

abstracts

Co-operation between Higher Education and Public Services

Jorge Bruxo

(pp. 289)

This paper deals with the interactive relations between higher education institutions and the community they belong to, and also approaches matters related to university and polytechnic education, having in view to get a job in the civil service.

The author stresses the point that when education aims at carrying out professional activities within the scope of the Public Administration, one must not only take into account the technical and professional aspects, but also the cultural ones and ethical principles as well, without which civil servants will not be fully prepared to accomplish correctly and efficiently the tasks they are entrusted with.

He concludes by analyzing the existing situation at the University of Macau and Macau's Polytechnic Institute, and mentioning the guide-lines to which the probable creation of new higher education courses must obey, bearing in mind the specific interests of Macau's Public Administration.

Localization of Legislation during Macau's Transition Period

Ng Kuok Cheong

(pp. 301)

Since 1987, when the Joint-Declaration was signed by the People's Republic of China and Portugal, the «Localization of Law in Macau» has been considered as one of the issues, among the «Three Localizations during the Transition Period of Macau», to which a great attention is being given. The «Localization of Law in Macau» includes important aspects such as «Localization of the Judicial System», the «Enactment of New Bills», «Juridical Language», «Magistrates», and aims at divulging Law among the population so that the latter can enjoy this right. The author analyses the aforementioned issues and describes what they were, what they are and what he would like them to be. He points out anomalies and makes suggestions. Since localization is a very complex issue, and time to carry it out is shorter and shorter, the author wonders whether there is enough time for that purpose and asks the Administration to act with more rapidity in order to solve this problem.

Interchange and Co-operation in the Juridical Area between Macau and the Mainland — Sundry Considerations and a Personal Perspective

Chio In Fong

(pp. 311)

Macau's Laws and those of the Mainland are based on the same juridical system — the Continental System — although the language, the formula, the procedures and legislative traditions are different. In the course of time, the political, economical and cultural relations between Macau and the Mainland have always been close, as well as the contacts between their residents. However, due to political and historical reasons, besides the barrier caused by the language which supported the juridical systems, the latter lacked liaisons and interchange. As soon as the transition period started, Macau Government developed gradually the sundry sectors connected with law: it was set up the Office for Juridical Translation, the Office for Legislative Affairs and the Faculty of Law of the University of Macau, Macau's Lawyers Association, Macau's Institute for international and Compared Law. Thanks to the establishment of the said institutions and associations, the relations between the juridical sectors of Macau and those of the Mainland have been strengthening, and formal contacts of a juridical nature between both parties have been increasing. Thus, the contacts which were informal, became formal, leading to the co-operation in various areas. Having in mind all these facts, the aforementioned relations and contacts should be intensified so that in this period and in this field, transition and integration in 1999 can be carried out smoothly. Some problems can be solved step by step. One of them is the existence of a small number of bilingual jurists, which in fact makes difficult localization and juridical interchange, causing some worries regarding the continuity of the system.

Continental Tradition and its Relation with the Mainland (RPC), Taiwan and Macau Systems

Mi Jian

(pp.319)

Macau's Laws localization is an important step to be taken during the period of transition, according to the author of this article. He writes about the origin of Macau's Law which is based on the Portuguese Juridical System, that was elaborated after the Continental Juridical System. It is also explained how the latter appears and develops, and its characteristics are described. Macau's Juridical System is compared with those in force in Hong Kong, Taiwan and PRC. As, in the future, relations among those territories are going to strengthen more and more, it is necessary to study them taking advantage of the features they have in common.

Present Situation of Macau's Courts and Their Trends

Tang Wai Peng

(pp. 343)

Up to recently Macau's Juridical System has depended mostly on Portu-

gal courts. Macau's laws were the same as those in force in Portugal, being adapted to the Territory in certain circumstances. As 1999 is drawing near, court's autonomy has been increasing and their independence from Portugal is almost total. As for the judges, they have stopped being appointed by the sovereign organs of Portugal, to be appointed by those of Macau. This article is a brief account of the judiciary system's history since our settlement up to the present. The author compares the court's present system with that stated in the Basic Law and points out some aspects which, according to his point of view, should be altered, in order to achieve a smooth and continuous transition and integration as well, so that they can serve in the best form the inhabitants of the future Special Administrative Region of Macau.

Learning Portuguese as a Foreign Language

Mário Filipe

(pp. 359)

Learning/teaching Portuguese as a foreign language is obviously different from learning and teaching Portuguese to students whose mother tongue is Portuguese. In this article, through the analysis of a survey directed to students of Portuguese whose native tongue is Chinese, the author tries to contribute to a better teaching and consequently to a better learning of Portuguese as a foreign language. In the survey were considered very different aspects such as students' age, their motivations, reasons leading them to study the language, justification for studying it, the subjects considered more important by them, etc. The survey results show that to gain favourable acceptance of the programme on the part of the students, it is important that teachers have much experience of teaching and that the programme is enticing and lively so that classes become attractive and stimulating.

Language and communication

Cheng Xiang Hui

(pp. 371)

Language is an important factor to achieve communication. However, comprehension and understanding among peoples are attained nowadays through technology associated to certain norms and signs. These means of communication are so varied that they range from oral and written language, several sounds, drawings and colours to countless «elements» which are agreed internationally. Communication becomes a serious problem when the involved parties speak different languages either they belong to different countries or to the same country, as it is the case with the People's Republic of China, a country of many ethnic groups and countless dialects. In this case a main dialect had to be adopted, «the Han dialect», which became the Chinese official language. In Macau there are two official languages: the Portuguese and the Chinese. The latter, however, does not have the same status as that of the Portuguese language. A great effort has to be made so that equality can be achieved. For that purpose it is necessary

to plan the language localization so that both can last beyond 1999.

Teaching the Chinese and Portuguese Languages

Yong Qing

(pp. 377)

*The effort to set up free education in Macau has been a theme which aroused a lot of controversy. The parties involved in this subject had different opinions and objectives. The use of **Portuguese** as the medium of instruction, the teaching of **Portuguese** and other moderate theses as well were topics for discussion. This article is a brief account of the use of the Portuguese language for more than four hundred years. The problems resulting from the localization of the language and the efforts made by the Administration to achieve that goal are also referred to. The author points out certain anomalies, makes suggestions and describes the positive and negative aspects of this project. He also names various institutions such as the University of Macau, Macau's Polytechnic Institute, Macau's Security Forces College, as well as several Associations (Dwellers Associations and Youth Centres) which teach Portuguese to their members. The author winds up his article by presenting as a fair, feasible and most convenient measure, the creation of a cultural centre to teach Portuguese beyond 1999.*