

Social Changes through Cross-border Marriage Migration in East and Southeast Asia

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Abstract

On 8th and 9th of December 2012, the international symposium “Social Changes through Cross-border Marriage Migration in East and Southeast Asia” was held in Kyoto University. In this symposium, young researchers from various countries elaborated and discussed from different study perspectives on cross-boundary movement of women through marriage, so-called marriage migration, in East and Southeast Asia from the 1980’s and 1990’s.

Marriage migration issues, being reflections of social changes in each country involved, affect not only the migrants themselves, but also their families and even the entire countries that either sends or receives them. Researchers who joined this symposium analyzed each side of these issues.

Mukhina proposed that the often-used term “cross-border marriage” should be separated into “cross national marriage” and “transnational marriage”, as there are relevant distinctions between these. Jiang’s study reflects this point, revealing differences that Chinese marriage migrants face when marrying Koreans, depending if the woman is Han Chinese or ethnic Korean.

Lee discussed citizenship issues of women marriage migrants in South Korea, by highlighting how marriage migrants are represented in the public policies and what are the implications on in the discursive construction of the notion of citizenship in Korea. Tseng (Yu-chin) presented a similar issue: how Mainland Chinese marriage migrants in Taiwan mobilized to ask for rights.

Discussing national regulations affecting marriage migration, Tseng focused on regulation of marriage brokers by the Taiwanese government. And Trang compared marriage procedures for Vietnamese marriage migrants going to Taiwan to those going to South Korea.

Also, Wu’s fieldwork data on acculturation and identification issues of undocumented North Korean women in China provided insights into one marriage migration route not often researched. Finally, the writer presented a recent development that China not just send but also receive marriage migrants.

From all these studies, it was clear that there are a variety of issues involving marriage migration, and those aspects often interact with each other. That's why it's important for researchers from sending countries and receiving countries to interact and exchange their study perspectives.

2012 年度次世代研究「Social Changes through Cross-border Marriage Migration in East and Southeast Asia」(研究代表：郝洪芳 (Hao Hongfang)) による成果である。

【メンバー】() 内は 2012 年度プロジェクト時点

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