

Göttingen East Asia Research Salon

哥廷根東亞學者沙龍



**Urban citizenship, mobility and border regime -
Contested social spaces of migrant workers in Shanghai**

Jun Chu



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Centre for Modern
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Abstract:

The growing mass protests and movements of migrant workers in China have become a highly focused issue for years. They are described either as “contesting citizenship in urban china” (Solinger 1999) or as “the making of a new working class” (Chan and Pun 2009). In my dissertation, these phenomena will be understood in connection with citizenship, mobility regime and the production of social spaces from a critical perspective. In reference to the concepts of “act of citizenship/doing citizenship”, “differential inclusion” and “ethnographical border regime analysis” from critical migration and citizenship studies, this work will focus on the social processes, how urban citizenship in Shanghai is emerging in contestation and conflicts. In what way do the local governments make policy and use strategies to include migrant workers with gradated status of “urban citizen”? How do the migrant workers in Shanghai practice urban citizenship and claim their rights in daily life and workplace? Furthermore, how are urban spaces produced and negotiated through the assemblage of these multi-scale practices? The research is based on empirical fieldwork in Shanghai with mixed qualitative methods incl. narrative interviews, participated observation and discourse analysis etc. The next fieldwork is planned for the upcoming autumn.



Since 10/2013 PhD candidate in Cultural Anthropology, University of Göttingen, Germany

Title of Dissertation: Urban citizenship, mobility and border regime. Contested social spaces of migrant workers in Shanghai.

10/2009 – 05/2013 University of Göttingen, Germany, Sociology and Cultural Anthropology(M.A.)

Title of Master Thesis: The constitution of relational social spaces in a new tenement district. A case study about Zietenerrassen in Göttingen. - Awarded “with distinction”

08/2005 – 07/2009 Tsinghua University, Beijing, China.

Sociology (B.A.) -Title of Bachelor Thesis: “Hygiene” in the rural everyday life. A case study on social changes in terms of practices, perceptions and interpretations.

The 6th East Asia Research Salon

Program

Time, Place

July 15th, 6:15pm, KWZ, Conference Room, 0.701
Heinrich - Düker - Weg 14, 37073 Göttingen

Commentators

Nellie Chu, PhD, Transregional Research Network CETREN
Niall Duggan, PhD, Department for East Asian Studies

Program

Presentation of research project (max. 20 minutes)
Comments (max. 10 minutes)
Discussion

Present your research project

Presenting your PhD and/or research efforts to your peers and faculty members will give you valuable feedback and support your research with additional ideas. It introduces you to a network that can be very helpful with your career and future research projects.

Contact

The East Asia Research Salon welcomes new participants and the opportunity to initiate and develop mutual research projects.

Please feel free to contact us!

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