

Ageing Out of Place: Comparative Perspectives from Southeast Asia

Ageing *in* place as a conceptual framework has long dominated policy and gerontological perspectives of what constitutes a ‘good life’ in older-age. This concept involves the idea of staying in the same or preferred ‘place’ – narrowly defined as static, rather than fluid and dynamic – over a sustained period of time. Such understanding often assumes that discontinuity in place corresponds to problematic ageing processes. However, as global migration continues to grow and for ever-diversifying reasons, people are more likely ageing across places, in places other than those from which they originate and engaging in diverse practices of place-making. Similarly, many older people who remain ‘in place’ are shaping and being influenced by family members’ migration projects. There is therefore acute need to explore the multiple and shifting experiences of ageing that go beyond a singular understanding of place.

In this panel, we invite contributions to reflect on the linkages of ageing, place and migration. The concept of *ageing out of place* (Lewis 2009) will be critically examined in light of ongoing migration and displacement in Southeast Asia, together with the increasing normalcy of being in and belonging to multiple places at the same time. A comparative focus on Southeast Asia provides a unique opportunity to consider sociocultural and political specificities within the region, such as different regimes of ageing care and of migration; as well as connections between places in light of greater regional integration and mobility, while also critically engaging with dominant assumptions embedded in Euro-American ‘models’ of ageing. Papers may focus on different kinds of mobilities in and across the region including: temporary and long-term migration, labour migration, political exile and forced migration, or mobilities related to family care or intimacy in older-age. We welcome contributions from different disciplines adopting qualitative, creative or mixed-methods approaches.

Conveners:

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