BOOK REVIEWS*

International Terrorism by AMRITH ROHAN PERERA, Vikas Publishing House PVT Ltd, New Delhi, 1997, ISBN 110007, Price Rs 450.

This book is an investigation into the development of legal principles in the area of international terrorism, already for long a scourge of the international community. In pursuit of these legal principles, PERERA considers the various international initiatives which have attempted to deal with the problem.

All work in this area must overcome a definitional hurdle: what precisely is terrorism? While taking the simplistic explanation whereby terrorism “involves the systematic threat or use of violence calculated to inspire a feeling of fear or dread in the victims of such acts” (p. 1) as a starting point, PERERA makes clear that such an elementary exposition is only of limited use in creating an international regime to control terrorism. Any such regime must overcome a core definitional difficulty, summed up by FREIDLANDER as follows: “For some terrorism exists in the mind of the beholder, depending upon one’s political views and national origins. For others terrorism consists of a criminal act or acts according to the law of any civilized society” (p. 11). This “freedom fighter-terrorist” debate is the conundrum lying at the heart of all initiatives to combat international terrorism.

The surprisingly long history of anti-terrorist initiatives, as PERERA suggests, bears investigation, given its impact on later efforts such as, for example, the ‘extradite or prosecute principle’ found in the work of the International Conferences for the Unification of Penal Law (held in the 1920s and 30s) and in the League of Nations Conventions (the Geneva Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Terrorism, and its sister Convention for the Creation of an International Criminal Court). While these efforts had limited impact at the time, and the League of Nations Conventions even failed to come into force, PERERA sees them as the genesis of legal principles which have since developed.

PERERA’s discussion of United Nations initiatives is of particular interest to the reader concerned with the freedom fighter-terrorist debate. The dichotomy of views which has dogged all efforts to control terrorism has been most apparent in the global arena: while Western states condemn all acts of terrorism, the Non-Aligned Movement emphasises the principle of self-determination and the notion of legitimacy of national liberation struggles. Accordingly, the history of United Nations activity in this area is one of stalemate and uneasy compromise.

Regional organisations (tending to include states with cultural as well as geographical similarities) have been more successful in this area, though a definition of terrorism remains elusive. PERERA’s clear exposition of regional efforts in this area (e.g. within the European Union, the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation, the Organization of American States, the Non-Aligned Movement, and the non-regional but historically and culturally connected Commonwealth of Nations), involving a comparison of the various organisational achievements and failures, is of particular interest to the international lawyer considering anti-terrorist initiatives.

Through this investigation, the author discerns the existence of four legal principles which have developed from the various anti-terrorist initiatives: the principle of non-use of the territory of a state for terrorist acts against another state, the principle of universality of jurisdiction, the extradite or prosecute principle (*Aut Dedere Aut Judicare*), and the principle of non-extradition of political offenders.

In the conclusion, PERERA looks forward to the future of terrorism control and suggests that the end of the Cold War and the growth of international co-operation represent new hope for an

* Edited by Surya P. Subedi, Book Review Editor.

"international order based on respect for the rule of law" (p. 295). This is perhaps a rather optimistic view, given that it is traditional divergence of views between the non-aligned states and the west, rather than an east-west divide, which has dominated disagreement in this area. PERERA also contemplates the possible impact of an International Criminal Court on this area, and suggests that it could be positive: "An independent International Criminal Court vested with jurisdiction over international crimes of a terrorist character as 'codified' in existing multilateral Conventions enjoying general acceptance, would greatly enhance the development of a self-contained legal regime to serve as an effective legal response to the threat posed to the international community by the phenomenon of international terrorism" (p. 306).

The book affords a detailed and well organised examination of the various initiatives which have emerged in the fight against international terrorism. The historical analysis and investigation of the various conventions and initiatives aimed at controlling terrorist activities provide a sound base for the international lawyer concerned with international activity in this area. This work is perhaps flawed in its limited discussion of the freedom fighter-terrorist debate - an evermore important area as the notion of self-determination, and its adjunct the struggle of national liberation movements, become increasingly central to international law. While PERERA emphasises the importance of this debate, he fails to fully consider its implications. For example, a discussion of current initiatives by the Non-Aligned Movement, with its emphasis on the right of self-determination and the legitimacy of national liberation struggles, only accounts for five pages of the book (pp. 146-151) while, according to the author himself, "the Non-Aligned approach . . . made an impact on International Conventions . . ." (p. 147). In addition, the book (perhaps deliberately, for this is in itself a massive topic) fails to come to grips with the problem of state terrorism which is probably, as the Non-Aligned Movement insists, a greater threat to international peace and security than the terrorist activity of individuals.

