



NZASIA
CONFERENCE
2021

november 24-26

asia:
change, disruptions and resilience

24th Biennial New Zealand Asian Studies Society International Conference
Massey University, Manawatu Campus, Palmerston North, New Zealand (online)

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welcome

Nau mai haere mai

We take great pleasure in welcoming you to the 24th Biennial New Zealand Asian Studies Society International Conference. For the first time in NZASIA's history the conference is online. We are deeply disappointed to miss meeting you face-to-face, but, in the spirit of resilience, we have done our best to put together what we hope is a decent programme. The NZASIA conference is a wonderful and memorable event and we wish to ensure its continuity as such. In this, I would like personally to acknowledge debts of deep gratitude: to the Executive Committee for their kind guidance and encouragement; to my brilliant colleagues on the organising committee; to Robyn Andrews, assistant convenor, for her unshakeable support and advice; to you all, keynotes, presenters, postgraduates and participants, for staying the course and preparing such wonderful, diverse and thought-provoking papers.

Finally, we extend our sincere appreciation to our generous sponsors, listed below, who have tolerated the changes and whose support and assistance have never wavered.

You will notice one conspicuous absence in the programme: colleagues from overseas. A face-to-face, domestic participants only, conference had originally been planned, in the light of the pandemic situation at the time. When the decision to go online was made, it was too late to invite scholars from abroad, with a few lucky exceptions. Colleagues overseas will be able to watch some of the recorded sessions on the website, and we look forward to seeing you in 2023.

We hope you will sit back in the comfort of your own space and enjoy the conference.

*Dr. Penny Shino, MU
Chair, Conference Organising Committee*

Organising Committee

Penny Shino

convenor

Robyn Andrews

assistant convenor

postgraduate workshop convenor

Rouben Azizian

Alice Beban

Fatima Junaid

Imran Muhammad

Dee Osto

Grace Qi

programme

day one: november 24

NZASIA Asian Studies Postgraduate Workshop 1:00 - 4:00pm

Pathways for Asian Specialists 1:00-1:50pm

Academic Pathways Panel 2:00-3:00pm

Panel Discussion on Academic Publications 3:15-4:00pm

Book Event, NZASIA Book Awards Announcement 4:30 - 5:30pm

Hosted by Graeme MacRae, MU

programme

day two: november 25

day two: november 25

Conference Welcome & Opening

9:00 – 9:30am

*Associate Professor Hone Morris, Ngāi Te Rangitotohu, Ngāti Mārau,
Ngāti Maru, Pūkenga Reo - Senior Scholar, Office of DVC Māori*

*Dr Penny Shino, Chair, Conference Organising Committee, School of Humanities,
Media and Creative Communication, Massey University*

Associate Professor James Beattie, NZASIA President, Victoria University of Wellington

*Professor Cynthia White, Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of
Humanities and Social Sciences, Massey University*

I Made Kartawan (Director), Udgita Canda Gamelan Ensemble, University of Canterbury

Performance by Udgita Canda Gamelan Ensemble

Keynote address

9:30 – 10:30am

In Search of Southeast Asia, in New Zealand

Natasha Hamilton-Hart

Department of Management and International Business

Professor at the University of Auckland Business School

Moderator: Rouben Azizian, MU

Break

10:30 – 10:45am

Session 1 (concurrent panels)

10:45 – 11:45am

Asia: Change, Disruptions & Resilience (Part 1)

Moderator: Paola Voci, UO

1. The Unbearable Vulnerability of Tourism: Will Bali Ever Learn?

Graeme MacRae, MU

2. Asian Cultural Festivals and the Impact of COVID-19

Alison Booth, UO

3. Orange Juice Horror: Continuing a Conversation on COVID-19 in Vietnam

Jane Terrell, MU

East Asia's Unhappy Generation & Everyday Rebellion (Panel)

Moderator: Stephen Epstein, VUW

1. The FIRE Movement in Japan: An Individual Revolution Against Capitalism?
Rumi Sakamoto, AU
2. Fighting Censorship in China: A Linguistic Analysis
Karen Huang, AU
3. South Korea's Angry Young Men: From Sewol Generation to Anti-Feminists
Hee-seung Irene Lee, AU

