if you have something you would like to share with us, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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