

Urbanization and Urban Migrants in Malaysia: A Comparative Study between Chinese and Malays



SPEAKER	PROFESSOR ZHANG JIJIAO
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LANGUAGE	ENGLISH

Abstract:

This presentation analyzes the Malaysian urbanization process and its urban migrants since the launching of New Economic Policy (NEP) in 1971. The focus of the study is to compare the differences between the Chinese urban migrants and the Malay urban migrants. In Malaysia, migration is seen as a means of social restructuring to urbanize the Bumiputera (including the Malays and other indigenous population), and to bring about more balanced participation among the different ethnic groups in the various economic sectors. However, the fundamental reason of NEP and National Development Policy (NDP, 1990-2000) is economic. The period 1970-2000 witnessed the greatest Malay and Chinese social mobility. This presentation may also discuss the future development of the Chinese urban migrants and the Malay urban migrants in Malaysia.

Keywords: Urbanization, Urban Migrants, Malay, Chinese, Malaysia

Prof. Zhang Jijiao is currently professor at the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China. He specializes in urban anthropology, urban migration studies, business organization and cross-cultural management studies. In 2005, he carried out a research on urban Chinese migrants for 9 months in Malaysia. His recent publications on migration include: "The Hukou System and Rural-urban Migration in China" (2011), "Language, Work and Learning: Exploring the Urban Experience of Ethnic Migrant Workers in China" (2010), "Migration, the Emergence of Multi-Ethnic Cities and Ethnic Relations in China" (2009), "Urbanization and Urban Migrants in Malaysia: A Comparative Study between Chinese and Malays" (2009), "The Orientation of Urban Migrants' Social Network: A Comparative Survey on Six Minorities in the Cities of China" (2009), "Migrants' Social Network Used in Seeking Employment in Urban Areas" (2007), "Urban Migrants' Adaptation in Malaysia: A Comparative Study between Chinese and Malay" (2006), "Ethnic Minority Labor Out-migrants from Guizhou Provinces their Impacts on Sending Areas" (2003), and a book entitled *Labor Migration and Social Mobility in Asia and Pacific Region* (2011). He is Deputy Secretary-General of CUAES (China Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences). He is also Chairman of Commission on Urban Anthropology of CUAES, and Commission on Enterprise Anthropology of IUAES (International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences).