

Reproduced from *The Triumph of Practicality: Tradition and Modernity in Health Care Utilization in Selected Asian Countries* edited by Stella R. Quah (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 1984). This version was obtained electronically direct from the publisher on condition that copyright is not infringed. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the prior permission of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. Individual articles are available at
< <http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg> >

The Triumph of Practicality

The **Institute of Southeast Asian Studies** was established as an autonomous organization in May 1968. It is a regional research centre for scholars and other specialists concerned with modern Southeast Asia, particularly the multi-faceted problems of stability and security, economic development, and political and social change.

The Institute is governed by a twenty-two-member Board of Trustees comprising nominees from the Singapore Government, the National University of Singapore, the various Chambers of Commerce, and professional and civic organizations. A ten-man Executive Committee oversees day-to-day operations; it is chaired by the Director, the Institute's chief academic and administrative officer.

The **Social Issues in Southeast Asia (SISEA)** programme was established at the Institute in 1986. It addresses itself to the study of the nature and dynamics of ethnicity, religions, urbanism, and population change in Southeast Asia. These issues are examined with particular attention to the implications for, and relevance to, an understanding of problems of development and of societal conflict and co-operation. SISEA is guided by a Regional Advisory Board comprising senior scholars from the various Southeast Asian countries. At the Institute, SISEA comes under the overall charge of the Director while its day-to-day running is the responsibility of the Co-ordinator.

The Triumph of Practicality

TRADITION AND MODERNITY IN
HEALTH CARE UTILIZATION
IN SELECTED ASIAN COUNTRIES

Edited by
STELLA R. QUAH
National University of Singapore



Social Issues in Southeast Asia
INSTITUTE OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES

Published by
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
Heng Mui Keng Terrace
Pasir Panjang
Singapore 0511

All rights reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

© 1989 Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Cataloguing in Publication Data

The Triumph of practicality tradition and modernity in health care utilization
in selected Asian countries / edited by Stella R. Quah.

- 1 Medical care--Asia--Utilization--Collected works
- 2 Folk medicine--Asia--Collected works

I Quah, Stella R

II Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (Singapore)

RA303 T84 1989

ISBN 981-3035-19-6

The responsibility for facts and opinions expressed in this publication rests exclusively with the authors and their interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views or the policy of the Institute or its supporters

Typeset by The Fototype Business

Printed in Singapore by Kin Keong Printing Co Pte Ltd

Contents

<i>List of Tables</i>	vii
<i>List of Figures</i>	x
<i>Contributors</i>	xii
<i>Preface</i>	xv
1 The Triumph of Practicality <i>Stella R. Quah</i>	1
2 Marriage of Convenience: Traditional and Modern Medicine in the People's Republic of China <i>Stella R. Quah and Li Jing-wei</i>	19
3 Traditional and Modern Medicine in Japan: Main Features <i>Kyoichi Sonoda</i>	43

- | | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 4 | Stress-Coping and Traditional Health Care Utilization
in Japan
<i>Tsunetsugu Munakata</i> | 75 |
| 5 | Receptivity to Traditional Chinese and Modern Medicine
among Chinese Adolescents in Hong Kong
<i>Rance PL. Lee and Yuet-wah Cheung</i> | 101 |
| 6 | The Best Bargain: Medical Options in Singapore
<i>Stella R. Quah</i> | 122 |
| 7 | Utilization of Traditional and Modern Health Care Services
in Thailand
<i>Santhat Sermsri</i> | 160 |
| 8 | Confirming the Triumph of Practicality
<i>Stella R. Quah</i> | 180 |

List of Tables

1.1	Comparison of Indicators of Development of Five Selected Countries	14
2.1	Traditional and Modern Health Services in China, 1949, 1981, and 1985-86	29
3.1	Numbers and Ratios of Modern Medical Personnel in Japan, 1972-84	45
3.2	Institutions Training Modern Medical Personnel, 1986	46
3.3	Numbers and Ratios of Four Types of Traditional Medicine Practitioners in Japan, 1972-84	48
3.4	Institutions Training Traditional Medicine Practitioners, 1986	49
3.5	Cost of Production of Modern and Traditional Medicines, 1982-84	51