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The International Status of Taiwan in the New World Order: Legal and Political Considerations, by JEAN-MARIE HENCKAERTS (ed.), Kluwer Law International/ Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, London/The Hague/Boston, 1996, pp. xviii and 337, ISBN 90-411-0929-3, price Dfl. 135.00/US \$ 88.00/£ 60.00.

With the end of the Cold War the time has come to reconceive notions of the international system and the world order. One case that will merit increasing attention is that of Taiwan and its relationship with China. The increased awareness of fundamental human rights and self determination, forces consideration of the question of where Taiwan stands within the international order of sovereign states. *The International Status of Taiwan in the New World Order* seeks to do this. It is the result of a conference held in Brussels, organised by the Centre for United Nations Law at the University of Brussels on 16 June 1995 to commemorate the golden anniversary of the United Nations. This was seen as a good occasion to examine in depth one of the issues that so far evaded solution. The book itself is comprehensive in that it takes a politico-legalistic approach to the problem and provides a host of relevant documents. It should prove useful to international law researchers in the areas of statehood and recognition, as well as self-determination. It could also prove useful to politics students examining the concept of the nation state and the politics of exclusion.

The book is divided into five broad sections. Part One sets the stage for what is to follow by scrutinising the international legal status of Taiwan. In this section HUNGDAH CHIU summarises the events that have shaped the future of the island of Taiwan (formerly Formosa), highlighting the ceding of the territory by China to Japan, Japan's renunciation after World War Two and the effective control exercised by the government of the so-called Republic of China (ROC). He

concludes that the “Peoples Republic of China (PRC) could not acquire title over Taiwan through the international law principle of occupation or prescription because it had no physical control over the island” (p. 8). HANS KUIJPER, while disagreeing with HUNGDAH that the ROC should be recognised as a State and represented in major organisations, examines the issues of statehood under the Montevideo Convention. He suggests that the only solution to the problem is to have two separate independent countries. MICHAEL DAVIS concludes the first section proposing that for a solution to the problem both China and Taiwan need to abandon nineteenth century rhetoric. He flags up the issue of modern concepts of sovereignty and statehood, however, which pose the question as to whether conferring statehood on Taiwan might be the imposition of outdated Westphalian values of statehood.

The second section of the book relates to the Taiwanese response to diplomatic isolation. LINJUN WU, in examining the “Limitations and Prospects of Taiwan’s Informal Diplomacy” (p. 35), points out that the economic success of the 1980s was the prime factor in the success of ‘informal diplomacy’ employed by the island. He however recognises that this approach has limitations and expresses reservations on the extent to which it is likely to succeed. KAY MÖLLER asks the question: “Does Flexible Diplomacy Improve Taiwan’s International Status?” and answers that the “new pragmatic foreign policy (of Taiwan) is neither an improvement nor a weakening of its international status but rather the logical outcome of a new international and regional setting in which China’s calls for reunification have been increasingly and effectively orchestrated by incentives and pressures” (p. 62).

Part Three of the book looks at the “Responses to Diplomatic Isolation” and focuses in particular on the return of Taiwan to international organisations. It is the longest section of the book and includes an article by DENNIS VAN VRANKEN HICKEY who looks at policies, problems and prospects of Taiwan’s return to International Organisation (p. 65). KO SWAN SIK looks at the implication of the meaning of ‘Taiwan’ to different actors in “Taiwan’s ‘Return’ to International Organisations” (p. 79). VINCENT WEI-CHENG WANG examines whether Taiwan can join the United Nations now that the Cold War has ended. He argues that Taiwan is a state and thereby has the right to membership of International Organisations, which also raises the question of the legality of Resolution 2758 (replacing the ROC with the PRC in the United Nations).¹ SHENG-TSUNG YANG in “The Republic of China’s Right to Participate in the United Nations” claims that the state has existed since 1912, while the PRC has only existed since 1949. Therefore participation in international organisations is the right of Taiwan - being a peace-loving nation satisfying conditions of statehood. Being an original member of the United Nations unfairly dismissed, and showing the readiness to provide technical and financial assistance are other factors that weigh strongly in its favour. JANET LORD looks at “Taiwan’s Right to be Heard Before the Security Council” (p. 133) and concludes that as long as the Security Council is discussing the Taiwan Question, the country has the right to be represented and heard at Security Council fora. LOUIS SOHN advises that Taiwan could perhaps work its way back into the international fold by seeking to first gain status as a permanent observer. NERI SYBESMA-KNOL looks at “The UN Framework for the Participation of Observers” and builds on the suggestion made by SOHN, comparing different freedom movements around the world. Finally, LUNG-CHU CHEN states emphatically that “Taiwan is a sovereign independent state in every sense of the word. Taiwan is not a part of China. Taiwan’s present and future destiny are not an internal affair of China” (p. 190).

The fourth part focuses on “Relations Across the Taiwan Strait” and contains articles by JAMES HSIUNG and CHENG-WEN TSAI. While the former analyses “The Paradox of Taiwan-Mainland Relations”, the latter looks at “The Development of Cross-Strait Policies in China and Taiwan”. HSIUNG highlights how despite the growth in trade and economic interaction between the

¹ For the legality of Resolution 2758 see JOHN BOLTON’s testimony in the United States Congress, House of Representatives, Committee on International Relations, H. Con. Res 63, relating to the Republic of China (Taiwan’s) Participation in the United Nations, 104th Congress, 1st session, Washington D.C., August 3, 1995.

two entities there has been a rise in the level of political tension. TSAI holds the PRC responsible for the lack of political headway and claims that “Beijing has always refused to face up to reality and has, instead interpreted cross-strait relations from a legalistic and ideological point of view” (p. 230). The ROC, on the other hand, the author claims, has “in substance . . . a real peaceful unification formula” (p. 233). In the concluding section of the book, the editor JEAN-MARIE HENCKAERTS assimilates the various sections to look into “Self-Determination in Action for the people of Taiwan”. He explores the use of the self-determination argument from the point of view of a separate state of Taiwan.

One aspect that the study perhaps ignores, is the self-determination of the original Formosans of Malay-Polynesian origin. As noted by KUIJPER, they were brutally repressed by the occupying forces of CHIANG KAI-SHEK (pp. 10 and 12). The study, whilst dealing with the politics of exclusion of the 21 million people of Taiwan, strangely excludes these indigenous people. It also operates from an area of weakness in that it has not yet been ascertained what the ‘people’ of Taiwan really want. There is a degree of contradiction in this respect, with some claims for the maintenance of the status quo (DAVIS, p. 32) while others claim that the ruling KMT government speaks for the people. Another weakness that presents itself is the considerable bias in favour of the ROC views to the exclusion of the views of the PRC. This demonstrates succinctly the subjectivity that is rife in examining issues of international law. It needs to be pointed out, however, that despite these weaknesses the book is exciting since it brings together some vital issues surrounding the resolution of the problem. The appendices are particularly useful to researchers seeking to enter into the area of Taiwan, containing the various documents to be examined. Researchers will find the book a useful and comprehensive source of reference material.

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Sovereignty over Natural Resources: Balancing Rights and Duties in an Interdependent World by NICO SCHRIJVER, Cambridge Studies in International and Comparative Law, Cambridge University Press, 1997, pp. 452, ISBN 0 521 56269 4 hardback, price £55.00.

The de-colonisation and self-determination processes led to the emergence as independent states of many new actors on the world stage. These entities often asserted their independence in part through a re-examination of the economic and political *status quo*. A fundamental perspective of the ‘new states’ has been that one of the most important attributes of statehood is sovereignty. At its simplest, the claim to sovereignty is that no other entity can control the actions of a state. In the economic context, it is the claim that a state can freely chose with whom it does business and on what terms, can change or terminate those relationships or terms, can recover economic assets (or their value) taken from it on terms it considers unfair, etc. One of the legal concepts reflective of this emphasis on sovereignty, which has grown up over the last 50 years, is that of ‘permanent sovereignty over natural resources’.

Professor NICO SCHRIJVER of the Institute of Social Studies and the Free University of Amsterdam has written an excellent and ground-breaking study of the genesis, development and consolidation of this concept. The emphasis on sovereignty which the ‘new states’ adopted had an at least implicitly political dimension, as they sought to distance themselves from their former colonial masters and to tangibly demonstrate that they were not to be taken for granted in the changing socio-economic-political scene. Sovereignty was therefore aggressively pursued in fact and argued in theory. States claimed the widest scope for their powers, to terminate concession agreements, to create producer cartels that set prices, to expropriate property, to strictly control the business activities of non-nationals, to exclude competition by establishing monopolies in key areas of the economy, or to own natural resources located in the state or off its shores.

