



Readings:

Discussion:

The term 'Chinese Overseas', or *Huagiao*, is used widely to refer to the Chinese diasporic and immigrant community in modern texts. It does not differentiate between Chinese populations with close ties to the Chinese homeland and culture, or those without. The current theoretical model for Chinese culture acknowledges three distinct groups, the centre (consisting of predominantly Chinese states, like China, Singapore, Taiwan, Macao, and Hong Kong), the periphery (consisting of Chinese diasporic minorities in places like America and Southeast Asia), and Chinese intellectuals (who help to define 'Chineseness', but aren't necessarily Chinese). The second group, is significant to the discussion as it influences the policy of the first. For example, the policy of the Peoples Republic of China towards *Huagiao* is defined by attempts to win over or even subsume their communities, or at the very least encourage Chinese Nationalism. As such, above all else, the term 'Chinese Overseas' is a political term, used to try and tie the Chinese diasporic communities closer to their heartland of Chinese culture.