

abstracts

Correctly evaluating and strengthening Macau's strategic position

Gary M. C. Ngai

Macau, the «Pearl of the Little River», has over four hundred years of history behind her. The nineties are sure to bring a decade of major changes which will affect all social strata on a political, economic and social level. By understanding and encouraging these changes in the appropriate way, the stability and prosperity of Macau can be maintained during the century to come and will thus allow the territory to play a significant role in the South China region.

Exactly how these changes will affect relations between the Government of Macau and the Macanese on the one hand and the Central Government in Peking and the Pearl River Delta Region on the other is a matter of increasing importance and is dealt with in detail in this article.

Regional interaction in the Pearl River Delta and Macau's political economy

Ng Kuok Cheong

Macau's position and opportunities in the Delta economic zone will be determined by its own economic strength, situation and politics and, of course, its integration in the Pearl River Delta region.

This has already been extensively discussed but in the majority of cases, these studies have been idealized and abstract, failing to take into account local economic policies, and the real limitations which exist with regard to Macau's integration into the region, problems regarding the regulation of manpower, industrial transformation, educational and training policies and the development of tourism.

The aim of this article is to examine the complexity of the issue by giving some concrete, practical examples.

Protecting the environment

Wong Cheong Nam

Pollution and the protection of the environment are global issues to which Macau is no exception. Nevertheless, although the problem has become more serious in Macau, it seems that it has not been receiving the attention it deserves.

In recent years, there has been rapid industrial development accompanied by an equally disturbing growth in the population. The construction of the new international airport and deep water port will bring increased tourism and foreign trade and will serve to strengthen Macau's international standing. These reasons at least should suffice to encourage the government of the Territory to take an interest in the rapid deterioration of the environment and to include the problem in its list of priorities on its agenda.

Problems concerning the delegation of powers in Macau

Vitalino Canas

The delegation of powers is an act whereby one administrative body which has been legally indicated and is usually imbued with certain powers, enables another administrative body or an agent, also legally indicated, to carry out administrative acts related to the same object. Using his definition of the delegation of powers, the author examines the legal situation relating to and affecting some of the most frequent delegations of powers in Macau. He also discusses one or two which, although they are not typical, give an insight into some of the more obscure features of this system and even into the ways in which these powers are distributed.

A review of the legal system in Macau's civil service

Pereira da Rosa and Margarida Ortet

This article presents a review of the legal system within Macau's Civil Service. There have been recent legislative changes and the most relevant ones are discussed here.

Issues are dealt with in a way believed to be both simple and synthetic bearing in mind the breadth and complexity of their range and how they are perceived by those who do not usually have much contact with them.

As far as is possible, an attempt is made to compare the previous system with the results of the review by using tables which, to some detriment, must be shown in a systematic and concise way.

In search of a policy for translating the law and bilingual legislation in the context of the transition period

Sérgio de Almeida Correia and Pedro Horta e Costa

This article attempts to open the debate surrounding two issues which, it is unanimously agreed, are a priority in Macau at the moment: the translation of the law, and the production of bilingual legislation.

The continuity of the Portuguese presence in the Orient will be guaranteed by the translation of the Portuguese laws, by introducing legislative techniques in Chinese texts to be printed, by training an elite group of lawyers and translators who have an understanding of the basic concepts of Portuguese law and its most obvious differences and who are able to maintain these characteristics in the Chinese language while respecting the linguistic and cultural peculiarities of each language.

This article has been written with the intention of voicing these tasks, both in the creation of a bilingual legal system and in making the Chinese language and the text of the Sino-Portuguese Declaration which shall determine the future of the Territory official.

Censuses and how they can be integrated into a Statistical Information System

João Carlos Neves

In the complex world in which we live, Statistics have become an increasingly complex field. This applies to the use being made of new technology and methodology and also the relations between the various fields in which they are used including a variety of operations which, despite that fact that they are different, are mutually related. One of these operations is the census and it is the nature, purpose and results of the census which are discussed by the author with respect to its integration into the Statistical information System.

(Tradução inglesa de Marie Macleod)