Institutions, Marginalisation & Otherness in Asia & New Zealand

Moderator: Jason Young

1. The Changing Face of Japanese Early Childhood Education: Looking Through the Lens of Mixed-race (Hafu) Children
Rachael Burke, Toi Ohomai
2. The Myth of Medical Multiculturalism: How Social Closure Marginalises Traditional Chinese Medicine in New Zealand
Brittany Palatchie (presenter)
Alice Beban & Barbara Andersen, MU
3. Otherness and the Politics of Judicial Sovereignty: The Status of Foreigners in the Chinese Criminal Justice System
Lili Song, UO

Break 11:45 - 12:00pm

Session 2 (concurrent panels) 12:00 - 1:00pm

Telling the China Story

Moderator: Lorraine Wong, UO

1. The China Story 2.0: Unofficial Digital Storytellers
Paola Voci, UO
2. Women Warriors for New China: Brian Brake's 1959 Photographs on a Xiqu (Chinese Opera) Film Set
Megan Evans, VUW
3. Victor Segalen: Two Early 20th Century Perspectives on the Collapse of Western Imaginings of Dynastic China
Ian Fookes, AU

Creating New Communities and Cultures

Moderator: *Robyn Andrews, MU*

1. Creative Methodologies for Care and Resilience within Asian Aotearoa Arts
Kerry Ann Lee, MU
2. Exploring Impacts: Asian Migrants in Aotearoa New Zealand Catholic Parishes
Robyn Andrews, MU

Democratic Recession in Southeast Asia (Panel)

NB: This panel continues until 1:30pm

Moderator: *James Ockey, UC*

1. Democratic Recession, Advancing Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia: Principles and Patterns
James Ockey, UC
2. Regimes, Repression, Repertoires: Student Protest Movements and the Repertoires of Contention in the Philippines and Indonesia
Juhn Chris P. Espia, UC
3. The Thai State's Cyber Indoctrination: The Case of 'ROTC Cyber' Activity
Pasit Wongngamdee, UC
4. Democratic Backsliding in Malaysia: The 'Backdoor' Government and Executive Aggrandisement
Naimah Talib, UC
5. Challenging the Surveillance State: The Anti-Terrorism Act and the Decline of Philippine Democracy
Dennis Quilala, UC

Lunch **1:00 - 2:30pm**

Session 3 (concurrent panels) **2:30 - 3:45pm**

Central Asia: Democracy, Identity & Security (Panel)

Moderator: *Rouben Azizian, MU*

1. New "Great Game" or Genuine Security Cooperation in Central Asia?
Rouben Azizian, MU
2. The Urkun (Forced Exodus): Something Kyrgyz People Will Never Forget
Elena Kolesova, University of Central Asia
Altyn Kapalova, University of Central Asia
3. Journalism, Politics of Dissent, and Truth Activism in the Global South
Soheil Ashrafi, University of Central Asia
4. Iran and Central Asia in the Aftermath of Taliban Takeover
Negar Partow, MU

Colonial Life, Legacies & Language

Moderator: Robyn Andrews, MU

1. An Analysis of the Growing Popularity of Badminton in Asia and Asian Communities: Case Study of Malaysia

Song Ze Ngo, MU

2. Interracial Intimacies: The Master-Servant Relationship in the Anglo-Indian Household

Sucharita Sen, VUW

3. Reimagining Gendered Multilingualism in 21st Century Indian Women's Writing

Nisha Ghatak, AU

Chinese Film & Literature

Moderator: Chia-rong Wu, UC

1. The Phenomenon of Mingong (Peasants and Workers, 民工) in Jia Zhangke's Films

Haiyan Zhang, UC

2. The Representations of "Losers" in Chinese Youth Film in the New Millennium: Construction of Consumerism and Subversion of Socialism

Shu Hui, AU

3. The Manifesto of Chinese Independent Animation in the Time of Enigma: An Introduction to Pisan's Individuality and Creative Practices

Aaron Zhou, Wintec

Break

3:45 - 4:00pm

Keynote address

4:00 - 5:00pm

China Studies in the Age of Xi

Jason Young

Director of the New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre and Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Victoria University of Wellington

