



The Asiatic Mode
The Official Newsletter of the ASA Section on Asia and Asian America
(ASA-AAA Newsletter)

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November 1, 1986

*WILLAIM LIU REPORTS ON
SECTION PROGRAM
AT THE ASA NEW YORK MEETING*

William T. Liu (University of Illinois at Chicago), Chair of the ASA-AAA Section, files the following report on the program activities at the 1986 annual meetings of the Section in New York City:

In the second year, the Section began to achieve greater group identity and rigor. Following a slight increase in membership during the first year, we anticipate a healthy growth of membership this year as a result of the increased Section activities and overlapping interests with other sections. The Section's dual identities: Asian America and Asia, has provided opportunities for sociologists on both sides of the Pacific to participate in the Association's annual activities. Many of this year's participants from Asia, like last year, were trained in the United States but have returned to their home countries in Asia and are in important governmental and academic positions. The Section also plays host to many Asian sociologists at the Annual Meetings. Other activities for the 1986 year include:

*Election of **Morrison Wong** (Texas Christian) and **Eui-hang Shin** (South Carolina) to the Section Council.

*Sixteen papers were selected for the Annual Meetings program to be divided into two sessions, for which the ASA provided both time slots and rooms. Eleven papers were given at three simultaneous roundtable sessions (in one room) chaired by **Susan Takata** (Wisconsin, Parkside), **Yung-mei Tsai** (Texas Tech University), and **Proshanta Nandi** (Sangamon State University). Five papers were given at a regular session chaired by **Ashakant Nimbark** (Dowling College, N.Y.). Of the total 16 papers, 10 dealt with Asian American research, 5 papers dealt with Asian societies, and 1 paper con-

trasted Asian immigrants in Asia with those in the United States.

*The ASA Theory Section, which reflects an overlapping interest with the Asia and Asian American Section at the 81st Annual Meeting in New York City, arranged two sessions on the Trans-Pacific Theory organized by the Section Chair, **Edward A. Tiryakian**. Participants included sociologists from the United States, Japan, Korea, Germany, Israel, and the People's Republic of China.

Following the Section Council meeting, a business meeting was held, which was attended by 52 members. Actions were taken on the following issues:

1. The Section Council will convene during the next ASA meetings in 1987 at an agreed time and place in Chicago. The officially announced time and place for the regular Section Council meeting of Asia and Asian America will be reserved for a special paper session devoted to on-going and completed dissertation research on Asia and Asian America by graduate students. Graduate students whose research topics coincide with the Section's interests are encouraged to submit a short abstract of no more than 200 words to the Program Chair before December 31, 1986. The address is: Dr. William T. Liu, Chairman, 1987 A and AA Section Program Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL 60680.
2. A proposed one-dollar fee increase for the Section's annual reception for members and friends was defeated at the business meeting. The suggestion to present an annual award to a sociologist for his/her contribution to the student of Asian and Asian American societies was considered to be premature at this time.

3. The possibility of having a Section publication which goes beyond a newsletter was discussed. No action was taken.
4. The Section will seek opportunities to set up a table during registration at the Annual Meetings to answer inquiries about the Section and to recruit new members.
5. The A and AA Section will seek special theme sessions at Regional Sociological Society meetings in the future was discussed and adopted.
6. Abstracts for papers to be given at the 1987 Annual Meetings should be sent to **William T. Liu**, Sociology Department, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL 60680, Chair of the 1987 Section Program Committee. The deadline is December 31, 1986.
7. Nomination for two Council members and the Chair-elect should be sent to **Susan Takata**, Election Committee Chair, at the Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Kenosha, WI 53141 before December 31, 1986.
8. All members and potential members of the Section are invited to the annual reception, which will be held in the evening of the designated Section day as a routine practice in the future. The expenses of the reception will be donated and there will be no charges to the membership.

NEW TITLES

The following is a listing of new publications by ASA-AAA members or volumes concerning Asia and Asian America. Introductory materials provided by publishers or authors are furnished below for your information; they do not represent reviews by this Newsletter.

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, 1986. Issei, Nisei, War Bride, Temple University Press, Philadelphia, PA 19122 (ISBN 0-87722-412-9, \$29.95)

In this unique study of Japanese American women employed as domestic workers, Evelyn Nakano Glenn reveals through historical research and indepth interviews how the careers of these strong but oppressed women affected the history of Asian immigration in the San Francisco-Bay Area. Three generations of women speak in their own words about coping with degraded

employment and how this work related to family and community life.

The disproportionate concentration of Japanese American women in domestic service from the early part of this century to the present resulted from their status as immigrants and women of color in a race and gender stratified local labor market. The three generations covered by this study--pre-1924 immigrants (issei), first American born generation (nisei), and post-World War II immigrants (war brides)--were subjected to multiple forms of oppression but were not appendages of men nor passive victims. Dr. Glenn shows how their livelihood were essential to the survival of the family and the community.

