



**FORUM COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**CHINA**

**April 26, 2008 – Saturday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon**

■ **Revolution in Twentieth-Century China: The Political and the Personal**  
By Shana J. Brown

China has experienced dramatic changes over the last century. The first half of this talk will examine the political and economic convulsions of the past hundred years, including the devastation of mid-century wars, the plunge into state socialism, and the post-Mao shift to a market economy. The second half will focus on the personal, looking at the family, women's lives, and important contemporary cultural changes.

■ **Cultural Geography of China: Then and Now**  
By Hong Jiang

This presentation will introduce Chinese traditional cosmology of heaven-man-earth relationships and their expressions in spatial practices such as the design of dwellings and palaces; it will then discuss how these relationships have changed in modern China, and how the change has contributed to contemporary China's environmental problems.

**KOREA**

**May 3, 2008 – Saturday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon**

■ **North Korea Nuclear Talks: Is Success Possible?**  
By Ralph Cossa

Is North Korea really willing to give up its nuclear weapons? Is Washington really prepared to meet Pyongyang's conditions? How does the change of government in Seoul affect the prospects for denuclearization? East Asia specialist and Pacific Forum CSIS President Ralph Cossa will address these questions and more as he examines the prospects of success for the Six-Party Talks on North Korea's denuclearization.

■ **Korea as a Dream Society?**  
By Jim Dator

Futurists, looking at the long arc of human history, often conclude that humans of each era, or "society," have moved through developmental stages starting with hunting and gathering societies based on spoken language, to agricultural societies based on the invention of writing, through industrial societies with printing presses, and finally to the modern information societies based on electronic communication networks. What lies ahead? One possibility has been called "a dream society of icons and aesthetic experiences." Korea is the first place consciously to identify and move towards such a dream society. This lecture will discuss why this might be so—and why it's unlikely a dream society will emerge in Korea, or anywhere, anytime soon.

**MYANMAR**

**May 10, 2008 – Saturday, 9:00 am – 11:00 am**

■ **The Making of Modern Myanmar: Trends and Patterns**  
By Michael Aung-Thwin

This talk focuses on the material and human resources, as well as the historical and conceptual factors that have created modern Burma. It will describe the country's eco-demographic environment, its origins and development from a major kingdom to a military government, and its conceptual system based on Theravada Buddhism and indigenous supernaturalism. All these make the background necessary for understanding Burma today.

**SPECIAL LECTURE**

**May 10, 2008 – Saturday, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon**

■ **More Global Inter-dependence: Fuel or Food?**  
By Deane Neubauer

Current record high oil costs have prompted industrial nations throughout the world to search for alternative sources of energy, including biofuels. This lecture explores the complexities of seeking to substitute global food capacity and its correlates (land, water, capital, fertilizers, pesticides, etc.) for fuel production. After reviewing the general global situation, we review the status of such efforts in Hawaii.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Dates**

China – April 26, 2008  
Korea – May 3, 2008  
Myanmar – May 10, 2008

\*All sessions take place on Saturday mornings, 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

**Place**

University of Hawaii — Manoa Campus  
• April 26 – Campus Center Room #220  
• May 3 – Campus Center Room #220  
• May 10 – Campus Center Room #220

**Registration**

All participants are requested to pre-register. Please complete a registration form and send it to the Center.

**Fees**

Fees are waived for all Hawaii residents.

**For additional information,** contact:

The Center for Asia-Pacific Exchange  
1616 Makiki Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822  
Telephone: (808) 942-8553 Fax: (808) 941-9575  
E-mail: cape@cape.edu

- CAPE "Asia Today" Series - Spring 2008**
- Please return this form to:  
The Center for Asia-Pacific Exchange  
1616 Makiki Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
  - I want to attend course(s) in:
    - China: April 26, 2008
    - Korea: May 3, 2008
    - Myanmar: May 10, 2008

**Fees:**  
Fees are waived for all Hawaii residents.

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

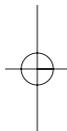
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*You may assume that you are registered in the series unless otherwise notified. No written confirmation of participation will be given.*



## FORUM FACULTY/SPEAKERS

**Michael Aung-Thwin** was born in Rangoon, Burma and received his education in the United States. Since receiving his M.A. in East Asian History from the University of Illinois and Ph.D. in South and Southeast Asian History from the University of Michigan, Dr. Aung-Thwin has been an Assistant Professor of Asian History at Elmira College, N.Y., and more recently, the Director of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University. Currently, he is Professor of Asian Studies at the University of Hawaii-Manoa. Professor Aung-Thwin is a recognized authority on the classical development of early Burmese society and other Southeast Asian states. He has published extensively, and served in visiting lectureships in Southeast Asia, Japan, and the United States.

**Shana J. Brown** earned her Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, in History. A Fulbright scholar, her research interests include Chinese cultural and intellectual history, with projects on Chinese historical studies and the history of Chinese photography. She has studied and worked in China and Taiwan for four years.

**Ralph A. Cossa** is President of the Pacific Forum CSIS in Honolulu, a non-profit, foreign policy research institute affiliated with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, D.C. He is senior editor of the Forum's quarterly electronic journal, *Comparative Connections*. Mr. Cossa is a member of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Experts and Eminent Persons Group. He is a founding member of the Steering Committee of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) and co-chairs the CSCAP study group aimed at halting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the Asia Pacific region. He is a frequent contributor to regional newspapers, including the *Japan Times*, *Korea Times*, and *International Herald Tribune*. He most recently co-edited (with Akihiko Tanaka) *An East Asian Community and the United States* (Washington, D.C.: CSIS Press, 2007).