3.6	Trends in Production of Prescribed and Non-Prescribed Herbal Medicines, 1976-84	52
3.7	Utilization of Modern and Traditional Medical Resources for Selected Health Problems, Japan, 1985	54
3.8	Utilization of Modern and Traditional Medical Resources by Sex and Age, Japan, 1985	56
3.9	Utilization of Modern and Traditional Medical Resources by Urban and Rural Sectors, Japan, 1985	58
3.10	Trends in Utilization of Modern and Traditional Medical Resources, Japan, 1955-85	59
3.11	Utilization of Traditional Medicine, Bunkyo Study, 1986	61
A3.1	Utilization of Thirteen Types of Traditional Medical Resources by Respondents' Sex, Age, and Educational Level, Bunkyo Study, 1986	64
A3.2	Opinions on <i>Kanpō</i> (Traditional Chinese Medicine) by Respondents' Sex, Age, and Educational Level, Bunkyo Study, 1986	71
A3.3	Action Taken When Affected by Two Health Problems, by Respondents' Sex, Age, and Educational Level, Bunkyo Study, 1986	72
4.1	Effectiveness of Instrumental Support and Emotional Support	79
4.2	Correlation and Multiple Regression Analysis on the Psycho-Social Background of Folk Remedies Utilization in the Population of Tokyo Suburbs	94
5.1	Association between Each Socio-Demographic Factor and the Use of Chinese or Western Medical Care	108
5.2	Evaluation of Chinese versus Western Medical Care	110
5.3	Association between Each Socio-Demographic Factor and the Evaluation of Chinese versus Western Medical Care	112
5.4	Evaluation on Disease Treatment by Religion and Mother's Level of Education	112
5.5	Evaluation on Tonic Care by Sex, Age, and Father's Occupational Status	114
6.1	Modern Medical Services in Singapore, 1978 and 1986	125

6.2	Utilization of Modern Health Services in the Public Sector: Patient Attendance, 1978 and 1986	139
6.3	Utilization of Traditional Chinese Medicine: Clinic Attendance, 1978 and 1986	142
6.4	Comparison of Utilization of Modern and Traditional Health Services, 1978 and 1986	144
6.5	Four Most Common Types of Conditions Treated by Modern and Traditional Health Services, 1976-86	149
7.1	Government Health Service Facilities in Thailand, 1978	167
7.2	Health Services Utilization in Thailand, 1970	168
7.3	Number of Government Health Service Facilities in Thailand, 1970, 1981, and 1987	171
7.4	Health Services Utilization in Thailand, 1979 and 1985	174

List of Figures

2.1	Organization of National Health Services	27
2.2	Three-Tier Network of Health Services in Rural China	28
2.3	Departments and Organizations under the Ministry of Public Health, China, 1982	37
2.4	The Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China, 1982	39
4.1	Trends in the Rates for Receiving Medical Care for Main Illnesses	77
7.1	Relationship Patterns of Modern and Traditional Health Practitioners and Patients	165
7.2	An Expansion of Government and Modern Health Services to the Population	172

8.1	Influence of Pragmatic Acculturation and Accessibility of Modern Medical Services upon Dual Usage of Medical Resources	187
-----	--	-----

Contributors

Yuet-wah Cheung, Ph.D., is a Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. His areas of specialization are medical sociology and sociology of deviance. He has published numerous articles in professional international journals such as *Social Science & Medicine*, *Human Organization*, *Canadian Criminology Forum*, *Sociological Focus*, *Medical Anthropology*, *Reviews in Anthropology*, *Asian Profile*, and the *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*, and contributed a number of chapters in books. His recent publication is *Missionary Medicine in China A Study of Two Canadian Protestant Missions in China before 1937* (Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, 1988).

Rance P.L. Lee, Ph.D., is Professor of Sociology, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Chinese University of Hong Kong; Director of the Institute of Social Studies of the Chinese University of Hong Kong; and Secretary-Treasurer of the Research Committee on the Sociology of Health, International Sociological Association. His major areas of research include interaction between traditional and modern health care systems, problems of high-density living, and stress-coping strategies in Chinese culture. He has contributed over seventy papers in academic journals and as chapters in books. He is also the author of many books, among which are *Hong Kong Economic, Social and Political Studies in Development* (New York: M.E. Sharpe, 1979); *Social Life and Development in Hong Kong* (Hong Kong: Chinese University Press, 1981); *The People's Commune and Rural Development* (in Chinese) (Hong Kong: Chinese University Press, 1981); and *Statistical Analysis in Social Research* (in Chinese) (Wubei, China: People's Press, 1987); and the editor of *Corruption and Its Control in Hong Kong* (Hong Kong: Chinese University Press, 1981).

Li Jing-wei is Professor and Director of the China Institute of Medical History and Medical Literature, China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine; Deputy Director of the Society of History of Medicine, Chinese Medical Association; and Council Member of the Chinese Society of History of Science and Technology. His research interests cover various aspects of the history of traditional Chinese medicine, and he has written extensively on the history of Chinese medicine. He is the chief editor of "Fascicle on Medical History", *Encyclopaedia of Traditional Chinese Medicine* (in Chinese) and *Dictionary of Historical Figures of Traditional Chinese Medicine* (in Chinese); and co-author of *A Complete Dictionary of Traditional Chinese Medicine* (in Chinese).