Moderator: James Beattie, VUW

New Zealand Asian Studies Society BGM

5:30 – 6:30pm

Session 4

7:00 – 9:00pm

International Perspectives in the Belt & Road Initiative

Bo Qin, Renmin University of China
Murad Ali, University of Malakand
Muhammad Saleem Janjua, Ministry of Climate Change
Hyung Min Kim, The University of Melbourne
Toong Khuan Chan, The University of Melbourne
Sun Sheng Han, The University of Melbourne
Ymeng Lim, Battambang Provincial Hall
Eka Permanasari, Universitas Pembangunan Jaya
Morteza Mirgholami, Tabriz Islamic Art University
Jennifer Eve Day, The University of Melbourne
Adrian H. Hearn, The University of Melbourne
Zhenjiang Shen, Kanazawa University
Moderators: Sidh Sintusingha, Hao Wu & Imran Muhammad

programme

day three: november 26

Keynote address 9:00 – 10:00am

Problematising the Hyphen: How Can We See Asia from the Pacific?

Patrick Thomsen
Lecturer, Māori and Pacific Studies, University of Auckland
Moderator: Stephen Epstein, VUW

Break 10:00 – 10:15am

Session 5 (concurrent panels) 10:15 – 11:15am

Asia: Change, Disruptions & Resilience (Part 2)

Moderator: TBC

1. Extended Temporariness and Uncertain Permanence: An Analysis of Chinese Working Holiday Makers' "Triple Rootlessness"

Ye Luyi, AU

2. The Persistence of Exchange Labour in Rural Southeast Asia: Change, Disruption or Resilience?

Alice Beban, MU

3. Chinese Immigrants Showed Resilience through their Housing Journey in New Zealand

Zhang Wei, UO

Shifts in Post-Independence Indian Literature: Media, Diaspora & Partition (Panel)

Moderator: Sekhar Bandyopadhyay

1. Media as Interface in Indian Literature

Shanti Mathias, VUW

2. A Journey to a Place Where There is Everywhere Left to Go: History & Home in Diasporic Indian Literature

Cileme Venkateswar, VUW

3. Broken Bodies, Broken Lives: Sectarian Violence and Women's Bodies in Post-Partition Literature

Janaye Kirtikar, VUW

International Relations & Regional Security

Moderator: Rouben Azizian, MU

1. Oscillating Positive and Negative Depictions of New Zealand's Economic-Security Relations with China

Mengdi Zhang, VUW

2. A Lesson from China: China as an Example of Deforestation in New Zealand Conservation Discourse, 1908-1950

Anton Sveding, VUW

Break

11:15 - 11:30am

Session 6 (concurrent panels)

11:30 - 12:45pm

Re-examining Identities Through Popular Culture

Moderator: Elena Kolesova, University of Central Asia

1. Chinese K-pop Fan's Nationalist Sentiment and Identity on Social Media: An Emotional Discourse Analysis

Bin Zhou, AU

2. A Retreat from Life through Engagements with the Extraordinary Masculine Other(s)

Thi Gammon, VUW

3. Postcolonial Heterotopias Re-created: The Historical Review of Three Horror Video Games in Taiwan

Chia-rong Wu, UC

4. Reflections of Social Disruption in a Globalising Hindi Cinema

Kooshna Gupta, AU

Creative Projects & Transitional Bonding

Moderator: Penny Shino, MU

1. Japanese Internment, Garden-Making and Environmental Change during World War II

James Beattie, VUW

2. Cooperation at the Featherston Camp: The Collaborative Operation of Making Art

Richard Bullen, UC

3. The Resilience of Japanese Pottery: Insights from James Greig's Manuscript

Kumiko Jacolin, VUW

4. A. L. Sadler: Biography as Embodied Translation

Anna Gubinskaya, VUW

Classic Texts, Experimental Texts & Recontextualisations

Moderator: Josh Stenberg, University of Sydney

1. (Re)negotiating Gender Stereotypes, Reconfiguring Gender Narratives: A Case Study of (Re)translating the Classic Novel Jin Ping Mei