NOTE: Temple University Press has a special pricing policy for hardback editions adopted for courses. Students can purchase Issei, Nisei, War Bride for \$12.95, providing your bookstore places a minimum order of five (5) copies.

Alvin Y. So, 1986. The South China Silk District: Local Historical Transformation and World System Theory, State University of New York Press, P.O. Box 6525, Ithaca, NY 14850 (ISBN 0-88706-322-5, \$14.95, paperback; ISBN 0-88706-321, \$39.50, hardcover)

The material in this book is framed and organized through the themes of world system's theory--such as incorporation, commercialization of agriculture, industrialization, proletarianization, and the cyclical rhythm of the capitalist world-system.

"This is an important book on a subject of significance both to sociologists and sinologists. It is based on a rare combination of serious theoretical and empirical (including primary) research. It is the first serious attempt to explore the strengths and limits of world system theory in a Chinese context, the first that is to do so through a serious empirical study."--Mark Selden

The whole range of sericulture is examined from the production process, the social and technical problems, and the motives of cultivators, to how this form of agriculture changed over time. This text, replete with concrete and historical detail, offers carefully researched data of interest to sociologists and sinologists, as well as those in anthropology, economics, political science, and history.

Stanford M. Lyman, 1986, Chinatown and Little Tokyo: Power, Conflict, and Community Among Chinese and Japanese Immigrants to America. Associated Faculty Press, Inc., Route 100, Millwood, New York 10546.

This analysis of Chinese and Japanese immigration and community development has sparked new scholarship in Asian-American social organization. Based on ethnological field work in San Francisco's Chinatown and on historical documents, the book emphasizes the differences between harmony and solidarity and demonstrates how conflict has reinforced the traditional web of group affiliation within these communities.

Topics covered include: an application of a conceptual frame of reference to the facts of Asian emigration; a comparative analysis of the effects of imbalances in sex ratio on family formation; and a detailed investigation of the clans, *landsmannschaften* and secret societies of Chinatown and the families and *kenjinkai* of the Japanese-Americans.

Michael Omi and Howard Winant. Racial Formation in the United States, to be out real soon. Published by Routledge & Kegan Paul.

PASSING THROUGH HONG KONG THIS COMING YEAR??

The American Studies Association of Hong Kong is interested in making contact with members of the Section on Asia and Asian Americans who may be passing through Hong Kong in the coming year. The association is interested in arranging speakers for its monthly speaker forum on American society, culture, and ethnicity. Please contact: Gerry Postiglione, Faculty of Education, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. (Telephone: 5-8592518; 5-8592543/4)

AMERASIA JOURNAL NEEDS YOU

Amerasia Journal, a journal published by UCLA's Asian American Studies Center since 1971, carries pieces written by historians, social scientists, educators, journalists, professionals, poets and writers. Appearing twice a year, each issue is a 150-page bookbound publication covering Asian American history, social issues, immigration, politics, economy, literature and culture, community studies, and Asian and Pacific Americans

and Asia. Subscription rates are \$7.00 for a year and \$12.00 for two years.

For subscription, write to: Amerasia Journal, Asian American Studies Publications, University of California, 3232 Campbell Hall, Los Angeles, California 90024.

REMINDER FOR 1987 MEETING

The 1987 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association will be held in Chicago, August 17-21, at the Palmer House. Bill Liu has promised a fantastic reception for Section members. Please be reminded:

Abstracts of proposed presentations at the AAA Section sessions should be sent to William Liu (Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL 60680), no later than December 31, 1986.

Abstracts (no more than 200 words) of dissertation research to be presented at the AAA Section session should also be sent to William Liu by December 31, 1986.

Since the theme of the 1987 ASA meeting is Cross-national Studies, the AAA Section hopes its members will enthusiastically respond to the call for papers to all sessions of the ASA Meeting as well. For details of submission, see the August, 1986 issue of the Footnotes.

SEND IN YOUR NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Section Chair-Elect and two Council members should be sent to Susan Takata (Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Kenosha, WI 53141) by December 31, 1986. Last year's election had strong participation of members and we urge even stronger participations this year.

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If you are not a member of the Section on Asia and Asian America in the American Sociological Association, please sign up through The American Sociological Association (1722 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036). If you are a member, renew your membership when the ASA sends you the renewal membership form. Encourage your colleagues and friends to join us.

OFFICERS OF THE ASA SECTION ON ASIA & ASIAN AMERICA
1986-1987

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The Asiatic Mode is the Newsletter of the American Sociological Association Section on Asia and Asian America. It welcomes submissions to its Editor of items on teaching, research, publications, and other activities and opinions of interests to its members.