**James A. Dator** is a Professor and head of the Alternative Futures option, Department of Political Science at the University of Hawaii. Before coming to the University of Hawaii in 1969, he taught for six years at Rikkyo University of Tokyo, Japan. He is active in the World Futures Studies Federation, and has participated as keynote speaker at their conferences in Japan, Italy, Romania, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Germany, and England. He also led discussions of the future of Malaysia, Korea, Canada, England, and Sweden. His special interests are the future of law and government, education, and media. He has written in a wide variety of books and articles on various aspects of the future.

**Hong Jiang** received her PhD in Geography from Clark University and is now Assistant Professor at the University of Hawaii. Her teaching involves the cultural geography of China, and human geography in general; her research deals with environment and development issues in China. During extensive research in Inner Mongolia, a minority region in North China, she explored issues of land use and ecological change from cultural and political perspectives. Her current work widens its scope to include China's environment as a whole, and she links environment and development issues with society's changing perceptions of the environment, people's attitudes toward nature, and the state's changing ideology concerning the environment.

**Deane Neubauer** is Emeritus Professor of Political Science at the University of Hawaii, Senior Advisor to the East-West Center, and Director of the Globalization Research Network. He has been in the Department of Political Science at UH since 1970, serving as chair of the department from 1975 to 1978. From 1980-1988, he was the Dean of the College of Social Sciences; he has also served as Chancellor of UH Manoa, and as Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Neubauer received his BA from the University of California, Riverside in 1962 and his MA and Ph.D. from Yale University in 1965, all in political science.

Dear Colleague:

This year's "Asia Today" Series looks at a fascinating group of Asian nations, those of the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea, and the Union of Myanmar, or more colloquially, China, North Korea, South Korea, and Myanmar. Frequent mention of these nations in the news and other media has made their names familiar, but how much do we really know about them?

The Center for Asia-Pacific Exchange invites you to learn more about these nations at the 22nd Annual "Asia Today" lectures. Scheduled speakers and topics include:

Saturday, April 26, 2008:

- Dr. Shana J. Brown: *Revolution in 20th Century China: The Political and the Personal*
- Dr. Hong Jiang: *Cultural Geography of China: Then and Now*

Saturday, May 3, 2008:

- Mr. Ralph Cossa: *North Korea Nuclear Talks: Is Success Possible?*
- Dr. Jim Dator: *Korea as a Dream Society?*

Saturday, May 10, 2008:

- Dr. Michael Aung-Thwin: *The Making of Modern Myanmar: Trends and Patterns*
- Deane Neubauer: *More Global Inter-dependence: Fuel or Food?*

All sessions take place from 9a.m. to 12noon on three consecutive Saturdays, with all entrance fees waived for local Hawai'i residents.

Previous participant responses on the "Asia Today" Series:

*"I found the lectures well-organized, well-prepared, and insightful."*

*"Excellent speakers provided amazingly interesting information in such a short amount of time."*

*"Very interesting and informative on a wide range of topics. It's a good combination of background and modern era facts."*

*"It stimulates us to think about ourselves, our society, and our universe, and how we should conduct ourselves."*

Please share this information with your friends and colleagues and plan to join us for one or more sessions. This opportunity is unique and space is limited, so please let us hear from you soon. All lectures are free to the public, however you are requested to pre-register by returning the registration form to CAPE by April 23, 2008.

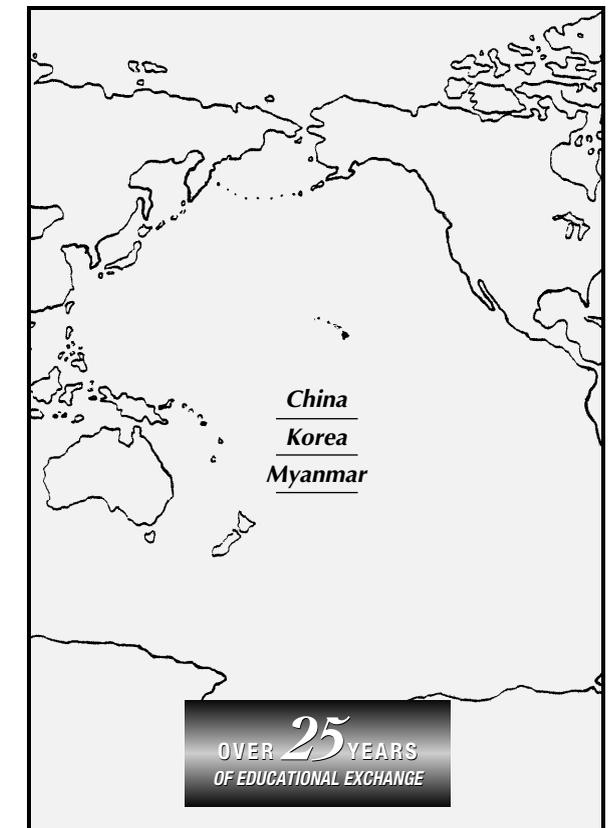
With warm Aloha,

The Center for Asia-Pacific Exchange  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**THE CENTER FOR ASIA-PACIFIC EXCHANGE**, a publicly supported, non-profit, educational institution, was established in Honolulu, Hawaii in November 1980.

For additional information, write to:  
The Center for Asia-Pacific Exchange  
1616 Makiki Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

## the twenty-second ANNUAL ASIA-PACIFIC STUDIES FORUM "Asia Today" Series Spring 2008



**THE CENTER FOR ASIA-PACIFIC EXCHANGE  
HONOLULU, HAWAII**