Joshua Xiao, VUW

2. The Emptiness of Śiva: A Study of Śūnya in the Vijñānabhairava in Relation to Mahāyāna Buddhist Conceptions

Dee Osto, MU

3. There is No "I" in a Lipogramatic Translation (or is There?)

Stephen Epstein, VUW

4. Bonding in and through Esperanto: Julio Baghy, Ba Jin, and Armand Su

Lorraine Wong, UO

Lunch

12:45 - 1:45pm

Session 7 (concurrent panels)

1:45 - 2:45pm

State of Asia Research in New Zealand (Discussion Panel)

Jordan King (Panel Chair)

Senior Adviser (Research), Asia New Zealand Foundation

Resilience & Social Partnership in Transport & Development Projects

Moderator: Imran Muhammad, MU

1. Social Partnership in Transport and Development Projects in China

Xinning Wang, MU

2. Analyzing Risks to Make Sri Lanka Transport System More Resilient

Shashini Ranabahu, MU

3. , Public Transport Infrastructure Turn in Pakistani Cities

Imran Muhammad, MU

Challenges for Women in Asia: Workplace, Family & Politics

Moderator: Alice Beban, MU

1. Balinese Family Caregiving Model: The Challenges and Opportunities
Made Diah Lestari, MU
2. The Sustainability of Breastfeeding on Working Mothers in Indonesia
Nurfitria Swastiningsih, MU
Ann Rogerson, MU
Mandy Morgan, MU
3. Structure of Opportunity for Women in Thai Politics: A Preliminary Study Based on the Thai General Election 2019
Pinsuda Wonganan, UC

Re-examing Mid-20th Century Chinese Theatre in Australia & New Zealand (Panel)

Moderator: Lorraine Wong, UO

1. Touring Artists from China on the Tivoli Circuit in Australia and New Zealand, 1937-1941
Jonathan Bollen, UNSW
2. Chinese Leftist Performance in Australia and New Zealand in Global Context
Josh Stenberg, University of Sydney
3. Contextualizing Chinese Australian Theater in the Oral History Archive
Sophie Loy-Wilson, University of Sydney

Break 2:45 - 3:00pm

Session 8 (concurrent panels) 3:00 - 4:00pm

Political Regimes & Local Settings

Moderator: Naimah Talib, UC

1. The Anatomy of the Political Economy of Slow Genocide
Fahreen Alamgir, Monash University
Habibur Rahman, Monash University
2. Why Local Networks Matter: Reshaping Thailand's Political Landscape
Suthikarn Meechan, UC
3. The Great Divergence: Why Extractive Capacity differs in Vietnam and China
Nguyen Khac Giang, VUW

Popular Movements, Protest Politics & Change

Moderator: Rumi Sakamoto, AU

1. Empire and Decadence: The Cultural Undercurrents of Post-1890 Meiji Japan
Alistair Swale, UC
2. Writing Postwar Okinawan History: Arasaki Moriteru and the Discourse of 'Three Waves'
Shin Takahashi, VUW
3. Periyar, Social Movements and Utopia- Indian Political Theory in the Face of the Future
Sanjay Sudarsan, Ashoka University

Asian Music in New Zealand

Moderator: Henry Johnson, UO

1. Sounding Canton: Chinese Music and Identity Construction in Aotearoa in the Early Twentieth Century
Henry Johnson, UO
2. Music in Motion: The Wellington Chinese Hammered Dulcimer
Xiaotong Yang, VUW
3. Komposisi Baru dari Selandia Baru: Indonesian Gamelan in New Zealand Music Composition
Anton Killin, VUW & ANU

Break **4:00 - 4:15pm**

Keynote address **4:15 - 5:15pm**

Partition and Its Afterlife in South Asia: The Hazratbal Riot of 1964

Sekhar Bandyopadhyay
Emeritus Professor of History, Victoria University of Wellington
Moderator: Robyn Andrews, MU