SCHRIJVER clearly sets out the three objectives of this book, a revised doctoral dissertation presented at the University of Groningen. They are “to map the evolution of permanent sovereignty over natural resources from a political claim to a principle of international law”, “to show that the principle of permanent sovereignty has not evolved in isolation but as part and parcel of other trends in international law”, and “to demonstrate that, apart from rights, duties relating to resource management can also be inferred and that under modern international law they are being given increasing significance”. SCHRIJVER meets these objectives and in doing so provides us with a study that illuminates many other aspects of international economic law.

The first part of the book is devoted to a review of the development of the principle of permanent sovereignty primarily at the United Nations. Unlike some other works, this book examines the early stirrings of the permanent sovereignty debate. The early link recognised between sovereignty over natural resources and the protection of human rights is pointed out, for example. Most of this section of the book is taken up with detailed descriptions of the various proposals, resolution and reports related to permanent sovereignty over natural resources continuing to the Rio Summit on Environment and Development in 1992. The study is notable for looking behind the texts adopted to the drafts and comments made by governments.

This method allows a fuller appreciation of the range of the debate and the areas in which compromise was necessary, as well as the bases for compromise. Uniquely, there is a section on sovereignty over resources in territories under foreign occupation or administration, in which Namibia, the Israeli-Occupied Territories and the Panama Canal and Zone are discussed.

The middle section deals with developments in three areas of international relations related to permanent sovereignty in practice. Here SCHRIJVER examines international investment law, the law of the sea and international environmental law. In each area he provides a primer for anyone who wishes to understand these areas of law. Indeed, each chapter is a ‘mini-textbook’ in which the background of the issues are reviewed from both a legal and political perspective, developments over recent decades are analyzed and future trends are discussed. These are not superficial reviews but could be used as the basis for either teaching or further research in each field.

The most difficult issue which SCHRIJVER examines is whether and how the principle of permanent sovereignty over natural resources has been transformed from political slogan to legal principle. The final part of the book applies the principle to many claims and examines to what extent it can actually be applied. Very usefully there is a chapter on the duties of states. This area is often neglected in the rhetoric of rights, and would usefully make a study in its own right. The author has led the way with an examination of the duties which arise in the context of permanent sovereignty. In his final chapter he makes a masterful connection between permanent sovereignty of natural resources, the theme of the 1960s and 1970s, to sustainable development, the theme for the 1990s and the next century. He makes the point that “permanent sovereignty in an interdependent world” can serve as “an important corner-stone of rights and duties”.

Professor SCHRIJVER has provided many useful tools for the reader. No review would be complete without referring to the very interesting tables and appendices which appear throughout the book. One can mention the table reviewing the “drafting history of provisions on permanent sovereignty over natural resources in the human rights covenants” and the appendix “survey of main cases” as two outstanding examples of highly useful collections. The comparative presentation of these materials makes it easy to understand the development of the law. Often authors will use specialist words without realising that the reader may not be as familiar as they with these terms of art. SCHRIJVER has provided a glossary of Latin phrases. He has also explained the main symbols used in United Nations documents, which can be so opaque. Finally, there is a comprehensive bibliography and index.

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The International Law on Foreign Investment, by M. SORNARAJAH, Grotius Publications, Cambridge University Press, 1994, pp. 427 + Index, ISBN 0 521 46528 1 hardback, price £60.00/US\$ 100.00.

The present reviewer cannot agree more with the author of this book when he states that “[i]n the second half of the twentieth century, apart from the international law on the use of armed force, no area of international law has generated as much controversy as the law relating to foreign investment” (p. 1). Yet, the irony was that no systematic attempt had been made to produce a cohesive and comprehensive treatment of the public international law applicable to the protection of foreign investment prior to the publication of this book, which nicely fills that gap.

This thorough, well argued and extremely well written book appears to be a climax of the writings of Professor SORNARAJAH of the Faculty of Law of the University of Singapore on the subject. This book is a good example of how the wealth of experience and expertise of an author on his subject matter can be expressed in a mature and lucid fashion. It is indeed a very welcome addition to the existing body of literature in this area of study and will, no doubt, serve as a very useful source of reference for both students and teachers alike interested in the public international law on foreign investment.

As stated at the introductory page of the book, “[i]t examines the different techniques that have been adopted by States for attracting foreign investment as well as for ensuring that foreign investment serves their economic objectives.” The author compares foreign investment legislation and assesses its legality in the light of international norms, and provides a good survey of the development of foreign investment law and a competent critique of the current tendencies that exist within both the Bretton Woods institutions and the new GATT/WTO regime.

