

New Directions in Philippines-China Relations

*Papers presented at
the symposium on "New Directions in
Philippines-China Relations"*

Edited by
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INTRODUCTION

The *Journal of Chinese Studies* is a publication of the Philippine Association for Chinese Studies (PACS). This volume mainly contains the papers presented at the Symposium on "New Directions in Philippines-China Relations" held on October 9, 2010 at the Conference Hall of the Federation Building in Muelle de Binondo, Manila.

The PACS was organized in 1987 when China was undergoing rapid socio-economic and political changes. Interest on China and Chinese studies was high. Coinciding with the rapid economic growth of China, there was also quite a lot of misinformation and misunderstanding about China and the Chinese overseas. Thus, a group of academicians and China enthusiasts organized PACS. Among our key objectives are:

- To conduct research and stimulate discourse on major issues related to China and the Chinese;
- To influence policy-making in order to promote Philippine national development, welfare of the Filipino people and beneficial Philippine relations with China ;
- To promote mutual understanding between the ethnic Chinese and Filipinos.

Since 1987, PACS has organized and co-organized symposiums, fora and roundtable discussions on topics of specific concerns relating to China (including Taiwan and Hong Kong), the Chinese overseas and the Chinese in the Philippines. This symposium on "New Directions in Philippines-China Relations" is convened together with the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (菲華商联總會), the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Associations in the Philippines (菲律濱各界聯合會), and Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, Inc. (菲律濱華裔青年聯合會) – three of the most dynamic organizations in the Chinese-Filipino commu-

nity, which promote better, complementary, and mutually beneficial Philippines-China relations.

The joint effort and the choice of the venue is one way of reaching out and introducing PACS to the mainstream society and to the Chinese-Filipino community outside of the academic circles.

Just before this volume went to press, the South China Sea issue, a constant irritant in Philippines-China relations, came into the limelight. To give a balanced general view about the issue, we decided to add a paper from Dr. Aileen Baviera to this volume.

PACS hopes that the symposium and the papers gathered in this volume will be informative and enlightening for all and will help clarify and enhance better understanding of issues affecting Philippines-China relations. We likewise hope that this volume and the topics covered will put our organization in the consciousness of a wider circle of people interested in China and Chinese overseas.

Teresita Ang See
President
Philippine Association for Chinese Studies
October 2011

歡迎詞

尊敬的中國駐菲律賓大使館商務參贊吳政平先生，菲律賓中華研究學會會長，菲律賓華裔青年聯合會創會會長洪玉華女士，菲華各界聯合會主席戴宏達先生，CNN 北京局局長 Jaime FlorCruz 先生，亞典耀大學教授 Joseph Anthony Lim 博士，亞典耀大學教授 Benito Lim 先生，各位來賓，女士們，先生們。

大家下午好，今天菲華商聯總會、菲華各界聯合會、菲律賓中華研究學會、菲律賓華裔青年聯合會在此聯合舉辦“探求菲中關係發展的新方向”的研討會，首先我代表主辦方，向諸位與會嘉賓表示熱烈的歡迎。

眾所周知，前段時間發生的，“8·23”人質事件給一直呈現良好發展態勢的中菲關係蒙上了陰影，人質事件也使中菲兩國的國家形象受到影響，通過各種社會輿論和媒體報道可以看出，人質事件嚴重干擾了中菲兩國對彼此的認知，減少兩國民眾間的理解和包容，從而加大雙方信任感的流失。

然而我們認為，人質事件對中菲關係造成的不良影響是短期的，長期而言，中菲關係的根基並未動搖，未來前景依然廣闊。特別是在事件發生後面對社會媒體對菲中關係的種種臆測，中國大使館劉建超大使迅速作出澄清，人質危機不會影響中國與菲律賓發展戰略合作關係，這充分表明中國發展中菲關係的強烈願望。本國總統阿基諾也表示希望人質危機不要影響中菲合作，並表示願意承擔責任。

這也顯示出菲律賓對中菲關係的重視和發展中菲關係的誠意。由此可以看出，“8·23”人質事件雖然暫時對中菲關係造成影響，但難以阻礙中菲關係發展的潮流。回顧中菲關係的發展我們就不難發現，中菲人民間的传统友誼與在此基礎上建立起來的深厚感情和相互依存是中菲關係的根基，發展中菲關係是人心所向，是歷史的潮流。

在座的各位嘉宾中，既有知名、资深的专家学者，也有菲华社会的侨领、精英。希望大家通过围绕“探求菲中关系发展的新方向”这一中心议题深入探讨，加深对菲中关系的理解和认识，相信本次研讨会将为促进菲中友好关系的发展和两国的繁荣和稳定做出有益的贡献。

预祝本次研讨会取得圆满成功！
谢谢大家！

戴宏达
菲华各界联合会主席

WELCOME REMARKS

A very good afternoon to everyone, and welcome to the forum on “Exploring New Directions of Philippines-China Relations.”

