

Academic Exchange between Taiwan and China: A Case Study of National Taiwan University

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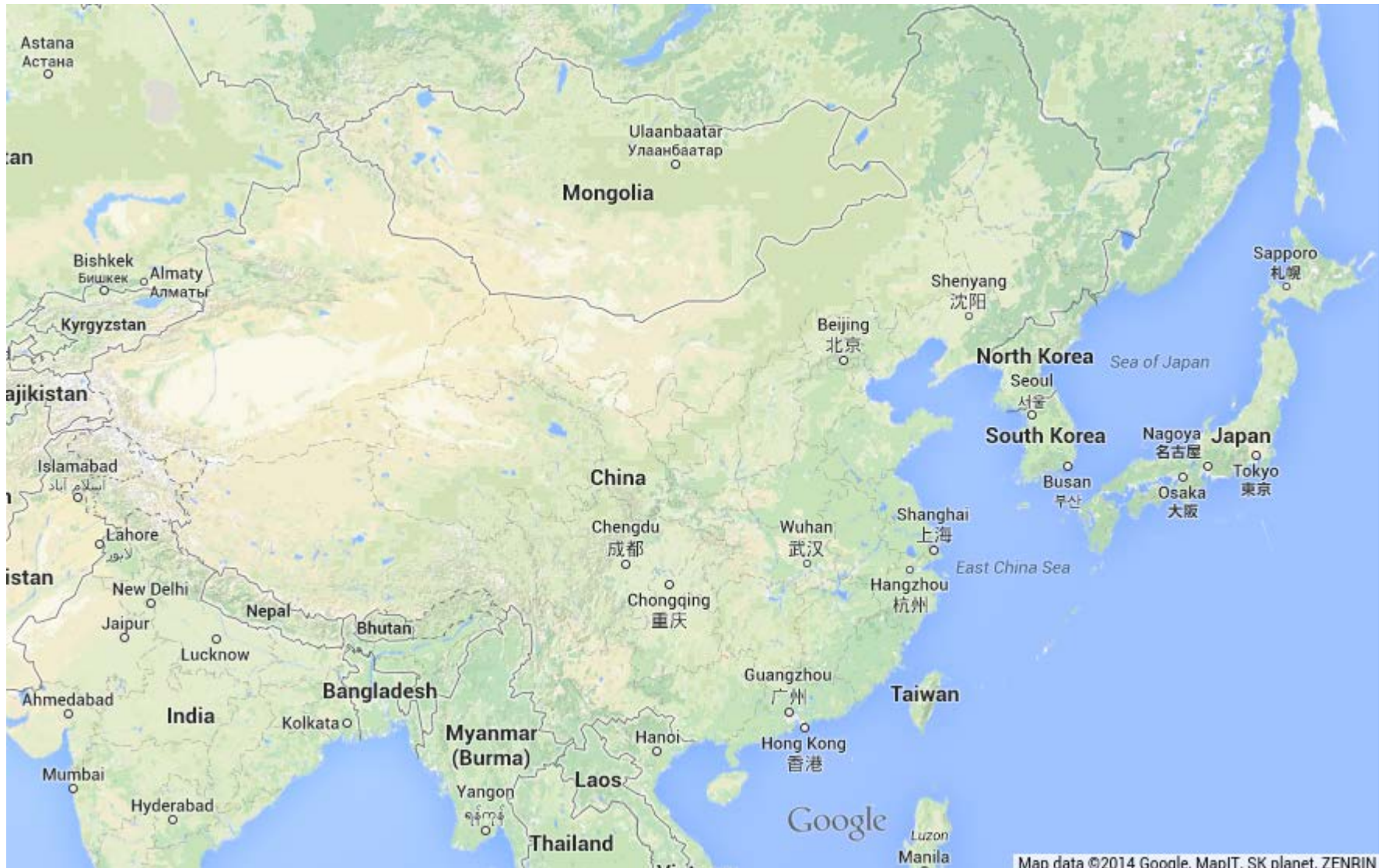
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Taiwan: Country Profile

