

# The Fifth Tamkang International Conference on Ecological Discourse

第五屆淡江大學國際生態論述會議



# Program

## Ecocriticism in Asia: Reorienting Modernity, Reclaiming Nature?

亞太生態論述：反思現代，重回自然？

時間 2010年12月16、17、18日

地點 淡江大學  
251台北縣淡水鎮英專路151號

Time December 16-18, 2010

Venue  
Tamkang University, Tamsui, Taiwan  
(A) Chueh-sheng International Conference Hall,  
10th Floor, Main Library  
(覺生國際會議廳，圖書館10樓)  
(B) Chueh-sheng Memorial Hall, 5th Floor (I501)  
(覺生綜合大樓I501)

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## **Agro-Based Food Production System in Bangladesh: A Socio-Demographic Impact Assessment from Asian Examples**

### **Abstract:**

Bangladesh faces a daunting challenge to feed its 150 million people, of whom at least half of them are living in below food-based poverty-level, and another one quarter of them, live in extreme poverty. The economy of the country is mostly dependent on agriculture, which directly or indirectly has to subsist a huge number of its population, keeping them fully relied on its diversified cropping economy. But due to an unprecedented population growth, the proportion of cultivable land has been squeezing drastically, and failing to provide living space and settlements for expanded generations. It eventually puts a tremendous demographic pressure on its agro-based food production system in the rural areas. Based on my ethnographic data collected from the rural areas. I have documented genealogically the settlement pattern and food-production system in two villages named, Dhononjoypara and Gopalhati in the northern part of Bangladesh. The paper depicts clearly the rate of conversion of the low-lying agricultural land by making a rapid transformation of these into homesteads for settlement. In this context, information have been incorporated since 1850 to provide ethno-historic data from the Revisional Settlement Surveys of different times; and subsequently based on my field-data collected from these specific villages in two phases during 1984-1985 and 2009-2010. Alongside of this, the paper also provides information on an over-time population growth and finally concludes with a clear analytical description of the proportionate loss of agricultural land having shown clearly the impact on its agro-based food production system in the rural areas of Bangladesh. Finally, the paper will also cite examples from other Asian countries to make them aware about it for their respective countries.