As we all know, the hostage fiasco of August 23 cast a shadow over what was till then warm relations between China and the Philippines. We saw from various media reports and social commentaries how the incident adversely affected the erstwhile mutual understanding and the positive perception between Filipinos and Chinese.

However, we believe that the adverse impact of the hostage incident on relations between China and the Philippines is short-term. The loss of trust and tolerance fanned by speculation in social media is temporary. In the long term, the foundation of Sino-Philippines relations have not changed, and the future remains bright.

After the incident, Ambassador Liu Jianchao quickly

clarified that the hostage crisis will not affect the development of China's strategic partnership with the Philippines. This fully shows China's confidence in the future of bilateral relations.

President Benigno S. Aquino III himself hoped that the incident would not harm bilateral relations, and expressed willingness to shoulder responsibility. This shows how much importance the Philippines attaches to Sino-Philippines relations, as well as the government's sincerity in furthering it.

The temporary setback in bilateral relations will not hinder the overall good relations between the Philippines and China. The long history of friendship and cooperation, heartfelt affection and interdependence between the two countries are solid foundations of this bilateral relations.

I hope that through discussions around the theme of “Exploring New Directions in Philippines-China Relations” and the in-depth issues explored by the distinguished guests and scholars with us today, will deepen general understanding and awareness of the true Philippines-China relationship.

I believe that this symposium will contribute greatly to the promotion of friendly and prosperous relations between the two countries.

I wish this symposium a success!

Thank you everyone!

Te Hong Tat
President
Federation of Filipino-Chinese Associations

閉幕詞

尊敬的中国驻菲律宾大使馆商务参赞 吴政平先生；
菲律宾中华研究学会会长，菲律宾华裔青年联合会
创会会长洪玉华女士；菲华各界联合会主席戴宏达先
生，CNN 北京局局长 Jaime FlorCruz 先生，亚典耀大学
教授 Joseph Anthony Lim 博士，亚典耀大学教授 Benito
Lim 先生，各位来宾，女士们，先生们。

下午好！

我在此代表菲华商联总会感谢大家参加今午的讨论
会。

这是一次富有成果的集会。我相信来自学术界，商
务界和民间组织的代表们，肯定从讨论会中受益良多。
我更要感谢菲律宾中华研究学会，菲华各界联合会和菲
律宾华裔青年联合会联合主持这次成功的讨论会。

我还要特别感谢讨论会上讲话的贵宾们，跟大家分
享有关菲中两国关系的论述及提供宝贵的资料。菲中关
系确实在这几年来达到前所未有的高峰。两国经贸关系
发展到新的水平。而农业，教育，科技和文化等领域的
关系，也给双方带来了无可估量的好处。

菲华社会同中国和菲律宾的密切关系，使我们对上
述发展感到乐观。而当我们继续探求菲中两国关系的新
方向时，我们更下定决心继续参与增强两国之间的伙伴
关系。

谢谢各位。

CLOSING REMARKS

A pleasant good afternoon to everyone. On behalf of
the organizers and the Federation of Filipino-Chinese
Chambers of Commerce, allow me to sincerely thank you for
gracing this symposium with your presence.

This meaningful symposium, I am sure, has richly en-
riched and benefited the scholars, researchers and China
watchers, business people and members of civil society who
gathered together here.

I am especially thankful to the Philippine Association for
Chinese Studies, the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Associa-
tions and the Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran, our co-convenors of
this successful symposium.

Special gratitude is extended to the speakers in this
symposium who shared their valuable research and insights
on the new directions in Philippines-China relations.

Philippines-China relations has reached an all time high
the past few years and the trade exchanges between the two
countries has reached new levels. The mutual exchanges in
agriculture, education, technology and culture has also been
unprecedented and all these developments have brought in-
calculable benefits to our two nations.

The unique position of the Chinese-Filipino community,
in particular, enables it to look at the above positive devel-
opments with great optimism. As we explore the new direc-
tions in Philippines-China relations, we greatly resolve to
help strengthen the great partnership between the Philip-
pines and China.

Thank you!

Dr. Alfonso A. Uy

President

*Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of
Commerce and Industry, Inc.*