

## *The Hokkien and Their Overseas Movements: A Reflection\**

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### *Abstracts*

This article seeks to deepen our understanding of the Hokkien and their homeland, and to explore the experiences of some Hokkien migrants in Southeast Asia. The article argues that, in order to correct various myths, we need to study the diverse historical experiences of the Hokkien in different host societies, particularly in Vietnam, Dutch East Indies, and the Philippines. Rather than focusing solely on migration itself, the article pays attention to the modes of connection and the evolving contexts that fostered specific embedding mechanisms—namely, institutionalized insertions into social structure and systematic intertwining—within each host society. Different groups of Hokkien migrants moved to specific places at specific times. The cases discussed illustrate three key destinations and the markedly different historical experiences the Hokkien encountered in each. By reflecting on the three distinctive models represented by these locales, the article clarifies how various forms of embedding mechanisms emerged. These mechanisms enabled the Hokkien to endure and adapt by enhancing the long-term economic circulation and structural continuity, even amid intense political upheaval.

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