Three decades ago in 1974, amidst the height of the Cold-War rivalries, Malaysia and China signed a joint communiqué that formalized the establishment of Sino-Malaysian relations. This example in normalizing relations with China was soon followed by other ASEAN member states. Such initiative from ASEAN stemmed from the realization that the objective situation had changed. China’s southern neighbours had come to accommodate the notion that the best way to engage China was to treat her as a friend, not adversary. This has been helped by the fact that the former hostilities that had plagued their mutual relationship have been replaced by Beijing’s assertion that her growing influence in Asia – her “peaceful rise” – is a threat to no one but a benefit for all. Such notwithstanding, to the outside world, China has often remained an enigma. Her rise as a major economic and political player in the world today has given rise to increasing urgency on the part of her southern neighbours to fully grasp the implication of the rapidly changing socioeconomic and geopolitical landscape, both regionally and globally, caused by the expanding influence of their huge, overshadowing neighbour that has a long historical relationship with the region. The research papers collected in this volume cover the critical aspects of the issue from various different perspectives, ranging from China’s changing political and economic relations with Malaysia and Southeast Asia to the impact of her WTO membership on the regional economy, from the thorny issue of nationality and citizenship – in particular related to the “new Chinese migrants” – to China’s domestic challenges engendered by the country’s “retreat from equality”, growing interregional disparity, increased local autonomy, rapid economic growth and increasingly globalizing trade and business linkages.
Contents

List of Tables ............................................................................................................................... vii
List of Figures ........................................................................................................................... ix
Editors and Contributors ....................................................................................................... xi
Foreword .................................................................................................................................. xiii

Prolegomena

1 China and Malaysia: Bilateral Relations, Global Linkages
   and Domestic Nexus ............................................................................................................. 3
   Emile Kok-Kheng Yeoh

2 Southeast Asian Research in China: A Historical Review ............................................. 12
   Zhuang Guotu

Politics and Foreign Policy

3 China's Changing Political Economy with Malaysia:
   A Regional Perspective ..................................................................................................... 29
   Samuel C.Y. Ku

4 Sino-Malaysian Diplomacy in the Post-Cold War Period:
   A Regional Analysis ......................................................................................................... 45
   Li Yiping

5 The Globalization Impact on Malaysia-China Political Relations .............................. 57
   K.S. Balakrishnan

6 Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore’s Relations with China:
   A Comparison ...................................................................................................................... 71
   Ho Khai Leong

7 China’s Nationality Laws, Dual Nationality Status
   and the Chinese in Southeast Asia .................................................................................... 81
   Leo Suryadinata
Economic Relations

8  China-ASEAN Relations: Towards Global Stability, Peace and Sustainable Growth .................................................. 95
Chia Oai Peng

9  An Analysis of Recent Sino-Malaysian Trade Relations ...................... 127
Li Yi

10  The Impacts of China's WTO Entry on Southeast Asian Economic Growth and Development: A Case Study on the Philippine Economy ....................... 137
Shen Hongfang

11  India’s Economic Relations with ASEAN: Implications for China ............. 153
Zhao Hong

Domestic Challenges

12  A Study on Indonesian Migrant Workers in Malaysia ......................... 177
Lin Mei

13  Ningxia Khufiyyah Akhung Culture Training Plan:
   An Action Anthropology Perspective ........................................... 201
Sun Zhenyu

14  Demographic Diversity and Economic Reform in a Globalizing World: 
   Regional Development and the State in China .............................. 208
Emile Kok-Kheng Yeoh

Index ......................................................................................... 275