

Roderich Ptak / Peter Haberzettl

Macau im Wandel. Fünf Studien zur Geschichte und Wirtschaft des Territoriums in der jüngeren Vergangenheit

Sinologica Coloniensia, Ostasiatische Beiträge der Universität zu Köln, edited by Martin Gimm, volume 14, p. 199, paper, DM 58,-

Macau has been under Portuguese rule for almost five centuries, considerably longer than neighbouring Hong Kong but its past splendour and importance as an entrepot for trade between the West, China, Japan and South East Asia has been firmly eclipsed by Hong Kong for at least the last onehundred years. Characteristically, the Luso-Chinese arrangements for return of the territory to Peking's control in 1999 attracted far less attention than the Sino-British "Joint Declaration" of 1984 by which the United Kingdom washed its hands of the last major British possession in East Asia.

This small collection of five articles on the history of Portuguese Macau, land reclamation, relations with the adjoining Zhuhai Special Economic Zone established in 1980, tourism and Macau's foreign trade provide a synoptic introduction in particular to the economic situation of modern Macau. An extensive bibliography lists numerous articles including many in the Portuguese and Chinese languages.

Contemporary Macau emerges from these studies as a decidedly subordinate complement, even an economic appendage, to Hong Kong especially in its dependence on short-term tourist visitors from Hong Kong and the lucrative gambling engaged in by many of these travellers. Industry has remained centred on textiles, perennial efforts at diversification have met only with limited success; the financial sector has not developed into anything remotely resembling Hong Kong's. Too small and too weak to radiate strongly, like Hong Kong, beyond its own confines into mainland China, Macau seems destined to blend quickly with the Chinese landscape after Peking's takeover in 1999.

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Volksrepublik China - Staat, Demokratie, Leitung: Dokumente

Berlin: Staatsverlag der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik, 1989, 368 S., Leinen

Dieser Sammelband, mit Redaktionsschluß vom 15. April 1988, enthält eine Auswahl von über sechzig grundlegenden Dokumenten der Pekinger Partei- und Staatsführung zu Verfassung und Verwaltung, Rechtsstellung des Bürgers, Leitung der Volkswirtschaft und zur Rechtspflege nebst einem kurzen Glossar und einem Register.