Conference Close **5:15pm**

Presentation of 2021 NZASIA Conference
Postgraduate Prizes & Southeast Asia Postgraduate Prize

keynote Natasha Hamilton-Hart



Natasha Hamilton-Hart is Director of the New Zealand Asia Institute and Professor in the Department of Management and International Business at the University of Auckland Business School. Her research is in the field of international political economy, with a focus on regional cooperation in East Asia, state institutions, the political economy of finance and capital mobility, regulation and property rights. She has published extensively on the international relations and domestic business-government systems of Southeast Asia, including the region's relationships with China and the United States. Her most recent research includes a series of case studies of New Zealand companies conducting business in the Asia-Pacific region. Natasha Hamilton-Hart gained her BA (Hons) from the University of Otago and her PhD from Cornell University. Prior to joining the University of Auckland she held positions at the Australian National University and the National University of Singapore. Natasha Hamilton-Hart is the author of *Asian States, Asian Bankers: Central Banking in Southeast Asia* and *Hard Interests, Soft Illusions: Southeast Asia and American Power* (both with Cornell University Press). Her most recent journal articles appear in *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, *Review of International Political Economy*, *Studies in Comparative and International Development*, and *Journal of the Southeast Asian Economies*.

In Search of Southeast Asia, in New Zealand

The study of Southeast Asia by researchers in New Zealand has been shaped by a changing landscape of international, national and disciplinary forces. Some of these forces create currents of change in the ways the region is approached that span national contexts. The increasing emphasis on theory and discipline over place is one such current; the potential emergence of another era of great power strategic rivalry is another. Other pressures have analogues elsewhere, but manifest in specific ways in New Zealand: in the organizational structures and rules for teaching and research, in national-level funding mechanisms, in the locus of language teaching within the university. Together these pressures have shaped not just 'how much' Southeast Asia research is conducted, but how it is conducted. While there remains much diversity, there is a current that would see the study of Southeast Asia – like area studies more generally – shift from 'the study of out there' to 'a platform for collaboration'. This offers possibilities for working productively with scholars in Southeast Asia, but effectively ends the area studies vision of understanding a specific part of the world.

keynote Jason Young



Jason Young is Director of the New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre and Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Victoria University of Wellington. He studied Chinese at Fu Jen University and Tunghai University in Taipei and Taichung and is a graduate of Otago University and Victoria University of Wellington. Jason's research focuses on China's domestic politics and foreign policy and New Zealand-China relations. He is author of *China's Hukou System* (Palgrave 2013), the second edition of *Politics in Pacific Asia* (with Xiaoming Huang) and a number of journal articles and chapters in English and Chinese including articles in *Pacific Review* and *Political Science*. Jason is currently researching Chinese international relations writing on economic decoupling.

China Studies in the Age of Xi

This talk discusses 'change, disruptors and resilience' in relation to the study of the People's Republic of China (hereafter the PRC) in New Zealand. It takes as a working assumption that the PRC, the world's most populous nation-state, the second-largest national economy, and a modern, highly diverse, and innovative and interesting society, is worthy of our attention as scholars. It points out that humanities and especially social science research on the PRC are facing serious disruptors exactly at the time quality independent China knowledge is needed most. Two main disruptors are explored in the talk. The first is that governance in the People's Republic has hardened around the PRC model. The second is that many western governments and publics have hardened their positions toward the PRC to the point where China scholarship and knowledge has become highly politicised. It concludes with a discussion of how to counter these trends and build resilience in New Zealand academia.

keynote Patrick Thomsen

Seuta'afili Dr Patrick Thomsen is a lecturer in global studies at the University of Auckland. He completed his doctoral training at the University of Washington in Seattle and holds a MA in international studies from Seoul National University. As the first Sāmoan scholar to complete a PhD in Korean studies and international studies anywhere in the world, his doctoral study was the first to deploy Pacific research methodologies and ethics to investigate the complex factors that impact the (in)visibility of Korean gay men in a transnational setting (Seattle and Seoul). As an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary scholar, his work is positioned at many edges including the Pacific and Asia, whilst running research projects that currently deal with how race, religion, culture, community and the impacts of colonialism, shape discourses and relationships between queer Pacific worlds and communities among New Zealand's Pacific population. He is currently the principal investigator for the Manalagi Project, New Zealand's first health and wellbeing project focused specifically on the wellbeing of Pacific Rainbow+ communities. He was recently appointed to the academic advisory board to the North Asia Centre for Asia-Pacific Excellence.



