

Keynote Speech

The Asian Solidarity Movement of Korean Civil Society: Observations of 30 Years of Development

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‘Asian solidarity’ has been a catchword describing the international activities of Korean civil society for three decades. Its activism started to become tangible in the early 1990s. This paper begins by describing the blossoming and diversification of this solidarity movement. It then emphasizes recent changes, which can be observed in two key areas. Unlike in earlier phases of the movement when activists focused almost solely on issues directly relevant to Korea, today’s activism is more concerned with universal values. And it has recently developed into a movement involving more citizens beyond activists and intellectuals.

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Moderator

Yoko Hayami, Professor, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University

Yoko Hayami, is Professor at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University with a PhD in anthropology. She has worked mainly in Thailand among ethnic minority (Karen) in the northern hills on such themes as religion, family and gender. More recently she is working on aging and care in Thailand, especially in and around Chiangmai. Her publications in English include *The Family in Flux in Southeast Asia: Institution, Ideology and Practice* (Co-edited with Junko Koizumi, Ratana Tosakul, and Chalidaporn Songsampan (2012) Silksworm Press), *Between Hills and Plains: Power and Practice in Socio-Religious Dynamics among Karen* (Kyoto UP 2004), *Gender and Modernity in Asia and the Pacific* (Co-edited, 2003 Transpacific press), and journal articles including “Between state and family: Biopolitics of elderly care and emerging communality in Northern Thailand” in *Southeast Asian Studies* (2019).