



Nature Preserves and Tourism in East Asia

Social Change in Asia
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Three Views of Nature

- Nature as object
 - Something different from humans that should be dominated or used
 - “removal of God from nature” (disenchantment)
- Nature for its own sake
 - Began in Europe--Alps from “mountain gloom to mountain glory”
 - Developed further in America
- Pastoral natures
 - View of people living simply and harmoniously within nature

Thought into Action

- So far, we have been discussing different ways that Chinese and Westerners have **thought** about nature
 - This is the “culture” part of understanding behavior--the set of shared attitudes, values, and goals that shape people’s decision making
- This week we are going to begin talking about how two **activities**: nature preservation and pollution control, have been affected by indigenous culture and by globalization’s affect on indigenous culture
 - These activities are **political processes** — examples of social mobilization for collective action--but we will address politics more directly in the following two weeks

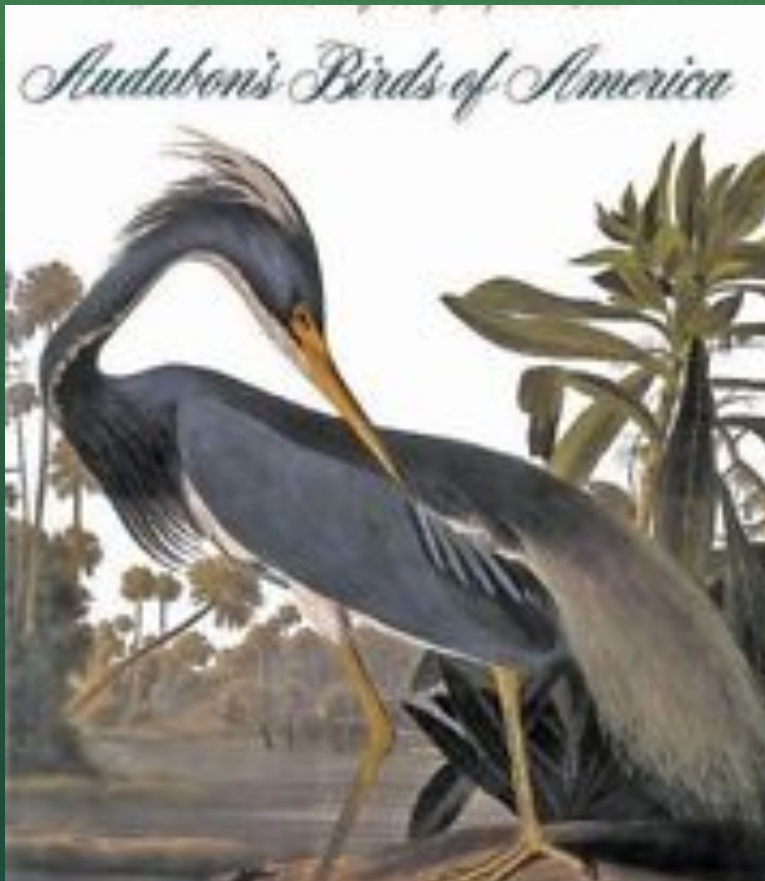
Weller's Two Walks

- West Mountain in Guiping Guangxi (1985)
 - Scenic mountain
 - People lighting incense in front of rocks and trees because of “divine potency” 神灵 (靈)
 - Lunar 2.19 Guanyin's (Avalokiteshvara) Birthday, mountain temples, spirit possession 跳神
 - Combination of “nature tourism with religion”
- Taiwan Toroko National Park (name comes from the indigenous Truku tribe)
 - Originally established by the Japanese in 1937, but abolished with Taiwan's reversion to China in 1945
 - Reestablished 1986 by the Taiwanese government
 - Signs of economic exploitation
 - Park director believes in “wilderness and natural preservation for its own sake”
 - Painter Chiang Hsun thinks of interaction of water and rock