The book is divided into nine chapters taking us all the way from the early days of the development of foreign investment law (in the first and second chapters), to the state of affairs as they stood at the completion of writing (in the eighth and ninth chapters). The author devotes entire chapters to some fundamental matters in foreign investment law such as the issues concerning host and home country control of transnational corporations. A very useful select bibliography and an index are included. The style of organisation of the material presented is sound and the lay-out of the book is quite logical.

In the nine chapters of the book the author touches on more or less every relevant topic or issue of foreign investment law, whether it is related to the nature of the risks to foreign investment or the ways of avoiding them. He analyses the reasons why, in spite of all the efforts made in the past two/three decades, the international community has failed to agree on an internationally binding code of conduct for transnational corporations - the main vehicles for foreign investment. As warranted by the scope and nature of the study, in this process account is taken not only of the law, but also of other disciplines such as economics and political science. The law of foreign investment is an illustrative example of the tension that exists in international economic relations between the developed and developing states.

Whilst developing states demonstrate a desire to emulate the success of the industrialised in general and the newly industrialised states in particular, they appear apprehensive about the dangers that lurk in the wholesale subscription of the Western approach to foreign investment. SORNARAJAH alerts the developing countries about the pitfalls of the Western agenda championed by the World Bank and the WTO. He is critical of the content of the 1992 Guidelines of the World Bank on foreign investment and tells us what are the ideas behind the GATT/WTO agreement on trade-related investment measures (TRIMS).

Since in the name of restructuring and reorganisation the UN bodies working for the establishment of a better and fairer international economic system have either been taken out of business or denied the resources necessary to carry out their tasks, the world is left with less and less inter-governmental ‘think tanks’ working for a fairer international economic system. This is

one reason why studies such as the one presented by Professor SORNARAJAH are of value to those prepared to listen to both sides of the argument.

Indeed, there are quite a few assertions made in this study which some people may find difficult to understand. For instance, SORNARAJAH dismisses the idea that private arbitration bodies such as the ones constituted by the International Chamber of Commerce can refer to the law of the International Convention on Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States (ICSID) in settling disputes before them. "As much as it is an error for tribunals not created by an international convention to imitate the powers of ICSID, it is an unwelcome development in many ICSID arbitrations that an effort is being made to marry ICSID jurisprudence with the internationalisation theory" (pp. 352-353). While one can understand the frustration of the author with the idea expressed in the second part of the quoted sentence, some people might say there is no reason for private tribunals to be barred from using the technique of choice of law conferred on a tribunal created by an international convention, if the private tribunals are allowed by the parties in the disputes concerned to use that technique and find it to be helpful in resolving the dispute before them.

Another area of difficulty for some people could be with Professor SORNARAJAH's trouble expressed regarding the attempts made by "a coterie of scholars of the developed countries", who are "totally committed to the protection of the multinational corporation and hostile to the interests of the developed countries", to "create investment protection through the formulation of spurious doctrines" (p. 335). This is because the type of scholars described by the author have always existed and will continue to exist and they would find it difficult to see the points made by the author. Not much can be done about the efforts they are making to advance the interests of multinationals. One can only hope that their line of argument would continue to be dismissed by the developing states as well as those scholars who labour to come up with an unbiased set of research findings. Given the current politico-economic climate of the world, it is, however, anticipated that the developing states might not hold on to their beliefs. This is because they have abandoned their traditional position with regard to many areas of international relations such as the deep sea-bed mining regime of the Law of the Sea Convention, 1982.

There are a couple of minor technical deficiencies in the book. For instance, the author does not always give a source of reference or the standard or primary source of reference for international instruments where they are mentioned for the first time in the text (e.g. ICSID at p. 41). Also, it would have been convenient for casual readers, or for those looking for a quick reference, had the author given his main research findings or summarising thoughts in a concluding chapter at the end of the book. Equally useful would have been tables of cases and of treaties and international instruments in a study of this nature. Nevertheless, the book can certainly be regarded as the definitive study of the public international law of foreign investment. It is a masterly treatment of the subject matter and constitutes a highly recommendable book for anybody interested in this area of international law.

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Essays in Honour of Wang Tieya, by RONALD ST. JOHN MACDONALD (gen. ed.), Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, Dordrecht/Boston/London, 1994, pp. viii and 964, ISBN 0792 324 692, price Dfl. 375.00/US \$ 228.00/£ 150.00.

