

# abstracts



## **Social and Cultural Pluralism in Macau — its Impact During the Transitional Period**

Gary M. C. Ngai

(pp. 715)

*Macau, with a history of more than 4 centuries, has left behind a rich heritage of culture and a population which is strongly pluralistic in nature, a uniqueness nowhere else to be found in the world.*

*Cultural pluralism has its roots in the 16th and 17th centuries when the Portuguese navigators, merchants and Jesuits brought with them the Portuguese and European cultures through trade and religion. Since Hong Kong became a British colony in the last century, Anglo-Saxonic culture has penetrated Macau strongly. During the economic boom of the last two decades, foreign investors and temporary residents from third world countries have been bringing their cultures with them to Macau.*

*However, Portuguese still remains the bulk of Western culture in Macau and, although it has been on a decline, is still regarded as an important aspect of Macau's identity.*

*The question is: could the Portuguese culture in Macau be preserved, especially after 1999 when Chinese will inevitably become the dominating language of the Territory? Is there a real danger of losing Macau's identity?*

## **Communication for Effective Negotiation**

Pedro Miguel Frade

(pp. 727)

*At the very heart of negotiation lies communication: the process of negotiation is a process of communication. However, the process of communicating in any negotiation can easily break down between the parties concerned giving rise to a conflict of opinions from which the consensus opinion will be obtained. This article discusses negotiation as a process of bilateral communication and attempts to characterize its most important features. Following on from this characterization, the author defines some practical hints for carrying on this kind of communication with increasing success.*

## **Macau's Public Revenue: Its Origin and Development (1980-89)**

J. H. Paulo Rato Rainha

(pp. 761)

*The financial activities engaged in by the public offices corresponding to State, Administrative Region or Territory, measured in revenue and expenditure, are of great importance. These activities are intended to meet collective needs and because of this they influence the economic behaviour of their respective geographical area. In fact, public finance operates hand in hand with the private sector which means that the effects of budget policy depend on the reactions of the private sector. Likewise, the need for some fiscal measures are determined by how the private sector behaves in absence of those measures.*

*Macau is, in legal terms, a collective body of domestic public law. The territory enjoys administrative, economic, financial and legislative autonomy, with the exception of the principles and the rights, freedoms and guarantees laid down in the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic and Macau's Organic Statutes. It is thus worth taking a look at how things have developed with regard to acquiring and using financial means to satisfy the collective needs and objectives which as a public collective entity it attempts to attain.*

## **Coordinating the Construction of Infrastructures between Macau and Zhuhai**

Cheang Tin Cheong

(pp. 783)

*If Macau and Zhuhai develop on the basis of a coordinated planning strategy, they both have the potential to become a double major urban centre in the Pearl River Delta region. Their proximity to Hong Kong and Canton could make a great contribution to the development of the western area of Xinjiang Province. However, if the two cities opt to compete, not only will neither win, both stand to lose much.*

*This study attempts to examine possible means of cooperation between the two areas as far as concerns the construction of infrastructures, thus giving the responsible authorities some food for thought which could be of assistance in their decision-making.*

## **Hydrological Conditions and the Economic Development in Macau**

Ye Long Fei

(pp. 797)

*Macau's rapid economic development over the last few years has attracted a lot of attention, particularly because the territory has developed at a faster pace than the surrounding regions. This was*

*most evident following publication of the Joint Sino-Portuguese Agreement concerning Macau's future. Many articles have already been written concerning Macau's economy in the transition period and after 1999, focussing on various aspects such as the economy and politics. One thing which these articles share in common, however, is their obvious optimism regarding Macau's trend in economic development. This article approaches the problem by examining natural factors within the Territory.*

### **The Role of an Employment Service in the Development Process**

José Manuel Bailote Fernandes

(pp. 809)

*There is international consensus as regards the multitude of problems faced by employment policies, problems which will probably deteriorate in the future. These problems include technological changes, shifts in demand and supply and the inherent expectations pertaining to both, and factors arising from qualitative and quantitative changes in education systems. All of these factors mean that we must take a long hard look at the situation as well as undertake a constant search for the most suitable decisions to be made.*

*On the other hand, if we agree that an «object» is the result of how several different factors have interrelated, any change in any one of these factors will also effect a change in the «object». Thus the above-mentioned changes, and others which are taking place in the present crisis-for-change international context, require us to re-assess the idea of employment itself.*

*Therefore, although an Employment Service should make a tremendous contribution to social and economic stability, it should also undergo constant change, adapting itself to and anticipating new developments.*

### **Primary and Secondary School Capacity in Macau**

Wong Chao Son

(pp. 817)

*Over the last few years, the Government of Macau has subsidised the extension and construction of some schools thereby greatly increasing the number of school places for the admission of new pupils and relieving, to a certain extent, the problem of overcrowding in educational establishments.*

*Nevertheless, when compulsory education is implemented at primary and secondary level, the problem will grow more severe and emergency measures will have to be adopted such as finding answers to the lack of school buildings and teaching staff — the two worst problems faced by education in Macau.*

## **Training Evaluation**

Chang Wing-Kwai

(pp. 835)

*Despite the fact that there has been increasing interest in evaluation over the last few years, many trainers still seem to regard training, and especially the way it is run, as an act of faith. They feel that training management is correct in itself and therefore does not need to be evaluated.*

*Running a training programme without evaluation is like living without a mirror, never being confronted with your own image. A lot of the resources which trainers and students have at their disposal can be wasted if the way the programme is run is governed by inertia. Training programmes require input of new ideas, reviews or corrections introduced in response to either reactions to or tests of their usefulness in practice on the basis of valid assessment methods. Assessment should not only be used to decide whether or not an activity should or should not be continued. It should also be used to decide how that activity may be changed to maximise results.*