Three competing views of nature in Taiwan

- Traditional view of a landscape full of qi (energy) and spiritual animals
- “disenchanted” world of commodities to be sold for profit
 - Nature object of analysis that needs to be controlled through science for industrialization and power
 - Shared by both Communists and Nationalists, and Western originated
- State-sponsored conservation areas and nature parks
 - Tension between preservation for its own sake or for tourism and exploitation of resources (American versus Japanese model)

United States Model — Began with Bird Watching



- *Birds of America* by John James Audubon printed between 1827-1838
- George Bird Grinnell founds the Audubon society in 1886 during a period in which large-scale harvesting of birds for meat was leading to extinctions (i.e. Passenger Pigeon 1914)
- Disbanded in 1888, but refounded in 1896 and worked for conservation laws and established wildlife sanctuaries

Why did extinctions accelerate in the late 19th century?

- Population growth, consumer demand, mechanical harvesting technology
- Before about 1850 subsistence hunting of game didn't generally lead to extinctions, because the harvest was not large enough to threaten survival
- After about 1865 in the US mechanization of hunting set in:
 - People traveled by rail and communicated by telegraph so they could follow animal migrations
 - Transcontinental rail lines built 1869-1883
 - Mechanical transport meant that large-scale kills could be packed and shipped to cities for sale
 - Passenger pigeons and buffalo were two hard hit species

Nature Preservation through National Parks

- Yosemite
 - Yosemite valley inhabited by Ahwahnee tribe, but when whites entered the mountains of California during the Gold Rush (1849 on) Indian Wars began
 - Lafayette Houghton Brunnell of the Mariposa Battalion first named and described the valley of 1851 in an 1880 publication
 - What impressed them most were the glacially carved valley, and the groves of huge Sequoia trees that attracted tourists from the 1850s
 - Concerned about the effects of **commercial exploitation** the Yosemite Grant was passed and signed by President Lincoln in 1864 setting aside this federally-owned land for a state park
 - Agitation by John Muir, who wrote poetically and spiritually about Yosemite, led to a larger Yosemite National Park in 1890

Yosemite Valley in 19th Century



National Parks II

- Yellowstone
 - First established national park in 1872 “as a pleasure ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people” and to preserve it from those who would “make merchandise of these beautiful specimens”
 - Local residents were initially opposed arguing the local economy would be harmed if the environment cannot be exploited
 - Native residents were excluded, and tourists came initially by stagecoach, later by rail, and then by car

Yellowstone National Park



National Park Expansion

- Other individual parks established
 - Mineral springs
- National Monuments, 1906
 - Theodore Roosevelt—to protect antiquities and objects of scientific interest (by Presidential declaration)
- National Parks Service 1916
 - Woodrow Wilson
- Consolidated into a single system 1933

Washington State National Parks

- Rainier National Park (1899)
- Olympic National Park (1938)
- North Cascades National Park (1968)



American Model

- Originally based on setting aside huge tracts of federally owned land
- Native inhabitants removed and excluded from residence or use
- No economic exploitation of park resources (mining, logging, farming)
- Designed both for preservation and recreation but not developed with resort-like facilities
 - Only a few iconic hotels and campsites within the park, but extensive tourist facilities just outside the park

National Parks in Europe

- Swiss National Park 1914
 - This is a strict nature preserve in which fires and trails are excluded, and overnighting is allowed only in a single mountain hut
 - This is now recognized as a UNESCO Biosphere Preserve (IUCN 1a Strict Nature Preserve — see below for IUCN classifications)
- Elsewhere in Europe national parks and nature reserves are recent, relatively small, and often include human habitation and private property

Swiss National Park



Japanese National Parks

- Initial city parks were expanded when the shrines and forests of Nikko 日光 were placed under public protection in 1929
 - Buddhist temples, shrines, sacred forests are considered National Treasures and are run by religious organizations
- 1931 National Parks Law (国立公園法) passed as part of Japan's quest to be regarded as an advanced and civilized society (cf Shapiro)
 - 1930s 7 parks in Japan, 3 in Taiwan (and probably some in Korea)
- By 2016 more than 34 parks
 - While protected, the state owns only about half the land in the Japanese parks
 - Many include sacred Shinto and Buddhist sites (Nikko, Ise-Shima)

