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přednášku:

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Historiographical Perceptions of Early Modern Taiwan



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The very geographical position of Taiwan as an island in the Pacific puts it at the crossroads of maritime and cross-cultural connections in the wake of the age of discovery that began in the 1500s. The 17th century is characterized by the presence of Dutch (1624-1661/1664-68) and Spanish (1626-1642) powers as part of their mercantile expansion endeavour in Asia. Compared to the 202 years of Qing-Manchu rule (1684-1895) and the modernization process developed in the Japanese period (1895-1945), the epoch of 17th century Dutch Formosa and Spanish Hermosa was characterized by regional fragmentation of the island and with superficial impact, but not that insignificant to not have claimed its space in Taiwan's political ideologies and academic discourses.

Research focusing on "Taiwan history" became a mainstream trend from the late 1990s onwards. This was closely related to the 1980s Taiwanization of society, referring here to the amalgam of various grassroots processes that were set in motion based on identification with the experience of living in Taiwan instead of China. The ascendance of a Taiwan-centric historiography is one of these grassroots processes. This presentation aims to elucidate notions of periodization and topics in the history writing of the 17th century European presence against the background of the transition from a Sino-centric to a

Taiwan-centric interpretation. Special attention will be paid to narratives regarding settlement patterns of the indigenous inhabitants, the arrival of Chinese migrants along with the European presence of the Spanish and Dutch, and the political correctness of academic typologies such as Maritime China, Ocean Taiwan and Taiwan Island History. A concluding note will pertain to to-date accessible historical materials and their geographical localizations.

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