Gives a comprehensive overview of national elections and referendums in the Middle East, Central Asia and the Caucasus, and South Asia. For all relevant states, the legal provisions on suffrage as well as parliamentary and presidential electoral systems are analysed in both a historical and a comparative manner. Investigates the effects of elections and electoral systems on the development of the political regimes. The concluding section summarizes the context-specific availability and reliability of official electoral statistics. The appendix presents the basic features of the parliamentary electoral systems currently applied in the 22 states of the three regions.

Gives a comprehensive overview of national elections and referendums in South East Asia, East Asia, and the South Pacific. For all relevant states, the legal provisions on suffrage as well as parliamentary and presidential electoral systems are analysed in both a historical and a comparative manner. Investigates the effects of elections and electoral systems on the development of the political regimes. The concluding section summarizes the context-specific availability and reliability of official electoral statistics. The appendix presents the basic features of the parliamentary electoral systems currently applied in the 30 states of the three regions.
The Third World Beyond the Cold War
Louise Fawcett and Yezid Sayigh (eds)

The book analyses the changes that have occurred in developing countries since the end of the Cold War. The first section highlights major areas of change in economics, politics, and security and institutions, while the second section develops these themes and reveals the diversity of experience through regional case studies (Latin America, Asia Pacific, Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East).

The Battle Against Hunger
Devi Sridhar

We live in an increasingly prosperous world, yet the estimated number of undernourished people has risen, and will continue to rise with the doubling of food prices. A large majority of those affected are living in India. Why have strategies to combat hunger, especially in India, failed so badly? How did a nation that prides itself on booming economic growth come to have half of its preschool population undernourished? Using the case study of a World Bank nutrition project in India, this book takes on these questions and probes the issues surrounding development assistance, strategies to eliminate undernutrition, and how hunger should be fundamentally understood and addressed. Throughout the book, the underlying tension between choice and circumstance is explored. How much are individuals able to determine their life choices? How much should policy-makers take underlying social forces into account when designing policy? This book examines the possibilities and obstacles to eliminating child hunger. This book is not just about nutrition, it is an attempt to uncover the workings of power through a close look at the structures, discourses, and agencies through which nutrition policy operates. In this process, the source of nutrition policy in the World Bank is traced to those affected by the policies in India.
Teaching Confucianism

Jeffrey L. Richey (ed.)

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Publisher: Oxford University Press
DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780195311600.001.0001
Item type: book

Teaching Confucianism presents pedagogically oriented essays that are informed by the latest scholarship, as well as practical experience in the religious studies and theology classroom, attentive to various settings within which religious material is taught, and sensitive to both expert (e.g., those in Confucian studies) and lay (e.g., those with no background in Asian studies who nonetheless are charged with teaching Asian traditions) audiences. The volume includes reflections by scholars in all arenas of Confucian studies: specialists in early Chinese thought (dealing with the “historical Confucius” and early texts such as The Analects), historians of medieval and late imperial China (addressing the ways in which the Confucian tradition helped shape Chinese popular culture and social history), and scholars of contemporary Confucian thought and practice (discussing how Confucian orientations underlie and inform civic and familial traditions in East Asia and throughout the East Asian diaspora).

Thinking About Nuclear Weapons

Michael Quinlan

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Publisher: Oxford University Press
DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199563944.001.0001
Item type: book

This book reflects the author’s experience across more than forty years in assessing and helping to shape policy about nuclear weapons, mostly at senior levels close to the centre both of British governmental decision-making and of NATO’s development of plans and deployments, with much interaction also with comparable levels of United States activity in the Pentagon and the State Department. From this exceptional background of practical experience Part I of this book seeks to distill basic conceptual ways of understanding the nuclear revolution—the transformation brought about by the existence of nuclear weapons, and their significance in preventing major war. It also surveys NATO’s progressive development of thinking about nuclear deterrence, and then discusses the deep moral dilemmas posed—for all possible standpoints—by the existence of such weapons. Part II considers the risks and costs of nuclear-weapon possession, including proliferation dangers, and looks at both successful and unsuccessful ideas for risk-management. Part III
illustrates specific issues by reviewing the history and current policies of one long-established possessor, the United Kingdom, and two more recent ones in South Asia. Part IV turns to the future, examines the goal of the eventual abolition of all nuclear armouries, and then discusses the practical agenda, short of such a goal, which governments can usefully tackle in reducing the risks of proliferation and other dangers while not surrendering prematurely the war-prevention benefits which nuclear weapons have brought since 1945.