Nikko and Toroko Gorge



Taiwan

- 1937 Governor General set up three parks
 - Daiton (Yangmingshan)
 - Nitaka-Arisan (Yushan, Alishan)
 - Tsugitaka-Taroko
- After 1945 neglected, then new law in 1972 and reestablishment in 1984
 - Mostly striking and scenic landscapes
 - A few have aboriginal people living in them
 - One on Jinmen has historic battlefields



Taiwan Forest Management

- Different management in national forests than in national parks that are more US influenced
- Japanese trained forest managers
 - Dedicated to preservation, but tolerate swimming, barbecuing, set up “courses” for exercise, or therapeutic interaction with nature (walking barefoot on stones)
- Japanese language skill rare in central government (dominated by mainlanders), but is more common among provincials
 - Among native Taiwanese nostalgia for the colonial period is not uncommon

South Korea

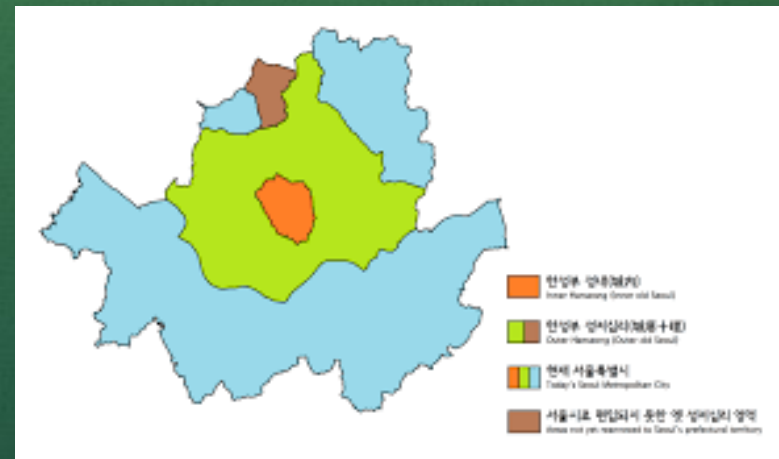
- National Parks Service set up in 1967
 - Visiting temples in mountain settings is a traditional upper-class activity
 - In colonial times (1910-1945) the Government General set up historical and scenic tourist sites
 - Modern transportation to scenic spots, Japan Railways promoted tourism in the Empire
 - Similar to Japanese system in that Korean parks “preserve the national patrimony” including operational Buddhist temples
 - Jirisan (1967) temples and mountains
 - Gyeongju ancient capital archaeological, Buddhist, historical site
 - Gyeongju Mountain ancient temples, scenic mountain, lots of folk religious activity
- Mountains source of “essential qi” 精氣
- Recent practice of “tapsa” 踏査 — travel to savor the natural and historical essence of Korea

Jirisan & Gyeongju



Other 1960s ROK Projects

- Also Central Government reforestation in 1960s and 1970s
 - Turn to coal for fuel, prohibit logging or agriculture in mountains
 - Active planting of trees
- Periurban Green Belts set up surrounding Korea's largest cities
 - Zoning limiting development



United Nations Model

- IUCN—International Union for Conservation of Nature (=World Conservation Union)
 - International environmental membership network of both government and civil society organization
 - Created in 1948 in Fontainebleau in cooperation with UNESCO (headquartered in Paris) to focus on sustainable development
 - Initially focused on scientific knowledge about conservation (pesticides, biodiversity)
 - 1964 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
 - 1971 Ramsar Convention of Wetlands
 - 1972 World Heritage Convention
 - 1974 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
 - 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity
 - 1999 granted official observer status at UN
 - 2000s focused on business engagement strategies