Problematising the Hyphen: How Can We See Asia from the Pacific?

Asia – a heterogenous region rich in cultural and linguistic diversity – is often discursively homogenised and casually tied to the Pacific, another discursively homogenised region rich in linguistic, cultural and racial diversity of its own. This super region (Asia-Pacific), constructed by outsiders, is joined together by a hyphen which celebrates possibilities, but is rarely problematised for its incongruency with local realities and tendency for erasure. As a Sāmoan scholar raised in Aotearoa, I ask, does Asia really know the Pacific? And how does the Pacific know Asia after centuries of division and imperialism? As the balance of power begins to tilt toward China, I believe that opportunities to recalibrate possibilities have emerged for the Pacific and Asia to know each other once again in confronting our shared and differentiated legacies of imperialism. In this talanoa, I propose a discussion on how Asian studies research based in Aotearoa-New Zealand should also allow scholars to engage Asia with the Pacific and Pacific scholars; validating Indigenous ways of knowing. To do so creates space for conversations beyond hawkish geopolitics in problematising and reimagining how the regions can be generatively hyphenated. I suggest that this recalibration in relations of knowing is critical for imagining a future across Asia and the Pacific disentangled from the inevitability of conflict. For Pacific scholars, I also posit that meaningfully re-connecting our region with Asia beyond a colonial and imperial hyphen is a task of critical decoloniality.

keynote Sekhar Bandyopadhyay



Sekhar Bandyopadhyay is Emeritus Professor of History at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand, where he has been the founding Director of the New Zealand India Research Institute. He has also taught at the University of Calcutta and Kalyani University in India. Educated at Presidency College and University of Calcutta, his primary research interest is in the history of nationalism and caste in colonial and postcolonial India. He is also interested in the history of Indian migration and the Indian diaspora. He has written six books, edited or co-edited twelve books, and published more than fifty book chapters and journal articles. Some of his recent books are *From Plassey to Partition and After: A History of Modern India* (Second expanded edition, Orient BlackSwan, 2015); *Caste, Protest and Identity in Colonial India: The Namasudras of Bengal, 1872-1947* (Second expanded edition, OUP, 2011); *Decolonization in South Asia: Meanings of Freedom in Post-independence West Bengal* (Routledge, 2009); *Caste, Culture and Hegemony: Social Dominance in Colonial Bengal* (Sage, 2004). He has recently co-edited *Indians and the Antipodes: Networks, Boundaries and Circulation* (OUP, 2018); *Calcutta: The Stormy Decades* (Routledge, 2018); *Religion and Modernity in India* (OUP, 2016). In 2014 for his book *Decolonization in South Asia* he was awarded the Rabindra Puroskar [Rabindranath Tagore Prize] by Government of West Bengal in India. Professor Bandyopadhyay is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Partition and its Afterlife in South Asia: The Hazratbal Riot of 1964

The Partition of British India into two dominions – eventually two nation-states – of India and Pakistan on 14/15 August 1947 is a well discussed theme in South Asian historiography. Yet this ‘event’ had such a long preceding history of communal distrust and profound aftermath for the two successor nation-states that historians, literary scholars, filmmakers, and other social scientists are still trying to grapple with this continually unfolding historical process. It is commonly assumed that the decision to partition based on religious demography was to resolve once and for all the subcontinent’s minority problem. But this bureaucratic cartographic exercise that arbitrarily divided the territory into two states, did not solve the minority problem in South Asia. It created new minorities –about 42 million (later reduced to 35 million) Muslims in India and 20 million non-Muslims, primarily Hindus, in Pakistan. The destinies of the two minorities caught on the wrong sides of the border remained intertwined for many years. They were treated as ‘proxy citizens’ of an alien state and were treated as ‘hostages’ for the security of the minority on the other side of the border. Evidence of this could be seen in bouts of retributive communal violence and waves of mass migration that occurred at regular interval since Partition. This paper looks at this historical process through a close examination of the Hazratbal riot and the following mass migration into eastern India in 1964.