A Natural History of Infixation
Alan C. L. Yu
Published in print: 2007 Published Online: September 2007
DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199279388.001.0001
Item type: book

This book presents a cross-linguistic study of the phenomenon of infixation, typically associated in English with words like nullim-bloody-possiblenull, and found in all the world's major linguistic families. Infixation is a central puzzle in prosodic morphology: the book explores its prosodic, phonological, and morphological characteristics; considers its diverse functions, and formulates a general theory to explain the rules and constraints by which it is governed. The book examines 154 infixation patterns from over a hundred languages, including examples from Asia, Europe, Africa, New Guinea, and South America. It compares the formal properties of different kinds of infix, explores the range of diachronic pathways that lead to them, and considers the processes by which they are acquired in first language learning. A central argument of the book concerns the idea that the typological tendencies of language may be traced back to its origins and to the mechanisms of language transmission. The book thus combines the history of infixation with an exploration of the role diachronic and functional factors play in synchronic argumentation: it is an exemplary instance of the holistic approach to linguistic explanation.

The Transition to Late Antiquity, on the Danube and Beyond
Andrew Poulter (ed.)
Published in print: 2007 Published Online: January 2012
DOI: 10.5871/bacad/9780197264027.001.0001
Item type: book

This book provides a significant insight into the changes that occurred in the late Roman period and which shaped the emergence of early medieval Europe. The book provides detail regarding the changes in
the character of urbanism, military organization and the rural landscape which separate the Roman Empire from Late Antiquity (first to early seventh centuries AD). Some chapters focus on the lower Danube, others provide comparative studies which range from northern Italy and Pannonia to Greece, western Asia Minor and as far east as the Euphrates. These chapters compare the results of different international research teams but also contrast approaches and methodology in order to assess the extent to which these differences might account for apparently contradictory conclusions. The volume also demonstrates the uses and pitfalls encountered in attempts to combine evidence provided by ancient historians and archaeologists — a theme which has wider implications beyond this text.

Imperial Cults and the Apocalypse of John
Steven J. Friesen

Examines the relationship between imperial cults and the Book of Revelation, focusing especially on the Roman province of Asia during the early Empire. The main argument is that Revelation and imperial cult institutions were in direct contradiction regarding cosmology and eschatology. The exaggerated cosmology of imperial cult institutions resulted in an absurd eschatology - their emphasis on Roman imperial order was so strong that they could not envision an end to Roman rule. Revelation, on the other hand, denigrated all temporal authority and focused attention on the throne of God in heaven and the eschatological inauguration of the New Jerusalem. In this way, the author of Revelation produced one of humanity's great religious critiques of hegemony, a critique that attempted to establish and maintain a just community in the face of imperial oppression.

US Approaches to Multilateral Security and Economic Organizations in the Asia-Pacific
Ralph A. Cossa

in US Hegemony and International Organizations: The United States and Multilateral Institutions
An examination is made of US policy towards and participation in several key regional multilateral organizations in the Asia-Pacific area, with the aim of establishing how central these organizations are to the overall development of US policy and the extent to which, and how, they influence or constrain US behaviour. The first section of the chapter reviews US strategic goals and briefly discusses some of the domestic and external factors that have led to the development and implementation of these goals in East Asia. The next section discusses multilateral security cooperation in the region, and gives an overview of regional multilateral security organizations, focusing primarily on the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Regional Forum (ARF), given its all-encompassing nature and relatively advanced (by Asian standards) stage of development; other US-instigated multilateral institutions and initiatives (the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO), and the Northeast Asia Cooperation Dialogue (NEACD) are touched upon briefly to assess how these more narrowly focused approaches also serve American interests. The third section looks at Asia-Pacific multilateral economic cooperation, and here the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC) provides the centrepiece of the discussion; its role both in creating an Asia-Pacific economic community and, more recently, as a vehicle for political cooperation through the institutionalization of the US-instigated Leaders’ Meetings, which bring many of the region’s heads of state and government together annually, ostensibly for economic discussions. The conclusion to the chapter briefly evaluates the advantages and disadvantages of these organizations from a US perspective in order to understand better how security and economic multilateralism fits with the largely bilaterally oriented US national security strategy.

Multiculturalism in Asia

Will Kymlicka and Baogang He (eds)

Published in print: 2005 Published Online: February 2006
Item type: book

This book explores the different ways that issues of ethnocultural diversity are conceptualised and debated in South and East Asia. It looks at the legacies of precolonial and colonial traditions for managing diversity, their reinterpretation under postcolonial independence and globalisation, and their relationship to Western liberal models of multiculturalism and emerging international norms of human and minority rights. It shows that political actors draw on a range of intellectual resources and traditions when thinking through these questions. Appeals to international human rights instruments and
Western policies of multiculturalism are interspersed with appeals to local traditions, national mythologies, regional practices, and religious doctrines. An attempt to understand these debates or contribute to them requires an understanding of the complex interaction between the different ways of conceptualising diversity and citizenship.