China Parks Begin

- 1956 first nature preserve for scientific research but in chaos of Great Leap Forward 大跃进 not much happened
- 1962 move to set up conservation reserves but the Cultural Revolution 文化革命(1966-8) disrupted development of scientific expertise
- 1982 first national parks for tourism

PRC uses IUCN model

- 1990s PRC turned to international conservation expertise (IUCN) – six levels of protection
 - 1a – Strict Nature Reserve (protected from most human usage)
 - 1b – Wilderness Area (limitations on human visitation – often prohibiting motorized transport)
 - 2 – National Park (large protected area with significant tourism)
 - 3 – Natural Monument (small protected area that can include human monuments with significant tourism)
 - 4 – Habitat/Species Management Area (relatively small area designed to protect a specific species – like a Panda reserve)
 - 5 – Protected Landscape/Seascape (large area with a specific human-nature interaction)
 - 6 – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources (while excluding large-scale industrial development useful for an area with low levels of human habitation)
- In 2000 China had four areas in the 1st three categories

Badaling & Wulingyuan



UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Program

- Since 1971 dedicated to preserving species diversity
- Not nature reserve model exactly
 - Sustainable development – that is, development while sustaining biodiversity
 - Core areas are strictly protected ecosystems
 - Buffer zones surround core areas and are used for activities compatible with preservation of core areas
 - Transition area fosters economic and human development “that is socio-cultural and ecologically sustainable”
- Wolong Giant Panda preserve has resident human population of about 4000

China and Taiwan Compared

- Global forces are not unitary
 - United States, Japan, United Nations influence
- Timing of entry into global flow of conservation ideas important
 - Taiwan earlier followed US-Japan Model
 - China a decade later followed sustainable development model that had just been developed through UNESCO
- Flows of information historically conditioned
 - Taiwan more influenced by US and Japan because of history

Chinese Natures

- Chiang Hsun's paintings
 - Show the flow of qi through water on rocks
 - Appreciation of strange rocks (qishi 奇石) – that are lean, textured, and pierced
 - Point – even though painting in an American-inspired park, aesthetic view points to older Chinese views of nature
- Division between “sacred and profane” (that according to the French sociologist Emile Durkheim is fundamental to human society) not so sharp in China
 - Might put stones on ancestral altar but *worship* 拜 means to offer respect
 - Gods and ancestors are part of the world of qi
 - Shrines to “stone gods” 石头公 are common
 - Woman worships to get along with her daughter-in-law
 - Patriarch of the Eight Trigrams 八卦祖师 –resemblance of stone to turtle attracted attention
 - They are *ling* 灵 (靈) efficacious [miraculous] – with qi no particular separation of human and natural world
 - *Dream of the Red Chamber (Story of a Stone)* novel about a piece of jade born as a human
 - Nature tourism “paying respects” 朝山 to the mountain, something of the nature of a pilgrimage

Mi Fu paying homage to a rock versus Albert Bierstadt “Puget Sound on the Pacific Coast”



Landscapes, Natures, and National Identity

Chông Sôn 1711 “Hundred Waterfall Bridge”



3.8. Chông Sôn (1676–1759), *Hundred Stream Bridge*, 1711. Album leaf, ink and light colors on silk, 33.2 × 37.7 cm. National Museum of Korea

Hiroshige 1852 “36 Views of Mt. Fuji”



Nature Tourism Markets

- Taiwan
 - Oldest sites are historical
 - In 1970s interest in wilderness and scenic sites
 - Later still “humanized activities in parks”
 - People come for excitement 热闹 (renao), and amusements added (especially in private parks)
- China
 - Fewer entrepreneurial sites
 - Traditional pilgrimage sites — Mt. Emei
 - Combination of religion and environment

World Heritage Tourism

- China — 16 natural sites
- Taiwan — 0 sites (not a member of UNESCO)
- Japan — 4 natural sites (e.g. Mt. Fuji)
- South Korea — 1 natural site (Cheju Island lava tubes)