The book under review is a collection of a wide range of essays in honour of a well known and well respected Chinese scholar of international law, Professor WANG TIEYA. It was edited by Professor ST. JOHN MACDONALD, and the list of contributors includes established names in the field of international law from all parts of the world: a befitting tribute indeed to a scholar of the stature of Professor TIEYA.

Essays in Honour of Wang Tieya is a skilfully structured book in that the editor has managed to include a wide range of topics in the field of international law in a coherent and orderly manner without giving a 'cramped' feeling to the reader. The book is one of considerable length, with an introduction and 58 chapters. Two of the chapters are written in French while the rest of the contributions are in English. Rather than writing a 'conventional' introduction where the main issues to be discussed are highlighted, usually by summarising the contents of the book, the editor in a poignant manner gives us a flavour of the themes to come through an insight into the multi-faceted and rich professional life and personal struggles of Professor TIEYA in the promotion and development of international law. The themes thus emerging from this chapter sets the scene for the diverse aspects and subjects of international law dealt with by contributors to the volume. Thus, we find themes ranging from the problems of teaching of international law in law schools, to environmental law, law of the sea, governing Antarctica, the UN system, sovereignty, state succession, self determination, the European system for the protection of human rights, to Chinese concerns in international law and Asian perspectives on international law, to mention but a few. In fact one may safely put forward the view that most topical issues effecting current discourse in international law have been dealt with.

The thematic treatment of the book thus reflects the various aspects of the professional interests and pursuits of WANG TIEYA in the field of international law. The common thread running through the volume is the conviction that even in politically and economically 'unequal' states, international law has a decisive and positive role to play. Faith in the efficacy of international law and the struggle towards a core of universalism appears as the dominant theme. MANFRED LACHS's statement is rather apt: "an important phenomenon of our days is the growing interdependence of States, which creates a new environment: the weak become ever more dependent on the strong but so do the strong. Thus disparities have to be made less impressive. It is here that the notion of equality integrated into contemporary international law can play a decisive role" (p. 488). LEE reiterates this importance of international law in his contribution "International Law Reaching Out" thus: "International law should now be disseminated as an area of knowledge to the public at large rather than as a tool relevant only to certain professions" (p. 509).

The book is particularly useful in that it is one of the few texts on international law that deals at some length with Asian perspectives and concerns regarding international law. The tone of the articles is positive and optimistic without failing to portray the very real difficulties of developing an effective regime for implementing international law. The excellent contribution of VAN HOOFF, entitled "Human Rights in a Multi-Cultural World: The Need for Continued Dialogue", is a clear example.

This collection will be of special interest to international law students and researchers who usually have little access to works and writings of non-western scholars as well as non-western perspectives on the subject. In this regard, one article deserves special mention as it has raised an issue one rarely encounters in international law debates. TERESA SCASSA's article entitled "The English Language and the Common Law: China and Hong Kong After 1997" deals with the impact of linguistic and cultural difference on law and legal systems. She describes the adverse impact of 'transplanting' the English legal system (in English) into the Chinese society, and how divisive it has proved for the people. The sensitivity and perceptiveness with which the author has dealt with this subject is indeed laudable. Her inference and conclusions are of almost universal application to the post colonial (and particularly) Third World.

An omission that has detracted slightly from the truly international flavour of this collection was the absence of any specific discussion concerning international law issues pertaining to the African continent. This omission is perhaps made more pronounced by the presence of contributions touching upon international legal issues relating to Europe, Asia, the Middle East and America. The predominance of contributions highlighting Asian concerns is understandable bearing in mind the aim and purpose of the collection, but one would have welcomed contributions reflecting African concerns and interests in international legal discourse.

In a vast multi-authored collection of this kind, the main aim of which is to honour an individual, it is rather difficult to strike a balance in terms of how evenly various topics of international law have been spread through the book. One will therefore discern a more detailed

treatment of particular subjects. Two such subjects may be mentioned here. Firstly, nine chapters have been devoted to Chinese concerns and perspectives on international law which of course is quite appropriate and welcome, considering the context and aim of the book. Secondly, ten chapters treat various aspects of law of the sea at some length. This concentration on the law of the sea probably stems from the fact that it constituted the special area of interest of the contributors. A reader looking for a more general text on international law may therefore be excused for mistaking the book as a collection focusing on law of the sea.

In sum, it has to be said that the book under review is an important and useful contribution to existing materials on international law and is highly recommended for international law students and researchers.

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