

abstracts

Political power and the Portuguese language in Macao (1770-1968) — a legislative approach

António Aresta

(pp. 7)

The Portuguese language in Macao is approached for the first time according to a social, political and legislative angle.

An attempt is made to contribute not only to the delineation of the history of mentalities, but mainly to pave the way for the cultural history of the Portuguese language in Macao.

Macao's languages — a journey to the 20th century

Maria Trigo

(pp. 25)

*This paper wishes to summarize the various approaches, found on recent years, on the side of the Portuguese community, namely among its intellectuals, towards the teaching/learning of both **Portuguese and Chinese**, as foreign languages, in the University of Macau.*

*At the same time, it tries to «look», from the side of the Chinese community, into the same situation, and how, according to the author, one can detect, among its intellectuals, some changes, from former **passive** positions to recent active proposals. Mainly on the topic of teaching Portuguese as a foreign language, increasing, both the scope of teaching, as well as its quality, in the University of Macau.*

*To conclude that, at the present moment, this territory has all the necessary conditions for the effective cooperation, between the scholars of the two linguistic communities of **Macao** — the only possible way to achieve a common cultural project that sets Macau, as the international city it has been in the last 400 years, in its voyage to the XXI century.*

Perspectives of preserving and developing Macau's cultural identity towards the next century

Gary Ngai

(pp. 35)

The author, being vice-president of the Cultural Institute of Macau, tries to explain the importance of preserving Macau's cultural identity as a matter of survival in the evergrowing regional competition. This identity has been formed along its 4-century long history of multi-cultural exchange,

crystalizing the features of East and West, a rich heritage and huge treasure for developing cultural tourism.

It could be developed by intensifying research on Macaology, promoting civic education among the local population, increasing investment in preserving Macau's relics, and promoting bilingualism and international-ization. It is the only way of achieving a high degree of autonomy after 1999.

Macao's Economy during the first years of the 90's — evolution and perspectives

Norberto Ferreira

(pp. 49)

Macao's economy is going through an adjustment phase of its productive structure to the recent mutations of a regional and international framework, resulting from the opening of the PRC to the outside world and from the growing competition in international markets.

In spite of the decreasing dynamism of the exports of the industrial sector, economic growth proceeded at a considerable pace during the first years of the 90's, stimulated particularly by investment in the construction sector and exports of the service sector (expenditures of non-residents).

During the second half of the 90's, the completion of important infrastructures designed to link the Territory to the outside world, such as Macao international airport, will enhance the role of Macao as a commercial entrepot and will provide skilled services important to the rapid development of the Pearl River Delta Region. The increasing social and economic integration of the Territory in the South of China will take place at a high pace, hence one can foresee a greater allocation of human resources to the tertiary sector, with a growing demand for skills and technical training.

Legal translation — experience and prospects

Nuno Calado

(pp. 73)

The meaning of legal translation, in Macao, is related with the translation of laws into Chinese in order that these laws might be enforced and applied as they are in the Portuguese original version. Only after the Portuguese-Chinese Joint Declaration, translation of laws into Chinese is considered a relevant subject and, therefore, only in 1988 a specific body is created by the Macao Government to fulfil this task: the Gabinete para a Tradução Jurídica (GTJ), which, within the local conditions, developed a specific method and formula to accomplish its goals. Those local conditions and the limits of translation of laws from Portuguese into Chinese justified the adoption of the «translation teams» formula and a step-by-step method of translation that render possible to translate all the laws from the Governor's initiative, as well as a significant contribution is given for setting up the basis for the bilingual legal system of Macao: «the local legal language» in Chinese.

Meaning, method and technical criteria of the translation into Chinese of Macao's Laws

Liu Gaolong

(pp. 93)

The author intends, with this article, to present a summary of the process of legislating and translating the laws which are in force in the Territory. Liu Gaolong describes the actions carried out in this area before the coming into force of Decree-Law n.º 455/91, which enshrined the Chinese language as an official language in the Territory. The foundation of the Office for Juridical Translation, its importance in the localization of the existing laws and in the standardization of the use of Chinese technical terms are also described. All the aspects necessary to achieve a good translation, practical examples of what should be done or avoided are also referred to.

Macao's Administrative Procedure Code: powers and duties of the Administration, rights and duties of the citizens

António Correia Marques da Silva

(pp. 109)

This article analyses the main aspects of Macao's Administrative Procedure Code, approved by Decree-Law n.º 35/94/M, of July 18th, which is coming into force on the 1st March, 1995.

The above-mentioned Code follows the trends of the modern Administrative Comparative Law, which through the regulations of the administrative procedure ensures the citizen mechanisms which guarantee his participation in the administrative process, during the decision-making process, which are related to the citizen himself.

By bringing into force this Code, Macao's Public Administration intends to create a new and more dynamic and transparent way of acting, by controlling the organization and the way of functioning of the public services, regulating the formation of the Administration's will, avoiding bureaucratization and making the services more attuned to the population's needs. Hence, Macao's Public Administration puts into practice principles that regulate the administrative activity based on the rule of the law, and establishes, in a clear and unequivocal way, the powers and duties of the administration, as well as the rights and duties of the citizen throughout the administrative procedure.

In this article the author approaches these subjects through a concise analysis.

Juridical education in the system and for Macao's juridical system

Mário José de Oliveira Chaves

(pp. 127)

The maintenance of Macao's juridical regulations, one of the required conditions for the autonomy of the Special Administrative Region of Macao, implies the establishment of an academic entity meant for juridical educa-

tion of local individuals, capable of running/preserving the juridical system, at least up to 2045.

Unfortunately, the Faculty of Law, hasn't but a few years to strengthen its structures, if it really intends to consolidate the potential qualities inherent in the present system, contrary to a natural evolution which would take decades, or even centuries to attain its maturity in Macao,

The Basic Law in Portuguese — a collective contribution

Chio In Fong (Júlia)

(pp. 135)

The efforts and techniques used in the writing and translation of the Basic Law of the future Special Administrative Region of Macao are described by the author who highlights the fact that this law is considered a legal text both in the Chinese and Portuguese version. To achieve this purpose the method and technique used in the writing and translation have played an important role, since the latter were carried out simultaneously. Contrarily to what happened with other legislation, there was only one team who elaborated and translated the forementioned law. The team was constituted of lawyers and translators who had the opportunity to submit it to the appreciation of Portuguese experts whenever necessary.

The Basic Law is a symbiosis of Portuguese and Chinese legislation and comprises a wide range of areas such as the political, economic, social and cultural ones, as well as many others.

In order to achieve a rigorous and honest work, the finest experts were selected. They studied, compared and analysed the different matters and they wrote legislation bearing in mind that problems of interpretation should not occur during the translation.

Throughout the article one can see that this law was made and translated with the collaboration of both parts, and thinking of Macao's future.