Academic workshop

Children, Education and Labor in modernizing societies

Asia & African perspectives

ISM - Dakar

Date: Thursday, 29 August 9:00-13:00
Venue: ISM, Conference Room (3F) - Point E Dakar

Programme

9:00
Introduction & Welcome remarks by Dr. Abdoulaye Diané, director of the Africa Asia center

I. Session (9:10)
Children / Youth and Labor

Chair: Paul Dominique Correa (sociologist)

9:10
- Takao Shimizu (research fellow, Research Institute for Humanity and Nature) “Street Children, Taribé and NGOs in Ouagadougou”
- Djibi Diakhaté (IAM)
- Kae AMO (PhD candidate, EHESS, Paris) “Work and study” in the traditional education: the cases of Daaras (quranic schools) in Sénégal
- Patrick Dieme (ISM)

10:10
Discussion
II. Session (11:00)  
*Schooling and Traditional education in Africa and in Asia*

Chair: **Cheikh Tidjane Mbaye** (sociologist, ISM)

1. **Nobutaka Kamei** (Associate Professor, Aichi Prefectural University) *Little hunter-gatherers in the tropical forest: Play and education of the Baka children in Cameroon*
2. **Yumiko Watanabe** (JICA, Teacher of Primary School) *From Japanese classrooms to Senegalese villages: comparative perspective*
3. **Maurice Badji** (ISM)
4. **Hwang Chae Yoon** (Teacher, Korea) *Teaching and learning from Korean experience*

12:20  
**General Discussion (Round Table)**

13:00  
**End of Conference**

Abstract:

This academic workshop, organized by Japanese, Senegalese and Korean researches and educators, approaches multiple aspects of childhood in contemporary African and Asian contexts, focusing on cultural changes among and around children.

In Africa, owing to the rapid spread of school education, certain aspects of children's traditional lifestyle are changing. These changes include not only "modernization by school education" but also a newly created culture by the children in and out of schools as well as recent economic and political impacts and children's strategies against adults, organizations and institutions. Today, in urban context, we can find many children "living and learning on/in the streets". The child labor in informal sector is an important economic factor in developing countries.

On the other hand, in many developed Asian countries as in Japan, "the crises of education" is became a keyword to talk about difficulties faced by the school education. The modernization and economic liberalization has changed the role of children in the society. Some scholars even talk about children as passive "consumers" of school education.

This workshop will report cases in rural and urban contexts in African and Asian countries (Senegal, Cameroon, Niger, Japan and Korea). In our constantly modernizing societies, in developing countries or in
developed ones, the children are the first to be influenced by cultural, social, economic and political changes. At the same time, Africa and Asia share some important social and cultural values that can influence the way of teaching, learning and “recognizing” children.

Perspectives for studies on childhoods in the context of modernization, focusing on both "society of children" and "children in society," will be propounded for future collaborative research between Asia and Africa.

Contact & Organizational committee

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