

# EDITORIAL

WINTER 2005

As time slips into 2005, East Asia continues to be unsettled. The Japanese people are still struggling with their wartime past, Japan's role in the region and its relations with its neighbors. North Korea's nuclear program is an ongoing worry to countries in the region. Taiwan and Beijing shared a brief moment of better relations with the first commercial cross-strait flights in nearly 50 years, but Beijing's soon to be passed anti-secession law will no doubt heighten tensions. Meanwhile, Southeast Asia continues to be buffeted by the effects of one of the world's worst disasters, the Christmas Tsunami. The sixth edition of the *Stanford Journal of East Asian Affairs* includes articles that highlight some of the issues that contribute to this uncertainty.



In "Revisiting Tiananmen Square Incident: A Distorted Image from Both Sides of the Lens," **Albert Chang** carefully examines conflicting claims about the number of casualties that occurred on the fateful morning of June 4th 1989 in Beijing. Using a variety of primary and secondary sources, he attempts to provide context to the Tiananmen Square incident.

"Taiwan's Geopolitics and Chiang Ching-Kuo's Decision to Democratize Taiwan," by **Ching-fen Hu**, reviews the chronology of Taiwan's democratization process and the role that Chiang Ching-kuo played in that development process.

Exploring a growing internal issue in China, **Diana Fu**, in her article "China's Paradox Passage into Modernity: A Study on the Portrayal of Sexual Harassment in Chinese Media," uses Chinese media sources to determine government policy and attitudes towards sexual harassment in China.



An article that contributes to understanding the historical basis for modern thinking in Japan is "Japanese Fascism Revisited" by **Marcus Willensky**. He argues that under the commonly understood definition of fascism, pre-war Japan must be called a fascist power.

In “Tokdo or Takeshima? The International Law of Territorial Acquisition in the Japan-Korea Island Dispute,” **Sean Fern** explores the legal issues surrounding a disputed island located between the two countries. Fern compares the competing claims for the island with other, similar international legal conflicts and finds the Korean case to be more strongly rooted in international law.



In “The Sources of Regime Stability in North Korea: Insights from Democratization Theory,” **Yun-Jo Cho** uses recent research into how and why countries democratize to attempt to predict whether North Korea might begin moving towards a democracy.

**Min-Dong Paul Lee**, in his article, “Contested Narratives: Reclaiming National Identity through Historical Reappropriation among Korean Minorities in China,” examines the controversy over identity surrounding the Korean minority group, *Chaioxianzu*, in Northwestern China. Lee uses the issue as a way to explore differing conceptions of identity between various factions inside China.



**Andrew Hall** walks through the negotiation process that created SEATO in his piece, “Anglo-US Relations in the Formation of SEATO.” He pays particularly close attention to the negotiations between Anthony Eden, Eisenhower, and Dulles, emphasizing the restraining role that the British played. Perhaps the most complicated foreign relations question in East Asia is that of ASEAN relations with major powers, a subject discussed in “ASEAN’s Role and its Management of the Sino-Japanese Rivalry,” an article by **Tai Wei Lim**. He examines various strategies, as seen through recent incidents, which ASEAN has used to balance the major players in East Asia.