
First Circular

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
POPULATION DYNAMISM OF ASIA :
ISSUES AND CHALLENGES AHEAD**

11 - 13 July 2011

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organized by:
Department of Geography,
University of Malaya,
50603 Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia

Tel: +603-7967-5504, Fax: +603-7967-5457

Email: khairulo@um.edu.my

Introduction

Asia is back at the centre stage of the world as the most dynamic region of global economy. Its population dynamism has played a vital role in bringing about the enviable economic development in many of its countries. Asia is home to about 60% of the total population of the world. Two of the major concentrations of the population are in East and South Asia. Six of the ten most populous countries and 14 of the 20 largest cities of the world are in this continent. In addition to its distinct overall population dynamism *vis-a-vis* other continents, Asia is also characterized by wide ranging demographic outcomes in its different countries and regions. The same applies to hundreds of ethnic groups comprising the colourful cultural mosaic of the continent. The demographic characteristics of each country/community play a key role in planning social infrastructure and economy.

Asia's huge socio-cultural and environmental diversity has been largely responsible for bringing about notable inter- and intra-country demographic outcomes, i.e., fertility and occupational transition, level of education, poverty levels, and gender inequalities etc. Interestingly, the present-day rapid pace of socio-economic development is further contributing to the already prevalent diversity of Asian societies. The understanding of these demographic variations is of crucial importance for a proper comprehension of the socio-economic and political pulse of the continent. Even if one does not agree fully with Auguste Comte that "demography is destiny", this view cannot be ignored altogether. Size of population and its various characteristics play an important role in the socio-economic and political fields at different spatial scales

from global to local. When there is continual economic growth coupled with requisite policy inputs favouring human development, then population size and its growth rate certainly add to political power of a country/community. However, the reverse also happens to be equally true. Similarly, the growing importance of climate change, would also bring many adverse impacts on the population of the continent.

The proposed conference would furnish a much needed opportunity for discussing various issues connected with population dynamism of Asia. As the theme of the conference falls within academic interests of scholars working in several disciplines namely geography, demography, sociology, anthropology, and economics, to name a few, it is hoped that the conference would provide a welcome occasion for taking a comprehensive view of the main issues and challenges emerging from the present-day population dynamism of Asia.

Objectives

The Conference has set out the following main objectives:

- ~ To understand the processes of demographic and occupational transitions in the Asian context.
- ~ To capture ethnic and cultural differentials in the population processes.
- ~ To decipher policy responses regarding the quality and quantity of population in different countries.
- ~ To examine the impacts of population dynamism.

Sub Themes

1. Demographic Transition
2. Occupational Transition
3. Migration - Internal and International
4. Urbanization with particular reference to Mega-cities
5. Economic Consequences of Population Trends
6. Religious/ethnic Aspects
7. Gender Dimensions
8. Population and Environment
9. Rural-Urban Differentials
10. Indigenous Populations
11. Population and Climate Change
12. Population Policies

Papers addressing the above sub-themes or related issues are invited for oral presentation. These may relate to individual countries or major groupings of countries of Asia.

Abstract Submission: Participants are welcome to submit an abstract (250-350 words) relating to the above mentioned sub-themes should mention clearly the objective, source of data, methodology and major findings. **The abstract should be submitted by end of March 2011** to Professor Mehar Singh Gill (Email: msg.gill@yahoo.com;> msgill@um.edu.my) or to Dr. Firuza B.M. (Email: firuza2008@yahoo.com)

Acceptance Notification: The authors of accepted abstracts will be informed by **15 April 2011**. The authors will be required to **submit full papers by 15 May 2011**. Only full papers received by the due date will be included in the Conference programme. The abstract/paper should be saved as a word document and sent as an attachment.

Selected papers, which are cleared by the review committee, will be included in an edited volume to be published by a reputed publisher.

Registration Fee

Registration fee for the Conference is RM 500 for participants from Asian countries, and US\$ 300 for participants from other countries. Student participants will be required to pay RM 100 only. This covers Conference materials and local hospitality, i.e., lunch and tea/coffee on the conference days (14-16 March 2011).

Organizing Committee

Chairman	:	Professor Dr. Khairulmaini Osman Salleh
Co-Chairman	:	Professor Dr. Mehar Singh Gill
Secretary	:	Dr. Firuza B.M.
Liaison and Publication:		Dr. Tan Wan Hin
Treasurer	:	Dr. Goh Hong Ching
Logistics	:	Dr. Aziz Shafie
Hospitality	:	Dr. Mariney Mohd. Yusoff
Committee Members	:	Dr. Mizanurrahman Siti Halimah Ismail Nur Farhana Jafri Sharif Shofirun Nor Shahida Azali Nur Huda Mohd fauzi

Accommodation

Participants should arrange for their own accommodation. Below is a list of possible accommodation within the vicinity of the conference site.

University Guest House

A few rooms will be available for delegates at the University Guest House /Rumah University. These will be allotted on first come first served basis.
Phone : +603-7967-3528

Fax : +603-7956-0081
Email : rumah_university@email.com

Hilton Hotel , Petaling Jaya
No. 2 Jalan Barat
Petaling Jaya
Tel : +603-7955-9122
Fax : +603-7955-3909
Email : www.hilton.com/ Petaling-Jaya

Armada Hotel, Petaling Jaya
Lorong Utara C, section 52
Petaling Jaya
Tel : +603-7954-6888
Fax : +603-7956-8088
Email : armada@armada.com.my

Eastin Hotel, Petaling Jaya
Jalan 16/11, Pusat Dagang, Section 16
Petaling Jaya
Tel : +603-7665-1111
Fax : +603-7665-9999
Email : info.pj@eastin.com

Crystal Crown Hotel, Petaling Jaya
Lorong Utara A, Off Jalan Utara
Petaling Jaya
Tel : +603-7958-4422
Fax : +603-7958-7223
Email : cchpj@crystalcrown.com.my