Integrating Services in South Asia

Rupa Chanda

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This book analyses the prospects for services integration in South Asia, focusing on member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) — India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives. SAARC turned to trade promotion in order to achieve greater regional integration, starting with the signing of the SAARC Preferential Trade Agreement (SAPTA) in April 1993. The book discusses the role and performance of services within the region and identifies those services and areas which offer good and varied prospects for intra-regional integration. It also assesses the status of liberalization and reforms as well as current levels of intra-regional engagement in services in order to highlight the policy environment and existing opportunities and interests in the regional market. Furthermore, the book looks at multilateral and extra-regional/bilateral commitments made by the member countries of the South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) in services and their positions on key issues in order to evaluate their preparedness to commit under SAFTA. Finally, the book considers negotiating priorities in different services and on cross-cutting issues to point out possible modalities for negotiation.

Trade—The Engine of Growth in East Asia

Peter C. Y. Chow and Mitchell H. Kellman

Published in print: 1993 Published Online: October 2011
Publisher: Oxford University Press
Item type: book

The four Pacific Basin countries of Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Singapore, have each defied the vicious circle of poverty in the post-war years, emerging as dynamic and rapidly growing economies. This book provides a comprehensive analysis of the economic factors that led to the “miracle”. It aims to reveal the sources of economic growth by analyzing the underlying mechanisms and interrelationships of this
export success. The authors combine a wide-ranging empirical body of data spanning a full twenty-five years, from the early “take-off” period of the mid-1960s, to the early 1990s with a broad theoretical approach to its analysis. The concept of revealed comparative advantage is utilized. Using Japan's trade performance as a benchmark, this book examines whether the four NICs have gained on or fallen further behind Japan. Not only are detailed product groups examined but such economic factors as specific product characteristics and embodied factor contents are explored. The important issues of intra-industry trade and NIC import-export relationships are also examined, and imports and exports of specific products are forecast. The conclusions reached in this chapter can serve as a guide to likely future developments. The book makes an original contribution by describing international trade data that relates to the evaluation of the extraordinary success of these four countries.

Miracle to Meltdown in Asia
Norman Flynn

The crisis in Asia has caused economic hardship and brought an end to the ‘economic miracle’ of fast economic growth in the region. This book asks whether the 1997/8 crisis marks a break with the past and signals an end to ‘Asian’ ways of running economies. During the period of rapid growth there were strong connections between governments and business in the region. ‘Cronyism’, or close connections between family, business, and government, was exposed when the stock markets and currencies dived. Pressure from overseas investors and international organisations has produced reforms in the region. The book examines the social, economic, and political modes of governance in the region. It finds that there is a shifting balance between rule by the market, rule by connections, and rule by force. In the sphere of economic management, it shows that the period of the ‘developmental state’ in Japan and Korea has come to an end, but that it has not yet been replaced by a liberal market. Elsewhere the close connections between governments and business have been weakened but not yet broken. There are still special ‘Asian’ characteristics in economic management and in politics. The forces of ‘globalisation’ are strong, but they are confronted with political and economic cultures that are not rooted in liberal market ethics.
New Television, Globalisation, and the East Asian Cultural Imagination

Michael Keane, Anthony Y. H. Fung, and Albert Moran

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Publisher: Hong Kong University Press
DOI: 10.5790/hongkong/9789622098206.001.0001

Challenging assumptions that have underpinned critiques of globalization and combining cultural theory with media-industry analysis, this book gives an account of the evolution of television in the post-broadcasting era, and of how programming ideas are creatively redeveloped and franchised in East Asia. In this study of television-program adaptation across cultures, the authors argue that adaptation, transfer, and recycling of content are multiplying to the point of marginalizing other economic and cultural practices. This is happening in television, but also in many other media and related areas of cultural production. Looking at China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan, the study details practices that are variously referred to as formatting, franchising, imitation, adaptation, hybridity, bricolage, and even emulation. The authors show that significant re-modelling of local TV-production practices occur when adaptation is genuinely responsive to local values. Examples of East Asian format adaptations include Survivor, Who Wants to be a Millionaire?, The Weakest Link, Coronation Street, and Idol. The book offers alternatives models of media flow that demonstrate how Hollywood is losing its global grip. It deals with the history of the TV-format trade, a movement that has coincided with the rise of alternative centres of television production and distribution outside the US.

