

Discourses on Education and Curriculum Making of the Miao Minorities in Qiangdongnan, Guizhou Province

Date: Wednesday 9 December 2020

Time: 12:00-13:00

Venue: E33-G021, Tin Ka Ping Lecture Hall, Faculty of Education

Language: English

Registration: Online Registration (<https://go.um.edu.mo/1fk5fj38>)



Enquiries: Mr. Raymond CHIANG (Email: FED_Event@um.edu.mo / Tel: 8822-8769)

Speaker:

Prof. Keang Ieng (Peggy) VONG earned her degrees in the U.S. and U.K. She has an academic background in Developmental Psychology, Child Development, and Educational Studies respectively. Prof. Vong has conducted research on children's creativity manifestations and the impacts of different pedagogies on enhancing children's creativity levels in disparate learning contexts. She has also researched about cross-cultural comparisons of preschool teacher education programmes and the challenges in establishing kindergarten systems in rural areas of China. While her research interests remain in comparative education and children's creativity manifestations, Prof. Vong has recently extended her earlier research ideas to studying the ecological systems of education in ethnic minority regions and understanding the socio-cultural factors, such as language as a cultural heritage, teachers and grandparents as social actors, on learner's educational opportunities and development.

Abstract:

Amidst the national effort to alleviate poverty across rural areas in China, promotion of education for members of the ethnic minority groups has also been undertaken. Subsequently, an increasing number of education-related policies provide guidelines for the education sector, from language education, the roles of education in cultural inheritance, to curriculum making. However, when local voices are taken into accounts, a less-straight forward scenario for education in rural areas of China arises. This report is based on a larger study which endeavoured to understand the views of various stakeholders on education and cultural inheritance in the Qiangdongnan region, a southwestern area in Guizhou where a huge number of Miao minorities reside. In particular, hard choices of curriculum making have to be made by the teachers, who are the social actors exercising their power to balance the needs of the State, parents and students, in the concerned ethnic minority region.