Tsunetsugu Munakata, Ph.D., is Director of the Division of Society and Culture Research, National Institute of Mental Health, Japan. His research interests include medical sociology, health psychology, and transcultural analysis. He is the author of, among many publications, *Seishun Iryo no Shakaigaku* [Sociology of mental health treatment] (Tokyo: Koubundo, 1984) and *Koudoukagaku kara Mita Kenko to Byoki* [Behavioural science of health and illness] (Tokyo: Medical Friend Co., 1987); and

the co-author (with T.S. Lebra et al.) of *Japanese Culture and Behavior*, rev. ed. (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1986).

Stella R. Quah, Ph. D., is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore and Vice Chairperson of the Research Committee on the Sociology of Health, International Sociological Association. She has published papers in professional international journals and chapters in books in the areas of social policy, medical sociology, and sociology of the family. Among her publications are *Balancing Autonomy and Control: The Case of Professionals in Singapore* (Cambridge: Center for International Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1984) and *Between Two Worlds. Modern Wives in a Traditional Setting* (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 1988). She is the co-author (with Jon S.T. Quah) of *Friends in Blue: The Police and the Public in Singapore* (Singapore: Oxford University Press, 1987) and the co-compiler (with Jon S.T. Quah) of *Singapore* (Oxford: CLIO Press, 1988).

Santhat Sermsri, Ph.D., is Associate Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand; and Board Member of the ASEAN Training Center for Primary Health Care Development in Bangkok. His research interests include health services utilization, social impact of health, and social demography. He is the co-author (with J.N. Riley) of *The Variegated Thai Medical System as a Context for Birth Control Services* (Bangkok: Institute for Population and Social Research, 1974); and the author of *Impact of Rapid Urbanization on Health Status in Thailand* (Bangkok: Project of Applied Social Sciences to the Development of Population Activities and Family Planning, Mahidol University, 1986).

Kyoichi Sonoda, Ph.D., is Professor of Sociology in the School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine at the University of Tokyo. He has published numerous papers on health and illness behaviour and attitudes in Japan, including the utilization of health services. Among his recent publications is *Proceedings of the Second Asian Conference on Health and Medical Sociology*, which he edited jointly with E. Isomura and others (Tokyo: Japanese Society of Health and Medical Sociology, 1987).

Preface

The idea for this volume began taking shape during the preparation for the session on traditional and modern medicine, which was one of the sessions organized by the Research Committee on Medical Sociology (now Sociology of Health) of the International Sociological Association (ISA) as part of the XIth World Congress of Sociology held in New Delhi in August 1984. I was invited by the Chairman of the Committee, Ray Elling, to organize that session. Three of the papers presented in the session, namely, the paper on Hong Kong, Sonoda's paper on Japan, and the paper on China, were selected for inclusion in this volume. They appear here, revised and enlarged, as Chapters 5, 3, and 2, respectively. Their contributors, Rance Lee, Yuet-wah Cheung, Kyoichi Sonoda, and Li Jing-wei, had worked extensively on the study of medical systems from

different perspectives and were specially invited to participate in the ISA Congress. For the other chapters, I approached Tsunetsugu Munakata from Japan and Santhat Sermsri of Thailand, prompted by their valuable contributions to the study of medical systems in their respective countries. Sonoda's chapter provides an overview of the link between traditional and modern medicine in Japan while Munakata centres on the more specific area of mental health, which is a very relevant aspect in the high-technology and rapid pace of life in Japan in the 1980s. One of the main contributions of this book is that it offers the views of social scientists from the countries studied. Of course, we paid the price in terms of time. Indeed, as is common in collaborative efforts, the bulk of the revision work was done by correspondence. However, in the spring of 1988, I had the opportunity to go to Beijing to finalize the chapter on China.

The main aim of this study is to present current documentation on the resilience of the traditional medicine system in Asian nations undergoing rapid modernization and to explore the reasons for people's persistent combination of modern and traditional medical resources in their everyday life. The intended audience for this book is the growing number of social scientists interested in medical systems, problems of modernization and tradition, and the process of modernization and its consequences in Asia. But the book will also offer useful information, as a reference volume, to modern medical practitioners and medical students, particularly those concerned with public health and working in Asia.

Finally, I am indebted to the kind and valuable inspiration I received from the writings of Professors Charles Leslie and Ray Elling and the ideas I have been fortunate to obtain personally from both of them on various occasions over the years. I wish to express my appreciation to the six contributors for their kind co-operation in putting together this volume. Without their goodwill and scholarly spirit this work could not have been possible.

August 1988

Stella R. Quah
Singapore