East Asian Pop Culture

Beng Huat Chua and Koichi Iwabuchi (eds)

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Publisher: Hong Kong University Press
DOI: 10.5790/hongkong/9789622098923.001.0001

In this book, an international group of contributors provide a multi-layered analysis of the emerging East Asian media culture, using the Korean TV drama as its analytic vehicle. This collection of essays is also the result of a workshop organized by the Cultural Studies in Asia Research Cluster at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. The aim of the Cluster is to promote collaborative research in contemporary cultural practices which are influenced by intensifying transnational exchanges across historical, linguistic and cultural boundaries in Asia.
There are two great mysteries in the political economy of South Korea. How could a destroyed country in next to no time become a sophisticated and affluent economy? And how could a ruthlessly authoritarian regime metamorphose with relative ease into a stable democratic polity? To make sense of these mysteries the book follows two narratives for the period from 1945 to 2000. One is about social policy from its feeble roots in poor relief in the colonial period, early land reform, and the influx of foreign voluntary agencies in the first years of independence. And the second one is about the state and its shifting foundations in democracy, cronyism, chaebŏl capitalism, and dictatorship. South Korea took off to modernization in the authoritarian period. The authoritarian leaders created a Janus-faced state, which used hard power in the controlling of forces from below but in governance the softer strategy of mobilizing social forces into its design. There is no support in The Korean State for the theory that authoritarianism is conducive to development but every support for the theory that state leadership, authoritarian or not, depends on the mode of governance. Authoritarianism usually results in the crushing of civil society, but the South Korean brand inadvertently left a legacy of vibrant civil society institutions. Dismantling the hard power apparatus of the state still left the governance part intact. That part of the state the democratic rulers who came in when the authoritarian ones were overthrown could put to work for their purposes with little difficulty. This book is about many things: development and modernization, dictatorship and democracy, state capacity and governance, social protection and welfare states, and Korean history. But finally it is about lifting social policy analysis out of the ghetto of self-sufficiency it is often confined to and into the center ground of hard political science, where we think it belongs.

Minority Rights in Asia
Joshua Castellino and Elvira Domínguez Redondo

This book analyzes the minority rights legal regimes in India, China, Malaysia, and Singapore, and places the discussion in the context of
a wider debate on human rights in Asia. It takes a multi-disciplinary approach, including comparative constitutional analysis, international relations, and social and cultural anthropology. The book contains detailed case studies, which are supported by critical commentary. India and China, the world's most populous states, face similar problems vis-à-vis minorities, yet tackle these using starkly different techniques. Malaysia and Singapore, vocal in their articulation of ‘Asian Values’, have taken opposing stances over minority rights. Malaysia has sought to establish Malay hegemony using minority rights tools in favour of the majority, while Singapore deliberately adopted a doctrine of meritocracy, nonetheless emphasising ethnic fault-lines within its population. Together the four states reflect not only the complex layers of culture and identity within Asian states, but also the vastly different political systems and contrasting conceptions of the role of law in the continent. Through its examination of minority rights theory and its application in specific cases, this book provides a useful comparative model for the assessment of other states within Asia, thereby taking an important first step towards understanding the situation of minorities within the entire continent.

Local Histories/Global Designs
Walter D. Mignolo

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Item type: book

This book is an extended argument about the “coloniality” of power. In a shrinking world where sharp dichotomies, such as East/West and developing/developed, blur and shift, this book points to the inadequacy of current practices in the social sciences and area studies. It explores the crucial notion of “colonial difference” in the study of the modern colonial world and traces the emergence of an epistemic shift, which the book calls “border thinking.” Further, the book expands the horizons of those debates already under way in postcolonial studies of Asia and Africa by dwelling on the genealogy of thoughts of South/Central America, the Caribbean, and Latino/as in the United States. The book's concept of “border gnosis,” or sensing and knowing by dwelling in imperial/colonial borderlands, counters the tendency of occidentalist perspectives to manage, and thus limit, understanding. A new preface discusses this book as a dialogue with Hegel's Philosophy of History.
Introduction
Will Kymlicka and Baogang He
in Multiculturalism in Asia

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This introductory chapter begins with an explanation of the aim of this book, namely to explore the different ways that ethnocultural diversity issues are conceptualised and debated in South and East Asia. It discusses the new politics of diversity in Asia, and the local and global models of multiculturalism. An overview of the chapters included in this volume is then presented.