- Population: **23.3 million (2013)**
- GDP, per capita: **\$20,930 (#40) (2013)**
- Literacy rate: **98.04% (2010)**
- Urbanization: **70% (2010)**
- Demographics:
 - **98% Han Chinese**
 - 84% "Benshengren" (本省人)
 - 15% "Waishengren" (外省人)
 - **2% Indigenous**







Zheng Chenggong (鄭成功) landing in Taiwan in 1662



Taipei South Gate in 1896 (22nd year of the Guangxu reign)



View of Datan Mountain from inside Taipei City (1930).



Taipei, 1960s

Source: taipics.com



Taipei, early 1980s

Source: taipics.com



Taipei, 2010s



Taipei MRT, 2010s

Abstract

- This paper aims to investigate the internationalization practices at National Taiwan University (NTU) as a leading example of higher education institutions in Taiwan.

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- In particular, it focuses on the scholarly relations between Taiwanese scholars and their counterparts in mainland China as well as other related countries.
- The authors attempt to initiate a dialogue about what it means for NTU scholars to be in a Taiwanese professoriate and to interact with Chinese scholars in mainland

- It further explores NTU scholars' perceived patterns of and approaches to cooperation.
- It also examines the issues and challenges of social interaction with mainland and Chinese scholars, who come from a similar but different academic culture and discourse.

- 14 interviewees at NTU were collected
- Hoped to add to the knowledge base for better understanding of the practices of Taiwanese higher education faculty in international partnerships with mainland and other overseas Chinese scholars.

Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Higher Education in Taiwan**
- **Internationalization of Taiwanese higher education**
- **Introduction of National Taiwan University**
- **Research Methodology**
- **Participants**

Research Findings

- different career development between Taiwanese, Chinese and overseas Chinese academics
- Change of academic exchange experiences between Taiwanese, Chinese and overseas Chinese academics during the last decade?
- Contact records of cross-strait exchanges:
- Contact records with overseas Chinese scholars, students.

- Ways of cooperation:
- Advantages/disadvantages when communicating with Chinese scholars/overseas Chinese scholars
- Ways of communication/circulation of one's own research publication, valid channels or blockade of the communication/exchange why?

- Ways of getting access to Chinese /overseas colleagues' research publication/information?
Any differences in recent years?
- Any barriers existing in the cross-strait communication/networking/research framework, ideology, perspectives, and between yourself and overseas scholars?
- Overall impression/experiences with the cross-strait/overseas academic exchanges over the years?

Discussion

- I. The dominance of US qualifications in academia:
- II. The role of governments and economic growth
- III. Reform projects linked with funding and promotion scales
- IV. One-way cooperation
- V. The rise and fall of cross-strait cooperation

- Findings indicate that an increasingly reverse discrepancy and brain drain among Taiwanese and Chinese academic qualifications and talents has aroused some concerns among the NTU participants.
- As China's economy progresses, higher education quality improves and so do academics and universities.
- A sense of anxiety and worry about the declining academic funding and quality in Taiwan deserves further attention.

Peace-building via student exchange

very positive effect on Chinese
exchange students

- More than thirty- thousand Taiwanese students have studied in Chinese higher education since 1980s.
- More than twenty- thousand Chinese students have studied in Taiwan's higher education since mid-1990s.

Impact and Challenges

Visible and Invisible

- The overshadow of China
- Exclusion from UN, UNESCO, and many more...
in terms of educational collaboration,
exchanges and provision of educational
statistics and data
- A Fair game for all members in the global
community

Questions and Comments

[email: iaezcpc2007@gmail.com](mailto:iaezcpc2007@gmail.com)

- Website:
http://www3.nccu.edu.tw/~iaezcpc/renew_index.html
- ***Chinese Education Models in a Global Age (forthcoming)***
- ***Taiwan Education at the Crossroad (2012).***
- ***The SSCI Syndrome in Higher Education (2014)***

Thank you!

