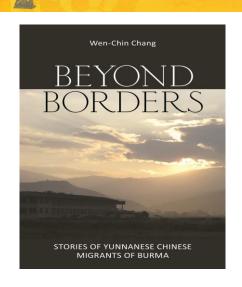
第四屆人文及社會科學學術性專書獎





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得獎專書: Beyond Borders: Stories of Yunnanese Chinese Migrants of

Burma, Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2014.

《越界:緬甸雲南移民的故事》

得獎簡評:

這本書是以民族誌的方法,以第一手口述經驗的資料呈現方式,描繪一群 1949 年以後與國軍有聯繫在緬甸的雲南移民之生活經驗。與以往的研究不同,該書超越了「海外華人研究」和「東南亞研究」的範疇,通過精心的佈局和細緻的個人口述,描繪出了一種基於社會網絡、以親屬群、地方幫所組織起來的跨地域社群形態。通過微觀的敘事,作者從個人移民經驗、家庭關係、馬幫網絡和市場運作、過過一個宏觀的視野,來討論大國政治及區域內族群體關係的變化。該書細緻的於時號研究,不僅能夠感動讀者,而且也匠心獨具地構築了一幅宏觀的社會文化圖像,讓我們看到人類的能動性在複雜而困頓的政治地理環境中,逐漸成長和調適的歷史過程。這本書應是東南亞研究領域近十年少有的佳作,也預期將在東南亞研究領域,建立一定的影響力。

得獎感言:

1993年暑假我獨自到泰北邊境旅行,偶然邂逅了雲南移民村落,這個因緣自此發展為我日後的研究生涯。二十多年來我行腳於泰國、緬甸、雲南、台灣、香港、廣州多地雲南社群,聆聽這些移民充滿曲折的生命故事,這些故事不僅呈現個別的主體能動性,同時也照映出他們所共同經歷的複雜時代背景。專書的出版根基於許許多多雲南移民朋友對我的信任、家人背後的支持與包容,以及中央研究院的研究支助,我深深感謝所有成就這本書的因緣。

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Beyond Borders:

Stories of Yunnanese Chinese Migrants of Burma by Wen-Chin Chang

About the author:

Over the years, my general academic interests have included migration, borderland studies, ethnic politics and the economic history of ethnic Chinese in Southeast Asia. My own research on the mobility and livelihoods of the migrant Yunnanese of Burma is related to these issues, grounded in an inter-disciplinary approach that draws on anthropology, history and area studies. Thanks to the financial support of Academia Sinica, I have been able to conduct my major fieldwork in Burma and Thailand annually over the last 11 years. In addition, moving among Yunnanese diasporic networks, I have also researched Yunnanese migrants who emigrated from these two countries to Taiwan, Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Yunnan for education, work, and business investment. Accumulated experience from field trips over an extensive geographic area since the days of my doctoral studies in 1994, and also research in Yunnanese history, has deepened my knowledge of contemporary Yunnanese migration history and their transnational economic undertakings. This is so in relation to the *longue durée* of Yunnanese peripatetic tradition, and the repeated political movements and instability in China and Burma, respectively, since the Cold War.

Fieldwork along the border areas of northern Thailand comprised the original foundation of my scholarship, and my doctoral dissertation and earlier publications were largely concerned with the migrant Yunnanese communities based in Thailand, centering on their process of resettlement, ethnic politics, leadership identification, and cross-border trade. However, following my field extension to Burma and other places, my later works (especially those of the last five years) have expanded to cover a more dynamic scope of diasporic Yunnanese subjectivity and livelihoods. This broader horizon has resulted in the publication of my monograph *Beyond Borders: Stories of Yunnanese Chinese*

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Migrants of Burma (2014) and a journal paper "The Everyday Politics of the Underground Trade in Burma by the Yunnanese Chinese since the Burmese Socialist Era" (2013). Apart from concentrating on my own case studies, I have co-edited two volumes — Chinese Circulations: Capital, Commodities, and Networks in Southeast Asia (2011) and Burmese Lives: Ordinary Life Stories under the Burmese Regime (2014). The collaboration, involving more than 30 scholars in total at three separate workshops at Academia Sinica and Harvard University, has enriched and inspired my intellectual outlook. It has also enhanced academic exchanges between my center and other institutes.

About the book:

Throughout history Yunnanese migrants in upland Southeast Asia have been very mobile. A network of trading routes functionally linked Yunnan in southwestern China with its neighboring countries. Burma in particular has played a distinctive role vis-à-vis Yunnan due to topographic connections. It has served as a "back door" to Yunnan, providing a sanctuary for political refugees and economic opportunities for traders from the province.

This book, based on extensive field research, constitutes the first ethnography on contemporary Yunnanese migrants of Burma (now Myanmar). Through a personal narrative approach, this ethnography explores the migration history and trans-national trading experiences among this little-studied population, and argues that travel is an essential step leading to opportunities and success for these migrants. In the process these people – both Yunnanese Han and Muslims – exert themselves to traverse multiple types of borders, including social status, class, gender, corporal and geographical ones.

The book particularly focuses on the Yunnanese migrants who are residing in Burma, and another group that has moved from Burma and resettled in other countries. In the face of tumultuous political contexts since the 1950s, they have lived through various modes of diaspora – military, trade, labor and victim – and have extended their migration routes from upper mainland Southeast Asia to overseas domains. Their migration history and transnational economic ventures

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reflect their dynamism as a group on the one hand and the complexities of geo-politics in upland Southeast Asia on the other.

The plethora of publications on Chinese diasporas have essentially centered on "overseas" Chinese, i.e., those who emigrate from the coastal provinces of southeastern China to other countries by sea. The Yunnanese migrants who arrived in Burma by land have, in contrast, remained a relatively unknown group in academia. By adopting a narrative approach and using first-person narration as much as possible, I have tried to preserve the "thickness" of the stories. Specifically, informants' personal accounts (in different narrative genres – letters, essays, poems, records of family genealogy, and autobiographies) compose the main body of the ethnography, which is framed by my structuring and analysis. Unlike a large number of anthropological works whose subjects are faceless and voiceless, I have delineated individual narrators by illustrating not only their lived experiences, but also what they expressed of their thinking, feeling, intimacies, courage, ambition and despair. While revealing their personal pasts, their narrations also constitute something of a shared historical background across vast upland geographies of Southeast Asia.