

<国際関係学部研究会報告>

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China's Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Assistance: International Responsibility from Local Perspectives

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In this seminar, I provide a nuanced understanding of a "responsible China" in relation to peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance, taking into particular account the perspectives of the "insider"—who lives in the conflict/disaster-affected areas where China conducts peacebuilding and delivers humanitarian assistance. Analysts and policymakers often debate whether China is a responsible state, but they play down or ignore how the "insider" perceives China's contribution to peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance, especially with regard to the idea of international responsibility. More specifically, by drawing on the literature of peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance published in the Chinese and English languages, I have formed a conceptual framework consisting of five aspects that can help one assess China's international responsibility in peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance. The five aspects are: (1) the quantity and quality of China's material contribution (i.e., does China contribute

enough materially, and is China's contribution of high quality?); (2) China's approach to sovereignty (i.e., does China contribute in a way that benefits local populations rather than their governments, by taking an approach that goes beyond a government-to-government style of engagement?); (3) the level of China's participation in multilateralism (i.e., does China participate in multilateral fora or coordination processes in its engagement with conflict/disaster-affected regions?); (4) the relevance of China's contribution to the longer term (i.e., does China's contribution have a long-term impact on conflict/disaster-affected regions, not just offer short-term relief?); and (5) any other themes of importance to the "insider" under consideration (i.e., are there any other traditional and cultural themes that affect the views of the "insider" on international responsibility?). Based on fieldwork and extensive interviews in Cambodia, Liberia and Aceh, I find that "insider" understanding of international responsibility is not necessarily informed by Western or by Chinese ("outsider") perspectives, but rather by a variety of local considerations; such as traditions and cultures, and the quest for development opportunities. This finding affords a more nuanced analysis of what it means to be perceived as responsible in international affairs than findings based on "outsider" perspectives, which tend to be somewhat abstract and often dichotomised along ideological lines.

第2回 (2017年1月17日)

Male-directed sexual violence in conflict  
as a Human Rights issue

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The research seminar presentation began with an overview of sexual violence in conflict (hereafter SVC) as a social evil which has a long history in human affairs. The issue rarely raised serious concerns among political leaders, unless it could be used as a "rallying cry" to recruit more male citizens to enlist for the war effort and "save the honor" of the female population. Otherwise, SVC was relegated to the conceptual category of "unfortunate byproduct of war" or "private, family honor affair." During the Cold War, especially, no political benefits could be gained by a focus on SVC and dominant models of neo-Realism had no place for a discussion of the causes of SVC or possible solutions to the problem. However, since the early 1990's there has been a securitization of the issue to a large extent and the issue has gained considerable attention, as is evident with events like the June 2014 "Global Summit to End SVC" organized by the UK Foreign Office. U.K. scholar Laura Goetz expresses dissatisfaction at the fact that a large number of male survivors of SVC were given prominence at the June 2014 summit (a point disputed by the director of the Refugee Law Project (RLP) in Kampala, Chris Dolan. Goetz quotes a

UN official (no identification is provided) who states that 98% of rape victims are women. The author does not specify how this figure was arrived at, where it applies to, or what definition of rape was used. Goetz argues that it is problematic for attention to be paid to male survivors of SVC "even in the numbers are higher than expected"

The research seminar presentation engaged with questions and concerns raised by Goetz. Is it problematic to direct attention to male survivors of rape? Does such attention detract from a project of "women's emancipation?" "How do models of masculinity exacerbate the problem and make it more difficult for male survivors to seek help or gain recognition?"

One can cite credible documentation of male directed sexual violence from 25 armed conflicts in recent years. Scholar of international criminal law, Sandesh Sivakumaran shows that during the two-year period 2007-2009, rape and sexual mutilation were inflicted upon men and boys in the Central African Republic, Chechnya, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Iran, and Kenya. Common themes that emerge in the research literature include the following: identification of under-reporting as a key element in the lack of recognition of male SVC; lack of consensus regarding the causes of male SVC; an awareness of the role of language in perpetuating misunderstandings surrounding these issues, particularly through the linguistic sleight of hand by which "woman" or "women" becomes equated with "gender," "victim" becomes identified with "female,"

and “perpetrator” becomes equated with “male.”

In the future, I would like to explore connections between masculinities studies and psychosocial approaches and the issue of male-directed SVC. A focus on both social factors of gender and internalized processes on the level of the psyche may provide a theoretical framework that allows for an insightful analysis of SVC issues. I am also interested in exploring the language of texts provided by government agencies, IGO's, and relevant non-profit organizations, to evaluate the extent to which these instruments that play a vital role in constituting the conscience and action of the international humanitarian community actually acknowledge the existence of male survivors and work for justice for all.

